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There are three rules for writing a novel.  
Unfortunately, no one knows what they are.  
— W. Somerset Maugham

# NEWS-STAR

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

Section 8 housing project  
still a mystery for most  
in 47th Ward  
Story on page 7

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VOL. 116, NO. 9

NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE

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## Howard Brown expanding in Boystown, taking over former Little Jim's site

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Little Jim's, Lake View's oldest continuously operating gay bar at Halsted and Cornelia, is calling it a day and plans to sell the property to the Howard Brown Health Center just down the block.

"We're thrilled that Howard Brown is planning to acquire the site and continue our legacy of community support and service," a spokesman for the watering-hole told the Tribune recently.

The owners plan to retire but have set no date for the bar's actual closing. Neither the owners nor the general manager could be reached by this reporter for comment.

Ald. James Cappleman's [46th] office couldn't be happier that it looks like the Howard Brown Clinic could be taking over the site, which has been up for sale since early 2019 for a reported



The oldest gay bar in Lake View will probably be calling it quits soon once the Howard Brown Clinic completes plans to buy the site. The two owners are retiring. No closing date has been set yet.

asking price of \$7.5 million.

Of course, the project will require hearings, meetings with nearby community groups, rezoning and City Council approval, said Teresa Feher, Cappleman's

chief of staff. "But of all the developers that came to us (asking about the site), we're pretty excited Howard Brown is interested in the space."

Howard Brown hopes to break ground for a five-story, 20,000-square-foot youth center by July and move in sometime during the summer of 2022. When the new building is finished, the clinic will move to the facility.

The new building would allow Howard Brown to expand both its medical services and amenities like showers, laundry facilities and meeting rooms for the youth center's support groups and education, said David Munar, Howard Brown's president/CEO.

While Howard Brown serves an estimated 30,000 patients at its 11 locations throughout the city, the heaviest load is on the

LITTLE JIM'S see p. 16



Louis Sullivan's last design for sale  
for \$2.9 million, Story on page 11

Local politicians call  
for federal emergency declaration  
for Lakefront, Story on page 7

## Senn High School removes teacher for anti-immigrant remark

BY JIM VAIL

Senn High School in Edgewater bowed to student pressure to remove a teacher who allegedly scolded two students for sitting during the National Anthem and told them to go back to their country when they refused to stand up.

The teacher has been removed from the classroom until Chicago Public Schools (CPS) completes an investigation into the alleged incident, stated Senn Principal Mary Beck.

The students protested the teacher's alleged remarks with a large sit-in last week demanding that the teacher be fired.

"On Jan. 30, the day of an assembly, I made the district aware that one of our staff members may have communicated inappropriately with students," Principal Beck wrote in a letter to parents. "While I worked with the district to gather information regarding this allegation, it may

have appeared that our students' voices were not being heard. I want to assure you that this was not the case."

Ald. Harry Osterman [48th], who boasts regularly about the successes of Senn High School in his ward, praised the students for protesting anti-immigrant sentiment at a time when the federal government and President Trump have been cracking down on undocumented and illegal immigration. Senn High School has a diverse student body of immigrants from dozens of countries.

"I commend the students for bringing this hurtful incident forward and for the Senn students standing in solidarity for our cherished diversity and the rights and well-being of their fellow classmates," Ald. Osterman said in his weekly letter to constituents. "As someone who represents our diverse community, I believe that any teacher who would make these comments to a student does not belong at Senn High School

or in any school."

On Jan. 30 at the school assembly a teacher came up to two senior girls who were sitting during

**Ald. Harry Osterman [48th] praised the students for protesting anti-immigrant sentiment at a time when the federal government and President Trump have been cracking down on undocumented and illegal immigration.**

the national anthem and told them to stand or leave before allegedly telling a Hispanic student to "go back to your country," according to the student. They also accused this teacher of discriminating against a Black student who refused to stand by asking if the student received free lunch and stating that people died for her right to receive the lunch.

TEACHER see p. 16

## 40th Ward town hall meetings

The 40th Ward Alderman's office has announced a series of town hall meetings starting this Thursday.

Ald. Andre Vasquez will be at the Assyrian American Assoc., 1618 W. Devon Ave., Thursday at 6:30 p.m..

On Friday he'll be at Swedish Covenant Hospital's Anderson

Pavilion, 2751 N. Winona Ave., 10 a.m. Friday; at 10:30 a.m. Saturday he'll be at Juliana Restaurant, 3001 W. Peterson Ave., and at 6:30 p.m. March 4 he'll be at Mather High School, 5835 N. Lincoln Ave.

For more information call 773-654-1867.

## Street closures planned for Metra construction

Several streets will be closed this month to accommodate ongoing bridge work and station construction along Ravenswood Ave.

Berteau Ave. already is closed through Friday to accommodate the erection of bridge steel.

Beginning Monday, Leland Ave. will be closed for the same reason; that closure is expected to last through Friday, March 20.

Caisson work will require the westbound lanes of Irving Park Rd. to be closed Monday, March 16, through Saturday, March 21. The eastbound lanes of Irving

Park Rd. will be closed Monday, March 23, through Friday, March 28.

Sunnyside Ave. will be closed Monday, March 23, to Friday, April 3, for bridge steel erection.

A permanent staging area already is in place on the east side of the Metra tracks in the 4600 block of Ravenswood Ave. Other construction staging areas will be located intermittently between Foster and Grace streets to accommodate bridge work.

For more information contact the Chicago Transit Authority at 312-836-7000.

# Not merely a gang hideout for political thieves of the Midwest



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Yes, sometimes I am dreadfully low on patience. Like when unwelcome ads 'pop up' while using Youtube.

The unasked for interference postpones getting where one wants to go. No time for delays.

While searching for Humphrey Bogart's grave, I don't want to wait while I get a 60 second commercial when all I want is a video of Queen Elizabeth II and President Francois Mitterrand having dinner at the Élysée Palace.

It's disconcerting, even for a minute, having to listen to campaign video ads when all I want to do is watch Spencer Tracey in the old classic "The Last Hurrah."

The geography of Youtube, a "free" source for almost every subject, is literally a minefield of hidden and unhidden advertisements.

But recently while fine-tuning my hunt for information on Brexit and Megxit I found a stunning short video that took me by surprise.

All I first saw were some sensational video images of Chicago architecture and streetscapes. Then the voiceovers further intrigued me. Three men. One on foot in the Loop. One on a bicycle in Ravenswood, and one on a scooter riding the Blue Line downtown. Suddenly they were all headed to the same Michigan Ave. address. Orchestra Hall. Or



Chicago's City Hall often sealed by the Feds.

more accurately, Symphony Center.

They were musicians talking glibly of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and what it means to them personally. Cellist Brant Taylor is hoofing it. William Buchman, assistant principal bassoonist is on his bike. Horn player Oto Carillo is master of the scooter. Three gifted musicians, all with a passion for unique urban transport.

They speak of being members of our Chicago Orchestra, the "world's greatest," they conclude. But this is no cheap boast, they also shine a light on Chicago's urban beauty. And they are right. The shimmering world-class orchestra is the perfect paradigm for the Chicago landscape. They all enter Symphony Center through some side entrance with their bike and scooter, where I imagine the great Maestro Riccardo Muti is waiting for them to go over "Cavalleria Rusticana," or something.

This is one advertisement I did not mind. All at once I was proud. Enchanted and filled with delight. If you haven't seen it, find it. It will fill your heart. Not just because

they play all the right notes. But because our cultural institutions, like the CSO, are such indelible parts of our every day lives.

That's a good thing. Because recently Professor Dick Simpson (former alderman), and his team of analysts at UIC, say according to a new study Chicago is the most corrupt city in the United States, going far beyond the urban competition of Los Angeles and New York. He cites 13 public corruption convictions in the Northern District of Illinois in 2018 alone.

They go on to point out that between 1976 and 2018, there were 1,750 public corruption convictions in Chicago. This is far beyond the measure of anywhere else in the United States. They also cite the extraordinary high numbers of convictions that send Chicago politicians to prisons across America, further increasing the federal government's skeptical trust of Chicago political leadership. The recent conviction of former Ald. Willie Cochran marks the 30th time since 1973 that a Chicago alderman has been proven guilty of public corruption.

So we have America's most refined and elegant architectural urban design, and the most richly textured orchestra anywhere. Starting with Theodore Thomas in 1891 and all the way through subsequent music directors like Désiré Defauw, Artur Rodziński, Rafael Kubelík, Fritz Reiner, Jean Martinon, Georg Solti, and Daniel Barenboim, to the divine Muti. The flatland of the prairie has sparkled. Shimmering with the greatest artistic sound on the planet. Add to that the fact that as the rail hub of the nation, Chicago is easy to reach in any century. Consequently, the greatest conductors on the planet earth came to make music. Like Thomas Beecham, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Edward Elgar, Morton Gould, Paul Hindemith, Erich Kunzel, Erich Lein-

schorf, Charles Munch, Eugene Ormandy, André Previn, Sergei Prokofiev, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Maurice Ravel, Arnold Schoenberg, Leonard Slatkin, Leopold Stokowski, James Levine, Richard Strauss, George Szell, Klaus Tennstedt, Michael Tilson Thomas, Bruno Walter, and John Williams. Some of their grandeur, I'd like to think, remained behind them when they left, adding a patina of eternal artistic triumph beside the waters of Lake Michigan.

I point this out so Mrs. Potter Palmer can rest in peace. And to quell any fears that we are merely a gang hideout for political thieves in the Midwest. No matter how many aldermen wind up in handcuffs, or how many governors move from Springfield to the hoosegow in their golden years, remember we are redeemed by the arts. Revived by their eternal character and their poetic ability to lift our sights higher than the scandals and indictments that for many politicians are a way of life. Even those who can play the piano.

Maybe I actually have more patience than I thought.

Maybe those Youtube ads aren't so bad? They may hold more treasure than I thought.

**QUELLE SURPRISE:** Are the Feds digging deeper into the Sterling Bay deal at the former steel plant at Lincoln Yards? Are they looking for certain aldermanic fingerprints? Past cozy deals are being examined over crucial details left out of the public side of the deals. What sticky-fingered alderman is next? Is there a "patsy?"

What the administration and consultant didn't tell the crowd: Developer Sterling Bay had both picked the consultant and paid the firm. And that consultant also had been retained by a Sterling Bay subsidiary to lobby City Hall on the final terms of the Lincoln Yards agreement. Hope they think to look at all the last-second property tax reductions they won, too.

**WINTER WONDERLAND:** Maestro **Stanley Paul** writes from the dessert that he had a

wonderful brunch with **Tommy Tune** at Le Vallauris, lots of fun reminiscing. He has such fabulous stories about the golden age of Broadway and Hollywood.

**ALLURING:** The erudite **Carrie Lannon** viewing artist **Gu**

**Wenda's** large-scale artworks by 27 Chinese artists in *The Allure of Matter*. The artists used everyday objects to create their art, including a gigantic tiger rug made of cigarettes to plastic floor maps transformed into giant kimonos. Across two Chicago museums, Wrightwood 659 and the Smart Museum of Art, through May 3.

**BROKEN WINDOWS:** Neimans was knocked off like it was a liquor store. Gold Coast crime is out of control.

**ILLINOIS ROCKS:** Robert Feder reports that Chicago radio legends **Larry Lujack** and **Dick Biondi** have been named charter in-

ductees in the Hall of Fame of the new Illinois Rock & Roll Museum on Route 66 under construction in Joliet.

**CLASSICAL SUCCESS:** A gala evening all around when



Maestro Stanley Paul.



Broadway's Tommy Tune.

## HIDEOUT see p. 10

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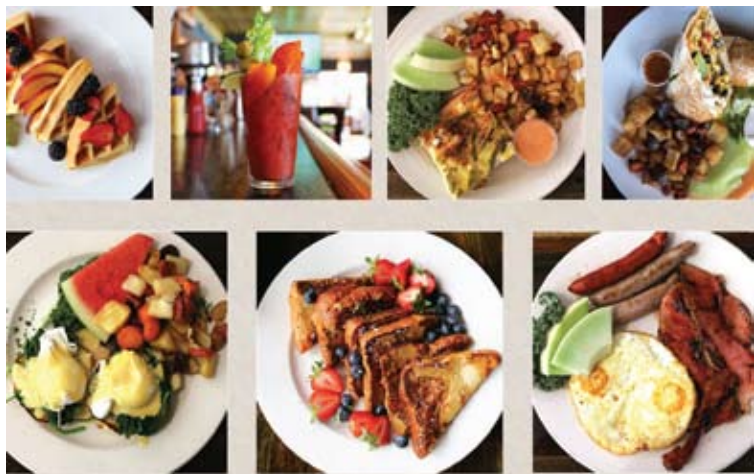


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Ann Joseph



Tobina Kahn and her father, Edward Kahn.



Barb Bailey



Karl Hamilton, left, and Nik Kmiecik.

# Talent throughout the town

Plus, losing a local treasure



## Heart of the 'Hood

by Felicia Dechter

Local actress Ann Joseph may be leaving Chicago come June, but there's no way she's going without saying goodbye.

"Chicago has been an incredible home for 20 years and I'm going to miss it," said Joseph, a Rogers Park resident who's moving to Minneapolis with her husband, who landed a job heading an actor training program at the Univ. of Minnesota. "But I'm excited to see what this new chapter will bring."

Joseph, a founding ensemble member of Congo Square Theatre, is starring in her last role here before she leaves town, as that of The Mayor in Congo Square's compelling-sounding production, "Day of Absence." The show opened last week and runs through March 22 at the Richard Christiansen Theatre (housed inside Victory Gardens Biograph Theatre), 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

Congo Square, known for its powerful portrayal of African American classics and gripping new works, is commemorating its 20th Anniversary season with the rare production of Douglas Turner Ward's 1965, Vernon Rice and Obie Award-winning satirical fantasy. "Day of Absence," showcases a day in the life of a small Southern

town when all of its black and brown citizens suddenly and inexplicably disappear.

All of the actors, who are people of color – perform in white face (reverse minstrel). Joseph said the theater company received permission from the now 90-year-old playwright to re-imagine the play and add 'brown' citizens to the story so it's more contemporary.

If you're looking for a way to honor Black History Month, it doesn't get much better than this. Although the play is set in 1965, it could be straight outta today's world of racism.

"The 'N' word is used a lot--we poke fun at white people," said Joseph, who teaches an intro acting class and creative dramatics at Loyola Univ. "At the end of the day, it's a bunch of black and brown-faced people saying, 'This is wrong.'"

"Because this is the 20th season, we really wanted to give respect to those artists of the past who laid the groundwork," said Joseph. "In a lot of cases, theater should shock you. This is shocking."

After 20 years in Chicago theater, Joseph has seen the Congo Square ensemble grow from a few folks to 17, something she is thrilled about. She's also a proud former Edgewater Community Council leader, who wrote a grant proposal to Starbucks that changed an after-school program to an arts program and netted her enough money to take kids to see plays and hire a dance and acting teacher. "That's one of my favorite experiences and something I'm really proud of," she said. Of course, Joseph's time on the city's stages has also been immensely rewarding.

Here's wishing Joseph the best of luck and much happiness in her new roles, both on and off the stage.

**Our sincerest condolences...** we send our most heartfelt and deepest sympathies to Tobina Kahn on the loss of her 103-year-old gem of a father, Edward, the patriarch of the House of Kahn Estate Jewelers and one of the oldest, living Holocaust survivors.

Mr. Kahn founded the renowned estate jewelry house with his wife, Adele, in Chicago in the 1960s. In addition to its Mag Mile location, House of Kahn has a second location in Palm Beach, FL.

Edward and Adele traveled far and wide to find and also sell unique, one-of-a-kind jewelry, diamonds and artifacts. They bought from queens, princes, and Hollywood royalty and acquired pieces from the heirs of Queen Isabella II of Spain, and Hollywood legends like Gloria Swanson and Greer Garson.

The late Mr. Kahn is a quintessential success story. After surviving the Holocaust, in which he lost both of his parents and his sister, he came to America from Romania 60 years ago with \$100 in his pocket and the American dream. Here, thanks to an eye for excellence in craftsmanship, Mr. Kahn built an illustrious and well-respected jewelry business.

Just six weeks before he died, Mr. Kahn passed the House of Kahn torch to his daughter, Tobina, who became president. Tobina is a licensed gemologist and auctioneer, and knowing her, we have no doubt that she will make her dad proud.

A ceremony was held Feb. 16 in Palm

Beach as Mr. Kahn died on Valentine's Day. He is survived by Adele and their three children: Tobina, Todd and Tyger and two granddaughters. The family asks that any contributions made in Mr. Kahn's honor be sent to the New Synagogue of Palm Beach, 235 Sunrise Ave., Palm Beach, FL 33480.

**Ooh baby...** tonight, Edgewater resident Barb Bailey will debut her true story show, "The Tally Ho Baby," at Le Piano, 6970 N. Glenwood Ave. Complimentary appetizers will be served between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., with the performance starting at 7:30.

Bailey's show is compiled of stories and songs. Chad Willetts, owner of Le Piano invited her to do a one woman show after seeing her perform at Davenport's in December. Le Piano is a great spot, and it just won the Concierge Award for nightlife in Chicago this year – 2020.

Bailey will tell the tale of how she was found in a cardboard box when she was just a week old. Her show is a tribute to her family who adopted her and the wonderful life she has lived.

"It could have gone the other way," said Bailey. "I could have been found in a dumpster."

Bailey has been in the Music Business for 40 years, beginning with representing producer Bobby Whiteside at Universal Recording Studio in Chicago - to become

**TALENT** see p. 12

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# North Side Chicago existing-home market does a “flip” in January

Chicago’s North Side existing-home market posted a “complete flip” in four lakefront neighborhoods in January as a “new trend appears to be emerging.”

That’s the opinion of Baird & Warner’s “February 2020 Market Analysis for Chicago’s North Side.” The analysis, prepared by veteran Baird & Warner broker John Irwin, posted a solid 15.1% increase in used home sales on the Near North Side—after more than two years of decreases.

**The Home Front**  
By Don DeBat

Irwin noted that extremely low home-loan interest rates likely were the spark that final got the market ignited over the past three months. On November 7, 2019, benchmark 30-year-fixed mortgages averaged 3.69%, down from 3.78% in late October of 2019, reported Freddie Mac’s Primary Mortgage Market Survey. A year

ago, rates averaged 4.94%.

Rates have stayed low throughout November, December, January and early February, fueling the year-end market boom. On Feb. 20, Freddie Mac reported that lenders were quoting an average of 3.49% on 30-year-fixed loans. A year ago, the 30-year-fixed loan average was 4.35%.

On Feb. 20, Chicago lenders were quoting a range of 3.3% to 3.5% on 30-year-fixed mortgages, according to rateSeeker.com.

Mortgage rates reached a historical rock bottom on Nov. 21, 2012, when the 30-year fixed mortgage average hit 3.31%, according to Freddie Mac’s archives. That milestone could be surpassed in early 2020 if current trends continue.

“The low mortgage-rate environment continues to spur homebuying activity, with applications to purchase a home up 15% from a year ago,” said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac’s Chief Economist. “We’ve seen new residential construction surge over the last few months, on pace to reach the highest level in more than a decade. This is a good sign for the inventory-starved housing market and is a promising indication for the spring homebuying season.”

Khater noted that refinance application activity is once again surging, rising to the highest level in seven years. “This surge coupled with strong purchase activity means that total mortgage demand remains robust, reflective of a solid economic backdrop and a very low mortgage-rate environment,” Khater said.

Here are the highlights of Baird & Warner’s February market analysis, which the firm compiled directly from the Chicago Multiple Listing Service:

- Home sales. North Side home sales in January rose 19% over January of 2019. Homes priced from \$500,000 to \$1-million rose 7%. Lincoln Park led the four neighborhoods with a 46% increase in unit sales, followed by Lakeview with a 17.4% gain. Sales in North Center slipped 2.8%.
- Median prices. Prices continued to ease in January. Median existing home prices decreased



Rates have stayed low throughout November, December, January and early February, fueling the year-end market boom.

4.5% in Lincoln Park and plummeted 29.7% in North Center. (The median is a typical market price where half the homes sold for more and half sold for less.)

“Some of the price declines could be attributed to price adjustments to inventory that has accumulated excessive market time,” Irwin noted. “Sellers are becoming more realistic about pricing in this market.”

- Market time. Despite the positive January numbers, market times continue to increase. January saw an 11.1% rise in market time which was significantly

higher than 3.4% for all of 2019.

For more information on Baird & Warner’s January 2020 Market Analysis for Chicago’s North Side, contact John Irwin via email: john@johnirwinChicago.com, or call 773-294-8664.

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).

# City Hall pushes changes to TIF regulations

The city’s history with Tax Increment Financing Districts [TIF] has been shaded with opacity, offering a mixed bag of good and bad projects, and agendas for spending those billions in TIF dollars.

Created with good intentions to spur on development in blighted areas of the state, TIF’s were quickly exploited in Chicago by monied interest who decided that despite their opulence, areas like the Loop, Lincoln Park and Lakeview were really blighted. No really, they are.

Each year, the City siphons off hundreds of millions of dollars in property taxes through the TIF program that would otherwise

go to various taxing bodies like schools, parks and libraries. In taking those dollars off the table, other properties not located in the TIF zones are forced to make up the difference in higher property taxes. As property tax rates are based on government spending, and budgets, the end result is that each dollar siphoned off through a TIF district becomes a defacto property tax increase for all real estate not located within TIF zones.

Many of the TIF issues activists have been working on for years are supposedly coming to fruition as City Hall rolls out what they claim are the most “consequential changes to TIF system oversight”

since the TIF program started in Chicago.

The controversial funding mechanism has faced criticism from opponents for their many back-room deals that line the pockets of the city’s wealthiest developers. Some critics argue that if so much of the city’s budget wasn’t sucked up by government pension liabilities and debt maintenance, TIF districts would perhaps not be needed. That such development efforts could be undertaken through better management of property tax revenue.

Tax-increment financing essentially freezes property taxes for blighted areas at their existing levels. Then, any additional tax revenue generated from new developments is used to pay for infrastructure and other improvements over the next 23 years.

For example, an area such as Lincoln Yards today has a very low property tax threshold as right now it only consists of empty lots. That a new TIF district now exists on those empty lots means that every tax dollar collected on the projected \$6 billion in future real estate development to be built there will go into the TIF district, and not go to any of the local taxing bodies.

The city selected private engineering and development consul-

tant AECOM to finalize a draft of the revised TIF regulations. That choice, however, elicited criticism from TIF activists that served as co-plaintiff in a lawsuit aimed at blocking that Lincoln Yards TIF deal.

Indeed the generally shady way TIF’s have operated in Chicago - particularly under former Mayor Rahm Emanuel - has led some to calls for shutting down the program entirely. Last week The Civics Lab, perhaps Chicago’s most vocal opponent to TIF districts, sent out a notice stating they “have been investigating Tax Increment Financing districts here and across the USA and their impacts on communities since 2013. Our TIF Illumination Project ([www.tifreports.com](http://www.tifreports.com)) has been asked to do 79 public forums presenting our findings. We’ve talked to activists, academics, and journalists covering urban policy matters all over the country,” and they found the districts to be unjust and racist. “We call for TIFs to be abolished.”

The proposed changes coming out of City Hall supposedly align TIF allocations with city plans to ensure that property tax dollars are spent on the most high-impact projects. So they claim they will now begin a long-term process of developing citywide

economic development and capital plans. Once developed, “these plans will provide transparency into future TIF decisions, as residents will know how TIF projects align with the City’s long-term priorities.”

Until the City establishes long-term, citywide plans, the Mayor’s Office says the city will use existing departmental and community plans to guide TIF spending decisions.

City Hall claims they will open up more data on the TIF program and provide it in an easy-to-use format, and provide monthly updates on which TIF projects were funded.

The city also plans to add a new bureaucratic layer to the process under something called TIF Investment Committee (TIC) modeled after an investment committee structure, with authority to monitor, approve, and oversee TIF-funded projects, replacing the existing TIF Task Force. Members of TIC include Deputy Mayor for Economic Development as Chair, the City’s CFO, Budget Director, Chief Equity Officer, Comptroller, and the Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure.

The city also claims real estate developers and other private applicants will not receive TIF funds unless they show that their project would not succeed without TIF funds, known as the “but-for” test. City Hall is strengthening its but-for standards to make sure that all private developers are held accountable for meeting this test.

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# Pizer named to 12th District post

## Five candidates compete in primary as committeemen name temporary State Rep.

BY JOEL JACOBS  
Medill News Service



From left to right: Yoni Pizer, Margaret Croke and Ryan Podges are running for 12th District State Representative. Kimberly Walz recently dropped out of the race; but Jimmy Garfield and Marty Malone are also both in the race. Pizer was recently appointed by several North Side Democrat ward committeemen to fill the temporarily vacant seat. Photos provided by campaigns of Yoni Pizer, Margaret Croke and Ryan Podges

With the March 17 primary fast approaching, five candidates are vying to fill the 12th District House seat once held by former State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz, the Chicago Democrat recently appointed to fill former Illinois Senate President John Cullerton's seat.

The district consists of parts of Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Near North and Uptown. The district is heavily Democratic, so the winner of the Democratic primary will almost certainly become the next representative.

The 12th District Democratic Committee named Jonathan Pizer (also known as "Yoni") as a temporary member of the Illinois House, representing District 12. He assumed office on Feb. 10, and his current term ends on Jan. 12, 2021. The seat had been vacant since Jan. 21, when Feigenholtz officially stepped down and replaced Cullerton. The appointee was selected by the committee after an open forum Feb. 9 at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted St.

Several primary candidates applied to be considered for the appointment, adding another dynamic to an already unique race triggered by Cullerton's surprise retirement announcement on Nov. 14 of last year.

"There was a very late scramble by the candidates to get into the race, assemble a team, hire staff and raise money to support those efforts," said Scott Kennedy, an expert on Illinois elections who runs the site Illinois Election Data.

Feigenholtz represented the 12th District for the last 25 years. Almost immediately after Cullerton's resignation, reports that she was the favorite to replace him opened the floodgates to a wave of candidates for her seat.

"President Cullerton's announced resignation caught everyone off guard," said Pizer, who jumped into the race soon after the announcement. Pizer is a real estate agent who formerly served as community liaison for U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley [5th].

Margaret Croke also acted quickly. The day after Cullerton's resignation, she called her local Democratic committeeman to discuss running for the seat. Despite being eight months pregnant at the time, she decided to throw her hat in the ring.

"I'm not going to wait another 25 years for this kind of opportunity," said Croke, the current deputy chief of staff for the Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and formerly served as statewide women's outreach director for Gov. J.B. Pritzker's campaign.

Croke and Pizer both spoke positively about Feigenholtz's tenure as State Representative.

Kimberly Walz also jumped into the race a few days after Cul-

lerton's announcement, but then she dropped out on Feb 12. In a note to supporters she said, "The race is no longer about issues or experience, it's about powerful allies and their money. It is not a reality that I am happy about. However, it is a reality."



A map of the 12th Illinois House District, which includes parts of Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Near North and Uptown.

Graphic by Joel Jacobs/MEDILL; U.S. Census geographic data

Not all the candidates joined the race after the announcement. "I've been running since last May," said Ryan Podges, a labor and employment attorney. "That's why I really feel like I'm running an issue-driven campaign here. I'm not running because a seat

opened up."

Marty Malone, former director of community affairs for Cook County, was also in the race before the announcement.

Along with the condensed timeline of the race, the candidates have to contend with the large number of high-rises in the area, which are difficult to access when canvassing. To reach potential voters, candidates work with residents of the buildings to host meet-and-greet events.

The appointment to fill Feigenholtz's seat garnered virtually no media coverage or community attention as it was a typical Democrat Machine act, with local Committeemen picking a Democrat insider to fill the open slot. But it could also be a "double-edged sword" for a candidate, according to Kennedy, since the commitment would mean devoting some time in Springfield instead of campaigning in the district.

There was disagreement at first over whether the 12th District Committee, which consists of Democratic committeemen representing wards within the district, should select one of the candidates versus a placeholder who is outside of the race.

Pizer applied for the appointment he ended up getting and said a placeholder would put the district at a disadvantage in Springfield. "There are important debates and discussions and bills being written right now. I want the 12th District to be well represented in that process." But the truth is that House Speaker Mike Madigan runs the statehouse by fiat

**PRIMARY** see p. 6

# Citizen group questions QR codes for Voting Audits

Early voting now underway

BY MARY SCHUERMAN  
KUHLMAN  
Illinois News Connection

Early voting for the March 17 primary is now underway for Chicago residents on one downtown location, but a citizens group contends voters should wait until Election Day to cast a ballot.

Chicago Board of Elections' new Loop Super Site opened Feb. 19 at 191 N. Clark St., and features new touch screen voting machines and ballot scanners.

Dr. Lora Chamberlain is on the board of the group Clean Count Cook County, which maintains the ballot marking devices have significant flaws.

"They print a QR code on the ballot and that's what's counted," she explains. "Not the choices written out, but the QR code."

"And there's no smart app, there's no machine, it's proprietary. So the voters can never actually know what's being counted off their ballot."

The machines print a paper record of the voter's selections, but Chamberlain notes it doesn't show races the voter might have missed on the ballot.

Election officials contend the

new system is secure, and note a recorded image of the ballot is kept for 22 months.

These are the first new voting machines for Chicago and Cook County since 2005, when punch card equipment was last used.

And Chamberlain says security experts believe ballot marking devices can be easily hacked without detection.

"All of the top level election integrity specialists have agreed that these machines have serious election security flaws," she stresses.

Clean Count Cook County maintains Chicago and Cook County voters should wait until primary day, March 17, and cast a ballot at their local precincts, where they can opt to use a hand-marked paper ballot.

Early voting will expand to all 50 wards in the city beginning March 2.

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The Chicago Curling Club hosts a Learn to Curl event on Jan. 23 at Gallagher Way. Photo by Leah Vann

## Chicago curling clubs embrace the ice

BY LEAH VANN  
Medill News Service

During an otherwise miserable Chicago winter, local curling clubs are hosting classes to teach people about the ancient sport.

Curling is like life-sized shuffleboard on ice, where players slide large stones and melt the path ahead to drive them toward a target, accumulating points. Its origins date back as far as 1511 in Scotland.

Although the sport has been around for centuries, it wasn't until 1998 that it became an Olympic sport.

pic sport.

Chicago-area curling clubs such as Windy City Curling, Chicago Curling Club, Second City Curling Club and Exmoor Curling Club are coming together this winter to host "Learn to Curl" classes, encouraging people to learn the sport and generate interest.

The clubs came together to host Learn to Curl classes on Jan. 8-10 and Jan. 22-24 at Gallagher Way, but continue to host weekly classes at their own clubs through April.

## Middle Eastern and North African residents feel excluded by upcoming census

BY WHITNEY TESI  
Medill News Service

Middle Eastern and North African communities have been lobbying for their own category on the census for decades, even though they have been classified as "white" since the government first started conducting the survey in 1790.

Many in those communities have now found homes in Rogers Park and Uptown.

Although the idea for a Middle Eastern and North African category for this year's census was considered under the Obama Administration, the plan was shot down two years ago after President Donald Trump was elected.

"More research and testing is needed," Karen Battle, chief of the U.S. Census Bureau's population division, said in a public meeting last year.

Many community advocates said they were disappointed in the decision, saying the exclusion of the option ignores the challenges that Middle Eastern and North African people face as a marginalized group.

"It's kind of creating this system of institutionalized invisibility," said Amar Shabeeb, member of human rights group Organize 4 Syria.

With the census officially starting in two months, advocates are also afraid that the absence of a Middle Eastern or North African option will result in a lack of resources and awareness toward their communities. More than \$600 million in federal funds are

allocated to states and counties, which are dispersed according to the population total and breakdown on categories such as race and sex.

"How can we develop programs and services for a community that doesn't exist?" said Itedal Shalabi, co-founder of the nonprofit social service agency Arab American Family Services. "We don't have someone that looks like us, that speaks our language, or that understands us and can meet our needs."

confronted about marking "white" as his race when he was growing up. He added that the lack of the Middle Eastern and North African option excludes them from obtaining affirmative action resources that other people of color receive.

"We don't get different opportunities through minority programs because we have to mark 'white,'" Esmail said.

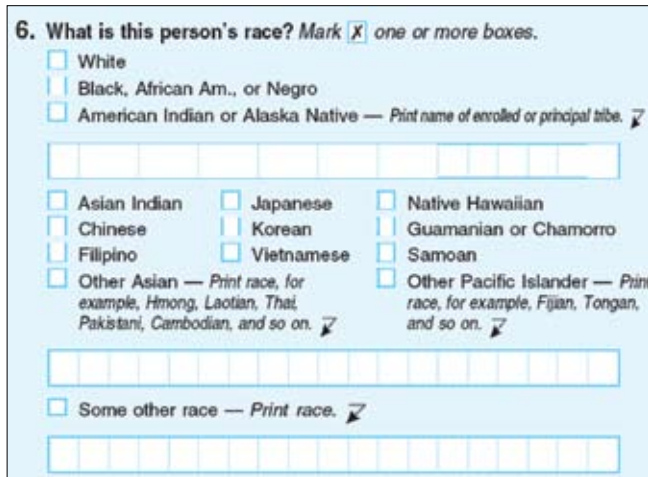
Shabeeb said one service the community needed was more language support such as translators, which it couldn't get if they weren't recognized.

"It illustrates to the community that the government doesn't care about you," Shabeeb said. "They don't even attempt to reconcile our issues."

The recent killing of Qassem Soleimani and the resulting U.S. military tensions in the Middle East also have advocates concerned with the Islamophobia and racism they experience in America as a result.

Shalabi said that the fight for the category has been happening for over 30 years. She, along with other activists, said they are urging those who identify as Middle Eastern or North African to mark "Other" on the census and write down their identification.

"We're teaching our community members about political power," Shalabi said. "It's kind of nice to be part of changing the history in a way that's positive for future generations of Arab Americans. We're labeled white, but we're not treated as white."



The lack of the Middle Eastern and North African option excludes them from obtaining affirmative action resources that other people of color receive, said Jihad Esmail, a Palestinian American student at Northwestern Univ.

In 2017, the American Community Survey, an annual survey of the U.S. population by the Census Bureau, estimated there were 2 million Arab Americans in the country. The Arab American Institute, a nonprofit organization, said they believe that the government undercounted by 48% and the actual number had been closer to 3.7 million. According to the Illinois Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the current Arab population in Chicago is around 150,000.

Jihad Esmail, a Palestinian American student at Northwestern Univ., said he had always felt

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### PRIMARY from p. 5

so Pizer's impact on any pending state business would be minimal, and any action take would be at the direction of the Office of the House Speaker.

Podges also applied for the post, both to get in front of voters at the forum and the "opportunity to get a head start on the job and working on the issues." But he was not appointed. He also acknowledged that a placeholder would be the "most fair and appropriate way to go."

The district includes five wards, and the five members of the 12th District Committee had votes that were weighted based on the number of 12th District voters in their wards. Committee chair Ald. Tom Tunney [44th] holds 45% of the committee votes and his endorsement of Pizer in the race likely put him over the top.

According to a recent Politico report, 2nd Ward Democratic Committeeman Tim Egan also supported Pizer for the temporary seat, giving him a majority of weighted votes he needed.

"There are so few opportuni-

### Primary forum Feb. 24 and 27 for IL 12th

The Lake View Citizens Council will be hosting a 12th District candidates forum 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24, at Amita St. Joseph Hospital, 2900 N. Lake Shore Dr., for the March 17 primary and the Nov. 3 general election. The forum is free and open for the public to attend.

Further south, the Gold Coast Neighbors Assoc. [GCNA] is hosting a candidates forum for 12th District candidates, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Ambassador Chicago Hotel, 1301 N. State St., in their second-floor conference room.

Each candidate will then in-

troduce herself/himself to the Forum attendees. The evening's moderator is GCNA President Vern Broders, who will ask questions that have been submitted in advance by registered attendees of the forum. The questioning will conclude with a lightning round.

All six of the candidates have been invited to participate in this free event: Margaret Croke, James Garfield, Marty Malone, Jonathan "Yoni" Pizer, Ryan Podges and Kimberly Walz.

Reservations are requested by emailing [info@goldcoastneighbors.org](mailto:info@goldcoastneighbors.org), or calling 773-510-7327.

ties to get your message across in this race, and I think that this whole appointment process is a chance for me to talk about the issues," said Croke, who applied and failed as well.

She felt that the appointment should have gone to Sean Tenner, the 46th Ward Democratic Committeeman, who is not in the race and had promised to donate his

salary and step down after the election is certified. Tenner, who held a 29% of the votes in the committee, did not endorse any of the candidates, and described them as "all good people — all dedicated to the community."

The public forum for the appointment took place on Sunday, Feb. 9, at the Center on Halsted.

# Local politicians call for federal emergency declaration for Lakefront

**D.C. says: 'Get back to us next year'**

A batch of local politicians have issued an emergency proclamation over the ongoing challenges facing Chicago's lakefront and called for State and Federal action to address damages now in excess of \$37 million from January's storm.

Last week the Chicago Park District [CPD] approved new contracts to cover an emergency assessment of recent lakefront damages. But on Tuesday Mother Nature shrugged that effort off and attacked the North Lakefront once again.

On the North Side, the unprotected shoreline of Rogers Park and Edgewater took a great deal of the brunt of those damages.

Last week city, county, state and federal officials requested an emergency declaration from the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA], asking the federal government to act quickly and provide resources and funding to protect and rebuild the City's lakeshore.

But FEMA officials told Chicago that it would have to wait at



On the North Side, the unprotected shoreline beaches of Rogers Park and Edgewater took a great deal of the brunt of those damages.

*Photo courtesy of 49th Ward Office*

least another year for a study that could kick-start any changes to long-term shoreline protection.

Last week local politicians issued proclamations to declare a local disaster as the result of significant flooding and major damage to the City of Chicago's shoreline, infrastructure and recreational areas due to severe weather on Jan. 10-11.

At a Feb. 19 CPD Board meeting, Heather Gleason, director of planning and construction, displayed photos of the Morgan Shoal area after the storm that

showed broken slabs of concrete and debris strewn about. Since that storm, teams led by engineering firm SmithGroup and city inspectors looked for mechanical and structural damage at dozens of buildings predominantly in the 48th and 49th wards, and spoke to some owners about flooding.

Gleason also pointed to the closing of sections of the Lakefront Trail near Fullerton Ave. and south of Oak St., as examples of what officials are documenting in hopes of moving closer to federal funding.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot said she is taking these actions as the City has worked extensively for the past several months to monitor lakeshore conditions and address erosion and damage caused by near record-high lake levels which are part of the regular 30-year cycle of the Great Lakes.

She said that additional work and resources are still needed to address the scope of these unique challenges and damage that totals in excess of \$25 million for Chicago alone. Cook County has identified an additional \$12M in costs.

"One of Chicago's strongest assets is our lakeshore, and due to the severity of recent storms we've witnessed irreparable damage to our lakefront beaches and infrastructure," said Mayor Lightfoot. "While the City has worked extensively over the past few months to respond to the damage and to secure the infrastructure and beaches along our lake front - it is clear that this is a challenge we can't solve alone. To respond to the immediate challenges facing our lakefront as highlighted by the storm on Jan. 10-11, we have declared disaster

status to ensure Chicago receives the supports needed for addressing the scope of this issue for the long term."

She then sent a letter to Gov. JB Pritzker requesting a state proclamation for the City of Chicago, which would authorize the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) to coordinate State resources to assist in response and recovery as well as request Federal resources and assistance.

The Governor issued a state disaster proclamation for Cook and Lake Counties to help communities recover from the storm, including substantial property damage along more than 30 miles of the Lake Michigan shoreline. City personnel hope to work closely with the State to gather and document the information needed to support a federal major disaster declaration.

But any report reevaluating the federal government's interests in the Chicago shoreline was not funded in the Army Corps of Engineers' 2020 work plan. With lake levels expected to remain high, the city was told that it

**EMERGENCY** see p. 12

## Section 8 housing project still a mystery for most in 47th Ward



The parking lot at Lincoln and Western Ave. support a number of cultural institutions who depend on that lot for customer parking, festival logistics and event staging.

*Photos by Google*

A controversial affordable housing project proposed for Lincoln Square remains a mystery to most area residents and adjacent businesses.

While planning for the project was started sometime during the Summer of 2019, select few people and organizations in the community were made aware of the proposal in Sept. 2019, as yet no public presentation has been made for the interest of the general public.

Despite the fact that a critical piece of Lincoln Square public infrastructure is in the balance, neither the 47th Ward Alderman's Office, nor the Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development [DPD], or Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce [LSCC], or Heart of Lincoln Square [HOLS] neighborhood association has stepped forward to host a general, open-to-the-public hearing of the details behind the plan.

This newspaper has verified

that besides city officials, both the LSRCC and HOLS were notified by the city sometime in Sept. 2019 of plans to build a six-story, 43-unit, Section 8 affordable housing project on the site of a public parking lot located at Leland and Western avenues.

Project Based Section 8 housing is a government-funded program that provides rental housing to low-income households in privately owned and managed rental units. Most units rental cost will be 30% of a tenants' household adjusted gross income. The balance of the rent would then be paid through federal housing credits.

Letters of support from both LSRCC and HOLS were obtained through a Freedom of Information request by this newspaper to the DPD.

The project was debated then approved on Oct. 9, 2019, by Ald. Matt Martin's Zoning Advisory Council and members of HOLS during a meeting held at the Tat-

ler Post American Legion Hall, 4355 N. Western Ave. The LSRCC won't say how they considered the issue within the organization before sending off their own letter dated Oct. 31, 2019.

This newspaper first heard about the proposal not through any public statement by city officials, the alderman's office or outreach by the LSRCC, but rather through a leak picked up in a Lincoln Square-area tavern in late Nov. 2019.

While Ald. Martin's 47th Ward Office verified that the proposal is now under consideration in City Hall, the LSRCC has now gone dark and refuses to answer media questions about their own decision-making process before offering up their endorsement for tax credits for the project. That letter was sent out before the chamber even notified or surveyed their own membership or nearby members of the LSRCC. The parking lot is a key piece of commercial infrastructure sup-

porting the popular retail and entertainment district. The parking lot also supports a number of cultural institutions who depend on that lot for customer parking, festival logistics and event staging. At risk are the local farmer's market, the German-American Festival, Mayfest and Applefest. Major local institutions like the DANKHaus German-American Cultural Center, Old Town School of Folk Music, and the Davis Theater also benefit from the parking provided by the lot.

According to the alderman's office, the key to making the project work are tax credits that

the developers are seeking. The developers behind the proposal - The Community Builders [TCB], are the only developers who have been given the opportunity to negotiate with the city over building on the site. The terms of a potential sale of the public parking lot have not been disclosed to the public. Outside real estate experts say the market value of this lot on the open market could be as much as \$8 million.

Federal, state and city housing agencies award these tax credits to private developers of affordable

**MYSTERY** see p. 15

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# Police Beat...

## More robberies reported on CTA trains as police prepare new strategies

Two daytime robberies were reported aboard CTA trains on the Near North Side last week as the city's transit agency continues to struggle with rising violent crime on the "L" system.

• A 30-year-old woman told police that a man grabbed her phone from her hands and ran from a northbound Red Line train just before the doors closed at Chicago Ave. Feb. 18. Police officers crossed paths with the woman during a patrol of the station at 1:34 p.m., according to a police spokesperson. The woman, who was visibly upset, could not provide any description of the offender. She declined medical attention.

• A 40-year-old man told police that two offenders punched him in the face and demanded his property at the Sedgwick Brown Line CTA station around 12:20 p.m. Feb. 17, police said. The man said the robbers ran southbound on Sedgwick after getting about \$90 from him.

Police drove the victim around the area and arrested Brandon Frazier Jr., 23, of Garfield Park nearby after the victim identified him as one of the assailants, according to a CPD spokesperson.

Prosecutors charged Frazier with one count of misdemeanor battery and he was released on his own recognizance, according to court records.

The case remains open because the victim reported there were two offenders involved, police said.

We reported exclusively last week that police and CTA leaders are developing significant changes to the way the agencies approach criminal activity on the transit agency's train lines. An announcement regarding the city's new strategy is expected next week.

In the near term, CPD will reassign two or three officers from each of the city's 22 police districts to form a mobile train patrol unit during evening hours. The temporary unit will launch on Mar. 5 and remain active through Memorial Day, according to the department.

## More robberies on Near North Side

The Near North Side is seeing a rash of burglary related incidents. In each incident, the offender forces entry into restaurant businesses in the early morning hours through front doors by use of a pry tool. Once inside, the offender removes property and exits.

Incidents include one on the 600 block of N. State St., Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019; the 400 block of N. Dearborn St., Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019; 400 block of N. State St., Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019; 900 block of N. Rush St., Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019; 1900 block of N. Clybourn Ave., Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019; 200 block of E. Illinois St., Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019; 100 block of E. Oak St., Thursday, Jan. 9; 1000 block of W. North Ave., Sunday, Jan. 12, in the early morning hours; 600 block of N. Michigan Ave., Jan. 26; 700 block of N. Wells St., Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020; 300 block of E. Illinois St., Monday, Feb. 3; 300 block of N. Clark St., Friday, Feb. 7; 200 block of W. North Ave., Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020 in the afternoon hours; on the 200 block of E. Ohio St., Sunday, Feb. 16, and on the 700 block of N.



L-R Felicia Anderson, Anesha Robinson, and Jasmine Ross.

## Milwaukee women brutally beat, rob man while driving him around Lincoln Park

Three Milwaukee-area women are charged with severely beating and robbing a man as they drove him around the Lincoln Park neighborhood Feb. 15-16, according to court records. Police arrested the women shortly after patrol officers randomly drove up behind their car in traffic as the man was being attacked, police said.

According to police, the 24-year-old victim said he got into the women's car because he thought it was an Uber.

Prosecutors charged Felicia Anderson, 31, Anesha Robinson, 30, and Jasmine Ross with one count of felony robbery and one count of aggravated battery each.

Two police officers reported that they pulled up behind a rental car that Anderson was driving on the 2000 block of N. Sedgwick around 3:30 a.m. Feb. 15. The cops said they saw Robinson beating a man in the vehicle's back seat while Ross knelt on the front passenger seat and threw punches, too.

Officers who pulled alongside the rental car said they saw Ross and Robinson going through the man's pockets. Anderson allegedly sped away

Michigan Ave., Feb. 19.

The offenders are described as male, Black, 6' to 6'-3", 185-200 lbs, 45-60 years of age, wearing dark clothing.

## Armed robberies on Near North Side

The Near North Side is experiencing a rash of recently reported armed robberies. In each of the incidents, the offender(s) approach the victim, display a blue steel handgun, and demand money/property. The offenders then flee on foot.

Incidents include one on the 600 block of N. State St., Tuesday, Jan. 14, in the early morning hours; the 700 block of N. Wabash Ave., Monday, Jan. 20, in the afternoon hours; 1600 block of N. Halsted St., Tuesday, Jan. 28, in the evening hours, and one on the 500 block of N. Dearborn St., Saturday, Feb. 8, in the early morning hours.

The offenders are described as one or two male, African American, 5'-10" to 6'-1" tall, 170-200 lbs., with medium complexions. Anyone with information on these robberies is asked to contact the Bureau of Detectives - Area Central at 312-747-8380.

## Windows smashed, handbags stolen on Mag Mile - may be part of theft ring

A burglar used a brick to smash the windows of a Mag Mile retailer Feb. 19 and then stole expensive handbags that were on display inside. Police now believe the thieves are responsible for others job too.

Wednesday night, police issued a community alert that links the Neiman Marcus case to seven other business break-ins around River North, Streeterville, and Lincoln Park.

Between one and three offenders are prying doors and breaking glass to get inside businesses during overnight and morning hours, according to the alert. Once inside, they gather up expensive clothes, wallets, purses, and cash.

Northwestern Univ. Police found

from the police unit and the victim was dumped from the moving vehicle. But Anderson later pulled over for other officers on the 1000 block of W. North Ave., according to police records.

Cops said Robinson tried to throw the man's phone down a sewer when they ordered her out of the vehicle. Two of the man's credit cards were also allegedly taken.

The man, who lives in Lincoln Park, was admitted for treatment at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center with a fractured nose, fractured cheekbone, and cuts and bruises to his face, arms, and head, police said.

Cook County Judge Susana Ortiz set bail at \$40,000 for Ross; \$25,000 for Robinson; and \$10,000 for Anderson. They will need to post a deposit bond equal to 10% of their bail amounts and go onto electronic monitoring to get out of jail before trial, per Ortiz's instructions.

Electronic monitoring is typically not available for accused persons who live outside of Cook County, so the Wisconsin women may remain in jail unless they can provide an acceptable local address or another judge changes the terms of their release.

the windows broken out at Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan Ave., around 4:45 a.m.

Police spoke with a store manager who reported that several purses worth \$5,000 appeared to be gone.

No one is in custody. Area Central detectives are investigating.

In addition to the Neiman Marcus burglary, detectives believe the same people targeted businesses on the 600 block of N. State on Dec. 18; the 400 block of N. State on Dec. 26; the 900 block of N. Rush and the 1900 block of N. Clybourn on Dec. 28; the 100 block of E. Oak on Jan. 9; the 600 block of N. Michigan on Jan. 26; and the 700 block of N. Wells on Feb. 1.

## Man arrested for abuse of three-year-old girl in River North McDonald's

Chicago police arrested a man who allegedly sexually abused a young girl in a River North restaurant restroom on Feb. 17.

Christopher Puente, 34, of the 100 block of E. Chestnut St., has been charged with one felony count - Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault/Victim younger than 13, and one misdemeanor count - Criminal Trespass to Land.

A 35-year-old man called police to the former Rock & Roll McDonald's, 600 N. Clark, to report the incident at 8:20 a.m., according to a police report.

Puente was placed in custody 1:01 a.m. Feb. 19, in the 500 block of N. Dearborn for criminal trespass after refusing to leave a business at that location. During the course of the investigation, officers identified Puente as the subject pictured in a recently disseminated Community Alert.

A 3-year-old girl reported that the

man pulled her into a restroom stall at the restaurant and then touched her inappropriately, according to the CPD report.

## More carjackings reported as police promise crackdown

### 'Criminal justice system has to get serious with some of these juveniles'

Two carjackers battered and carjacked a 72-year-old man on the city's Northwest Side Feb. 21, just hours after Chicago police announced a new focus on reversing a 75% rise in vehicular hijackings this year.

And two more carjackings unfolded in River North on Feb. 20, including one in which an offender fired a handgun. No one was shot, though.

At least three other carjackings were reported on Feb. 19 — one each in the Gold Coast, Fulton Market, and West Ridge neighborhoods. Cops initially thought Wednesday's cases were related, but further investigation revealed that different crews were responsible for the heists, Interim Police Supt. Charlie Beck later announced.

"The criminal justice system has to get serious about how they deal with some of these juveniles," CPD Dep. Supt. Anthony Riccio said on Feb. 21. "A lot of what we see are the same crews doing it over and over again. So, we're gonna have to definitely address the problem of juveniles and the crime that they're committing."

Riccio made the remarks as he announced the reconstitution of a multi-agency carjacking task force. He said 117 vehicular hijackings had been reported in 2020 as of earlier this week, up from 67 during the same time in 2019.

"I can promise we will get to the bottom of it," Riccio said.

The city saw 113 carjackings during the period in 2018 and 109 in 2017, according to city records.

"The jail sentences in the federal system are 85%," Riccio said, while state offenders typically serve only 50% of their prison time. "A lot of times we find federal prosecution is much stiffer, much swifter."

But the federal system does not prosecute juveniles, according to Riccio.

## Latest incidents

Police said two men grabbed a 72-year-old Northwest Side man, punched him in the face, and threw him to the ground during a carjacking on the 5900 block of N. Sauganash around 6:55 p.m. Feb. 21.

The victim had just parked his car when the robbers attacked him and drove away with his silver Toyota Camry bearing California plates.

Police later located the car on the South Side and two juveniles were taken into custody, a CPD spokesperson said on Feb. 22.

Two carjackings were reported in just over an hour Thursday evening in the River North neighborhood.

A masked gunman got out of a black Dodge Challenger and tried to take a 28-year-old man's 2015 BMW M5 on the 700 block of N. Hudson around 9:45 p.m. The offender fired one shot into the air when the victim initially refused to turn over his car keys, police said. The victim then complied.

But there was another problem for the carjacker: He didn't know how to drive a stick shift. So, he got out and ran back to the Dodge Challenger, which sped away westbound on Chicago Ave.

Then, a group of carjackers in a dark brown Volvo intentionally bumped into a 2014 Jeep SRT at a stoplight near the Ontario feeder ramp around 11 p.m., police said.

Two masked men emerged from the Volvo and one of them pointed a

handgun at the 42-year-old victim when he got out of his SUV to check for damage, according to police.

The gunman got into the victim's car and drove away while the other offender returned to the Volvo. Both cars were last seen heading onto the feeder ramp.

Near North Police District Cmdr. Jill Stevens said the entire incident was recorded by a nearby CPD camera.

## Woman carjacked in Edgewater

Police are investigating a carjacking reported in the Edgewater neighborhood on Feb. 17. No one is in custody and the victim was not injured.

A 30-year-old woman told police that she parked her car on the 5900 block of N. Kenmore and a man approached her as she stepped out of the vehicle around 4:30 p.m. The offender implied that he had a gun and demanded the victim's property, including her car, the woman said.

After getting the victim's valuables, the man climbed into her red four-door Prius and drove away northbound on Kenmore, according to a police spokesman.

The stolen car has black rims, a Batman sticker on its back bumper, and stickers for the Georgia State Panthers and Oregon State Beavers on the rear passenger window. It bears a Georgia specialty license plate that features a bald eagle.

Police did not have a description of the offender available. Area North detectives are investigating.

## Broadway break-ins

Three recent commercial burglaries have occurred on Broadway. In each burglary, the offender pried open a rear door to the businesses. One inside the offender removed currency from the cash registers before fleeing. In one burglary the offender removed the entire cash register.

Incidents include one on the 5800 block of N. Broadway Feb. 9 at 8:20 a.m.; 3100 block of N. Broadway Feb. 9 between 8:59 a.m. and 9:19 a.m., and on the 5500 block of N. Broadway Ave Feb. 9 between 10:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

The offender is described as an African American male approximately 50-60 years of age, 5'-10, 160- 170 lbs. wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans.

## Armed robbery crew pulls off 3 carjackings, 3 armed robberies in less than 5 hours

An armed robbery crew went on a cross-city crime spree Feb. 19, pulling off a series of carjackings and hold-ups that yielded luxury cars and tens of thousands of dollars in robbery proceeds, according to a CPD source.

In less than two hours, the men carjacked two high-end vehicles in West Ridge and the Gold Coast. Then, they pulled off two street robberies downtown, getting away with more than \$50,000 in jewelry, cash, and coats.

And, police strongly suspect the crew is also responsible for carjacking a valet in Fulton Market and robbing a couple in River North, the source said.

Around 8:30 p.m., two masked men approached a 31-year-old as he parked his uncle's red Range Rover in the 2600 block of W. Fitch on the Far North Side.

One of the offenders opened the driver's door, displayed a handgun, and ordered him out of the SUV, police said. The carjackers then drove away southbound in the ve-

## 5 charged with “organized” raid on Mag Mile H&M store; Video shows suspects on Red Line tracks with pile of clothing

BY CWBCHICAGO

Three men and two juveniles are charged with stealing piles of clothing from an H&M store on the Magnificent Mile. The accused shoplifting crew tried to escape by running on the Red Line subway tracks from Chicago Ave. to the Clark-Division stop. But cops were waiting when they arrived.

And, video posted online less than 10 minutes after the heist shows two men on the Chicago Red Line CTA tracks with arms full of clothing, much of it still on hangers.

Police said officers responded to the store at 840 N. Michigan at 11:30 a.m. to handle a report of “an organized theft” in which “a large amount of merchandise was stolen.”

Store employees tracked the thieves to the nearby Chicago Red Line CTA station where the crew jumped onto the tracks and ran north to the next stop. Police were waiting there with handcuffs.

The video shows two young men walking across the Chicago Red Line CTA tracks and throwing armloads of clothing onto the platform. Plastic clothes hangers



Alonzo Hall, Kesean Reese, and Keshawn Vance.

are heard rattling.

While a comment on the video says “they just ran outta Nordstrom’s,” the footage appears to show two of the H&M suspects in action.

Prosecutors charged Alonzo Hall, 18, Kesean Reese, 18, and Keshawn Vance, 18, with felony retail theft and misdemeanor trespassing. Hall is also charged with aggravated assault. Vance is charged with possessing more than 30 grams of pot.

Two juveniles, ages 15 and 16, are charged with felony retail theft and misdemeanor trespassing.

Online records show that Reese was charged on Nov. 11 with possessing a firearm on the 8600 block of S. Stony Island. And Hall was arrested for retail theft at the

Chicago Red Line station on Jan. 20.

Less than an hour after the H&M incident unfolded, a group of masked men implied they had guns as they robbed the Michigan Ave. Louis Vuitton store of high-end handbags, according to a CPD statement and a police report.

The men fled in a black four-door Volkswagen, which was found abandoned in the Woodlawn neighborhood a short time later. Cops found masks and Louis Vuitton merchandise in the car, police said.

But Chicago’s prolific shoplifting mobs weren’t done. Later on Thursday, a four-man shoplifting team raided Niketown at 669 N. Michigan, according to a report.

## Racketeering lawsuit targets Sandoval, SafeSpeed, local officials

Former state Sen. Martin Sandoval and SafeSpeed LLC, the red light camera company at the center of federal corruption charges against him, are now the targets of a racketeering lawsuit that seeks to void tens of thousands of traffic citations issued through the company’s devices.

Lawrence Gress, a Downers Grove resident and lead plaintiff in the case, filed the suit Monday under the federal Racketeering, Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), a law most often used to prosecute organized crime syndicates. But RICO also allows for private civil suits for actions that are part of a criminal enterprise.

The lawsuit alleges SafeSpeed, its officers and employees, paid bribes to Sandoval and several other local government officials to gain approval for placing its red light cameras at various intersections in Chicago-area suburbs.

Sandoval and the other government officials, the lawsuit alleges, were paid as “undisclosed sales agents” or “consultants” based on a percentage of the revenue generated by the cameras.

Sandoval served in the state Senate from 2003 until Jan. 1, when he resigned amid the corruption scandal. Starting in January 2009, he was chairman of the powerful Senate Transportation Committee and was instrumental in securing passage of last year’s \$45 billion capital improvements program known as Rebuild Illinois.

He was removed from his chairmanship in Oct. 2019, just weeks

after federal agents executed a search warrant on his Statehouse office in Springfield where they seized a number of computers, cellphones and boxes of documents.

On Tuesday, Jan. 28, Sandoval pleaded guilty to one count each of federal bribery and tax fraud charges as part of a deal with prosecutors in which he agreed to cooperate with their ongoing investigations.

The RICO lawsuit, however, is separate from the criminal case, but it is based largely on the same set of facts to which Sandoval has already pleaded guilty.

It alleges that beginning sometime in 2016 and continuing through Oct. 2019, SafeSpeed operated a corrupt enterprise, known as an “association-in-fact,” by conspiring with the other defendants to pay bribes or kickbacks to public officials who would steer contracts toward the

company for operating red light cameras.

Sandoval is accused of using his position in the Senate to serve as the company’s “protector” by ensuring legislation unfavorable to the company, including bills to ban the use of red light cameras, would never pass and to help override objections from the Illinois Department of Transportation about the placement of certain cameras.

In exchange, the lawsuit alleges, SafeSpeed and its employees arranged to pay \$20,000 a year in donations to Sandoval’s campaigns.

The lawsuit was filed as a proposed class action on behalf of an estimated 100,000 or more individuals who were fined between \$100 and \$200 for each ticket issued by a red light camera that was “corruptly and improperly

LAWSUIT see p. 15

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## Local geographer to discuss history of Chicago lakefront



Historian and geographer Dennis McClendon will review the history of Chicago’s lakefront during the annual meeting of the Edgewater Historical Society at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 21, in the Betty A. Barclay Community Room at the Edgewater Branch Library, 6000 N. Broadway.

McClendon is known as an expert on the city’s built environment and transportation. His design firm Chicago CartoGraphic creates a variety of products for the tourism industry and real estate firms, as well as for books such as the American Institute of Architects Guide to Chicago Architecture and the Encyclopedia of Chicago.

CartoGraphic also makes the region’s Chicago Transit Authority and Pace transit maps and most Chicago-area bike maps.

After McClendon’s presentation, society members will recap the group’s activities over the past year, present board candidates and discuss plans for 2020-2021.

Following the free program, attendees can enjoy refreshments, stop by the society’s volunteer fair, and meet board members to learn about opportunities to be museum docents, help on home tours, plan silent auctions and other events, and more.

For more information call 773-506-4849.

## Powering the Arts grant applications are due next week

Applications are now being accepted for 2020 Powering the Arts grants.

The program was designed to help nonprofit cultural institutions – from performing troupes to galleries and theatres – reach new and diverse audiences that otherwise would not have access to the arts.

Applicants should propose unique projects to support the expansion of arts and cultural offerings for new audiences. Priority will be given to projects that commit to retaining the underserved audiences after the funding period ends.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available and may be used to pay for as much as 75 percent of eligible activities. Applicants must

have secured a source of matching money, or they may submit a pending application for such funds.

Successful applicants will be expected to fully expend the grant award within 12 months of receiving funds. A final grant report is due within two months of the full expenditure.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday, March 13. Submissions will be reviewed and ranked by an advisory committee composed of members of the region’s nonprofit arts and culture community. Final decisions on awards will be announced by late June or early July.

For more information call the League Of Chicago Theatres at 312-554-9800.

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Robert Feder



Marisol at the MCA.



The Fireplace's Richard Novak with Shelley Howard.



Kathie Roenigk with Dr. Henry Roenigk.

**HIDEOUT** from p. 2

**Bozena and Ari Zweig** invited some 250 music-loving guests to their Winnetka manse in support of the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, the Polish-American Symphony Orchestra that made its debut in Washington D.C. in 1995 (named for the great 20th century composer/classical pianist and Prime Minister of Poland). The night was elegant, lyrical, classical and organized by Bozena Zweig and **Ewa Turowski** and raised a sum worthy of the noble artsy cause. The glory of the Polish influence on classical music was alive from **Fredric Chopin** to **Krzystof Penderecki**. The elegant **Jolanta Ruege** was among the guests.

**MICHELIN EATS:** Marisol Chicago, at the Museum of Contemporary Art, is once again named a Michelin Bib Gourmand restaurant. Make your reservation today. Chef **Jason Hammel** (Lula) has created a fabulous menu in the Gold Coast and artsy MCA environment. Michelin's Bib Gourmand list is revered by travelers as a sign of a quality meal at an affordable price. The 2020 list adds 14 new restaurants while removing 18. Altogether, 54 restaurants are represented. This is the tire company's ninth year in Chicago.

**TIDBIT:** Ten **Raphael** tapestries returned to Sistine Chapel last week hung at eye level, below **Michelangelo's** frescoes for just one week to honor Raphael on the 500th anniversary of his death.

**PAX TE CUM:** Dawn Mello, the visionary retailer who reimagined Bergdorf Goodman, discovered **Michael Kors**, and helped to launch the careers of **Donna Karan** and **Giorgio Armani**, has left us at age 86. She was a



The late Dawn Mello.

great supporter of designer **Jeffrey Banks** and a great friend of American fashion.

**LA CICCiolINA:** Italy's most famous porn star, **Cicciolina**, 68, launched a political party after the government cut her pension - three decades after she was elected as an MP. **Iona Staller**, 68, was an erotic film actress in the 1980s before becoming an MP. She has founded the Democracy, Nature and Love party in protest of pension cuts.

**TIDBIT:** Chicago actor **John T. O'Brien** at Cinespace Chicago Film Studios. His scene from @empirefox that aired 20 weeks ago made a comeback.

**SIAMSA na nGAEL:** This historic program will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. Through music, dance, and narration, the story will be told of the USS Mason, stationed in Ireland during the war. This moving performance will bring to light the incredible relationship between the Irish and the sailors. Special guest narrator: **Mark Kennedy Shriver**, author and Social Justice Advocate. Join Old St. Patrick's Church for "Siamsa na nGael," a Celtic celebration of music, dance and story. Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m., at the Symphony Cen-



Chef Jason Hammel



Charles and Candace Jordan with Jan Melk and Ken Norgan.

ter.

**TIDBIT: Banksy**, the elusive, anonymous creator of urban art, fashioned a Valentine's Day mural in Bristol, England. The work already has been vandalized within a very short time.

**WELL DONE: Elvis Costello (Declan McManus)** received an OBE from **Prince Charles**, saying his musician father who once performed at a Buckingham Palace staff party would've loved the idea of one of us coming through the front door.

Some years ago while having dinner with the Chicago Sun-Times' **Mike Sneed** in Dublin at the very posh Patrick Guilbaud's, I spotted Costello and three old-fashioned Dublin ladies descending the Michelin Star restaurant's highly polished chrome staircase. The ladies were real Dublin types, fussing over the refined design of the room. And the expense. They kept referring to the man they were with as 'Declan.' Patrick Guilbaud later told me the ladies were Costello's mum and aunts.

**OLD TOWN BEAT:** Honorary Mayor of Old Town, **Shelley Howard**, has things in control honoring founder of the Fireplace, **Richard Novak** on the Wells St. restaurant's 50th anniversary with **Courtney Metelmann** and

a fabulous cake. Don't miss the ribs at Fireplace.

**WHO'S WHERE: Gretchen Eileen Quattlebaum**, (of Chicago's Stolls of Bellvue St. and Weyforths of Cedar St. families), bride to be, had a splendid shower at the Palm Beach National Croquet Center in PB... **Rhonda J Pennington Liesenfelt** at Canyon Ranch in Tucson, AZ, climbing the ropes and overcoming obstacles... Social sleuth and columnist **Candace Jordan** with **Charles Jordan**, **Jan Melk** and **Ken Norgan** dining on tasty vittles on Fisher Island, FL... **Mark Olley** in Naples, FL adding winter glamor to the terrain... **Brain Relph** progressing well on his adventure in South America and entering Uruguay, his 17th country on year two... architect **Lucien Lagrange** and **Melinda Jakovich Lagrange** celebrating anniversary number two... **Thomas Cavanaugh** was surrounded in elegance, out with wife, Chicago designer **Lauren Lein**, social doyen **Vonita Rescer** and **Karen Peters** at LePiano for the **Denise Tomasello** show... **Sean Eshaghy** dining at Bellavista Restaurant in Acapulco, Mexico... **Peggy Snorf** off to merry lode England, hitting London post-Brexit... **Dr. Henry**

**Roenigk** and wife **Kathie** dining at Lahaina Grill in Maui ... adventurous maven and kitty kat lover **Susie Forstmann Kealy** is basking in tropical Fiji with New Zealand soon to come... **Stephanie Leese Emerich** refreshed and toned at Naples Beach Pier on the gulf side of FL with husband **Jeffrey Emerich**... **Ken Norgan** with Miami City Ballet Executive Director **Tania Castroverde Moskalenko** and **Jose Conforme** at the Stravinsky "Firebird" ballet by **George Balanchine** and **Jerome Robbins** in Miami... **Marius Morkvenas** with **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** at Antique Garage TriBeCa, NYC... **Chris McGuire** traveling with efficiency with **Lindy Fleming McGuire** and the girls, **Eleanor** and **Brook**, for quick trip to Florida, lots of family time with **Joan Vande Kieft**, **Bill McGuire** and **Brent McGuire** in Fort Meyers, FL... **Sherry Lea Fox** is at Las Ventanas al Paraiso in Los Cabos Municipality with **Patricia Maxwell** and **Lorelei Knutson Beaucaire**... **Bill Zwecker** and **Tom Gorman** touring around old Hollywood glamor at Las Palmas in Palm Springs... **Eamonn Cummins** at Chicago Cuts Steakhouse... **Col. Paul Malarik III** and lovely **Lynn Graham**, my lunch gang, treating this columnist to a Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill "love-in," loaded with chocolates.

**TIDBIT: Andy Warhol's** portrait of **Muhammad Ali** was sold at auction at Christie's last week for 4.9 million pounds.

**If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough.** — Oprah Winfrey

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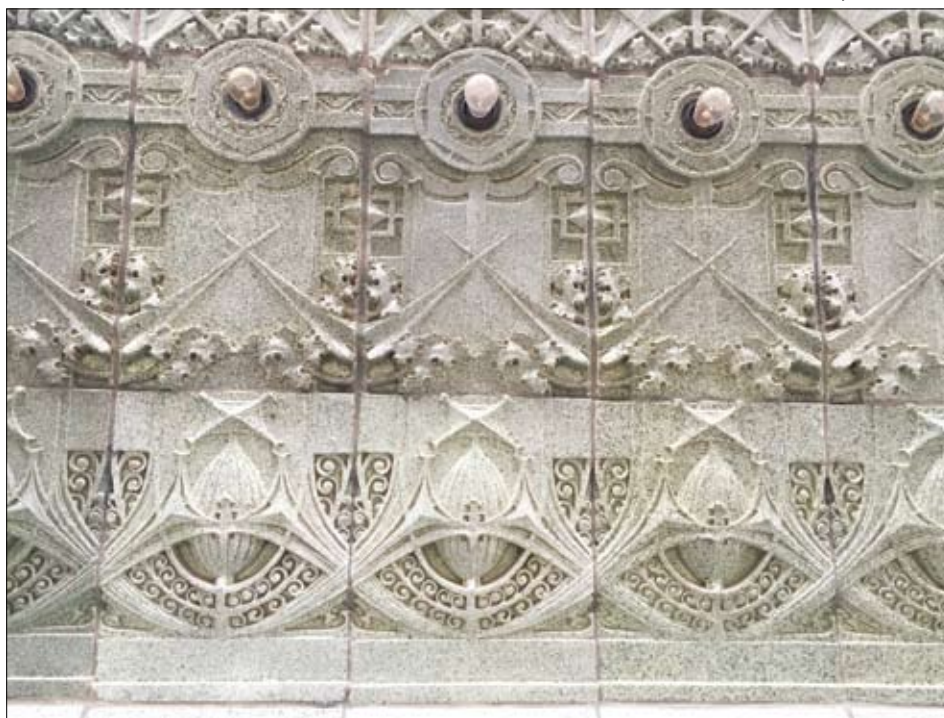
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Like many works of the master architects and artists, the Krause Music Building in Lincoln Square “is among our great treasures, and a fine quality commercial building design, which is seldom matched. Louis Sullivan’s works are among the greatest buildings of the 19th/20th century centuries,” said Ward Miller of Preservation Chicago.

## Louis Sullivan’s last design for sale for \$2.9 million

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY PETER VON BUOL

Louis Sullivan’s last design, the 98-year-old Krause Music building, 4611 N. Lincoln Ave., is being offered for sale by its current owners for \$2.9 million.

Meticulously restored in 2007 by its current owners Peter and Pooja Vukosavich, to serve as the headquarters for their creative-communications company, the pair recently announced their decision to sell the Lincoln Square property.

“After running our marketing communications firm here for 13 years, our working model has changed, and it’s time to look for the next owner who will take care of this precious piece of Chicago history,” wrote the Vukosavichs on [www.lastsullivan.net](http://www.lastsullivan.net), a web site created to showcase the property.

Originally opened in 1922 as the Krause Music Store, the façade of the property was designed by Sullivan. Between 1880 and 1895, Sullivan and his partner Dankmar Adler had designed many landmark buildings, including the Auditorium Theatre, the old Carson, Pirie & Scott Building on State St. and the now-demolished old Chicago Stock Exchange. Their partnership faltered after a great depression hit the United States in the late 19th century which abruptly ended the demand for large projects.

Adler & Sullivan had created a uniquely American style of architecture. They practiced a design principle which emphasized “form follows function” and their inspiration came from nature, rather than the classical architecture of ancient Greece and Rome.

By the early 1900s, Sullivan had developed a niche business of designing bank buildings for small Midwestern towns. Each one of these commissions included Sullivan’s recognizable design principles and today, these buildings are known as “jewel-box” banks.

In 1921, Lincoln Square businessman William Krause commissioned architect William Presto to design a building that would serve as his home and mu-



*“This is one of those unique buildings which always takes one’s breath away, no matter how many times you’ve seen the building. It’s always marvelous in every regard,”*  
**Ward Miller said.**

sic store. Presto had years earlier served as Sullivan’s draftsman and convinced Krause to bring Sullivan aboard.

According to Ward Miller, executive director of Preservation Chicago, Sullivan had not simply provided a design for Krause, he became personally involved with the building’s construction.

“Sullivan not only designed the façade of the building, he also carefully worked with Kristian Schneider of the American Terra Cotta and Ceramic Company in suburban Crystal Lake, where he inspected every step of [their] production,” Miller said.

American Terra Cotta had manufactured much of Sullivan’s building ornamentation, including the Auditorium Building. Sullivan was also present as the terra cotta was carefully added to the building.

“The end result is a richly ornamented façade of light greenish-

blue, highly glazed speckled terra cotta and crowned with a medallion integrated with the building’s fascia and cornice,” Miller said.

Nearly 100 years after it was first built, Sullivan’s design continues to attract attention.

“The richly detailed storefront is studded with electric lights across a deep angled recess. This is one of those unique buildings which always takes one’s breath away, no matter how many times you’ve seen the building. It’s always marvelous in every regard,” Miller said.

Shortly after their purchase of the building, the Vukosavichs undertook an extensive renovation of the property. They had the interior gutted and numerous elements that had been added were removed.

“It is really the façade that has been preserved. At the time of our purchase, there wasn’t anything of historical value on the inside,”

said Vukosavich.

The Vukosavichs are especially proud of their stewardship of the property. Because of their restoration work, they have received many prestigious architectural awards.

“Steward is a good word. That is exactly what we feel like. Yes, we are owners, but the building really belongs to the neighborhood. You see that when moms kind of walk up and down [the front] with their strollers. They’ll go up to the façade and touch it. A little toddler will [then] go up and touch it. That’s when we realize that is why we are here,” said Vukosavich.

The building has been recognized as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service and the city of Chicago. In 1977, it was designated a city landmark. Among those who had advocated for this designation was former Ald. Gene Schulter [47th].

“I was concerned about rumors that the then-owner wanted to redo the facade, and as Chair of

the Landmarks Committee, I took a bold move to landmark such buildings,” Schulter said during a 2017 interview about his work on the city’s landmarks committee.

Miller appreciates that the Krause Music Store has been preserved for posterity, especially because it is the last-ever design by one of the giants of Chicago architecture.

“Sullivan’s brilliance always shines through. It’s a remarkable building, almost an extension of his famous ‘jewel box banks,’ which are located across the Midwest,” said Miller.

While it’s smaller than his most well-known commissions, Miller adds the building remains thoroughly a Sullivan design.

“Like many works of the master architects and artists, it is among our great treasures, and a fine quality commercial building design, which is seldom matched. Louis Sullivan’s works are among the greatest buildings of the 19th/20th century centuries,” Miller said.

### Tickets available for MOSAIC celebration of Chicago culture

Tickets are on sale now for an evening of music, food and fun celebrating the city’s cultural vibrancy and diverse communities.

MOSAIC is 5:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St.

The event is the Chicago Cultural Alliance’s annual opportunity to honor community, corporate and civic leaders of the city’s cultural communities.

This year, the Cultural Champion Award will go to Angel Ysaguirre for his innovative and inclusive leadership that has touched so much of Chicago.

Outstanding Community Leader and Cultural Investment awardees will be announced at a later date.

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# Tour Chicago with free Victory Gardens play

Victory Gardens Theater in Lincoln Park is now offering a Chicago tour of its production of Pipeline, written by 2018 MacArthur Fellow Dominique Morisseau and directed by Cheryl Lynn Bruce. Victory Gardens will tour the production this Spring with free performances at six locations on the South and West sides of Chicago, bringing this work into those communities, March 16 - 21.

Pipeline played at Victory Gardens in the spring of 2019. The tour to Chicago neighborhoods is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, the Poetry Foundation, the William M. Weiss Foundation, and Illinois

Humanities.

In the story, Nya, an inner-city public high school teacher, is committed to her students but desperate to give her only son, Omari, opportunities her students will never have. When a controversial incident at his private school threatens to get him expelled, Nya must confront his rage and her own choices as a parent. But will she be able to reach him before a world beyond her control pulls him away? With profound compassion and poetry, Dominique Morisseau's Pipeline brings to light a conversation about parenthood, the state of our public school system, and the prison pipeline that claims so many of our inner city youth.

"In the United States, the school-to-prison pipeline is the disproportionate tendency of minors and young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds to become incarcerated, because of harsh school and municipal policies," says Chay Yew, Artistic Director of Victory Gardens Theater. "In Pipeline, [Morisseau] explores an important conversation about the state of our public school system, parenthood, and the pipeline that claims so many of our youths of color. Speaking truth to power and using theater to create meaningful civic dialogue, she tells stories of communities grappling with the ever-evolving social, political, and economic shifts that define them."

Pipeline received a strong response from both youth and adult audiences. Many requested the show be extended to give them the opportunity to attend with friends, family, and student groups.

The tour is a direct response to those requests, and furthers the theater's commitment to its Education and Community Engagement initiatives. "Pipeline is a complicated and compelling tale of real lives facing real life. A story that kick-starts passionate discussion in every direction, Pipeline raises hard questions that demand answers," said Pipeline Director Cheryl Lynn Bruce.

The Pipeline tour schedule is as follows:

- **The Poetry Foundation**, 61 W. Superior St., Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m.
- **OPEN Center for the Arts**, 2214 S. Sacramento Ave., Tuesday, March 17 at 8 p.m.
- **eta Creative Arts Foundation**, 7558 S. South Chicago Ave., Wednesday, March 18 at 7 p.m.
- **Douglass Park**, 1401 S. Sacramento Dr., Thursday, March 19 at 6 p.m.
- **Austin Town Hall Cultural Center**, 5610 W. Lake St., Friday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Hamilton Park Cultural Center/Fieldhouse**, 513 W. 72nd St., Saturday, March 21 at 3 p.m.

For more information visit [www.victorygardens.org](http://www.victorygardens.org).

## EMERGENCY from p. 7

should not expect any additional help from Washington D.C. until 2021 at the earliest.

Last Wednesday, recognizing their weak hand in expecting the federal government to come to the rescue this year with millions in new tax dollars, the mayor said that she was disappointed to learn that the Trump administration's 2020 budget would fail to provide federal funding for this effort.

The City of Chicago is currently working to remedy damage from the January storm, which unleashed heavy rain, snow, ice, and localized flooding, followed by strong winds and widespread lakeshore flooding. Gusting winds in excess of 50 mph brought large, battering waves up to 23' high onto shoreline areas. The flooding from this storm resulted in full and partial road and trail closures near the lakefront and substantial damage to Chicago's beaches and recreational areas along the shoreline.

A reevaluation study by FEMA would determine if sections of the shoreline not included in a large-scale project authorized more than two decades ago could receive federal funding. The study could lead to aid for struggling areas like Rogers Park that have been hard hit by Winter storms and high lake levels. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Lake Michigan water levels will remain high over the next several months.

**The City has installed more than 5,000 feet of jersey barriers and 1,000 feet of sandbags at sensitive locations on the North and South shorelines to protect roadways from flooding during storms. The Dept. of Water Management has also been supporting these efforts by ensuring catch-basins are kept clear along the lakefront.**

Over the past several months, the City has worked extensively to mitigate damage, prevent erosion and protect infrastructure along Chicago's shorelines. The Chicago Dept. of Transportation [CDOT], OEMC, the Chicago Park District and other City departments have been coordinating closely with the US Army Corps of Engineers on these efforts.

"The safety of residents living along the lakeshore is one of my top concerns, and for months the lake has presented a series of safety concerns to residents from severe damage to infrastructure, property and our beaches," said Ald. Maria Hadden [49th]. Beginning in Nov. 2019, the City launched the Chicago Shoreline Protection Project to deploy emergency resources. Since that time, CDOT has installed more than

10,000 cubic yards of rip rap over the last two months at Juneway, Howard and Rogers beaches on the far North Side to halt further damage and erosion caused by the recent storms.

"Over the past four months Chicagoans have been victim to a series of storms and incidents of severe weather that have damaged our lakefront. However, the severity of conditions Chicago experienced during the January 10-11 storm caused catastrophic damage to our city's shoreline that we must address urgently," said Ald. Harry Osterman [48th]. "This is an emergency, and while the City has taken several steps to address and mitigate the damage, more must be done to protect our shoreline and recreational areas along the lake to address these severe circumstances."

The City has also installed more than 5,000 feet of jersey barriers and 1,000 feet of sandbags at sensitive locations on the North and South shorelines to protect roadways from flooding during storms. The Dept. of Water Management has also been supporting these efforts by ensuring catch-basins are kept clear along the lakefront. This plus the concrete barriers and sandbags are intended to stop the waves from flooding local streets, arterials such as Sheridan Road and Lake Shore Dr.

In order to help the City better understand the full scope of shoreline vulnerability, CDOT and the Park District have been working to gather data on the damage caused by recent storms and potential future impacts on private property.

The Lake Michigan water level recently reached a record high for the month of January, at about four inches above the previous January high set in 1987. Almost all of the shorelines for the entire Great Lakes region is now in peril, with some reports showing that Lake Huron causing some of the most severe shoreline damage.

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## TALENT from p. 3

ing producer, Dick Marx's music agent in L.A. and working out of Sunset Sound Recording Studio in Hollywood. She opened Barb Bailey Entertainment 12-years-ago and has signed artists to her roster -- here in Chicago, New York, Nashville, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Bailey writes a lot of shows for her clients that she books in theatres and clubs across the country. Three years ago, she "took off her Business Hat" and wrote and performed her own shows. This year, "The Tally Ho Baby," is her first one woman show.

Break a leg, Barb!

**Rolling, rolling, rolling...** over to the Royal George Theatre in Lincoln Park, where I headed last week for the press conference about the world premiere of "Hit Her With The Skates," which opens March 10 at the theater, 1641 N. Halsted St.

I wanted to meet the "American Idol" married powerhouse couple Diana DeGarmo and Ace Young,

who star together in the show. But besides the amazing Ace and Diana, there's some great local talent to be seen also.

"Hit Her With The Skates," is being described as "Grease" meets "Hairspray" with a dash of "Xanadu." It's a coming of age story with a twist and was co-created by Rick Briskin and Christina Rea, a Chicago native who pursued her graduate studies at the DePaul Univ. Theater School.

The show asks, if you could go back and talk to your 12-year-old self, what would you think of your adult choices? "It's a dream and a goal for both of us," said Ace Young.

Besides Young and DeGarmo, there are also plenty of local actors involved. I caught up with a couple of them -- Nik Kmiecik of Buena Park and Karl Hamilton, of Ravenswood, who also attended DePaul.

"It teaches that you don't have to be the girl everybody thinks you should be and to stand up for yourself," said Hamilton. "There's a lot of humor, a lot of love."

Kmiecik said he just wants

people, "to have a lot of fun."

"Where can you walk in and feel like you're at a roller rink?" he asked. "I think audiences are just gonna have a blast."

We sure hope so, 'cause it has been a long winter and we're ready to rock---'n' roll!

**Come on down...** to Martyr's, 3855 N. Lincoln Ave., because South Loop resident Marilyn Beyer reports that what's happening there tonight at 8 p.m., The Last Word Quintet CD release show, is going to be awesome.

"These guys are so highly skilled and so innovative," said Beyer. "I have seen them. Several times during any set, I just slap my forehead and 'Wow!' A marriage of exquisite singer/songwriter Al Day and his killer jazz band with Marc Kelly Smith, the originator of the ultra-hip poetry slam, this band does more than play - they reset your ideas about jazz."

"I am not connected in any way with the band other than admiring their work," said Beyer. "They're simply unique and I thought you'd like to know about them."

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OLD SLOT MACHINES WANTED BY COLLECTOR. ALSO BUYING OLD JUKEBOXES, 10 CENT COKE MACHINES AND SMALL ANTIQUE SAFES. I PAY CASH AND PICK UP. 314-707-0184.

Paying Cash For Comics! Top national comic buyer will be in your area, paying cash for vintage comics (1970 & earlier). Call Will: 866-461-0640

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

## Coffee with a cop

The 19th District will be hosting another Coffee with a cop community meeting 10 a.m. to noon Thursday at Hexe Coffee Shop, 2000 W. Diversey. No reservation is required, for more information call 312-744-0064.

### POLICE BEAT *from p. 8*

hicle, which bears a license plate beginning with V865.

Then, at 9:10 p.m., a Gold Coast couple reported being carjacked at gunpoint as they parked in their garage on the 1500 block of N. Dearborn. The victims, a 54-year-old man and a 48-year-old woman, said two men displayed a handgun and demanded the keys to their silver 2018 Porsche Panamera.

One offender drove away northbound in the alley in the Porsche while the other fled in a red vehicle, police said. Police later found the woman's purse ditched near Lake Shore Dr. and Randolph in the Loop.

Next, just after 10 p.m., a 42-year-old man was on a sidewalk in the 200 block of S. Michigan when a masked gunman emerged from a red Range Rover Sport and demanded his Canada Goose coat. The victim complied and the offender fled southbound on Michigan Ave. in the SUV.

About ten minutes later, two offenders walked up behind a 26-year-old man and a 41-year-old man as they walked on the 200 block of E. 13th St. in the South Loop, police said. One of the robbers displayed a handgun as they demanded valuables from the victims.

And, boy, did they get some valuables. Taken were two Daytona Rolex watches valued at over \$20,000 each; \$5,000 cash; high-end coats; and cellphones, according to a police report.

Both offenders jumped into a red Range Rover Sport that fled west on E. 13th St. and south on Michigan Ave., police said.

All of the carjacking and robbery victims generally described the offenders as two black men in their late teens to mid-20's who stand 5'-8" to 6' tall.

Investigators strongly suspect the men are also responsible for another carjacking in Fulton Market and an armed robbery in River North.

At 10:49 p.m., a valet worker reported that three armed men, including one who wore a mask, forced him to turn over the keys to a black 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee on the 800 block of W. Fulton.

Finally, around 12:30 a.m. Feb. 20, two armed and masked men emerged from a black SUV and robbed a River North couple as the victims walked on the 600 block of N. Clark, police said.

### INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

The 26-year-old man and 33-year-old woman handed over their wallet, phone, cash, and other valuables to the men who got back into the SUV and fled westbound on Erie.

About 20 minutes after the River North robbery, police found the stolen Jeep freshly abandoned on the 1400 block of W. 71st St. in Englewood.

None of the victims reported injuries, police said.

### Teen critically wounded in stabbing near North-Clybourn Red Line station

Two people chased down and repeatedly stabbed a South Shore teenager near the North-Clybourn Red Line CTA station Feb. 25, police said. The boy, who turned 16 on Sunday, is in critical condition at Lurie Children's Hospital. Police detained three persons of interest for questioning.

The victim and another male were walking on the sidewalk in the 1600 block of N. Bissell when the two male attackers emerged from a silver Charger and began chasing them just before 1 a.m., police said.

The offenders stabbed the boy seven times: in the chest, ear, arm, and leg, according to initial reports from police. A nearby resident called 911 to report hearing a boy screaming for help and car tires screeching. Moments later, a passerby reported seeing a teenage boy with stab wounds bleeding on the corner of North and Clybourn.

Minutes before the attack, police responded to the area after another 911 caller reported seeing a group of males checking for unlocked car doors. Officers handling that call stopped a silver Dodge Charger with three occupants for investigation on the 1800 block of N. Sheffield. The three—two males and a female—were taken in for questioning after a witness identified them as being involved in the stabbing.

Police taped off a large crime scene that stretched across North Avenue and included parts of the North-Clybourn Red Line station.

### Serial robber stabs Walgreens clerk in Lincoln Park; Man suspected in two other Walgreens hold-ups

A serial robber stabbed the cashier of Walgreens in Lincoln Park on Feb. 23, less than an hour after he robbed another Walgreens location in Logan Square. Police believe the same man robbed yet another Walgreens in Wicker Park earlier this week. And cops are especially concerned about the offender's increasing use of violence.

Around 8:40 on Sunday morning, the robber pulled out a knife and demanded cash from a cashier at the retailer's 1520 W. Fullerton location. The offender cut the woman's hand with the knife, took money out of the register, and

fled, a CPD spokesperson said.

The cashier was taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in good condition.

Police believe the robber is the same man who robbed the Walgreens at 2001 N. Milwaukee around 7:50 a.m.

In that case, a man armed with a knife went behind the counter, grabbed a female cashier by her hair, and held her at knifepoint while demanding the store's cash, according to a police report.

Earlier in the week, a man armed with a knife cut a female clerk as he robbed the Walgreens at 1372 North Milwaukee around 7:45 a.m. on Feb. 17.

Witnesses to each of the crimes said the offender wears a dark jumpsuit with orange reflective stripes around the chest, back, sleeves, and ankles. He's about 6'-1" tall, 200 lbs., and has worn a facemask or bandana during the crimes. The robber's race has been described as Hispanic by some witnesses and black by others.

### Convicted Boystown mugger charged with battering, robbing Old Town woman

A twice-convicted felon who recently completed parole for violently robbing a 64-year-old man in Boystown is back in custody, charged with pepper-spraying and robbing a woman in Lincoln Park on Feb. 22.

Prosecutors charged Vonsean Williams, 24, with felony armed robbery and felony unlawful use of a knife.

A 31-year-old woman told police that Williams and another man attacked her as she unloaded



Vonsean Williams

her car on the 1900 block of N. Bissell around 11:45 a.m. One of the men grabbed the victim's purse while the other sprayed her and pushed her to the ground, police said.

Both men ran from the scene, but several witnesses chased after the robbers. Police arrested Williams near Dayton and Bissell streets, but the other man got away.

An ambulance transported the victim to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center for treatment.

Williams was due in bond court on Sunday.

On Oct. 1, 2016, Williams and two other men beat and robbed a Boystown retiree on the 700 block of W. Melrose. Williams pleaded guilty about a year later and received a four-year sentence for robbery of a victim over age 60. The state reduced his sentence by 50% for good behavior and Williams went free on Sept. 26, 2018.

—Compiled by CWBChicago.com

## Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

### Real Estate For Sale

262626

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DITECH FINANCIAL LLC Plaintiff, -v- CHRISTINA CAPRI AKA CHRISTINA KOOPMANS, EGON MAX KOOPMANS AKA EGON M. KOOPMANS, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWHEQ INC., CWHEQ REVOLVING HOMEQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2007-D, 4216 NORTH ASHLAND CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 19 CH 01174 4216 N. ASHLAND AVE GARDEN, UNIT G CHICAGO, IL 60657 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 22, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 13, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 4216 N. ASHLAND AVE GARDEN, UNIT G, CHICAGO, IL 60657 Property Index No. 14-18-410-044-1001 fka 14-18-410-024-0000 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$237,280.71. 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

### Real Estate For Sale

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 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

### Real Estate For Sale

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 111 East Main Street, DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 396402. 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 for a 7 day status report of pending sales. HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 111 East Main Street DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 396402 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 19 CH 01174 TJS#C: 40-834 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 # 19 CH 01174 I3145664 191919 121212

## North Township Real Estate For Sale

### Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS CERTIFICATE TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF BOSCO CREDIT II TRUST SERIES 2010-1 Plaintiff, -v- ANGELA C. LOISI A/K/A ANGELA LOISI A/K/A ANGELA C. LIOSI A/K/A ANGELA LIOSI, ANTIONE JONES, NORTH TOWN VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA) N.A., STATE OF ILLINOIS, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2017 CH 03388 1326 NORTH BURLING STREET CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 7, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 8, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1326 NORTH BURLING STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-04-113-100-1119 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$164,611.03. 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 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

### Real Estate For Sale

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, WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA Plaintiff's Attorneys, 180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400, Chicago, IL, 60601 (312) 782-9676 FAX 312-782-4201. Please refer to file number WWR#10148995. 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 for a 7 day status report of pending sales. WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA 180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400 Chicago IL, 60601 312-782-9676 Fax #: 312-782-4201 E-Mail: ChicagoREDG@weltman.com Attorney File No. WWR#10148995 Attorney Code. 31495 Case Number: 2017 CH 03388 TJS#C: 40-68 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 # 2017 CH 03388 262626

### Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK Plaintiff, -v- MATTHEW R. LAVIOLETTE AKA MATTHEW LAVIOLETTE, CAROLINE LAVIOLETTE, FIFTH THIRD BANK (WESTERN MICHIGAN), 340 WEST SUPERIOR CONDOMINIUMS Defendants 19 CH 10577 340 WEST SUPERIOR STREET, PH-04 and P323 CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 30, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 31, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 340 WEST SUPERIOR STREET, PH-04 and P323, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-09-200-017-1119 (old); 17-09-200-009-0000 (old); 17-09-200-017-1325 (new); 17-09-200-017-1194 (new) The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$817,235.64. 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 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

### Real Estate For Sale

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, or a 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 and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). In accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(h-1) and (h-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the property, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subsections (g)(1) and (g)(4) of section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act. 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, the sales department, Anselmo Lindberg & Associates, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1771 W. Diehl Road, Suite 120, NAPERVILLE, IL, 60563 (630) 453-6960 For bidding instructions, visit www.AnselmoLindberg.com. Please refer to file number F19080217. 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 for a 7 day status report of pending sales. Anselmo Lindberg & Associates, LLC 1771 W. Diehl Road, Suite 120 NAPERVILLE IL, 60563 630-453-6960 E-Mail: foreclosurenotice@anselmolindberg.com Attorney File No. F19080217 Attorney ARDC No. 3126232 Attorney Code. 58852 Case Number: 19 CH 10577 TJS#C: 40-58 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.

### Real Estate For Sale

Case # 19 CH 10577 191919 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Plaintiff, -v- JULIE CHO, BRIAN LOCKE, 1520 N. SEDGWICK CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, E-TRADE BANK, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2019 CH 04358 1520 N SEDGWICK ST UNIT 2B CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 17, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 19, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1520 N SEDGWICK ST UNIT 2B, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-04-111-054-1002 The real estate is improved with a condotownhouse. 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 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

### Real Estate For Sale

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 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at 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 Attorney File No. 14-19-03255 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2019 CH 04358 TJS#C: 39-8184 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2019 CH 04358 I3145088 121212

# CTA and CPS announce new program to help students pursue education and careers in construction

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Chicago Public Schools (CPS) have announced the new "CTA Elevating Futures Scholarship Fund," a program that will provide a new path for youth who want to go to college and pursue construction and engineering-related careers. Created in partnership with the Walsh-Fluor Design-Build team (WFD-BT), the contractor for CTA's \$2.1 billion Red and Purple Modernization (RPM) Phase One Project, the new scholarship program will provide \$250,000 to aid CPS students who plan to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) four-year degrees at a university or college.

Students can apply for scholarships now and applications will

be due March 1. Scholarship recipients will be announced on April 15.

Donated by Walsh-Fluor to help offset tuition costs for CPS graduates, the \$250,000 as part of the CTA Elevating Futures Scholarship Fund will provide 10 scholarships financial aid from 2020 through 2023 for students who plan on majoring in construction management, civil engineering, industrial or systems engineering. Students who are awarded scholarships will also be eligible to apply for paid summer internships with Walsh-Fluor and the CTA.

Scholarship Fund will provide college scholarships and mentoring supports, along with access to career development opportunities, to guide students in launching ca-

reers in the construction and engineering industries. The program will be administered by Chicago Scholars, a mentoring and leadership development organization that helps first-generation college students and students from under-resourced communities navigate transitions into college, through college, and on to careers.

"We are pleased to create a pathway for Chicago high school students to college and careers in the construction and engineering field," said CTA President Dorval R. Carter, Jr. "We thank Walsh-Fluor and Chicago Scholars for making this scholarship program possible, and for partnering with us to removing barriers to education and careers for some of our youth and making this investment

in the future engineering and construction management fields."

Eligible students must be enrolled in a CPS or CPS-supported high school and currently part of the Chicago Scholars program. Chicago Scholars is a college-access, success, and leadership and career development program that recruits from all 77 community areas of the city and has student representation from 75 CPS and CPS-supported high schools. Eligible students must be enrolled in STEM coursework, have a GPA of at least 3.0, and a good attendance record.

"Too many of our students are talented, hardworking, and dedicated to their education, but lack the financial ability to pursue their career ambitions in col-

lege and beyond," said CPS CEO, Dr. Janice K. Jackson. This fund "will help ensure that students who want to pursue their career dreams don't encounter a financial barrier when entering college."

Awardees will also have other career development opportunities with the CTA's RPM project and Walsh-Fluor that hope to enhance their education and understanding of the transit construction industry, such as educational site visits. The effort plans to go beyond providing just education financing, but also a strong level of support for student scholars, including check-ins and mentoring for students in high school and throughout college.

## MYSTERY from p. 7

rental housing projects through a competitive process. Those developers generally sell those tax credits to wealthy private investors to make a quick profit they then use to obtain funding. Once the housing project is placed in service (essentially, made available to tenants), investors can claim the tax credits over a 10-year period.

TCB is headquartered in Boston and owns or manages over 13,000 apartments in 14 states plus the District of Columbia.

Two other potential roadblocks in the way of the city's plans is an implied easement that may exist on the site, owned by the building directly to the north. The U.S. Bank, 4725 N. Western Ave., has a drive-thru that is designed to pass through the parking lot. That easement was created when the whole intersection was reconfigured by the city in the early 1980s. The future building, as now proposed, would appear to create an adverse possession in taking that easement away from the bank.

The second problem is the status of the metered parking spaces. Those are owned by a private entity - Chicago Parking Meters LLC - who would have to be compen-

***While Ald. Martin's 47th Ward Office verified that the proposal is now under consideration in City Hall, the LSRCC has now gone dark and refuses to answer media questions about their own decision-making process before offering up their endorsement for tax credits for the project.***

sated for any loss of revenue resulting from the loss of use of the parking lot.

Still unknown at present is whether the city plans to give TCB any Tax Increment District [TIF] funding, or if the Chicago Housing Authority [CHA] will be offering any construction loans. Two similar affordable housing projects finalized in 2019 on public parking lots in both Logan Square and Edgewater were given TIF funds and secured CHA financing. Both projects were also given the city real estate the buildings were built on for \$1.

## LAWSUIT from p. 9

installed, over repeated objections from IDOT, as a direct and proximate result of bribes paid."

While the claim of each individual member of the class is relatively small, the lawsuit argues, combined they add up to millions of dollars.

Other defendants named in the suit are SafeSpeed co-founders and employees Nikki Zollar, Chris Lai, Khalid "Cliff" Maani and his son Omar Maani; Oakbrook Terrace Mayor Tony Ragucci; the city of Oakbrook Terrace; Cook County Commissioner and McCook Village President Jeff Tobolski; Tobolski's chief of staff, Patrick Doherty; former Chicago Deputy Aviation Commissioner Bill Helm; former Village of Justice Police Chief Robert Gedville; Worth Township Supervisor and Democratic committeeman John O'Sullivan; Summit Mayor Sergio Rodriguez; Alsip Mayor John Ryan; former state Rep. Michael Carberry, of Oak Lawn; Summit Police Chief John Kosmowski; and Summit Public Works Chief Bill Mundy.

## How to pick a judge

The North Side chapter of AARP is hosting a community meeting 12:30 p.m. March 3 on how to prepare to pick and choose their vote for Judges in the March primary.

The meeting will be held at Lake View Presbyterian Church, at Addison and Broadway. The guest speaker will be required Cook County Judge Deborah Gubin.

## Lakeview Chamber Annual meeting March 11

The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce's 2020 projects and programs will be reviewed during a networking event at Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Lakeview, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 11.

Reservations are required and tickets range from \$35 to \$50, call 773-472-7171.

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# City's new congestion tax puts burden on Uber and Lyft drivers

BY KARI MCMAHON  
Medill News Service

On a recent journey downtown local Uber driver Matt collected a fare of \$10 but said he only made \$4 from it. The city, which began imposing a new congestion tax a month ago, made \$3.

Matt, who typically drives eight hours a night, said that working as a ride-hail driver was not an easy job. He said the congestion tax is just another challenge he has to deal with on top of ride-hail companies taking a significant cut of his fares and having to compete with thousands of other drivers for those fares.

"It really is just a cash grab for the city, cloaked under the guise of congestion reduction," said Matt, who did not want to share his second name for fear of losing his job. "Now you just have the same number of cars looking for potentially fewer riders."

In January, the City of Chicago implemented a new congestion tax on ride-hail providers to encourage riders to either use public transport or shared trips in the downtown area. The thinking behind the tax was that it would encourage residents to use public transportation, thereby lowering the number of vehicles in the city center and reducing congestion.

What they're not saying is that ride-hail services have also decimated CTA bus travel numbers, and even CTA train travel is softening too. So the city needed to replace lost revenue, and raising taxes was the way to do it.

The use of ride-hailing services – such

as Uber, Lyft and Via – has grown by 271% since 2015 and continues to steadily increase. According to the law, ride-hail drivers would experience a tax surge between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. if a journey begins or ends downtown. During this time, solo journeys would be taxed \$3, increasing to \$8 if pick-up or drop-off occurs at a particularly congested locations such as O'Hare International Airport or Navy Pier.

The city decided to implement the tax after a congestion report released in Oct. 2019, found that the number of ride-hailing trips have almost tripled since 2015 with half of the trips either starting or ending downtown. Those who lost the rides were taxicab companies and the CTA. So the trips not only contributed to congestion but to a decline in CTA ridership and slower bus speeds, which created challenges for individuals commuting downtown.

Audrey Wennink, director of transportation at the Metropolitan Planning Council a nonprofit organization that helps communities address tough planning and development problems, said she supported the tax and hoped it will encourage a change in behavior because individuals could take a public transit trip for the cost of the solo journey tax.

But drivers of ride-hail services such as Uber and Lyft said the new tax would likely do little to solve the problem it was intended to fix. They expressed frustration that the city was making tax money at their expense.

Chicago's ride-hail tax ranked as the highest in the country, despite only 5% of the projected \$40 million revenue from

the tax going toward improving the public transport system according to the City's 2020 budget.

Mark Smithivas, a part-time Uber driver and co-owner of Gig Workers Matter, a nonprofit organization in Chicago supporting workers without contracts, said drivers disliked picking up shared rides because they typically got paid less and they have more problems with unhappy passengers.

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"Pooled rides tend to pay less on a per mile rate than a regular ride," Smithivas said, adding that their plight is difficult to understand for those who have never had to drive a pooled ride. "They can be more difficult because you are picking people up at various stops and when you are in the middle of rush-hour or a very congested part of the city, it is very stressful."

Smithivas said congestion from ride-hail cars would decline if the companies pro-

vided more incentive for drivers to pick up shared rides.

Matt, the Uber driver, agreed that shared rides created more problems. He said passengers often expected a "private car experience" and tended to be more dissatisfied when using shared rides. This typically resulted in lower ratings for him which could have an impact the number of fares he picks up.

Some drivers said they actively avoid picking up pooled rides, a mindset which could potentially have an impact on the success of the congestion tax.

However, Kate Lowe, an associate professor for the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago, pointed out, "If financial incentives were more extreme [for drivers] and more people shifted to share, I think the drivers would have to adapt."

Some transportation experts said they hoped the tax would reduce congestion but supported an increase if a change in behavior doesn't happen.

Samuel Kling, a fellow at the nonpartisan non-profit Chicago Council on Global Affairs, said the tax gives the city a learning opportunity to figure out how to build a congestion system for all vehicles.

For Matt, however, this provided little comfort as ride-hail drivers were the only ones targeted by the tax.

"Guys who are trying to make money or earn a living driving Uber or Lyft, it's just another thing that makes it harder," Matt said.

## TEACHER from p. 1

The Chicago Teachers Union, who support racial and social justice, said that they are in support of the protesting students and said school should be a safe place where students learn to be civically minded and use their voices to defend themselves.

CPS must now decide whether or not to fire the teacher. One source who defends teachers asked if there is a policy that allows students to not participate in institutional practices or norms, and if so, what is the responsibility and expectations of staff to address those non-participants.

In *Tinker v. Des Moines*, the Supreme Court ruled in 1969 that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom

of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate (unless it disrupts the educational process)."

The case now hinges seemingly on whose Free Speech rights are stronger or more protected ... the students or the teachers?

About 15 years ago the Aspira Charter Middle School in Albany Park fired a teacher for allegedly making a racist statement about how Mexican people are only good at cleaning. Despite the sensational headlines in the newspapers, and a lynch mob at the school that drove the teacher out quickly, it turned out later that the teacher's statement was taken out of context. She successfully sued the district under the Illinois Equal Employment Opportunity Act.

## LITTLE JIM'S from p. 1

clinic's main facilities at 3245 N. Halsted St., perhaps because there are large concentrations in this area of patients needing testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia.

In 2018, Chicago had 30,608 cases of chlamydia, which was the highest on record, and 12,679 cases of gonorrhea, the highest in a decade. The 877 syphilis cases were the highest since the mid-1990s and an increase of 11% from the year before.

Howard Browns services may be in more need now than ever. Not that long ago, gonorrhea rates were at historic lows, syphilis was close to elimination, and there were many successes in STD prevention. But that progress has now unraveled. The number of reported syphilis cases is climbing after being largely on the decline since 1941, and gonorrhea rates are now increasing dramatically. Rates of reported gonorrhea climbed 82.6% since a historic low in 2009. Studies now show that rates of reported cases tended to be highest among

adolescents and young adults, who are influenced and encouraged by the Internet and social media toward sexual experimentation while not using condoms.

A rise in the prevalence and incidence of STDs can come with serious public health consequences and concerns, including infertility, drug-resistant gonorrhea and congenital syphilis, which can cause infant death.

"Many want to come here because of our expertise in the treatment of LGBTQ patients," Monar said, explaining that in other health care systems, there's not as great an awareness of LBGTQ patients' needs, he said.

Lakeview East was once [and for many still is] the center of Chicago's gay lifestyle (a.k.a. Boystown) and now Little Jim's will become the latest of a string of gay-oriented businesses that have closed or left including Gay Mart, Spin Nightclub, Halsted's Bar and Grill, and Hollywood Mirror.

The change has been attributed at least partly to fluctuations in the post-recession real estate market.