

We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.

— Thomas Jefferson

# INSIDE-BOOSTER

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**Early Birds:**  
Chicago's beloved Purple Martins returning to town, need help with housing  
*Story on page 5*

## How a few voters control the fate of more than \$1B in new spending

This election season, voters throughout Cook County will decide whether to repair aging schools, improve a lake front beach, shut down a fire department and give local politicians new powers to tax.

If history is any guide, only a sliver of the electorate will decide the outcomes of those key ballot questions known as referendums.

An average of less than one out of every three registered voters determined the fate of 75 property tax-related referendums from 2020 to 2023 in Cook County, an analysis by the office of Treasurer Maria Pappas found.

In fact, turnout has been so poor that the fate of nearly half of those referendums was decided by less than 25% of all voters.

"Voters are given the power to make these key decisions, but most don't bother to vote," Pappas said. "And when their taxes go up, they are the first to complain."

When voters stay home, they allow a small group of motivated voters to hold sway over decisions that impact their wallets.

The analysis, titled "The Few Decide for the Many," found that seven out of 10 referendums were approved, with majorities voting on less than 10% of those that did pass.

Those referendums allowed government to create \$1.16 billion in new debt and increase property tax caps by more than \$59 million.

The analysis also shows how one or two votes, amid poor turnout, determine outcomes of critical ballot questions:

- In south suburban Hometown, the decision to give officials home rule authority, which includes additional taxing powers, passed by two votes, 381-379. Just 27% of

the city's electorate voted in June 2022.

- In University Park, a referendum to create a park district failed on a tie vote of 815 – 815, with less than 22% of registered voters deciding the outcome in Nov. 2022.

**When voters stay home, they allow a small group of motivated voters to hold sway over decisions that impact their wallets.**

- In Stone Park, the fire department was eliminated by a vote of 182-145. Only 21% of the village's registered voters participated in the March 2020 election.

The March 19 primary is near. There will be at least 13 property tax-related referendums on that ballot: five to issue bonds totaling \$152.3 million; four to exceed tax-increase limits by a total of more than \$8.6 million; two to grant suburbs home rule authority; one to increase a south suburban township's taxes to provide additional mental health services; one to dissolve a northwest suburban fire protection district that stopped operating in Oct. 2023, and if the courts allow, a Chicago referendum to significantly increase the transfer tax charged on property sales of more than \$1 million.

Given historically low turnout for primary elections, it's highly likely that those issues will be decided by the few, on behalf of the many.

"I urge voters to get out and vote, and also to not skip the referendum questions lower on the ballot so these issues can truly be determined by a majority and not by a few," Pappas said.

## Mayor's Mansion Tax back on, vote to nick North Side's high priced properties on ballot

BY DON DEBAT  
*The Home Front*

The war between Chicago's proposed \$100-million homeless fund and million-dollar-plus property owners could be headed to the Illinois Supreme Court.

On March 6, an Illinois appellate court ruled that votes on Chicago's March 19 referendum on the so-called "Mansion Tax" will count, overturning a lower court's decision.

The court ruled a previous decision by Cook County Judge Katheen Burke was invalid because she didn't have jurisdiction.

The referendum question was unconstitutional and invalid, Burke said. However, three appellate justices ruled Burke's decision to rule on a referendum that was a legislative issue—not a judicial question—was wrong.

The appellate court ruling didn't weigh in on the merits of the referendum, only the validity of its place on the ballot. "Nothing in this decision is intended to suggest that we have any opinion one way or the other on the merits of the referendum at issue," the justices wrote. "That is a question wisely entrusted to the people of the city of Chicago."

Voters have until March 19 to decide whether they want a hike in the real estate transfer tax that is intended to raise a \$100 million to help the homeless.

Downtown Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd], one of the most outspoken critics of the transfer-tax change that would greatly increase fees charged for buying a \$1-million-plus property, said that the real estate industry's best chance to defeat the binding referendum was through the court system—not the ballot box. So, the next step to block the Mansion Tax may be

TAX see p. 4

## Measles reported at Swedish Hospital; one of three cases reported

**City health officials seek those who busted out of migrant shelter, fear possible outbreak**

BY PETER VON BUOL

After a case of measles was diagnosed in a patient treated at Swedish Hospital's Galter Life Center on Feb. 27, local public health officials have been urging those who may have been exposed that morning to immediately contact Chicago's Dept. of Public Health [CDPH] through a dedicated hotline.

And after a disruption and

breakout at a locked-down, quarantined migrant shelter in Pilsen, city officials are now asking those who fled the facility to check in with the city, fearing they may further spread the virus.

Once among the most feared of communicable diseases, and with no local cases reported since 2019, many had believed it had been locally eradicated.

Within the past few days, there have been three reported cases of measles. The city's first case was found in a child living at a homeless shelter in Pilsen at 2241 S. Halsted St., and he is now reportedly symptom-free.

On Sunday, city health officials announced a second child living at the shelter has also been diagnosed with measles and is now hospitalized. That child is of school age and attends a Chicago Public School.

City health officials asked shelter residents who were recently vaccinated or unvaccinated to remain inside. A retired city official has told this newspaper that not all have complied and many simply left the locked-down facility.

According to federal health officials, before the introduction of

MEASLES see p. 12

## After 107 years of faithful service, Lourdes "jewel box" grotto set to close

**Grotto is blotto May 19**

BY PETER VON BUOL

First opened in Dec. 1917, the historic grotto at the former parish church of Our Lady of Lourdes, 4640 N. Ashland Ave., will close on May 19, the same day as the main church building is scheduled to close, according to a written statement sent to this newspaper by the spokesperson for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The grotto commemorates one of France's most popular religious pilgrimage sites and its spring water has long been associated with healing miracles.

Now open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., the church's

indoor shrine, which is a replica of the pilgrimage site in the French Pyrenees, continues to see a constant stream of visitors. It is a tourist attraction of sorts drawing in visitors from the entire region.

In its official history of the Archdiocese of Chicago published in 2006, the shrine is described as a "jewel box of stained glass and statuary."

Despite those words, just 18 years later, that remarkable "jewel box" of a shrine will not remain open as a beacon of hope when the Our Lady of Lourdes chapel closes on May 19. It will not be saved at the site, nor will it be reconstructed elsewhere.

According to a spokesperson for the archdiocese, Rev. Manuel

Dorantes, the pastor of the St. Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes parish, made the decision to close the shrine at the same time the Our Lady of Lourdes chapel will be closing.

The shrine in France dates to 1858, when French teenager Bernadette Soubirous reported to Roman Catholic church officials that she had been seeing visions of a person who appeared to be Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ. Despite their initial skepticism, church officials investigated her 18 visions and eventually decided they were "worthy of belief."

Soubirousa joined a convent as an adult but died at the age of 35 in 1879. Less than six decades af-

GROTTO see p. 12



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# How do you celebrate St. Patrick's Day?



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Winter winds and blinding sleet, freeze land and water reed. The last vestige of village life and sea grass to get eaten. Celtic tribes pursued vast reaches of empty tracts in the hopes of finding country vittles, neither racked nor ruined. "The perfect crust we feast."

Strange words spill from the lips of these Bronze Age Irish warriors hungry for their winter celebration of a man on horseback. Patrick then reorganized their lives, and now vanishes into the time frame of history. Fifth century logic. Everyday problem. Stay close to the light of the world. It wasn't known as the Dark Ages for nothing.

As the light breaks across the vale of Downpatrick, the wise man is present before them again with fresh light in old darkness. With strong words that speak to heart. Handy as ink on a pen quill. Or fresh warmth for an old chill.

For Patrick, the transforming life of the Lord lifted the disciple high above the torn promises of weak, self-absorbed commitments and fragile love that only can imprison. Patrick shows with blunt embrace the need that opens

up our worst fear to peace and healing.

Fifth century Ireland, with a short fuse and a wide spark, hoped that it was possible to lift the darkness. Patrick captured the Irish mood, the need for hope in a time of collective anxiety. "If we winter this one out, we can summer anywhere." Its clay shaped the heart of Irish poets. Poet Eavan Boland reached for a shard of Patrick's light: "Oppose violence in all its guises and speak out for the weak and the marginalized."

Poet Paddy Kavanagh saw a wider light, more forgiving: "On an apple-ripe September morning, through the mist-chill fields I went

With a pitch-fork on my shoulder, less for use than for devilment."

I recommend you follow the bards: "Raise a glass to St. Patrick. Raise a glass with me, we'll celebrate the patron saint who sailed the Irish sea. On the hills of Slemish a slave became a man. His spirit was unbroken by chieftain or by clan. The isle of green was in his soul he feared no druid's curse. And long will we remember him in scripture and in verse."

Irish poems are a doorway for you to squeeze through and add beauty and meaning to your St. Patrick celebration, and let you feast like you really are Irish. Dutiful use of Ireland's wit and faithful inheritance of its ancient song. And be a trusted recipient of its poetry stretching from the



St. Patrick

Bronze Age to the present.

Patrick shares a dream of civil liberty; freedom from the Boot of Britain to any willing to open their souls and imaginations to the words of a timeless vocabulary. Assessing the human condition, engaging the human experience. A tribal judgment on the spinning human sphere of earth. Smelling creation fully at arrival of hunt birds. Layers of the past still held dear in the presence.

That's why Patrick is so important. He helped to unleash their capacity to see with the eyes of faith. Not green beer.

Patrick helped the Irish find themselves in the Gospels. To spot their wisdom flowing from the wisdom of the God of Creation.

Patrick jumps to survive the greed of his neighborhood in Britain to reconcile culture and civilization flowing still from the sustaining words of Jesus.

Patrick's entire life was placed at the disposal of Ireland's identity. Our sense of justice. Our sense of fair play. Our sense of duty. Our sense of creation by God's hand on the earth.

**BRIGHT HOPE FOR CHICAGO:** Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development and Minister for Social Protection will represent the Irish Government for festivities related to St. Patrick's Day here.

Saturday, March 16 is the Parade. Green River. Corned Beef. Green beer. Drunk teens. All the things that make the Irish proud. Try going to Mass if you're Irish, it will do you more good.

The first Downtown St. Patrick's Day parade was held on March 17, 1843. It was a modest affair, representing the Irish of Chicago, who then numbered about 775. The marchers trooped down Clark St. with "Smiling John" Davlin as Grand Marshal.

No one went on to unify the Irish of Chicago more than Mayor Richard J. Daley. From the moment of his election as mayor in 1955, he worked to establish

the City's one municipal St. Patrick's Day Parade, Downtown for 1956.

He went on to authorize Local 103 of the Plumber's Union to be the organizing force behind the city's efforts, under the leadership of his great pal Mr. Ed Bra-

bec, president of the Chicago Federation of

Labor. His broadband force in major union politics gave him skills and a common sense approach helping to provide Chicago with the internal workings of a large scale city-wide dynamic

sense of ownership for the annual event. Their leadership provided smooth sailing for St. Patrick.

Chicago does have a lot to be proud of. But we must be careful and not brag too much. It's still true that nobody likes a smarty-pants.

St. Patrick's Parade Queen, Grace O'Connor, will be front and center at the Parade. She is a graduate of Northwestern Univ. Class of 2023, and Loyola Law School. She holds an MBA, and practices with the firm of Kirkland and Ellis. She is the daughter of Meredith Sweeney O'Connor and Dan O'Connor. And the sister of Liam, Danny, Owen and Brendan O'Connor.

Old Town restaurateur and developer Peter O'Brien is the Grand Marshall, the 98th President of the Irish Fellowship Club. A man with the savvy skills and lucky pedigree powerful enough to lead Chicagoans in a parade.

Guest of Honor is Hon. Patrick Kennedy, former Massachusetts Congressman. Younger son of the late Massachusetts Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

Two American Irishmen who have made the issues of mental health a priority in their lives. And the proud significance of their Irish roots. America was fashioned from the faith and patriotism of such men and millions more like them.

Chicago's economies were shaped by the efforts of families like the O'Briens and the Kennedys.

The O'Briens have recently broken ground for the new hotel to be built on Wells St.



Peter O'Brien



Grace O'Connor, parade queen.




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# DePaul Prep wins state championship

**Defeat of Mount Carmel ends phenomenal winningest season in school history**



By **Jack Lydon**

Defense and free throws win games and state championships. The DePaul Prep Rams (35-2) defeated the Mount Carmel Caravan (32-6) to win the IHSA 3A state championship. It's DePaul's second straight state championship. They are believed to be the first team to win consecutive championship in two different classes, 2A and 3A.

The DePaul Prep's second straight state championship is just another in a string of successes in recent years: a 2A state championship last year, third-place finish in 2A in 2022, #1 ranking with wins over Fenwick and Evanston to win the Chipotle tournament in the COVID year and a third-place finish in 3A in 2019.

The Rams are the winningest team in playoff finishes in the last five years.

The Rams and Caravan know each other well. They battled in February for the championship of the Chicago Catholic League, widely regarded as the top conference in the state this year. The first meeting had the feel of a heavyweight prize fight, or at least a Catholic League football game.

The Rams prevailed 41-38 but the Caravan's Lee Marks was out having broken his elbow in the game against Leo a week before. Marks adds so much to Mount Carmel as he proved in the semi-final against Mt. Zion.

No matter. The Rams opened the game in their usual fashion. DePaul Prep's junior point guard Makai Kvamme, leading scorer for the Rams with 18 points, opened the scoring with a three pointer and then a layup off a turnover. The Rams added 10 more points and took the lead 15-7 at the end of the first quarter.

It's best not to get behind DePaul Prep. Few teams are better at handling the ball and controlling the tempo. But the Caravan has senior forward and Northwestern commit Angelo Ciaravino (24 points). He is no ordinary player. Led by Ciaravino, the Caravan charged back in the third quarter.

The refs called the game much tighter than the refs did in the first matchup between the teams. Shortly into the third, DePaul Prep was called for three fouls in the space of four seconds.

DePaul head coach Tom Kleinschmidt agreed the refs were calling the game tighter than he expected in a championship.

"I kind of lost my composure a little [with the refs]. That was my fault," Kleinschmidt said.

The Caravan cut the Rams lead to six points at the end of the third quarter and ramped up the defensive pressure in the fourth frame.

Championship experience and hours of free throw practice paid dividends for the Rams. Senior and all area guard PJ Chambers was calm as could be. With the score 37-34, Chambers stepped up the line and dropped two free throws with 1:44 to go, and then two more at 1:20. And then two



DePaul Prep's PJ Chambers drives the baseline against Mount Carmel's Angelo Ciaravino.

more at 1:05.

It was Kvamme's turn at the line with 50 seconds left. Two more free throws made. A layup by sophomore guard Rob Walls added two more points. Two more free throws at the end for Kvamme made it a 49-41 final. And a state championship, again.

"I don't even have words. I am very excited. It's amazing. It's a pleasure to be part of this DePaul Prep program and to win so much," said Rams' point guard Kvamme.

As for the free throws, Kvamme said, "I don't think about it anymore. I am pretty confident. After the Normal game [where he missed two free throws with no time on the clock that could have won it for the Rams], we worked on them every day because I missed those two free throws. I was upset obviously after the

game. I just kept working," Kvamme said.

Mount Carmel head coach Phil Segroves downplayed the tight calls. "I don't know what the foul totals were. We did come out a little bit more aggressive [in the second half]. We knew that we had to play a little bit more up tempo. We were able to force some turnovers and get some quick buckets. That is where you saw the 12-point lead cut to three," Segroves said.

"We had the right scout on the wrong night. We had a great scout for DePaul Prep based on what we had seen and us playing them earlier in the year. Their guys did some stuff that we were not expecting. Their guys hit some big shots early. All the credit to Coach Kleinschmidt and DePaul Prep."

It was a phenomenal season

for the Rams. They won the Chicago Catholic League. It was the winningest season in school history, 35-2. Their only two losses were to the two teams that played for the 4A state championship, Homewood-Flossmoor and Normal Community. They did it without starter junior guard Walls for much of the season and anticipated starter Jonas Johnson for most of the season.

They did it starting two seniors, two juniors and a sophomore. The sixth man was also a sophomore. They did it without a lot of fanfare. They did it in a workmanlike fashion. They enjoyed themselves. And so too did all those who witnessed this season.



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## Wilson Ave. Bridge to be closed for two months

Beginning on March 25, the Wilson Ave. Bridge over the Chicago River will close down for repairs through May 27.

While vehicle passage will be shut down, sidewalks are expected to remain open while the Chicago Dept. of Transportation performs structural repairs.

Westbound traffic on Wilson Ave. will be directed to turn south onto N. Western Ave. and then turn east onto W. Montrose Ave. to cross the river.

Eastbound traffic on Wilson Ave. will be directed to turn south onto Manor Ave. and then onto California, after which they will turn east onto Montrose to cross the river.

**Spring Returns to the Parks!**

# Register for Spring

## Programs & Events at the Chicago Park District!

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In-person registration begins March 9!  
Spring Programs session runs from April 8 to June 9.

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**Letter to the Editor**

**Talk about putting lipstick on a pig**

Last week's article about the City of Chicago's announced cash gift [City giving financial support to Loop businesses, museum, Mar. 6] is a good example of putting lipstick on a pig.

How does giving cash to six restaurants to remodel help the downtown area? Will that help lower the number of crimes?

That's the real reason why people aren't going downtown, and why tourists don't want to come here anymore. I know I'm telling my friends and family not come to Chicago right now.

The city is apparently aware that there are numerous empty store-

fronts, yet they're not planning to spend taxpayer money on helping small businesses open up a shop. They want to give money only to already existing shops for purely cosmetic changes.

Where is the logic in that?

The city plans on giving those six businesses \$1,255,800. Over a million dollars spent on lipstick!

Wouldn't that taxpayer money be better spent on more business-friendly practices such as ample parking, financial assistance for new businesses and hiring more police to address the crime rate that scares us all away?

Sydney Moore  
Andersonville

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Held in the Lerner Auditorium,  
Conrad Sulzer Regional Library at 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

**TAX** from p. 1

the Illinois Supreme Court.

"Our coalition of policy advocates commend the appellate court for dismissing the real estate lobby's effort to invalidate the ballot question," said Maxica Williams, Board President of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. "We look forward to keep-



**The Home Front**

by Don DeBat

ing up our efforts for a fair and sustainable plan to fund housing and care for the homeless, and ask wealthy real estate corporations to pay their fair share."

According to the Illinois Policy Institute, an independent taxpayer advocacy organization, nothing outlined in the referendum guarantees that the new transfer-tax funds actually will go to solving the problem of homelessness. The fact is, the precise details on how, where and when the Mayor intends to spend the potential new tax windfall are being kept secret. Taxpayers are essentially being told 'just trust us.'

"While the ballot initiative claims it would help the homeless, the fact is that Mayor Brandon Johnson and the City of Chicago lay out no plan to do so," said attorney Mailee Smith, senior director of labor policy at Illinois Policy. "The city already has tens of millions set aside for homelessness programs that it isn't using."

Those public officials who are now managing migrant services are some of the most secretive operations in the city today.

Here are the facts outlined on the March 19th referendum ballot:

- Buyers of properties valued at under \$1 million would pay a transfer tax of \$3 for every \$500 of the transfer price. The transfer tax of 0.60% represents a decrease of 20% over the current fee.

- Purchasers of properties valued at between \$1 million and \$1.5 million would pay a transfer tax of \$10 for every \$500 of the transfer price. The transfer tax of 2% represents an increase of 166.67% above the current fee.

- Buyers of properties valued at more than \$1.5 million would pay a transfer tax of \$15 for every \$500 of the transfer price. The transfer tax of 3% represents an increase of 300% above of the current fee.

The rates would be applied incrementally, meaning a property selling for \$2 million would be taxed at 0.60% on the first \$1 million, 2% on the next \$500,000, and 3% on the balance over \$1.5 million.

The current Chicago transfer tax calls for the buyer to pay a flat 0.75%, or \$7.50 per \$1,000 of sales price. Sellers pay \$3 per \$1,000 of the property's value, along with \$1.50 per \$1,000 to the state of Illinois, and 50¢ per \$1,000 to Cook County.

**"While the ballot initiative claims it would help the homeless, the fact is that Mayor Brandon Johnson and the City of Chicago lay out no plan to do so," said attorney Mailee Smith, senior director of labor policy at Illinois Policy.**

**"The city already has tens of millions set aside for homelessness programs that it isn't using."**

While proponents have dubbed the new transfer tax proposal the "Mansion Tax," relatively few homes sell for \$1 million or more in Chicago. Most of those are in the downtown area and along the North Lakefront. Yes, this means you, the readers of this newspaper.

Most of the proposed transfer tax bite will hit owners of commercial and apartment properties, which sell nine times more often than residences above the \$1 million threshold targeted by the tax hike, according to the Illinois Policy Institute.

"There are 5,142 commercial properties in the city which would be vulnerable to the hike

if sold, thwarting new business starts that could offer jobs to truly get homeless Chicagoans off the streets," according to an Illinois Policy study.

Opponents of changing the tax structure include: the Building Owners and Managers Assn. of Chicago, the Chicagoland Apartment Assn., the Neighborhood Building Owners Alliance and the Illinois Realtors Assn.

**They're talking about taxing you**

Some real estate experts say the proposed transfer-tax hike could eventually backfire to actually reduce the city's affordable housing stock.

Thousands of small apartment buildings are owned by "Ma and Pa" middle-class people and senior citizens, who frequently charge under-market affordable rents.

While a growing number of those properties may be valued at more than \$1-million, the buildings really represent the middle-class owner's retirement nest egg. It may be the vast majority of their own families' wealth and security.

Although the biggest chunk of the proposed tax would be paid by the buyer, it could lower the seller's net sales price by tens of thousands of dollars.

The luxury tax likely will lower prices and reduce sales volume, especially in North Lakefront neighborhoods—such as the Gold Coast, Near North Side, Lincoln Park, Old Town, Lakeview and Edgewater, according to Illinois Realtors.

If the Mansion Tax proposal is voted in via referendum, and the City Council approves it, experts say Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi may have to institute a new model for assessing \$1-million-plus homes to compensate for falling market values and the hefty burden of the added layer of taxes.

In the end, the whole effort may result in a shifting of property taxes away from traditional taxpayer-supported entities [think libraries, streets and sanitation, parks, and schools] and into the Mayor's Office. And how he will actually spend it is still a mystery. As Mayor Johnson is being controlled by the Chicago Teacher's Union [CTU], and on March 7, during a Chicago City Club speech, CTU president Stacy Davis Gates just said the union wanted housing subsidies for Chicago teachers, one wonders if this is where the money will really end up going?

One tip-off of a potential bait and switch on this tax scheme might be that after the March 19 vote, if the referendum passes, then suddenly we start hearing narratives about 'teachers not being able to afford housing,' then that may be a leading indicator that the CTU's membership may be the intended benefactors of the new tax haul.

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

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# Early Birds: Chicago's beloved Purple Martins returning to town

**But these bug-eating birds need your help with housing**

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. 21 in Illinois by a Purple Martin enthusiast – one of many throughout the eastern and central United States who track and report on the birds' annual migration on behalf of the Purple Martin Conservation Assoc.

Purple Martins are the largest member of the Swallow family, and they are bug eating machines. If you want to limit back yard mosquitoes, then get a bird apartment installed in your yard and help many birds with one home. A single Purple Martin can supposedly eat 2,000 bugs a day.

They also dine on dragonflies, damselflies, flies, midges, mayflies, stinkbugs, leafhoppers, Japanese beetles, June bugs, butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, cicadas, bees, wasps, flying ants, and ballooning spiders.

Birders look for them flying around or perched on those large, aluminum birdhouses on poles at various locations around town. Their birdhouses look like mini apartment complexes filled with purple birds flying in and out calling "pew-pew." Purple Martins once nested in natural tree hollows and other crevices near wooded ponds and marshes. Purple Martins are mostly incompetent when it comes to building shelters, so they rely on human efforts where their natural roosts have been destroyed. Today, due to the decline of natural habitat, nearly all of the Purple Martins in Chicago rely on man-made nest boxes in which to raise their young.

The migration of these unique birds can be reported and tracked through a community science project called the Scout-Arriv-



Once an endangered species, the Purple Martin has rebounded thanks to protection by a federal law, and boosterism of towns like Griggsville, IL, which has become the Purple Martin Capital of the nation. A single Purple Martin can supposedly eat 2,000 mosquitoes a day. Purple Martins are colonial nesters—they like to nest in groups—so at least 4 cavities should be offered. Between 6 to 12 cavities is a great start for a colony.

al Study (visit [www.purplemartin.org](http://www.purplemartin.org)).

"The first Purple Martin arrivals of the season are always an exciting event," said Joe Siegrist, President of the Purple Martin Conservation Assoc. "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 protection by a federal law, boosterism of towns like Griggsville, IL, which may be the Purple Martin capital of North America. The town lies in the vicinity of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, and in the muggy summer months, a cloud of blood sucking bugs can descend on an unprepared community. They're fighting back by feeding those bugs to the birds.

Griggsville seem to have a big birdhouse on almost every street corner. Near the town center, a 70-foot-tall, 562-apartment bird skyscraper pokes up into the blue sky, visible for miles by its intended inhabitant -- the Purple Martin.

Spring migrants typically begin arriving in Illinois in late March and early April. Males arrive before females to establish a territory. Eggs are produced from mid-April through July. The Purple Martin once nested in natural cavities in rocks and trees but now most often nests in the big bird boxes provided by humans.

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 eats 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 decline seems to be the combination of a few factors: nesting habitat loss, competing invasive species, decreasing prey availability, and climate change," said Siegrist. "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

**MARTINS** see p. 10

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# Police Beat...

## Rogers Park mail thief robbed postal worker of master key

A man who was allegedly found with a U.S. Postal Service master key when Chicago cops arrested him for mail theft in Rogers Park late last year has now been charged with robbing a mail carrier to get the key.

Cops initially arrested Michael Valentine, 38, in the 6700 block of N. Lakewood on Dec. 6 after receiving a call about a burglary in progress.

The police said they found bulk mail addressed to different people inside Valentine's canvas bag. The officers said they also found a postal service master



Michael Valentine

key about 15 feet from where they detained him. The report said investigators determined that a robber had taken the key from a mail carrier weeks earlier.

Postal service masters, also known as "arrow keys," allow mail carriers to access apartment buildings and mailbox systems.

Prosecutors only charged Valentine with burglary and possession of burglary tools in December, but detectives continued to investigate the robbery. That investigation led them right back to Valentine.

In newly filed court papers, prosecutors said a 62-year-old mail carrier identified Valentine in a photo line-up as the man who robbed her of her master key in the 10300 block of S. Calumet on Nov 8, 2023.

Valentine approached her with his hands in his pockets and "forcefully demanded" her work keys, according to a detention petition. The mail carrier surrendered her keys, bolted to her work truck, and locked herself inside.

The petition said he tried to open the truck and banged on the doors, but eventually ran away.

Judge Susana Ortiz rejected the state's detention petition and allowed Valentine to return home on electronic monitoring. He was already on an ankle monitor as a condition of release in the pending burglary case.

## Armed men robbed five convenience stores and their customers in about 90 minutes

Four men armed with a rifle and a pistol robbed five convenience stores in about 90 minutes on March 5, Chicago police said, targeting stores from Logan Square to Lakeview.

"Hands up, open the registers, empty your pockets, and get on the ground," the crew ordered the stores' cashiers and customers, according to a CPD bulletin released March 6.

Once they were in control of the store, the group took money from the registers along with liquor or tobacco products, the police said. Then they robbed the clerks and custom-

ers, too, taking cash and phones.

CPD said the robbers traveled in a light blue Infiniti with Illinois plate EH77922. The car was recently reported stolen from the 4200 block of N. Marmora, according to CPD records.

Investigators said the group committed robberies at 7-Eleven stores located at 2401 N. Milwaukee at 4:07 a.m.; 2355 N. Damen at 4:27 a.m.; 1160 W. Diversey at 4:38 a.m.; 2004 N. Halsted at 4:40 a.m., and 33 S. Aberdeen at 5:24 a.m.

The bulletin described them as Black males between 16 and 25 years old wearing black ski masks and dark clothing.

Tips can be shared with Area Three detectives at 312-746-7394 and 312-744-8263. Callers should refer to pattern #24-CWP-014.

## 15-year-old boy teamed up with 14-year-old to rob nine stores while armed with guns, knives

A 15-year-old boy stands accused of working with a 14-year-old boy to rob nine North Side stores while brandishing weapons, Chicago police said this morning.

We told you about the 14-year-old, who is charged with ten armed robberies, on Feb. 23. Now, CPD says they've caught his accomplice.

Between Jan. 19 and Feb. 8, the armed adolescent robbed stores, mostly Walgreens locations, in Edgewater, Rogers Park, and West Ridge.

Each time, they took money from registers and forced employees to open the store's safe, according to details revealed by Chicago police in community alerts about the crime pattern. The alerts said up to four men, armed with pistols and knives, were involved in the robberies.

Prosecutors have charged the teens with robbing the Walgreens at 6140 N. Western on Jan. 30 and Feb. 2. They're also accused of holding up sores in the 1400 block of W. Devon on Jan. 19 and 23, as well as locations in the 3100 block of W. Devon, 1900 block of W. Foster, 4300 block of N. Kedzie, and the 6100 block of N. Broadway.

The 15-year-old is also charged with robbing a store in the 6200 block of N. Western on January 29. The 14-year-old is individually charged with robbing the Walgreens at 6140 N. Western on February 20.

## Eighteen-time felon 'Puffy Coat Bandit' is charged again while on probation for thefts

An 18-time convicted felon on probation for being part of the "Puffy Coat Bandit" theft ring was arrested March 3 after he committed the exact same crime that he's on probation for, according to prosecutors: stealing a man's credit cards and using them almost immediately to buy things at Target.



Jerome Sharp

During an initial appearance this week, Judge Susana Ortiz released Jerome Sharp, 30, with a nighttime curfew. He was not detained for violating probation.

One year ago, the "Puffy Coat Bandits" were the talk of the town as they slithered through restaurants in their bulky winter coats, stealing phones, wallets, and purses from unsuspecting diners. The victims' credit cards were maxed out before they had time

to notify their banks, often at Target stores in the South Loop and the Near North Side, according to Chicago police reports.

The story made the news as restaurant workers claimed Chicago cops weren't doing anything about the crimes. In fact, CPD had an active investigation going on for weeks. They even won assistance from the U.S. Marshals Service after the puffy coat guys stole the wallet and work credentials from a federal judge's law clerk.

Sharp, 30, and James Wilkins, 29, were soon arrested. Sharp entered guilty pleas to three felonies in October, including identity theft and theft, according to court records. Judge Ursula Walowski gave him two years of probation.

Now, barely four months later, prosecutors say Sharp did the same thing again.

Around 2 p.m. March 3, he "participated in the theft" of a 20-year-old man's phone and credit cards from a coffee shop in the 900 block of W. Van Buren, according to his latest CPD arrest report.

The report said the victim's credit cards were quickly used in "multiple" fraudulent transactions at various locations. Cops caught up with Sharp at the Target store, 1200 N. Larrabee, about 45 minutes after the theft.

According to CPD's inventory records, cops recovered a woman's checkbook, gift cards, unopened PlayStations, 15 MasterCard gift cards, and an Apple Watch still in its case during his arrest.

Court records show the court's probation department filed a probation violation notice with Judge Walowski last month. The matter is scheduled to be reviewed during a hearing scheduled for next week.

Wilkins, the other man charged in last year's thefts, pleaded guilty last month in exchange for a sentence of time served.

## Man stabbed Lincoln Square 7-Eleven employee while on parole and on felony bail

Prosecutors say a suburban man stabbed a convenience store clerk in Lincoln Square during an altercation last May while on parole and on bail for a pending burglary charge.



Nicholas Mann

Nicholas Mann, 27, of Chicago Heights, is the 35th person charged with murder, attempted murder, or trying to shoot someone in Chicago last year while on felony pretrial release.

Officials say the trouble began around 3:30 p.m. May 17 when Mann went to the 7-Eleven at 5206 N. Western Ave. A store employee recognized Mann and asked him to leave.

Instead, Mann elbowed the 51-year-old clerk, who tried to push Mann out of the store, according to allegations made in court filings. The men began fighting, and Mann stabbed the employee twice in the back during the altercation, prosecutors said.

Judge Susana Ortiz granted the state's detention petition, noting that Mann was on parole for aggravated battery at the time of the attack. Mann will remain in custody, at least for now, while awaiting trial on charges of attempted murder and aggravated

battery with a deadly weapon.

About two weeks before the 7-11 altercation, Mann posted a \$500 bail deposit to get out of jail after prosecutors charged him with burglarizing a church in Chicago Heights, according to court records. He also has a pending assault charge that was filed against him last month.

## Active CTA robbery crew may be as young as 13

Chicago police say three robberies reported on the CTA on the North Side last week were all committed by the same group of thieves — thieves who may be as young as 13 years old.

In a community alert issued March 9, Area Three detectives said the group approached their targets from behind and took headphones from the victims' heads "by force." They escaped on foot after each robbery. According to the alert, robberies were reported on CTA platforms, trains, and buses.

The bulletin linked three specific incidents to the group: one in the 1500 block of N. Halsted on Tuesday afternoon, March 5; another in the 900 block of W. Belmont on Tuesday afternoon, March 5. CPD previously said a 23-year-old man was walking down the block when a robber took his property around 5:46 p.m., and one in the 1500 block of N. Clybourn on Wednesday afternoon, March 6.

Police described the suspects as four or five Black males between 13 and 15 years old who wear dark clothing. Tips can be shared with detectives by calling 312-744-8263 and referring to crime pattern #P24-3-018.

## Suspect detained after man reports being sexually assaulted inside Lakeview fitness center

Detectives are investigating after a man reported that he was sexually assaulted inside a Lakeview fitness center on March 7, according to Chicago police.

Officers responded to XSport, 3030 N. Broadway, around 6:15 p.m. and found the alleged offender was still at the scene, CPD said in a brief media statement.

A 28-year-old man told police that the 35-year-old male suspect sexually assaulted him inside the fitness center. Police arrested the accused man for investigation. A CPD evidence technician was brought in to collect evidence from a massage room.

## Man robbed two stores, burglarized bar during one-night crime spree

Prosecutors have charged a 19-year-old man with going on a nighttime crime spree in January, burglarizing a bar in Lincoln Park, and robbing other businesses in other neighborhoods.

Jaylen Smith, 19, has been detained to await trial since appearing before Judge William Fahy this week.

The spree started at 3:15 a.m. Jan. 9 at Subway, 4759 W. Fullerton. Officials said Smith jumped the counter and demanded the cashier's phone and the restaurant's cash.

Later, Smith used a rock to break the glass at McGee's Tavern and Grille, 950 W. Webster, at 4:45 a.m. Jan. 9, prosecutors said. He allegedly went inside with two accomplices, picked up a bag from a chair, and then fled upon seeing that there were other people inside the bar.

## Man wanted for robbery on Red Line



Images captured from CTA security cameras have been released of a man wanted for robbery on a CTA Red Line train.

Mass Transit detectives are seeking to identify the subjects in connection with a robbery that occurred at 188 N. State, on March 2 at around 7 p.m. The subject approached the victim, grabbed her headphones with force from her head and fled from the train.

The victim chased the subject at which time her cell phone fell to the ground and was subsequently recovered by a co-offender.

The offenders are described as a male African American, 16-18 years old, 5'-9 to 6' tall, 150-170 lbs., long corn roll hair, yellow-colored hoodie, black vest and the second man as a male African American, 16-18 years old, 5'-9 to 6' tall, also with long corn roll, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with the word "Pink" across front chest in pink colored lettering.



Jaylen Smith

The two accomplices remain at large.

Finally, around 6:45 a.m., Smith allegedly jumped the counter at 7-Eleven, 6801 N. Sheridan. Prosecutors said he took cash from the register, cigarettes, liquor, and the cashier's phone.

Prosecutors charged him with two counts of robbery and one count of burglary.

Fahy, the judge, noted in his detention order that Smith was adjudicated delinquent for two violent crimes as a juvenile.

## Man shot while walking in Edgewater, police say

A man is recovering this morning after someone shot him near an Edgewater elementary school March 10. Chicago police did not offer a motive for the shooting.

CPD said the 60-year-old was walking in the 1500 block of W. Granville when a white sedan pulled up around 3:22 a.m. Someone fired shots from inside the car, striking him in the left foot, according to police. The victim was taken to St. Francis Hospital in fair condition.

Evidence markers were placed beside six shell casings that police found on the street and sidewalk near Hayt Elementary School.

The victim is the fourth person shot in Edgewater this year, up from two at this point last year and three as of this date in 2022. This year's other three victims were all Senn High School students, shot as they walked from school on Jan. 31.

One of the students, Daveon Gibson, 16, succumbed to his injuries. Prosecutors have charged two Uplift High School students with the crime.

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**GENERAC**

# Card cheat swindled two casinos out of \$219,000

BY CWBCHICAGO

A California man cheated two Chicago area casinos out of \$219,000, officials said March 8. Jianchu Liu, 47, was jailed to await trial during a detention hearing before Judge Susana Ortiz.

An Illinois State Police arrest report, which lists his occupation as “gambler,” identified the casinos as the new Bally’s Casino in downtown Chicago and the Hollywood Casino Aurora. However, charging documents filed by prosecutors only listed Bally’s as a victim. The thefts allegedly occurred between Sept. 12 and Nov. 26, 2023, and involved at least one accomplice, according to the report.

Initial court filings did not detail how authorities believe the Bay Area resident swindled the Chicago casinos, but he was arrested last week for cheating at a Pennsylvania casino’s baccarat table.

Officials there accused Liu of using his phone camera to secretly record the order of cards in a deck. When a dealer offered Liu the opportunity to cut the cards,



Illinois State Police say that a California man cheated two Chicago area casinos out of \$219,000. Jianchu Liu (inset) has been arrested and jailed, and is awaiting trial during a detention hearing before Judge Susana Ortiz.

he manipulated the deck, quickly fanning it out so his phone could capture an image of the card values and sequence, according to the allegations.

Security officials at the Mohegan Sun casino in Wilkes-Barre keyed in on Liu on Feb. 24 when he launched an app on his phone at a baccarat table and darkened the screen so security could not see what he was doing, according to a report by Casino.org. The outlet said he then placed the phone under a stack of scorecards that baccarat players use to keep track of games.

Liu walked away from the table after getting into a “verbal

exchange” with a baccarat dealer about how the deck should be handled, Casino.org reported. A few days later, Liu returned and allegedly “attempted to forcefully fan [out]” a deck of cards.

The gaming news outlet said officials believe Liu sent images of deck sequences to an accomplice, who examined the images and provided Liu with betting instructions via a hidden earpiece.

“Liu’s technique, however, appeared to be clumsy,” the report said.

Casino security identified him through his loyalty card and

SWINDLED see p. 10

# Carjacker pulled gun during Facebook Marketplace meet-up, ran over victims with their own car

BY CWBCHICAGO

A plan to sell a car on Facebook Marketplace took an ugly turn when the would-be buyer pulled a gun, stole the victim’s car, and ran over them as he fled the scene, prosecutors said March 7.

On March 6 we reported on a 27-year-old woman and her 56-year-old father met with the prospective car buyer in the 6200 block of N. Rockwell around 1 p.m. March 1. After getting behind the wheel of the 2020 Acura TLX, the prospective buyer pulled out a gun and pointed it at the woman, prosecutors said in court filings. He then reversed

into both victims, causing them to fall to the road, and sped away, according to prosecutors.

The male victim suffered severe injuries, including serious cuts, internal bleeding, and a head injury that had to be closed with staples, officials said. His daughter received a bruised eye and cuts to her hands and legs.

The Chicago Police Department’s hijacking unit traced the car to an auto repair shop in Berwyn on March 5. They saw 28-year-old Jamie Delgado get out of the car’s driver’s seat and arrested him as he spoke with body shop employees, according to a Chicago police arrest report.

The petition said both victims

identified Delgado in photo line-ups as the hijacker.

Judge Ankur Srivastava granted the state’s petition, citing Delgado’s “extensive history of theft and fleeing from the police.” Court records show Delgado had a misdemeanor theft case pending in the suburbs at the time of the carjacking.

He is charged with two counts of aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm and two counts of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

Allegations of rip-offs during transactions arranged on social media have led to several other arrests recently.

# Over 30 arrested at downtown protest calling for Gaza ceasefire

BY CWBCHICAGO

A protest in the Loop calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza ended with Chicago police declaring a mass arrest event when participants refused to disperse on March 8.

A Chicago police supervisor at the scene estimated that 32 people were arrested—19 women and 13 men. He said his information was preliminary.

Some protesters had been in the area since March 7, partici-

pating in a “24-vigil to demand an immediate ceasefire in Gaza,” ABC7 news reported March 8.

After the news report was filed, participants began blocking streets near the federal building at Jackson and Dearborn. CPD officers were heard giving repeated warnings to disperse, starting around 7:30 a.m. About 30 minutes later, police began arresting uncooperative protesters.

CTA temporarily rerouted some bus lines while the protest was underway.

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**CELEBRATE** from p. 2

The Kennedy Family have been a part of Chicago commerce for generations. Including their purchase of the Merchandise Mart on the river that intensified the value of our riverfront's significance.

But we don't have to look very long around the city to have our ears boxed. Just look at the long line of federal indictments that stand as a clear warning to those braggarts who would take advantage of public office. The contagious sin of hubris makes bragging pale in comparison. Imagine having all the political power possible and still not being satisfied with your achievements.

**COMEBACK:** Lookingglass Theater Co. management says they have met with its staff, ensemble and board to review the past and look to the future. They have created a new business plan allowing the company to continue its mission of presenting original works and enhancing its outreach programs. This plan was announced at the company's annual gala Feb. 29, at The Casino Club.

Lookingglass shared that its current fundraising goals have been met as well as information about the new business plan, new staff and ensemble additions. They have announced the renovation of its lobby space in the Water Works and upcoming productions, education and programming. The renovation of this new gathering space will take place this spring with programming to begin November.

"Lookingglass' home on Michigan Ave. is a location that

is primed and ready to become a center for Chicago arts, history and social events," said Lookingglass's new Artistic Director **Kasey Foster**. "This historic landmark building survived a great fire, and now, we too, emerge from the ashes. To realize our mission to change, charge and empower while providing Chicago and its visitors a place to gather, to learn, to experience theatre at its most theatrical and to have fun, today and into the future."

Best of luck to you all.  
**FAREWELL:** Edgewater's **Robert Edwin Hofstadter** died on Feb. 21. He was related to the Hofstadters who won three Pulitzers and one Nobel Prize. In the CBS Sitcom, Big Bang Theory, The Leonard Hofstadter character was fashioned after his two relatives **Robert** and **Douglas Hofstadter**, who are still alive and affiliated with Indiana Univ. Bloomington, best known for the book, Godel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid, a Pulitzer Prize Winner for general non-fiction. His partner of 22 years, **Adrienne Sioux Koopersmith**, is heartbroken. Pray for her.

**AUTHOR:** **Dennis Downes** was an artist, author and expert on trail marker trees. He was the sculptor of the **George Wellington "Cap'n" Streeter** statue that sits proudly in Streeterville. He died last week after an eight-year battle with cancer. His legacy of contributions to art and nature will long be remembered. He was also the founder and served as president of the Great Lakes Trail Marker Tree Society.

**WITH THE BAND:** Writers Theatre is hosting the South-west Asian, North African, South

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Patrick Kennedy



The Harmon Junkins family.



Iris Apfel



Dennis Downes

Asian community night celebration and performance on Sunday, March 17. In a small Israeli desert town where every day feels the same, a lost bus arrives carrying an Egyptian police band. With no accommodations and no buses running until the morning, the musicians are taken in for the night by the locals. Under the spell of the desert sky, these misplaced musicians bring everyone together in a way that only music can. The Band's Visit is not to be missed, go see it.

**PET CARE:** Nilodor Pet Brands welcomes back **Bobbi Panter** to the pet care brand she founded. This visionary pet product creator will partner on existing and new pet care products. Bravo Bobbi.

**SWING:** Ald. **Brian Hopkins** reminds us to no forget our dancing shoes if you're going to the Near North Library for the return of the Revolutionary Swing Orchestra. The quartet, led by **Don Sadofsky**, will thrill with music from the Big Band era and folk tunes from groups that have called the Near North neighborhood home. Saturday, March 23 at 2 p.m., at 310 W. Division St.

**WHO'S WHERE:** Hollywood gadabout agent to the stars, **Joey Majumdar**, celebrated a birthday last week and a visit to tropical Goa in the Indian Ocean... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus** were seen on a very fashionable New York street unloading their moving van... soon-to-be judge, **Dan Balanoff**, dining at Chicago's newest French Bistro La Grande Boucherie Chicago... **Jennifer Gran** will soon open her Jenny G's Art Supply store in Rogers Park, she taught high school art at CPS for 20 years (Senn and Walter Payton)... **Ken**

and **Mary Claire Scorsone Moll** visiting son, **Charlie**, in California and their other son, **Ken Jr.**, and daughter, **Keely** in New York with dinner at Cafe Chelsea... designer **Al Menotti** at the Guardians of Hope Gala for Trinity High School with songstress **Irene Michaels** and **Arny Granat**... **Mark Olley** fashionably pinstriped at Joe's Stone Crab... the **Harmon Junkins Family** spending the week in Santa Clara, CA, visiting daughter, **Maggie**... **Mark Howard** lifting everyone's toes with the splendid run of Trinity Dance Company performers making ev-



Richard Lewis

eryone's St. Patrick's Day at the Auditorium Theatre including **Eamonn Cummins** and **Pennie Taylor**... **Father Jeremiah Boland** from Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Glenview brought luck with him to Loyola U's basketball, crossing paths with **Sister Jean Schmidt, BVM**... **Cynthia Olson** is ready for a Chicago return from the mountains of Mexico... **Roz Veron** departing WLS

traffic alerts after 35 years... **Patricia Treacy** playing violin while former Canadian Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** sang "Danny Boy."

**DINE:** Reserve your tickets today for Savor Lincoln Park. Enjoy bites and sips from over 20 of Lincoln Park's favorite restaurants and bars at this one-of-a-kind indoor food festival. Wednesday, March 20, p.m., at Theater on the Lake, 2401 N. Lake Shore Dr.

**TENOR:** The Crossing Borders Music String Quartet is joined by special guest, Peruvian tenor **Luis Galvez**. Galvez sings favorite songs including the original version of "El condor pasa" by **Daniel Alomía Robles** and "La flor de la canela" ("The Cinnamon Flower") by **Chabuca Granda**. Live at Harold Washington Library, 3 p.m. Sunday, June 9.

**LAST LAUGH:** Popular, but strident, comedian **Richard Lewis**, whose modernist style of neurotic humor was popular and rhythmic, died of heart failure at 76.

**ONE OF A KIND:** Taste-ful and bubbling **Iris Apfel**, the glamorous, colorful grand dame of New York Society whose thick-rimmed, oversized eyeglasses were her signature, has died at 103. She was an outspoken woman of American business. Flamboyant and rusticated.

The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper.

—William Butler Yeats

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**007 Science now open**



Tom Pizzato (L) and Dan Silvestri (R) of SpyMovieNavigator.com met with British special effects coordinator Chris Corbould (Center) at the press opening of 007 Science: Inventing the World of James Bond exhibit running through Oct. 27, at the Museum of Science and Industry in Hyde Park. Corbould, who worked on 15 James Bond films as well as Superman and Batman films, was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) in 2014 for his service to films by the now late Queen Elizabeth II. The exhibit stresses the gadgetry, vehicles and science of author Ian Fleming's popular spy hero, featured in 27 major motion pictures. *Photos by Reno Lovison*

## Efforts underway to buy Cabrini Art House and restore All of Mankind mural



William Walker's All of Mankind before (L) and after the mural's whitewashing (R).

The Strangers Home Missionary Baptist Church, 617 W. Evergreen Ave., is located on the former site of the Cabrini Green housing development. On March 6 it was named one of the Chicago 7, Preservation Chicago's annual listing of the most endangered historical buildings in Chicago.

Last week the Cabrini Art House, an entrepreneurial venture by former Cabrini Green residents Marques "Merk" Elliston and Cher'Don Reynolds, announced that they hope to buy the historic building to create a cultural and community hub.

Once known as Chicago's "Sistine Chapel," the Strangers Home Missionary Baptist Church is an influential piece of Chicago's cultural landscape. The building housed William Walker's All of Mankind, a collection of murals painted in the early 1970's and later whitewashed in 2015.

The pieces, collectively titled All of Mankind, explored the beauty and struggle of Black America and envisioned a world united. The mural was widely regarded as one of Walker's masterpieces and became a symbol of Cabrini-Green.

The whitewashing of All of Mankind has obscured Walker's work, but it is believed the murals still exist underneath layers of paint.

Located at the intersection of Clybourn Ave. and Larrabee St., the church is a brick building whose architectural style sets it apart from other less dated buildings in the vicinity. It was a center of religious life for Italian immigrants and later Black families

***The whitewashing of All of Mankind has obscured Walker's work, but it is believed the murals still exist underneath layers of paint.***

on the Near North Side beginning in 1901. In 1971, a progressive priest commissioned Chicago artist William Walker to adorn the church with a series of murals.

But what is most noticeable is the gaping emptiness of the white facade.

The murals depicted images of global civil rights martyrs and events and depicted images of the Black family inspired by Christian religious iconography. Stranger Home is the last structure still standing on land that once held over 3,000 housing units. Former residents remember it as a neutral gathering space for the community.

Elliston and Reynolds plan to acquire

the building and turn it into the Cabrini Art House – a mixed use property that will house for-profit creative sector businesses and a nonprofit cultural center.

Elliston and Reynolds say they see an

opportunity to share a more positive narrative about residents of the Cabrini Green neighborhood. "This land has always felt like home sentimentally," says Elliston. "Owning, protecting, and restoring it would mean the world not just to me, but also to displaced people across the globe."

Efforts are now underway to raise \$150,000 towards purchasing the building from its current owner. Elliston and Reynolds hope the Preservation Chicago designation will help raise awareness of the project and how people can get involved. "Naturally funding to secure the building is one way to get involved," says Lauren Amos who leads operations for the Cabrini Art House team. "But we also need donations of expertise to help defray costs."

If they succeed in buying the property, they plan to restore the All of Mankind murals and renovate the property which has become dilapidated over the last few decades.



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**MARTINS** from p. 5

species alive east of the Rocky Mountains.”

Siegrist says the very survival of the species is due in large part to scores of dedicated conservationists who invest their time, money and hearts into maintaining hous-

ing for the Martins. Those who want to help out and install a bird apartment, should choose a pole that telescopes, or is equipped with a winch or rope and pulley, and housing that has easy access to the compartments. Houses and gourds should be white, or a light color. White housing attracts

Martins best and reflects sunlight, keeping nestlings cooler.

“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 clock-work.”

**SWINDLED** from p. 7

learned he was suspected of being part of a “professional cheating ring” that conned two casinos in Biloxi, Mississippi. The Pennsylvania authorities finally arrested him at Mohegan Sun around 4:30 a.m. Feb. 26.

Liu was brought to Chicago to face local charges of operating a continuing financial crime

enterprise and financial crime conspiracy.

He is at least the second person to be criminally charged with cheating at the Chicago Bally's casino since it opened in September.

Earlier this year, prosecutors charged Isaias Garcia-Martinez, with placing a 200-to-1 bet at a Bally's baccarat table after the cards were dealt and the outcome

of the hand was known. The dealer, not realizing he placed the bet after the game was over, paid him \$5,000 and he walked away, according to the allegations.

Gaming officials arrested him when he returned two days late.

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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 PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs. DAVID PAREDES; KATHRYN C. PAREDES; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR PULTE MORTGAGE CORPORATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY; Defendants, 18 CH 7817 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, April 15, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-28-303-023-0000. Commonly known as 2623 N. Burling Street, Chicago, IL 60614. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. John Kienzie at Plaintiff's Attorney, Marinosci Law Group, P.C., 2215 Enterprise Drive, Westchester, IL 60154. (312) 940-8580. 17-17025 ADC INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountryjudicialsales.com **13239574**

131313 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HARBORVIEW MORT-

**Real Estate For Sale**

GAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN PASSTHROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5 Plaintiff, vs. RAZIA RAHMAN, PLAZA 440 PRIVATE RESIDENCES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2023 CH 01402 440 NORTH WABASH AVE #2602 CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 26, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 3, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 440 NORTH WABASH AVE #2602, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-127-019-1255 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$248,550.14. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium

**Real Estate For Sale**

Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact Alexander Potestivo, P.O. BOX 1111, CHICAGO, IL 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to file number 314443. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. POTESIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610 Chicago IL, 60606 312-263-0003 E-Mail: lplleadings@potestivolaw.com Attorney File No. 314443 Attorney Code. 43932 Case Number: 2023 CH 01402 TJS#F: 44-468 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. **Case # 2023 CH 01402 13239453**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FLA MORTGAGE CAPITAL 2 LLC Plaintiff, vs. PAUL STONE, KATE M. STONE, KATE M. STONE TRUSTEE FOR THE KATE M. STONE REVOCABLE TRUST, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AMERICAN EXPRESS BANK, FS, Defendants,

**Real Estate For Sale**

21 CH 2460 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-29-319-021-0000. Commonly known as 2450 N. JANSSEN AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60614. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. 22-03456 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountryjudicialsales.com **13239047**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, vs. GREGG A GAROFALO, GREGG A. GAROFALO, AS TRUSTEE UTA DATED 04/24/2001 KNOWN AS THE GREGG A. GAROFALO REVOCABLE TRUST, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, THE NORTH TOWN VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 23 CH 06149 1317 NORTH BURLING STREET #1A CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 8, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on

**Real Estate For Sale**

April 9, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1317 NORTH BURLING STREET #1A, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-04-113-100-107 The real estate is improved with a condominium with no garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. 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).

**Real Estate For Sale**

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. MCELLA 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCELLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mcella.com Attorney File No. 23-15752IL\_948582 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 23 CH 06149 TJS#F: 44-88 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 # 23 CH 06149 13239162**

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**Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale**

**Real Estate For Sale**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Plaintiff, vs. TERESA DURAN, 5455 EDGEWATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, STATE OF ILLINOIS - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF RAQUEL LUNA, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, JULIE FOX, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR RAQUEL LUNA (DECEASED) Defendants 2023 CH 00367 5455 N SHERIDAN RD #3505 CHICAGO, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 23, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 11, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5455 N SHERIDAN RD #3505, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-08-203-016-1404 The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSES-

**Real Estate For Sale**

SION 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.tjisc.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@ilclegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-00025 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2023 CH 00367 TJS#F: 44-533 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. **Case # 2023 CH 00367 13239653**

131313 -----  
 060606 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC Plaintiff, vs. DEBORAH A. WELLS, CIBC BANK USA FKA FOUNDERS BANK, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED THE 15TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2006 AND KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 6969, MALIBU CONDOMINIUM Defendants 2023 CH 02881 6007 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 39G 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 June 27, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on

**Real Estate For Sale**

March 27, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6007 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 39G, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-215-015-1353 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$105,870.81. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 651-6700. Please refer to file number 22-030892. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

**Real Estate For Sale**

MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250 CHICAGO IL, 60601 312-651-6700 E-Mail: AMPS@manleydeas.com Attorney File No. 22-030892 Attorney Code. 49928 Case Number: 2023 CH 02881 TJS#F: 44-372 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. **Case # 2023 CH 02881 13238924**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION LAMBERTUCCI'S ROMA OF NEVADA, LLC, a/k/a Lambertucci Roma of Nevada LLC, Plaintiff, vs. 4611 CLARK, INC., JOHN LACH, TERESA LACH, EUGENE L. GRIFFIN & ASSOCIATES, LTD., KALCHEIM HABER LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. Case No. 23 CH 2602 Property Address: 4611-13 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE Sheriff's Sale No.: 240012 PUBLIC NOTICE IS given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered by the Court in the above cause on December 22, 2023, the Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will sell the property described below to satisfy said judgment, as follows: (a) The name and address of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is Adam Rome, Greiman, Rome & Griesmeyer, LLC, 205 West Randolph St., Ste. 2300, Chicago, IL 60606. The telephone number is 312-428-2743. (b) The common address and legal description of the real estate to be sold is as follows: PIN: 14-17-107-018-0000 Commonly Known As: 4611-13 N. Clark St., Chicago IL 60640 (c) A description of the improvements of the real estate: commercial building. (d) The real estate may not be inspected prior to sale. (e) The time and place of the sale is as follows: March 26, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, LL06, Chicago, Illinois 60602. (f) The terms of the sale are "as is" for certified funds, requiring that the successful bidder deposit ten percent of the bid at the time of sale and the balance with the sheriff or associate judge within twenty-four (24) hours of the sale, plus interest at the statutory judgment rate and any unpaid portion

**Real Estate For Sale**

of the sale price from the date of sale to the date of payment. (g) Title will be conveyed subject to all general real estate taxes which are or shall become a lien upon the real estate, but if not yet due, that may become due and payable, special assessments, applicable rights of redemption, encumbrances, easements and restrictions of record, if any. Adam B. Rome Greiman, Rome & Griesmeyer, LLC 205 West Randolph St., Ste. 2300 Chicago, Illinois 60606 T: (312) 428.2750/F: (312) 322.2781 arome@grlegal.com Firm ID: 47890 **13238772**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BMO HARRIS BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. DAVID A. SCHEELE, 710-14 WEST CORNELIA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, BMO HARRIS BANK N.A., UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 23 CH 3545 712 W. CORNELIA AVE., UNIT 3 CHICAGO, IL 60657 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 13, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 28, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 712 W. CORNELIA AVE., UNIT 3, CHICAGO, IL 60657 Property Index No. 14-21-302-029-1006 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$174,262.08. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and

**Real Estate For Sale**

plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 357-1125 Please refer calls to the sales department. Please refer to file number 23-00955. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO IL, 60606 312-357-1125 E-Mail: pleadings@nevellaw.com Attorney File No. 23-00955 Attorney Code. 18837 Case Number: 23 CH 3545 TJS#F: 44-341 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 # 23 CH 3545 282828 -----**

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## Dancers on the move

The Joel Hall Dance Center is moving to a new location in Uptown. They be relocating from 1055 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. and will be sharing space at 4511 N. Clark St. alongside the Black Ensemble Theatre to teach all ages about different styles of dance,

Joel Hall — a native of Chicago's Cabrini Green neighborhood — established and co-founded the Chicago City Theatre Company in 1974.

## Groundbreaking Sunday on new \$9.2M homeless center on Fullerton

**Care for Friends to offer hot meals, healthcare, in Lincoln Park and Edgewater**

Care for Friends [CFF] will break ground on a new \$9.2 million homeless services building when the long-time Lincoln Park charity group undertakes creating a new community center 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 17 at 530 W. Fullerton Pkwy.

The new building will include a commercial-grade kitchen, a health clinic, flexible/office space, restrooms, and multi-purpose space to provide services.

When it opens (expected in spring 2025), CFF plans to continue operating in its current Edgewater site, at the Church of the Atonement, 5749 N. Kenmore Ave. as well as restarting services in Lincoln Park.

The capital campaign began several years ago to finance the new building, which will be shared by the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour. A \$3 million taxpayer-funded grant commitment from the state of Illinois that CFF won in 2020 helped put them over the top in their fundraising efforts.

“The new community center is more than a building, it’s a base of operations to help us continue to evolve at a time when the need for our services has been growing, too,” said founding president JD Miller. Student council leaders from nearby Oscar Mayer Elementary School and other local political leaders are expected to attend the groundbreaking.

CFF traces its roots to sheltering students in Lincoln Park from violence during the 1968 Democratic Convention. It still offers one of the city’s longest-running meals for people who are unhoused, drawing guests from the surrounding community and across Chicago.

But today the nonprofit offers health-care services like podiatry and substance use disorder clinics. During the pandemic it created a grocery-delivery service for students in marginal housing and their families.

In addition to providing hot meals, the group seeks to connect guests to primary care, housing, jobs and services offered by partner agencies.

“We really focus on the community aspect of our program,” says Executive Director Hope Pavich. “When I started here five years ago, it really struck me how deadly isolation and loneliness can be. We work to make sure everybody has a place at the table. That’s a big piece of it – we are all in this together – and that’s not going to ever change.”

Today CFF serves 10,500 sit-down, hot meals a year, feeding and providing a range of other services to nearly 2,000 individuals and families a year. The group currently has 12,500 total contacts per year with homeless Chicagoans. The need has grown since 2022 with the influx of some 36,000 migrants into Chicago.

For more information, please visit [www.CareForFriends.org](http://www.CareForFriends.org).

### MEASLES from p. 1

the measles vaccine, the disease infected nearly everyone by 15 years of age. Measles was common in all parts of the world and each year caused an estimated 135 million cases and more than six million deaths. In the U.S., an estimated 3–4 million people were diagnosed with measles every year, of which approximately 500,000 were considered serious cases, including nearly 500 deaths.

The disease is among the most highly-transmissible diseases and spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Spread by a virus, the initial symptoms of measles appear similar to a common cold.

“Measles starts with a cough, runny nose, red eyes, and fever. Then a rash of tiny, red spots breaks out. It starts at the head and spreads to the rest of the body,” according to a statement from the CDPH.

Public health officials consider measles to be a serious respiratory infection because it may lead to pneumonia and other complications, including death.

For decades the disease had been considered very rare in the U.S. With the unsecured wide-open U.S. borders having an open-door policy, and not requiring border crossers to have medical screenings, the once rare disease has begun to show up again in area hospitals and emergency rooms.

Many of those living at the city’s shelter in Pilsen fled Venezuela. Once among the wealthiest nations in the Western Hemisphere due to its vast natural resources, but now ruled by a far-left communist dictatorship, Venezuela continues to have one of the worst vaccination rates in the world.

The North Side patient was treated at the Galter Life Center, 5157 N. Francisco, between 8:30 a.m. and noon. That patient had also ridden the CTA’s #92 Foster Ave. bus sometime between 9:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

“[We are] working to identify and notify people that may have been exposed to measles, including at the facilities where the Chicago resident sought medical care,” the CDPH said on March 7.

For those who believe they may have been exposed to measles that day, the CDPH is urging them to call the public health agency’s Measles hot-line at 312-743-7216. The hotline will be open weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“Anyone [who fears they may have been infected Feb. 27] should immediately [call us]. CDPH [officials] will recommend the next steps based on immunity to measles and the level of exposure,” they said.

Even if a person is not displaying any of the symptoms, they may still be infected, warned public health officials.

“After exposure to someone with measles, symptoms can take from seven to 21 days to show up. Individuals who develop symptoms of measles should contact a health care provider by phone or email before going to a medical office or emergency department. Special arrangements can be made for your evaluation while also protecting other patients and medical staff for possible infection,” said the CDPH.

“The key to preventing measles is vaccinations. If you are not vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to get the vaccine,” said Dr. Olusimbo Ige, MD, commissioner of the CDPH.

Most born in the U.S. were immunized against measles as children. Some may not have a record of their vaccinations.

“If you are unsure whether [or not] you were vaccinated, ask your healthcare provider to find out if you need an MMR (a vaccine which includes measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine. If your child is one year old or older, and has never received the MMR vaccine, contact your child’s pediatrician to discuss how your child can get caught up with their vaccines,” said Ige.

### GROTTO from p. 1

ter her death, the Roman Catholic Church honored her as a saint. Her story inspired a 1941 best-selling historical novel Song of Bernadette. The book was made into a 1943 movie and earned actress Jennifer Jones an Academy Award for her portrayal of Soubirousa.

Replicas of the French grotto have been built all over the world, including Vatican City. All provide the faithful with a quiet place to come to pray to God and to ask for Mary’s intercession. Many who visit these grottos come to pray for the sick just as the original site in France is associated with healing miracles.



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Bone-In Half Hams 8 to 11 lbs (serves 10 to 20)

Bone-In Quarter Hams 4 to 6 lbs (serves 4 to 6)

Boneless Half Hams 3 to 5 lbs (serves 8 to 12)

Boneless Whole Hams 7 to 8 lbs (serves 20 to 25)

Roasted or Smoked Turkey Breasts Approx 3 lbs (Serves 8 to 10)



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