

Old Town tower grows taller; still lacks parking

Developer Fern Hill made another presentation to the Old Town community last week and the effort left some nearby residents wanting. Wanting less density and more car parking that is.

On March 18, Fern Hill announced that they had filed an application with the Dept. of Planning and Development to officially begin the approval process. But some in the community fear this enormous project will exacerbate traffic congestion in an already highly congested area.

The developers made a community presentation in mid-January, then altered their plans, and hosted an online virtual community meeting March 21. As expected, community reaction to the project has been broad, with many concerns over parking and increased traffic congestion, in what is already one of the most densely populated areas of the North Side.

Over the last few months, some members of the community have accused the developer of being short on details. Details like offering a traffic plan, or in disclosing what the long term use of the former Treasure Island space on Wells St. might be. They'd also like to know what the future holds for the two nearby gas stations - BP and Shell stations - that are also owned by Fern Hill.

Plans for 'Old Town Canvas,' the proposed high-rise at 1610 N.



Developers Fern Hill hosted an online virtual community meeting March 21 regarding the proposed high-rise at 1610 N. LaSalle Dr. The building will add 500 new units to the area, but will provide parking for only 150 cars.

LaSalle Dr., show that it has narrowed, while gaining additional height. Responding to various community concerns, the building has been narrowed by 15% (set back by about 40'). But to do that required adding height so Fern Hill could get the 500 new residential units the firm - which is led by former Related Midwest executive Nick Anderson - desires. The tower has grown from 36 to 44 stories, now topping out at 480-feet in height, 85-feet taller than originally proposed.

Going up on the site where a well-used Walgreens store now sits, and adjacent parking lot, the proposal has been in the works for

nearly three-years. Once construction commences, the Walgreens store will temporarily relocate into the former Treasure Island site on Wells St., then return to its former site at 1601 N. Wells when the tower is completed. The new building would also include at least one additional retail space.

Once Walgreens returns to its location, the former Treasure Island building will then be redeveloped too.

The overall cost of this portion of the project is \$200 to \$300 million.

Beyond the high-rise and new

TOWER see p. 12

Chicago River advocates still oppose river-dyeing tradition

BY STEVEN DAHLMAN
Loop North News

In the seven years since Friends of the Chicago River first suggested the city stop dyeing the river green for St. Patrick's Day, the 62-year tradition has shown no sign of slowing. Thousands of people again gathered along the river on March 16 to watch members of Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local 130 dump into the river 40 pounds of dye while keeping the recipe for the dye a secret.

This year, Friends of the Chicago River proposed the city find a new tradition.

"When the dyeing tradition started in 1962, on average there was sewage in the river every three days," explained the organization in a statement released the day before this year's dyeing. "It was fenced off and so polluted that it would have been difficult to imagine the river as it is today, alive with people enjoying it in myriad ways and of all kinds of wildlife, including more than 75 species of fish, turtles, herons, and beavers."



Plumbers dispense the dye into the Chicago River from the tour boat Riverview.
Photo courtesy City of Chicago

The 6,000-member nonprofit says "another marvel" is now needed and has invited the public to help it re-imagine the annual event, one that "would treat our recovering river as a valued natural resource, not just the backdrop for fun."

The dyeing of the Chicago River pre-dates the 1972 Clean Water Act that addressed pollution of the nation's waterways. At first, an oil-based, highly fluorescent dye

was used that kept the river green for at least one week. (The dye is actually orange until it comes in contact with water.)

Today, a shorter-lived plant-based dye is used, which the City of Chicago says poses no environmental risk.

The plumber's union keeps the dye recipe secret and, according to The Sierra Club, there is no

DYEING see p. 12



According to the Stefani Restaurant Group, Tavern on Rush will reopen its doors this summer on the ground and second floor of the luxury hotel Thompson, 1015 N. Rush St. *Photo courtesy of Stefani Restaurant Group*

Iconic Tavern on Rush set to reopen in new location

BY CANDACE JORDAN
Chicago Star Media

The iconic Tavern on Rush will reopen its doors this summer on the ground and second floor of the luxury hotel Thompson Chicago, 1015 N. Rush St., according to Stefani Restaurant Group.

The upscale, modern steakhouse and bar will carry on its 25-year legacy in the heart of the Gold Coast right across from its original location.

After 24 years, Tavern on Rush shut down its landmark restaurant

after service on New Year's Eve 2022. The new Tavern on Rush will replace Nico Osteria, which shut down in the fall of 2023.

In partnership with Oxford Capital Group, LLC and the ownership group of Thompson Chicago, this reimagined Tavern on Rush aims to bring the nostalgia, energy and charm patrons knew and loved with a modernized and fresh approach.

The two-level, 16,000 square foot space includes a main din-

TAVERN see p. 12

Will Realtor commission settlement impact cost of selling?

BY DON DEBAT
The Home Front

First of two articles on changes in real-estate brokerage commissions.

Real estate brokers in Chicago and across the nation have lost the alleged battle for setting "uniform, customary or mandatory" sales commissions following court litigation.

But that doesn't mean home sellers or buyers suddenly are protected from commission-gouging, brokers who over-charge for their services.

Resolving claims over broker commissions, the Chicago-based National Assn. of Realtors [NAR] has agreed to pay a fine of \$418 million over four years and implement rules that ensure agents' commissions are negotiable.

The March 15 settlement, subject to federal court approval, would end litigation in Missouri that last year brought a staggering \$1.8 billion verdict against NAR that could have been tripled under U.S. antitrust law.

Plaintiffs in the Missouri case alleged NAR's rules for placing homes on various multiple listing service platforms [MLS] in effect fixed commissions at high rates, and discouraged sellers from seeking better terms. In the settlement, NAR did not admit wrongdoing.

Broker commissions are paid by home sellers. Commissions typically are in the range of 5% to 6%. That's \$20,000 or more on the sale of a \$400,000 home. When a buyer is represented by a Realtor, the seller's agent usually agrees to split the commission with the buyer's agent.

Historically, compensation offers have been listed on the MLS, but the court settlement will forbid this practice, which Realtors have used since the 1920s, or earlier. For example, in 1923, the chairman of the National Assn. of Real Estate Boards (NAR's precursor) Committee on Commissions claimed that the Chicago broker's association had used a commission schedule for more than 40 years.

Critics say individual sellers often feel powerless to negotiate a better deal for themselves because of the risk that offering lower commissions may cause brokers to steer buyers to other properties.

When you consider that NAR may be the biggest Congressional lobbyist group in the U.S., the court action truly is a landmark. Stephen Brobeck, senior fellow at the Consumer Federation of America, predicted that the NAR court action would eventually lower agent commissions and help

SETTLEMENT see p. 4

We've become part of the Stockholm gang



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

There's one malady that doctors at Northwestern Hospital weren't able to cure me of while I was in their Cardiac Intensive Care unit.

It was a loose form of "Stockholm Syndrome," where the newness of being institutionalized wears-off and the patient doesn't resist the circumstances. I became

part of the gang.

A state of being not uncommon with kidnappings. Often the kidnapping victim forgets how it all began, instead they join in with the routine of those who robbed them of their innocence and high-jacked them from their ordinary way of everyday life.

A terrifying prospect. You've become numb to not being independent or rescued. You no longer feel like the victim of surprise violence.

For me it may have been the inserting of an IV drip in my jugular vein. A procedure with which I was unfamiliar. The jugular vein in the neck is physically closer to the heart. So there's not much of a time lag pumping medicines through to the heart. It still seems a bit extreme.

The procedure didn't hurt as much as it sounds. They loaded me up with pain meds, numbing me sufficiently to keep myself calm.

But you can see how easily I was brought to the edge of Stockholm Syndrome.

It was good medical procedure that helped bring the latest advances in medicine to me. I soon had an established blood pressure. Growing healthier by the hour. Constant monitoring from the superb medical team that surrounded me. And superb oatmeal with brown sugar topped with a banana each morning for breakfast.

But it did get me thinking about the extremes, of both health and environment, that stretch the mind and soul and the circumstances that shape reality in light

of the most fearful conditions. So naturally the failing confidence in Chicago's urban government popped into mind.

This column has laid low most criticism on Mayor Brandon Johnson and his team.

To be honest I've been at a real political loss trying to understand the X-rays of this turmoil. Two decades of intense inside political analysis at City Hall does not dispose me to either fresh political loyalty or confidence.

Do you feel a sense of restored vitality in the city? Are you given any sense of peaceful partnership in the administration of city business? Do you feel any sense of strength, sound judgment or rational intelligence at work in the city presently? Are we better off now than under Mayor Lori?

I'm really searching for any evidence that there's anybody even at home. It all reminds of the symptoms of the beleaguered "Stockholm Syndrome."

Conditions that surround me are just as quickly numbing me to the reality of how things are. I don't recall ever being blocked from feeling the impact of the assaults and deaths of so many fellow Chicagoans.

Of course the official response to such urban violence is shock and awe. The two ingredients that Mayor Johnson needs to open up the issues to resolution.

Reminds me of choosing the flavors of Jello best enjoyed at the mayor's office lunch.

How many shooting deaths, hijackings and brutal assaults does it take to shake the city? After all, this comes on the heels of Mayor

Lori's brilliant one term as mayor. This ill-equipped crew's response and lackluster emotion is, of course, a disgrace. This administration now reeks of the fragrance of funerals. Their politics carry the lazy man's burden for lack of purpose and responsible reaction. Hello Stockholm.



Mayor Brandon Johnson

course nothing permits the inept and shameful handling of urban crime more than the idiocy of woke political leadership with little loyalty and meagre intelligence. This is Mayor Lori all over again, on steroids. Poor Mayor



Former mayor Lori Lightfoot.

Johnson. Who is there to save us from his misguided ham sandwich-eating ineptitude?

Certainly not his former guru "Boss Preckwinkle."

The Cook County politburo has long been a neutralizer of common sense and fervent loyalty.

Today we witness the results of that threadbare coalition of tax and spend urbanologists. Blood upon the sidewalks and pulseless cadavers on the curbs of Chicago. Outbound U-Haul taillights on the roadways.

All reasoned reality is tossed out the broken windows of our humanity.

There are, sadly, no physicians who can stabilize that lack of urban blood pressure. At the moment we are numb to being rescued. We've become part of the gang.

THAT GREAT STREET:

We hear that's no longer State St. But rather 18th St. in the Pilsen neighborhood. In fact it's been acclaimed one of the four best streets in America by Time Out. 18th St. is listed as the 21st best street in the world. You can understand why. Great ethnic diversity. The mix of Mexican, eastern European, aging Yuppie, New Age urbanites, loaded with really good restaurants, lots of art galleries and creative shops. I remember when Pilsen and 18th was the border line of urban re-birth back in the early 1970s. Anyway, that designation is a great boost for Chicago. The neighborhood is filled with life.

DEAD IN THE YARD:

Kayne Anderson has eyes on Lincoln Yards amid Sterling Bay's desperate struggle for cash to fund their billion-dollar plans. The Los Angeles-based firm, and local development executive **Darren Sloniger**, were part of investment group that met with city officials on Feb. 26. Seems that Sterling Bay's funds have dried up, says TheRealDeal.com.

Sterling Bay's search for new financing comes soaked in flop sweat after the earth shifted under the developers feet. The \$6 billion plan to redevelop 53 acres along the river between Lincoln Park and Bucktown slammed into reality with our town's current glut of commercial space and high interest rates. They are now caught in a nasty Catch-22 since, as a TIF district, they cannot vacuum up all that property tax cash without first getting buildings built and rent-paying tenants inside them. Ya, good luck.

The meeting came as Sterling Bay renewed its search for more cash to advance the floundering project, which lost previous financial backers in J.P. Morgan and

STOCKHOLM see p. 8



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With appeals surging 26,806% under cashless bail, Illinois Supreme Court establishes new rules

BY CWBCHICAGO

With the state's appellate courts drowning in a flood of cases filed by criminal defendants challenging their pretrial detention since the Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) eliminated cash bail in September, the Illinois Supreme Court is making some changes.

The high court said it had to act because the court system, which handled an average of 17 bond-related appeals per year under the cash bail system, is expected to receive 4,557 appeals during the first 12 months of cashless bail. That's an increase

of 26,806%.

As the number of pretrial detention cases surged, the court established a Pretrial Release Appeals Task Force in January to make recommendations for improvement.

The panel, calling the surge in cases "staggering," returned its recommendations on March 1, and the Supreme Court will implement many of the group's ideas effective April 15.

Some changes aim to eliminate frivolous appeals, many of which have been filed with little more than check boxes marked on a boilerplate form.

Some appellate cases reviewed by this

reporter sought judicial review for seemingly minor problems like judges failing to explain fully in writing why they found a defendant unfit for pretrial options other than jail, even when the judge explained their reasoning verbally in court.

The task force concluded that "if an appeal is taken, it must be accomplished in a way that adequately articulates the legal basis for the appeal" rather than "in a rote manner."

In the future, defendants will first seek a review of their detention in the local county court before it can advance to the appellate level.

The court is also eliminating its own rule that pretrial detention appeals must be filed within 14 days of a defendant's detention. That rule could motivate many defendants to hurry up and file something just to get their case under review. Defendants can file appeals at any time before trial after April 15.

Defendants will also be limited to one pretrial detention appeal at a time to, as the task force put it, "incentivize strategic thinking by trial counsel about which detention rulings to appeal."

Park Advisory Councils file formal protest against city, 'stop using us for migrant housing'

Chicago Park District [CPD] Park Advisory Councils [PAC] are fed up over being used as dumping grounds of incoming migrants. Now a group of PACs has sent notice to the Mayor's office stating that the parks should not be used for migrant housing.

As the elected representatives of the citizens of various respective CPD regions they wrote a joint protest letter to Mayor Brandon Johnson. This letter was also copied to CPD Supt. Rosa Escareno, Myetie H. Hamilton, President, Board of Commissioners, and the entire CPD Board of Commissioners.

This newspaper was also provided a copy of that letter.

They state that their concerns impact the physical and mental health, safety, and quality of life for constituents of Chicago.

As of the end of February, four CPD field houses were still closed, after being diverted for use as migrant shelters.

While it may be too late to stem the tide of incoming migrants, the city of Chicago is still touting itself as a sanctuary city, the exact virtue signaling that created the problems for Chicago in the first place.

Various border states who had been inundated by millions of illegal border crossers noted that sanctuary cities were boasting, and called their bluff by sending tens of thousands of those illegal aliens to sanctuary cities.

Of course the ultimate fault for this crisis lies with the federal government. The

U.S. Constitution clearly states that border security, customs and immigrations are all Federal responsibilities. Yet U.S. elected officials and their bureaucrats have abandoned that responsibility.

Dated March 12, the letter was signed by 27 PAC's and 10 others, and said that "Parks were established to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by providing safe, inviting parks and facilities for its residents that prioritizes the needs of Chicago children and families."

PACs in Chicago represent the vast majority of the more than 225 parks in all 77 community areas. They are all identified in the letter, and represent parks located from the south to west to central to north regions of the city.

PAC's are chartered to promote ways for the community to better utilize the CPD's programs and facilities; provide communication to the CPD on matters relating to their parks; increase community awareness of CPD projects; provide the community with a vehicle through which park information can be shared; and assist in locating alternate funding sources to enhance park facilities.

"We write to you today as representatives of our Parks and the communities they serve," the letter states. They say their purpose is "that we request that the City of Chicago not use Chicago Parks as the temporary or long-range sites to house migrants."

"The facilities and programs already fail

to meet the needs of the youth and adults in many areas of the City. Many Parks are over 100 years of age and have facilities 5 to 10 decades of age. Funding for needed programs and facility improvements to keep youth engaged in positive activity is already insufficient.

Ensuring the availability of programs that serve over 600,000 registrants each year and provide daycare and day camp to over 25,000 youth from Chicago families should be your first priority."

They say that the "lack of resources and staffing extends to CPD Security that can result in even more safety issues.

Repurposing these facilities, canceling programs, and taking vital resources away from Chicago residents will result in lasting damage to youth mental and physical development and adult wellness."

They say that canceling programs such as early childhood, after-school, and teen classes will negatively impact parent employment as significant adjustments to child-care requirements will be necessary while denying youth the much-needed positive stimulation and development opportunities.

"This negative result, as demonstrated in several parks already, means more Chicago youth on the streets looking for an alternative activity. The need for in-person activities are essential for developing strong communication skills and self-confidence."

The PAC's fear that many adults will not be able to find or afford other positive wellness activities and continue to connect

COUNCILS see p. 9

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Letters to the Editor

Proposed Belmont TOD is far out of scale

Regarding the proposed razing of the storied Ann Sather eatery, either Ald. Lawson [44th] or the developer claims that the new building will “compliment the existing context of the street.” The new structure does the very opposite by being far out of scale

and totally violating the “existing context” of Belmont Ave. The inherent charm of the existing two story buildings is lost in the visually banal proposed replacement.

Bob Schwartz
Edgewater

Obsession with parking

I get angrier with your publication with every issue. I just don't understand your obsession with parking, and, in general, your rabid support of automobile use. Many (maybe even most) residents of the North Side live here in part because it's just about the only place in Chicago (and possibly the entire Midwest) where it's possible to live a full life without an automobile.

If you want to live in an environment where planning revolves chiefly around making automobile use easy, well, you have 99% of the territory of the United

States to choose from.

The one advantage that the North Side has in comparison with the surrounding areas is that automobile use there is sometimes awkward, and that it's relatively easy to get around by foot, bicycle, or transit. Every new parking space created undermines the North Side's distinctive character. I just don't understand your paper's preference for de-urbanizing the area.

Chris Winters
Uptown

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

SETTLEMENT from p. 1

align compensation with services rendered.

“Increasingly, compensation will reflect agent competence, experience and the effect they make on a sale,” said Brobeck, who noted that the impact of the court action may take years to be felt.



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

“This agent-commission change is long overdue,” said Gold Coast buyer broker Sara E. Benson, CRB, ABR, president of Chicago-based Benson Stanley Realty. “Personally, I find the practice of a listing agent dictating the buyer agent's compensation disconcerting at best—and reprehensible at worst.”

For decades, Benson noted that listing agents have been incessantly “chiseling” the offer of buyer broker compensation. “Rarely, is the commission split 50/50. In many parts of Wisconsin, buyer agents are lucky to get a mere 35% of the total commission, Benson said.

In Chicago, some listing agents are “offering” only 33%—or less—to buyer's agents and publishing that commission in the MLS.

For the buyer's agent to meddle with the commission structure would have been considered “contract interference” and prohibited by NAR.

“Under the NAR settlement, buyer agents finally will be empowered to set their own rates and get paid what they are worth,” Benson said.

So, how does a home buyer find a good buyer's agent, who may be worth even more than their commission?

First, check out the buyer-broker's education, usually outlined in the professional designations

earned, along with years of service and experience.

Is the broker a Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager, the highest level of professional achievement in real estate brokerage? Or, is the broker an Accredited Buyers Representative, a Graduate of the Realtor Institute, or a Certified Real Estate Specialist?

“Some successful realty agents boast about their top-ranked annual sales volume,” Benson said. “However, these agents can be the most-risky for the consumer because they may often have the lowest ethical standards.”

According to Benson, while the seller's agent may photograph the property, list the home in the MLS, and host open houses, the buyer's agent is responsible for the lion's share of home-buying expenses, pre-buying research and field work, outlined below:

• **Pre-buying activities.** In addition to boundless hours of consultation, buyer brokers



Sara Benson



Stephen Brobeck

secure pre-approval letters, conduct limitless property research and market analysis, and check real estate tax records.

Detective work in condominium buying often involves research on a building's finances and the risk of a potential special assessment, which could cost an unwary buyer \$10,000 to \$50,000 in the first year of ownership.

• **Field work outside office.** Once the property is targeted, the buyer broker schedules and sets up showings, gases-up their car and takes the buyer on what could be a dozen or more property showings.

• **Property targeting.** When a suitable property is targeted, the buyer broker develops negotiation

strategies, sets up and attends inspections, and gathers repair estimates.

• **Contract stage.** The buyer broker also prepares the purchase contract, presents the offer, conducts negotiations, attends the final walk-throughs, and at post-closing, does buyer hand-holding, especially if there are additional questions or concerns.

“The sheer worth of a good buyer broker's networks is invaluable,” says Benson. “Agents often have private access to properties not even publicly listed on the Internet. Despite all of this, the listing agent dictates their compensation? I applaud the decoupling of commissions.”

A study commissioned by a major telephone carrier for 500 corporate relocations over the period of one year found buyer brokers secured homes at 91% of asking price, compared with the 96.5% secured by traditional brokers.

“That's a full 5.5% percent spread—or a buyer savings of \$22,000 on a \$400,000 home,” said Benson, who noted that the fall-through rate of “For-Sale-By-Owner” contracts—without a buyers broker's guidance—is a whopping 80%.

“For first-time buyers who think their real estate attorney will provide the services and expertise that an experienced buyer's agent can, they are sadly mistaken,”

Benson said.

“Attorneys never even set foot on the property,” Benson said. “They aren't familiar enough with the market to provide a competitive market analysis because they don't have the data,” she said.

“Attorneys aren't familiar with school districts and neighborhood boundaries. They often select title companies in which they have ‘affiliated business arrangements’ for their own profit.”

Finally, Benson believes that the NAR decision, if enacted, might just get rid of the wicked “double dip,” the dirtiest little secret in the real estate industry.

No agent can “represent” both parties in a transaction as neither party is being fully represented, Benson noted. “Dual agency should be illegal in every state in the nation—not just eight states. It's the number one reason agents are sued.”

Savvy buyers who continue to seek “professional, buyer-broker guidance will get the full and undivided representation which they pay for and deserve,” Benson noted. “And, buyers should be prepared to sign an agreement to receive the full benefits of an exclusive buyer broker.”

NEXT WEEK: What should be included in a buyer-broker agreement? Read the fine print.

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

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Top 10 tips that help homeowners better understand their property taxes

BY MARIA PAPPAS

Homeowners have taught me a few things about property taxes while I have served as Cook County Treasurer.

One lesson is that the property tax system is complicated. Many people unfamiliar with the process have told me that they wished there was a simpler, easier way to keep track of their property taxes and pay their bills.

With that goal in mind, here are 10 tips for helping homeowners better understand their property taxes and potentially save money:

1. Website. You can use cookcountytreasurer.com to pay your bill, check for available refunds, search a 20-year tax history of your property, discover how much debt taxing bodies owe and perform many other services.

2. PIN. Your property has a specific 14-digit number that identifies it as unique from all the other 1.8 million parcels of land in Cook County. You need to know your Property Index Number, or PIN, and refer to it when paying your bill or contacting our office.

Your PIN is printed on your tax bills and is listed on your property's deed.

3. Phone. Call our automated phone system at (312) 443-5100, any time, day or night, for helpful tax information such as verifying payments and checking for refunds. The phone system offers services in English, Spanish and Polish.

4. Payment locations. You can conveniently pay your property tax bill in person at more than 400 Chase Bank locations throughout Chicago and at more than 160 community bank locations.

5. Avoid duplicate payment. When you buy or sell a home or refinance a mortgage, check to ensure that there are no duplicate property tax payments. Often, representatives of a buyer and seller both pay a tax bill, or two members of a household may both pay a tax bill by mistake.

6. Mortgage escrow. If you pay your taxes through a mortgage escrow account, verify that your tax bill is paid on time and on the correct PIN.

7. Exemptions. Be sure to re-

ceive all exemptions for which you are eligible. Homeowner, senior citizen and senior freeze are the most common exemptions, which are substantial tax breaks that lower tax bills. Visit cookcountytreasurer.com to learn more.

8. Refunds. Discover whether you are eligible for up to \$150 million in potential refunds owed to Cook County property owners because of overpayments going back 20 years or missed exemptions for the past four years. Visit cookcountytreasurer.com to find out if you are owed a refund and to apply online. There is no need to have a third party file for you.

9. Pappas Studies. Read our latest study, "The Few Decide for the Many: Referendums and Voter Turnout," that showed how a relatively small number of voters often decide taxation and spending questions that affect an entire community. Additional studies have analyzed tax bills, redlining, debt by taxing bodies and other topics.

10. Name/Address change. Notify us of any changes in your name or mailing address at cookcountytreasurer.com. You can also sign up for eBilling to go paperless and receive your next tax bill via email.



Maria Pappas

More CTA Bus service coming soon; additional Saturday service for Lawrence, Belmont

29 bus routes to see additional service

Chicago Transit Authority [CTA] customers will see more scheduled bus service across the system in the coming weeks—the latest step in the agency's efforts to improve service.

Nearly 30 bus routes will receive additional service in the coming weeks, as CTA continues to recruit and hire more staff.

On the North Side those routes include the #8 Halsted, #9 and 9X Ashland, #36 Broadway, 49B N. Western, #50 Damen, #66 Chicago, #70 Division, #72 North Ave., #77 Belmont, #81 Lawrence, and #155 Devon.

The changes to the bus schedules will be implemented, where-

by bus employees are able to "pick" their work assignments at designated times throughout the year. The new scheduling process is included in the collective bargaining agreement with the bus employees union.

On March 24, 29 bus routes returned to near pre-COVID-19 service levels. Most of the new service will occur during weekdays, with additional Saturday service on the #77 Belmont and #81 Lawrence routes.

The scheduled bus service changes will be based on expected bus operator hiring. Customers should expect improved service

when the new schedules go into effect, but CTA will take every opportunity to make additional schedule changes as personnel are added, as staff pick which shifts and routes they want.

Next, the CTA hopes to schedule rail service as new operators are added following the successful completion of their training. Throughout the spring and summer, rail services will be added where demand is greatest, namely during the morning and afternoon rush periods on weekdays along the Red, Green, Brown and Purple lines, as well as the O'Hare Branch of the Blue Line.

Tax funds proposed for Near North Park

Planned improvements to Park 598 on the Near North Side would be supported with an additional \$1.25 million in Tax Increment Financing [TIF] assistance proposed to City Council March 20 by Mayor Brandon Johnson.

Located at 1514 N. Larabee St., the property was acquired by the Park District from the Chicago Housing Authority in 2019.

Already approved for \$3.15 million in TIF, the additional taxpayer funding would reimburse the Chicago Park District for anticipated expenses involving an entry plaza, playground, walking paths, fitness equipment, an open lawn and landscaping.

Construction could start later this year.

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INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

MARCH 27 - APRIL 2, 2024 • 7

Crew robbed nine people in 45 minutes on North Side

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police have released surveillance video of another robbery crew that detectives have linked to multiple muggings on the North Side. CPD has warned of nearly a dozen robbery crews over the past month, often including video of the suspects. That's a departure from the police department's long-standing practice of withholding video from the public in all but the rarest of cases.

The latest video shows two angles of a robbery unfolding in the 1900 block of W. Hood in West Rogers Park around 6:52 a.m. on Feb. 21. According to CPD, the crew committed nine robberies within 45 minutes that morning.

All the victims were walking when they

saw a white Kia with Illinois plates pull up. Two men got out of the vehicle to confront the victims while an accomplice stayed in the driver's seat, police said. The robbers struck several of the victims, either with their hands or some kind of blunt object, including the woman seen in the video.

After showing the robbery from a distance, the video shows the crime from a different angle, giving a better idea of what happened.

CPD said the group committed robberies that morning in the 3400 block of W. Waveland at 6:30 a.m.; 3100 block of W.



A frame from surveillance video shows two men preparing to rob a woman in West Rogers Park on Feb. 21, 2024. CPD said the crew committed nine robberies in about 45 minutes that morning.

a.m.; 6900 block of N. Sheridan at 7:11 a.m.; 1400 block of W. Arthur at 7:15 a.m., and on the 1300 block of W. Loyola between 7:15 and 7:30 a.m.

In a statement released with the video, police said the suspects are three Black or Hispanic men between 18 and 25 years old wearing hoodies and dark face coverings. If you have information about the crimes, contact Area Three detec-

tives at 312-744-8263 or Area Five detectives at 312-746-7394. Refer to crime pattern #P24-CWP-012.

Grace at 6:40 a.m.; 1900 block of W. Hood at 6:52 a.m.; 2600 block of W. Berwyn at 6:55 a.m.; 6300 block of N. Paulina at 7 a.m.; 1400 block of W. Rosemont at 7:05

Where support for Mayor's proposed tax increase came from

In both his mayoral campaign, and with his Bring Chicago Home efforts, Mayor Brandon Johnson counted on a critically high level of support for his election and main legislative agenda coming from Chicago's North Side.

Despite the defeat of his Bring Chicago Home referendum last week, Mayor Johnson vows to continue with his legislative agenda.

But the areas where he found support, and met opposition, to his tax increase are somewhat surprising.

The measure, which would have increased the city's real estate transfer tax on properties over \$1 million, was broadly supported by many of the same North Side neighborhoods who backed him in the mayoral race.

Certainly the most surprising thing in his

recent defeat was Johnson's lack of support in his own back yard, his efforts broadly failed on the West and South Sides.

But here on the North Side, it seems that those with the most at risk - Downtown and Near North Side voters running north to Lakeview - came out to oppose the tax increase; while those who would not see their taxes rise - those areas from North Lakeview up to Rogers Park - backed the tax increase.

Simplistically speaking, it was a pocket-books and purse strings decision. Largely those who owned million dollar properties and had targets painted on their backs voted against the tax increase, while those who didn't own million dollar properties and were going to see a decrease in their own transfer taxes, voted in favor of lower taxes.

Oddly, two areas that are filled with million-dollar properties where Mayor Johnson saw strong support was in the eastern section of North Center with over 53% in support of the tax increase, and in Lincoln Square with over 59% in support.

For North Center, Lincoln Ave. seemed to be the dividing line, as those areas east of Lincoln Ave. supported the tax increase while those west of Lincoln came out strongly opposed to the tax increase, with support ranging from 23.6% to 42%.

And 21st century Lincoln Square today is a far cry from its 20th century roots, when it was once a conservative stronghold of Reagan Democrats, and had a legitimate, active and well-regarded local Republican political campaign organization.

Unsurprisingly, the two communities where Johnson saw the broadest support

were in Uptown, with over 76% in support, and in Rogers Park with over 71% in support.

Unsurprisingly as well was Mayor Johnson's broad failure in Lincoln Park, where he lost all precincts but one - precinct 8 in the northeast corner of Lincoln Park - where he got a narrow win with 50.28% of that precincts vote.

Perhaps his worse showing was in precinct 3 in southeast Lincoln Park where Johnson was opposed by 84.65% of the voters.

In fact, if you follow the east bank of the Chicago River from Irving Park south into the Loop, West Loop and South Loop, Mayor Johnson broadly lost the vast majority of those precincts handily.

SUPPORT see p. 9

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Peter Pan

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STOCKHOLM from p. 2

Dallas-based Lone Star Funds. Both firms are reportedly ready to dump their stakes in Lincoln Yards at a discount.

Even the Chicago Teacher's Union told them to take a hike, when they came begging, hat in hand.

The city's agreement with Sterling Bay called for them completing work on a bridge connecting the northern and southern portions of the site and several roads within the former industrial corridor by 2022. The extension of The 606 trail and a realignment of Elston Ave. were also supposed to begin in 2022. Those projects are now stalled.

And now an Arkansas-based bank is knocking on Sterling Bay's door asking about that pesky pre-COVID \$126 million - past-due - loan from 2019.

The original 2019 approval of Lincoln Yards called for several buildings to have been completed by 2024. How the mighty have fallen.

LAST TO KNOW: What's going on with the Cubs and their neighbors? There was little advance public notification about their annual 'meeting with the community' and the nearby neighbors are wondering why they're always the last to know? Being a billionaire means never having to say you're sorry.

IRISH: I had to give the Irish

Fellowship St. Patrick's dinner a miss this year, but I'm told former **Ald. Ed Burke**, a former fellowship president, was the talk of the town showing up and filling a table that included **Jay Doherty**. The dinner was so packed this year they had to set up shop in the International Ballroom, that frankly no one cares for, there's nothing like the Grand Ballroom. Yes that was **Monsignor Ken Velo** and newsy **Anne Kavanagh** and **Tim Kavanagh** also at the dinner.

P E A C E : Longtime member of Addison Street Community Church in NorthCenter, 20+ year Lane Tech Local School Council volunteer and Lake View Kiwanian, **Karl Schroeder**, who collected can tabs, calendars and spent his life helping others, passed away on March 19. Say some prayers for Karl, and send some too for his wife **Diane** and his kids **Karl, David, Rebecca** and **Mira Schroeder**.

GOING ONCE: Here's your chance to own a Monet. Got \$10 million lying around? Well the Union League put that on the

price tag of their Monet. They want to finance refurbishing of the club.

RMS TITANIC: Sail into the past with this jaw-dropping Titanic exhibit open now in Skokie at the Westfield Old Orchard Shopping Center.

RISING STARS: The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera will present its annual Rising Stars in Concert on Saturday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lyric Opera.



Mark Howard

END OF LINE: Redline VR / The Raven Room Founder **Aaron Sawyer** is speaking out about the end. After five years in business, he says they have made the difficult decision to close their doors at the end of April. "We have loved this business. We have enjoyed serving you and celebrating your birthdays, weddings, recitals, dancing, drag, wrestling, Shakespeare, and even filmed comedy specials- sometimes all in the same weekend. We are truly devastated it's all coming to an end, and we wish that circumstances were different."

Why are they closing? Redline VR's gross income doubled from 2021 to 2023 almost reaching \$1 million annually; but scheduled increases in payroll, property tax, rent, insurance, and debt payments kept up with (and often exceeded) their growth. "We will not be able to afford the mandatory leasehold improvements required by the City of Chicago to keep our license." Chicago - the city that works - used to be a good city to open a business in.

FALLON STARS: **Mark Howard**, Trinity Irish Dance founder, returned to the Tonight Show thirty years later, with his elite modern dance troop to entertain **Jimmy Fallon** and brought the house down at NBC.

TASTE OF CHICAGO: Taste of Chicago, a beloved summer tradition in the city, will once again be held in September. Like last year, Taste of Chicago has had to adjust its schedule for the NASCAR Street Race.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Cardinal **Blase Cupich**, the archbishop

of Chicago, just turned 75. Happy Retirement? Don't worry. He's not going anywhere. Oh, he'll hand in his resignation to **Pope Francis**, but Vatican watchers have long assumed the resignation would not be accepted right away. Cupich is in perfect health and has become one of the pope's closest allies in the American hierarchy.

ROMANCE: What married North Side alderman's office romance has him back living in his parent's house after a new baby-bump was hard to hide in the ward office?

SMART: Runway 606 is a partnership between Illinois Institute of Technology, City Colleges of Chicago, and Chicago Public Schools. This program offers Chicago's youth opportunities leading to in-demand well-paying careers, potentially shortening the journey from high school to a STEM master's degree by two years beginning with a pathway to cybersecurity degrees.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS: **Clinée Hedspeth** to head city's Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

WHO'S WHERE: **Bill Zwecker**, **Shelley Zucker**, **Alice Abt** and **Neal Zucker** having a great night at Tocco in Winnetka for Alice's birthday... The **Jim Houlihan Family** out in full force, three generations at Old St. Patrick's Church... Just in time for St. Joseph Day, Patio-Cafe Permit Received, so weather permitting Bacchanalia on Oakley St. will have outdoor sidewalk dining... **Lucia Adams** at **Carolyn Armenta's** 80th birthday bash at LaColonial... Former **Ald. Danny Soliz**, whose wire taps are the stuff of nuclear prosecution, has turned up in Chicago with stories to tell from the witness stand... Cubs fans everywhere saying a prayer for **Ryne Sandberg** currently being treated for metastatic prostate cancer... Delightful lunch at Ralph Lauren Bar and Grill in the Irv Kupcinet Booth with **Col. Paul Malarik III** and **Lynn Graham** for house-brined corned beef and cabbage and grasshopper pie... WGN Radio Attorney **Karen Conti** is gearing up for her book tour following publication of "Killing Time with John Wayne Gacy"... Deep sympathies to **Kathleen Taylor**, Executive Director of the Irish Fellowship Club, on the death of her sister, **Barbara Becker**... At the Sheraton Downtown the Celtic Legal Society St. Patrick's Luncheon with crusad-

ing Irish sibling lawyers **Fiona McEntee** and **Ray McEntee**... **Dan Balanoff** and his posse at the at the Snicker's Bar on what he declares is the best day of the year... **Rose Marie O'Neill**, longtime member of the Irish Georgian Society at the Breakers, it's not the same without the late **Desmond Guinness**.

PUPPET: In celebration of World Puppetry Day, the cuddly icon Lamb Chop is coming to Chicago on April 20 for a performance with "sister" **Mallory Lewis**, daughter of legendary TV star and puppeteer **Shari Lewis**. It's Lamb Chop's first visit to Chicago. The two will share vintage video footage and personal stories from behind the scenes of one of the most popular children's TV pairs of all time.

POEMS: In March, 44 high schools were part of Poetry Out Loud, with 205 teachers and over 7,000 students. Sixteen students representing Illinois's eight regions competed at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in downtown Springfield. Chicago was represented by **Gabriel Sakoda** of Frederick Von Steuben H.S. and **Jesus Chavarria** of Stephen T. Mather H.S. **Johanna Endashaw** of Niles West H.S. was named state champion by a panel of recitation and accuracy judges. Endashaw was also the winner of last year's state competition.

BANKSY: The brand-new **Banksy** mural that appeared in Finsbury Park, London, was defaced with large splashes of white paint. Tall metal fencing has been installed around the tree and the wall Banksy painted to look like green foliage, with a stenciled person looking up at it. And this is why we can't have nice things.

PICCOLO SOGNO: My friend and fellow artist, **Cynthia Prokop**, was kind enough to assist me visiting my physician. Afterward, lunch by **Tony Prioli** at Piccolo Sogno. A platter of classic prosciutto and melon with olive oil, focaccia bread, a fine gnocchi that was light as a feather with a sauce of exotic mushrooms. Lovely Aqua Minerale capped it off and some ricotta cake with berries and cappuccinos. I mention this because it was spectacular vittles by **Dave Burke**. I want to go back right now.

Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent.

-- Isaac Asimov

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Ukrainian folk art showcased in Treasurer’s office

The public is invited to view paintings by Ukrainian-born, Chicago-based artists Elena Diadenko and Elena Pach on display in the Office of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas through April 30.

The exhibit, “Charitable Visions: A Dual Ukrainian-American Artistic Journey,” opened last week and showcases efforts of Chicago artists to support native Ukrainians in their fight for independence two years after neighboring Russia invaded their homeland. Diadenko said her abstract and modern acrylic-on-canvas pieces “portray the echo of war and life in Chicago.”

Diadenko has sold her art works and raised more than \$90,000 for Ukrainian causes since the war began. She has donated funds to four organizations: a group that supplies gauze and bandages

used to treat people injured in the war; a group that buys medical equipment for military hospitals; a group that provides Ukrainian soldiers with coats and other winter gear; and a group that cares for animals displaced by the war.

For her charitable efforts Diadenko was awarded the “White Cross Medal of Honor et Gloria,” a prestigious Ukrainian recognition awarded to foreigners and stateless individuals who have supported Ukraine during the war.

Proceeds from sales of works displayed in the exhibit will be donated to groups supporting Ukraine.

The works by Diadenko and Pach will be displayed from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on the walls of the Treasurer’s office, 118 N. Clark St., Room 112.

Swedish Museum new exhibit on Nordic Narratives

The Swedish American Museum in Andersonville is hosting the new “Lay Of(f) the Land: Nordic Narratives” exhibit opening April 6, and running through to June 16.

Profoundly shaped by Nordic culture and nature, the Art Alliance of the Arctic South [AAAS] offers a diverse range of works reflecting a deep connection to the environment. From intricate collages to life-size sculptural installations, eight Scandinavian artists intertwine personal and collective identity against vast landscapes, urging us to consider our collective path and the pressing need for change.

The exhibition is curated by Va-

sia Rigou, who along with AAAS brings together the work of Dragos Alexandrescu (Finland), Linéa Therese Dimitriou (Sweden), Heidi-Anett Haugen (Norway), Hanna Kanto (Finland), Lotta Lampa (Sweden), Patricia Rodas (Finland), Anastasia Savinova (Sweden), and Madelaine Sillfors (Sweden).

From intricate collages to life-size installations, their work explores themes of identity, colonization, and environment. The artists seek to confront global shifts and the urgent need for change. This exhibition at the Swedish American Museum, 5211 N. Clark St., hopes to inspire introspection and dialogue.

COUNCILS from p. 3

with their communities.

They say that with the existing shelters, the nearby resources are also impacted. “Most parks are surrounded by residential areas. We strongly request that CPD facilities, both indoor and outdoors, not be considered for use

as migrant shelters. It is up to [the mayor] to decide whether Chicago will continue to receive migrants and, if so, what other available locations might be considered.

While they claim to support humanitarian efforts, “we ask that you not take the limited resources from our communities – and your communities too.”

SUPPORT from p. 7

But for some tight wins in precincts north of Diversey and east of Halsted St. in Lake View East, Johnson’s strong support really does not kick in until you get north of Irving Park Rd.

Johnson also won broadly in large swaths of the areas north of Irving Park Rd. and west of the North Branch of the Chicago River.

But the true surprise in this recent election is how much support Mayor Johnson and the Chicago Teachers Union may have lost on the South and West Sides. In those areas Johnson lost support dramatically with some of those communities showing a 34% loss of mayoral race votes, and most South and West Side communities coming in with well over a 20% loss.

In those areas the loss may not have been about taxes and money taken from wallets and purses,

as few of those areas have large swaths of million dollar homes.

Johnson’s South Side and West Side supporters in the mayoral election a year ago turned into opponents on the tax hike referendum, with even his own neighbors in the Austin neighborhood rejecting his plan with 70% opposed to it and 30% in favor.

Shockingly in precinct 1 of the 15th Ward, Mayor Johnson actually lost 91% of the vote.

Yet to be determined is whether that lack of support was really about the transfer tax; or perhaps rather more about failing schools, lack of economic opportunities, illegal immigration and Chicago’s sanctuary city status, crime, violence and security.

Indeed the dramatic loss of support on the West and South Sides has got to be alarming for the mayor and teachers union. While they can be comforted by the strong support they still get from North Lakefront liberals.

A Body of Others on view at Surgery Museum

An exhibition titled A Body of Others is now on display at the Museum Of Surgical Sciences, 1524 N. Lake Shore Dr., presenting a series of sculptures that explore what it means for an animal to be artificially contained as an impetus for human theory, experimentation and consumption—existing in a sanctioned world within the human factory and institution.

This show encompasses animals living within the confines of medical, scientific and industrial food complexes.

In the works, refurbished animal cages, salvaged from labs, clinics and industrial farms have been reconfigured to resemble human forms. These unsettling structures contain various species, meticulously crafted from wood and papier-mache. Their details finely rendered, they appear spectral and ethereal against their darkened figurative cages.

The sculptures allude to animals unwillingly serving human needs—from becoming a “cheap” fast food product, to being scientifically observed, to being test subjects for the beauty industry and contemporary vaccines and medicines.



The composition of the works reference the David Pinner’s celebrated 1967 novel The Ritual, in which the protagonist becomes caged within a wicker human form as an unwitting sacrifice—one whose meaning he cannot ultimately comprehend.

“My sculptures visually conjure bodies that have been made invisible, pushed to the periphery

of our awareness while continuing to nourish and safeguard us,” said Pinner. “While these crafted animals occupy physical space, their spectral rendering reflects the psychological distance we create, between ourselves, and their unrecognized bodies.”

The show runs through June 16.

Lincoln Park wine crawl May 9

Gather your fellow wine aficionados for Lincoln Park Uncorked, An Armitage and Halsted Wine Stroll, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. May 9.

Guests will take a stroll through the Lincoln Park neighborhoods while stopping at local business-

es to sample seasonal wines and light fare.

The stroll travels Armitage, between Kenmore and Halsted, and Halsted, between Armitage and Webster. Early bird discounted \$48 tickets are available through March 28, call the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce at 773-880-5200.

Lakefront Trail underpass at Chicago closed for repairs

The city is alerting residents that the pedestrian underpass to the lakefront at Chicago Ave., which connects to the Lakefront Trail, will be closed this week.

The repair project got underway on Monday, and the Chicago Dept. of Transportation expects these repairs mean the pedestrian

underpass at Chicago Ave. and N. Lake Shore Dr. will be closed all week. Alternate lakefront access is open at Oak St., Grand Ave. and Illinois St.

The work includes repairing the stairs, replacing the bottom landing, and a sewer inspection.

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POLICE BEAT *from p. 6*

him with a knife and forced him into a nearby car around 3:15 a.m. March 24.

He said the offender sexually assaulted and robbed him, then released him after driving around for about 30 minutes. The victim sought help at a River North hotel.

No suspect description was available.

Rapper G Herbo, 2 others found not guilty of having guns in SUV near the Magnificent Mile

Herbert Wright, better known as Chicago rapper G Herbo, and two companions have been found not guilty of misdemeanor weapons charges stemming from a traffic stop near the Magnificent Mile last summer. A fourth man who was in the Cadillac Escalade with Wright continues to fight felony gun and cannabis charges.

Judge Donald Panarese praised the Chicago cops who handled the case, saying they “did great work here” and he found them “very professional and very credible” during the bench trial for the 28-year-old rapper and two of his companions, Derrick Linares, 26, of Yonkers, New York, and the Cadillac

Escalade’s driver, Antoine Smith, 42, of suburban Miami.

Chicago cops stopped the SUV, which had Montana license plates, at 34 W. Ontario around 5:30 p.m. July 9 after Smith failed to signal before making a turn near Wabash and Ontario, according to arrest reports filed in the case.

The officers said they saw the Cadillac’s back seat passengers, Wright and Linares, make “furtive movements” toward areas of the vehicle where guns were subsequently found, prosecutors said.

During a bond hearing last year for the fourth occupant, Cecil Davis, 33, of Hazel Crest, Assistant State’s Attorney Alexander Konetzki said bulletproofing modifications prevented Smith from opening the driver’s window during the traffic stop.

After exiting the car, Smith initially denied that there were weapons in the vehicle, but he later admitted that he was working security for a “well-known rapper in the back seat” and that there were, in fact, guns inside the SUV, Konetzki stated.

The police found two guns in the center console, another in a backpack in the rear cargo area, and a fourth in-

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

side a backpack on the front passenger floorboard near Davis, according to Konetzki.

After arresting the men, CPD officers tried to use a device to test the legality of its window tint darkness, but they could not get a reading because the ballistic glass was too thick, one of the arrest reports said.

Prosecutors rejected felony charges against Wright, Smith, and Linares, so police filed misdemeanor counts against the men.

“My appreciation for law enforcement has gotten greater dealing with this stuff on the street that you deal with,” Judge Panarese remarked before making his findings.

He explained that he believed the police saw movement in the car and possibly a bag being placed in the area where a gun was found.

“But, there were numerous bags in the back,” Panarese continued, according to a transcript of the proceeding. “So, it might have been Mr. Linares. It might have been Mr. Wright. We can’t determine which one. There is a finding of not guilty for both of those individuals.”

The judge recalled that Smith “took ownership of all these weapons,” but pointed out that Smith is from

Florida.

“There is an exception for a non-resident. He can pass through or go through the State” with weapons, Panarese explained.

According to Smith’s arrest report, the SUV he was driving received “multiple” parking tickets in Chicago on July 6 and June 24 last year and in Nov. 2022, indicating that the vehicle was not “passing through” the city. Some of the reports said the men had just been shopping at Zara on the Mag Mile.

“I don’t know if they were here before or that vehicle was here before in November, in June; but, Mr. Smith appears to be an intelligent man,” Panarese observed. “There is a finding of not guilty on all charges.”

The judge did, however, order the destruction of all four firearms.

“Gentlemen, you are all found not guilty. You are all dismissed. Thank you, Officer,” Panarese concluded.

Davis, the front-seat passenger, is due in court again on April 4.

Just 19 days after the men were arrested, Wright pleaded guilty in Boston to federal charges of wire fraud and making a false statement to a federal officer.

“Mr. Wright used stolen account

information as his very own unlimited funding source, using victims’ payment cards to finance an extravagant lifestyle and advance his career,” the District of Massachusetts U.S. Attorney’s Office said in a press release.

“Mr. Wright’s conduct affected countless businesses and individuals across the United States who had to foot his nearly \$140,000 bill in unauthorized transactions. Mr. Wright flaunted his lavish spending on social media, in music videos and in industry news.”

A federal judge sentenced him to three years of probation in January.

CTA passenger stabbed during robbery attempt on State-Lake ‘L’ platform; suspect detained

A suspect is in custody after a man was stabbed during a robbery attempt on a Loop CTA platform March 25.

Police said a 20-year-old man was on the State-Lake L platform, 200 N. State, when another man tried to rob him around 1:35 a.m. The men began to physically fight, and the assailant stabbed the victim above the right eye and in the right side of his chest. CTA surveillance cameras recorded the encounter.

EMS took the victim to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in good condition, according to police.

CPD officers arrested the suspected offender after a 911 caller reported that someone had walked into the lobby bleeding from the hand. A witness identified him as the assailant.

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North Township Real Estate For Sale					
Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC, Plaintiff, vs. ABN MRO MORTGAGE GROUP, INC.; THE MICHAELS TERRACE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JENNIFER A. BARTOSZ AKA JENNIFER BARTOSZ; ANDREW BARTOSZ; AMIR MOHABIT AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR JENNIFER A. BARTOSZ; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 4143 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 29, 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. 17-04-215-072-1023. Commonly known as 1309 N. WELLS ST., UNIT 706, CHICAGO, IL 60610. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g) (4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance,	by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiffs Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6960. 1396-182707 ADC INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountryjudicialsales.com 13240662 272727 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NA, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, NA, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO LASALLE BANK NA, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE WASHINGTON MUTUAL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, WMALT SERIES 2006-AR10 Plaintiff, -v- ELIZABETH A. KEELEY, ROBERT BIDDLE V, CITIBANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CITIBANK, FSB AND FIRMUS FINANCIAL, LLC Defendants 19 CH 3120 405-07 W. EUGENIE ST. CHICAGO, IL 60614 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 3, 2020, an agent for	The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 19, 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 405-07 W. EUGENIE ST., CHICAGO, IL 60614 Property Index No. 14-33-331-007-0000 The real estate is improved with a multi-family residence. The judgment amount was \$960,569.70. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than	a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Plaintiffs 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 19-01031. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO IL, 60606	312-357-1125 E-Mail: pleadings@nevellaw.com Attorney File No. 19-01031 Attorney Code. 18837 Case Number: 19 CH 3120 TJSC#: 44-688 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 19 CH 3120 202020 ----- 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, PC, 2215 Enterprise Drive, Westchester, IL 60154. (312) 940-8580. 17-17025 ADC INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountryjudicialsales.com 13239574 131313 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale					
Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale
272727 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. ROBERT ROONEY, A/K/A ROBERT R. ROONEY; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY; PARK TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants, 19 CH 10237 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 22, 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: Unit 2203 in Park Tower Condominium, as delineated upon a plat of survey of the following described real estate: Part of the East fractional half of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Township 40 North, Range 14, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois, which survey is attached as exhibit 'D' to the declaration of condominium recorded as document 24874698, together with its undivided percentage interest in the common elements, in Cook County, Illinois. P.I.N. 14-08-203-017-1255. Commonly known as 5415 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 2203, CHICAGO, IL 60640. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g) (4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's	Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 23-001958 ADC F2 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountryjudicialsales.com 13240108 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LSF11 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST; Plaintiff, vs. ALEJANDRO CASTRO; ROBERTO CARO; 5455 EDGEWATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 9613 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 24, 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: UNIT 2505 TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS IN 5455 EDGEWATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM, AS DELINEATED AND DEFINED IN THE DECLARATION RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 24870735, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, IN NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 14-08-203-016-1274. Commonly known as 5455 N. Sheridan Rd., Unit 2505, Chicago, IL 60640. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a con-	dominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g) (4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS001392-22FC1 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountryjudicialsales.com 13240151 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, vs. CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO NORTH STAR TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO PARK NATIONAL BANK & TRUST OF CHICAGO AS TRUSTEE U/T/AT DATED 3/5/1999 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 10238; BARBARA B. VON LANGE; MALIBU CONDOMINIUM; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO NORTH STAR TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO PARK NATIONAL BANK & TRUST OF CHICAGO AS TRUSTEE U/T/AT DATED 3/5/1999 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 10238; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANT Defendants, 22 CH 9504 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, April 23, 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. 14-05-215-015-1057. Commonly known as 6007 N. Sheridan Road, Unit 10A, Chicago, IL 60680. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act THE SALE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO GENERAL TAXES, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AND TO A PRIOR RECORDED FIRST MORTGAGE Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6960. 6722-187667 INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountryjudicialsales.com 13240136 202020 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Plaintiff, -v- 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/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE	WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiffs Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9878 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-00025 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2023 CH 00367 TJSC#: 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 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

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Workshops on building wealth

Few things are more liberating for individuals than building personal wealth. World System Builder's Financial Foundation Education Program is hosting a series of free financial education workshops March 21, April 4 and 11, in the Rogers Park Library, 6907 N. Clark St. Topics include building savings and wealth, increasing cash-flow and managing debt.

The workshops are being held in the library's Community Room, those wishing to attend may RSVP by calling Flor Guzman at 847-962-4171.

Jumping Jack application opens on April 15

Those giant inflatable Jumping Jacks are back for block parties for another summer season.

The Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events has announced the Jumping Jack Portal will open 8 a.m. Monday, April 15.

The inflatable bounce house is available, free of charge, to residential block parties from Saturday, May 25 through Sunday, Sept. 1, but you do have to request them. Applicants must

reside on the block where the Block Party is taking place.

Online applications forms can be found at ChicagoNeighborhoodFestivals.us.

Inflatables will only be provided to residential block parties within the Chicago city limits. Events on private property, in parks, in forest preserves, at schools, libraries or churches and festivals are not eligible.

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TOWER from p. 1

Walgreens, the full scope of the entire project alters the feel and vibe of four major Old Town streets: North, Wells, LaSalle and Clark St. This project is quite a bit larger than just one skyscraper, and may result in perhaps the most significant changes in the character of the Old Town community in over 50 years, since Sandburg Village was created in the 1960s.

Sandburg Village provided a large supply of affordable housing options for the community with over 2600 units. On the western border of Old Town is the Marshall Field Garden Apartments, a 628-unit subsidized housing complex. Combined, those two projects help give the Old Town area perhaps the largest existing supply of affordable housing on the North Side.

(The goal for the development of Sandburg Village was to revitalize the Old Town neighborhood, which along with Lincoln Park, was threatened by encroaching slums and urban decay. It may be hard to imagine now, but those two communities were considered some of the worst, most run down neighborhoods in the city in the 1960s and early 70s.)

Still what appears to be most grating to some who know the history of Old Town is not the addition of even more affordable housing, but that they will be absorbing all this added density and congestion without adding commensurate off-street parking, nor are neighbors seeing any plan to deal with all the added congestions brought on by creating so much new density.

The new sky-scraper alone will bring 500 new units to the corner of Wells and North, but will provide only 150 parking spots for the building's residents (with an additional 300 spaces for the exclusive use of Moody Bible located across the street).

"This latest proposal is a clear indication that greed comes before the community," said Jordan Matyas, a spokesman

for a group called the Old Town Friends for Responsible Development [OTFRD]. They claim to be a grassroots coalition of property owners, merchants, and residents that formed to preserve the character and charm of Old Town. They say they don't oppose development, but want developers to respect the community and its neighbors.

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"For years, this developer has kept the community in the dark with promises and lofty ideas; only recently have dribbles of information come to light on how harmful this project will be for the community. Five hundred units on the corner of Wells and North will provide no value to the community and will most definitely increase the traffic crisis that already exists. [We look] forward to working with the Alderman's office to bring to light how this proposal is unacceptable."

Chuck Leiser also posted complaints online about the project, saying Fern Hill was missing the big picture. "You have not taken into consideration the residents' traffic concerns, increased density and safety. You think putting in a store is going to revitalize economic development, it won't." Leiser notes that adding addition retail space will not help fill in all the existing vacant commercial spaces.

Indeed Chicago is right now suffering from a severe glut of open, empty commercial space which is driving down the value

SKYLINE

of commercial property. Leiser also warns about the lack of a North Ave. setback. He cautions about the possibility of falling ice or debris from the rooftop deck. He also accused Fern Hill of "failing to discuss your traffic study. The increased foot traffic there will put more and more people at risk. Everything you mention in this update does not address the real concern of this project. It is too dense for this area."

Some of the frustration and blowback appears to also be splattering on the Old Town Triangle Assoc. [OTTA], a long-time community group. One area resident said that he's "deeply disappointed by the OTTA." Joe Jacobazzi says the com-

munity group "has been a no-show up to now in helping to influence the design and scope of a major residential development proposed by Fern Hill in our community." Jacobazzi accused the OTTA of being primarily focused "on their lucrative Old Town Art Fair each year. The success of the Art Fair is derived in large part to the charm of the Old Town neighborhood that has the potential to be adversely affected by the Fern Hill development."

Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd], in whose ward the project exists, has not yet taken a public position. Presently there is no proposed construction timeline for the high-rise.

TAVERN from p. 1

ing room, cocktail lounge, bar, outdoor patio and multiple rooms for private events. The decor will provide a modernized and refined look while staying true to the approachable and comfortable ambiance that helped grant the success of the former space for nearly 25 years.

"Community is and always will be at the heart of Tavern on Rush. As this short-term retirement draws to a close, we look forward to opening our doors once again to those who have loved us for the last 25 years, and those who have yet to meet us," said owner Phil Stefani.

Tavern on Rush will serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily, and brunch on the weekends, with the menu featuring the fin-

est USDA, prime-aged steaks and chops, fresh seafood and much more. Guests can also enjoy a robust beverage program featuring a curated and extensive wine list and an elevated cocktail menu. Tavern on Rush will provide room service for the hotel and catering for the banquets on the third and fourth floors.

Stefani Restaurant Group has plans to bring back many of the former staff members from the original location, including maître d' extraordinaire, Benny Nadzaku, who served as one of the faces of (the former) Tavern on Rush for its entirety and has been with the Stefani Restaurant Group for over 40 years.

For more information, visit tavernon-rush.com.

DYEING from p. 1

state permit for the dye to be discharged into the river, as required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

The Sierra Club, in a March 16 article on its website, said they were told by the Illinois EPA that "while a permit has not been issued for this event, the agency did review the information and safety data for the dye and concluded that there is no toxic effect."

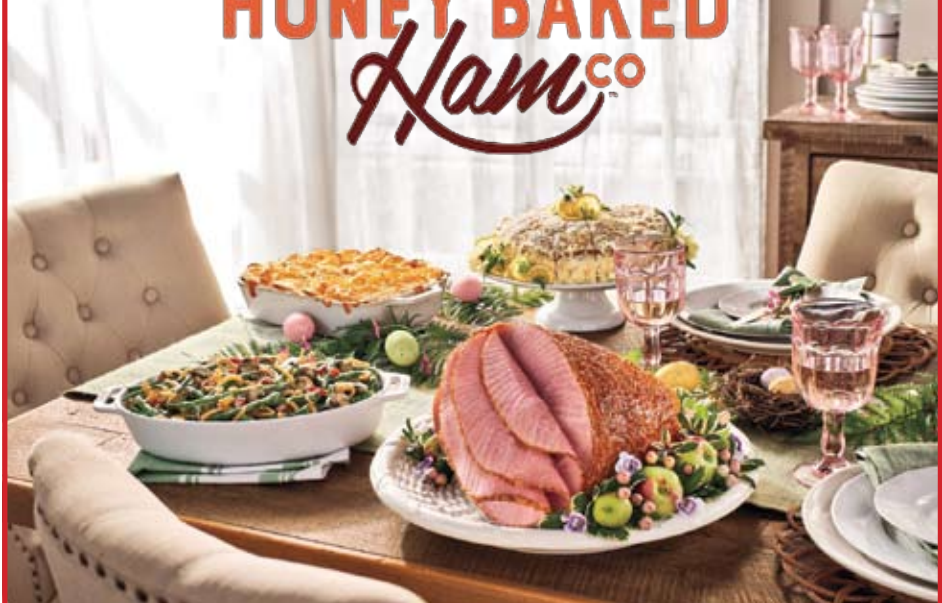
In 2021, Sierra Club's Illinois chapter, along with Friends of the Chicago River and Openlands, an environmental group protecting, according to its website, "the natural and open spaces of northeastern Illinois," argued that "even if the dye isn't environmentally harmful, the city needs to

rethink how it chooses to protect and interact with the river, especially as a signal to residents."

One problem, claims Sierra Club, is that the official event has inspired "rogue dyers," who in recent years snuck green dye into the north branch of the Chicago River and were never caught by Illinois Conservation Police.

"We totally understand the origins of the practice and the fact that Chicago will always be a proud Irish town," said Jack Darin, director of Sierra Club's Illinois chapter, but dyeing the river an "unnatural green," he says, "does seem increasingly anachronistic, now that we're able to celebrate the river with its natural color most other days."

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