

The tests of life are not to break you  
but to make you.

— Norman Vincent Peale

# SKYLINE

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

FREE

VOL. 121, NO. 6

NEWS OF THE LOOP, STREETERVILLE, RIVER NORTH, NEAR NORTH, GOLD COAST & OLD TOWN

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## Spin in Old Town part of developer's game, page 5



Last week the City of Chicago released their Vision for LaSalle Street plan as a framework for public realm investments and neighborhood-oriented enhancements for LaSalle St. between Wacker Dr. and Jackson Blvd.

### Plan outlines concepts for mixed-use future for LaSalle St.

It's a big bet on one of Chicago's most important streets. Or at least it used to be, before all the financial big boys fled the scene.

The Chicago departments of Planning & Development [DPD] and Transportation [CDOT] released their Vision for LaSalle Street plan last week, as a framework for public realm investments and neighborhood-oriented enhancements for LaSalle St. between Wacker Dr. and Jackson Blvd.

It's a strip of roadway that was once considered to be Chicago's - and the Midwest's - top financial district, ... a narrow urban canyon stretching the three blocks from Madison to Jackson St. with the Chicago Stock Exchange, the Chicago Board of Trade, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago fronting it. Between Washington and Lake St. are Chicago's City Hall and the State of Illinois' Thompson Center - next to be Google's HQ. Metra's LaSalle St. Station lies between Van Buren and Congress.

It's now a street with aging skyscrapers, high vacancy rates, struggling retailers and security problems.

Today LaSalle St. is dominated by buildings with Classical and Art Deco architecture, many of which are official landmarks or have contributing elements toward the street's listing on the National Register of Historic Places, a designation which makes them more challenging to update into modern workplaces.

Some 59% of the LaSalle St. buildings pre-date 1940, 85% of the real estate is for office use, and there is currently no affordable housing on the street.

The corridor's historic role as a financial center today contributes to its current inactivity after dark, long after most workers have left the Loop and headed home. As an evolving neighborhood, city planners think it's essential that a nighttime economy underpin its future growth, attracting new users and residents while retaining

existing users and businesses.

Nighttime programming and creative lighting can bring more life to the corridor, but only if the city and Cook County help to address the rampant crime and safety issues that now plague downtown.

The City's 11 planning principles moving forward hope to create and support more than 1,423 planned residential units involving five corridor adaptive re-use projects, in addition to \$1 billion in ongoing and planned commercial rehabilitation projects within the vicinity.

The projects are moving forward through \$250 million in Tax Increment Financing [TIF] assistance that is ensuring 30% of the new units will be affordable for families earning an average of 60% of the area median income. As of the end of 2021, the LaSalle/Central TIF District contained about \$197 million. It was formed in 2006 and is scheduled to expire in 2030.

The plan's principles include:

- Promoting a mix of private uses that encourage vibrancy outside of traditional 9-to-5 business hours, such as new restaurants and stores.
- "Softening" the street's canyon-like environment with new landscaping and greenery.
- Making art, architecture and performance spaces foundational parts of the corridor's identity.
- Creating pedestrian-oriented community gathering spaces and convenient public transit connections.

• Prioritizing diverse, affordable programming that makes LaSalle an accessible destination for visitors and Chicagoans alike.

The vision was informed by community members through in-person and online meetings, an electronic survey and outreach says DPD Cmsr. Ciere Boatright.

Their goal is to make LaSalle "more of a neighborhood Main Street that serves a mix of users,

LASALLE see p. 12

## Battle over DEI strikes Bally's Chicago casino financing plan

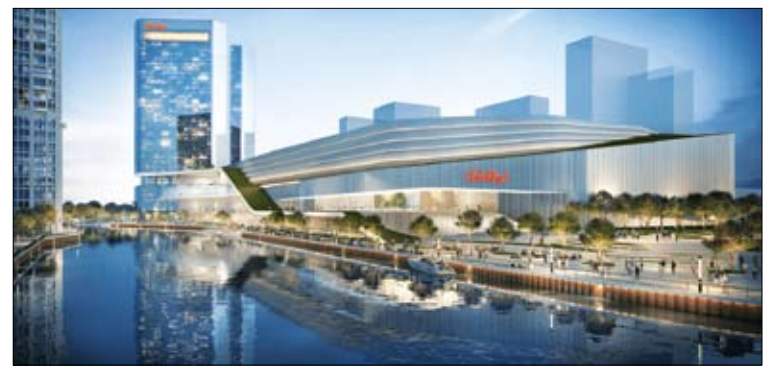
When Bally's Corp. won their bid to build a \$1.7 billion casino on Chicago's riverfront at Halsted St. and Chicago Ave., the gambling company pledged to give women and people of color an opportunity to own a 25% stake in the project.

City leaders said they wanted Bally's to build wealth in Chicago — among other hiring and construction requirements — in exchange for the rare opportunity to build the first Las Vegas-style casino on a site that once held The Chicago Tribune's print shop, inserting and distribution center.

Now, that financing plan is challenged by a lawsuit from Edward Blum, the conservative activist behind the lawsuit that ended affirmative action in college admissions.

Blum for years has fought to remove racial preferences from college admissions, corporate boards, internships and other aspects of American business, culture, government and life.

And with the temporary casino



A rendering of Bally's Casino in Chicago.

Image courtesy of HKS Architects

at 600 N. Wabash Ave. underperforming financially, this fight just might be the right excuse Bally's was looking for to bail out of the risky project. Bally's Chicago casino's backers now face financing risks due to concerns about high interest rates, its overall viability, the casino's performance, and the company's overall financial health.

Bally's won the right to build Chicago's first land-based casino in 2022 after former Mayor Lori Lightfoot selected them over sev-

eral competitors, as Bally's proposal included the highest projected annual payout for the city. They offered nearly \$200 million, along with a \$40 million upfront payment and \$4 million in annual payments.

Part of that deal demanded that Bally's had to offer women and people of color a collective 25% equity stake in the \$1.7 billion project.

On Jan. 29, two white men

BALLY'S see p. 12

## Man charged with shooting that left two students dead outside Innovations High School

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police have made an arrest in connection with the murder of two teenage boys as they left their high school in the Loop one year ago. Tommie Coleman, 22, appeared for a detention hearing on Feb. 1.

Around 12:25 p.m. on Jan. 24, 2024, Monterio Williams, 17, Robert Boston, 16, and other students exited Innovations High School in the first block of N. Wabash. As they did, two cars pulled up, and a group of people emerged from the vehicles, police said. At least two people who got out of the car began shooting toward the students, according to CPD.

Williams was shot multiple times, and Boston was shot in the chest, according to a CPD media statement. Both boys succumbed to their wounds at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

A bullet also passed through a 25-year-old woman's coat, but she escaped injury. She studies at



Tommie Coleman and Chicago police officers at the scene of the shooting on January 26, 2024. Image courtesy Chicago Police Dept, CWBChicago

the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, according to her online presence.

A high-ranking Chicago Police Department official told the Chicago Tribune that the shooting appeared to be an "ambush," the newspaper reported.

Coleman is the first person to face charges in connection with the murders. CPD said in a media statement that he "participated" in the shooting but did not reveal ex-

actly what investigators believe he did. Those details were revealed during his court appearance on Saturday.

He is charged with two counts of first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, failure to register as a gun offender, aggravated discharge of a firearm toward an occupied vehicle, and being a felon in possession of a firearm with previous convictions.

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# Where there's smoke there's expectations



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

My paternal grandparents lived in a large, rambling wooden clapboard home. Huge front porch. Arranged, meticulously, for seeing out and not so easily seeing in from street or sidewalk. Ripe for neighborhood viewing and observing. Their nextdoor neighbor was the alderman. So there was always something to see there. Political visitors. The mayor's car. A gaggle of local judges ready for a card game on the alderman's screened-in porch.

You always knew where my grandfather, James O'Gorman, was because you could smell him. Puffing away like a locomotive. The pungent smell of his pipe. Robust. Manly. Discerning. And lavishly foreign. It was the smell of the Irish. As he was a former commandant in the old Irish Republican Army [IRA] back in County Tipperary Ireland during their struggle for independence from Britain. And so many of his Chicago Irish pals, all former IRA, were pipe smokers too.

He, long ago, traded his rifle for a pipe.

If you needed to find my grandfather you only had to follow your nose. Pipes and his favorite tobacco were stashed in large ashtrays throughout the house. Pipe smoking made gift giving easy. He could always use a new pipe for Christmas. His birthday. For Easter. For St. Patrick's Day. Or just a sale downtown on Wabash St. at Iwan Ries & Co., the pipe and tobacco shop. They always had the best paraphernalia.

At night when he was reading or watching his favorite TV shows, you could spot where he was in the dark by the glow of his pipe bowl. His grandchildren

learned how to clean and polish his pipes. Needless-to-say we always observed the first rule. Never let soap or water near the bowl or the bit of the pipe. Perfect pipes needed time to age-well and cure for flavor and balance.

So while our grandmother filled the air with kitchen aromas of baking bread and scones, my grandfather filled the front of the house, and the porch, with the elegant smoke of his pipes and the perfume of his tobacco which were kept in beautiful tobacco jars around the house.

This was an Irish thing. I can't recall any Italian, German or Polish neighbor ever puffing on a pipe. I knew it was as old-fashioned as a loaf of soda bread or a dumpling, and loved to picture my grandfather in his IRA days shooting his rifle for Ireland while puffing away on his pipe.

My grandfather never puffed better than when presiding on the front porch in a large cushioned chair. From there he'd chit-chat, gossip and converse with passing neighbors walking home from Holy Mass, the grocers, or home from work in the evening.

Smoking, he engaged the real world of living, breathing humans, hopefully White Sox or Blackhawks hockey fans. He'd learn the news of the neighborhood and pass along his own take on life, the city, the parish or the lawn. The green grass was his pride and joy.

My grandfather died when I was a senior in high school. What would his world look like if he had to contend with the awful mess now at City Hall?

The incompetence of urban government, at the moment, and its deepening sorrow at what appears to be without solutions. My grandfather would expect the streets to be efficiently plowed and maintained. If not he'd ring the doorbell nextdoor with a list of neighborly suggestions for the alderman.

He never had to miss the greeting of a neighbor because he was looking at his iPhone. Or skip trimming his precious hedges or the creeping bend. Does anyone take the time anymore to actually



Pipe smoking made gift giving easy. James O'Gorman could always use a new pipe for Christmas. His birthday. For Easter. For St. Patrick's Day. Or just a sale downtown on Wabash St. at Iwan Ries & Co., America's oldest tobacco shop, at 19 S. Wabash Ave. 2nd Floor.



interact with their lawns?

He always had time for the cops. Their surveillance. Their precautions and their keeping an eye on things. He was never plagued trying to remember his password to his laptop or reading the daily newspapers online. He'd read every word Chicago's print media would deliver, making him well-versed not only on political issues or what the Mayor was up to, he was conversant in who had died, where someone's funeral Mass was to be offered, or how much chickens were at Kroger's.

Living in the city back then was an exercise in citizenship and neighborliness, two invaluable human resources that prepared people for living lives of competence, informed opinion and the correct baseball scores.

We are lucky today for all the advances of technological and scientific achievement, we have the ability to Google and Wikipedia all knowledge in the world, but we might not recall anyone's telephone numbers anymore.

Sadly today's world does not mean more effective or efficient political leaders here in Chicago or Washington, D.C. It hasn't raised the intelligence of the American people when they go to the polls. It doesn't seem to be able to lift high the true ideals of American liberty anymore.

And it can't erase the shameful results of crass and morally dangerous individuals from assuming high office.

George Costanza, Jerry Seinfeld's pal, once thought that he should always do the opposite of what he thought was right because he was never right about anything.

George was on to something, especially when we talk about Chicago these days. No one gets anything right. George couldn't make a correct decision. So he might as well just do the opposite of what he believed.

So Chicago's schools collapse, and our teachers think the educational system is theirs to loot. America is proud to overpower Denmark and buy Greenland for our political, economic and military ends. Renaming the Gulf of America, just in case some deadbeats have not been cruel enough to our neighbors who make life work for us.

"Many of the issues President Donald Trump addresses in his recent Executive Orders, are matters on which the Roman Catholic Church has much to offer," says the text of a letter, signed by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Some provisions contained in the Executive Orders, such as those focused on the treatment of immigrants and refugees, foreign aid, expansion of the death penalty, and the environment, are deeply troubling and will have negative consequences, many of which will harm the most vulnerable among us," it continues.

Were my grandfather still living his pipe smoke would even be more fragrant and life affirming. But he also might be setting down his pipe and looking for his old IRA rifle just to defend his immigrant home and dreams.

**THIS JUST IN: Dorothy Collin**, political reporter and col-

umnist, was a woman of the ages. Ripe with intellect, wits, candor and the right use of prepositions. All the ingredients that make for a good reporter. A Chicago Tribune reporter. Her nose was perfect. It fit in all the uncomfortable and right places where it belonged in Chicago. And Washington, D.C., especially the U.S. Congress. With a fortified desk at the Chicago Tribune.



Dorothy Collin

Her pencil always sharpened. Before the age of cell phones, passwords and self-pity, when it was tough to land the politically powerful in jail or get a politician to tell the truth.

Her death at 85 removes a colorful, dynamic newsy news-woman from our midst. The old-fashioned kind. Before the strangulation death of the print press.

I always found her fascinating. I'd meet her at parties and festivities with friends who were her

**SMOKE** see p. 9

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INSIDE  
is published every Wednesday  
by Inside Publications  
6221 N. Clark St.  
Chicago, IL 60660  
(773) 465-9700  
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# Advocate Health closing all 47 clinics at Walgreens

**Stock shares drop as quarterly dividends suspended; faces potential \$80B penalty for false scripts**

BY BOB ZULEY

Advocate Health Care announced Jan. 29 that it is closing all 47 health clinics it operates at Illinois Walgreens stores effective February 6. Of the sites to be closed, several are in the readership area of this newspaper.

Separately, Deerfield-based Walgreens Boots Alliance announced on Jan. 30 that it is suspending its practice of paying quarterly cash dividends to stockholders – the first time it won't pay a dividend in 92 years as the chain faces a potential penalty in the tens of billions.

On the Advocate front, one or two medical office assistants work at each of the clinics, along with additional clinicians who support virtual care, and Advocate is working to find alternate roles for those employees, Advocate said in a statement.

Five of the local Advocate clinics at Walgreens that will be closing include 5625 N. Ridge Ave., 7510 N. Western Ave., 400-410 N. Michigan Ave., 79 W. Monroe St., and 1601 N. Wells St.

Forty-two others are scattered throughout northern Illinois including 11 others in Chicago.

Appointments at these clinics for patients over age two for minor illnesses involved meeting with a clinician over video while an in-store care team assists with the visit. Clinics treated anxiety and depression, COVID and flu testing, STI screenings, and urine pregnancy testing as well as other screenings, diagnostics, and sick care and treatment.

Advocate noted that it will overhaul how it provides care on Chicago's South Side where advanced practice providers will address common afflictions such as colds, sore throats, flu, and chronic disease management over video calls made from churches and community centers.

Previously, Advocate Medical Group closed seven of its clinics in Walgreens stores in Feb. 2020. After the current closures, Walgreens noted that patients can see doctors or nurse practitioners through



Advocate Clinic inside Walgreens, 5625 N. Ridge. Photo by Bob Zuley

Walgreens Virtual Healthcare.

In recent months, Walgreens has also been moving away from other types of health care clinics in its stores. Walgreens had invested billions of dollars into primary care provider VillageMD however backtracked after recording a nearly \$6 billion impairment charge related to VillageMD, and that VillageMD would close 160 clinics.

Walgreens announced plans in October to close 1,200 stores over the next three years, including in Chicago. They have been cutting costs for years including through layoffs locally and elsewhere.

Current CEO Tim Wentworth has said that Walgreens wants to refocus on being a "retail-pharmacy-led company."

Walgreens said in a Jan. 30 statement that it was suspending quarterly dividends "as management continues to evaluate and refine its capital allocation policy consistent with the company's broader long-term turnaround efforts" with respect to litigation and debt refinancing. Previously, it had paid quarterly dividends for 368 consecutive quarters, or 92 years.

Walgreens had a net loss of \$265 million in the first quarter of this year, compared with a net loss of \$67 million for the same period last year.

"We see this as the right move for Walgreens' ability to reboot the business but

ADVOCATE see p. 8

## Assessor's Office releases final reassessment data

**Total value grows to \$51 billion; homeowner share of tax base drops**

The Cook County Assessor's Office last week released data reflecting its final values in the City of Chicago for the 2024 reassessment.

Following the 2024 reassessment cycle, total assessed value in Chicago is \$50.8 billion. This represents an increase of \$9.5 billion, or 23%, over total assessed values in 2023.

Because commercial property increased in value by more than residential property, homeowners saw their share of the tax base drop from 51% to 49%.

During a property reassessment, which takes place every three years, the Assessor's Office determines the market value of property. This market value is then converted to an assessed value – usually, this level of assessment is 10% of market value for residential property and 25% of market value for commercial property.

Assessed values are used to calculate the tax base. The tax base, made up of equalized assessed values, is divided by property tax levies set by taxing districts, like schools and municipalities, to determine the tax rate. (Other factors, such as Tax Increment Financing, exemptions, the multiplier, and the "recapture" provision, also affect tax rates.)

When assessed values grow and levies

remain constant, that can lead to a decrease in the tax rate.

Growth in market value of different property types can also change each type's share of the tax base.

According to the Assessor, the assessed value of commercial property in Chicago increased by more than residential property values. Before the reassessment, homeowners held 51% of the share of assessed value in Chicago. Following the reassessment, that share dropped to 49%.

This decrease could result in a decrease of the average homeowner's share of the tax burden.

The final effect on property tax bills depends on changes to levies, as well as other factors mentioned above. It also depends on the impact of ongoing appeal decisions by the Cook County Board of Review.

While the assessed value of both residential and non-residential property types grew, non-residential grew more than residential property.

"A strong market for multifamily apartments and industrial properties helped boost commercial property values in 2024, and offset more modest growth in the office sector," said Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi. "The residential housing market also grew, but at a slower rate."



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## Meet the authors

Charlene Wexler, author of *Farewell to South Shore*, and Alina Rubin, author of *A Girl With a Knife*, will discuss their novels featuring strong female main characters and sign copies of their books at Chicago Loop Synagogue, 16 S. Clark St., Chicago, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 16.

The public is invited. Reservations are required. Register online at <http://www.chilooopsyn.org>. Suggested minimum donation is \$10 and includes light refreshments. Discounted parking (\$10 for 12 hours, ask for coupon when you arrive at event) is available at the Madison-Washington-Wells Garage at 172 W. Madison St.

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# Proposed laws would legalize 'magic mushrooms,' require a license to buy flamethrowers, and make street racing a felony

BY CAPITOL NEWS  
ILLINOIS

Illinois lawmakers kicked off their spring legislative session roughly three weeks ago, but lawmakers in the House have already filed more than 1,800 bills that could be acted on before the General Assembly adjourns in May.

The vast majority of the ideas won't make it to the desk of Gov. JB Pritzker or become law—last General Assembly, House lawmakers filed 5,929 bills and only passed 564—but the list of proposals offers some insights into the issues members of the lower chamber are concerned about as they kick off their new terms in office. Rep. Rita Mayfield introduced a measure that would allow people convicted of crimes to serve their sentences in “community-based settings” rather than in prison. Mayfield said her proposal would “create a transformative post-conviction model that reduces reliance on traditional incarceration for emerging adults.”

Under House Bill 44, community-based nonprofits that set up alternatives to prison would be required to provide housing, workforce training, mental health counseling and restorative justice programs. People serving their sentences in those community settings would be required to participate in the restorative justice court programs.

The bill would allow judges to decide which defendants would be placed in the community settings instead of prisons.

## Defining 'domestic assault'

A bill was introduced by Rep. Amy Grant to create the offense of “domestic assault” and make it a Class A misdemeanor.

Currently, Illinois law does not define domestic violence any differently than abuse, which is defined as “physical abuse, harassment, intimidation of a dependent, interference with personal liberty or willful deprivation.”

House Bill 1455 is an attempt to define language surrounding domestic violence. The measure defines domestic assault as when a person “knowingly engages in conduct that places any family or household member in reasonable apprehension of great bodily harm, or permanent disability or disfigurement.”

Under the bill, if a person arrested for domestic assault is released from custody pending their trial, the courts can prohibit them from contacting or communicating with the victim, as well as entering or remaining at the victim's residence for at least 72 hours.

## Legalizing psilocybin

A Chicago Democrat wants to make it easier for people in Illinois to obtain and use psilocybin, the chemical that gives so-called magic mushrooms their hallucinogenic properties. Introduced by Rep. La Shawn Ford, House Bill 1143 would decriminalize and tax psilocybin and psilocybin products for the use of Illinoisans who are at least 21 years old. People under the influence of psilocybin would not be allowed to drive a vehicle.

The legislation states that Illinoisans “deserve” access to tools that could improve their mental health, including chemical substances such as psilocybin. Ford's proposal notes that several U.S. states and cities have already decriminalized psychedelic plants and fungi or have made these psychedelics the lowest level of law enforcement priority.

But the bill would not change the status of peyote—another intoxicating controlled substance. Ford chose not to add the drug, according to the bill's language, “because of the nearly endangered status of the peyote plant and the special significance peyote holds in Native American spirituality.” Still, Illinois continues to “re-

spect and support” the possession and use of peyote by Native Americans, the bill stated.

Among other bills related to the state's criminal justice system:

**Introduced by Rep. La Shawn Ford, House Bill 1143 would decriminalize and tax psilocybin and psilocybin products for the use of Illinoisans who are at least 21 years old. People under the influence of psilocybin would not be allowed to drive a vehicle.**

- Drifting and street racing would become a felony under another proposal sponsored by Ford. House Bill 38 categorizes “knowing or reckless” drifting and street racing as a felony if the activities “result in the use of force or violence disturbing the

public peace.”

- People buying or possessing a flamethrower would be required to have a valid Firearm Owner's Identification Card under a proposal by Rep. Daniel Didech. The legislation, House Bill 19, would exclude certain military and law enforcement personnel from the requirement.

- Illinois residents would not be able to bring firearms into polling places—even if they have a valid concealed carry permit—under legislation introduced by Rep. Bob Morgan. However, the proposal, House Bill 34, allows on-duty law enforcement officials to carry firearms there.

## Single-use plastic and paper bag ban

Rep. Suzanne Ness wants to prohibit businesses and grocery stores from providing single-use

plastic bags to customers, as well as prohibit grocery stores from providing customers with single-use paper bags.

If Illinois lawmakers pass House Bill 1146, Illinois would join nine other states that ban both paper and plastic single-use bags. The states with existing bans are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, New York, Oregon and Vermont. Single-use plastic foodware items would also be banned.

Restaurants would be prohibited from providing customers with single-use plastic disposable foodware items when they dine-in under a bill filed by Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz. House Bill 1600 would allow restaurants to provide customers with single-use plastic items when requested, but the items would not be allowed to be packaged in plastic.

**PROPOSED** see p. 8

## Edgewater Glen now part of National Register of Historic Places

Edgewater Glen in the Edgewater community has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural significance. The designation will allow some homeowners to be eligible for tax incentives if they restore their home.

Bounded generally by Clark St., and Broadway on the west and east, and Granville and Norwood avenues on the north and south, The Glen joins three other areas in Edgewater as a neighborhood historic district.

The name Edgewater Glen is a modern one, created in the early 1970s when residents were forming a neighborhood association and needed a name for their organization that reflected the neighborhood. Glen was chosen because it was the first syllable of two intersecting streets in the neighborhood – Glenlake and Glenwood.

The east half of Edgewater Glen was first subdivided beginning in 1890. Before that the area was made up of farms. Some of

the farmland had been owned by an early settler, Nicholas Kransz, who arrived from Luxembourg in 1848.

While the name is modern, the sense of being a separate neighborhood is not, and probably goes back as far as the early 1920s.

As Edgewater matured in its development west of Broadway, the Edgewater Glen neighborhood became an island of predominately single family homes bounded on the north and south by areas where the housing stock was predominately two-flats and larger buildings.

That dynamic is still true today. The architectural significance of the area's single-family homes and multi-unit Foursquare buildings - most built between 1890 and 1920 - made it eligible for the designation. Those styles include Dutch Colonial, Prairie Style, Queen Anne, Chicago Bungalow and Craftsman.

Area resident Justin Colombik helped drive the effort to create the historic district. He and his

husband moved into the community in 2023 and quickly went to work with the Edgewater Glen Assoc. [EGA] pursuing the designation. They were aided in the effort by the expertise of historic preservation consultant Jean Guarino, and the contributions of EGA board members Cynthia Espy, Daniel Otto, and Anthony Nove.

Just south of The Glen is another historic neighborhood, the Lakewood-Balmoral historic district.

The effort to designate the community involved documenting about 400 buildings in the area, gathering information on the buildings' history, getting approval from the Commission on Chicago Landmarks and going to Springfield to speak in front of the Illinois National Register Advisory Council.

The volunteer's year's worth of legwork paid off and the designation was approved and placed on the list Dec. 30 by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, which oversees the National Register of Historic Places.

While researching the area and submitting materials, Colombik said the block club learned from the state that Edgewater Glen has the most contributing buildings — meaning buildings that retained their original elements — than any other historic district

**HISTORIC** see p. 8

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# Spin in Old Town is part of developer's game



The Home Front  
by Don DeBat

With its treasury trove of landmark buildings, the historic Old Town neighborhood may be one of the few finest surviving collections of 1890s architectural gems in Chicago.

Unfortunately, hundreds of Old Town Historic District property owners must continue to battle high-rise creep. Greedy developers are rudely branding the movement as “Not In My Back Yard” (NIMBY) folks.

However, this week, Old Towners likely are imagining erecting a statue in Lincoln Park to honor Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] as on Jan. 24, he bravely used his time-honored “aldermanic prerogative” to slow down a monstrous 44-story high-rise proposal for construction on the northwest corner of LaSalle St. and North Ave.—one of the busiest traffic corners on the North Side.

“My office is currently awaiting a possible compromise proposal from the development,” Ald. Hopkins said. “There was just no way I could support Fern Hill’s current proposal in the face of neighborhood pushback.”

We’ll see how that compromise proposal comes in, but so far so good.

A survey by the Old Town Triangle Assn. shows that 80% of members are opposed to Fern Hill’s high-rise development because of its impact on neighborhood traffic, and quality of life.

Specifically, some Old Town neighbors are concerned about nearby Latin School’s children crossing the intersection across the street from the proposed project.

Old Town Friends for Responsible Development, a new neighborhood group which formed in spring of 2024 around this issue, also is battling the high-rise because it would create more traffic congestion and detract from the character of the Wells St. retail and residential corridor.

“In 1984, we worked so hard to enact the Old Town downzoning ordinance after the 44-story Eugenie Terrace high-rise was constructed,” recalled neighborhood historian Diane Gonzalez. “Thanks to the leadership of [former 43rd Ward] aldermen Charles Bernadini, and then Ed Eisendrath, the City Council approved the downzoning ordinance in 1991.”

In a letter to Ald. Hopkins last week, Gonzalez wrote: “The Fern Hill development will diminish the quality of life in Old Town. Quality of life is difficult to measure when compared with a developer’s dollar profit, but this dense project will negatively change our lives.”

Spin-doctors and online bloggers backed by developer Nick Anderson, CEO of Fern Hill Cos., are working overtime and weekends to generate contrived, back-alley criticism of Ald. Hopkins and Gonzalez. But there is no there there with these paper tigers.

Anderson and Fern Hill’s claim that building a 500-unit tower on the corner of LaSalle and North won’t create 24/7 traffic havoc was broadly rejected.

Now, the latest shot at Ald. Hopkins is in claims he is turning his back on the prospect that the 500 units—including 100 affordable apartments—would be only 0.3 miles from the Sedgewick “L” station, and meet current Chicago’s Transit-Oriented Development standards.

There was no mention at any of the community meetings of the Chicago Housing Authority’s [CHA] plan to build a whopping 4,080 affordable units just a few blocks south of North Ave.



Rendering of the proposed Fern Hill high-rise project at North Ave. and LaSalle St.

High-rises and mid-rises are part of the CHA plan along with some lower density buildings. Most of the rentals will be affordable residences, and likely will include hundreds of Section 8 public housing units.

That’s a massive amount of new density for Old Town to absorb.

Despite the developer’s chess game, Old Town insiders—who have battled high-rise construction for decades—say they might agree to a 10-story residential development on the site and a 5-story parking garage with 200 to 300 dedicated parking spaces for use by Moody Church parishioners on Sunday, and maybe other drivers during the week.

Old Towners also desperately want a new anchor grocery store to replace the defunct Treasure Island store. They say there is plenty of space there for a grocery store and a new, compact Walgreen’s.

Local resident Joe Jacobazzi, a licensed structural engineer, tersely stated: “Fern Hill has proposed the most economical tower that could be expeditiously constructed to maximize its investment return.”

Jacobazzi also noted that the Fern Hill project “more closely resembles an office tower in a central business district than a residential building near the historic district.”

Fern Hill’s cookie-cutter plans may spark traffic congestion and provide CTA bus service near the door, but this glass box has no architectural character and shockingly lacks balconies or outdoor space for future residents.

Critics fear Fern Hill is working in the shadows to engineer a complete high-rise zoning plan for Old Town.

Through a new entity, Old Town Triangle Partners I LLC, an updated 2024 Old Town high-rise zoning application calls for much more than rezoning of a proposed 44-story apartment tower for a vacant Moody Church parking lot. The partnership also includes Moody Church, and Walgreen’s, which despite its financial problems plans a new store at North and Wells.

The secret 11-page zoning document further includes the Piper’s Alley tract, now owned by Old Town Development Associates, LLC, a partnership headed by politically connected Thomas M. Tully, who served as Cook County Assessor from 1974 through 1978.

Insiders say Fern Hill’s proposed Old Town Canvas high-rise, apparently is planning—through various partnerships—to stretch the “land-canvas” for at least two additional towers on the north side of North Ave., west of Wells.

In play in this rezoning chess game is the Piper’s Alley complex, including the X-sport Fitness Club, Starbuck’s, Second City Theater, and more than a dozen commercial properties that ring the northwest corner of North and Wells running west to North Park Ave.

Zoning experts say the rezoning of the

84,078-square-foot Piper’s Alley site to allow a floor-area-ratio of 420,390 square feet could eventually pave the way for two additional high-rise towers at that intersection.

As proposed, the sweeping zoning changes under Fern Hill’s planned development could result in up to 1,400 new units for 4,000 to 5,000 people along a two-block stretch of North Ave. between LaSalle and North Park.

Although Fern Hill’s rezoning application does not immediately allow residential units on the Piper’s Alley commercial site, that may happen in the future.

The rezoning application also provides that the 392 parking spaces in the deteriorating Piper’s Alley garage could be removed at the time of that parcel’s “site-plan approval,” resulting in a sharp reduction in the area’s much-needed off-street parking.

At the controversial Jan. 9 meeting, Anderson said Piper’s Alley owners recently signed a new long-term lease for the Second City Theater and have “assured him that they have no future plans for high-rises.”

“If another development proposal for Piper’s Alley comes along it will be judged on its own merits,” Ald. Hopkins said at the meeting.

So yes, Old Towners must keep an eye on that site and let Hopkins know that that too would be a fight.

While hundreds of Old Town residents are doing cartwheels about the rejection of the skyscraper, other veteran political analysts warn that since another proposal is coming soon from Fern Hill, the alderman still has time to do a 180-degree about-face and approve a down-sized project.

## High-rise battle on Marcey St.

On-going anti-high-rise wars are continuing in the RANCH Triangle district too on the western edge of Lincoln Park.

With its Lincoln Yards development stalled due to severe financial problems, Sterling Bay, developer of the two-tower, proposed 615-unit project at 1840 N. Marcey St., is in a battle with Ald. Scott

SPIN see p. 8

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# Police Beat...

**Burglar broke into six downtown businesses on Jan. 27**



Chicago police say this man committed at least six business burglaries in the Loop and West Loop on Jan. 27.

Area Three detectives say a lone burglar is responsible for breaking into at least six businesses in the Loop and West Loop on Jan. 27. They need a little help finding him, though.

Most of the burglaries occurred along Clinton St. between Madison and Washington, according to an updated community alert from Chicago police. They say the prowler pried open the front doors of the businesses and took cash from their cash registers.

His first break-in was in the 500 block of W. Lake around 1:40 a.m. Then he moved to Clinton St., hitting a shop in the 100 block of S. Clinton at 1:56 a.m., followed by two businesses on the 100 block of N. Clinton between 2:04 a.m. and 2:30 a.m.

At 3 a.m., he targeted two more businesses in the first block of N. Clinton, according to CPD.

The alert describes him as Black, 5'-10" to 6' tall, and 150 to 160 lbs. He wore a black hoodie, black and gray jeans, white gym shoes, a black ski mask, black gloves, and a black backpack.

You can reach Area Three detectives at 312-744-8263. They've grouped the break-ins under crime pattern #25-3-011.

## Grand Jury indicts man for allegedly attempting to extort Lincoln Park Restaurateur

A federal grand jury has indicted a man for allegedly threatening and assaulting a Chicago restaurateur to collect a debt the man claimed he was owed.

An indictment returned Monday in U.S. District Court in Chicago charges Jawad Fakroune, also known as "Angelino Escobar" or "Anjelino Escobar," 45, of Morocco, with extortion.

Arraignment is scheduled for Feb. 5, at 10:30 a.m., before U.S. District Judge Manish S. Shah.

In 2023 and 2024, Fakroune privately loaned approximately \$405,000 to the restaurateur to start a new restaurant in the Lincoln Park neighborhood, according to a criminal complaint previously filed in the case. The restaurateur repaid a portion of the loan, but in Nov. 2024 Fakroune and the restaurateur engaged in a dispute regarding the amount of money still owed, the complaint states.

On the evening of Nov. 25, 2024, Fakroune went to the restaurant,

threatened the restaurateur over the manner and nature of the repayments, and claimed that \$1.5 million was still owed, the complaint states. Fakroune then choked, kicked, and punched the restaurateur, while continuing to demand money and threatening the restaurateur's life and the lives of his family members, the complaint states.

The indictment was announced by Morris Pasqual, Acting United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Douglas S. DePodesta, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Office of the FBI, and Ramsey E. Covington, Acting Special Agent-in-Charge of IRS Criminal Investigation Chicago Field Office.

## Uptown burglary

Th police are investigating a commercial burglary in Uptown on the 1000 block of W. Lawrence Ave.

At 3:55 a.m. Jan. 18, multiple offenders forcibly entered into the business through the front/rear glass windows or doors. Once inside, the offenders rummaged through the business and took possession of property located inside. In each of the incidents, the offenders were observed fleeing in a previously reported black SUV.

The offenders are described as three to four African American males wearing black clothing, including black hooded sweatshirts, black pants, and black ski masks.

Anyone with information on this crime may contact Area Three Detectives at 312-744-8263 and use Reference # 25-CWP-006.

## Downtown burglaries

Police report a rash of recent commercial burglaries downtown. In each of the incidents, an unidentified offender forcibly entered a business after prying open the front door. Once inside, the offender takes currency inside cash registers.

Incidents include one on the 500 block of W. Lake 1:40 a.m. Jan. 27; the 100 block of S. Clinton St. 1:56 a.m. Jan. 27; 100 block of N. Clinton on Jan. 27, at 2:04 a.m.; 100 block of N. Clinton on Jan. 27, at 2:30 a.m.; 0-100 block of N. Clinton on Jan. 27, at 3 a.m., and on the 0-100 block of N. Clinton on Jan. 27, at 3 a.m.

The offender is described as an African American male, 5'-10" to 6' tall, 150-160 lbs., wearing a black-hooded jacket, black and gray jeans, white gym shoes, black ski mask, black gloves, and a black backpack.

Those who may have information can contact Area Three Detectives at 312-744-8263 or submit an anonymous tip at CPDTIP.com and use reference # 25-3-011.

## Assailant stabs two men on downtown train platform

Two men are recovering after an assailant stabbed them during an argument on a CTA platform in the Loop, Chicago police said. It happened around 10:33 p.m. Jan. 30 at the Clark-Lake station in the 100 block of W. Lake.

CPD said the two victims were in a "verbal altercation" with a man who pulled out a sharp object and stabbed them. One victim, a man approximately 30 years old, suffered a chest injury while the other victim, 51, was cut on the face, according to a CPD media statement.

Both victims were in serious condition at Northwestern Memorial Hos-

pital.

The assailant, last seen heading toward Clark Street, was a shorter Hispanic man wearing a black puffy coat, gray sweatpants, and black shoes with a large gold chain around his neck, according to an officer at the scene.

## Police warn serial rapist has attacked three women

A serial rapist is on the loose, Chicago police warned Feb. 2, saying he has targeted three women in separate attacks since Jan. 14.

The assailant struck most recently around 3:40 a.m. Sunday in the 2600 block of N. Troy. According to preliminary information, the man approached a woman from behind, displayed a knife, and sexually assaulted her in the hallway of an apartment building.

On Jan. 18, the same man is suspected of sexually assaulting a woman on the 606 Trail. That attack occurred in the 2800 block of W. Bloomingdale around 3:10 a.m.

Police said the first known attack occurred at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 14, in a residential building in the 3400 block of W. Armitage.

As in Sunday's attack, the man approached the other two victims from behind. Police said that he had also used a knife in one of the first two crimes.

CPD's alert described the assailant as a Hispanic man who stands 5'-6" to 5'-10" tall and weighs 150 to 175 lbs. He is 29 to 35 years old, unshaven, and has short black hair.

Area Five detectives are asking anyone with information that could help their investigation to contact them at 312-746-6554 or submit an anonymous tip at CPDTIP.com. Police have grouped the crimes under crime pattern #P25-5-005.

## Man on felon pretrial release teamed up with eight juveniles to attack and rob Red Line passengers



Jovan Edwards

An adult and seven juveniles have been charged with attacking and robbing a group of teenagers on a CTA train in the Loop last week, according to Chicago police and court records. The adult, 19-year-old Jovan Edwards, had been on pretrial release for a pending stolen motor vehicle case for just 19 days when he allegedly participated in the mob attack.

Edwards and his accomplices approached three boys, a 15-year-old and two 16-year-olds, on a Red Line train near Roosevelt around 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 26, police said. One member of the group implied that they had a gun and demanded the victims' valuables.

Police said the group proceeded to attack the victims.

Edwards robbed one of the 16-year-olds of his belt and then ordered the boy to remove his pants, prosecutors said in a detention petition. After the boy complied, Edwards allegedly whipped the boy with a belt. Prosecutors said that Edwards also punched the victim in the face and body.

The victims exited the train to get help, but the attackers continued riding until they reached the Fullerton stop. Cops who followed signals from one of the victims' stolen phones were

waiting for them when they arrived. Some of the suspects were arrested at the station, while others were located a block away after the police followed a second stolen phone's GPS signals.

When police arrested Edwards, he had a belt in his pocket along with a phone that belonged to the boy who got whipped, according to a CPD report. Prosecutors said Edwards had also transferred money from the boy's CashApp account to his own.

Judge Shauna Boliker detained Edwards on charges of robbery and aggravated battery in a public place. CPD said seven of the nine juveniles arrested were charged with robbery, too.

Police and court records show Edwards was arrested on Jan. 9 after cops found him with a stolen SUV at a West Pullman gas station. A CPD report said the car had been stolen two days earlier from a man who left it unattended while it warmed up.

Cops found it at the gas station with three boys, all between 14 and 16, in the back seat. Edwards was inside the station's convenience store when officers arrived. Police said he told them he had "nothing to do with that car." However, the businesses' surveillance video showed that Edwards drove the car to the station, the report said.

## Paroled 23-time convicted burglar, accused of 4 more burglaries, is released to await trial

Chicago police arrested a 23-time convicted burglar this week after he was identified as the man who had been breaking into North Side businesses during January.



Mugshot of Lamont Gordon.

Prosecutors charged Lamont Gordon, 58, with four burglaries and, even though he is on parole for his three latest burglary convictions, he was released from custody the next day. According to court records, his parole was not revoked, nor was he put on electronic monitoring.

CPD released two community alerts about the burglary crime pattern, including a video of the suspect and surveillance images. According to Gordon's latest arrest report, a Chicago cop ultimately recognized him.

Officers on patrol saw Gordon walking in the 2700 block of W. Devon at 2:30 a.m. Jan. 29 and took him into custody. The arrest report said he had a screwdriver and a flashlight when the cops detained him.

While he initially denied participating in any burglaries, he "admitted and confessed" after seeing surveillance footage, the report said.

Prosecutors charged him with burglarizing River & Road Cafe, 1259 W. Devon, on Jan. 11; Vee-Vee's African Restaurant, 6232 N. Broadway, on Jan. 9; Falafel Kebab Station, 1133 W. Granville, on Jan. 3; and Nohadra Grocery, 2959 W. Devon, on Jan. 11. They said he took cash from registers or offices at all four locations.

Gordon also told cops he has "a narcotics/cocaine habit/addiction," according to the arrest report.

Under Illinois' cashless bail law, people accused of burglary can only be detained if they use force against another person during the break-in. However, Franklin County State's Attorney Abby Dinn says there is an exception if the individual has "two prior

Class 2 felonies in the last 10 years."

Gordon has three Class 2 felony convictions in the past four years, all for burglary, court records show. But prosecutors did not ask Judge Deidre Dyer to detain him and the state did not issue a parole warrant.

Dyer released Gordon on Jan. 30, telling him to stay away from the businesses he's accused of burglarizing.

Gordon was released from prison on July 3 after serving less than three years of a seven-year sentence he received for burglarizing North Side businesses in 2021. He was on parole for burglary at the time of those crimes, too.

Gordon's burglary convictions resulted in: three concurrent 7-year sentences in 2021, nine concurrent 14-year sentences from 2013, two concurrent 7-year sentences in 2007, 14 years for armed home invasion in 1996, eight years for burglary in 1992, four years for burglary in 1990 and five concurrent 5-year sentences for burglary in 1988.

## Man cut off ankle monitor before robbing Loop fast food restaurant

The man who robbed a Taco Bell in downtown Chicago had cut off his electronic monitoring bracelet after going AWOL from a pending shoplifting case, officials said Jan. 31. Misael "Javier" Velazquez, 35, is also accused of burglarizing the same restaurant, also after he cut off his ankle monitor.

Velazquez was released on electronic monitoring on Dec. 17, but he disappeared the very next day while enjoying a day of "essential movement" that state law affords individuals who are on house arrest, according to the Cook County Sheriff's Office.

His ankle monitor sent a "strap tamper" alert to the sheriff's office, indicating that someone may have been trying to remove the device. When investigators found the ankle monitor in the 600 block of W. Ohio St., it was no longer attached to Velazquez, the sheriff's office said.

Now, prosecutors have charged Velazquez with committing two felonies in a week at Taco Bell, 178 N. Wabash.

Late on Jan. 21, he walked into the restaurant wearing a mask and appearing to hold a gun inside a sling bag that was draped across his chest, according to a detention petition. Prosecutors alleged that he took the cash register containing \$130 and slammed it onto the ground to break it open.

Chicago cops arrested him a short time later in the first block of E. Lower Wacker. The police also found the cash register in a dumpster behind the 100 block of N. State.

A Taco Bell employee recognized Velazquez as the same man who tried to steal the restaurant's cash register one week earlier, on Jan. 14, officials said.

Judge David Kelly granted the state's detention petition, keeping Velazquez in jail on the new charges. He is also being detained for failing to comply with pretrial release conditions in the shoplifting matter.

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# Prosecutors ordered to seek prison time in all machine gun possession cases

BY CWBCHICAGO

As Cook County State's Attorney Eileen O'Neill Burke announced on Jan. 30 that her office will seek prison time for every defendant accused of possessing or using a machine gun.

While machine guns may seem like relics from the gangster era, a new breed of automatic weapons is rapidly gaining popularity on

Chicago's streets. Using a small aftermarket "switch" device that can be purchased for as little as \$25, anyone can convert certain models of handguns, usually Glocks, to spray dozens of bullets with a single pull of the trigger.

"The bottom line is if you are convicted of using one of these weapons of war on the streets of Cook County, you are going to prison," Burke said.

O'Neill Burke's office said the policy shift is based on "a fifteen-fold increase in the number of illegally modified firearms being recovered by local law enforcement."

Converted pistols generate significant recoil and are very difficult to control, especially for inexperienced shooters who may be firing them on the streets. Here's a YouTube video that shows the firing of two converted pistols equipped with drum magazines:

Under the new policy, front-line prosecutors are no longer allowed

to enter plea agreements for reduced charges "when the evidence is sufficient to prove" possession of a machine gun or a "machine gun-like device," O'Neill Burke's statement said. A supervisor must approve any reduction in charge.

"Anyone who has seen one of these modified guns in action—which enable a shooter to unload a 30-round drum magazine in less than two seconds—understands that these are weapons of war that have no place in our communities," O'Neill Burke said in a press release. "With this policy shift, we are providing certainty and consistency for prosecutors and police so they can do their work with confidence to get these incredibly dangerous weapons and the people who use them off the street."

Chicago Police Supt. Larry Snelling and Christopher Amon, the special agent in charge of the ATF's Chicago office, supported O'Neill Burke's policy shift.

When O'Neill Burke took office on Dec. 1, 2024, she immediately announced a host of policy changes, including charging all retail thefts of more than \$300 as felonies. State law sets that limit, but her predecessor, Kim Foxx, decided to put the felony bar at \$1,000. This reporter found that felony retail theft charges increased 154% in December.

She also ordered prosecutors to automatically seek detention for anyone accused of murder, carjacking, armed robbery, home invasion, aggravated battery of a child, domestics involving a weapon, and any detainable felon offense where a defendant is accused of using or possessing a ghost gun, extended magazine, or machine gun.

In another policy change, O'Neill Burke's office is allowing Chicago cops in one of the city's 22 police districts to file felony gun charges without getting approval from a prosecutor.

## Illinois alleges cannabis companies mislabeled products to get around THC limits

BY TG BRANFALT  
Ganjanpreneur.com

A class action lawsuit in Illinois claims that some state-licensed cannabis companies mislabeled cannabis-infused products as concentrates so they could exceed the legal THC limit for certain products.

A class action lawsuit filed against several Illinois-based cannabis companies claims the firms labeled cannabis-infused products as concentrates in order to exceed state limits on THC, Forbes reports. The lawsuit was filed by Chad Alsip, a cannabis consumer, against Wellness Group Pharms and its affiliates, and several entities under Acreage Holdings.

In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs allege that the defendants mislabeled their vape oils as cannabis concentrates which are not subject to the same THC limits as cannabis infused products which allowed consumers to purchase more THC than allowed under state law.

For example, instead of being limited to 500 milligrams of THC in cannabis-infused products, a customer could buy a total of 5 grams of vape oils – 11 times the legal limit – and then be able to purchase another 500 milligrams of cannabis-infused products.

"In doing so, Defendants unlawfully promoted the unregulated overconsumption of cannabis by marketing, promoting, and selling improperly labeled and packaged cannabis products that fail to feature or conform to the safeguards against overconsumption imposed by the Illinois Cannabis Acts. Specifically, safety labels, serving size limits, serving size identification, and legal quantity limits." — Excerpt from the lawsuit, via Forbes

The lawsuit claims the "conduct is misleading in a material way in that it induced Plaintiffs and the Class Members to purchase Defendants' Vapable Oils when they otherwise would not have."

"Defendants," the lawsuit claims, "made their untrue and/or misleading statements and representations willfully, wantonly, and with a reckless disregard for the truth."

The lawsuit seeks compensation for statutory violations, fraud, unjust enrichment, and other claims.

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## Lane Tech presents SpongeBob Musical

Dive into the underwater adventure of The SpongeBob Musical when a volcano threatens to destroy Bikini Bottom, and SpongeBob and his friends band together to save their home, proving that optimism can truly change the world.

This family-friendly show will play at Lane Tech Auditorium, 2501 W. Addison. Performances are Feb. 12 - 15, with evening shows on February 14 - 15 at 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 (cash only), available at the door before each show

## HISTORIC from p. 4

in the city.

One of the biggest benefits to homeowners living in a historic district is that they are now eligible for a federal income tax incentive for restoring rented properties or a property tax assessment freeze incentive for restoring single-family, owner-occupied residences.

Owners of buildings in the District aren't required to get approval to change their home if using private or city money, and they also are not required to restore their properties. Colombik said the Edgewater Glen Assoc. will share more information with neighbors on how to tap into these incentives.

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Advocate Clinic at Walgreens, 5625 N. Ridge.

Photo by Bob Zuley

## ADVOCATE from p. 3

the near-term dynamic is the forced technical selling that will likely have to occur given the company will no longer be income-generating," noted analyst

Michael Cherny of Leerink Partners. Walgreens is now looking to sell itself to private equity firm Sycamore Partners.

The decision comes weeks after the U.S. Dept. of Justice filed a lawsuit alleging that the pharmacy

## PROPOSED from p. 4

Additionally, restaurants would have to post a sign indicating that single-use plastic items could be made available upon request.

## End-of-life options

A group of lawmakers are trying again to make physician-assisted suicide, sometimes called "death with dignity," an option for adult patients with terminal diseases.

Rep. Robyn Gabel introduced House Bill 1328, which would allow qualified, adult patients who to request a prescription of aid-inducing medication "that will allow the patient to end the patient's life in a peaceful manner."

The patient would have to make both an oral and written request to a physician, wait at least five days, and then make an oral request again in order to be administered the medication. The patient would also have to sign and date the written request with two witnesses present. Patients making the request would have to possess the mental capacity to make and communicate this request themselves, and it would have to be an informed decision— meaning that their physician has informed them of the potential risks and benefits of the medication, other feasible end-of-life care and treatment options, their right to withdraw their request at any time or to obtain the medication but not take it.

Under the bill, patients diagnosed with a major depressive disorder alone would not be considered terminally ill and wouldn't be able to obtain the medication.

## Free community college tuition for disadvantaged

Students in areas with high rates of violence and economic disinvestment would be given free tuition at local community colleges under another proposal sponsored by Mayfield. Mayfield introduced House Bill 1170 that would provide free tuition using money collected from marijuana taxes. It would apply to one community college in each Restore, Reinvest, Renew Area (R3 Areas) designated by the state as eligible for grants paid for with marijuana tax revenue R3 Areas (map) are communities that have been harmed by violence, excessive incarceration, and economic disinvestment and have higher rates of gun injuries, child poverty, unemployment and incarceration.

## DCFS and providing luggage

Foster children who move out of a home would have to be provided with luggage, rather than trash bags, under a bill sponsored by Rep. Margaret Croke.

House Bill 10 would require the Dept. of Children and Family Services to provide luggage for any child being removed from home or changing homes.

The bill would also require DCFS to create a system to store

chain knowingly filed millions of prescriptions that lacked a legitimate medical purpose. Walgreens potentially faced civil penalties of up to \$80,850 for each unlawful prescription, or \$80.85 billion for the first one million false scripts.

Similarly, Walmart announced last April that it was closing Walmart Health centers, citing challenges related to reimbursements by insurers and rising operating costs.

When retailers opened many of these clinics years ago, they may have expected that many more patients would use them or that patients would buy more items in the stores during their visits, noted Timothy Hoff, professor of management and health policy at Northeastern Univ. in Boston.

and distribute a supply of luggage that will be used to transport belongings of children in the foster care system. The children would own the luggage, and neither their foster parents nor DCFS would be allowed to take it from them.

Croke's bill would also require DCFS to submit an annual report to both the governor and the General Assembly. The report would include how many times a trash bag was used to transport a child's belongings and why DCFS was unable to provide them with luggage.

## No marriage for anyone under 18

When filing for marriage, both partners would have to be 18 years old under a measure introduced by Rep. Joe Sosnowski.

Current Illinois law allows marriage between two partners if they will both be 18 years old when the marriage license is effective or if they are least 16 years old with the consent of both their parents or guardians, or judicial approval. House Bill 1744 would prohibit approval of any underage marriages.

## Additional bills

Other proposals under consideration in the legislature include:

- Rep. Kevin Schmidt wants employers to give their veteran employees a paid day off on Veterans Day. House Bill 1421 would require veteran employees to provide documentation of their status

"In a model where the reimbursement is low for any health care service, the way you break even or earn a profit is you have to do more of these services, so you have to pump a lot of volume through the door," he noted.

"Demand for the kinds of services retail clinics offer, and I think demand for retail clinics generally, [have not been] as much as many of these places expected when they opened their doors."

CVS is in a different league due to their ownership of Oak Street Health Clinics and Aetna Insurance. It is nonetheless facing significant financial challenges with reports of declining profit margins, rising costs, and a need to cut expenses through store closures and layoffs.

as a veteran and give prior notice to their employer if they intend to take the day off.

- If the employer denies the request for the paid day off, the bill requires them to find a different day to allow the veteran employee to take a paid day off.

- Health insurers would not be allowed to rely solely on artificial intelligence to deny, reduce or terminate coverage for patients, under a separate proposal from Morgan. If companies use AI to make those decisions, the actions would have to be "meaningfully reviewed" by a human with the power to override the computer system, under House Bill 35.

- The legislation would also give the Dept. of Insurance the authority to regulate health insurers' use of artificial intelligence to determine patient benefits.

## SPIN from p. 5

Waguespack [32nd], who blocked its approval because of excessive density and because they were off-shoring the affordable housing component to an undisclosed location.

Now, Sterling Bay is seeking an alternate back-door route into the City Council, dodging aldermanic prerogative and going straight to the Zoning Committee for approval.

Burning a bridge with their alderman is a desperate act for this thread worn company.

"Sterling Bay and Mayor Brandon Johnson's Administration are now asking us to sign off on a property tax abatement for the entire property," Ald. Waguespack said. "That would put the entire property's tax burden on the taxpayers of Chicago for the first three years, with annual abatements for the next 30 years."

That's some gall with Sterling Bay trying to bulldoze their alderman, then asking for tax cuts while sending the affordable units off-site into some other neighborhoods, and not building them at 1840 N. Marcey.

RANCH Triangle neighbors are seeking a compromise on the project, including a reduction in height, parking and adding affordable units onsite, per the code.

For more housing news, visit [www.dondebat.biz](http://www.dondebat.biz). Don DeBat is co-author of "Escaping Condo Jail," the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit [www.escapingcondojail.com](http://www.escapingcondojail.com).

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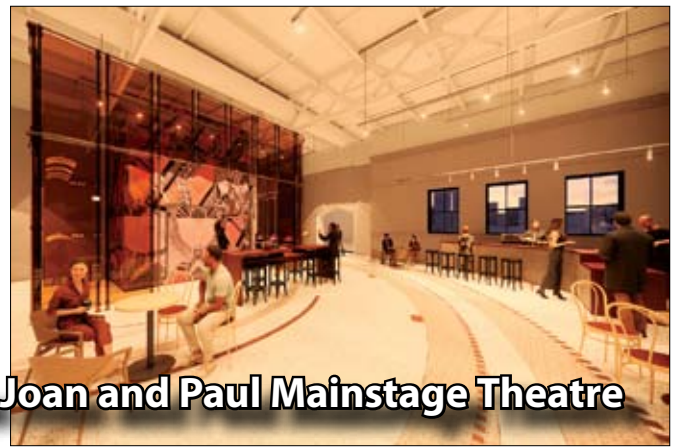
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**Lookingglass Theatre Company unveils new lobby, dedicates the Joan and Paul Mainstage Theatre**

(Right) (L to R) Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, Artistic Director Kasey Foster and Managing Director Jamey Lundblad at the Lookingglass Theatre Company ribbon cutting, Monday, Jan. 27 at Water Tower Water Works, 163 E Pearson St. at Michigan Ave. (Center) (L to R) Lookingglass Casting Director and Ensemble Member Phil Smith, Creative Producer – Mellon Playwright in Residence and Ensemble Member J. Nicole Brooks and Founding Ensemble

Member, Board Member, Actor and Director David Schwimmer (Right) Artist rendering of new lobby. The expanded lobby, which also serves as Lookingglass Theatre' box office, features new universal restrooms, an accessible ramp to the inner lobby, a video wall designed by Liviu Pasare and art elements by Clare Brew, Brandin Hurley, Sully Ratke and Matthew C. Yee.

**SMOKE** from p. 2

friends. Like family. Outrageous traveling companions to the ends of the earth. She was easy to speak, glib, knowledgeable and filled with worthy experiences of life and human travail. I always looked at her as a being from a more worthy age. Times when her journalistic skills really brought the literary hammer down.

Isn't that always the way with skilled people who really get their craft? Her rough, at times, curmudgeon antics were endearing. You knew instantly she was no pushover. And that always gave me a personal sense of comfort. That someone out there was in touch with reality and real life. She will be missed and remembered. A real American pro. Peace friend.

**DR. KING:**

On Jan. 24, the 39th Annual Interfaith Breakfast, "Honoring the Dream," celebrated the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The keynote address by the brilliant Dr. Michael Eric Dyson touched on the importance of carrying forward Dr. King's vision in the current moment. Words everyone needed to hear. Rev. Jesse Jackson was also in attendance, as was Cook County Comsr. Donna Miller.



Cook County Comsr. Donna Black Miller with Rev. Jesse Jackson.

**CHICAGO DIPLOMATS:** While speaking to the new leaders of Irish Prime Minister Michael Martin's new coalition government in Dublin, the memory of Chicagoans Jim and Margaret Kenny, who represented the U.S. in Ireland for President George W. Bush, serving as Ambassador, remains a treasured moment of longed for understanding and international co-operation. They made many friends for our nation and gave the Irish a perspective of genteel diplomacy and Chicago savvy.

**CHICAGO BEARS:** Exciting welcome to town, Ben Johnson, as the next Chicago Bears head coach. Remember in three seasons, as the Detroit Lions' offensive coordinator, Detroit ranked the top-five in scoring each of those three years. Good luck.

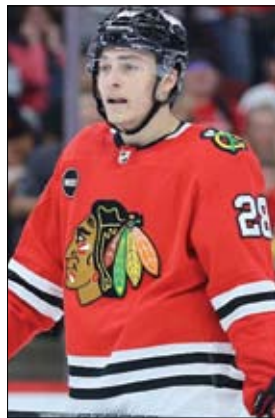
**SOUTH LOOP:** Former Chicago Bear Israel Idonije and famed Chef Stephen Gillanders tackle Chicago with a fresh sportswear, "The Staley," at 1736 S. Michigan Ave.

**SOUP:** Drake's Coq d'Or

bringing back old time menu items at the start of February... full Turkey Dinner \$26, Book-binder Soup, Executive Martini and many other signature dishes from years past.

**CHICAGO FILM:**

Looks like it's a go for a movie version of "Devil in the White City," a fabulous book by Erik Larson, thanks to Leonardo DiCaprio and Martin Scorsese. The story of a series of murders by Dr. Henry H. Holms set against the background of the 1893 World's Fair here in Chicago.



(L) Colton Dach. Photo courtesy Michael Reaves (R) Anthony Rizzo



**LINCOLN PARK:**

Learn more about future plans for Lincoln Park 8 a.m. on Feb. 8 when the areas three aldermen speak at the Lincoln Park Chamber. Aldermen Brian Hopkins, Scott Waguespack,

and Timmy Knudsen, coffee and bagel in hand, at WhirlyBall in a lively discussion moderated by Elliot Richardson. The Chamber will also be presenting Neighborhood Champion Awards to Gilaad Matar of Morgan Stanley and to the Wrightwood Neighbors Assoc.

**OPEN MIC:** Porchlight Music Theatre's Porchlight Young Professionals announce the return of its popular fundraiser, Broadway Open Mic, a live karaoke special event, Friday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at Bramble Arts Loft, 5545 N. Clark St. Broadway Open Mic features Alex Newkirk on piano, hosted by Producing & Casting Associate Frankie Leo Bennett. Tickets are \$35, (which includes entry to the event and

one song ticket) or \$30 (for entry to the event). All tickets include complimentary beverages and snacks, sponsored by The Hearty Boys and Uvae Kitchen and Wine Bar and Revolution Brewing. Guests may also pay \$5 to sing a song or to nominate a friend to sing or donate \$10 to get out of singing when nominated. For more information visit PorchlightMusicTheatre.org.

**WHO'S WHERE:** Bravo to Blackhawk Colton Dach for making his first NHL career goal... Anthony Rizzo and his wife Emily have announced that they're expecting their first child. Congrats... Happy 50th anniversary to Danny James and Lynn DiPietro... Eamonn Cummins and Pennie Taylor spent their frosty, snowy Sunday at the cozy Art Institute... The marvelous Irish poet Michael Longley has died aged 85 in Belfast, where he was born and lived until his death... Longtime Chicago newsy Andy Shaw and wife, Mary, celebrating their 53rd wedding anniversary on their idyllic Mexican winter getaway... Dr. Rose Gomez' birthday cake came with fireworks for a true Swiss treat in alpine land, there were yodels as she snapped a photo of nearby diner actor Richard Gere in Gstaad... Paul Rody getting time in Naples, FL, at Bad Ass Cafe... Happy Birthday to smooth crooner Russ

**Goeltenbodd,** born during a Chicago snow-storm... Ryne Sandberg at the Cub's Convention to everyone's delight... Virginia Shorey enjoying the island of Nevis while cruising the Caribbean with hubby Al Shorey... Stephanie Leese Emrich seeing "Frida" and being inspired at the Writers Theater, presenting the life of Mexican painter Frida Kahlo by Vanessa Severo... Congrats to the impeccable Shaun Rajah of "Events by Shaun Rajah" honored with recognition from both WeddingWire and The Knot for creating unforgettable moments for his clients... Mark Olley promises to post more photos of Grayson, his wonder dog, in 2025... Former alderman Manny Flores sending "Cheers" to all of those who sent him those nice birthday wishes... The Today Show's "Mr. Manners" AKA Tom Farley met up with Alva Chinn for the first time

for Best Actor at the Oscars... Happy 84th Birthday to Neil Diamond... Robert Emmett, Shaun Howard and Erin Waitz cheering from the good seats at the Blackhawk game... Tom Hackett, Jim Sharp and Patty Swain Stark catching up at the Peninsula... Newsy Anne Kavanagh and work buddy Gigi Lubin enjoying dinner at Tre Dita.

**FIRE:** California is not the only recent victim of fire. On Jan. 15, a deadly fire broke out in an apartment building on the 1900 block of Ainslie in Ravenswood. You can support displaced residents through their GoFundMe's. One of the neighbors died in the fire and two others were hospitalized.

**THE KING:** Lincoln Square's Matt Hoppe accomplished becoming the new King of the Brandenburg Shooting Club (Schützenkönig). Many congratulations to Matt! The KRÖNUNGS Ball 2025, a coronation ceremony, will take place in April at the DANK German Cultural Center.

**DINE OUT:** It's Restaurant week, now through Feb. 9. Try something different and go to Luella's Southern Kitchen, 4609 N. Lincoln Ave., for a crawfish and dumplings dinner.

**ARTIST:** Artist Adam Umbach at Cavalier Gallery's Chelsea location in NYC for his one man show running through Feb. 22, of refined paintings and sculptures that are a huge hit.

**THEATER ROYALTY:** Downton Abbey actor Hugh Bonneville celebrated 125 years since



Alex Newkirk



Frankie Leo Bennett

and became instant friends out for a drink in New York, reports Jeffrey Banks... Michelle Dockery has revealed Downton Abbey 3 is a "tribute to Maggie Smith"... Irene Mojica sipping wine with the boys at Erie Cafe... At 29 years old, Timothée Chalamet is the youngest actor since James Dean to be nominated twice

the birth of Noël Coward with Sir Derek Jacobi, Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen and Gyles Brandreth.

**The censorial power is in the people over the government, and not in the government over the people. - James Madison**

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**Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale**

**Real Estate For Sale**

050505 -----  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff, vs. CHRISTOPHER VAUGHN, WEST SHERWIN PLACE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants  
 2023 CH 06330  
 1549 W SHERWIN AVE APT 203 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 October 18, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 24, 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

**Real Estate For Sale**

described real estate:  
 Commonly known as 1549 W SHERWIN AVE APT 203, CHICAGO, IL 60626  
 Property Index No. 11-29-316-030-1011  
 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 or 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

**Real Estate For Sale**

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

**Real Estate For Sale**

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. 14-23-04362  
 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002  
 Attorney Code. 21762  
 Case Number: 2023 CH 06330  
 TJS#C: 45-91  
**NOTE:** Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Prac-

**Real Estate For Sale**

tices 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 06330  
**13259558**  
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**Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale**

**Real Estate For Sale**

050505 -----  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-BC2 Plaintiff vs. MARGARET GARNER AKA MARGARET D. GARNER; WATERFORD CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION; HSBC MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant  
 17 CH 10885  
 CALENDAR 56  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on March 4, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercountry's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 P.I.N. 14-16-304-039-1250.  
 Commonly known as 4170 NORTH MARINE DRIVE, APARTMENT 24K, CHICAGO, IL 60613.  
 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, Manley Deas Kochalski LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Suite 1250, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 17-026123  
 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
 intercountryjudicialsales.com  
**13259511**

**Real Estate For Sale**

Plaintiff, vs. LIEASHA PEOPLES, GLENWOOD-BRYN MAWR CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JAMAL PEOPLES, DAMON RITENHOUSE, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR JAMAL PEOPLES (DECEASED) Defendants  
 2019 CH 09387  
 5603 N GLENWOOD AVE APT G CHICAGO, IL 60660  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 12, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 20, 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 5603 N GLENWOOD AVE APT G, CHICAGO, IL 60660  
 Property Index No. 14-05-327-046-1004  
 The real estate is improved with a multi-family 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 or 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**

**Real Estate For Sale**

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**  
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 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527  
 630-794-5300  
 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com  
 Attorney File No. 14-19-07567  
 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002  
 Attorney Code. 21762  
 Case Number: 2019 CH 09387  
 TJS#C: 45-57  
**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 09387  
**13259390**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FACC REO SECURITIZATION SUB I LLC Plaintiff, vs. PINNACLE GROUP INVESTMENTS LLC, BERT TAKITA, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants  
 2024 CH 05948  
 1904 W BERWYN AVE 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 December 6, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 18, 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 1904 W BERWYN AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60640  
 Property Index No. 14-07-216-021-0000  
 The real estate is improved with a commercial

**Real Estate For Sale**

property.  
 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 or 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 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  
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 630-794-5300  
 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com  
 Attorney File No. 14-24-02880  
 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002  
 Attorney Code. 21762  
 Case Number: 2024 CH 05948

**Real Estate For Sale**

TJS#C: 45-76  
**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 05948  
**13259281**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC. Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW AND LEGATEES OF MICHAEL K. HOWARD, STATE OF ILLINOIS, 6300 SHERIDAN BUILDING CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, WILLIAM BUTCHER, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICHAEL K. HOWARD, DECEASED, EVA PAYTON, TRICIA BARNES, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants  
 2023 CH 08503  
 6300 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, APT. 714 CHICAGO, IL 60660  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 22, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 25, 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 6300 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, APT. 714, CHICAGO, IL 60660  
 Property Index No. 14-05-202-019-1106  
 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$153,506.92.  
 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 or 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 identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.  
 For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, CHICAGO, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 23 0510.  
**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.  
**JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC**  
 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650 CHICAGO, IL, 60602  
 E-Mail: lpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com  
 Attorney File No. 23 0510  
 Attorney Code. 40342  
 Case Number: 2023 CH 08503  
 TJS#C: 45-85  
**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 08503  
**13259231**  
 222222 -----

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**North Township Real Estate For Sale**

**Real Estate For Sale**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff vs. LINDA RAWLINGS, AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN REITER AKA CAROLYN T. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF PAUL REITER AKA PAUL M. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PAUL REITER AKA PAUL M. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF PAUL REITER AKA PAUL M. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF CAROLYN REITER AKA CAROLYN T. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN REITER AKA CAROLYN T. REITER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF ALBERT WAYNE TOWNSEND, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALBERT WAYNE TOWNSEND, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVEISEES OF ALBERT WAYNE TOWNSEND, DECEASED AND FIRST-KEY MORTGAGE, LLC Defendant  
 TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2019-3, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE, Plaintiff, vs. LINDA RAWLINGS AS THE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN A. REITER AKA CAROLYN T. REITER; LINDA RAWLINGS; BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, CITY OF CHICAGO, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ALBERT WAYNE TOWNSEND; UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
 17 CH 386 consolidated with 22 CH 4438  
 Calendar 60  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on March 12, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercountry's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 P.I.N. 14-33-206-018-0000.

**Real Estate For Sale**

Commonly known as 2107 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614.  
 The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 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, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluerver Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1880, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS001441-22FC1  
 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
 intercountryjudicialsales.com  
**13259915**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION Parkway Bank and Trust Company Plaintiff vs. LV Halsted, LLC, an Illinois Limited Liability Company, LV Halsted, LLC-Series A, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; LV Halsted, LLC-Series B, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; LV Halsted, LLC-Series C, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; LV Halsted, LLC-Series D, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; Logan Ventures Manager, LLC, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; Logan Ventures 1, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; Peter Smolenski; Stanley M. Pillman; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Defendant  
 24 CH 3002  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on March 11, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercountry's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 LOT 49 I  
 PIN(S): 14-33-313-030-0000  
 1623 N. HALSTED STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60614  
 LOT 50 I  
 PIN(S): 14-33-313-029-0000  
 1625 N. HALSTED STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60614  
 PIN(S): 14-33-313-028-0000  
 1629 N. HALSTED STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60614  
 LOT 52

**Real Estate For Sale**

PIN(S): 14-33-313-027-0000  
 1631 N. HALSTED STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60614. The properties may be made available for inspection by contacting Mr. Daniel Hyman, 312-338-3003.  
 The real estate is: four separate buildings consisting of mixed use commercial and residential buildings. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.  
 For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Latimer LeVay Fyock LLC, 55 West Monroe Street, Suite 1100, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 422-8000. 72001-716  
 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
 intercountryjudicialsales.com  
**13259912**  
 050505 -----  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIMORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff, vs. CHANG H. KIM, MI HUI KIM, 1400 STATE PARKWAY CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants  
 22 CH 4269  
 1400 N. STATE PARKWAY, UNIT 10F 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 November 9, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 25, 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 1400 N. STATE PARKWAY, UNIT 10F, CHICAGO, IL 60610  
 Property Index No. 17-04-211-035-1089  
 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$398,997.99.  
 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 or 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

**Real Estate For Sale**

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 LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 357-1125 Please refer calls to the sales department. Please refer to file number 22-01310.  
**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.  
**LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC**  
 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO, IL, 60606  
 312-357-1125  
 E-Mail: pleadings@nevellaw.com  
 Attorney File No. 22-01310  
 Attorney Code. 18837  
 Case Number: 22 CH 4269  
 TJS#C: 45-153  
**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 4269**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE NORTH TOWN VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,

**Real Estate For Sale**

vs. SHANA R. HUGHES, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants  
 2024 CH 07580  
 1333 NORTH BURLING STREET, UNIT B 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 January 13, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 A.M. on February 25, 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:  
 UNIT 1333 B IN THE NORTH TOWN VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM, AS DELINEATED ON A SURVEY OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND: LOTS 2, 4 THROUGH 30, AND 33 THROUGH 38 IN NORTH TOWN VILLAGE, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF VARIOUS LOTS, BLOCKS, STREETS, AND ALLEYS IN BUTTERFIELD'S ADDITION TO CHICAGO IN THE WEST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, WHICH SURVEY IS ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "C" TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP FOR NORTH TOWN VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 0010906035, AND AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS.  
 Commonly known as 1333 NORTH BURLING STREET, UNIT B, CHICAGO, IL 60610  
 Property Index No. 17-04-113-100-1030  
 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$121,726.24.  
 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 or 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 identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.  
 For information, contact EGAN & ALAILY LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 20 South Clark Street, Suite 2120, Chicago, IL, 60603 (312) 253-8640.  
**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.  
**EGAN & ALAILY LLC**  
 20 South Clark Street, Suite 2120 Chicago, IL, 60603  
 312-253-8640  
 E-Mail: clerk@ea-aty.com  
 Attorney ARDC No. 59515  
 Attorney Code. 59515  
 Case Number: 2024 CH 07580  
 TJS#C: 45-156  
**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 07580  
**13259457**  
 292929 -----  
 222222 -----  
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## Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers:  
81745M- Abdullah, Jahaan  
3290C- Brown, Ronica  
3020E- GOLD, ALLAN  
4130F- Hofbauer, Michael  
5410E- Johnson, Nichole  
7610F- Kujjo, Josephine  
6820L- Mantu, Musa  
6130W- RAPSKY, MARY  
5430A- Ring, Maddie  
7590L- Roumanis, Ted  
3280C- Sommerfeld, Jillian for public sale.  
This sale is to be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

## Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self-service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 20th of February, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at 2724 W. 21st St, Chicago, IL 60608 at [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m. 1096 Tyrone Turner, 1047 Dorothy Williams. This public sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. The winning bidder must pay by cash at the time he/she is declared the winning bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply; see the Manager for additional details.

## Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL (312-644-2000), is opening lockers: 6630X (Heith Thorndill), 4524X (Elbert Hatley), 4530X (Donald J Connett), 3610X and 6952X (Maureen T Toomey), 3623X (Annette and Jimmy Brisenor), 2713X (Tyra Peterson), 5513X (Robert Connor), and 8313A (Josh Levey), for public sale on February 25, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

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## Free Head Start program

The Mary Crane Center's Rogers Park, 1545 W. Morse Ave., is currently accepting applications for enrollment in their Head Start program. The free services include year-round childcare for working families and/or students, scholarship opportunities, free nutritional meals and snacks. Mary Crane Center's services are available all year round, including when school is not in session. Those who may be interested can call them 773-262-1390.

## Seed swap Feb. 9 at Ridman's Coffee

Ridman's Coffee is hosting a seed swap 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, at 4758 N. Clark St. Guests can meet fellow plant enthusiasts, share gardening tips, and exchange seeds to grow a collection. For those who don't have seeds to bring, there will be extras to share. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, this is a great opportunity to connect with the community and cultivate your love for plants.

## Union Pacific clearing out railroad ties along Metra Line

Last weekend a Union Pacific crew began picking up old railroad ties left behind from last year's replacement project on the UP-N line. The work started at the south end of the UP-N line near Cortland Ave. and progress northward toward Highland Park, and will be done at night from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. daily until the work is completed to avoid disruption to Metra service.

## Kids activity open house at Broadway Armory

The Edgewater Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for the first ever Kids Activity Open House at the Broadway Armory on 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 1. The event will showcase Edgewater's kids activities and allow parents to meet and greet with kid-focused businesses. The chamber is currently seeking applications from local businesses to participate. For more information call 773-561-6000.

**BALLY'S** from p. 1

accused the city of Chicago and Bally's Corp. of discriminating against them, saying they too should be able to participate in Bally's recent 25% ownership stake. The casino's offering was geared to benefit women and people who's skin color wasn't white. The men contend that the stock offering is illegal because it discriminates based on gender and race.

Perhaps wisely, at the time the deal closed, the underwriter, Loop Capital, said that they would not verify the sex or race of any of the applicants. Determining which prospective applicants were a man or woman, and what race and ethnicity was left up to Bally's itself.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago, and it alleges the city violated the rights of Richard Fisher and Phillip Aronoff, two white men from Texas, who are unable to invest in Bally's minority ownership stake because of their race.

The American Alliance for Equal Rights, a conservative legal group dedicated to challenging diversity and equity initiatives, joined the men in filing suit. The lawsuit seeks to remove the investment requirements, allowing

Aronoff and Fisher to participate in the special investment offer, which would in the end make the offer accessible to all white men.

The last day to invest in the project through this special deal was Jan. 31.

In July of 2024, Bally's announced it had entered into a binding term sheet with Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc., for a secured 15-year note funding the \$2.07 billion it needed for the construction and financing of the project.

The plan was for a Sale Lease-back Transaction, whereby Bally's financial resources including cash flows from operations, was to be used to fully fund the development expenditures necessary to complete the project.

But on Jan. 10, Bally's Chicago reported just \$63.2 million in revenue for the City of Chicago, far behind their projections. The City's bet that a casino could ease its financial crunch has yet to pay off. According to Chief Financial Officer Jill Jaworski's report to the City Council's Contracting and Oversight Equity Committee, nearly 70% of those revenues came from the \$44 million in flat fees Bally's agreed to pay in 2023 and 2024. That amount was much less than city officials had hoped the temporary casino would gen-

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

erate.

With any private sector offering, if the financial performance fails to meet performance matrix expectations, then the financiers get nervous. Today's high interest rate adds fuel to the fears, and could result in the entire deal falling apart.

Professor Damon Jones of the Univ. of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy told the online news site The TRiiBE.com that high risks and distant returns on investment make investing in Bally's Chicago Casino a bad idea. "When people have really good investment opportunities, they don't advertise them. They keep them to themselves. A general financial rule, if someone is

***"When people have really good investment opportunities, they don't advertise them. They keep them to themselves. A general financial rule, if someone is advertising it to you, question it," said Damon Jones.***

advertising it to you, question it." Chicago's Host Community Agreement that is now a part of the lawsuit requires Bally's Chicago to have 25% minority and women ownership.

Beginning in December, Bally's

started selling 10,000 shares at \$25,000. The opportunity became attractive to low-income residents because investors can buy in with a non-recourse loan that allows people to invest as low as \$250. Though the loans are supposed to be paid back entirely through the casino project's dividends, they have an 11% compounded interest; meaning each year, an additional 11% of interest is added onto the loan. If the casino folds or doesn't open, investors would lose any money they invested.

*CDCGaming.com, TheTriiBE.com and Wall Street Journal contributed to this article*

**LASALLE** from p. 1

versus solely a finance-oriented workday population that largely defined the corridor's last 100 years," said Boatright. "The formal vision provides a roadmap for future enhancements in support of new and ongoing public and private investment."

In addition to the five residential conversion projects, valued at \$750 million, Google and Chase are investing approximately \$500 million each in headquarters projects and a half-dozen restaurants and a museum are leveraging DPD grant funding for interior buildouts.

An engineering assessment of LaSalle's physical and structural conditions to be completed in 2025 will help inform the City's approach to the funding, design and construction of future enhancements.

"This vision plan complements CDOT's ongoing engineering assessment, which is evaluating the existing conditions of LaSalle St. to identify opportunities for future public way enhancements," said CDOT Cmsr. Tom Carney. They are exploring a range of potential changes, including streetscape amenities, landscaping, and roadway upgrades, to create a vibrant, inviting corridor that they hope "meets the needs of everyone who lives, works, and visits here."

Future upgrades could also include "character zones" that reflect and enhance the identities of individual blocks along the street, according to the vision.

For example, a Riverwalk to Lake St. could expand opportunities for residents, workers and visitors to experience the urban

panorama from new outdoor cafés and sidewalk furniture.

Lake to Washington streets could accommodate visitors to government offices with ancillary amenities that maximize the productivity of trips to the Loop, while Washington to Monroe streets could support a diverse mix of users with pharmacies, grocers, fitness and childcare centers, and the use of underutilized alleys and other public spaces.

Monroe St. to Jackson Blvd could embrace its vertical historic and vertical ambience with dedicated spaces for indoor and outdoor special events.

New restaurants, cafes, and other neighborhood-oriented businesses would be encouraged to open in the area through a \$5 million in grant program. The program will provide grants of up to \$250,000 for projects that activate ground-level storefronts, lobbies, and former banking floors with pedestrian-oriented commercial and cultural uses. Building owners and tenants located along portions of Wells and Clark streets were also able to apply.

The initiative includes efforts to repurpose upper-floor office spaces as mixed-income housing.

For more information and to read the vision, visit [Chicago.gov/LaSalleStreet](http://Chicago.gov/LaSalleStreet).

**Three LaSalle St. skyscrapers selected for reuse**

The developers at 111 W. Monroe St., 135 S. LaSalle St. and 208 S. LaSalle St. are seeking a combined \$188 million in taxpayer support from the city, money they say they need to make the developments along LaSalle St. financially feasible. In return, the

developers would set aside nearly 320 apartments for low- and moderate-income renters.

Those properties are:

- The Monroe Residences & Hotel, 111 W. Monroe St.

The \$180 million proposal from The Prime Group Inc. and Capri Interests LLC would adaptively re-use 610,000 square feet of space to create 349 studio, one-, and two-bedroom units within the upper stories of a 1910 National Register high-rise. The proposal is getting \$40 million. A separate, 226-key hotel project would proceed simultaneously within the building's lower floors.

- The Field Building, 135 S. LaSalle St.

The \$258 million proposal from Riverside Investment & Development and AmTrust Properties would adaptively re-use 750,000 square feet of space to create 430 studio, one-, and two-bedroom units within a 1934 landmark high-rise. The project also includes more than 80,000 square feet of multi-level retail space. The proposal is getting \$115 million.

- The LaSalle Residences, 208 S. LaSalle St.

The \$130 million proposal from The Prime Group Inc. would adaptively re-use 222,500 square feet of space to create 280 studio, one-, and two-bedroom units within a 1914 landmark high-rise. They are getting \$33 million.

Preservation Chicago is lobbying for a Chicago Landmark Designation for the LaSalle St. buildings that are not currently landmarked, including 111 W. Monroe and 105 W. Adams.

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