

It's always too early to quit.

— Norman Vincent Peale

# NEWS-STAR

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NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE

[insideonline.com](http://insideonline.com)

## North Side Housing's Clark St. shelter plan moving forward



7464 N. Clark St.

A Special Use Permit for a Rogers Park homeless shelter was approved unanimously Feb. 17 by the Zoning Board of Appeals, removing the final regulatory hurdle for them to finalize funding and begin renovations at 7464 N. Clark St.

The permit will allow North Side Housing & Supportive Services [NSH] to move forward and operate a homeless men's shelter on that site.

"The approval was based on overwhelming support from the community and at the recommendations of the [departments] of Housing and Family Support Services," announced Ald. Maria Hadden [49th].

NSH will now advance into the next phase of the effort: finalizing the funding to acquire the building and securing building permits.

Last year the community undertook an extensive and contentious debate process over NSH's proposal. The engine for that debate was the appearance of a homeless encampment in Touhy Park during the summer of 2021. The camping divided neighbors between those who supported the illegal camping by the homeless, and those who wanted the established laws against vagrancy and camping in Chicago parks enforced.

The divisive debate grew to a crescendo when Touhy Park's field house at 7348 N. Paulina St. was closed to the public by the Chicago Park District [CPD] in 2022 and its fall programs moved to Pottawatomie Park.

The CPD decided to close the facility and move Touhy Park's summer day camp in August after legitimate user complaints over safety in the park, as the campers included those suffering with mental illness, and others who were openly using drugs and alcohol.

After the closure, the conflict quickly turned toxic, and online

debate became vitriolic, as advocates for the campers lashed out at those who opposed camping and wanted Touhy Park cleared of its illegal campers. This newspaper and one of its reporters experienced threats, acts of violence and vandalism as a result of just reporting on the issue.

A contributing factor in the final decision was a community survey. That survey showed 72.6% of responding residents supporting the proposed shelter.

***The question for Touhy Park users now is whether or not the campers will return when the weather improves, and if they do, whether or not police, City Hall, and CPD officials will choose to enforce their own vagrancy laws and park use regulations?***

"Homelessness is a crisis in our city and one big part of the solution is safe, dignified, transitional housing with wraparound services for people to remove the barriers they have to permanent housing," said Ald. Hadden. "This shelter is going to change the lives of so many and is a part of the solution."

The alderman reports that to date, 84 individuals have now been placed in housing. There are currently two people still residing in Touhy Park and there are still approximately six tents in the park. The city "has identified which tents are unoccupied and have marked them for removal at the next regularly scheduled cleaning on February 23," reports Hadden.

On Feb. 20, newspaper staff went by Touhy Park to see for ourselves, and counted up 11 tents, five more than Ald. Hadden reported.

The question for Touhy Park

### ***What to expect at new shelter***

In Dec. 2021, NSH was informed it needed to relocate the men living in their shelter at the Preston Bradley Center at 941 W. Wilson Ave. in Uptown to a new location due to building code violations. At that time they relocated 50 men into the Super 8 Motel on Sheridan Rd. in Rogers Park.

NSH then undertook a search for a permanent shelter location somewhere else on the North Side. That's where they found, and then entered into an agreement to utilize a shuttered former medical care center at 7464 N. Clark St.

Unlike some shelters in the city, NSH's Rogers Park shelter will be open 24 hours, seven days a week, and their residents will not have to leave the shelter each morning. They can stay inside, shower, get three daily meals, and utilize other provided resources and services.

NSH claims that due to their program, only three-percent of its residents return to the shelter after being connected to permanent supportive housing. They say that the average stay of a typical client in their shelter is approximately 80 days.

NSH manages over 200 permanent supportive housing units across the city, and they work with their clients to transition them from the shelter to these units. Once in the units, NSH clients continue to receive the wraparound services as needed with the goal being to prevent any return to homelessness.

users now is whether or not the campers will return when the weather improves, and if they do, whether or not Chicago police, City Hall, and CPD officials will choose to enforce their own vagrancy laws and park use regulations?

"[CPD] has informed me that they will begin to enforce their curfew and no camping policy again sometime in March, with the goal to complete restoration work to the field and vegetation and have the park reopened for Spring programming," reports Hadden.



The 28-story, 154-unit Granville Towers are for sale for \$40 million.

## Granville Towers seeks \$40M deconversion

***Condo board hires Kiser Group to find a buyer***

The next big condo deconversion plan may be happening in East Edgewater along Sheridan Rd.

The 28-story, 154-unit Granville Towers at 6166 N. Sheridan Rd. is up for sale, but only if the buyer will take all the units.

According to Crain's Chicago, the condo association's board has hired the Kiser Group to find a buyer, hoping to get \$40 million.

Condo deconversions refer to a buyer that takes over all the units of a building and converts the entire property to rental housing. These sales can be friendly or hostile takeovers, depending on one's perspective.

The process became popular about a decade ago when apartment values started to rise, and some older condo buildings faced multi-million dollar repairs and upgrades.

At the point building repair costs become prohibitive, some unit owners decide it would be a better business decision to sell out the entire building and let another owner undertake the repairs and rehab, and then convert the build-

ing to rental apartments.

In those situations, a bulk sale of all units could net individual condo owners more money for their units than they would get selling each unit individually on its own over time - particularly if a new unit owner would be faced with large special assessments for repairs. The prospect of a payout encourages many people to part ways with their homes.

But in some cases, some unit owners decide they don't want to sell and try to stop a bulk sale deal. In Chicago, a threshold has been established in those instances in order for any deal to happen.

By city ordinance, a deconversion sale now requires owners of at least 85% of the condo building's value to agree to a bulk sale before a deal can go forward. If that 85% total is achieved, then those who demure would be forced to sell their units. (In 2019 a 75% rate was increased to 85%.)

In the case of Granville Towers, about half of the owners live in the condo units and the other

**DECONVERSION** see p. 16

## Request a new tree for Edgewater

The Edgewater Environmental Coalition will be planing new trees this spring, along the parkways of the Edgewater neighborhood, with the help of Openlands TreeKeepers and other volunteers.

The are now seeking requests for locations of new trees, the

deadline to submit a request is Feb. 28 for an April planting.

For tree requests, priority will be given to locations north of Hollywood, east of Clark St., and south of Devon Ave.

To request a tree, visit <https://openlands.jotform.com/222016082476148>. For more

information write to [sustainedgewater@gmail.com](mailto:sustainedgewater@gmail.com).

Make sure to provide accurate address and contact information. If an address is able to receive a tree, they will send you maintenance reminders and tree care tips throughout the year which will help the tree thrive.

## Community meeting March 1 for SRO at 1539 W. Devon

A community meeting will be held March 1 regarding a proposed zoning change for 1539 W. Devon Ave. The purpose of this meeting is to show the final plans to the community for approval on a zoning change from the B1-1 to the B2-3, to allow for the rehab of the existing building with ground floor commercial and

15 Single Room Occupancy dwelling units.

A community vote will be taken during the meeting, which will be held via Zoom 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 1. The meeting ID is 878 7334 6313 and the passcode is 233938.

For more information call 773-784-5277.

# Try some charm, we all know how dense men can be



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Bleak numbers appear to signal that Mayor Calamity Jane Lightfoot is in big trouble in the upcoming election.

Three out of every five voters do not approve of the way in which she has handled Chicago's problems. Dropping in the polls, you can hear the sidewalks scream she is headed for certain defeat.

Voters are speaking up and talking about their choice of rescuer. Paul Vallas is skyrocketing.

People are aware of the consequences. And are coming out for him.

And so in the countdown to the Feb. 28 election the mayor stews. Broods. Sulks. As all good progressives must when they realize their political ideology is off the track.

It's not just that Calamity Jane is all woke-up. She isn't a good decision maker. She lacks training. She never attended a political prep school. She just doesn't know any better. It's all philosophical to her. Especially when she's whacking aldermen doing their jobs in the Chicago City Council.

But there's light in the tunnel ahead.

I knew if we were patient, and waited long enough, Lightfoot would shoot herself in the foot (or higher up) during the "Mayoral Debates."

And she did it well. As easy as tripping on her pant cuffs.

In perfect political clichés. All trite, banal and over-used in progressive parlance.

Recently, she flipped out during the mayoral forum of candidates, accusing her male mayoral

opponents of "mansplaining."

You know, when vocabulary or ideas are over-simplified for women to understand. It's a quick and easy barrage of attack when ideological people want to terrorize their opponents. But what was she thinking?

That crowd of candidates is hardly stacked with lofty, out of touch, political intellectuals, the kind famous for using the old "mansplaining" technique as a way of belittling their female opponents.

But I'm not really sure how much explanation actually constitutes "mansplaining." It's got to be more than a simple interjection. Is the purpose of debate not to get your version of how you see things out there? It didn't seem like the intention of any of her opponents was to belittle her political gender by an over-explanation.

There's a time and place for true critiques of excess "man talk." Her resorting to play that gender card seemed disingenuous. But it did show a little fire in the belly. I'd be jumping all over my opponents' podiums if I was a participant.

Her comment did get to raise the feminist question of how these men deal with women. But without providing any proper channel to answer the challenge she raised. Saying what she said was just a distraction. Pure public devilment to shadow her opponents intentions.

I suspect her opponents share her abhorrence for "mansplaining." You'd have to have a screw loose to do it in a political candidates forum. But she took it as a chance to scold her opponents. Embarrass them.

Sadly, I don't think she did herself any favors.

The same can be said for her second outburst, saying she was getting treated like a child by them. Perhaps she only has herself to blame if she has to lash out at her opponents as such. Not for issues facing the city and her poor attempts to deal with them, but her perceptions as a person.

She's angry.

Pollsters have probably already told her she's going to crash and burn on Feb. 28. Taking it out on Brandon Johnson or Willie Wilson doesn't seem honest.

Have her backers held their last dinner yet? Maybe in a private room of a noted steakhouse?

She had no patience for Johnson's interjection which she labeled "mansplaining." Or when Wilson called the mayor "confused." That's when she said, "Don't try and treat me like I'm some child, trying to tell me to quiet down." Her exact words.

So she tries to shape the content of what other people hear. Whether it's there or not. Surely they hear what she heard?

Surely, if true, the liberal crowd of feminist voters would be enraged by her pointing out how backward these men are. How neolithic their view of women's brains are.

Boy is she kidding herself.

Calamity Jane should not be allowed to be so disingenuous. That ought to tell us all something. Gives us a taste of what she's really like when cornered. When she needs to think on her feet. Play the gender card. Play the feminist card. Or the race card. Or the victim card.

That's hard to swallow if your loved one has been murdered. Or if you've been shot, stabbed, looted, carjacked, poorly educated in our Chicago schools, or seen your favorite store, business or boutique close their doors.

I'm not sure how effective these Mayoral Forums are. Especially since the votes are already coming into the Board of Elections. Like many, I've already voted.

The forums do give us the chance to see the candidates in full bloom, beyond their canned political visions should they be elected.

But watching the candidates in action can actually be way more informative than their hobbled politics. What we get is the chance to see them in action, engaging one another. We get their measure as human beings. When their lingo is unencumbered.

When their reason is unleashed, or their tempers. Or their pique. What riles them up? What raises their blood pressure? Can they speak? Are they easy talkers? Are they open souls?

Or are they cautiously controlled, taking pot-shots at their opponents? Like Lightfoot is famous for. Are they in possession of any real ideas that could turn the disaster of Chicago around?

Calamity Jane went out of her way to take pot-shots at Paul Vallas. Even she knows he is the front runner whom people see as intelligent and reasonable. She chopped away at his public record. And distorted his great re-creation of Chicago's public schools years ago.

days. A time for Christians to take a further look on the direction of life's journey. Hope it is a productive time for you.

**ELECTION 2023:** Tuesday, Feb. 28, is Election Day for Chicagoans. The Mayor's Office and 50 Aldermanic seats hang in the judgment of the voter. Don't forget to vote.

**BLACK ART:** When things appear to be at their worst, art can lift us back to hope

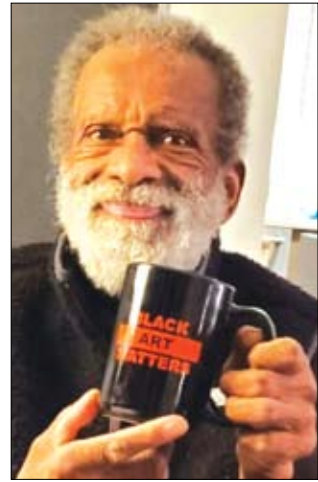
and saner ground. Thank you **Richard Howard Hunt**, America's greatest living sculptor, for the reminder.

**JOURNALISM:** Thanking reporter **Mary Ann Ahern** for reminding us that after 31 years NBC's **Phil Rogers** is retiring after

keeping Chicagoans in the know. **Lynn Nottage**, the incredible two-time Pulitzer Prize recipient, seen stopping by the Drama Book Store talking plays and operas. **Bill Zwecker** attending fabulous Chicago wedding in Cartagena, Columbia, then R&R in Palm Beach. **Candace** and **Chuck Jordan** doing a little R&R at the Colony in Palm Beach, getting the chance to see Mar-a-Lago.

**RESTITUTION:** A French court has ordered Christie's to return "The Penitent Magdalene," an 18th-century Dutch painting confiscated during World War II, to the heirs of a French banker and distant relative of **Marcel Proust**, the subject of a restitution claim. **Ron Lauer** will repurchase from

**CHARM** see p. 12



Richard Howard Hunt



Phil Rogers

I found her confusing and hard to understand. I would have liked her to "mansplain" for me, just what she was talking about. With no offense taken.

But explaining herself is something of which she's incapable. Not a drop of feminine wisdom. Or charm. Just the confluence of her moody political ineptitude.

Couldn't she just try to make sense out of what she was really trying to say? Or what the candidates were really attempting to get at?

You know how dense men can be. Just don't treat me as a child.

**LENT:** Today is Ash Wednesday. The start of Lent 2023, 40



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# Brian Haag for 48th Ward Alderman

Help  
small businesses  
stay alive!  
**PUNCH 5**

Vote early  
or vote  
on election day.  
**Feb. 28th**



When our government locked down small businesses for COVID, while allowing large businesses like Amazon, Target and Walmart to remain open, they collapsed around one million small businesses across the nation. The government assisted the favored giants into record profits.

Our government made matters worse by using our tax dollars to pay big banks billions of dollars to administrate the SBA COVID Relief small business loans / grants. Like I've said before, our government already has all the sales tax records of every small business nationwide. They could have administrated this relief reparation based on those records.

Small businesses were sacrificed on the altar of "saving lives" while monopolies benefited. A Johns Hopkins study revealed COVID lockdowns had an extremely negligible effect on death rates from COVID, clocking in at 0.2% or 1/5 of 1%. Was the destruction worth it?

We are now entering a new phase of our government getting it all wrong. The new Puritans of Big Woke Inc. want to end personal cars for you and me. But not for them.

I want bike lanes too, but not at the expense of torpedoing small businesses' street parking and loading zones on Broadway! Nick Ward and his organizers from Better Streets Chicago state that taking away parking and loading zones from successful small businesses on Broadway is essential to their plan of getting rid of cars. How about taking away parking lots for Amazon Whole Foods, Target and Walmart?

Until then, they will be removing ZERO cars from the roads, but will force the demise of the GREENEST businesses on Broadway such as Green Element Resale, Broadway Antique Market, Sophie's Closet and many other small independent businesses.

Short-sighted moves by IDOT and CDOT will assist in bringing an end to most small businesses on Broadway. Many that are minority owned.

Believe them, and the World Economic Forum, when they tell you "*You will own nothing and be happy about it.*"

Instead of taking away much needed parking, I propose a better solution would be to connect the lakefront bike path, thus addressing bicyclist requests for yet one more north-south connection to travel, other than Kenmore, Winthrop and Glenwood. This proposal to connect the bike path on the east side of Sheridan Rd. high-rises would also address the protection needed from lake levels by incorporating a service road behind the buildings from Ardmore to Granville with entrance/exits at Ardmore, Thorndale, Glenlake and Granville. This service road would be used by delivery, moving trucks, and residents to free up congestion on Sheridan Rd.

**Vote for me, Brian Haag. Standing up for small businesses. Standing for sustainability.  
No ideology, orthodoxy, or political party.**

[Brianhaagforward48.org](http://Brianhaagforward48.org)

Paid for by Neighbors for Brian Haag 48

## Tax appeal workshop March 2

Cook County Cmsr. Bridget Degnen is hosting in-person assistance with filing property assessment appeals to the Board of Review 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 2, at 2523 N. Halsted St.

Your assessment is one key piece in determining your property tax bill. Filing appeal is an opportunity to have the Board of Review take a second look at your assessment to determine if your assessment should be lowered prior to calculating your upcoming FY2022 2nd Installment property tax bill.

Appeals can only be filed for residential properties with six or fewer units. No assistance will be offered for filing an appeal for commercial properties or apartment or condo buildings with more than six units. Those appeals must be filed with an authorized attorney to appeal the building's assessment as a whole.

Appeals can be submitted once a year to both the Assessor's Office and the Board of Review. The appeals window is for the fiscal year 2022 assessments. For more information call 773-283-7873.



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# Banks are not your friend

## Buyers beware: big changes now coming to mortgage costs



by Don DeBat

### The Home Front

"Your bank is not a synagogue, temple or church. It is not a charitable institution. You owe it no loyalty. Banks today have some 300 fees and charges that they put on the innocent."

That 1996 immortal quote, came from South Carolina real estate developer and entrepreneur, the late Herbert L. Benson, Jr. It headed the chapter titled "Banks Are Not Your Friend," in "Escaping Condo Jail," a book co-authored by Chicago Realtor Sara E. Benson (Herbert's daughter) and this writer in 2014.

"Beware! They still use their same old rules," the quote continued. "You can always borrow money if you can prove to them that you don't need it. Deposit \$10,000 and they will be glad to lend you \$5,000. Shop around, read the small print and then decide what is best for you."

In the ever-changing world of "Mortgageland," befuddled borrowers are often easy prey for the money lenders. Now, home-loan experts warn that "big changes to mortgage costs" are coming starting on May 1, 2023.

Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, the agencies that buy the vast majority of new conforming mortgages for the purchase of homes

in the secondary market, soon will impose new "Loan Level Price Adjustments," or LLPAs.

LLPAs are based on loan features such as the borrower's credit score, the loan-to-value ratio, property occupancy (owner-occupied versus non-owner occupied homes), and most recently, your debt-to-income ratio. Many lenders will begin to implement the changes on loan applications made in March and April, experts say.

In a nutshell, here's what will change for better and for worse:

- On the positive side, the effective penalty for having a credit score under 680 will be smaller than it was, but it still will cost a borrower more to have a lower score.



You can always borrow money from a bank as long as you can prove to them that you don't need it.

***In the ever-changing world of "Mortgageland," befuddled borrowers are often easy prey for the money lenders. Now, home-loan experts warn that "big changes to mortgage costs" are coming starting on May 1, 2023.***

For example, if you have a FICO score of 659 and are borrowing 75% of the home's value, you would be required to pay a fee equal to 1.5% of the loan balance at closing. If you have a credit score of 780-plus you would not pay this fee.

- Before these changes, a borrower with a credit score of 659 would have paid a whopping fee of 2.75% of the loan amount. On a hypothetical \$300,000 loan, that's a difference of \$3,750 in closing costs.
- Elsewhere in mortgage-hunting land, things will get worse. Borrowers with higher credit scores generally will pay a bit more than they were under the previous structure.
- These added fees don't necessarily

essarily have to come out of the borrower's pocket upfront. In some cases, lenders will charge higher interest rates and roll the costs into the loan amount for the borrower. However, the costs are still there, and technically will be paid by the borrower over time in the form of higher interest rates.

- The most notable new charge is for debt-to-income ratio, or DTI. Every loan guaranteed by the agencies has a DTI attached to it. If the borrower's DTI is more than 40% and he or she is borrowing more than 60% of the home's value, the more the loan will cost.

The good news? Federal Housing Admin. (FHA) insured loans, Veterans Admin. (VA) guaranteed mortgages, and non-conforming jumbo loans from a retail bank or credit union will not be affected by these new fees. For more information, visit: <https://singlefamily.com/media/9391/display>.

Jeremy Rose, senior vice president of A and N Mortgage Services in Chicago, gives the following tips on controlling debt to keep your credit score high before you take out a mortgage: Use credit cards cautiously. Credit cards can be a great resource, but using them as a loan can be tricky. They often

have very high interest rates, and the interest can quickly become more than the amount borrowed in the first place.

Never make a large credit-card purchase while waiting for approval of a mortgage. Always pay off your credit cards as soon as possible, prioritizing those with high interest rates.

A budget is a good idea. Figure out how much you earn, how much you owe, and how quickly you want to pay off the debt. Then, make a budget and stick to it.

Avoid "interest-free" loans. They may initially seem like a good deal, but rates typically skyrocket after a certain period. Always thoroughly read the terms and conditions before signing any loan agreement.

### Pushback against high density

Have some North Side neighbors finally gotten wise to the sudden sprint to add high density housing in their communities? Signs of such second thoughts popped up in Lincoln Square where developer CKG Realty Group was at first turned away over a proposal due to its high density. CKG has now come back to the community with two options for the development site at 2300 W. Ainslie.

The first plan for the soon-to-be former St. Matthias Rectory at Ainslie St. and N. Oakley Ave. was rejected by the community when the developer proposed turning the rectory into nine apartments, while adding a new eight-unit building on the east side of the property.

Chastened, now CKG has brought forward two new options with lower density.

The first option would convert the rectory to apartments and build five new three-story townhomes facing Oakley. But that too would need an upzoning. If that proposal is rejected, CKG says they would resort to doing an as-of-right development and build five large single family homes, facing Ainslie.

### Home-loan rates on rise again

On Feb. 16, benchmark 30-year fixed rate mortgages rose for the second consecutive week to 6.32% from 6.12% a week earlier, reported Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey.

A year ago, the 30-year rate was 3.92%. Fifteen-year fixed loans averaged 5.51%, up from 5.25% a week earlier. A year ago, 15-year loans averaged 3.1%.

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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## Burger Night is Back! February 24



Come on in and order a B.Y.O.B (Build Your Own Burger)

Eat In or Order To Go!

Doors open at 6 p.m.  
Food served 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

4355 N. Western Ave.

Build a Burger \$10

\*To Go orders must be made in-person



The American Legion Tattler Post #973 is hosting their monthly burger night. The general public is invited to join in the classic community dinner, which has been going on now for over 25 years. Guests may enjoy a fresh grilled 1/2 lb. burger and adult beverages with fellow community members and neighbors. A great meal and fundraiser for the Post, no reservations are required.

Every Friday night the Tattler Post is open and the bar is manned by community volunteers. Guests are welcome to spend time with Legion Officers and members, as well as member.

Learn about the programs and events coming up and enjoy inexpensive drinks. All proceeds go to support the Tattler Post's Community Fund.



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# And the hate goes on...

**Chicago Police Dept. issues  
"Day of Hate" alert**



**Heart  
of the 'Hood**  
by Felicia Dechter

Over the weekend, the Chicago Police Department's 24th District's Place of Worship Safety Advisory Team [POWSAT] sent out a Community Alert due to "recently-observed, online domestic violent extremist messaging."

The POWSAT notice warned that Feb. 25 is being declared a national "Day of Hate."

Seems like every day is becoming a day of hate though, doesn't it?

The alert further states: "This anti-Semitic proposed event has instructed like-minded individuals to drop banners, place stickers and fliers, and vandalize by way of graffiti as forms of biased, so-called activism. The organizers are requesting that the potential actions be recorded and/or photographed to submit online."

POWSAT is urging 24th District neighbors to keep situationally-aware and pay attention to your surroundings while out in the neighborhood, not just on the Jewish Sabbath but during the week as well.

"We strongly encourage residents to help the police by calling 911 immediately and reporting all suspicious vehicles, persons, or circumstances," the alert said. "Since officers can't be on every street in the city at once, we count on our residents to be our additional eyes and ears." It then thanks people and tells them to "stay safe."

According to an article written by the Jewish United Fund, POWSAT was developed in 2019 in the wake of the Oct. 2018 Tree of Life Synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh. Eleven worshippers were killed and



## Design Museum's Little Free Library seeks book donations

The Design Museum of Chicago is seeking books to give away as a part of their Little Free Library. The library is housed in an old bank vault.

Books can be left at 72 E. Randolph St., 7 days a week, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

If you have books about art, design, photography, or anything creative, the Little Free Library would love to find them a new meaningful home.

The museum was founded in 2012 as an entirely volunteer-run organization that planned and executed pop-up exhibitions. In 2014, after two years of successful itinerant programming, more than 500 backers supported a campaign to provide funding for the museum to operate year-round. Beginning with a single staff member, the museum now mounts at least two exhibitions per year, has hosted hundreds of public programs, and engaged with more than 175,000 visitors.

Anyone who visits the Design Museum can take a book or leave a book.

six others wounded. Since then, 24th District Officers Michael Specht and Roger Heath have visited each of the "scores" of synagogues in the district, both Orthodox and Reform, sharing tips and more on what to do in the event of an unusual occurrence that raises suspicion, or what to do if approached by a stranger spewing anti-Semitic insults.

To me, this hatred -- both online and on the streets -- is crazy scary. I asked Officer Specht if by chance there's more hateful chatter than usual due to this extremely-contentious election.

"We do not believe this has anything to do with elections," said Specht. "This is not the first time this type of verbiage has been released in the past year regarding anti-Semitism and such."

***"We do not believe this has anything to do with elections," said 24th District Officer Michael Specht. "This is not the first time this type of verbiage has been released in the past year regarding anti-Semitism and such."***

I really admire this much-needed task that POWSAT is performing in our community. Please support their efforts. One way to do so is to mark your calendars for an event that is actually being held by the 16th District Faith Based Committee. The 24th District POWSAT Sanctuary Safety Workshop will be 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., March 8, at the Edison Park Lutheran Church, 6626 N. Oliphant. Its purpose is to educate faith leaders and congregants to take action and become more "situationally-aware" of their surroundings at all times.

For more info call the 16th District Community Policing Office at 312-742-4521.

**Power to the people...** Everybody is suddenly an expert on the election, putting out snarky little voting guides, calling people meanie names. Gosh, some folks can just be so not nice.

What the heck, have we all forgotten the Golden Rule?

I've thought, well, I can do that too. So here are my non-snarky, no name calling, non-nasty, logical, reasonable and fair 21 questions for voting, from a non-political, non-expert but lifelong Chi-town girl who has dealt professionally with politicians for nearly three decades.

And just a reminder: Our newspaper coverage spans from the downtown area through the North Side of the city so this is a generic guide for the many wards that our papers are read in.

(For those of you facing challengers without incumbents, change the questions to "will your candidate...?")

1. After reading about the aforementioned Day of Hate: Has your candidate publicly denounced any and all acts of hatred?
2. Is your ward better or worse off than it was four years ago?
3. Is your candidate focused on the issues facing the ward?
4. Has there been growth in your ward?
5. Has your ward thrived or just survived these last four years?
6. Did your candidate vote to raise property taxes that hurt homeowners and trickle-down to renters?
7. Does your candidate hold community meetings in a timely manner, and are they in-person or are they still using the "C" word (COVID), as an excuse to Zoom?
8. Is your voice heard, does your candidate represent the entire community or just a select few?
9. Have you or anyone you know been harassed, intimidated, bullied, or a victim of coercion by your candidate or any of their supporters?
10. Is your candidate transparent?
11. How accessible is your candidate? Is their office open five days a week? Could you find them during the pandemic?
12. Is your candidate out and about in the community, problematic spots and all? (When prostitution was an issue around Washington Square Park during the reign of the late-Alderman Burt Natarus [42nd], he started walking the park and nearby streets in the wee hours of the morning, during 'business hours' and that put on the kibosh, pronto.)
13. Is your candidate easy to get in touch with and quickly responsive... do they answer the phone when it rings or do you get voice mail? Can you ask for and get a meeting with them regarding something worrisome?
14. Does your candidate have a good working relationship with the police?
15. Do they ever personally show up and take a seat at the table at any CAPS or open community / police meetings?
16. With whom does your candidate sur-



round themselves, who works for them?

17. Does your candidate believe in tweaking projects until an acceptable compromise is reached? (The former Columbus Hosp. property in Lincoln Park comes to mind here. I attended both community and smaller meetings and after much neighborhood input and hard work, the Lucien Lagrange-designed buildings are gorgeous. But that plan was tweaked, and tweaked some more, until an acceptable negotiation was reached.)
18. How does your candidate feel about preservation of historic buildings? (This one gets me thinking about the late Gold Coaster Yvonne Pen, who was part of a feisty group that formed a human chain around the Medinah Temple/Tree Studios property and helped to successfully save it from the wrecking ball.)
19. What sort of positive changes has your ward seen under the current leadership in the last four years?
20. Does your candidate publicly address any nasty dialogue in your community?
21. Has your candidate kept their promises? (Please don't be fooled by ongoing, false promises.)

Whoever you decide is the best candidate for you, please vote on Feb. 28. Remember, the future of our "City of the Big Shoulders," is resting on yours.

**Fake news alert...** what online, social media-based neighborhood news group has lost credibility with its biased censorship of anyone not sharing its political views? Neighbors have been banned, blocked, and censored so what's left is a politically-shared voice that's definitely not the say-so of an entire community. One of the admins doesn't even live in Chicago, while another has their nose way up into the local politician's er, um, business, and is even a donator.

**VOTE**

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for 40th Ward Alderman

**on February 28th, 2023**

[janeforthe40th.com](http://janeforthe40th.com) @janeforthe40th

## Two North Side recipients get piece of \$27M in new city development grants

**First round of community development grant funding announced**

On Feb. 16 the city named 12 neighborhood businesses and nonprofit organizations are set to receive more than \$27 million in Community Development grants. Ranging from approximately \$54,000 to \$5 million, the gifts are intended to support neighborhood investments, to fund interior renovations, new construction, and other eligible costs.

Two North Side organization were recipients. Tapestry 360 Health was gifted \$3.8 million, while Plates, LLC was gifted \$156,750.

Tapestry 360 Health will use

their gift to build a new community health center in Uptown to replace their current location. It will provide primary care, behavioral health, and dental services with expanded healthcare offerings and increased patient capacity.

Plates, LLC, will use their gift to buildout a new Asian restaurant/café in recently vacated Uptown restaurant space.

The Community Development gift program is part of the federal government's \$1.2 billion bailout gift to Chicago after the government-imposed economic pandemic lockdown.

So far, City Hall has committed more than \$150 million toward more than 170 projects across the city since the beginning of 2022. The gifts are designed to support economic development, community wealth building, public health, and local planning goals.

Applications for the next round of the city's financial gifting are currently being accepted by the Dept. of Planning and Development. The next application due date is Friday, Feb. 24.

## Family remembers 'gentle giant' murdered while trying to defuse knife attack in Edgewater

BY CWBCHICAGO

Aisha Barton is remembering her son, Jamel Henton, as "a 6'-10" gentle giant who was kind and respectful to everyone."

Henton was killed on Feb. 8 when he tried to calm a knife-wielding woman who had stabbed another man outside his apartment building in the 5200 block of N. Sheridan, Chicago police said. Isis Monae was charged with his murder on Feb. 12.

"The news outlets are calling him a Good Samaritan for saving two people he didn't know from being hurt or killed," Barton wrote in a GoFundMe campaign seeking contributions to offset funeral costs. "Unfortunately, in the process, he was stabbed to death."

"Many have deemed him a Hero, but to me, Jamel was my youngest child and my only son that was stolen from me and is now gone."

"Jamel was a 6'-10" gentle giant who was kind and respectful to everyone. Jamel worked at Potbelly Sandwich Shop on Clark St., and he was in the process of enrolling for classes at Oakton Community College," Barton wrote.

Speaking with ABC7 news, Barton said, "I told him every day, 'You are destined for greatness.' I had no idea that this would be his greatest act, protecting two other people that he didn't even know."

"He has a huge family that loves him. He has grandparents and uncles and aunts and cousins and friends, and she stole him



Jamel Henton

from us. She stole him," Barton told ABC7. "He's more than a good Samaritan. He's a hero."

### Letters to the Editor

#### Winners, losers to the municipal election

Even though you may not yet have even voted, the winners and losers have been declared.

Sacred cows will be fed. Others will be taxed and slaughtered. Guess which group you belong to?

Winner: The Chicago Teachers Union. They will elect more Marxists, er, uh, I mean Socialist Democrats to the City Council. And they will push their woke, gimme agenda and continue to "groom" children.

Loser: Homeowners. Your condo, home or apartment building will become an ATM for City Hall and all its spending sprees.

Winner: Greedy Developers. They will continue to seize city assets and TIF property tax funds to finance their crime. See Matt Martin and Lincoln Square.

Loser: School children. Chicago Public Schools continue to warehouse students and push out teens ill-equipped to compete in

the world job market. City Hall is NOT pro-choice when it comes to our children's education.

Winner: Casinos. Bally's in, and Tribune printing plant out... lay the points and take the under.

Losers: Gamblers. Maybe you can feed and clothe the kids next week.

Winner: Drug Dealers. Whether you have a marijuana dispensary or are just slinging dope on the street, the Chicago Machine will get out of your way. No oversight, fewer cops, no jail time.

Loser: North Siders. Crime is increasing and it has found a home in River North, Old Town, Lincoln Park, Lakeview, North Center and Lincoln Square/Ravenswood. You have become an apple orchard. Easy pickings.

Winner: Mike Madigan. With all the woke, climate change nuts moving to ban gas stoves, Peoples Gas, gasoline cars, et. al., ComEd and its electricity will be the only

game in town. And who has his people in at ComEd? Mike Madigan!

Loser: Taxpayers. City pension funds are hemorrhaging money. City Hall allows its friends to take pension funds to invest but very seldom do the funds get a healthy return back. So a city income tax. Real estate transfer tax surcharges. Cell phone taxes. Cable TV taxes. Gambling taxes. Dope taxes. Red light camera taxes. Gasoline taxes. Internet sales taxes. User fees on public transportation, and an ATM fee for every withdrawal going to City Hall.

Just pay. If you complain, they will come after you and try to punish or hurt you.

After all this, now the woke workers of the world unite.

Mike Sullivan  
Avondale

#### Nothin' shakin' on shakedown street, used to be the heart of town

Thank you for your honest coverage of the Clark Street Crossroads [Feb. 8] plan to cripple Clark St.

If it weren't for your newspaper, I wouldn't even know this takeover was in the works, as the Clark Street Crossroads committee has done absolutely nothing to reach out to the residents of the area. Which I guess is by design.

The Crossroads plan appears to be a desperate attempt to hold onto the TIF money.

It's one thing to put money into the businesses in the area. And ensure that plans are extremely business-friendly.

But it's another thing all together to waste \$7.3 million of the taxpayer's money on superficial nonsense that does nothing to improve the area for the businesses, consumers and residents.

Being a resident of the area for over 30 years, I have seen that Clark St. has always had its own "identity." It already has the elements that draw in shoppers, bar and restaurant-goers and inde-

pendent businesses.

The Crossroads plans would surely drive away shoppers, and like State St., the shoppers will actually just drive somewhere else.

It will indeed turn out just like State St. It will become a desolate ghost town of a street.

I clearly remember when State St. was turned into a pedestrian mall and how it languished. No one had any desire to shop and dine there.

The city knew fairly quickly that it was a big failure. A sad and expensive mistake.

It's a shame that we have to witness the same mistakes being made by a new generation of politicians trying to justify their budgets and their jobs.

Chuck Sullivan  
Uptown

#### Cut the blood flow, kill the patient

Why are aldermen and "committees" trying to destroy streets such as Clark St.? [Feb. 8]

Recently a candidate running for the 48th Ward complained about Ridge and Broadway "cutting through his community."

Excuse me?

These streets have been here helping to shuttle everyone where they need to go for well over a century, functioning as the main arteries of a bustling city.

But now certain factions see main thoroughfares as a personal affront and want to get rid of them. And our cars too.

It appears that they want to cut the very blood flow of this city.

And we know what happens when the blood flow is cut off long enough, you kill the patient.

What exactly is the end game of these short-sighted plans?

Looks like they want us to go backwards and erase The Century of Progress.

R. McFall  
Andersonville

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# Major crimes balloon 58% higher, up 104% in two years

BY CWBCHICAGO

If you look up on a clear day in Chicago, you may see them overhead. No, those aren't incoming Chinese spy balloons. They're the latest crime statistics from the Chicago Police Dept.

Car theft up 151% so far this year. Sexual assaults and robberies up 23% each. Theft up 33%. Of the seven major crime categories CPD tracks, only murder is down.

The police department's CompStat report, published Tuesday, shows major crime reports up a whopping 104% compared to this point in 2021; 67% compared to 2020; and 66% compared to 2019.

Last month, Lori Lightfoot released a campaign ad claiming that the incumbent mayor has a crime plan and that critics are nothing more than "haters." Yet, the city's numbers speak for themselves.

Everyone's pleased to see 16 fewer murders so far this year. But that's still 58% higher than right before the last mayoral election in 2019.

From Grant Park to Rogers Park and from Jefferson Park to Wicker Park, nearly all of the city's police districts are experiencing double-digit increases in major crime this year. One district is up a mind-blowing 114%.

The only district in those ar-

reas that's not up this year is the Central 1st District, which includes the Loop, South Loop, and Bronzeville. With 29 fewer crime reports this year, the district is down 8%. But it's still up 136% compared to 2021.

The worst performer? That's the 20th Lincoln District, which includes the north ends of Uptown and Lincoln Square, Edgewater, and Andersonville. Thanks to a stunning 311% increase in auto thefts, total crime reports in the district are up 114% compared to last year and 110% compared to 2019. Only robbery cases are down.

But that brings us to the possibility that some better news may

be on the horizon.

Auto theft, driven by the "Kia boys" social media craze, is the category responsible for much of the city's overall major crime increase. Just under 100 cars per day are being stolen in Chicago this year, an astonishing number that is 283% higher than 2019—thousands and thousands of vehicles.

The surge in car thefts began last July as the "Kia boy" phenomenon arrived in town. Until summer gets here, the city will likely continue to see substantial year-over-year increases. Then, as they say on Wall Street, the "comps" will become more favorable.

Even better: Hyundai and Kia,

the two automakers whose vehicles are easily stolen by "Kia boys," just announced that they're rolling out a software fix to rem-

***Last month, Lori Lightfoot released a campaign ad claiming that the incumbent mayor has a crime plan and that critics are nothing more than "haters." Yet, the city's numbers speak for themselves.***

edy the design flaw thieves are exploiting.

Between harder-to-steal cars and the "Kia boys" first anniversary this summer, year-over-year crime increases could slow in a few months. Just in time for the next mayor, whoever it is, to claim that their crime-fighting strategies are responsible for the improvement.

## Community group trying to establish dope-free zone downtown

**March 2 meeting for new Streeterville weed dispensary triggers petition effort**

G.P. Green House LLC has filed a Special Use application to operate a recreational marijuana dispensary at 620 N. Fairbanks Ct. in Streeterville.

But they may soon experience some pushback from the community, as a petition campaign is getting underway to establish a Cannabis Restriction Zone [CRZ] downtown.

A community meeting to review the proposal will be held on the 2nd floor of Chez, 247 E. Ontario St., at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, where neighbors can learn more about the proposal.

Those who prefer to sit in on the meeting by using Zoom may use meeting ID 849 6748 7194 and passcode i6PdDs.

The Streeterville Organization for Active Residents [SOAR] and some other nearby residents have raised concerns about this proposal. Concerns are similar to what was voiced in 2022, when ZBA denied a nearby proposal at 212 E. Ontario St.

Given the plethora of dope

dealers who now wish to establish a dispensary in the downtown area, SOAR has begun circulating a petition to establish a CRZ downtown.

Recreational weed may be legal in Chicago, but cannabis selling, buying and consumption remains classified as a Schedule I substance (among other drugs like heroin and cocaine) by the federal government.

The only places where recreational weed can legally be consumed in Chicago is on private property, but there is presently little enforcement of that law, and consumption is taking place in many public spaces. Dope smokers are largely flouting these rules and lighting up in public, as enforcement is often lax in Chicago.

Smart potheads know that the price of legal recreational weed is much higher at licensed dispensaries than what one would pay for a comparable gram on the street from a traditional dealer. And it's not just the price of the weed itself that's higher—legal weed comes with taxes levied by Illinois, Cook County and Chicago that mean Illinois dope is some of the most expensive in the nation.

The Illinois Compiled Statute

allows a legal voter to propose to restrict one or more types of cannabis business establishments in a community. The rule includes cultivation centers, craft growers, processing organizations, dis-

***The only places where recreational weed can legally be consumed in Chicago is on private property, but there is presently little enforcement of that law, and consumption is taking place in many public spaces.***

pensing organizations, and transporting organizations, or both home cultivation and one or more cannabis business establishments from operating in that precinct.

To be eligible, the individual seeking a Petition from the City Clerk must be a legally registered voter in the precinct the individual seeks to restrict.

Upon the Petition's completion, the City Clerk will post the Petition online at [www.chicityclerk.com/cannabis](http://www.chicityclerk.com/cannabis) for a 30 day com-

ment period. During the comment period the public may submit comments regarding the Petition. Comments may also be submitted in person to the City Hall Office of the City Clerk, or to [clerk.cannabis@cityofchicago.org](mailto:clerk.cannabis@cityofchicago.org), and will be available for public inspection at City Hall.

During the 30-day comment period, the City Clerk will also review the submitted Petition for legal sufficiency. At the end of the 30-day comment period, the City Clerk will publicly post online its determination of whether the Petition is accepted as legally sufficient or rejected as legally insufficient.

So despite the community meeting being scheduled, ZBA's review of the application will be on hold, pending the neighborhood petition.

An alderman may then review the Petition, and consider relevant factors about the precinct identified in the Petition, such as its locations, character, the prevalence of residentially zoned property, current licensed cannabis business already establishments in the precinct, and the prevailing viewpoint within the precinct.

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# Aloha from Lincoln Square

## Legend of Hawaiian music at Old Town School March 2

STORY BY PETER VON BUOL

Legendary Hawaiian slack key guitarist George Kahumoku Jr. and second-generation ukulele virtuoso Herb Ohta, Jr., will be returning 8 p.m. Thursday, March 2 to perform at the Old Town School of Folk Music. Joining them on stage will be Sonny Lim, a multi-instrumentalist known for slack key and Hawaiian lap steel and who is himself a member of a famous family in Hawaiian music.

The trio will be performing on the stage of the school's Gary and Laura Maurer Hall at 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. The musicians will be bringing a little bit of their Hawaiian warmth to the Chicago stage as they regularly perform together Wednesday evenings at Maui's Napili Kai Beach Resort.

Tickets range from \$26 to \$28.

Slack-key guitar, known as kīhō'alu ("loosen the key"), uses guitar-tunings modified from standard guitar tunings. By either raising or lowering the tunings of the individual strings, slack-key guitarists achieve a sound recognizable as distinctly Hawaiian. The style originated during the 1830s among native Hawaiian cowboys ("Paniolo" in Hawaiian). Until recently, many of these tunings were considered family secrets and not shared with those who were not family members.

North Sider guitar players can experience those secrets by attending the show.

The Hawaiians had been trained in cattle-ranching techniques by Spanish-speaking cowboys from Mexico (vaqueros). Many of the vaqueros were also skilled musicians. Not only did they teach

the Hawaiians about cattle-ranching, in the evenings, they shared their music while everyone sat around a campfire. Therefore, prior to returning home to Mexico, many of the vaqueros showed their appreciation to their Hawaiian hosts by gifting them their guitars.

According to Kahumoku, the 19th century Mexican vaqueros had played three types of guitars and had usually performed as a trio. These trios consisted of a four-string bass guitar; a six-string rhythm gui-



Sonny Lim, Herb Ohta and George Kahumoku Jr. will leave Hawaii for the Old Town School next week.

tar; and a four-string tenor lead guitar.

"Hawaiians combined the sound of these three into one. They slackened or loosened the strings, picking bass, rhythm and lead all at once, and the art of slack key guitar was born," he said. "Families developed their own tunings and incorporated old Hawaiian-language chants into modern songs with melodies." Kahumoku has co-produced four Grammy Award winning albums of Hawaiian music, and he was also recently honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by Hawaii's Academy of Recording Arts.

Known for sharing his encyclopedic knowledge of traditional slack key songs from the 19th and 20th century with his audiences, Kahumoku also enjoys playing his own compositions and is always thinking about new songs. Many of these are inspired by his work as a proud traditional farmer.

"I enjoy creating new songs based on Hawaiian Traditions of the past. These songs are reflective of everyday life and what's happening in the [present]," Kahumoku said.

Ohta will be returning with Kahumoku to showcase his skills once again as one of Hawaii's premier ukulele virtuosos, carrying on the legacy of his father. In the 1950s, Ohta's father, Ohta-San, astounded television viewers on the mainland with his ukulele virtuosity when he appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show.

Inspired by his father, the younger Ohta is known for his unsurpassed speed and meticulous technique. Ohta is also a student of Hawaiian musical history and uses the ukulele to musically transport concertgoers to the days when most visitors arrived in Hawaii by passenger steamships.

Joining Kahumoku and Ohta will be Elmer "Sonny" Lim, Jr., once the steel guitarist for the Makaha Sons of Ni'ihau band which featured the haunting vocals and ukulele of the late Hawaiian musical legend, Israel Kamakawiwo'ole.

Growing up in a family known for its abilities in music and dance, Sonny Lim was surrounded by music. Support from his family allowed him to develop his own style. At the age of 12, he started to perform professionally with his family at Laurence Rockefeller's luxurious Mauna Kea Beach Resort. Three years later, the Makaha Sons of Ni'ihau, who were already one of the most in-demand live bands in the islands, asked him to perform lap steel for them.

In high school, he would leave his home island to fly to Honolulu to perform with the band. Lim only appears on several of the band's albums but in 2012, he was among those included when the group was inducted into the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame. Lim has also achieved mainland recognition. In 2005, he

was a featured recording artist on Slack Key Guitar, Vol. 2, winner of the inaugural Grammy Award for Hawaiian Music.

For more than a quarter of a century, Kahumoku, 72, has annually been bringing the Masters of Hawaiian Music tour to the mainland. The tours provide Kahumoku with an opportunity to personally connect with his fans on the mainland, many of whom have even traveled to Maui to see his weekly live show.

Kahumoku has also spent decades in education, both as an administrator and as a classroom instructor. While he is proud of his work in the classroom, he also appreciates the education he received from his parents, grandparents and ancestors.

"My father, George Kahumoku, Sr. quit school after eighth-grade and broke horses for McCandless Ranch" on the Big Island of Hawaii. "My great-grandfather, Willy Kahumoku, was instrumental in building the stone walls that contained the cattle [on the Big Island]. My [ancestors] all played kī hō'alu guitar. I've been playing and performing slack key guitar as well as farming, and ranching all of my life," Kahumoku said.

Throughout much of the 20th century, slack-key guitar was overshadowed in popular music by the more commercial-sounding Hawaiian steel-guitar. By the late 1960s, interest in traditional Hawaiian folk music rebounded and slack key guitar achieved recognition as a lead instrument. Leading the way was The Sons of Hawaii, which featured the collaborative musical interplay between the late Gabby Pahinui on slack key guitar and the late Eddie Kamae on ukulele.



## Nature Museum sleepover with the butterflies

Spend an unforgettable night with the butterflies at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon Dr., in Lincoln Park. Everyone is welcome to join this public overnight, developed for youth from 5 to 11 years old.

Bunking with the Butterflies will be held Friday, March 24 through Saturday, March 25. The cost is \$79 per participant, with a required ratio of one chaperone per five children.

Guests will meet live animals and participate in nature and science inspired activities during this event.

Participants will sleep within select exhibits and enjoy the wonder of the Judy Istock Butterfly Haven.

Nature Museum overnights are a shared learning experience for youth and their chaperones facilitated by Museum Educators. Custom overnights are also available for families, school groups, and other groups of 50 or more people.

A light snack and a continental breakfast will be provided for all participants. For information email overnights@nature-museum.org.

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# Supreme Court's Dobbs decision should end 'bodily autonomy' claims vs COVID vax mandates

BY JONATHAN BILYK  
*Cook County Record*

Even as Mayor Lori Lightfoot and others in Chicago's elected Democratic leadership excoriated the U.S. Supreme Court for its decision last summer overturning Roe v Wade, lawyers for the city have seized on that decision to back their assertions the so-called "right to bodily autonomy" courts cited for decades to uphold abortion rights should not also extend to those seeking to defeat COVID vaccine mandates.

On Feb. 8, lawyers representing the city of Chicago filed a brief in Chicago federal court, urging a federal judge to put an end to the lawsuit brought by city workers who claimed the city wrongly forced them to choose between taking a COVID job or

keeping their jobs.

The Chicago city workers have been in court against Lightfoot and City Hall since 2021, when the city first imposed its COVID vaccine mandate, threatening to fire those who did not comply. The lawsuit also named Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker as a defendant, for his role in imposing the mandates on public workers in Illinois, in general.

The Chicago city worker lawsuit came among a flurry of similar litigation brought by firefighters and other public workers against the city, the state and other state and local governmental bodies and officials.

The plaintiffs all pressed similar claims, asserting the vaccine mandates violated government workers' constitutional rights to due process, bodily autonomy and free-

dom of religion, among other constitutional violations.

They also alleged the mandates violated their conscience rights under state law.

***The city further argued the workers' claims concerning violations of their rights to privacy and bodily autonomy under the 14th Amendment also could not hold up.***

In all of the cases thus far, judges refused to impose injunctions blocking the various government officials and agencies from enforcing the COVID vaccine mandates.

Plaintiffs appealed those decisions, but found no relief from the U.S. Seventh Cir-

cuit Court of Appeals. In the summer of 2022, appellate judges agreed that the scientific case for the vaccine mandates was growing gradually weaker as real world observations and research indicated the COVID vaccines approved by the Food and Drug Administration did not actually prevent infection or transmission of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

However, the appellate judges said even that was not enough to compel the courts to strike down the mandates at this point, because the mandates did not violate any fundamental rights, in part, because the mandates were imposed as a condition of employment.

The appeals court sent the matter back to

**AUTONOMY** see p. 14

## Class actions target Advocate Illinois Masonic, Loyola hospitals for requiring health workers to scan fingerprints

BY MARY HAYDOCK  
*Cook County Record*

Two major Chicago area hospital groups, Advocate Aurora Health and hospitals operated by Loyola Medicine, have been targeted by class actions accusing them of improperly requiring workers to scan their fingerprints to access drug dispensing systems at their hospitals.

In nearly identical claims, attorneys from the firm of Stephan Zouras, of Chicago, filed two class actions lawsuits on Feb. 7 in Cook County Circuit Court.

Named plaintiff Nicole Campobasso, on behalf of herself and others, filed a class

action lawsuit against Gottlieb Memorial Hospital, Gottlieb Community Health Services Corporation, which does business as Macneal Hospital, Loyola University Medical Center, and Trinity Health Corporation over alleged violations of the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act [BIPA].

Additionally, in a separate lawsuit, named plaintiff Andres Socorro, on behalf of himself and others, also filed a class action lawsuit against Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center and Advocate Aurora Health for similar alleged BIPA violations.

As with thousands of similar complaints filed under the BIPA law, these lawsuits accuse the defendant employers of improv-

erly requiring workers to scan their fingerprints to verify their identity. In both lawsuits, alleged BIPA violations center on the supposed improper collection of biometric information to obtain access to regulated substances; specifically, the dispensing of pharmaceuticals at Pyxis Medstations.

The named defendants in both cases have used and continue to use the Pyxis biometric enabled medicine dispensing systems. These automated dispensing systems provide clinicians with an efficient means

of disbursing medications in a safe, secure environment, and are designed to combat drug thefts.

The system authenticates the user by capturing and utilizing biometric identifiers. The Pyxis system also allows integration with other devices, software, servers and such. As with any similar system, users must first be enrolled into the system in order to obtain access. Biometric data is

**FINGERPRINTS** see p. 14

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# Police Beat...

**Seven-time felon lugged a safe out of an Edgewater bar, came back two hours later to pick it up**

Prosecutors say a seven-time felon broke into an Edgewater bar, lugged a safe from the basement, then came back two hours later with his car to haul it away. And it was all caught on video.

Sargon Markos, 43, entered Whiskey Girl tavern, 6318 N. Clark, by kicking in a glass panel around 2:15 a.m. on Feb. 1, prosecutors said.



Sargon Markos

He allegedly loaded liquor into his backpack from a storage room before breaking through a basement door with a tool. Markos found a locked safe in the basement. He loaded it onto a dolly, hauled it upstairs, and hid it in the alley, prosecutors said.

Then, he walked away. Two hours later, surveillance cameras recorded him returning to the alley in a car with another man. Markos and his buddy allegedly loaded the safe into the car and drove away.

During a bail hearing on Feb. 15, prosecutors did not say how police identified Markos. But officers arrested him earlier this week while driving the same car he allegedly used to pick up the safe.

Judge Barbara Dawkins ordered him to pay a \$500 bail deposit to get out of jail.

Markos' criminal background includes felony convictions for aggravated battery, threatening a public official, and several theft-related crimes, prosecutors said. In Nov. 2020, he was charged with possessing burglary tools and retail theft in Park Ridge. And in 2017, he was accused of breaking into a Skokie hookah store.

**Man makes 96 phony calls to Chicago 911**



Rudy Thompson

facing felony charges.

At one point, Rudy Thompson made 78 bogus reports to 911 within 90 days, according to prosecutor Sarah Dale-Schmidt.

He's charged with calling in a false report about a group of men armed with guns in the 200 block of N. Franklin on March 12, 2022. Dale-Schmidt said that the city's emergency call center got the same call from his number earlier that day.

## Canada Goose burglary crew also raided gun and liquor stores

An organized smash-and-grab burglary crew that raided a Mag Mile clothing store last month is responsible for similar crimes in the South Loop and the suburbs, Chicago police said on Feb. 14.

Investigators also released video of the Jan. 30 break-in at Canada Goose, 800 N. Michigan, saying the same group of offenders recently burglarized a gun store in suburban Lansing and a liquor store in the Loop.

In the Canada Goose video, the offenders are seen smashing through a pane of reinforced glass. They enter the store and round up winter coats, some of which retail for \$900 or more, from the racks and escape with armloads of merchandise in a white SUV.

According to CPD, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, is also trying to locate the crew. The feds believe the group burglarized Pelcher's Shooters Supply, a gun store, in Lansing on Jan. 25 and Feb. 9.

FoxChicago reported that no guns were taken from Pelcher's, although one of the burglars was seen on video pointing a firearm during the latest

But he made many more false reports for which he is not charged, officials said. Office of Emergency Management and Communications records show he called 911 in Chicago 78 times within 90 days.

As of Feb. 15, his phone number had called 911 a total of 97 times, with only one call being legitimate, Dale-Schmidt said.

"Sir, stop calling 911," Judge David Kelly advised Thompson during a bail hearing on Feb. 16. "I don't know why you're doing this. Stop. Alright?"

Thompson's public defender said he has severe mental health issues that would be better addressed outside the jail.

But Thompson, 32, was already supposed to be receiving that help because he has been on so-called "mental health probation" for aggravated battery of a CTA bus driver since Oct. 2021. In that case, prosecutors said he leaned around a plastic shield and expelled a "large amount of spit" in the driver's eye.

Kelly, the judge, held Thompson without bail for violating probation but said he could be released on the new charge without posting any cash.

**Edgewater robber said he planned to attack 50 people that day; charges filed**

A man charged with attacking and robbing another man in Edgewater last week allegedly told the victim that he was on a mission to beat up 50 people that day. Those efforts were cut short when Chicago police arrested him a few minutes later.

The victim was walking to the Red Line around 6:55 a.m. Feb. 13 when a man approached him from behind in the 1400 block of W. Granville. Prosecutors said the offender grabbed the victim's backpack and spun him around.

He demanded the victim's jacket, shoes, and backpack while punching him in the face, prosecutors said. After the victim fell to the ground, the robber went through his pockets, looking for valuables.

The attacker punched the victim in the face while he was down and



A burglar runs from the Canada Goose store with an armload of coats on Jan. 30.

break-in.

Chicago cops think the same group also burglarized a liquor store in the 600 block of S. Wabash around 5:50 a.m. on Feb. 9. After the burglary, the crew crashed their getaway car at Roosevelt and Clark and were seen running from the crash site.

CPD released descriptions of three suspects from the Canada Goose break-in on Tuesday:

- A Black male with a thin build, wearing a black mask, black jacket with fur around the hood, dark blue pants, black shoes.

- A Black male with a thin build,

struck the man six or seven times in all, according to prosecutors.

At some point, the attacker said he had to beat up 50 people on Monday, according to a CPD report.

Prosecutors said the robber ran away when a witness yelled at him. Police arrested Tyler Langston, 25, about two blocks away, and the victim identified him as the assailant.

Langston is charged with attempted robbery. Judge Barbara Dawkins ordered him to pay a \$1,000 deposit toward bail to get out of jail.

He was hospitalized for an unknown condition after being arrested.

**Passenger stabbed during robbery aboard CTA bus**

Chicago police are investigating after a passenger was stabbed during a robbery attempt aboard a CTA bus on the North Side on Feb. 16.

The victim, a 28-year-old man, was heading west on a #77 Belmont bus when another passenger demanded his property at knifepoint in the 2400 block of W. Belmont around 4:40 p.m., a Chicago police spokesperson said.

The offender stabbed the victim, causing cuts to the man's hand, then fled from the bus.

EMS took the victim to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment.

An officer at the scene said the robber is a Black male who's about 20 years old. He was last seen heading north in a light brown or green jacket, according to witnesses.

**Man shot in Rogers Park drive-by**

A 31-year-old man is in good condition following a drive-by shooting in Rogers Park on Feb. 13, Chicago police said.

The victim was walking in the 1600 block of W. Howard when a gunman rolled up in a dark vehicle around 8:31 p.m., Chicago police said. The offender fired shots from the car, striking the man in his left calf.

Police said the victim transported arrived at St. Francis Hospital in a car shortly after the shooting. He was expected to be treated and released, an officer said.

CPD did not release descriptions of the gunman or the getaway car.

wearing a black mask, black hooded "Anti-Social Social Club" hooded sweatshirt, torn black pants, black shoes with white bottoms and carrying a hammer.

- A Black male with a large build wearing a black mask, black hooded sweatshirt, black jacket, black pants, black shoes.

Anyone with information about the offenders can contact Chicago Police Detective McCabe at 312-746-9661 or email the organized retail crime task force at ORCTF@chicagopolice.org. Refer to case number JG-134351.

The shooting occurred one day after a 23-year-old man was shot and killed around 1:45 a.m. Sunday in the 1700 block of W. Greenleaf, but there is no known connection between the crimes.

So far this year, three people have been shot in Rogers Park, the same number of victims recorded at this point last year. One of last year's shootings was determined to be self-defense.

**Man who attacked three people downtown was on bail for similar incident**

The man who allegedly attacked three people at random on the Near North Side was on bail for allegedly punching and kicking two Chicago cops who intervened in another random attack last month.

Isaac Azuara, 24, is charged with three counts of misdemeanor battery in connection with the latest incidents, which happened around 6 p.m. Feb. 15.

Prosecutors said Azuara first blocked a 29-year-old woman's path and pinned her against the glass of Jewel-Osco, 102 W. Division. He allegedly punched her in the face three times before she escaped into the store.

While officers were speaking with the woman, two more victims approached them to report being attacked: A 32-year-old woman said Azuara punched her in the back of the head as she exited the Clark-Division Red Line CTA station, causing her to fall to the ground. Azuara allegedly kicked the woman three times while she was down, then walked away.

And a 32-year-old man reported that Azuara pushed him outside CVS, 1157 N. Clark St., then tried to punch him, but the man evaded the punch.

EMS checked out the three victims, all of whom opted not to go to a hospital.

On Jan. 14, Chicago police officers responded to an assault in progress call involving Azuara in the 4900 block of S. Hoyne and tried to defuse the situation.

But Azuara, whom prosecutors described as "agitated," swung at a witness. An officer pushed the witness out of the way, and Azuara allegedly hit the cop in the mouth and cheek several times.

Azuara was "combative" during the arrest and kicked a second officer in the genitals, prosecutors said.

Judge Barbara Dawkins ordered him to pay a \$500 bail deposit to get out of jail. He made bond and was on bail during the latest incidents.

During a bail hearing on Feb. 16, Judge Maryam Ahmad held Azuara

without bail for violating bond in the pending case. She said he would need to pay a \$5,000 bail deposit to be released in the new case.

He has no criminal background.

**Fifteen-time convicted shoplifter stole pile of diapers from River North CVS**

A Chicago man who has been convicted of shoplifting fifteen times was in a familiar place on Sunday afternoon: felony bond court at the Leighton Criminal Courthouse. Prosecutors say he stole \$362 worth of diapers this time.



Kevin Reid

prosecutor Adam Sammarco said.

When Chicago police arrested Reid nearby, he still had the bag full of diapers, according to Sammarco.

Nine of Reid's 15 shoplifting convictions were felonies. His most recent felony conviction resulted in a probation sentence in 2016.

CPD records show he was arrested for retail theft in Bucktown in 2021; the Loop and South Chicago in 2016; South Chicago in 2016; and Chatham and Garfield Park in 2015.

On Feb. 19, Judge Barbara Dawkins released him on his own recognition.

**Charges filed in January armed robbery of Lakeview man**

Chicago police have arrested a man in connection with the armed robbery of another man in Lakeview on Jan. 21.



Patric Meredith

Officers arrested Patric Meredith, 26, in the 3500 block of N. Clark around 12:49 a.m. Feb. 18. More details about how investigators linked Meredith to the crime and how they located him should emerge during his bail hearing.

The victim, 31, told police he was walking in the 3200 block of N. Southport when he was beaten and robbed by three men who stepped out of a black Jetta around 2:40 a.m.

At the time, police said the offenders hit the victim in the face with a handgun, then took his wallet and phone.

Meredith is charged with armed robbery with a firearm, possession of a controlled substance, and two counts of unlawful possession of an ID card.

**Police warn of burglaries in Bowmanville**

Chicago police are warning residents of burglaries in the Bowmanville community. In these incidents, offender(s) gain entry into residential homes or garages and take property from them.

These incidents have occurred during the late evening hours. Incidents include one on the 5000 Block of N. Winchester St. Feb. 13-14; one on the 2200 Block of W. Berwyn St. on Feb. 13-14, and one on the 2200 Block of W. Berwyn St. 6 a.m. Feb. 14.

Those who may have any information Contact the Bureau of Detectives - Area 3, at 312-744-8263 and refer to pattern # P23-3-015.

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# 'Puffy Coat Bandit' ringleaders in custody

BY CWBCHICAGO

Felony charges have been filed against two men in connection with a wave of "Puffy Coat Bandit" thefts from restaurant patrons across the city, a Chicago alderman said Feb. 17.

Jerome Sharp, 29, and James Wilkins, 27, were indicted by a Cook County grand jury after a painstaking investigation that involved Chicago police and federal authorities, according to Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] and a law enforcement source.

Hopkins tweeted that charges were filed against two suspected "ringleaders" of the theft crew, one day after Block Club Chicago reported that restaurant owners believed "cops aren't doing much about" the crimes.

In fact, a wide-reaching investigation had been underway for



Mugshots of Jerome Sharp (top) and James Wilkins.

weeks. The US Marshals Service even got involved after the thieves stole a wallet and credentials belonging to a public official, believed to be a federal judge, a source said.

Sharp, an 11-time convicted felon, has been in jail on theft and domestic battery charges

since Dec. 16, 2022, public records show. The theft charge filed against Sharp in December involves a May 15, 2022, incident at a restaurant in the 2200 block of N. Clybourn.

In that case, a man was having breakfast when Sharp and another man approached and asked

him to make donations while Sharp placed a brown bag on the victim's table, prosecutors said. The victim asked them to leave him alone.

Sharp allegedly picked up the bag and the victim's wallet, then walked away. Four of the victim's credit cards were quickly used at a Target store. That's the same technique used by the so-called "Puffy Coat" team.

Wilkins has been in jail on a warrant since Feb. 10. Chicago police records show he has also been arrested for theft-related allegations at least three times, but the outcomes of those cases were not immediately available.

Some of the "Puffy Coat" thefts occurred as recently as last weekend while Sharp and Wilkins were in custody. So, more arrests are possible, according to the law enforcement source.

For weeks, men dressed in puffy jackets have been distracting diners and stealing their phones, wallets, and purses in restaurants and bars across the city, particularly in Lincoln Park and the Near North Side.

The victims' credit cards were maxed out within minutes of the thefts, almost always at Target stores in the South Loop and the Near North Side, according to Chicago police reports and recent statements by prosecutors in related cases.

Hopkins praised CPD's 18th District foot patrol officers, detectives, and a fugitive apprehension team that arrested Sharp and Wilkins, whom he called the "ringleaders" of the theft operation.

# Sheriff's office launches partnership with PAWS

## Homeless pet charity needs more volunteers

PAWS Chicago, the Midwest's largest comprehensive No Kill animal welfare organization, and Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart have announced a volunteer program that supports the need for more PAWS animal-handling volunteers while serving as a wellness initiative for Sheriff's Office staff.

PAWS was founded, and is still headquartered, on the North Side's Clybourn corridor.

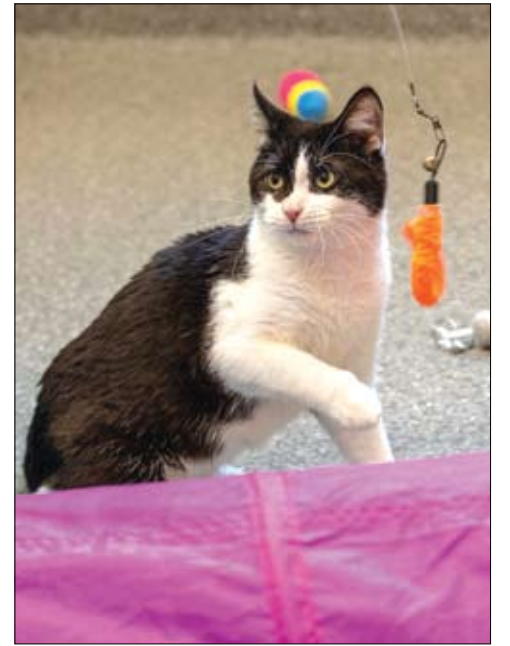
Through the program, Sheriff's Office employees will walk dogs and participate in cat enrichment activities at the PAWS Chicago Medical Center, the largest homeless pet hospital in the U.S. The program will help PAWS Chicago meet a rising need for volunteers, because while adoptions and other animal welfare programs have now returned to pre-pandemic levels, volunteer hours have not.

"We care for hundreds of pets each day, ranging from the homeless pets that receive medical care on their path to adoption to the many more that receive free and low-cost services we offer to the public," said PAWS Chicago CEO Susanna Wickham. "A robust volunteer program is an essential part of us meeting the community's needs, and we are still working to regain the volunteer hours we lost during the pandemic."

With over 2,000 Sheriff's Office employees located just a mile away from the nation's premier homeless pet hospital, the new program will support a growing need at PAWS Chicago: more volunteers to help with socialization of healing pets. It will also help animal-loving staff at the Sheriff's Office reduce stress and decompress while giving back to the community.

"We reached out to PAWS after hearing about their recent disaster relief rescue effort, because we wanted to help those pets on their path to finding homes," said Sheriff Dart. "We realized there was an opportunity to provide a much larger program and benefit to our staff and PAWS Chicago."

The Sheriff's Office's first-



(L-R) PAWS Chicago CEO Susanna Wickham and Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart hold puppies while announcing new volunteer program. A PAWS volunteer holds a dog up for adoption. Cats are available for adoption also.

of-its-kind customized volunteer partnership with PAWS Chicago trims the volunteer training time and focuses efforts on dog walking and cat enrichment, which are in great need at the Medical Center due to the high volume of pets served.

Several employees of the Sheriff's Office have already

undergone training and begun the volunteer program, with many more expressing interest in attending orientation in the coming weeks.

The PAWS Chicago Medical Center examines every animal brought to the organization and provides all necessary treatments. The facility performed

over 15,000 spay and neuter operations last year and PAWS Chicago recently passed a milestone of 300,000 such procedures in its 25-year history. The 30,000-square-foot hospital can house more than 200 pets, which allows PAWS Chicago to rescue pets from high-kill shel-

ters in 13 different states, such as the rescue of 33 puppies and dogs from the Houston area following a tornado that closed one Texas shelter.

For information, email [volunteers@pawschicago.org](mailto:volunteers@pawschicago.org).

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**CHARM** from p. 2

family.

**DIPLOMACY:** Ambassador to Japan, **Rahm Emanuel**, had some nice things to say from Tokyo about Civic Leader **Laurence Msall's** death and his impact on Chicago. He also had kind words for the late WXRT DJ **Lin Brehmer** and his singular Chicago voice. A dear friend. A voice he misses. And while saying you can't live on sushi alone, he praises the Manny's Deli Corned Beef sandwich. The diplomatic corps certainly seems to have softened the former mayor's rough edges. Nice to see.

**NO TELLING:** Outgoing **Ald. Tom Tunney** [44th], wise and popular, endorsed **Paul Vallas** for Mayor in this newspaper, and was a surprise visitor to the Lakeview Kiwanis Club lunch last week at Ann Sather's. He shut the door, spoke off the record, and told people to smile more. Here's hoping there is a spot for him in a future Vallas administration. The guy cooks your lunch, pours your second cup, tells you what's what, then buses the tables.

**LOCAL CRIME:** Robberies are soaring on the residential streets of East Village and Wicker Park. Hell, all over the North Side. Don't take chances and walk alone. Read the crime

reports in this newspaper, then multiply by four.

**HISTORICAL PRIDE:** Cook County Cmsr. **Donna Black Miller** beaming with February pride. Her great grandmother **Anna Mae Black Robinson** is the Founder of The Chicago Women's Golf Club. "We called her Nano," she says. Club founded in 1937 and the Clubhouse in 1989.

**ALL WE NEED IS LOVE:** Super sleuth **Blase Foria** reminding us that it was 59 years ago that The Beatles appeared on the Ed Sullivan show. He says "All I know is when I went to school the next day all the Catholic girls at Saint Jerome's were changed forever."

**READERS:** "Keep writing. You're the column to read." **Mary Laney**, NBC News (Ret.)

**SATC2:** Carrie and Aidan are officially back on for "And Just Like That," Season 2.

**SAY A LITTLE PRAYER:** **Michael Lerich** recently observed a special salute to **Burt Bacharach** with stunning performance by singer **Jim Sellers**. Fellow Maestro **Rich Daniels** also lamenting the loss of Burt's musical contributions. Bacharach (1928-2023) was one-of-a kind and just right for his era, no one had America singing more.

**BAD MOMZ:** The Bad Momz of comedy brings their talented roster of hilarious women and mom comics to Lincoln Park's Theater on the Lake on Feb. 24. They've been selling out rooms across Chicagoland. From multiple appearances at Zanies to The Kelly Clarkson Show, these Chicago-based ladies are taking the comedy world by storm. The line-up for Friday features comic/emcee **Orly K.G.**, as well as comics **Jeanie Doogan**, **Jess Martinez**, **Michelle Krajecki**, **Essence** and **Angie McMahon**. Doors open at 6 p.m. Theater on the Lake, 2401 N. Lake Shore Dr. Tickets are \$30, [www.eventbrite.com/e/bad-momz-of-comedy-tickets-519690868377](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/bad-momz-of-comedy-tickets-519690868377).

**ARTS ACADEMY:** Golden Globe songwriter **Justin Tranter's** music is said to be "Golden." There's no doubt now, as he contributes \$500,000 to his Alma Mater, the Chicago Academy for the Arts, to assist in scholarships for students in need. A favorite of **Britney Spears** and **Gwen Stefani**, his gift will change lives.

**UPTOWN:** Good news. After years of neglect, 4745 N. Beacon has been purchased and is ready to begin rehab.

**RESIDENTIAL MARKET:** Congrats to **Janet Owen**, who was recently covered in both Chicago Agent magazine and Crain's for her outstanding 2022 record breaking sale on Orchard Street.

**SMOKEOUT:** **Darius Rucker** and the **Zac Brown Band** among Windy City Smokeout headliners July 13-16 at the United Center.

**WHO'S WHERE:** Hall of Fame **Brian Urlacher** says he doesn't want a domed Bears Stadium in Arlington Heights... **Peter**, longtime waiter at Greek Islands, known by his village nickname "Panaga," is back on Halsted St. delighting his Chicago fans... **Blair Kamin** with his new book at the Bookstall in Winnetka... So happy to see **Sam** and **Honey Jacobs Skinner** and their sons, **Sam** and **Will**, look-

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Peter "Panaga"



Amb. Rahm Emanuel and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.



Ald. Tom Tunney



Lois Dal Santo Haring with Michael Haring.



Ronnie Woo-Woo



Sam, Honey Jacobs Skinner, and Sam and Will.



Donna Black Miller and friends.

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ing so elegant... **Takara Beath-Gudell** creating some fabulous new jewelry in her studio... Sweet love to **Marilyn** and **Jack Carlson** celebrating 50 years of lyrical marriage... **Zurich Esposito** and **Brian McCormick** in Palm Springs with **India Hicks**, the late **Lord Mountbaten's** designer granddaughter... **Cynthia Olson** hosted a small dinner for the star performers **Ilyia** (pianist) and **Thomas** (cellist) following their classical concert in San Miguel Allende, Mexico... **Eamonn Cummins** and **Pennie Taylor** at St. Joseph's Church for **Sophia Egan's** Baptism... **Father Jerry Boland** in San Juan, Puerto Rico for a cultural immersion experience... **Bennett Lawson** at the Union League Club for the Restaurant Assoc. lunch and running for alderman of 44th Ward... **Ken Norgan**, a recent birthday boy, at a little Lunar New Year soiree with a great scarf, and pal **Chili Pepper**... **Jack Goggin** skiing with his grandkids in Steamboat Springs, CO... Beyond the Beltway's **Bruce Dumont** looking rested and healthy, ready for 2023... **Matt Arnoux** enjoying a gracious birthday with **Bobbi Panter** and all the trimmings... **Brian Relph** still traveling across South America, now at Copacabana Beach, Brazil... **Lois Dal Santo Haring**, and husband **Michael Haring**,

enjoying lunch at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill... **Chadwick Godfrey** and **Bob Dobnick's** Chicago election ballots have arrived in Palm Springs, hallelujah... **Mary Lasky** in sunny Scottsdale, AZ... **Dr. Joaquin** and **Jennifer Sutton Brieva** at the charming Armitage Alehouse... **Christie's Steven Zick** cozy in the Drawing Room of the Arts Club... The boys are back with Mayor **Shelley Howard** (not on anyone's ballot), **Jay Barksdale** and **Dennis Donn** at Gibson's Steakhouse... **Carolyn** and **David Richter** doing his birthday feast at STK in Las Vegas... **Rodney Alex** out in his Loyola maroon and gold... **Brian White** and **Jim Kinney** dining with **Anne Deli** at Next on her quick Chicago visit... **Paul Hansen** gathered at RL with **Jeanne Paul**, **Irene Mohica**, **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh** and **Barb Bailey**... Artist **Rosemary Fanti** dining at Austin Community Tavern with husband, **Richard Koranda**, and friends, **Amy Makita** and **John Dramo**... **Glenn Eden** with **Marty Mullarkey** looking elegant at McCormick Place... Bravo to **Mark Olley** for bartending with **Sebastian** and **Tony** at St. Ita's Spaghetti Dinner... Birthday joy to my former neighbor on Martha's Vineyard, **Carole King**, who sang for us at my Irish poetry reading, years ago... **Sheree Schimmer** lunching at the Pfis-

ter Hotel Milwaukee... **Karen Zupko** visiting the Auto Show for the first time in 50 years... **Laura Chevariat** at **Amy Morton's** latest treasure, Le Tour, French-Moroccan inspired... **Julia Jacobs**, **Paul R Iacono**, **Jennifer Sutton Brieva**, **Melinda Jankovich Lagrange** and **Bethany Florek** at the Union League's Mayoral Forum... **Kathy Bell Bartholomay's** son, **Joey Bell**, has once again been named a Founders Scholar at Indiana University, third year in a row.

**WOO-WOO:** Nobody knew what hit them when Cubs fan **Ronnie Woo-Woo**, in his Cubs' jacket, was exiting Tufano's Italian Restaurant in Little Italy. As soon as he reached the crowded bar, the place erupted. Ronnie started to WOO-WOO and the crowd went mad. What a night. I saw it all. Glad he was leaving after only a few chants.

**BALLET:** The Joffrey Ballet's cinematic adaptation of Anna Karenina, based on **Leo Tolstoy's** classical novel. Get your tickets today.

Once you get rid of the idea that you must please other people before you please yourself, and you begin to follow your own instincts - only then can you be successful. -- *Raquel Welch*

tog515@gmail.com



## Seed exchange Feb. 26 at Broadway Armory

Several organizations are co-hosting a seed swap, exchange and give-away 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Broadway Armory, 5917 N. Broadway.

Organizers request that guests bring any native, rain garden, fruit, vegetable or herb seeds to share and trade.

Envelopes will be provided to help with the exchange.

Whether you saved seeds, have leftover new or used seed packets, or are looking for seeds, the Seed Swap is the place to be, you never know what you'll find.

This event is free, and open to the public. No need to be a gardener to participate. Plus, Water Reclamation Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos will be giving away free Milkweed seeds, as a part of their Save the Monarchs program.

The Illinois Monarch Project encourages the public to address conservation and engage public and private landowners to protect the butterflies from becoming extinct.

New studies suggest that monarch butterfly populations have rapidly declined due to habitat loss, resulting from development, poor land management practices, logging and heavy reliance on pesticides and herbicides in the United States and Canada. Milkweed is the sole source of food for monarch caterpillars. So milkweed is essential to their life cycle. Taking action now will preserve future and current monarch generations.

For event information and RSVP visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seed-swap-giveaway-tickets-530588403197>.

## New exhibit at Children's Museum brings connection to the water

On Thursday, the Chicago Children's Museum [CCM] cuts the ribbon on its newest exhibit, Water City, a cityscape that evokes Chicago. From its rivers and channels that meander between skyscrapers, to Lake Michigan that stretches beyond Navy Pier, complete with a lighthouse and the Ferris Wheel in view, the entire cityscape celebrates the wonder of Chicago and its waters for children to explore.

The Water City exhibit will open to the general public on Thursday, Feb. 23. Admission is free that day during the Free Family Day. For more information, visit <https://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org/family-days>.

Visitors to the museum at 700 E. Grand Ave., are invited to use various tools to funnel, pump, push and pull water up, down, around and through the city.

Small boats populate the waterways and move with the flow created by the visitor's actions.

Child-directed cars coast over the bridges and along the shoreline. Additionally, visitors can transport water up into the tower overhead to create sporadic rain showers on the city below.

Some of the buildings in the Chicago cityscape are smooth, some are perforated, and some have movable parts which spin or make noise with the impact of water. The water flows down the buildings and back into the branches of the river below.

The Water City exhibit will replace the well-loved Water Ways exhibit, which debuted when CCM opened at Navy Pier more than 25 years ago.

"The use of the Chicago skyline and city setting creates a sense of place, highlighting the ways that water plays a role in the Chicago landscape—through its rivers, channels, and Lake Michigan. Children are invited to find familiar features of the city and explore how water interfaces with the buildings, structures, and vessels, and to create their own stories within the setting," said Jennifer Farrington, CEO of CCM.

The main components of Water City include the "City Center" where visitors control water through a variety of methods in this area, interacting with skyscrapers evocative of Chicago's iconic skyline that reach high up into the space's historic tower. Visitors aim sprayers at movable parts on the buildings to experiment with cause-and-effect. They turn a crank to move a water conveyor belt that fills a large container to its tipping point, creating a big splash. Water can be made to fall on the

skyline as "rain" from showerheads embedded in "clouds" overhead, with visitors controlling the timing and intensity of the rainfall.

At "Musical Water" the water table features water-activated musical buildings and invites visitors to explore the variety of sounds that water can make when it interacts with different surfaces, vessels, and objects. Visitors use water to activate cymbals and chimes housed in buildings. Water falling on a variety of surfaces produces a symphony of surprising and familiar sounds.

The Foggy Lake area offers visitors the largest volume of standing water in the exhibit (a basin), representing Water City's "lake." The lake provides ample opportu-

nities to experiment with both loose parts and the qualities of water, including making waves. Over the lake hangs a layer of fog—allowing visitors to explore water in vapor form, and the mysterious look and feel of the fog.

The River and Dam exhibit offers a chance for children to build a dam using loose parts and to control the flow of water. They can create a course for vessels to travel, and watch what happens as the opening or closing of the dam speeds up or slows down the flow of water and its impact on the traveling boats.

Water City includes a variety of props to support various types of play throughout all sections. There is also an Early Learning Area to accommodate younger visitors.

## Chore service for seniors to help with household tasks

A Chore Services Program that supports adults 60 years and older is now being offered by the city.

The program is intended for those recently released from the hospital, experiencing illness, or experiencing difficulty with completing household tasks due to physical or cognitive limitations.

Short term in-home support (assistance with cleaning, laundry, and self-care) and heavy-duty cleaning inclusive of the removal of excessive clutter is offered.

This year the program is expanding

services to also include extermination, lawn care, and snow removal services to older adults that are homeowners and that meet existing Chore program eligibility requirements. Rental apartment units are not included under the newly expanded services given that rental property maintenance is the responsibility of landlord property owners.

To schedule an eligibility assessment, older adults or their caregivers may contact the Senior Services Division Information and Assistance call center at 312-744-4016 or email [aging@cityofchicago.org](mailto:aging@cityofchicago.org).

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Adrienne Horrigan, MLIS, CRA

Lincoln Park Zoo has attracted countless Chicago locals and visitors since its founding over 150 years ago.

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Please join Adrienne Horrigan, Lincoln Park Zoo's Senior Manager of Animal Data, Permits & Zoo Archives, as she discusses the history of the nation's oldest free zoo and how it has evolved from a gift of four swans from New York's Central Park into the remarkable cultural,

conservation, and educational organization it is today.

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**AUTONOMY** from p. 9

Chicago federal district court for further proceedings on the core questions in the lawsuits.

However, months later, both the city of Chicago and Gov. Pritzker have asked the court to go further, and put an end to the cases altogether.

Lawyers for Pritzker filed a motion to dismiss on Feb. 1.

That was followed a week later by the city's motion, which argues the plaintiffs fall short on every one of their constitutional claims.

The city asserts the workers' religious freedom claims under the First Amendment fail because the city offered a chance for workers to apply for a religious exemption to the mandates, even though

workers claimed the city wrongly denied a number of those exemption requests.

In response to those assertions, the city said most of the named plaintiffs in the action did not seek a religious exemption under the city's policy, and the city did not believe most workers could identify "sincerely held religious belief" that would demonstrate a "conflict between the tenets of their faith and COVID-19 vaccinations."

The city further argued the workers' claims concerning violations of their rights to privacy and bodily autonomy under the 14th Amendment also could not hold up.

The city pointed to the Seventh Circuit's decision, which they said "clearly held that the 14th

**INSIDE PUBLICATIONS**

Amendment allegations were legally deficient on their face and failed as a matter of law."

But further, the city said the plaintiffs' claims the city violated a "substantive due process right to 'bodily autonomy' under Roe v Wade" is particularly eviscerated by the Supreme Court's 2022 decision in Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Org.

In that decision, a 6-3 majority on the high court ruled previous courts had incorrectly determined the 14th Amendment established a right to abortion, under the umbrella of a constitutional right to privacy. The court therefore struck down Roe v Wade and later cases that further defined those rights.

Democrats across the country, including Pritzker, Lightfoot and others who imposed and vigor-

ously defended COVID vaccine mandates, loudly criticized the decision, saying they believed the reasoning in Dobbs represented a misreading of the U.S. Constitution, arising out of a desire to simply strip constitutional rights from women and others.

Lightfoot particularly railed against the decision and its author, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, calling the decision a "call to arms" for progressives, and declaring at a public event: "F\*\*k Clarence Thomas."

Despite such strong assertions, the city Lightfoot leads said the Dobbs decision should also end legal challenges to the mayor's power to impose vaccine mandates on city workers.

"Plaintiffs' prior argument that the Vaccination Policy infringed

**Despite such strong assertions, the city Lightfoot leads said the Dobbs decision should also end legal challenges to the mayor's power to impose vaccine mandates on city workers.**

on a substantive due process right to 'bodily autonomy' under Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood Se. Pennsylvania v. Casey, has now been conclusively foreclosed by Dobbs... so the legal basis upon which their substantive due process claims depended is even less sound," the city argued.

**FINGERPRINTS** from p. 9

captured, analyzed and stored for retrieval when a user attempts to access the Pyxis Medstation for their prescribed medication.

Almost without exception, BIPA violation lawsuits have contended that workers are being required to use these scanning systems without first securing consent from the workers or providing them with notices required under the BIPA law.

The lawsuits are part of a burgeoning trend of similar class actions, accusing employers and other companies of violating the BIPA law. They have become commonplace in Cook County's courts since 2015, when a select group of plaintiffs' lawyers, including the Stephan Zouras firm, first used the BIPA law to file such class actions.

The law made national headlines in 2020 and 2021, when over a million Facebook users in Illinois received checks from the social media company from a \$650

million class action settlement alleging Facebook violated the BIPA law.

Under the BIPA law, plaintiffs are allowed to demand damages of \$1,000-\$5,000 per violation. The law has been interpreted to define individual violations as each instance in which someone's biometrics are scanned, as much as \$5,000 for each time an employee scanned a fingerprint in the workplace should they lose at trial.

Both plaintiffs are demanding a trial by jury, seeking damages of \$1,000 to \$5,000 per violation, as allowed by the BIPA law, plus attorney fees and court costs.

**Lawsuit: Northwestern Memorial wrongly fired three nurses who refused COVID vax**

A group of nurses has accused Northwestern Memorial Healthcare of improperly denying religious exemptions to them when they refused the hospital's COVID vaccine mandate and has refused

to relent even while experiencing nursing shortages.

On Feb. 10, Kimberly Kavanagh, Colleen Holewa and Candice Sochacii filed suit in Chicago federal court against Northwestern Memorial Healthcare [NMH], alleging the hospital questioned the validity of their sincerely held religious convictions concerning the COVID-19 vaccine, denying their application for a religious exemption, and ultimately, terminating all three in violation of their Title VII rights, despite nursing shortages.

In Aug. 2021, NMH announced that all its employees would be required to be fully vaccinated against COVID. To obtain an exemption from the mandate, employees had to submit an Accommodation Request Questionnaire. According to the complaint, all three plaintiffs submitted completed questionnaires, in which they explained that their request was based on their sincerely held religious convictions. All three quoted various passages from the Bible, and also stated "they have prayed and were instructed by the Holy Spirit on their decision, and that they were required to put their trust in God for healing."

The complaint asserts NMH refused to accept the validity of their religious convictions. Plaintiffs received notification which stated, "Your request does not identify religious beliefs, practices and/or observances that prevent you, from, receiving one of the



Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Lakeview is part of a lawsuit accusing them of improperly requiring workers to scan their fingerprints to access drug dispensing systems.

**The complaint notes that, while current staff were required to be fully vaccinated against COVID, NMH has routinely hired unvaccinated outside contract nursing staff who were allowed to work for NMH, despite the mandate.**

FDA-approved vaccinations for COVID-19; and/or Your request does not identify religious beliefs, practices, and/or observances that are sincerely held."

According to the complaint, while NMH questioned the validity of the Plaintiffs' religious convictions, it granted numerous requests that were at least similar if not nearly identical to the plaintiffs' exemption requests, but also allegedly granted an exemption to at least one employee for religious reasons, even though that worker had allegedly not submitted the required form.

The complaint notes that, while

current staff were required to be fully vaccinated against COVID, NMH has routinely hired unvaccinated outside contract nursing staff who were allowed to work for NMH, despite the mandate.

Further, even though NMH rejected Sochacii's request, the complaint asserts NMH had previously approved her religious accommodation request for exemption from the flu vaccine.

The three nurses were ultimately terminated. The nurses are demanding a trial by jury and are seeking unspecified actual and punitive damages including back pay, legal fees and court costs.

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**Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale**

Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	
<p>222222</p> <p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION AS TRUSTEE FOR SEASONED CREDIT RISK TRANSFER TRUST SERIES 2017-1; Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>MICHAEL BRINSON AKA MICHAEL T. BRINSON; ALISON BRINSON AKA ALISON L. BRINSON; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; GREENLEAF COURT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; Defendants,</p> <p>19 CH 14548</p> <p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:</p> <p>P.I.N. 11-31-208-030-1004.</p> <p>Commonly known as 1624 West Greenleaf Avenue, Unit 1N, Chicago, IL 60626.</p> <p>The mortgaged real estate is improved with a 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: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.</p> <p>For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 19-033273 F2</p> <p>INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION</p> <p>intercountryjudicialsales.com</p> <p>13213334</p>	<p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LEHMAN ABS MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-1, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-1 Plaintiff,</p> <p>-v-</p> <p>NEVILLE MUIR SR., ANDRE MUIR, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CHARLEEN BROWN MUIR, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, THOMAS P. QUINN, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHARLEEN BROWN MUIR (DECEASED) Defendants</p> <p>2022 CH 06433</p> <p>7318 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE CHICAGO, IL 60626</p> <p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 15, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 17, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35F, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:</p> <p>Commonly known as 7318 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60626</p> <p>Property Index No. 11-29-316-011-0000</p> <p>The real estate is improved with a single family residence.</p> <p>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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential</p>	<p>real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For information, examine the court file, CODILIS &amp; ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876</p>	<p>THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION</p> <p>One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE</p> <p>You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at <a href="http://www.jscc.com">www.jscc.com</a> for a 7 day status report of pending sales.</p> <p>CODILIS &amp; ASSOCIATES, P.C.</p> <p>15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527</p> <p>630-794-5300</p> <p>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:pleadings@il.cslegal.com">pleadings@il.cslegal.com</a></p> <p>Attorney File No. 14-22-04542</p> <p>Attorney ARDC No. 00468002</p> <p>Attorney Code: 21762</p> <p>Case Number: 2022 CH 06433</p> <p>TJSC#: 42-4742</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Case # 2022 CH 06433</p> <p>13213293</p>	<p>to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, March 20, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged and equitably lien real estate:</p> <p>P.I.N. 11-29-102-005-0000.</p> <p>Commonly known as 1537 W. Juneway Terrace, Chicago, IL 60626.</p> <p>The mortgaged and equitably lien real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged and equitably lien 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.</p> <p>Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.</p> <p>For information call Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 19-002582 ADC F2</p> <p>INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION</p> <p>intercountryjudicialsales.com</p> <p>13213356</p>	<p>151515</p> <p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>BRENDA H. ENGL; WINSTON TOWERS NO. 5 ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,</p> <p>22 CH 1302</p> <p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered</p>	<p>in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, March 13, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:</p> <p>P.I.N. 10-36-100-015-1118.</p> <p>Commonly known as 7141 North Kedzie Avenue, Unit 812, Chicago, IL 60645.</p> <p>The mortgaged real estate is improved with a 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: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.</p> <p>For information call Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W21-0267 ADC</p> <p>INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION</p> <p>intercountryjudicialsales.com</p> <p>13212743</p> <p>080808</p> <p><b>Legal Ads DBA Public Notices.</b></p> <p><b>We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700</b></p>

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 — Robert Kennedy

## Miscellaneous

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## Miscellaneous, cont.

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 1D1382 (Caira Cortez),  
 3F3641 (Jamel B Cummings),  
 3F3562 (Kathleen Dudley),  
 3E3463 & 3E3464 (Pam Eng),  
 1C2006 (Melvin Heard),  
 4C4189 (Cylk Jackson),  
 3D3303 (Mark Jaroszewski),  
 3F3662 (Brett Lewandowski),  
 3F3629 (Tiffany McCaskill),  
 3E3492 & 3F3501 (John Pinkowski),  
 1C2103 (Robert Ross),  
 3C3254 (Robert Trevino),  
 4C4250 (Jacquae Tripp),  
 1C2062 (Nicolas Wilbourn),  
 3F3515 (Jimmie Williams),  
 for public sale of miscellaneous items.  
 This sale is to be held on  
 Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 2:00 pm.  
 Cash only.

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**WILL PICK UP 630-660-0571**

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## Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

### Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR MASTR ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGES TRUST 2006-0A1, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-0A1; Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ATANACIO M. RIVERA AKA ATANACIO RIVERA; MARISOL RIVERA AKA MARISOL R. RIVERA; BILLY RIVERA; JOHN RIVERA; TONY RIVERA; JOHN JACK LYDON, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ATANACIO M. RIVERA AKA ATANACIO RIVERA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants; 20 CH 662  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, March 27, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 P.I.N. 14-06-215-020-0000.  
 Commonly known as 6129 North Ravenswood Avenue, Chicago, IL 60660.  
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a 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: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.  
 For information call Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W19-0921 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
[intercountryjudicialsales.com](http://intercountryjudicialsales.com)  
**13213781**  
 222222

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR GSAA HOME EQUITY TRUST 2004-11; Plaintiff, vs. ROSE MILLS; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC.; DAVID LAUNIUS; NANCY LAUNIUS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS;

### Real Estate For Sale

Defendants, 19 CH 12619  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 P.I.N. 14-29-227-014-0000.  
 Commonly known as 1123 West Wolfram Street, Chicago, IL 60657.  
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a multi-family residence. The successful purchaser is entitled to possession of the property only. The purchaser may only obtain possession of units within the multi-unit property occupied by individuals named in the order of possession.  
 Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.  
 For information call Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W19-0921 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
[intercountryjudicialsales.com](http://intercountryjudicialsales.com)  
**13213804**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON TRUST, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II TRUST 2007-AR3, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-AR3 Plaintiff, vs. JOHN T. BACA, KAREN H. BACA, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWHEQ, INC., CWHEQ REVOLVING HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-1, LADDEN & ALLEN, CHARTERED Defendants 12 CH 00086  
 817 W HUTCHINSON STREET CHICAGO, IL 60613  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 25, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 21, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

### Real Estate For Sale

Commonly known as 817 W HUTCHINSON STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60613  
 Property Index No. 14-17-411-002-0000; 14-17-411-005-0000  
 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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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  
 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
 One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL

### Real Estate For Sale

60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.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@ilcslegal.com](mailto:pleadings@ilcslegal.com)  
 Attorney File No. 14-20-06411  
 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002  
 Attorney Code. 21762  
 Case Number: 12 CH 00086  
 TJSC#: 43-574  
**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 # 12 CH 00086  
**13213682**  
 151515  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIMORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff, vs. JOHN R. GARBER, ANDREA L. GARBER, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO GEORGE WASHINGTON SAVINGS BANK Defendants 17 CH 9011  
 1205 W. SCHUBERT AVE A/K/A 2658 N RACINE AVE CHICAGO, IL 60614  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 3, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 23, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:  
 Commonly known as 1205 W. SCHUBERT AVE A/K/A 2658 N RACINE AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60614  
 Property Index No. 14-29-310-024  
 The real estate is improved with a single family residence.  
 The judgment amount was \$2,345,131.49.  
 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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the

### Real Estate For Sale

purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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 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 17-02058.  
 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.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.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](mailto:pleadings@nevellaw.com)  
 Attorney File No. 17-02058  
 Attorney Code. 18837  
 Case Number: 17 CH 9011

### Real Estate For Sale

TJSC#: 43-463  
**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 # 17 CH 9011**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs. INGA VEISS; PARK PLACE TOWER I CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; PARK PLACE TOWER MASTER ASSOCIATION; MIDAMERICA BANK FSB NKA PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; CITY OF CHICAGO; RAIVIS VEISS AKA RAVIS VEISS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 4650  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, March 13, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:  
 P.I.N. 14-21-101-054-2491.  
 Commonly known as 655 W. Irving Park Road Unit 4506, Chicago, IL 60613.  
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a 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: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.  
 For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6746-184131 ADC  
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## Local skating instructor featured in documentary

STORY AND PHOTO BY BOB KITSOS

Things were rolling at the Broadway Armory, 5917 N. Broadway, last week following the viewing of the movie, "United Skates," followed by a roller-skating demonstration.

Myesha McCaskill, CEO and instructor of the skating instruction company, Inspired By Favor, 1803 W. Byron, was featured in the film. The 2019 documentary spotlights the Black underground roller-skating subculture.

The film also notes the demise of roller skating rinks across the country.

The movie was the latest in the "Chicago in Film" series hosted by Officer Caroline DeWinter, Office of Community Policing in the 24th Police District. Films are shown monthly at the police station, 6464 N. Clark St. This film showing was the exception to permit the skating demonstration.

The film series showcases Chicago, local actors, producers or other Chicagoans connected with the movie. Following the film, a guest speaker expands on the film and answers questions. There is no admis-



Following the viewing of "United Skates," Myesha McCaskill, second row, second from left, and some of her staff performed a skating demonstration in the Broadway Armory's cavernous gym. Officer Caroline DeWinter is next to McCaskill.

sion, but registration is required as there is limited seating.

The next movie, "For the Left Hand," will be shown at 1 p.m. on Wed., March 22. The 2021 documentary is the inspiring story of Chicago pianist Norman Malone. Email DeWinter at caroline.dewinter@chicagopolice.org to register for the movie.



### Valentine's Day gold coin

Neighbors who attended the Valentine's Day luncheon at South-East Asia Center, 5120 N. Broadway, were in for an unexpected treat. Edgewater Village Chicago presented each of the more than 150 attendees with a warm greeting and a special valentine containing a "gold coin" for good luck.

Among those who received heartfelt greetings were, seated from left, Ching Tse, 95, and Sau Way Tse, 93, who have been married for more than 70 years.

Standing from left are Edgewater Village board members Gerhard Schutte, Betsy Kane and Josephine Chaparro with San O, executive director of South-East Asia Center, an educational and social services agency.

Volunteers created nearly 1,000 valentines that were distributed to other local organizations and residents in nursing homes and rehabilitation centers in Uptown, Edgewater, Andersonville and Rogers Park.

*Photo courtesy of South-East Asia Center*

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## What's happening at Edgewater Library



Edgewater Branch, 6000 N. Broadway.

A new monthly program, "Tech Talk: Make Using Technology Easier," begins at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at the Edgewater Branch, 6000 N. Broadway. The program is designed to help older adults and new users understand their personal computer, phone, or tablet. You'll also learn to customize your device to make it easier to navigate, read, and carry out basic tasks.

On Friday, Feb. 24, at 1 p.m., library guests can hear from Gerhard Schutte, retired professor of anthropology and sociology at the Univ. of Wisconsin. He recently visited the country of his birth and will share his experience and impressions during "South Africa Today: Beyond Tourism."

South Africa now suffers from a severe energy shortage that is threatening food and water supplies and disrupting the lives of millions of people, including chicken farmers.

Over the last 15 years, Eskom Holdings, which provides 90% of all of South Africa's electricity, has kept its grid from collapse by cutting power when it has been

unable to meet demand. These planned blackouts mainly affected mining operations and heavy industry until last year, when they became much more widespread. As the utility has struggled under a leadership crisis, its assets have deteriorated from age, lack of maintenance and even vandalism, all of which pushed outages to record levels last year.

In the poultry industry, electricity outages have forced factories to pause round-the-clock operations for as long as half a day at a time. As a result, over 10 million birds designated for slaughter are still alive and consuming feed, creating a backlog that companies fear they won't be able to fix.

A survey of economists by Bloomberg shows a 45% chance of the economy slipping into recession as the energy crisis risks intensifying in 2023.

These programs are free and open to the public.

The programs will take place in the Betty A. Barclay Community Room on the second floor of the library.

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### DECONVERSION from p. 1

half are investors who rent the units out. Investors often support deconversion plans more than individual owners as they don't live in the units, and therefore don't have to move out. Perhaps an even bigger factor is that they have no emotional attachment to the units or the neighborhood. The financial gains and/or losses on the deal become the primary factor.

Crain's says that the Granville Tower's condo board won't vote on a bulk sale until Kiser brings it an offer.

Reportedly, Granville Towers is an ideal candidate for a deconversion due to its high

*Crain's says that the Granville Tower's condo board won't vote on a bulk sale until Kiser brings it an offer.*

assessments to fees. Those association fees range from \$700 to \$800 a month for a one-bedroom unit and \$1,200 to \$1,350 for a two-bedroom. For many long-time owners, those fees are higher than their mortgage and/or property tax payments.