

Music is the only religion that delivers the goods.
— Frank Zappa

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

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DePaul Prep Rams starters, AJ Chambers, Jonas Johnson, Lashaun Porter, Rykan Woo and Makai Kvamme.

Those both pro and con heard at Plan Commission meeting

City ignored pleas in pre-ordained charade of due diligence

BY BOB ZULEY

The old adage of ‘you can’t fight city hall’ is demonstrably alive and well in Chicago as community stakeholders objected to the city’s charade of due diligence at the Chicago Plan Commission [CPC] Feb. 20 hearing in City Hall.

This was the last hope for many who believe the city’s Dept. of Planning and Development [DPD] is ramming this framework down the throats of people objecting to the one-size-fits-all upzoning change to foster development along Broadway between Devon and Foster.

As Uptown and Edgewater community neighbors came together to each give three minutes of testimony to the 23 member body, city officials largely ignored them when the final vote showed that only Ald. Gilbert Villegas [36th] voted no, saying that the

Broadway upzoning framework “is a framework to entice developers to the area.”

With Gov. J.B. Pritzker looking to add Illinois to the states that prohibit cell phones in schools, particularly around learning and connection, he might turn his eye to the City Council Chamber where many city solons sat in rapt attention scrolling their phones while citizens’ testimony was being presented.

Area residents came to give testimony, not only opposed, one-third of the guests supported DPD’s Broadway upzoning plan under the guise that new development would somehow lower housing costs.

Many of the supporters want to reside on the North Side but say they can’t afford the rental rates.

While DPD states that they had 1,600 respondents to earlier presentations on the Broadway Land Use Framework, Edgewater resident John Charmelo pointed out that 20% of those commenters lived outside the area with some

as far away as Blue Island, Jefferson Park, and Beverly.

DPD stated that one reason in support of their upzoning proposal was the average price of

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a single family [SFH] home in Edgewater is now over \$1 million. However, Charmelo points out that only 7.7% of the housing stock in Edgewater is SFH

MEETING see p. 12

Both DePaul Prep and Lane Tech are IHSA Regional Champions

BY JACK LYDON

It was a good night for basketball teams from Addison and Western. The seventh ranked DePaul Prep Rams (28-4) defeated the Carmel Corsairs (12-19) to win their 10th consecutive regional championship. Their immediate neighbor to the north, the Lane Tech Champions (20-11) defeated the New Trier Trevians 67-57 to win Lane’s first ever regional championship in school history.

With the number one seed in the 3A Antioch Sectional, DePaul Prep faced the number nine seed, Carmel Catholic from Mundelein. The Rams controlled the game from the outset. Their patented switching defense stymied Carmel at every turn. The Corsairs struggled to even get shots up. They only scored one point in the second quarter, and that was a free throw in the closing seconds of the half.

Rams’s junior guard Rykan Woo, recently selected as second-team All-City by the Sun-Times, had 19 points including all 13 of the Rams’ first quarter points.

Senior forward and DePaul Univ. commit Jonas Johnson started the game and added 11 points. Point guard and Western Illinois commit Makai Kvamme had 10 points.

“It’s great. I certainly don’t take it for granted,” Rams head coach Tom Kleinschmidt said of his team having won 10 straight IHSA Regional Championships.

“It’s the cultivation of a program, the support that we get from the school, the coaches and players that we have had, names that [our current players] may not know or may have only heard of that really build the program, guys like Chris Herrell and Raequan [Williams], David Holiday, Scotty Calderon, [Dan Lydon], all those guys that build the program,” Kleinschmidt added.

“[Those guys] took the program and gave it to Perry [Cowan], Perry gave it to these guys. It’s been awesome. I don’t take it for granted. Ten straight regionals. I remember the first three that we played in we didn’t win one. I was hoping to win one or two

CHAMPIONS see p. 12

Public meeting Thursday on plans for South Lincoln Park

The Gold Coast Neighbors Assoc., the Lincoln Park Conservatory [LPC], and the Chicago Park District will discuss the design plan and answer questions about next steps for the coming redesign of South Lincoln Park 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St.

The project area boundaries consist of LaSalle St. to the north, Inner Lake Shore Dr. to the east, North Ave. to the south, and Clark St. to the west.

The project’s proposed improvements hope to make this section of Lincoln Park a cohesive, attractive, and sustainable place for families of all abilities to enjoy. Improvements to the area will occur in phases over the course of the next few years

The current plan incorporates community input received after the Jan. 15 Town Hall Meeting. The goal of this meeting is to gather additional community input to finalize the current plan and ultimately reach consensus.

North Pond water levels

BY MAEVE CALLAGHAN
The Lincoln Park Conservancy

Regular visitors to North Pond Nature Sanctuary in Lincoln Park have observed that water levels have seemed lower than normal this winter, similar to what was observed this time last year. This new, shallow appearance may be striking but is no cause for alarm. Perhaps not at its most picturesque, the Sanctuary is functioning well for nature, providing many ecological benefits, even during winter.

Despite appearances, the pond is now holding far more water than before; however, it’s not apparent from the shore since the greatest volume is held in the 10-foot basin in the north center.

To keep up to date on the progress of the South Lincoln Park Renewal Project, the LPC has created an official site for this

This large, deepened area more than tripled the overall volume of water in the pond and remains full throughout the year. Deep enough to retain heat and stay liquid beneath ice, this large underwater area provides new, more functional aquatic habitat.

The water level is not as low as it looks. The wide, shallow stretches near the shore are designed to allow vegetation to grow in, creating a transitional zone of varied depths to support greater species diversity. Many of these aquatic planting beds were plugged last spring, and in time, these will become colonies of native plants.

The pond has been relying on

LEVELS see p. 12

project, which will be continuously updated, visit <https://www.lincolnparkconservancy.org/projects/lincoln-monument-gardens/>.

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A heightened sense of 'me' roots



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Past generations of rebels, country gentlemen, fortune tellers, healers, songsters and South Side Chicago politicians

St Patrick's Day has always churned up the deepest of sentiments and emotions for many of us. Far beyond the shallow foam of green beer, rowdy inebriates roaming the streets looking for saloons, phony Irish in green plastic hats, and even churlish local politicians without a clue hand-shaking in a shamrock tie.

St. Patrick's Day is a moment in time when the world is divided between the authentic Celtic descendants - those with true allegiance to Europe's far Western island - and those who lack the true blood and soul of Europe's most enlightened people. Twice keeping the lights of learning and religious understanding alive in the Dark Ages.

In the matter of my Irish cultural understanding, coming as I do, from a family filled with robust Irish characters stacked through history like bales of freshly-mown hay, I had little choice.

The layers of authentic Irish culture were laid upon me since birth by my four Irish grandparents. O'Gormans, Crowes, O'Connors and Ryans. As well as a melodic squeezebox-playing Irish father, Mossy O'Gorman, born in County Tipperary after the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922. A man filled with harmonies and rhythms that were timeless. The soul of every party and all family celebrations delighting in whipping up songs, laughs, cocktails and the music of Irish dance where holidays, birthdays, First Communions and graduations formed an endless display of family growth and social contributions.

From this crowd of poets, storytellers and devoted fingerers of their rosary beads, I have a heightened sense of "me" roots. Not just in living memory, but aswim in the vast ocean of past generations of rebels, country gentlemen, fortune tellers, healers, songsters, journalists, dairy farmers, Dublin architects, Reverend Mothers, diplomats, scone bakers, railway workers, ward healers and Southside Chicago politicians.

My people were adventurers. How else could they have survived the ruined rebellions formed to drive the British out of the land they savaged, ransacked and pillaged?

How else could they have fled over the seas to foreign lands in which they quickly made a home? In France, Australia and the Chicago of Mayor Edward Fitzsimons Dunne, the White Sox, Garfield Boulevard, Visitation Parish, Irish monsignors and Dominican



St. Patrick's Day observes of the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.

nuns, they flourished and thrived. Embracing the welcome that gave them the freedom to full employment, voting, worship, education and proudly making a parade in a singular display of shared blessings on every March 17.

We were always big on the lyrics of ancient tunes, and the poetic intuitions of Irish wordsmiths, like W.B. Yeats, Paddy Kavanagh, Thomas Moore, George William Russell, Padraig Pearse and Thomas Kinsella. And grandmothers who filled every occasion with the timeless steps of their jigs and reels. Almost as good as their soda bread with raisins and caraway seeds. And their whole clove-glazed hams just out of the oven. Music always comfortably rising in the cozy fragrance of kitchen aromas sweeter than Chanel No. 5.

The varied traditions of our deepest roots slowly blended in with our new home assimilation, proud to be American. Going so far for my O'Gorman grandparents to give the nation their youngest son, Seamus, a coura-

geous GI sacrificed on the Belgian battlefield of Bastogne at just 18. Ironic for a family who left Ireland during its Civil War in 1922-1923 hoping to leave behind the slaughter of eight centuries.

Our St. Patrick's Days were always influenced by the human sacrifice and ancient faith that shaped the parameters of the world for us. On both sides of the Atlantic. Discovered in the shared life and legend of people of hope and courage with the capacity to transform the fresh lands before them. Finding a place and making room for the great challenges of life in the U.S., its urban thoroughfares and its cozy neighborhoods of friendly living.

So from Bridgeport to Beverly, and from Canaryville to the Gold Coast the Irish discovered a plateau on which to build their lives, and parochial schools, parish by parish. And Catholic universities, like Loyola and DePaul, just the places in which to educate future Chicago doctors, lawyers and dentists, professions, of course, outside their reach, for centu-

ries thanks to the bias of English prejudice. While many others embraced the clerical life of America's fastest growing Archdiocese.

Chicago was a showcase of early Irish academic and ecclesiastical success. Creating timeless historical and literary traditions that were purely the product of being settled in a substantive new homeland.

So our annual celebration of St. Patrick brings together the mystical, transformative unfolding of new life. And the effective transition in a new land where the ancient doctrines and dogmas of love heal and still make whole.

This is the true blessing of the Irish, fresh, wholesome and affirming. Strengthening the wider cohesion of American life through the faith and humor of the Irish people's resolute discovery, the profound poetry of everyday living.

"Anois teacht an Earraigh, beidh an lá dúl chun shíneadh, Is tar eis na féil Bríde, ardóigh mé mo sheol..." ("When spring comes, the days will be getting longer, and after the feast of Saint Brigid, I will hoist my sail.")

WELCOME: A great Chicago welcome is planned for Dublin visitors for St. Patrick's Day, **Sean and Maria O'Neill** and their family to attend the Irish Fellowship Dinner and the Parade, folks very active in the **O'Neill Clan Association** with **Prince Hugo O'Neill**, the Chief, and Chicago's own **Rose O'Neill**.

MERCY HOME: Enjoy the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 15, then bring the whole family over to Venue SIX10 for the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls March for Kids post-parade party.

NORTHWESTERN: **Steve Carell**, award-winning actor, writer and producer, will deliver

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After recent resignation of City Aviation Director, will City's COO move back to O'Hare Airport?

BY PETER VON BUOL

Earlier this month, Jamie Rhee, the city's current Aviation Commissioner, announced she would be retiring on April 15 and her unexpected announcement may soon start a chain reaction in Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration that may trigger ethical questions from the past.

"I am eternally grateful for the opportunities that have been afforded to me and am extremely proud of the work that's been accomplished to move our City and our airports forward. I would like to thank my team at the Dept. of Aviation and my colleagues for their incredible dedication to public service," said Rhee, who had been appointed to the position in 2018, in a written statement which announced her impending retirement.

Rhee is credited with managing the re-configuration of O'Hare's airfield from its original intersecting runway system to a modern parallel (east-west) runway configuration, which is considered more safe and allows for more flights. That change also resulted in a 66% reduction in "system impact" delays.

It has also been credited with the creation of tens of thousands of additional jobs at the airport.

Due to the economic importance of Chicago's airports, the city's Aviation Commissioner has long been considered one of the most important, and often difficult positions in a mayoral administration. That person controls a \$1.5 billion budget and has oversight of 2,392 employees at the O'Hare and Midway airports. The Commissioner also oversees contracts with vendors.

The departure leads to the question of who will be the next Commissioner?

Many believe Johnson will pick John Roberson, 56, currently the city's Chief Operating Officer. What many may not remember is that Roberson actually is Rhee's predecessor. For a brief period, in 2004-2005, he had served as Aviation Commissioner during the administration of Mayor Richard M. Daley.

Once considered a favorite of Daley, Roberson had served him in many different roles, including as Commissioner of Sewers, Commissioner of Buildings and Executive Director of Construction and Permits.

Roberson's time as Aviation Commissioner, however, was brief. In Oct. 2005, Roberson, who had described himself as an aviation geek, abruptly stepped down to take a job in the private sector. His departure occurred shortly after it had been revealed he was among a group of unnamed cooperating witnesses for the federal government's criminal case against two city officials, Robert A. Sorich, who had been a top official in Daley's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs [IGA] and Patrick R. Slattery, who had been a top official in the city's Dept. of Streets and Sanitation.

"Sorich allegedly directed a system in which Slattery and other co-schemers routinely manipulated the interview and selection process for certain jobs, including skilled and unskilled positions by conducting sham interviews, falsely inflating interview scores, and otherwise guaranteeing that certain pre-selected candidates who were favored by high-ranking city officials, whether because of their connection to a particular political organization, unions, or other influence would win employment, often to the exclusion of equally or more qualified candidates.

The charges against Sorich are from



Former Aviation Commissioner John Roberson was once involved in wi-fi contracts at Chicago airports that upon their sale benefited the son of Mayor Richard M. Daley.

more than 30 current and former city officials in various departments who [were] cooperating in the investigation, including five former commissioners, four former and two current personnel directors and many other high-ranking and supervisory officials," according to a written statement dated July 18, 2005 from the U.S. Justice Dept. [DOJ].

Later, within the same written statement, DOJ officials described how Daley's IGA held more sway than even city commis-

sioners.

"According to one former personnel director, IGA officials were more influential than department's hiring and promotion process. In many instances, cooperating witnesses described regular meetings with Sorich and other IGA officials in which they would be given lists of pre-selected applicants for whom IGA wanted to obtain available non-policymaking positions in various departments, and, at times, were told to conceal the IGA's role," according to the July 18, 2005 statement from the DOJ.

The pair were convicted in July 2006 and Roberson is believed to be one of those five commissioners mentioned.

During Roberson's tenure at O'Hare, he was one of a group of city officials who chose Concourse Communications to be the wi-fi provider for O'Hare and Midway Airport. At the time, Concourse Communications owned a financial firm with ties to Patrick Daley, the son of Mayor Richard M. Daley. When Concourse was acquired by Boingo Wireless, Inc. for \$45 million in 2007, reporters from the Chicago Sun-Times discovered the younger Daley had earned \$708,999 from that sale.

Rhee's departure comes days after Johnson had publicly chastised unnamed members within his administration whom he considered had become disloyal. Rhee had originally been appointed to the position by Mayor Lori Lightfoot and had been retained by Johnson.

In his official statement about her impending departure, Johnson only had words of praise for his outgoing Aviation Commissioner. "Throughout her decades-long

O'HARE see p. 10

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Chicago homebuyers may have to wait years to see 5% rates again



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Chicago home buyers may have to look at the spring housing market though long-range binoculars if they hope to see affordable mortgage interest rates in the near future.

Although Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported on Feb. 27 that interest charges on benchmark 30-year fixed-rate home loans nationwide eased for the sixth week in a row, the dream of locking in an affordable mortgage in the 5% range may be years away.

On Feb. 27, Freddie Mac's survey noted that benchmark 30-year fixed home-loan rates averaged 6.76% down from 6.85% a week earlier. A year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate loans averaged 6.94%.

"Last week, mortgage rates decreased to their lowest level in more than two months," said

an optimistic Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist. "The mortgage-rate drop, combined with modestly improving existing home inventory, is an encouraging sign for consumers in the market to buy a home."

On Feb. 27, 15-year fixed mortgages averaged 5.94%, down from 6.04% a week earlier. A year ago, 15-year fixed loans averaged 6.26%.

The Freddie Mac survey is focused on conventional, conforming, fully amortizing home-purchase loans for borrowers who place a 20% down payment and have excellent credit.

Analysts say the recent steady—although modest—decline in mortgage rates hasn't been enough to alter the affordability equation for many prospective home shoppers, especially first-time buyers who don't have equity from an existing home to put toward a new purchase.

In 2025, mortgage rates will dip to about 6%, Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the National

Assn. of Realtors, optimistically predicted in early February.

However, by the final quarter of 2025, Fannie Mae expects benchmark 30-year fixed mortgage rates to only decline to 6.6%. Meanwhile, the Mortgage Bankers Assn. and Wells Fargo are forecasting 6.5% rates by the final quarter of 2025.



Sam Khater

Yun also noted that the average age of the first-time home buyer in 2024 was 38 years old.

Before the Covid pandemic, the typical first-time buyer was in their late 20s or early 30s. At nearly 40, "that's not enough time to building housing wealth before they retire," Yun said.

Existing home prices increased on an annual basis for the 19th consecutive month in January. The national median sales price rose 4.8% from

a year earlier to \$396,900.

On a positive note, Yun also predicted two or three interest rate cuts from the Federal Reserve Board in 2025. However, last year marked the third year in a row that mortgage rates ended the year higher than crystal-ball gazing forecasters expected.

Some analysts say the odds of further interest-rate cuts this year by the Fed dwindled in mid-February as unemployment fell and more lending officials say they want to see how the new aggressive policies being pushed by President Donald Trump—including hefty import tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China, and federal government layoffs—impact the economy.

Inflation fighters at the Fed said in January that they planned to keep their key short-term federal-

funds interest rate at 4.3% to slow borrowing and spending enough to lower inflation back to their 2% target. They've been fighting this elevated inflation now for three years and it has trickled throughout the economy.

The Fed's elevated federal-funds rate has contributed to higher borrowing costs for mortgagors, auto loans and credit cards. A weaker economy would normally lead to the Fed to cut interest rates, but if inflation remains a threat, it would likely keep rates unchanged.



Lawrence Yun

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

DePaul's new athletic facility is delayed one year

BY NICK PALAZZOLO
The DePaulia

Plans to build a large new \$60 million athletic facility on the DePaul Univ. campus in Lincoln Park have been put on hold for a year after the project failed to secure a spot on the city's agenda for zoning approval.

The announcement over the delay in the proposed new basketball facility was announced last week in an email to students and faculty.

DePaul hoped to be able to break ground in June on the new facility. However, the university

was not able to get on the city council's agenda for zoning and permits in time.

The earliest DePaul would be able to break ground on the proposed new facility would be June 2026.

DePaul's decision to delay the project by a full year will allow the housing, which would have been demolished for the new facility, to remain open for students during the 2025-26 school year.

DePaul first announced the plans to build the basketball practice facility in Aug. 2023, but made changes to the facility in April 2024 due to environmental

and preservation concerns for the community.

DePaul is hopeful that they can get on the city council's agenda in the coming months for zoning approval, according to DePaul officials. However, even if DePaul would be approved for zoning and permits in the next few months, they still would not be able break ground until at least June 2026.

If DePaul is able to begin construction on the new facility in June 2026, the project would take a little more than a year to complete, and would be ready to open Fall 2027. The school did not want to wait until proper approval then start construction on the new facility during a school year, leaving the buildings vacant, and not allow students to utilize the housing, a DePaul official told The DePaulia.

The new \$60 million basketball practice facility is planned for the northwest corner of N. Sheffield Ave. and Belden Ave., across the street from Sullivan Athletic Center and McGrath-Phillips Arena. DePaul says that they have so far secured \$11 million in donor funding for the new facility.

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Both the Chicago and Regional Transportation Authorities are heading toward a financial crash in 2026 that public officials have all seen coming for years. Both agencies are suffering from a large drop in ridership. State law mandates that half of the CTA and RTA funding must come from rider fares, though that requirement was suspended since the pandemic. Photo courtesy Andrew Adams

Lawmakers grill mass transit leaders as clock ticks toward funding 'cliff'

Various proposals floating to address funding crisis

BY BEN SZALINSKI
Capital News

Not all crashes involve moving vehicles. And some crashes can be seen far ahead of time. That is certainly the case now with the CTA and RTA who are heading toward a financial crash we've all seen coming for years.

Public transportation finances in the Chicago area is at the top of state lawmakers' to-do list this spring, but exactly what that reform will look like remains unclear.

Metra, the Chicago Transit Authority and Pace, along with the Regional Transportation Authority, which oversees some aspects of the Chicago area's transit systems, collectively face a \$771 million funding shortfall in 2026 as federal pandemic bailout cash run out. (That includes inflation, according to the RTA, which previously said the shortfall would be \$730 million.)

And customers have run out too, with cultural changes and expanding crime fears having chased away many public transportation users.

Without money to fill that gap, transit users could face up to a 40% reduction in services, RTA Executive Director Leanne Redden said.

The transit agencies were peppered with questions from lawmakers during a House hearing last week about their shortfalls in planning, organization and execution of services. Lawmakers have said for months the agencies will not receive new state funding without major reforms to their operations happening first.

In a particularly tense exchange, Rep. Rita Mayfield ripped into RTA Chair Kirk Dillard.

"I think that we need to blow up the RTA, totally blow it up, get rid of everyone, because again, systemic incompetence for the last 50 years," Mayfield said. "I don't want to keep anyone other than the janitors and the basic clerical staff. Anybody in a leadership position needs to be removed."

What has been proposed

Various reform plans have been proposed, including some from transit activists and labor organizations. Dillard is pushing a plan that focuses on empower-

ing the RTA to coordinate more operations between the transit agencies.

Current state law limits the power of the RTA to regional planning, setting standards for the service, developing performance measures, allocating funding, financial oversight, and capital planning. The three agencies that actually provide public transportation are left to determine levels of service, schedules and fares.

"What the RTA's role is at best is the bully pulpit and trying to coordinate, convene and have conversations if there is no compelling mechanism — financial, statutorily or out of penalties — whereby the RTA can control that outcome," Redden said.

About 17% of the transit systems' funding comes from the state.

State law mandates half of the funding must come from rider fares, though that requirement has generally been suspended since the pandemic, as more people work from home and other riders stay away over fears of criminal activity on lightly policed public transportation.

Dillard's plan aims to address some of those areas where transit agencies are left to make their own decisions. Under his proposal, the RTA would gain more

power to set fares, including on a unified app. The RTA would also have more control over service coordination and receive quarterly reports from the three systems that would allow the RTA to require improvements in exchange for more funding.

Dillard also said the RTA has identified \$100 million in "efficiencies" to provide savings to the agencies.

"We're not asking just for money," Dillard said. "We have presented significant reforms that will be there."

But Mayfield, who chairs the House appropriations committee that oversees transportation, questioned why the RTA is needed.

'CLIFF' see p. 10

Ascension completes sale of Chicago-area hospitals

Prime Healthcare paid \$370 million for eight hospitals

BY BOB ZULEY

On March 1, California-based Prime Healthcare announced that it had closed the agreement to buy eight Illinois hospitals and four senior-living and post-acute care facilities and physician practices from Ascension, according to media reports.

The hospitals are generally keeping their existing names but will drop the Ascension branding. The hospitals are St. Francis Hospital in Evanston, St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital in Chicago, Resurrection Hospital in Chicago, Holy Family Medical Center in Des Plaines, and four outlying hospitals.

St. Elizabeth Hospital in Chicago was also part of the transaction but Ascension previously announced plans to close the hospital which currently has 28 beds and treats acute mental illness.

Nearby St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital stands prepared to take St. Elizabeth's remaining patients according to an Ascension filing to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

Until now, the hospitals have been not-for-profit status in the Catholic Ascension system however most will revert to for-profit under Prime. St. Francis Hospital and St. Mary's in Kankakee will retain their not-for-profit status as part of Prime's affiliated charity, Prime Healthcare Foundation.

St. Francis Hospital in Evan-

ston plays an important role on Chicago's North Side as trauma cases are transported there as St. Francis is a Level One certified hospital. Other local level one trauma hospitals include Advocate Illinois Masonic, Northwestern Memorial, Evanston Hospital, Lutheran General Hospital, and Loyola Univ. Medical Center.

The hospitals will continue to be affiliated with the Catholic Church, Prime said in a statement. Prime has offered to retain nearly all hospital employees, and has said it will invest \$250 million in the Illinois hospitals for upgrades, capital improvements, and technology and systems upgrades.

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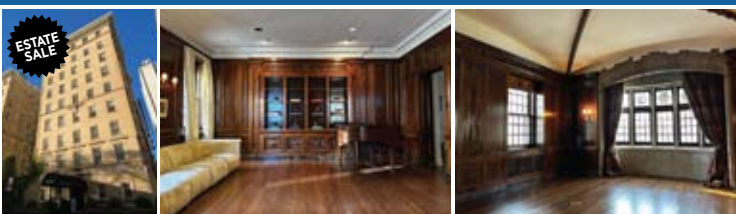
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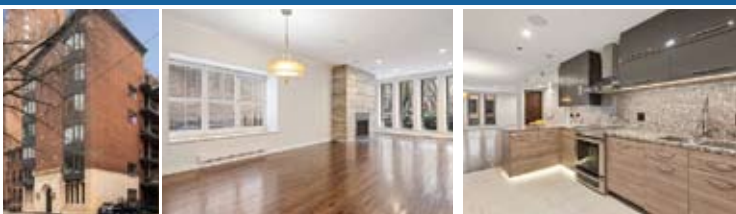
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Police Beat...

Gunmen rob Loyola student, carjack driver nearby

A Loyola Univ. student was robbed at gunpoint, and a motorist was carjacked by the same crew in Rogers Park Feb. 25, the latest in a flurry of robberies reported across the North Side.

Around 11:30 p.m. Feb. 25, four men displayed at least one rifle to carjack a driver in the 6300 block of N. Sheridan, according to preliminary information. The crew arrived in another black SUV outfitted with a stolen license plate and hopped out to take the victim's white 2022 Mercedes.

About 30 minutes later, the Loyola student was robbed at gunpoint by three men in the 6500 block of N. Glenwood, according to the school's public safety office. The crew took the student's backpack, wallet, and phone, then escaped in the white Mercedes.

Earlier on Tuesday, an Uber driver was carjacked at gunpoint in Uptown. He told police he was in the 4300 block of N. Broadway when several men forced him from his Nissan Sentra at gunpoint around 5:15 p.m.

Police are also investigating an armed robbery reported in Lakeview on Monday evening. A woman reported she was near the intersection of Cornelia and Lakewood when a masked man got out of a gray or silver sedan with a handgun. He took her phone and wallet, then fled in the vehicle, a CPD report said. A second person was seen inside the getaway car.

This week's robberies mark a change from what the area has seen since the first of the year. CPD stats show that robbery reports are down 66% compared to last year in the Rogers Park 24th District. Robbery reports are down 33% in the Town Hall 19th District, which includes Lakeview and much of Uptown.

Carjacker who hid from police inside Northwestern's medical school gets nine years



Trimane Kimbrough (inset) and a CPD image of the hijacked car after it ran into a patrol unit.

Nearly an hour after he allegedly ditched a newly hijacked car on Lake Shore Dr. and fled into a Northwestern Univ. medical school building with police in hot pursuit, Trimane Kimbrough came face-to-face with cops in the building's basement.

"I give up," Kimbrough said with his hands raised and one shoe miss-

ing that afternoon in 2022.

On Feb. 25, Kimbrough received a nine-year federal prison sentence for his behavior that day.

The chain of events began at 12:34 p.m. May 2, 2022, when a 37-year-old man double parked his Mazda6 in the 2000 block of W. Arthur and waited for his girlfriend. He was going to drive her to work.

While he waited, a gray 2001 Saturn pulled past his car and blocked his path. Kimbrough, who was 19 at the time, allegedly stepped out of the Saturn's passenger seat armed with a handgun.

He opened the victim's car door, held the gun to the man's head, and told him to get out, prosecutors said. As the man stepped from the driver's seat, Kimbrough allegedly shoved him to make him move faster.

Cops, guided by CPD's network of license plate readers, corralled the hijacked car when it stopped for the red light on southbound Lake Shore Dr. at Chicago Ave. Kimbrough left the car in drive and ran into Streeterville, leaving his gun inside the hijacked Mazda, which stopped only after colliding with a squad car. The gun, like the Mazda, was stolen, prosecutors claimed.

Officials said Kimbrough received text messages as he tried to evade police inside the medical school building.

"Try to get low," said one.

"Change yo clothes," said another.

In an impact statement, the victim told the court that all he could think about during the hijacking was another carjacking in which the victim had been shot and killed.

"That thought consumed me, and I truly believed I might not live," he wrote. "The fear I felt that day has not left me. I continue to experience anxiety and distress every time I'm in my car, especially when I see someone approaching. What once felt like a safe space now feels like a place of vulnerability. No one should have to live in fear simply for going about their daily life."

U.S. District Judge Mary Rowland handed down Kimbrough's 108-month punishment. Prosecutors had asked for 121 months.

In a sentencing memorandum, federal prosecutors also detailed seven incidents during 2024 in which Kimbrough engaged in sexual misconduct in jail, behavior he allegedly directed at female staff members.

Last month, Kimbrough allegedly told a jail staffer, "You know what happened to Trump, the same could happen to you, you are nothing special with that badge."

While he has been in jail less than three years, Kimbrough's misconduct has cost him 200 days of "good time credit," prosecutors said in a sentencing memorandum.

A 12-time convicted burglar charged with six new burglaries, but state didn't revoke his parole, now he's missing

Meticulous work by Chicago police detectives resulted in the arrest last week of a 12-time convicted burglar suspected of breaking into over two dozen businesses across the city's North and Northwest Sides.

But, even though 31-year-old Devon Lawery is currently on parole

Medical examiner confirms Rogers Park hate crime gunman died by suicide

The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office has concluded its investigation of the death of Sidi Mohamed Abdallahi, the man who allegedly shot a Jewish man in Rogers Park and then got into a lengthy shootout with Chicago cops last October.

On Nov. 30, 2024, authorities found Abdallahi, 22, dead, hanging in his Cook County jail cell. Now, the medical examiner has concluded that, as initially suspected, he died by suicide.

Prosecutors said Abdallahi's phone data showed he spent days selecting targets, including a synagogue not far from where he shot a 39-year-old Jewish man who was walking to synagogue on Oct. 26. After shooting the man in the 2600 block of W. Farwell, Abdallahi allegedly got into his car and drove a short distance, only to return to the area about 20 minutes later and start shooting at police and

paramedics.

For more than two minutes, Abdallahi popped up at different locations to exchange gunfire with Chicago cops, officials alleged. He was eventually brought down by police gunfire in the 6800 block of N. Washtenaw.

Prosecutors added hate crime charges days later after detectives cracked Abdallahi's phone and allegedly found its history included searches for gun stores, firing ranges, synagogues, and Jewish community centers in the days leading up to the shooting.

After being discharged from a public hospital, Abdallahi was placed in



Sidi Mohamed Abdallahi



Devon Lawery

for four of his 12 previous convictions, the Illinois Dept. of Corrections decided not to revoke his parole after cops arrested him on the new burglary charges last week, a CPD report said.

As if that weren't enough, Lawery failed to show up for his first court date on Feb. 28, prompting a judge to sign off on a failure to appear arrest warrant.

On Feb. 5, detectives announced that they had linked a serial burglar to dozens of overnight burglaries, saying the prowler broke glass windows and doors to gain entry so he could steal cash from registers.

Between Jan. 16 and Feb. 4, the police said, the burglar had broken into businesses in Portage Park, Lincoln Park, Lakeview, Irving Park, Albany Park, Rogers Park, Edgewater, Uptown, Andersonville, and Jefferson Park.

As it turned out, investigators cracked the case with a bit of old-fashioned police work. According to Lawery's arrest report, detectives learned that the burglar ordered a rideshare to leave the area after he broke into Sam's Chicken and Ribs, 1102 W. Granville, on Jan. 29.

A search warrant allowed them to identify the account the burglar used and his destination that night: a motel in River North. The motel's security system recorded images of the burglar as he entered the property after the Granville burglary. And that footage was clear enough for a Chicago cop to identify Lawery, the report said.

Knowing that the burglar takes frequent trips to the same River North motel, cops staked out the business and arrested Lawery as he arrived last week. According to his arrest records, Lawery had \$2,000 cash, the equivalent of about \$5,800 in foreign currencies, and an Ohio man's driver's license when the police took him into custody.

Prosecutors have charged Lawery with six counts of burglary and four counts of felony theft. In addition to Sam's Chicken and Ribs, they charged Lawery with burglarizing: Smackdab Cafe, 6730 N. Clark, on Jan. 31; Las Delicias De Michoacan, 6649 N. Clark, on Jan. 31; Taqueria El Charro, 6661 N. Clark, on Jan. 31; Cilantro Thai Kitchen,

1509 W. Devon, on Feb. 2, and Lai Asian Grill, 6044 N. Broadway, on Feb. 2.

Lawery's arrest report says CPD officers contacted IDOC about Lawery's parole status, but the state "will not be issuing a warrant at this time."

Judge Antara Rivera released Lawery last week with a nighttime curfew, which requires him to wear an ankle bracelet monitored by Chief Judge Timothy Evans' office. He was supposed to appear for his preliminary hearing on Friday, but court records show he did not attend and Judge Anthony Calabrese signed an arrest warrant.

Lawery was paroled on June 11 after serving less than half of a seven-year sentence he received for four 2021 burglaries, according to state records. He also had six burglary convictions in 2012 and two more in 2014.

Three men sentenced to prison for carjackings, armed robberies

Four men who committed multiple carjackings and robberies in Chicago, including carjacking a vehicle with an infant in the back seat and pistol-whipping a convenience store clerk, have been sentenced to federal prison terms ranging from 15 to 22 years.

Damandre Henley, Dwight Hansberry, Tyler Oates-Nelson and Davario McDowell engaged in a series of carjackings and robberies in Chicago in the overnight hours of Sept. 28 and 29, 2022. The four defendants pleaded guilty last year to federal carjacking, armed robbery, and firearm charges.

On Feb. 20, U.S. District Judge Manish Shah sentenced Oates-Nelson, 29, of Chicago, to 15 years in federal prison. On Feb. 19, Judge Shah sentenced McDowell, 25, of Chicago, to 18 years. On Feb. 11, 2025, Judge Shah sentenced Henley, 28, of Chicago, to 22 years. Hasberry, 31, of Chicago, is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Shah on March 20, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Four of the carjackings occurred in the early morning hours of Sept. 28, 2022. The carjacking involving the infant occurred late that evening, when the four men carjacked a Volkswagen Tiguan in Chicago's West Town neighborhood. After the men drove to the neighborhood in Oates-Nelson's vehicle, Henley, Hansberry, and McDowell pointed guns at the driver and the infant in a rear car seat and ordered them out of the vehicle. One of the carjackers patted down the driver and removed a registered handgun from his pocket. The driver removed the

Cermak Health Services, the jail's medical facility operated by a division of Cook County Health.

Sheriff's office personnel conducting routine security checks at Cermak "found Abdallahi unresponsive due to an apparent suicide attempt by hanging in his cell" around 3:30 p.m. Nov. 30, a sheriff's office spokesperson said.

"Staff immediately initiated life-saving measures and Abdallahi was transported by a Chicago Fire Dept. ambulance to Mt. Sinai Hospital where he was subsequently pronounced deceased," the spokesperson continued.

Officials said Abdallahi, from the West African country of Mauritania, crossed paths with U.S. Border Patrol agents in San Ysidro, California, in March 2023.



Top, L-R: Dwight Hasberry, Damandre Henley. Bottom L-R: Davario McDowell, and Tyler Oates.

infant from the car before Henley, Hansberry, and McDowell got into the Tiguan and drove away.

A short time later, the four men, now all traveling in the stolen Tiguan, drove to Ravenswood Manor neighborhood, where Henley, McDowell, and Hansberry robbed one victim at gunpoint of their cell phone, wallet, and keys, and another victim of their backpack.

The four men then robbed a nearby 7-Eleven convenience store. With Oates-Nelson waiting in the stolen Tiguan, Henley, McDowell, and Hansberry entered the store carrying guns. Henley used his gun to strike a store clerk in the head while forcing him to open the cash register. The defendants fled the store with cash, cigarettes, and liquor bottles.

The sentences were announced by Morris Pasqual, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Douglas S. DePodesta, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Office of the FBI, and Larry Snelling, Supt. of the Chicago Police Dept.

Man charged with double stabbing in River North

A 56-year-old man faces charges of stabbing two victims on a busy

River North street late last year after a U.S. Marshals task force arrested Billy Middleton on Feb. 24.

Prosecutors provided great detail about the allegations during Middleton's detention hearing. Shortly after the attack, Chicago police said it all began when the assailant emerged from a white sedan and engaged the two victims in an argument in the 400 block of N. State around 10:15 p.m. Nov. 22, 2024.

The assailant pulled out a knife during the argument and stabbed both men, ages 41 and 43, multiple times. After the stabbings, the of-

POLICE BEAT see p. 7

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Violent incidents soared to new highs after Alderman vowed to stop talking about 'racist' crime

BY CWBCHICAGO

North Side Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth's decision to not talk about crime because she believes doing so is racist and contributes to a negative "perception" failed to reduce crime in 2024. In fact, crime in Edgewater, the neighborhood that constitutes much of her 48th Ward, soared to the highest level seen since at least 2014, according to city data.

Violent crime in the neighborhood jumped nearly 50% in Edgewater while overall crime increased by 9%.

Late last May, after four people were shot in a week in her ward, Manaa-Hoppenworth announced that constituents who wanted to receive information about crime would have to "opt-in" to a special mailing list because she wasn't going to talk about it anymore.

By way of explanation, the alderman claimed that "over-reporting of crime leads to an inaccurate public perception about crime rates." She even cited a research paper from the Faculty of World Studies, at the Univ. of Tehran in Iran.

The city's online database of crime reports suggests Manaa-Hoppenworth's strategy failed to reverse the rising tide of crime in Edgewater last year. According to the city, Edgewater had three murders in

On Feb. 25, Manaa-Hoppenworth spoke about crime again. She even sent her crime-related message to all of her constituents, whether they "opted in" to receive her purportedly racist notifications or not.

2024, the most in at least a decade. Robberies also hit a ten-year high, with 96 cases reported. There were 11 non-fatal shooting incidents, another decade high.

To be totally fair, Manaa-Hoppenworth broke her self-imposed silence in October after even more shootings ripped through her ward. She said she was "outraged and disheartened" by the shootings.

"People are leaving Edgewater because they don't feel safe," the alderman told



Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth

Block Club Chicago at the time, "and we can't afford to lose more people."

On Feb. 25, Manaa-Hoppenworth spoke about crime again. She even sent her crime-related message

to all of her constituents, whether they "opted in" to receive her purportedly racist notifications or not.

In her Feb. 25 email, the alderman raved that "violent crime in the 48th Ward is down 25.5% compared to the same period last year." The decrease is primarily due to a significant drop in robbery reports—from 51 to 38.

One violent crime category that has increased slightly is aggravated battery, which is up from seven cases to eight. Manaa-Hoppenworth claims the police department told her that the increase (of a single case) "is likely due to targeted and strategic efforts to encourage gender-based violence survivors to call police and file reports."

So, we're left to wonder: If it's racist to talk about crime when it's soaring to new heights, why is it not racist to talk about it when it is declining?

Late-night bar-goers getting robbed while waiting for Lyft, Uber in Wrigleyville, Gold Coast

BY CWBCHICAGO

A group of armed robbers continues to target late-night revelers as the victims wait for rideshares outside bars in Wrigleyville and the Gold Coast, according to Chicago police. CPD first warned about the crew in January, but the robberies have not stopped.

Police say the victims have been targeted around closing time as they wait outside taverns for their Uber or Lyft drivers to arrive. Three or four robbers approach the victims and either display a gun or use force to get control of their valuables. The robbers have even accessed some of the victims' bank accounts through phones taken during the hold-ups, police said.

In Wrigleyville, the robberies occurred in the 3500 block of N. Clark at 1:30 a.m. and 2:30 a.m. Jan. 5; in the 3500 block of N. Clark at 1:10 a.m. Jan. 11; in the 1000 block of W. Newport at 2 a.m. Feb. 9; in the 3500 block of N. Clark at 1:55 a.m. Feb. 23, and in the 3600 block of N. Clark at 3:45 a.m. Feb. 23.

Gold Coast robberies were reported at 3 a.m. on Jan. 11 in the first block of W. Division and the next day at 2:16 a.m. in the first block of E. Elm.

fender returned to the white car and headed south on State St.

Middleton is charged with two counts of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

Cops need help finding River North sexual assault suspect

Police are hoping someone will help them identify a man who tried to sexually assault a woman in River North last autumn. In a newly released "seeking to identify" bulletin, Chicago police said the attempted assault occurred in the 300 block of W. Erie around 2:40 a.m. Oct. 12, 2024.

According to the bulletin, the man met the 31-year-old victim in a local bar and offered to give her a ride home. He then tried to sexually assault her, police said.

The police described him as a White man with brown hair who stands about six feet tall. He was



wearing jeans and a white shirt on the night of the attack.

Anyone with information about him can contact Area Three detectives at 312-744-8263. They can also submit an anonymous tip at CPDTIP.com. The case number is JH-465439.

Chicago police are looking for this suspect in connection with an attempted sexual assault in River North.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

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Writers group to meet March 11

The Independent Writers of Chicago [IWOC] are hosting a meeting 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 11 at the Gratz Center, 126 E. Chestnut St., room 4G, adjacent to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

The meeting will focus on resourcefulness and relationship-building as essential skills when it comes to capturing freelance work.

The program presenter, Creative Groove founder Jen Jones Donatelli, has spent 17 years as a full-time freelance writer and now working with writers and creatives as a certified coach.

In this presentation, she'll be sharing some of the best practices and resources that have helped her and her creative clients break into various publications and publishers and build a diverse set of bylines along the way.

Discounted parking (after 5 p.m., with validation) is located at the 900 N. Michigan Ave. garage.

Networking begins at 5 p.m. Non-IWOC members pay \$10 if pre-registered at <https://iwoc.wildapricot.org/event-6071503> and \$15 at the door.

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INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Maestro Michael Tilson Thomas.



Dr. Rose Gomez, Lili with this columnist.



Lester Holt



Blackhawk's Organist Frank Pellico.



Jerry "Iceman" Butler

ROOTS from p. 2

this year's commencement address to Northwestern's Class of 2025.

THE ICE MAN: Jerry Butler, a premier soul singer of the 1960s and after whose rich, intimate baritone graced such hits as "For Your Precious Love," "Only the Strong Survive" and "Make It Easy On Yourself," died at age 85. A longtime Chicago resident, Butler was a former Cook County board commissioner who would still perform on weekends and identify himself as Jerry "Ice Man" Butler, a show business nickname given for his understated style.

THANKS: Blackhawk fans giving thanks to longtime organist Frank Pellico after giving over 30 years of service to Blackhawk Hockey.

THAT'S A WRAP: Local filmmakers Gavin Murphy and Mason Justic preparing to shoot their new film short, "On Paper," in the Beverly neighborhood's South Side cinema splendor, at Swanson's Deli. Their story catalogues a perfectionist minimum wage deli worker who creates the perfect gift wraps for his secret crush, the love of his life. Can't wait.

OHIO BOUND: New Cincinnati Archbishop Robert G. Casey, former Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, a South Side native, introduced himself last week with a promise to help the region's nearly half million Catholics find their way through trying times by becoming "bridge builders, and not wall builders."

ROYAL COMEUPPANCE: Observing the latest royal antics and dysfunctional family instability, looks like the House of Windsor is shaping up to fulfill the

ancient foreshadowing of astronomer Nostradamus' shock prediction about King Charles III's spare Prince Harry and Prince William's royal futures. "King of the Isles driven out by force... replaced by one who will have no mark of a king." He also predicted some 500 years ago the date of the late Queen Elizabeth's death and her age at death.

MAESTRO THOMAS: Sadly it has been announced that Maestro Michael Tilson Thomas, longtime conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, has suffered the return of a brain tumor which will mean his departure from his present post concluding with a concert celebrating his 80th birthday. He also contributed some "very special" work for Chicago Symphony over the past year.

PILFERED ART: The Cleveland Museum of Art has dropped its legal case against the seizure of a Roman Bronze sculpture, and will return it to Turkey in light of new evidence.

BIKER: Rick Barrett has committed to cycle once again for Chapter 4 (Virginia) of the Police Unity Tour May 10-12, raising funds to support the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum in Washington D.C.

WHO'S WHERE: Cub legends front and center Shawon Dunston, Fergie Jenkins, Mark Grace, Ryne Sandberg and Rick Sutcliffe reunited at Cubs camp in Mesa, AZ... Helma Wardenaar Petosi in Bolivia at Termas e Pulques... a Night to Remember when Barb Bailey, Irene Mojica, Irene Michaels, Sonia P. Oyola, Debra Decker Bankaert and Ronnie B Elvis all put on a superb performance, the room was filled with love... Sherry Lea Fox at the Peninsula Hotel in Paris with BFF Patricia Maxwell and Maxwell family, Ed Maxwell and Cait Maxwell

with Paris in all its glory... Jose Londono having dinner at Restaurant Da Pietro with Eugene McMichael in Cartagena's Historic District Colombia... Mark Howard and his Trinity Dance troop getting set for St. Patrick's Day... Joe and Tara Shanahan do a classic record pull for the DJ session Saturday at Gman Tavern... Newsman David Caldwell in Egypt taking in the desert and the historic sites... Paul Hanson and Barb Bailey seeing the wonderful Dennis Tufano of The Buckingham's at the Desplains Theater... Jeffrey and Stephanie Leese Emrich observing "National Love Your Pet Day" with a few of their friends' dogs... Former Vice Consul of Ireland in Chicago Owen Lawlor and wife, the National Gallery's Joanne Drum, getting in a gorgeous few days with their girls in Vienna... Janet and Rodger Owen celebrated the centennial of their Florida manse with a country club dinner dance for 400 guests... Zurich Esposito and Brian McCormick tailgating at El Dorado Polo Club in Indio, CA... Chicago's own Lester Holt stepping down as anchor of NBC Nightly News later this Spring... Eamonn Cummins and Denis Neville pregameing Chicago Hounds Irish Rugby with breakfast at the Wolfhound Bar and Kitchen... Christie's Steven Zick in Colonial Williamsburg viewing elegant Virginia splendor... Flavia and Chris Magdalin with the family at "Sloomoo" entertainment center... Kim Duda, Julia Jacobs and Denise Tomasello sharing a nightcap at Gibson's Steakhouse... famed architect Lucien Lagrange and Melinda Jackovich Lagrange still humming the Anniversary Waltz... John Buchbinder back in lovely Buenos Aires, Argentina... Tom and Elaine Cooney warming at the Brazilian Court

Hotel in Palm Beach... Dan Balanoff in Playa del Carmen, sipping cool beverages... Actress Ali McGraw looking elegant and mature, a long way from Love Story... Fabulous birthday lunch at Chez Joel for grandma Jane Justic surrounded by her offspring and longtime family and friends, with me there too... Lucia Adams at Tiburon Golf Club in Naples, FL.

REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 9 at 2 a.m.

COT GALA: Infinite Possibilities: Blossoming Beyond 50 Years, the gala benefiting Chicago Opera Theater's artistic, educational, and community engagement programs will take place Saturday, April 5, 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. at Athenaeum Center for Thought and Culture, 2936 N. Southport Ave.

Guests will celebrate the world premiere concert performance of Vanguard Composer Carlos R. Carrillo and Librettist Stephanie Fleischmann's Remedios Varios para las Aflicciones del Cuerpo y el Espiritu (Various Remedies for the Afflictions of the Body and Spirit) and honoring COT's Immediate Past President, Susan J. Irion, for her passion, dedication, and leadership. For more information and tickets, visit www.chicagooperatheater.org.

NEIMAN'S: After 117 years, the flagship downtown Dallas location of Neiman Marcus is closing on March 31. The sprawling building of more than 100,000 square feet of selling space opened in 1914 in its current location. It went on to be designated as a historic landmark.

AMERICAN FLAGSHIP: The S.S. United States, the largest ocean liner ever constructed in America has been mothballed for more than half a century in Philadelphia and now, sadly, that dynamic vessel from another age is on its way to the Gulf and the Florida Panhandle where it will be sunk to create the world's largest artificial reef.

That's what the holidays are for—for one person to tell the stories and another to dispute them. Isn't that the Irish way?

—Lara Flynn Boyle

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CTA declares Janet Martin Day

Janet Martin, also known as the “Mayor of the Armitage Brown Line Station,” retired on Feb. 28 after working at the Armitage Ave. Brown Line for most of her adult life.

Neighbors and Brown Line riders hosted a farewell party for Martin on the plaza adjacent to the Armitage station.

Aldermen Timmy Knudsen and Brian Hopkins were both present to honor Martin with a City Council resolution for her distinguished service to our city and the commuters at the Armitage Brown Line stop.

After 32 years of dutiful service to the CTA — 25 years of which spent at the Armitage station — Janet called it a career. The effort to honor Martin’s legacy was organized by Brian Comer, President of Sheffield Neighbors Assoc. and other neighbors who kept the party plans a secret, telling Martin’s family members but not Martin herself.

Going forward, every Feb. 28 will be known as Janet Martin Day in the City of Chicago.



Ald. Brian Hopkins and Janet Martin.

Beloved Purple Martins return to Illinois

Spotting of birds marks state’s first sign of spring

In a sure sign that spring is not far behind, the first Purple Martins of the year have been spotted in Illinois.

The birds were seen on Feb. 9 in Millstadt, IL, by a Purple Martin enthusiast — one of many throughout the eastern and central U.S. who track and report on the birds’ annual migration on behalf of the Purple Martin Conservation Assoc. [PMCA]. The migration of these unique birds can be reported and tracked through a community science project called the Scout-Arrival Study.

North America’s largest species of swallow, Purple Martins winter in the rainforests of Brazil before making up to a 7000-mile migration north into the eastern U.S. and Canada.

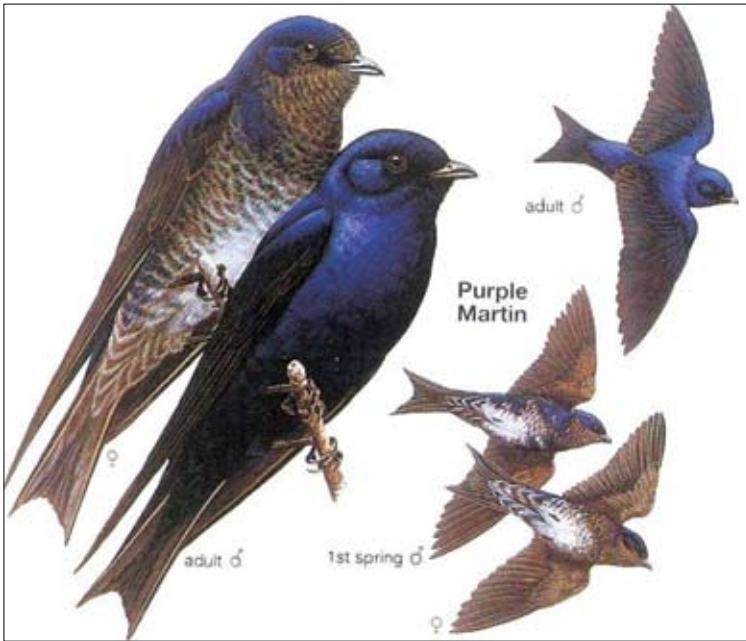
Purple Martins historically lived along the North Lakefront in the summer months, but development in Chicago long ago eliminated much of the birds’ natural habitat in the city. For at least 25 to 30 years, they had disappeared from Chicago’s lakefront.

The annual migration is a testament to the martins’ resilience as well as the unwavering dedication of thousands of ‘martin landlords’ who maintain multi-compartment nest ‘condos’ that are essential for the birds’ survival. Once widespread in rural America, this species, that eat billions of flying insects annually, has been disappearing at an alarming rate, experiencing a loss of one-third of its population over the last 50 years.

“The first Purple Martin arrivals of the season are always an exciting event,” said Joe Siegrist, President of the PMCA. “Tracking the migration is not only fun, it also provides us with valuable information that helps inform our research and strengthen our efforts to make sure we’re doing everything possible to sustain the population of these amazing birds.”

The decline seems to be the combination of a few factors: nesting habitat loss, competing invasive species, decreasing prey availability, and climate change. Over the majority of the Purple Martins’ range, they are unable to nest naturally any longer. Human-provided nest boxes are the only thing keeping the species alive east of the Rocky Mountains.

Purple Martins once nested in natural tree hollows and other crevices near wooded ponds and marshes. Siegrist says the very survival of the species is due in



Purple Martins

large part to scores of dedicated conservationists who invest their time, money and hearts into maintaining housing for the Martins, in which to raise their young.

“The landlords provide critical shelter for the martins,” Siegrist said. “In return, they are rewarded with a family-like bond with the birds who return to the same colony year after year like clockwork.”

These birdhouse complexes need to be carefully placed high on a pole in an open area near water. They need to be cleaned and removed every winter to keep nonnative house sparrows from taking over. If the houses are

cared for properly, the Martins will return year after year to the same place to raise their young.

Purple martins gather in large flocks in the fall, often roosting in large numbers. By September they are back in South America, where they remain until it’s time to return to the Garden the next spring.

To follow along with the migration and learn more, visit www.purplemartin.org. In addition, people interested in learning more about how to attract and care for Purple Martins can receive a free booklet by contacting the PMCA by emailing info@purplemartin.org or calling 814-833-7656.

Letters to the Editor

Private management of low-income housing provide incentive for good management

Mr. Debat’s Feb. 25 column ascribes the failure of public housing in Chicago to historical poor tenant selection. While undoubtedly some of that probably occurred it leaves unanswered what is the role of public housing which is housing as a last resort for indigent poor including the elderly and the disabled, along with families. That’s a long discussion for another venue.

The problem here is that DeBat ascribes the problems with public housing to the privately owned mixed income ventures to replace some of the public housing at Cabrini Green. He should know that the properties will be mixed income and privately owned and managed.

Under the Low Income Hous-

ing Tax Credits [LIHTC] financing used for these projects the private owners will be signing multi-million dollar guarantees to their corporate investors. They will have every incentive to run these properties as well as possible and they are certainly allowed to screen all their tenant candidates before renting to them. Lastly, The Federal Home Loan Bank reports that LIHTC properties have the lowest foreclosure rate of all types of real estate in the country.

Let’s check our facts before we tar future redevelopment efforts with the unrelated sins of the past.

Larry Pusateri
Lincoln Park

City Haul continues corrupt contracts

“If you ain’t with us, then you got to go!” - Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson

It certainly didn’t take long for Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson to pick up the mantle of former Chicago Mayor Richard Daley.

He just took control of the Daley “Friends, Felons and Family Plan.”

And he has an experienced hand to do the dirty work. Mayor Johnson picked his Chief Operating Officer, John Roberson, to take over as City of Chicago Aviation Commissioner.

Less than 20 years ago, Chicago Aviation Cmsr. Roberson gave a multi-year, multimillion dollar contract to Concourse Communications to provide Wi-Fi at O’Hare and Midway airports.

Cardinal Growth Capital Fund was a subcontractor on the contract. Cardinal Growth paid \$708,999 to its investor. His name? Patrick Daley, the mayor’s son.

So let me get this straight. Roberson gives an illegal, phony, rigged, insider contract that the U.S. Attorney brought suit on, but doesn’t lose his job or go to prison?

Now, Mayor Johnson wants to put the same person BACK IN CHARGE of the Dept. of Aviation to hand out contracts?

Good thing America has a new U.S. Attorney General to clean things up.

Now if only someone would wake up Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul.

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

Write a Letter To The Editor
at insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com

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More extended street closures in Lakeview

Roscoe St., Sheffield and Kenmore avenues are now under extensive street closure shutdowns as a part of the CTA's Red Line rehab project. The three streets are shut down now and will be closed through Thursday, March 27.

N. Sheffield Ave. will be closed from N. Clark St. and W. Newport Ave. to approx. 75ft south of W. Roscoe St.

W. Roscoe St. will be closed from N. Clark St. to 1004 W. Roscoe St. While N. Kenmore Ave. will be closed down between W. Roscoe and W. School streets.

The roads are being shut down for street and sewer reconstruction, and will remain closed to vehicular and traffic. Sidewalks on the east and west sides of N. Sheffield Ave. will be open, but the sidewalk on the north side of W. Roscoe St. between N. Clark St. and N. Sheffield Ave. will be closed until the work activity is complete.

N. Kenmore Ave. is one way northbound now through March 27.

O'HARE from p. 3

career, Cmsr. Rhee embodied the best of public service, and she has left an indelible mark on our airports and our city. Her work has improved the travel experience for hundreds of millions of visitors that will be felt for generations to come. Her unwavering commitment to diverse businesses of all types and sizes has opened countless doors for Chicagoans who have been shut out for far too long. I want to thank [Rhee] for her tremendous service to our city and our people."

'CLIFF' from p. 5

"I for one will never vote to give you more anything, definitely not more power or more money, because I've not seen anything good come out of the RTA," Mayfield said.

Other lawmakers said regional oversight remains necessary, but significant reforms are needed.

"I believe that we need this regional oversight," Rep. Mary Beth Canty, a former RTA board member, said. "My frustration has always come from a place of us not being able to get that in a meaningful way."

Labor unions have proposed their own

plan. The AFL-CIO-led plan calls for more coordination between agencies including universal fare tools, coordinated safety on public transportation and reducing the percentage of the agency's budget that must come from fares.

"If we can't take care of what we have already, how the hell are we going to expand into anything?"

Rep. John Cabello, said.

Sen. Ram Villivalam, has introduced a bill that would merge all the transit agencies into one entity known as the Metropolitan Mobility Authority.

Achieving reform faces numerous challenges and differing opinions among transit leaders and lawmakers. It also faces the financial reality that the state has limited resources to dole out.

Similar-sized transit agencies in other states receive far more state funding than Chicago's systems. Pennsylvania funds half of Philadelphia's public transit costs while other systems receive at least a quarter of their funding from the state.

It's this "chronic underfunding" by Illinois that has made this shortfall worse, Redden said.

Even among the Chicago-area systems, there's disagreement about how funding should be prioritized between agencies. CTA CFO Tom McKone said the CTA wants a greater share of transit funds for carrying 86% of the region's daily riders and to provide more service. But lawmakers weren't sold.

"If we can't take care of what we have already, how the hell are we going to expand into anything?" Rep. John Cabello, said. "It just doesn't make sense. It doesn't make sense at all. I mean if we can't pay for what we have today, how can we expand?"

There's also disagreement between the agencies about what the governing structure should look like as some push to consolidate transit governance.

"This issue, in our opinion, is not from a governance issue," CTA Acting President Nora Leerhsen said. "This discussion of consolidation is not something that we

think would solve the issues that we know riders want to see solved, from CTA's perspective. Consolidation would bring additional administrative burdens that would in fact exacerbate some of the inequities that we've seen."

Consolidation could also cause problems at Metra, CEO Jim Derwinski said.

"I do believe because we represent six counties, because the RTA taxing region represents so many communities, an oversight board that can see a regional perspective is required," Derwinski said.

Metra is also bound by other agreements, contracts and federal railroad laws. Many operations that appear to the average rider to be run by Metra are actually run by freight companies that own Metra's rail lines.

"It almost sounds like, I'm not going to say impossible, but close to impossible, for you to actually be a part of some big service board," Rep. Will Davis said.

Logistical questions about a governing structure are only part of the issue. The other question that must be addressed is how the budget shortfalls, which RTA officials said will grow beyond \$771 million in subsequent years, will be addressed, particularly as the state faces its own financial constraints.

Gov. JB Pritzker's proposed \$55.2 billion state budget for the next fiscal year raises spending by just 1% across most of state government but doesn't include any new spending for public transportation.

"Who's covering how much of that is a negotiation that will take place," Pritzker told reporters after his budget address. "So it's near impossible for us to put a number into a budget, to make a determination of what the state should be putting forward when we don't yet know."

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning has recommended various funding mechanisms including raising the RTA sales tax in the six-country region, a sales tax on services, and higher tolls, vehicle registration fees or downtown Chicago parking taxes. But just raising taxes does not mean that riders will actually return to public transportation.

"As a former legislator and a former state senator in this body, I know how difficult it is to support new revenue," Dillard said.

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, -v- MARTHA C PIETRZYKOWSKI A/K/A MARTA C PIETRZYKOWSKI; NORI LAIDI; PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY BANK; PRATT-RIDGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. 24 CH 02630 1939 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD #3, CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 1/15/2025, an agent of Auction.com LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on April 16, 2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 1939 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD #3, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-31-402-088-1007 The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$184,578.38 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in

Real Estate For Sale

order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property 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.

Real Estate For Sale

GAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 24-179581L. Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 24-179581L Case Number: 24 CH 02630 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. 13260191 0520505 ----- 262626 ----- 191919 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SELENE FINANCE, LP Plaintiff, -v- WILLIAM ALLEN TAYLOR, JR. A/K/A WILLIAM A TAYLOR, JR., THE CORONADO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 24 CH 05843 3900 NORTH PINE GROVE AVENUE UNIT 614 CHICAGO, IL 60613 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 8, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 9, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 3900 NORTH PINE GROVE AVENUE UNIT 614, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-100-021-1063; 14-21-100-021-1105 The real estate is improved with a condominium. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues

Real Estate For Sale

where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 24-185601L_1077792 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 24 CH 05843 TJS#C: 45-170 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 # 24 CH 05843 13261495 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST Plaintiff, -v- XINXIN WU, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, 3600 CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 22 CH 04939 3600 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE, UNIT 1821 CHICAGO, IL 60613 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 6, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 8, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 3600 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE, UNIT 1821, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-110-020-1395 The real estate is improved with a condominium. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 22-102841L_804029 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 22 CH 04939 TJS#C: 45-169 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 22 CH 04939 13261493 0520505 ----- 262626 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff, -v- MARILYN CROSS, ARTHUR L. CROSS, CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND

Real Estate For Sale

URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MALIBU EAST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 17 CH 001326 6033 N. SHERIDAN ROAD #37H CHICAGO, IL 60660 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 19, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 20, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6033 N. SHERIDAN ROAD #37H, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-215-017-1399 The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. 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.

Real Estate For Sale

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. 14-17-00498 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 17 CH 001326 TJS#C: 45-359 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 17 CH 001326 13260915 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC Plaintiff, -v- ANITA VELJI, AZIZ VELJI, SHORELINE TOWERS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2024 CH 06879 6301 N SHERIDAN RD APT 3R CHICAGO, IL 60660 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 13, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 17, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6301 N SHERIDAN RD APT 3R, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-203-011-1019 The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity

Real Estate For Sale

of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 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. 14-24-04495 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2024 CH 06879 TJS#C: 45-50 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 06879 13260839 191919 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

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Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL (312-644-2000), is opening lockers 4528X (Heith Thordhill), 2719A (Barbara Broadhurst), 2721X (Edward Streit), 5528X (Grace Hamel), 5556X (Lamonte Poole), 3523X and 6619X (Edward Lahood), for public sale on March 25, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers: 2130E- Bolden, Evan 3290C- Brown, Ronica 5025D- Campos, Jocelyne 6480D- Filipescu, Cristina 3020E- Gold, Allan 5495E- Johnson, Reneesha 8183SM- Jose, Marilyn 6820L- Mantu, Musa 3250G- Gino and Marty's 8166SM- Washington, Karen for public sale. This sale is to be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

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North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION HEARTLAND BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, Plaintiff,

KENNETH COURTRIGHT III; KERRI COURTRIGHT; 405 N. WABASH 5109-10, LLC; RAYMOND H. CHRISTENSEN IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2019; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION; TODAY'S GROWTH CONSULTANT, INC., d/b/a THE INCOME STORE; RIVER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, n/k/a RIVER PLAZA OFFICE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; "UNKNOWN OWNERS" and "NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS," Defendants.

Case No. 2023 CH 07632 Sheriff's No. 250013

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, 2024, the Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will at 1:00 p.m. on March 26, 2025, outside of Room L106 in the RICHARD J. DALEY CENTER, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Common Address: 405 N. Wabash Ave., Unit 5109-10 Chicago, Illinois 60611 Permanent Index No: 17-10-132-037-1675 17-10-132-040-1036

The real estate is improved a residential condominium unit. The judgment amount was \$739,320.92. Sale terms: Ten Percent (10%) down by certified funds; the balance, by certified funds, is due within 24 hours. The subject property is subject to real estate taxes or special assessments and is offered for sale without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney, Tina M. Jacobs, JACOBS & PINTA, 77 West Washington Street, Suite 1005, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (telephone: (312) 263-1005).

Real Estate For Sale

Commonly known as 2614 NORTH CLYBOURN, CHICAGO, IL 60614 Property Index No. 14-30-400-075-1028; 14-30-400-075-1123

The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$341,447.88. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

Case No. 2024 CH 03430 Sheriff's No. 250013

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 18, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 21, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 2614 NORTH CLYBOURN, CHICAGO, IL 60614 Property Index No. 14-30-400-075-1028; 14-30-400-075-1123

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Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION HEARTLAND BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, Plaintiff,

KENNETH COURTRIGHT III; KERRI COURTRIGHT; 405 N. WABASH 5109-10, LLC; RAYMOND H. CHRISTENSEN IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2019; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION; TODAY'S GROWTH CONSULTANT, INC., d/b/a THE INCOME STORE; RIVER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, n/k/a RIVER PLAZA OFFICE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; "UNKNOWN OWNERS" and "NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS," Defendants.

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Real Estate For Sale

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Case No. 2024 CH 03430 Sheriff's No. 250013

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 18, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 21, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 2614 NORTH CLYBOURN, CHICAGO, IL 60614 Property Index No. 14-30-400-075-1028; 14-30-400-075-1123

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Real Estate For Sale

identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 24-198096. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: LM.MAIL@RASLGC.COM Attorney File No. 24-198096 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code: 65582 Case Number: 2024 CH 03430 T.J.S.C#: 44-3360

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 03430 13261096

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Letter to the Editor

A call for best practice

When it comes to zoning approvals in Chicago, some developers seem to get a head start, while residents are left scrambling to catch up. The Fern Hill development in Old Town is a prime example.

From the moment this project was introduced, the developers were several steps ahead of meeting with city officials, refining their plans, and securing political buy-in before the public ever saw the first draft.

Meanwhile, residents were given compressed timelines, vague community engagement sessions, and the illusion of input on a deal that had already been set in motion.

Journalist Don DeBat identified this head start in his exposé on the zoning amendment application, which was executed by various partners in January and February 2024 and formally introduced into City Hall on March 20, 2024. By the time the community was made aware, key decisions had already been made behind closed doors.

This raises serious questions: Was this project predetermined? Was public input just for show?

Compare this to 1565 N. Clybourn, another 37-story project that was up for consideration. In that case, the developer conducted and presented a seasonal light

CHAMPIONS from p. 1

regionals.”

DePaul Prep senior Kvanme, widely regarded as a top point guard in the area, reflected on his last home game in DePaul's Tom Winiecki Gym. “I have played here for so long, developed such a great relationship with my teammates. It means the world to me being here with my teammates and coaches.”

As good of a night as it was for the Rams, it was that and more for the Lane Tech Champions. The number four seed Champions defeated the previously ranked and five seed New Trier Trevians in the Maine South regional final 67-57. This was Lane's first regional championship in school history. The Champions join the ranks of venerable South Side 2025 CPS regional champions such as Kenwood, Simeon, Whitney Young and Curie.

The Champions reprised their Jan. 18 60-47 victory over New Trier but it wasn't without having to deal with adjustments by the Trevians.

“They really tried to negate first team All-City [senior center] Dalton [Scantlebury],” said Lane Tech head coach Nick LoGalbo.

New Trier junior forward Christopher Kirkpatrick led the Trevians attack with his deadly long range jumpers. Kirkpatrick managed 29 points but it would not be enough to overcome a 17-4 first quarter deficit.

“We got hot from three early. We made some big ones late. We got to a point where they were just daring us to shoot it. Drew Barolai hit a big one from the corner. That kind of broke the game open in the third quarter.” LoGalbo said.

“I am super proud of our guys. We have been talking about trying to do this for a long time. I thought we had the team to do it. We decided that we are going to go play everybody. We found a way to get ourselves here. Our guys were ready for the moment.”

DePaul Prep advances to face a somewhat overlooked St. Viator Lions team in the 3A Antioch Sectional semi-final on March 4 [after deadline]. The Lions have put together an impressive 23-9 record year.

The Lane Tech Champions will face #12 Evanston (26-5) in the 4A New Trier Sectional semi also on March 4.

Other area teams also played in the regional championships. In 4A, #20 Whitney Young knocked off the other ranked area team #13 Lincoln Park 50-47.

study, complete with slides, at a community Zoom meeting. That presentation demonstrated transparency and consideration for community concerns.

That development provided clear insight into how its tower design would impact sunlight, shadows, and overall neighborhood livability.

Meanwhile, Fern Hill, which is in the Lakefront Protection Ordinance Zone [LPO], was asked at a community meeting held shortly after the Clybourn presentation for a sun and shadow study. They ignored the request. They also failed to provide a requested wind study.

So much for good-faith engagement, transparency, and respect for the community. Why did Fern Hill get a pass?

Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] and the Chicago Plan Commission have a responsibility to apply zoning laws consistently. If one high-rise considered environmental studies, why did Fern Hill get a pass?

If public sightlines along LaSalle St. matter under the LPO, why is a high-rise being greenlit without a clear justification?

Chicago's zoning process shouldn't be a place where developers get a head start and residents are left fighting from behind.

The city must demand the same level of transparency, a full environmental review, and public accountability evidently used for 1565 N. Clybourn. Anything less is a betrayal of the public trust.

If other developers can in good faith provide sun and shadow studies, why can't this become a best practice along with wind studies and be required as part of the Fern Hill evaluation, especially given the requirements of the LPO?

Tim Carew
Old Town

MEETING from p. 1

with 82% of housing stock being studio to 2-bedroom units.

Charmelo added that the median home sale price in Edgewater in 2024 was \$270,000 vs. a city median of \$355,000. The median rent in Edgewater in 2024 was \$1,422 vs. \$1,873 for the city median.

In 2010, Edgewater and Uptown had nearly identical statistics for income yet rent was 17% higher in Edgewater than in Uptown. By 2024, Uptown added over 2,000 more rental units - with the B3-5 zoning - with Uptown now costing nearly 30% more than Edgewater. The B3-5 zoning has caused rents to soar, not decrease.

Charmelo addressed DPD's claim of the declining Black population in Edgewater, by pointing out that the city has lost over 400,000 Blacks as many have moved to the suburbs or out of state, many to Atlanta seeking better jobs and schools. And most of those Black families who fled left the West and South Sides.

DPD claims the Broadway upzoning framework would help Chicago public schools, yet Charmelo points out that Peirce and Hayt schools are at capacity while Swift is up 12% year over year despite CPS losing close to 30% of students. Charmelo said this is due to many factors including lower overall birth rates. Chicago has lost one million people from its peak population in 1950.

Edgewater resident and journalist Harris Meyer talked about the loss of many small, independently-owned family businesses that will not likely not survive the DPD's upzoning and development plan.

Meyer pointed out it's a “no-brainer” for property owners to sell their single and two-story buildings that the city claims are underutilized and incompatible for a new high density mixed-use development with the city approved B3-5 zoning that will allow an 8-story building. The businesses

would be rapidly displaced and unlikely to afford the new rental rates.

Meyer listed 37 local businesses with untold employees that might not survive upzoning. Citing one building on the east side of Broadway immediately north of Thorndale Ave. housing four businesses including Bark Bark Club and Independent Wine and Spirits, the property owner refuses to offer an extended lease to the owners or to remove the clause requiring the businesses to leave on one-years' notice of demolition.

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Edgewater residents and ENN/NEON block clubs president Patricia Sharkey said the city is promoting a reckless rezoning for Edgewater's North Broadway. She said that DPD's proposed rezoning will displace residents, harm small businesses, and destroy the unique character of one of Chicago's most vibrant neighborhoods.

The framework is not just an administrative shuffle, said Sharkey. Edgewater is a densely populated community area with 36,000 individuals per square mile as of the 2020 Census. She says DPD's approach ignores the ethics of responsible city planning.

Sharkey says a comprehensive planning process must be undertaken before a rezoning of this magnitude is approved. She says DPD is promoting a citywide agenda without considering Edgewater's unique character while noting DPD's approach appears arbitrary.

CPC commissioners and DPD both say that approving the upzoning framework isn't in itself a zoning change but the writing is on the wall. Especially as Aldermen Angela Clay [46], Matt Martin [47th], and Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth [48th] are part and parcel of DPD's upzoning effort.

LEVELS from p. 1

precipitation alone to fill up for several months, as is the case when temperatures dip below freezing. Pumps that turn on automatically to fill the pond when precipitation is insufficient have been off since last autumn as part of seasonal winterization.

Though the pumps shut down for the winter, this season, aerators and mixers were left on for the benefit of fish and other aquatic life. These mechanisms, anchored to the pond bottom, keep water moving enough to ensure the amount of dissolved oxygen stays at a healthy level, especially when ice covers much of the water's surface. The full array of pumps, compressors, mixers, and aerators will be turned back on this spring.

The post-construction work of restoration ecology has only just begun. The young reeds and sedges planted last spring will take a few seasons to grow to their potential, and it will take many years and continuing stewardship to transform this feat of hydro engineering into a thriving ecosystem.

In the meantime, some structural contours may be visible during periods of low precipitation. These areas of exposed pond edge maybe unsightly to some human eyes, but are an asset to wildlife who use it for burrowing, nesting material, or as hunting grounds. While the look may not match our predilections as people, the Pond appears differently to the non-human animals for whom it is a Sanctuary.

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