



Chicago police handle an incident during a "teen takeover" in Streeterville on March 28. Image courtesy Citizen App

Petition urges mayor to combat 'teen takeovers' with 8 p.m. curfew, page 9

More bad news for busted Sterling Bay

Developer turns former Finkl Steel property over to bank

It has been a bad few years for former real estate golden child Sterling Bay. Years of missed development deadlines, missed loan payment and missed opportunities.

Now the developer must to give up on their plans to develop the former Finkl Steel site centered at Cortland and Southport, which was once their prized riverfront possession.

The 28-acres hugging the North Branch of the Chicago River straddling Cortland has now been given to Bank OZK, an Arkansas-based lender, to help settle a \$126 million mortgage loan Sterling Bay took out against the land.

According to Crain's Chicago, Sterling Bay must relinquish those 28-acres once occupied for over a century by the A. Finkl & Sons steel plant. The change in ownership now creates further uncertainties about the Lincoln Yards project's future, size and use. The raising of the white flag of financial surrender involves transferring the northern segment of the proposed 53-acre development through a deed in lieu of foreclosure.

Bank OZK had reportedly extended the maturity of the mortgage multiple times, and expressed its devolving outlook on the project's viability through recent loan writedowns, which cut its balance to approximately \$88 million by the end of 2024. But even that wasn't enough.

This spectacular financial collapse creates real doubts as to whether any of the points in the agreements on infrastructure improvements that Sterling Bay had committed to with the city of Chicago will occur. Creating new roadways, a new bridge, bike paths and other infrastructure needs were all part of the conditions tied to the \$1.3 billion Tax Increment Financing District that was negotiated by the administration of former-Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

It must be noted that former 43rd Ward Ald. Michele Smith was perhaps the first public official to call BS on city's TIF deal with Sterling Bay. Former Mayor

Lori Lightfoot also expressed doubts about the project, prior to assuming office.

Nine other Aldermen spoke out against the TIF deal, including Scott Waguespack [32nd], and former aldermen Proco Joe Moreno [1st], Tom Tunney [44th], James Cappleman [46th], Ameya Pawar [47th], and Harry Osterman [48th].

Former 43rd Ward Ald. Michele Smith said the Lincoln Yards development TIF process lacked transparency and that the city needed to answer more questions before moving forward. She expressed concerns about the lack of a firm plan for public benefit, stating that the city had not provided a clear plan for how the TIF funds will be used.

At the time it was a brave call by those opposed, considering all the big money that was backing the \$6 billion development deal back in 2019... a lot of which would have been invested into Smith's own ward.

Hindsight shows that perhaps Smith's concerns should have been taken more seriously.

Smith said the Lincoln Yards development TIF process lacked transparency and that the city needed to answer more questions before moving forward. She expressed concerns about the lack of a firm plan for public benefit, stating that the city had not provided a clear plan for how the TIF funds will be used. She also objected to the amount of money earmarked for land acquisition, while arguing that the city should use some of that property to build a 24-acre riverfront park instead.

The property transfer to secure the past due loan comes as Sterling Bay falters with securing any new financing to help recapitalize the project, which was slated to add 14.5 million square feet of new commercial and residential

STERLING BAY see p. 16

Streeterville pot shop deal now going to court

AG rules against this newspaper's appeal

BY RONALD ROENIGK

This newspaper has written a series of stories on a sketchy ruling by the Zoning Board of Appeals [ZBA] allowing a cannabis dispensary to open at 620 N. Fairbanks Ct., which is clearly within a school 500-foot exclusionary zone.

Through a variety of sources and shared documents circulating among Streeterville area residents, this newspaper has reported on questionable decisions over a recreational drug dispensary deal that in an earlier era might have made former Levee District ward

boss aldermen "Bathroom John" Coughlin and Michael "Hinky Dink" Kenna blush.

While the ZBA voted 3-2 in favor of the deal, it was a vote that now sees the City's Dept. of Law [DOL] scrambling to cover their tracks, and hide their in-house legal opinions, city documents, emails and discussions that examined the legality of the deal and ZBA vote.

This newspaper recently appealed to, and was refused official access to certain DOL documents to the Attorney General of Illinois [AG]. They found that the DOL's internal conversations

needed to be protected. Their primary role is not transparency to citizens, but to defend the city and Mayor's office.

This newspaper appealed the case to the AG after our Freedom of Information Act request resulted in page after page of redacted documents from the City.

The AG ruled that a public body that redacts records "has the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence" that the redacted information is exempt from disclosure. Apparently the DOL passed that burden.

POT SHOP see p. 16

Another Mag Mile office tower tumbles

Investors fail to pay \$95M loan, hands building over to lender

It happened again, another Magnificent Mile property has defaulted on a loan, and the investment group behind the property was forced to give up the building to the lender.

Blackstone Mortgage Trust [BMT] was given back control of the 36-story 444 N. Michigan Ave. office building from a joint venture of Golub & Company and CIM Group due to a failed loan repayment.

This move comes after attempts by the investors to get a loan extension and sell off the struggling building.

Like many other Downtown Chicago buildings in the current commercial real estate crash, 444 N. Michigan Ave. faced low occupancy rates and a market value likely lower than the loan amount. It's a difficult - yet easy - decision for investors to make, once they do the math. When the debt on a commercial building exceeds the resale value, then bankruptcy, foreclosure or a transfer of property back to the lender to get out from under the loan is generally the property's fate.

Left holding the bag this time is BMT, the commercial lending arm of real estate investment giant Blackstone. They must now take on another struggling Mag. Mile office building after market con-

ditions shifted due in large part to cultural and economic changes that grew out of the COVID-19 pandemic and government-imposed economic lockdown.

Those shifts have been a disaster for Downtown Chicago.

The building's owners bought the property for \$138 million in better times - 2018 - and refinanced it with a \$123 million loan. BMT gave the investor's group a loan extension in 2024 after they paid the balance down to \$95 million.

BMT tried to sell the building last year but there were no takers. Indeed, the 517,500-square-foot building's loan was much higher than the current resale value. The building was only 61% occupied at the time of the default.

But when the loan's new Dec. 2024 maturity date arrived, the loan went into default. That default triggered negotiations to turn the property over to BMT.

BMT tried to sell the building last year but there were no takers. Indeed, the 517,500-square-foot building's loan was much higher than the current resale value. The building was only 61% occupied at the time of the default.

In March, central business dis-

trict office vacancy rates hit a new high of 26.5%, while property tax collections from that same area are now softening due to dropping property values.

The future for the downtown real estate market is a mystery for many property owners as the work-from-home trend appears to be sticking. Locals and tourists alike are going downtown less.

Many may recall that in the years prior to 2020, Downtown Chicago was electric and filled with human activity. Restaurants and theaters were sold out, and hotels had record occupancies.

Within two years that all success ceased due to the pandemic, then the government-imposed economic lockdown, the race riots, looting and a robust gangland criminal culture that consumed Chicago, fostering quality of life crimes that still seem never to be properly prosecuted by Cook County until the federal government steps in.

The cultural shift has been stark. Netflix and other streaming services are taking people away from downtown entertainment venues; Amazon is taking customers away from downtown retailers, and Ozempic and Wegovy are helping to empty out bars and restaurant.

Today Chicago and Illinois suffer from a whirlwind of colliding troubles that include a glut of va-

TOWER see p. 16

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(Left) The ten-ton Jean Dubuffet outdoor sculpture that locals have been known to call “Snoopy in a blender.” (Center) Picasso’s first monumental sculpture in America — known simply as the Chicago Picasso — designates the plaza in front of the Chicago Civic Center as a public gathering space. (Right) The Alexander Calder “Flamingo” sculpture was designed specifically for this space, to add a lightness and balance to the severity of the Federal Building’s Modernist lines.

If ‘da Mayor likes it, I likes it



By Thomas J. O’Gorman

I’ll admit it. I’ve been annoying everyone who will listen. The bee in my bonnet is Chicago’s legendary and historic monuments.

I don’t just mean Civil War generals and Irv Kupcnet, but those extraordinary outdoor pieces of public art by the 20th century’s most evocative and legendary artists.

For more than two decades my City Hall office window looked out on the dynamic figures in front of the State of Illinois Building. That’s where French artist Jean Dubuffet’s “Monument with Standing Beast” was located. Along Randolph St. at the corner of Clark. I perused it day after day. Rain or shine. Through the mayoral terms of Daley, Emanuel and Lightfoot.

The sculpture has disappeared from the public eye.

Stories abound over where in the Land of Lincoln the State of Illinois is going to relocate it. We’re fearful because, let’s face it, world class art has never been

Springfield’s priority. After all, it’s not a replica of a haybale or the inventor of the doorknob in Sangamon County.

In March 2024 Gov. JB Pritzker’s office issued a statement, saying, “The state is working on a long-term plan for the artwork and in the meantime the statue will be transported to a state owned facility to ensure it is kept in good condition. We will announce the plans for the statue when they are finalized.”

How hard is it to protect world class art?

Of course recent conversations have sparked fears concerning all the other world class public art that appears to be headed for rancorous oblivion if some politicos have their way.

The constant national warfare over shattering the custom and culture of America is one thing.

But here in “leaderless” Chicago the buffoonery of locals sets us all on a dangerous path. Along with Pablo Picasso, Alexander Calder, Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Ju Ming and Anish Kapoor, for starters.

These extraordinary works all come with a colorful history the Art Institute couldn’t invent. Many were given birth by a strange Chicago political connection to big business and banking.

Pablo Picasso was such a fan of Mayor Richard J. Daley that he set about “gifting” Chicago’s world class Mayor with what is known as “Chicago Picasso” residing for



The Universe, 1974, Alexander Calder, located in the Sears Tower Lobby until it vanished in 2017.

Photo courtesy Ward Miller / Preservation Chicago

more than half a century, now, in Daley Plaza.

Of course many Chicagoans hadn’t a clue as to the meaning and esthetic significance of Picasso’s work. One tried and true Chicagoan observed to Studs Terkel on the day of the sculpture’s unveiling in 1967, what he really thought. When asked if he liked the 50 foot, 160 ton work, the classic response of this Chicago neighborhood character was, “If da Mayor likes it, I likes it.”

That day public sculpture in downtown Chicago changed forever.

Picasso, a Communist, was attracted to the personality and public image of Mayor Richard J. Daley. It was his ability to make Chicago work better than any other American city that so beguiled the artist.

Chicago’s muscular character and stunning sense of modernity was wildly delighting to the artist. So much so that when Daley’s small art delegation went to see Picasso to arrange for the sculpture, carrying a hefty check in payment, they were shocked to learn from the artist that it was his personal gift to the City and the Mayor.

This “woman’s head” has become a part of the very life of Chicago, signaling not only Daley’s wisdom in providing magnificent modern art, but Chicago’s remarkable ability to learn and grow with something new and fresh.

The same can be said of the City’s other dynamic public art.

Does anyone remember the day back on Oct. 25, 1974 when Mayor Daley unveiled not one, but two works by sculptor Alexander Calder? The 50 ton Orange “Flamingo” in the Federal Plaza. A stabile. No moving parts. And just up Adams St. Calder’s mobile, many moving parts, called

“Universe,” in the lobby of the brand new Sears Tower.

So contagious was the euphoria surrounding the display of these two works that Daley turned the event into a vast urban circus parade. With an appearance by the Schlitz Beer 40-horse hitch and a huge genuine marching band that paraded between the two new Calder works.

Daley named it “Alexander Calder Day” in Chicago. The artist was given the key to the city. Only Bridgeport’s favorite Irish son could get away with filling the City with such world class Modernist works.

Now why am I fearful? Well when the Sears Tower was sold back in 2017, the Calder Mobile was never a part of the sale.

It was tragically dismantled and removed from the lobby. And today, eight years later, its whereabouts is anyone’s guess. How ironic that world class Modernist public art has this pattern of disappearing when no one is looking. Try and get the truth about its present location. Not easy.

Is it in storage, carefully curated for future use? Might as well look for the disappeared owners too. Sears has also disappeared. Does Christie’s have it?

Or Sotheby’s, sequestered for some future auction? Does another American city feel like acquiring it to enhance its urban cache? Like Des Moines? Or is it fully mounted and moving on some wall of a palace of a Middle East potentate, the full details and price of a secret purchase forever sealed?

Then tragically we hear rumors that Chicago’s Federal Buildings are expendable. And might find other owners. And at the same time the protective federal agency that safeguards art owned by the government is about to be disbanded. Just rumors?

Of course these aberrations are unthinkable for many Chicagoans.

But the political conditions of Chicago government with the ruling party currently in charge does not encourage confidence or make the public art environment safe and secure.

With astronomical financial woes expanding daily, the untrained, incompetent Mayoral team is not about to have a circus parade up Adams St. anytime soon. I think they are more apt to sell our artistic birthright to the highest bidder in Saudi or Dubai. And we’ll hear nothing about it.

So pass out the flashlights and Sherlockian magnifying glasses for this one. Lift every sewer lid. Search every closet in City Hall. Check the pockets of the Chicago Teachers Union.

While you’re at it see if any sculptures are mixed up with the mayor’s treasure room. Does anything resemble the “Beasts” of Jean Dubuffet? I promise to cease annoying.

LOYAL FRIENDS: Sean and Marie O’Neill of Dublin and Portugal came to Chicago for all our

LIKES see p. 10

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Return of Illinois state park to Prairie Band Potawatomi may have major ramifications for Chicago

Sovereign nation status provides local taxing authority

BY PETER VON BUOL

With the reestablishment of sovereignty for the Prairie Band Potawatomi within the boundaries of the state of Illinois, the nation now has the ability to purchase properties, and conduct business within the city of Chicago and to add it to their sovereign nation as it would be located on land that had been occupied by their ancestors long before western man arrived here.

As a sovereign entity, the Prairie Band Potawatomi may choose to purchase land and other assets within the city limits to build a casino. These land purchases, through a federal process, can be added to their nation and will legally be recognized by the federal government as "Indian Country."

Such a property would be outside of the city, county and state's jurisdiction. Were they to choose to get into the casino business, they would eventually compete directly against other casinos such as the Bally's Chicago Casino, Rivers Casino in Des Plaines, and The Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana.

While the Prairie Band Potawatomi have not announced any plans to do so, they already operate a successful casino north of Topeka, Kansas.

Casinos run by Native Americans occupy a special place in the overall casino and gambling industry; because Indian reservations are considered independent nations, gambling is mostly unrestricted.

Should they choose, the Prairie Band Potawatomi could purchase the financially troubled Bally's Chicago Casino site at Chicago Ave. and Halsted St. and legally convert that land to a sovereign Indian Country status. Prior to Chicago's founding, local Indian communities were established on the banks of The Chicago River, perhaps even at that very location.

Or the tribe could take over property elsewhere, like for instance, the Prairie Band Potawatomi could make a deal with the state to lease the mostly vacant Lakeside Center (formerly the East Building) at McCormick Place and operate a lakefront casino, or perhaps adjacent to O'Hare Airport.

The special legal status of Indian nations in the U.S. also means that city, county and state excise taxes are not necessarily collected on tobacco purchases on their reservations. With sovereign nation status, the Prairie Band Potawatomi would have many economic opportunities and options open to them, and very few roadblocks. Sovereign nation status also means they would not have to share any casino revenue with local taxing bodies.

On March 21, Gov. J.B. Pritzker had signed SB0867 and immediately transferred ownership of Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area in DeKalb County to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Through that process, the Prairie Band Potawatomi once again became a sovereign government entity within the boundaries of the State of Illinois. Their land had been illegally seized and sold off while Chief Shabeh-nay was visiting his relatives in Kansas

in the late 1840s. Because that sale had been done without congressional approval, it was illegal.

As a sovereign nation, the Prairie Band Potawatomi is now once again able to exercise full governmental powers, including taxing authority, without needing any approval from the city of Chicago, Cook County or state of Illinois. Through a process known as fee-to-trust acquisitions, any future purchases will be held in trust by the federal government. This process was used with the land that had been in recent decades privately purchased by the Prairie Band Potawatomi and which has now been added to the former 1,500 acre Shabbona State Recreation Area.

"Ever since our land was stolen from us, Prairie Band has sought to reclaim what is rightfully ours and continue our history as an original part of DeKalb County. In fact, starting in 2004, we bought a parcel of land on our original reservation, and over the course of 15 years we paid nearly \$10 million in total to repurchase, parcel by parcel, a total of 130 acres of reservation land that had already legally belonged to us," wrote Joseph Zeke Rupnick, the nation's tribal council chairman in an op-ed published May 9, 2024 in the Chicago Sun-Times.

In that editorial written nearly a year earlier, Rupnick described the process now taking place for the former Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area.

"Indian tribal governments have jurisdiction within their reservations over criminal law enforcement over Indians (concurrent

Cop traffic stop survey underway

A survey is now underway regarding Chicago police ending enforcement of traffic stops for driving and vehicle violations.

Traffic stops by the CPD are receiving significant attention now and there is pressure from some community groups to make changes to CPD Policy to limit when police officers will be allowed to make certain types of traffic stops for low level, nonmoving violations.

The Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability is taking the survey in collaboration with the CPD. Supt. Larry Snelling will be drafting changes to police policy over the next weeks. Those who wish to add their opinion to the debate should take the survey. The survey can be found at: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qc02cC0GUUGBRJfdxW5wJ24BU0rcb55AmfHIOLzxJ29UMzc1S09GUE9YM0IXWVdRTIdNSTUXSDRENS4u&route=shorturl>.

with the federal government); civil regulatory authority over business activities; environmental and natural resource management; hunting and fishing; education; and social welfare. We will be present and attentive, and oversee a seamless transition of public services," wrote Rupnick.

According to an article published in the journal of the American Planning Assoc., nine sources of law explain the unique relationship between the federal government

POTAWATOMI see p. 12

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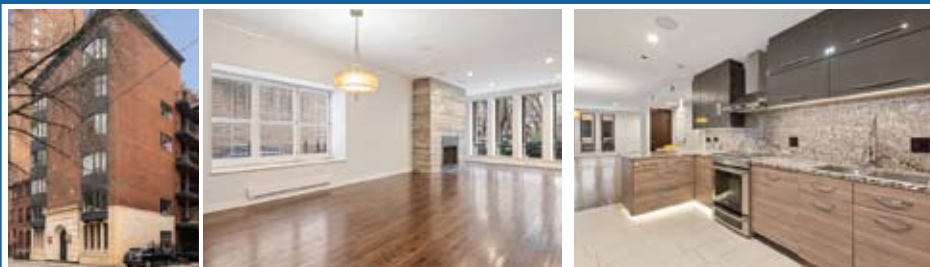
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The Loop 'L' up for discussion April 12

The topic for the upcoming meeting of the Chicago History Book Discussion Group will be a book by Patrick Reardon titled "The Loop: The 'L' Tracks That Shaped and Saved Chicago."

The talk will take place 10 a.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Edgewater Branch, Chicago Public Library, 6000 N. Broadway.

The talk will be combination of urban history, biography, engineering, architecture, transportation, culture and politics. Reardon's book depicts the colorful past of the elevated train that gave downtown its nickname, and was saved from destruction in the 1970s to carry 117,447,000 passengers in 2023.

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Why we pay Property Taxes in arrears

BY MARIA PAPPAS

One of the most common questions I get in my office, is, "Why do we collect taxes for the previous year?" Here's the backstory.

Cook County's property tax system has changed dramatically since The Treasurer's Office first opened its doors in 1831 when the county was established. One of the biggest changes was the decision to collect property taxes for the previous year or "in arrears."

The shift in the system can be traced back to the 1930s, when the country and the most populous county in Illinois were both grappling with the financial effects of the Great Depression.

Property taxes have been a crucial source of revenue for local governments in Cook County since before Chicago was even incorporated in 1837. Tax col-

lections have long bankrolled essential services such as schools, police and fire departments and infrastructure development projects.

After the County Seat was set up at Fort Dearborn and Cook County quickly became an economic hub, the demand for tax revenue to fund expanding government services increased. This placed a greater burden on local governments to maintain the infrastructure and services needed for the growing Chicagoland population.

At no time was that burden greater than during The Great Depression of the 1930s, which had a long-lasting effect on the way property taxes are handled.

The economic downturn led to widespread unemployment and financial hardship across Cook County. During this period,

tax delinquency rates soared, and some property owners began to refuse to pay their taxes. Throughout the 30's, the 5 daily newspapers in Chicago regularly reported on the "tax revolts" that were taking place across the county. The Chicago Tribune called those who failed to pay, "tax shirkers" and their movement the "tax racket."

The consequences of these "tax revolts" were immediate. Unable to collect taxes, local governments found themselves struggling to fund public services. In response to the crisis, Illinois and Cook County officials and many of their counterparts across America, decided to delay the collection of property taxes, effectively placing the county's property tax payments one year behind. This decision provided immediate relief to struggling property owners. It also set a precedent for the practice of paying property taxes in arrears which continues to this day.

The system of paying taxes in

arrears means property tax bills issued in a given year typically reflect assessments from the previous year. For example, the property tax bills my office sent out in January of 2025 are based on assessments made for the 2024 tax year. This admittedly complicated system helps provide stability for both local governments and taxpayers, as it ensures a more predictable billing cycle and revenue flow.

The legacy of the Great Depression and the resulting policy changes have had a lasting impact on Cook County's property tax system and my office. While many aspects of the system have been modernized since I first walked through the doors here in 1998, the practice of paying property taxes in arrears remains in place as an important and fundamental feature of Cook County's property tax system.



Maria Pappas

Fur ban shot down by divided City Council

Fur ban uncovered racial split among alders

BY BOB ZULEY

For those furrers with fetishes... If ya got one, wear it. That goes for those heading to the opera, church or Black Tie event. But if you live on the North Side, maybe leave the fur at home when calling on your alderman.

A proposed ordinance that would have prohibited the sale of new fur products in Chicago failed to pass the full City Council in a March vote. North Side aldermen Scott Waguespack [32nd], Andre Vasquez [40th], Bennett Lawson [44th], Matt Martin [47th], Maria Hadden [49th], and Debra Silverstein [50th] all voted in favor of the ban.

Meanwhile, aldermen Brendan Reilly [42nd], Timothy Knudsen [43rd], and Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth [48th] voted against the ban. Ald. Angela Clay [46th] didn't vote. The final vote tally

was Yea: 19. Nay: 26.

The ordinance, introduced by Ald. Ray Lopez [15th], faced opposition from small businesses, specifically furriers, that such legislation would put them out of business and strip consumers of the right of product choice, noted Ald. Maria Hadden's [49th] newsletter.

Chicago has very few furriers remaining, but the ones that are operating are locally owned, small businesses that would take the hardest economic hit from any restrictions on the sale of fur.

The ban faced strenuous opposition from Black clergy and the Black Caucus. Black Caucus chair, Ald. Stephanie Coleman [16th] led the charge against the ban in defense of Island Furs, a black-owned furrier on 103rd St. in the Beverly community.

Island Furs owner Gerard Brown was in attendance for the City Council meeting wherein the measure would have amounted to a death warrant for his business.

"Colleagues, I urge you to reject this ordinance and let's support policies that uplift businesses rather than shut them down," Coleman implored her colleagues before the vote.

The North Side is served by some well-known independent furriers including Keim Furs, 5321 N. Lincoln, Fabbri, 50 E. Oak St., FUR:THER, 900 N. Michigan Ave., and Chicago Fur Mart, 645 N. Michigan Ave. Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue also carry furs.

A number of North Side resale

shops also deal in pre-owned furs.

Budget Chair, Ald. Jason Ervin [28th] noted Chicago was "founded by a Black man who is a fur trader" – Jean Baptiste Point DuSable. "I don't think historically this makes a lot of sense," Ervin said.

Budget Chair, Ald. Jason Ervin [28th] noted Chicago was "founded by a Black man who is a fur trader" – Jean Baptiste Point DuSable. "I don't think historically this makes a lot of sense," Ervin said.

Indeed, Chicago's early history was significantly shaped by its role as a vital fur trading hub, evolving from a portage for canoes to a major trading post, with DuSable establishing the first successful trading post here in 1779, in cooperation with the Potawatomi Indians. Other fur traders followed, and by the 1820s Chicago was the most successful trading area on Lake Michigan.

The U.S. would eventually lead its own profitable fur trading enterprises. The most notable of them was the American Fur Company led by John Jacob Astor which established a virtual monopoly in the early 19th century. Fort Dearborn was established in Chicago in part to protect U.S. interests in the fur trade, and

formed the first stages of settlement preceding the land boom of the mid-1830s.

The fur trade was more than just an exchange of goods. There were serious social, economic, and political ramifications that emerged as a result of the trade. Native American communities were forever altered and the rivalry between the French and British was one of the many factors leading to the Seven Years' War (French and Indian War in the Americas).

Ald. Matt O'Shea [19th], whose far southwest side ward includes Island Furs and Andriana Furs, on 95th St., joined Coleman in warning of the "devastating economic consequences" from the latest animal cruelty crusade that previously passed – and later repealed – the much ridiculed ban on foie gras championed by former 49th Ward Ald. Joe Moore, which was enacted in 2006 and later repealed in 2008. That ban became the butt of nationwide ridicule and jokes.

Lopez made no apologies for the failed attempt to make Chicago the 17th city to go fur-free. "The Black Caucus is rallying about this because many in the clergy as a whole – not just in the black community – find furs to be a status symbol," Lopez said. "This is just about who's able to buy fur products and wear them in church."

Black clergy joined the Black Caucus in arguing that closing businesses such as Island Furs would diminish the "cultural landscape" in Black neighborhoods and eliminate a "gathering place" that has been a "source of pride."

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NEWSPAPERS CONNECT COMMUNITIES



Hall-of-Famer exposes the “juiced-ball era” at Clarendon Park

Cubs and 16-inch softball players compare notes on bats



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

In the faint hope of trying to generate some offense in 2025, several Chicago Cubs players are using the new, bulkier “torpedo bat,” which is designed to increase the chance of putting the fat part of the bat on the ball to create hits and home runs.

Torpedo bats gained national attention when some New York Yankee players used them and the offense scored a whopping 20 runs. The Yankees slugged a club-record nine home runs in a recent win over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Cubs’ shortstop Dansby Swanson and second basemen Nico Horner reportedly are in love with their bulky torpedo bats. Swanson used the bat when he homered recently in back-to-back games. The Cubs won the home opener 3-1 on April 4 using torpedo bats.

Apparently the mysterious “bulkier” barrel of the torpedo bat moves some of the “sweet spot” down toward the handle to potentially maximize powerful hits.

Anyone who has ever played any form of baseball knows about that sweet spot.

Although the torpedo bats look odd, they surprisingly fall under Major League Baseball [MLB] regulations.

According to MLB Rule 3.02 (a), a major league bat should be a smooth, round stick not more than 2.61 inches in diameter at the thickest part, and not more than 42 inches in length. And, it should be one piece of solid wood.

A life-long Cubs fan and baseball lover, this reporter believes the new torpedo-bat concept sounds like a very sophisticated method of cheating.

As a 1999 inductee into the 16-inch Chicago Softball Hall of Fame, this writer has vast knowledge of the history of bat-cheating in softball, which really was in full swing during the 1950s and 1960s “juiced-ball era” at Clarendon Park on Chicago’s North Side, and Kelly Park on the Southwest Side.

When I played short-center field on the famed Mike Royko “Raiders” team in the early 1980s “B” League, I swung a signature, 35-inch Ted Williams MLB bat that was drilled out in the head to accept a four-inch, counter-sunk steel lag-bolt. Plastic wood covered the bolt and mud covered the plastic wood. The illegal bat, designed to overcome the heavy juiced ball, weighed 40-plus ounces.

In the early 1960s, the juiced-ball era came to Chicago 16-inch softball out of necessity and war was born. The heavy ball was the

brainchild of George Morse, the supervisor of Clarendon Park. In Morse’s era, Clarendon’s outfield fences were only four feet high. Although it was a distant 270 feet to left, the diamond was laid out with a short 238-foot right field fence.

“When strong hitting teams like “Leister’s Bakery,” “The Dugouts,” “Beatlebomb,” and the “Wolves” came to Clarendon, a couple hundred home runs were tagged out each year,” recalled beefy Eddie Whitman, a long-ball hitter at the park for more than two decades.

“Scores with the live ball usually were around 26-19 and the games lasted 2.5 hours because of big innings and delays in retrieving homers out on to Marine Dr.,” Whitman said in a 1976 interview.

Often, Morse was forced to keep the lights on at Clarendon Park until 2 o’clock in the morning for the third game of the



The new powerful “Torpedo Bats” used successfull by the Cubs and the New York Yankees.

night, instead of closing the park at 11 p.m.

“Hitting a juiced ball with a regulation softball bat is a joke. It’s like hitting a brick,” said Gil Muratori, a HOF inductee and a Clarendon Park softball veteran.

“Players would drive finishing nails into their bats to add weight and neutralize the juiced 16-inch softball, which often weighed more than a pound,” Muratori recalled. “Finally, in the mid-1960s, everybody gave up and

started using baseball bats. It was a matter of survival,”



In those days, Clarendon showcased a galaxy of slugging stars: Whitman, Ed Searle, Frank Bufka and Lou LaSigna usually socked more than 25 round-trippers each during the season.

Eddie Mulligan, an African-American star was nicknamed “Mr. Clean” because he shaved his head, and hit tape-measure shots of more than 300 feet.

Right field power hitter George Leczewski—fondly called the “Polish Animal” for his fervor at the plate—hit a record 50 homers in one season during the late 1950s.

Then, in 1962, George Morse dreamed up the juiced ball and ended the fun by injecting water, or another liquid into the ball and freezing it prior to the game. He also started importing less lively “Clincher” softballs from Puerto

JUICED-BALL see p. 6

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Lawmakers mull betting on internet gambling while existing industry warns it'll fold

Proposal to legalize 'iGaming'

BY HANNAH MEISEL
Capitol News

Chicago has a long history with legal and illegal gambling. By the 1850s, hundreds of Chicago saloons had offered gambling opportunities, including off-track betting on the horses.

In the years since the pandemic and government-imposed economic lockdown temporarily shut down Illinois casinos, video gambling terminals, horse racing and professional sports — just days after legal sports betting went live — the state's gambling industry has seen an explosion in growth.

Even the state lottery, which was launched 50 years ago, has experienced an expansion in recent years after a decade of stagnation. Total state tax revenues from all sources of gambling in Illinois, including the lottery, surpassed \$2 billion in the last fiscal year.

Against this backdrop, some lawmakers are pushing for Illinois to join eight other states that have legalized internet gambling, also known as iGaming. It's a tempting possibility in a year when the state is facing a possible budget deficit due to over-spending and uncertainty about federal funding.

While Illinois already allows sports betting on mobile apps, iGaming includes online casinos and other forms of online gam-

bling that are currently outlawed.

But opponents of legalizing iGaming — including some casinos, video gambling terminal operators and the hospitality groups that represent the bars and restaurants have proliferated in the 13 years since video gambling's launch in Illinois — warn the introduction of iGaming would prove a zero-sum game.

Indeed, the Illinois General Assembly's fiscal forecasting arm has for years reported on the cannibalization effects that new gambling opportunities have on existing gambling outlets. In its annual study from October, the legislature's Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability continued to chronicle the

GAMBLING see p. 12



Seeding of the North Pond Nature Sanctuary

BY MAEVE CALLAGHAN
Lincoln Park Conservatory

On a frigid day in February, a few hardy souls braved the elements to help volunteers take advantage of a prime opportunity to sew seeds around North Pond Nature Sanctuary. Though it may seem counterintuitive, sewing seeds in the dormant season is ideal and a blanket of fluffy snow is an added benefit.

The effort is part of the restoration project underway at the North Pond in Lincoln Park, the Lincoln Park Conservancy's largest project to date. The \$7.3 million restoration of the pond and natural sanctuary included 10,000 aquatic plugs that were successfully planted last spring to help with shoreline erosion and to create critical habitat.

This spring it's the wild flowers and plants.

The seeds spread by the Conservancy are from many native species, and must go through cycles of freezing and thawing - called stratification - in order to break dormancy and germinate. Sewing seed in winter allows natural swings in temperature to stratify the seed so it is ready to take root when the soil warms.

Winter is good, but snow is better.

The snow, unlike the ground, contrasts with the seed, allowing us to keep better track of where touch ups are needed and prevent oversewing. Eventually, the seeds melt through the snow and make contact with the ground, ready to break dormancy come spring.

The timing of seeding is key to prevent predation and optimize germination. Many species of native seed are costly and can be hard to source because of the challenges inherent in producing and packaging, and because of the growing demand for what is still a very limited product.

Since native seed is precious, we want to give every little seed the best chance of survival so they can together create a diverse plant community in which each individual has a space and fills a niche.



Purple Coneflower

Easy-to-grow wildflowers for Chicago

Those who might like to try spreading some seed around, this is the time to do it. It is best to plant wildflower seeds in early spring (April-May) as soon as the soil is workable and soil temperatures are consistently above 55°F. The long, mild spring in the Midwest is perfect for establishing wildflowers.

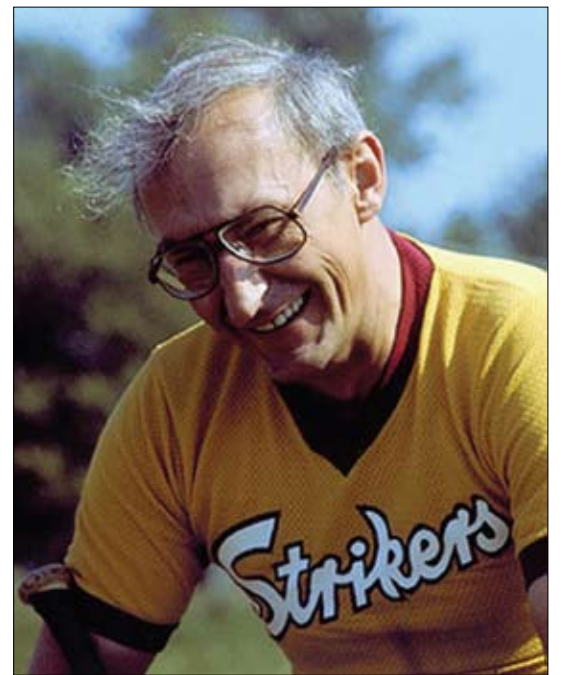
Home Gardeners might find these varieties the easiest to use in your own yards and gardens:

- Purple Coneflower: Perfect for the region's variable weather, attracting a range of pollinators.
- Zinnia: A summer staple, blooming in a rainbow of colors from mid-summer until frost.
- Sunflower: Sturdy and long-blooming, bringing sunny beauty to gardens and meadows.
- Black-Eyed Susan: Tough and adaptable, thriving in the Midwest's rich soils.

To further maximize the chances of success, all seeds were sourced from as nearby as possible. These hyperlocal seeds are better adapted to our particular growing conditions, giving them the genetic edge to thrive. Though a few maybe more ubiquitous, we're fortunate to have obtained many of the species we were able to include in this biodiversity mix.



Don "Batman" DeBat (left) in his prime playing for the Chicago Daily News in the 1970s, Photo by Tom Bonen, and Mike Royko (right) pitcher for Royko's Raiders at Clarendon Park.



JUICED-BALL from p. 5

Rico.

Overnight, scores dipped by 10 runs and games whizzed along in 1.5 hours. "The whole game at Clarendon changed," Whitman said. "Suddenly, I became a doubles hitter."

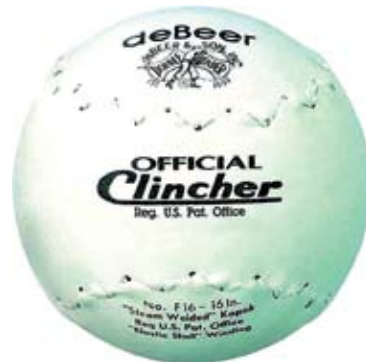
"When Morse was on vacation and someone else was juicing the ball, the games were a real adventure," recalled Bruin third baseman Gildo Coldabella. "Rumor was they even put milk, orange juice and syrup in the ball, then froze it before games to help keep down the scores."

"If the juicing wasn't done right, the batted ball would wiggle on its way out to the outfield," recalled Muratori, the former Sportsman's Lounge star. "At the end of the game the ball often was egg-shaped."

In 1964, the Chicago Park District moved Clarendon's home plate farther west, making it 280 feet to right and 270 feet to left. The fences were raised to 12 feet.

"After the diamond was moved everybody started using baseball bats because the added distance and the heavy, juiced ball were tuning Clarendon into a pitcher's park," Muratori said.

By the late 1970s, even with the juiced ball, some of the big, strong hitters like Benny (Thumper) Holt, Ron Olesiak and John Straley had no trouble hitting it



"When Morse was on vacation and someone else was juicing the ball, the games were a real adventure," recalled Bruin third baseman Gildo Coldabella. "Rumor was they even put milk, orange juice and syrup in the ball, then froze it before games to help keep down the scores."

out, recalled Frank Afable, Clarendon Park supervisor.

"The heavy ball really holds down the medium-distance hitters. Suddenly, only 40 to 50 balls were hit over the fence each year," Afable said.

Softball historians note that Morse should be credited with several other innovations that altered the modern 16-inch Chi-

cago-style game. He lengthened the bases from 40 to 45 feet, and finally to 50 feet.

Morse also invented the rule that said batters who hit a foul ball with two strikes are out. That kept players from hitting continuous foul balls, lengthening the time of games, a pet peeve of the park supervisor.

Morse also allowed pitchers to take a "drag" step off the mound before the ball was released. This extra big step to either side, back or forward, gave pitchers a better angle on the batter, or put them in a better position to field the ball.

Ahh, that truly was the "Golden Era" of Chicago softball, long before NASCAR racing events squeezed Chicago's Game out of Grant Park, and COVID shut down dozens of Saloon Leagues across the city.

Historic sections of this column were excerpted from "Chicago's Game," Don DeBat's soon-to-be-published book on 16-inch softball.

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

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State: City Hall wrongly keeping millions of dollars worth of unclaimed checks, property

BY JONATHAN BILYK
Cook County Record

Illinois' state treasurer has accused the city of Chicago of holding potentially millions of dollars worth of unclaimed checks, refunds and other personal property belonging to current and former Illinoisans, and says the city is illegally refusing to turn that property over to the state so it can be returned to the proper owners.

Last month, Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs, through Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, filed suit in Cook County Circuit Court against the city, seeking a court order forcing City Hall to turn over all so-called "unclaimed property" to the Treasurer's office, as the state officials argue is required by law.

The lawsuit centers on a dispute between the city and Frerichs' office over the city's obligations under state law to transmit the "unclaimed property" to the Treasurer's office.

The lawsuit alleges that "despite repeated demands" by Frerichs' office, "the City has refused to comply" with the state law known informally as the Unclaimed Property Act.

The law generally directs that the holders of "unclaimed property" - typically checks for which the payee cannot be located, such as final paychecks from employers or refunds from insurance companies or governmental agencies - must report the existence and nature of the property to the state and hand it over to the Treasurer's office.

The Treasurer is allowed to invest unclaimed funds.

However, the Treasurer's office is also required by law to take steps to reunite the money or other property with its rightful owners.

Currently, Frerichs' office lists those unclaimed properties on a searchable website, which the Treasurer's office frequently advertises. Members of the public are able to freely search the site for any potential property and submit claims for its return.

Frerichs' office also "locates and automatically pays hundreds of thousands of owners their property without requiring them to file a claim by matching data with the Illinois Dept. of Revenue and the Illinois State Board of Elections" through the so-called Enhanced Money Match program.

"We work hard to return missing money and unclaimed property," Frerichs said in a statement. "In my time as state treasurer, the attorney general has represented me in court fights with life insurance companies and businesses that issue rebate checks. When folks do not follow Illinois' unclaimed property law, we have worked with the Attorney General to enforce the law. I take my legal duty to reunite people with their unclaimed property very seriously."

According to the lawsuit, Frerichs' office believes the city of Chicago is holding potentially millions of dollars worth of unclaimed property, but is refusing to turn it over to the Treasurer.

The complaint does not indicate

precisely what kinds of property the Treasurer believe the city to be holding.

However, unclaimed property reported and surrendered by other cities have included "uncashed checks, duplicate payments and overpayments of amounts owed to a city or other municipality,

claimed property allegedly improperly held by the city since at least 2019.

However, according to the complaint, the city has steadfastly refused to honor the requests.

According to the complaint, Chicago City Hall has asserted the state law doesn't apply to

a subpoena to the city to provide details on the nature of the unclaimed property it is holding.

The Treasurer's office said the city has agreed to comply with that subpoena, but has not yet done so.

Further, Frerichs said the city has indicated it still would not comply with the Treasurer's demands to turn over the unclaimed checks and other property to the state under the Unclaimed Property Act.

The Treasurer asserted this position defies the law.

"It is well established that Illinois municipalities must comply with the Act, and that home rule authority does not exempt any municipalities from compliance with the Act," the Treasurer and Attorney General's office said in their lawsuit.

According to the complaint, Chicago City Hall has asserted the state law doesn't apply to them, because Chicago is a "home rule" city. Under the Illinois state constitution, such home rule communities are given greater autonomy to govern themselves.

refunds of deposits and advance payments for municipal utilities and services, like water and sewer, as well as amounts owed to municipal employees for expenses and payroll," a spokesperson for Frerichs said.

According to the complaint, Frerichs' office has discussed the potential turnover of the un-

them, because Chicago is a "home rule" city. Under the Illinois state constitution, such home rule communities are given greater autonomy to govern themselves. Certain state laws governing other municipalities cannot be applied to home rule cities and villages.

According to the complaint, the Treasurer's office has issued

El Grito Chicago 2025 community webinar April 15

The organizers of this year's El Grito Chicago will be hosting a virtual community engagement webinar at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, to share information about their plans for an upcoming summer event at Butler Field in Grant Park on Sept. 13 and 14.

Representatives from El Grito Chicago, The Consulate General of Mexico, and The Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be present at the meeting to share information and answer questions from the community. This is an opportunity for community members to learn more about the event and interact with key representatives.

Visit this link to receive the login information: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CkXm6PEIRV2-3w9fYAOzjQ. Or write any questions to info@elgritochicago.com.



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Police Beat...

Woman charged with murdering man in Old Town last month



Mugshots of Breanna Gilliams and James McKnight.

After shooting her long-time boyfriend inside her Old Town apartment last month, Breanna Gilliams taunted the man as he lay dying on the living room floor: "You stupid. You dumb. Breathe."

That's part of the allegations prosecutors made this week as they charged Gilliams, 33, with murdering 44-year-old James McKnight around 2:30 a.m. March 16 while a 911 operator listened on an open phone line. Four children, ranging in age from 6 months to 16 years, were in the apartment at the time of the murder.

Officials said Gilliams had a long history of abusing McKnight, including at least two incidents in which she stabbed him during altercations. But she has never been convicted of any crime.

At about 2:23 a.m. on the morning of the shooting, a 911 operator received a call from Gilliams' phone, but nobody spoke with the caller. But, the operator heard a man and woman talking and also heard the man mention repeatedly that the woman was pointing a gun at him, Assistant State's Attorney Mike Pekara said in a written proffer.

"You pulling guns around the kids," the man said.

"I hate you," replied the woman. "Get away from me with this gun, you hit me with this gun," the man allegedly continued as the operator listened. "Put it back before you shoot this gun."

About two minutes after the call came in, Pekara said, the operator heard a single gunshot followed by the male voice crying, "You just shot me, b****!"

Chicago police officers and fire department personnel found McKnight alive but unresponsive on the living room floor in the 1300 block of N. Hudson. He had a gunshot wound to his stomach and police administered CPR while awaiting an ambulance response, but he died about two hours later.

Over the next 35 minutes, Gilliams provided various accounts of what happened, Pekara alleged.

CPD says Gilliams, who lives on the same block where the shooting occurred, is responsible for the murder.

Last month we reported that an officer who responded to the shooting scene said a woman claiming to be McKnight's wife told them that a man wearing a ski mask came into their apartment and started shooting. Police found a bullet and one shell casing inside an apartment at the complex.

Less than 10 minutes before McKnight was found, a 911 caller reported a man and woman were arguing in a nearby apartment and the 911 call-taker heard a gunshot before the call disconnected.

Judge Mary Marubio detained Gilliams on a single count of first-degree murder.

Hit and run in Edgewater

Police are looking for the driver responsible for a hit-and-run traffic crash with serious personal injury at 1000 block of W. Thorndale Ave. in Edgewater that occurred 9:40 p.m. Wednesday, March 26.

In the incident a bicyclist traveling northbound across the intersection in the street was struck and injured by a vehicle traveling westbound that ran the stop sign. The 57-year-old male was struck by an unknown vehicle. That vehicle is a dark color, possibly black, 2008-2011 Porsche Cayenne.

The vehicle would have sustained damage to the front bumper and grill due to the traffic crash. The Porsche was last seen traveling westbound on W. Thorndale Ave. before making a left-hand turn to travel southbound on N. Winthrop Ave.

Those who may have any information on this case may contact The Major Accident Investigation Unit at 312-745-4521, or submit an anonymous tip at CPDTIP.com and use reference #JJ-196048.

Burglar breaks into 6 restaurants during 3-hour spree

A burglar went on an early-morning spree April 2, breaking into a string of businesses stretching from Old Town to Lakeview, according to CPD. As is usually the case with such crimes, restaurants were targeted.

Police said the man forced his way into the businesses by breaking front glass windows or doors. He took money from cash registers and then moved on to the next location.

He started around 1:30 a.m. by breaking into Yoberri yogurt, 2224 N. Clark, and Sushi Para II at 2258 N. Clark.

The prowler moved on to Lakeview, striking at a hot pot restaurant at 2904 N. Broadway and Yummy Yummy Asian Cuisine, across the street at 2901 N. Broadway.

Then, he headed back south, targeting a business in the 1800 block of N. Lincoln around 4:20 a.m. and All Too Well, a restaurant at 352 W. Armitage.

CPD described the burglar as a man wearing a baseball cap, hoodie, and sweatpants and carrying a backpack.

Detectives from Area Three are handling the investigation. They can be reached at 312-744-8263 regarding crime pattern #P25-3-020.

Habitual CTA sex abuser victimized even more women (and a girl) while on pretrial release

Last May, Chicago police asked the public to help them identify a man who attacked a woman on a downtown CTA platform.



Robert Cook

Within days, they charged Robert L. Cook, a man with a history of attacking women on the city's transit system, with the crime. But, as we've reported at the time, prosecutors didn't ask a judge to keep Cook in jail and the judge didn't even put him on an ankle monitor.

Now, Cook is accused of sexually abusing and fondling several more females, including a teenager on the city's train system. And he did it all while still awaiting trial on the charges filed against him last year.

This time, however, prosecutors asked a judge to keep Cook behind bars, and the judge agreed.

Back in Nov. 2017, prosecutors charged Cook with attacking a 15-year-old girl and a 23-year-old woman on the Red Line in the Loop. CTA video showed he used his large body to confine the victims to their train seats, then he pressed against them, wrapping his legs around theirs and grinding his genitals on their legs and buttocks, a Chicago police report said.

Breathing heavily and moaning, Cook allegedly asked the victims if

they liked it. The younger victim was a student at Whitney Young Magnet School, and Cook knew she was under 17, prosecutors claimed. He eventually received a six-year sentence after pleading guilty to two counts of kidnapping.

Pending case

Last May, Chicago police issued a public bulletin after a man attacked a woman who refused to give him change on the State-Lake Red Line platform in the Loop. Two days later, cops arrested Cook, 27, on the Jackson Red Line platform to face charges in the case.

According to his arrest report, Cook asked a Streetworker woman for money and kicked her when she ignored his request. Cook returned moments later and punched the woman in the face, the report said, causing her to suffer a bloody lip and bruised face.

During a court hearing days later, prosecutors did not ask Judge David Kelly to keep Cook in custody, records show. Kelly, the most lenient judge in the court's pretrial division, cut Cook loose without even requiring him to wear an ankle monitor.

Now, with last year's case still pending, Cook is accused of physically assaulting even more women on the city's train lines.

On March 18, he allegedly sat next to a woman on a Brown Line train in the Loop, put his legs atop hers, and asked if she enjoyed sitting next to him. The woman captured part of the incident on video.

In another recent case, he sexually abused a teenage girl, prosecutors said.

Judge John Hock ordered Cook detained during a hearing on the new allegations this week. Hock said Cook "preyed on random victims" and "continues to display this extremely dangerous and violent sexual behavior" that he is "unable or unwilling to stop committing."

In the latest round of allegations, prosecutors charged Cook with two counts of criminal sexual abuse by force, criminal sexual abuse of a child 13 to 17 years old, and four counts of aggravated battery of transit passengers.

Bar-goer slashes Boystown nightclub employee during ID dispute

An angry bar-goer slashed a Boystown nightclub employee after being denied entry April 4, police said.

The staff at Charlie's Chicago, 3726 N. Broadway, turned the man away because he did not have proper identification, according to CPD. He became aggressive with the staff, who removed him from the bar.

Once outside, the man began swinging a sharp object and struck the club's manager on the left arm, causing a "minor laceration," police said.

The Chicago Fire Dept. treated the victim at the scene, but he refused to go to the hospital, according to CPD.

Meanwhile, the assailant fled south on Broadway. He was described as an unshaven, 32-year-old Hispanic man who stands about 5'-8" tall. He was wearing a gray and black plaid shirt.

Man gets 12 years for trying to carjack a man across the street from Town Hall police station

Deangelo Coleman has been featured in his share of our crime stories. A phone snatching in 2016. Attacking and robbing a Lakeview woman in 2021. Trying to carjack a driver in Wrigleyville last April.

We are pleased to report that Coleman will not be appearing in any more stories until at least the year 2030—unless he manages to escape from prison, because that's where the Wrigleyville carjacking has put him.

On April 6, 2024, barely two months after getting out of prison for mugging a woman inside her Boystown apartment building, Coleman attacked and tried to carjack a man in



Chicago police released these images of four people who were allegedly involved in an altercation that ended with a tourist being shot in Streetworker March 9.

15-year-old charged with shooting tourist during 'teen takeover'

A 15-year-old boy is responsible for shooting a tourist during a "teen takeover" in Streetworker on March 9, Chicago police say. A U.S. Marshals task force arrested the boy near the 87th Street Red Line station around 11:30 a.m. March 31.

"Strong video evidence and persistent detective work by Chicago Police has led to an arrest in the March 9 shooting of a 46-year-old tourist from Connecticut during a teen takeover event," Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] said in an email to his constituents on March 31. "The investigation into another shooting during a similar violent takeover event that wounded a 15-year-old boy March 28 continues."

The boy is charged with aggravated battery by discharging a firearm. Because he is younger than 16, his case will likely be handled in the juvenile court system, which is shielded from the public.

The victim told police she was walking with her son near Columbus and Illinois around 8:12 p.m. March 9

when they heard shots and a bullet struck her right forearm. They called for help and ran across the bridge for safety.

At the time of the shooting, a large group of young people, primarily teenagers, had gathered in Streetworker. A fight broke out and one of the participants fired shots, sending a bullet flying down Illinois St., where it struck the woman. CPD released surveillance images on March 13 of four people suspected of participating in the altercation.

Investigators found several shell casings on the north side of Illinois Street stretching west from McClurg. Crime scene tape blocked off the northwest corner of the intersection in front of a BMO Bank.

Hopkins, the alderman, is asking his constituents to contact Mayor Brandon Johnson directly to demand that the administration take action to address the ongoing problem of teen gatherings that grow violent in the downtown area.

an alley behind the 3500 block of N. Fremont. That's less than 200 yards from the Town Hall 19th District police station, a detail Coleman should know since he's been escorted into that station in handcuffs at least five times.



Deangelo Coleman

Prosecutors said a 53-year-old man drove into the alley to park behind his apartment building, but another vehicle blocked his path. Coleman, 29, and an accomplice approached the victim's car and opened his driver's door, a Chicago police arrest report said. Coleman repeatedly punched the man in the face and head, yelled obscenities, and finally pulled the victim out of his 2022 Hyundai Palisade, according to the report.

Police said Coleman tried to drive away with the man's SUV but couldn't figure out how to put it into gear. According to the report, the frustrated Coleman stepped out of the SUV and went after the victim again. Fearing another attack, the victim started recording with his phone while running through a gangway, popping out on the 800 block of W. Addison. Both men emerged just as a Chicago police squad car was rolling by, as they often do since there's a police station across the street. The cops arrested Coleman.

Court records show Coleman decided to resolve the matter by pleading guilty to vehicular hijacking and aggravated battery in a public place. Judge Aleksandra Gillespie handed him 12 years for the carjacking and a concurrent five years for the battery charge. His time will be reduced by 50% for good behavior.

At the time of the hijacking, Coleman had just finished serving half of a five-year sentence he received for mugging a 24-year-old woman in August 2021. She told police that Coleman followed her into her building in the 400 block of W. Aldine, trailed her onto the elevator, and said he was going to the third floor.

He lunged at her when the doors closed and demanded the woman's purse. She handed over her phone, watch, and bag. Coleman then followed the woman as she exited on the fifth floor and told her he would

hurt her if she screamed, prosecutors claimed. The woman ran down a stairwell and out the front door, where she told passersby about the robbery.

Cops arrested Coleman at the Addison Red Line CTA station after following GPS data from the woman's phone. He had the woman's phone, watch, ID, and two credit cards bearing the woman's name in his pants, prosecutors said. Video from the woman's lobby showed Coleman following her in and fleeing a few minutes later.

Just days before the robbery, Coleman was arrested after a 31-year-old woman told police he followed her into her building in the 600 block of W. Stratford and began hitting her, a CPD spokesperson told this reporter. Cops arrested Coleman a short time later. He was charged with misdemeanor battery, then walked out of the 19th District police station four hours later on a signature bond. Prosecutors dropped the case after Coleman was sentenced to prison for the 2021 robbery, according to court records.

In March 2016, a 22-year-old woman accused Coleman of snatching her phone at the Belmont Red Line station. He received a 12-day sentence for misdemeanor theft.

In Sept. 2015, a Schaumburg man walked into the Town Hall police station to report that someone had just snatched a tablet from his hand, and the offender may have run into a nearby church. Officers found Coleman sitting on the church steps with the victim's tablet in his hand, according to a police report. Police said Coleman claimed to have found the tablet lying in the grass after someone named "Maleek" stole it.

Coleman was charged with theft of lost or mislaid property, but the charges were dropped when the victim failed to appear in court.

In Jan. 2016, Coleman was granted deferred prosecution after being charged with stealing hats, shorts, pants, and a nightshirt from Macy's in Old Orchard. Three days later, he was arrested after a South Loop convenience store accused him of stealing a ski hat. That case was dropped when the store failed to show up in court.

Aggravated Batteries hit five-year high in Chicago

Violent felony arrest rates at highest level in city history

Only 21% of cases citywide resulted in arrest, ewer in south, west sides

BY BOB ZULEY

Chicago saw a five-year high for the criminal offense of aggravated battery during the 12-months through February, with Black residents accounting for more than 3 out of 5 victims, according to a report in Illinois Policy.

The data also showed that Black residents of Chicago were the victims of 63% of aggravated batteries [AB] reported across the city through Feb. 2025. Black Chicagoans were 6.6 times more likely than White residents to be the victims of aggravated battery.

Analysis of Chicago Police data shows residents reported 27,547 violent crimes from March 2024 through Feb. 2025, the second highest of the five-year period.

The arrest rate for violent felonies rose to its highest level in that time.

ABs and human trafficking incidents were the only violent crimes to increase during the past 12 months, with residents reporting 2,587 fewer felonies through Feb. of 2024.

Robberies declined the most of any violent crime, with residents reporting 2,305 fewer cases than 2024.

As the city's arrest rate for violent crime climbed to the second highest level, the arrest rates for ABs also rose to the highest level in the past five years. Only 21% of cases citywide resulted in an arrest.

The arrest rate drops either farther on the city's South and West sides, where only 19% of ABs resulted in an arrest. The data shows 4 in 5 ABs occurred on the city's South and West sides, with the highest concentrations in the Englewood, Austin, and South Shore.

Englewood ranked first with 586 ABs with 124 arrests. Austin ranked second with 574 ABs and

96 arrests. South Shore came in third with 465 ABs and 78 arrests. By comparison, Edison Park on the city's far northwest side ranked 93rd, with 4 ABs and zero arrests.

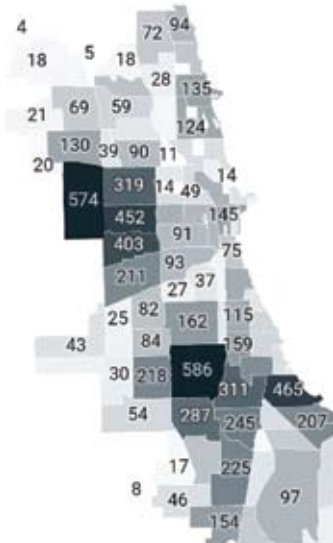
In most cases, aggravated batteries involves an offender making physical contact with a victim and inflicting a serious injury (i.e., gunshot wound), using a deadly weapon to conduct the attack, or harming a protected class of victim such as a firefighter, teacher or senior citizen.

During the past year, these aggravated batteries have consistently peaked at midnight and reached their nadir at 7 a.m.

In the most recent CPD Annual Report available online – 2023 – ABs accounted for 8,086 offenses in 2023; an 8% gain over the 7,499 offenses in 2022.

Again using 2023 data, Black Hispanics accounted for 67% of AB victims, while White Hispanics accounted for 20% of victims and Whites accounted for 8% of victims.

Chicagogoans report 8,943 aggravated batteries through February



Total aggravated batteries, arrests, rank and population by Chicago neighborhoods from March 2024 through February 2025.

Excludes aggravated batteries for which no coordinates were provided. Map: @illinoispolicy • Source: Chicago Date Portal • Crimes • 2001 to Present. Created with Datawrapper

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Petition urges mayor to combat 'teen takeovers' with 8 p.m. curfew

'A very serious problem and it needs an immediate solution'

BY CWBCHICAGO

A petition urging Mayor Brandon Johnson to support an 8 p.m. curfew for unaccompanied minors in the downtown area has gained over 3,000 signatures as of Friday. But there are no signs that Johnson plans to change his mind.

Two people, including a tourist, were shot during separate "large group" incidents in Streeterville last month, leading residents and their alderman to call for an earlier curfew. Charges were filed this week in connection with the tourist shooting.

"I can't understate the corrosive effects of these violent takeovers," Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] said in a April 3 interview on Chicago Tonight. "Hundreds of people running up and down the streets, robbing from the convenience stores, harming people."

Hopkins recalled an attack during a takeover last year that caused a pregnant woman to lose her baby.

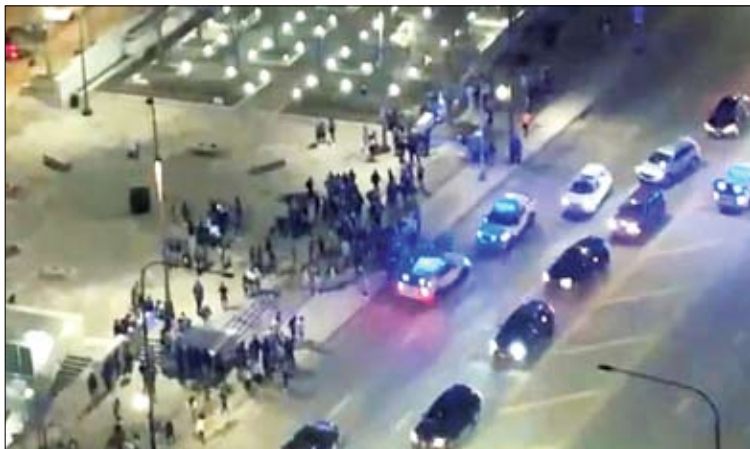
"There's a very serious problem and it needs an immediate solution. It needs a law enforcement solution," said Hopkins.

He said CPD officers enforced the city's current 10 p.m. curfew last weekend, but it came too late because the takeover violence had already occurred.

Hopkins said last weekend's curfew enforcement "had a chilling effect on some of the chaos and mayhem that was happening. The teens saw the police moving in, and they dispersed ... We need to do it two hours earlier."

Meanwhile, sponsors of an online petition hope to convince Johnson to support Hopkins' efforts to roll back the curfew time.

"As you have the authority to



Chicago police handle an incident during a "teen takeover" in Streeterville on March 28. Image courtesy Citizen App

bypass the council and enact this curfew, we implore you to take swift action," the petition states. "The situation we face today demands prompt intervention to prevent further disturbances and ensure that Chicago remains a safe and welcoming city for all."

Here is the petition's full text:

Urge Chicago Mayor Johnson to Enact 8PM Curfew for Unaccompanied Minors

Petition for 8 p.m. Curfew for Unaccompanied Minors in Chicago's Central Business District

Dear Mayor Johnson,
 As concerned citizens of Chicago and the Streeterville Neighborhood Advocates, we respectfully urge you to enact an 8 p.m. curfew for unaccompanied minors in the Central Business District. Recent reports of "teen takeover" activities in the Streeterville area have raised significant concerns. These events involve large groups of unsupervised minors gathering and engaging in disruptive and sometimes violent behavior, creating chaos and posing serious safety risks for residents and visitors alike.

In light of these incidents, we

believe that immediate and decisive action is necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of our community, particularly with the upcoming summer events, including the Democratic National Convention and NASCAR.

Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] has introduced an ordinance to the City Council proposing this curfew as a proactive measure to address the escalating incidents of violence and disorder involving minors. His proposal highlights the urgent need to protect residents, visitors, and the integrity of our public spaces. The ordinance states, "A city-wide curfew will deter unlawful gatherings, reduce the potential for violence, and aid law enforcement in maintaining public safety."

Streeterville is the gateway to some of the most active tourist attractions, including Navy Pier, the River Walk, the John Hancock Building, the Magnificent Mile, and world class beaches. The area attracts visitors not only from other parts of the city, state and country, but also from around the world. It serves as a main economic engine for our city, and as good neighbors, we welcome these tourists and enjoy interacting with them during their visits. Additionally, this neighbor-

hood is home to one of the most prominent healthcare systems in the world. Patients and their families come from all over to receive high-quality care, and they should feel safe while here.

As you have the authority to bypass the council and enact this curfew, we implore you to take swift action. The situation we face today demands prompt intervention to prevent further disturbances and ensure that Chicago remains a safe and welcoming city for all.

We believe this curfew will enhance public safety by limiting the time minors can be in public spaces unsupervised. Such a curfew will drastically reduce the likelihood of violent incidents and unlawful activities, and support law enforcement in managing crowds. Additionally, it will protect our community and safeguard vital economic and healthcare hubs in the Streeterville and River East area.

We understand that curfews can be challenging and disruptive, but we believe this temporary measure is necessary to restore order and protect our community. We trust in your leadership and commitment to the safety and well-being of all Chicagoans and our valued guests, many of whom wholeheartedly decide to visit this great city that we call home.

We kindly request that you enact this 8 p.m. curfew for minors as a matter of urgency. Your prompt action will demonstrate your dedication to maintaining peace and security in our beloved city.

We, the undersigned, support the above request for an 8 p.m. curfew for unaccompanied minors in the Central Business District and urge Mayor Johnson to take immediate action.



Njioma Grevious

Free Chicago Philharmonic concert April 17

The Chicago Philharmonic will present Artists in Residence Njioma Grevious for a free concert 6 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at the Murphy Auditorium, 50 E. Erie St.

Violinist Grevious officially begins her three-year residency with Chicago Philharmonic. She was the winner of the 2024 Avery Fisher Career Grant and one of Classic FM's 2024 Rising Stars. Grevious takes the stage alongside chamber musicians of Chicago Philharmonic and Principal Conductor Scott Speck who will perform Astor Piazzolla – The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires (Winter & Summer), and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky – Serenade for Strings in C, Op. 48.

This concert is free but registration is required, visit <https://chicagophilharmonic.org/events/artist-in-residence-2025/>.

LIKES from p. 2

St. Patrick's festivities, the Irish Fellowship Dinner and the parade especially, and to visit their friend **Rose O'Neill**. Her stint in Northwestern's intensive care unit prevented that. After they returned to Dublin they learned of her death. And immediately got back on a plane and were present for her Wake and Funeral, showing great O'Neill Tribal loyalty.

STREET CLEANING: Street Cleaning Season has just begun. Next to baseball this is Chicago's most important season. Watch your signs and your appointed postings of scheduled cleanup. Keep Chicago clean, and don't get towed.

ART EXPO: Chicago Names Exhibitors for 2025 Edition, reveals new partnership with Galleries Assoc. of Korea. EXPO CHICAGO returns this April 24–27. Celebrating the work of over 3,000 artists from all over the world, you won't want to miss it.

TARANTINO'S: **Janet and Rodger Owen** bid a sad farewell to Tarantino's Restaurant on Armitage in Lincoln Park. Owners **Johnny and Pink** threw a terrific farewell party for the whole neighborhood! Thanks for 30 years of memories and good times. They say running a restaurant in Chicago has now gotten a lot more difficult, and expensive, in the post-COVID era. Perhaps more trouble than it's worth.

B-BALL: **BJ Murray** got to pay his respects and say goodbye to his childhood friend and his B-Balling buddy who was a real NYC and Harlem basketball legend, Pepperdine Univ. All American, and former NBA Player



Bill Zwecker, Shelly Zucker, Tom Gorman and Paul Rheider.



Bill Kresse



Amos and Matteo Bocelli.



Farewell to Tarantino's.

(Dallas Mavericks) **Bill Sadler** - aka Big Daddy Boogie.

HAT SHOW: **Melinda Jakovich-Lagrange** with **Paula Borg, Susan Gohl** and **Tracy Tarantino DuBuono** and friends old and new at the Naples Botanical Garden luncheon featuring **Jenna Hager Bush** with a fashion show by **Etro**. Feeling so inspired and excited for The Service Club's big event on May 13.

SUNFLOWER: Il Girasole, 2700 N. Western Ave., has begun brunch on Saturdays and Sundays and it's off the charts. The scrambled eggs with asparagus and truffles will warm your heart. So was the excellent prosciutto with Parmesan cheese basket of melon and kiwifruit. An extensive menu. Bottomless Mimosas. And an Art Gallery with 18 **O'Gorman** paintings on display.

VESTS: **Dan Balanoff** having a wonderful time at **Ald. Bill Conway's** "Get Behind the Vest" pancake breakfast. This event raises money to provide our local law enforcement with the resources they need to stay safe while protecting our neighborhoods. Great talking to so many neighbors in my ward, there's a shared feeling of optimism about the future of our city with **Hon. Jesse Reyes**.

BE-GORRAH: Celebrate 30 years of 'Riverdance' as it returns to Chicago April 22-27! Experience this new generation with

tickets from \$35.

COOL JAZZ: **Irene Michaels** with her band, Our House, played to a sold out house at the Epiphany Center for the Arts on Ashland Ave. last Friday and blew them away with a new 60's Show. Many of these musicians played with **Miles Davis** and some of the greats. Lots of surprises coming up also for Irene's Annual Birthday Bash. Stay tuned.

SHOES: In a New York minute **Jeff and Stephanie Leese Emrich** found an Upper West Side apartment, a new place to call home, a 3rd floor walk-up, and without Carrie Bradshaw's stilettos it's a cinch. Please visit - just 4 subway stops north of Broadway theaters.

MOMA: NYC'S Museum of Modern Art has named **Christophe Cherix** as its next director, arguably the most coveted position in the upper echelons of the international art world.

BOCELLILEGACY: Beneath the vast Tuscan sky at Teatro del Silenzio, **Matteo and Amos Bocelli** stood side by side, their voices intertwining in a mesmerizing rendition of Honesty. Bringing tears to many eyes. The silence shattered into a wave of thunderous applause. In that moment, it was clear: the Bocelli legacy was not just alive but thriving, to inspire and move hearts.

WHO'S WHERE: **Ken**

Norgan enjoyed an evening at the Lyric Opera's beautiful production of La Bohème with **Dean, Mara, and Jose... Mr. Mike and Karen Zupko** are off to Japan boarding a cruise ship and will try for interesting posts... **Niki Friar** did Mothers Day 2025 (it's earlier in Britain) lunch at Chaakoo Bombay Cafe Cocktails & Coffee at Crabshakk Botanics with mum, lovely afternoon... **Laura Chaveriat** at The Berghoff Restaurant getting their German on before seeing "Kraftwerk," a favorite of **David's**... Master Chef **Bill Kim** loves surprise visits from family and was thrilled to get a visit from cousin **Nara**... **Lucia Adams** tried to read **T.S. Eliot's** "The Wasteland" again after many years, but found it pretentious and incomprehensible, she's brilliant... Happy Birthday opera great **Samuel Ramey**... **John Buchbinder** at the Teator Colon in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a homage to ballet and can't wait to see Carmen next month on Opening Night... Happy birthday to **Ellen Tully**... **Bill Kresse** at Old St. Mary's Blood Drive giving the Red Cross a power red donation of his O-blood, twice the blood means twice the cookies afterward, right?... this newspaper's art director **Sheila Swann** dancing with the Dead in the Sphere in Las Vegas... **Shelly Zucker, Bill Zwecker, Tom Gorman** and **Paul Rheider** dining in the desert.

V&A MUSEUM: Reports from **Christopher Clinton Conway** say Burberry partners with Victoria and Albert Museum on transformation of the Fashion Gallery, to reopen as The Burberry Gallery uniting two icons of British culture. The partnership will see the gallery redeveloped and exclusively renamed reopening in spring 2027.

OBSTORTE: Kulturküche Cooking Class with Chef **Reinhard Richter** at DANK Haus in Lincoln Square, Saturday, April 12. So that's how they're made? Come learn in this hands-on cooking class, where you'll create Obstorte, a light fruitcake perfect for Easter or any spring celebrations.

On April 26, No Ordinary Light opens at DANK Haus, an art exhibit that invites visitors to experience light beyond its physical form. Featuring works by female artists, this exhibition explores light as both a spiritual and elemental force, offering a space for reflection, healing, and renewal. Through a blend of poetry, ritual, and personal experiences.

'ROUND THE WORLD: **Debi Catenacci**, the Biscotti Chef-supreme, left to meet her dear friend **Sherrill Bodine**, in Lisbon, Portugal. They both have wanderlust. Debi will join aboard the S.S. Silversea. Then be back for Easter and Mother's Day with her family. Sherrill's daughter will celebrate Easter and Mother's Day on the cruise ship. Debi meets up Sherrill in Iceland, finishing the cruise tour together.

As long as organized crime groups support national interests, the CCP is prepared to cooperate with them.

- Deng Xiaoping

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Letters to the Editor

Financial peril

Thank you to Bob Zuley for the [March 26] heads-up about the financial peril facing CTA, Pace, and Metra. As someone who uses two out of the three regularly—traveling throughout the city and to the northwest suburbs on a senior pass—I have to ask: why hasn't the State of Illinois stepped in to preserve and modernize this vital part of our city, state, and region?

Yes, we can convert Class B and C office buildings to residential use and make this district a pedestrian haven, but people still need a way to get around. Chicago has one of the most extensive transit systems in the country—although it's aged and underfunded—and it deserves a real fix.

You can't eat infrastructure, but infrastructure can feed the jobs and growth and tourism this city desperately needs. The cost of inaction is just too steep.

Volunteering for a state assemblyman during college was a great learning experience. It taught me that states can—and should—step up when cities and citizens face tough times. It's high time the State of Illinois comes to the aid of Chicago and keeps the buses and trains running on time. Just name your price—and show us your plan.

New leadership is a good start. Next up: what's the strategy? We can begin by improving bus connections to the West Loop and other emerging development hubs. We have plenty of places to go—and miles to go before we sleep. Let's keep things moving—starting with the buses, trains, and elevated lines.

Tim Carew
Senior Transit Rider
Old Town

Why refer to them as "privileged?"

I am a driver, pedestrian, AND bike rider in the city. Your use of the term "privileged" to refer to bike lanes makes no logical sense. Take for example a street like Halsted, or Clark, or any street with bike lanes. The bike lanes are basically for bikes only; the car lanes are for motor vehicles only; and the sidewalks are for pedestrians only. So aren't they all equally "privileged"? Why refer to just one of them as "privileged," and not all of them?

Mark Robbins
Lakeview

Editor's note:

This is a good question. We've defined this term several times before in our coverage and will again here.

Bikes, and all other modes of transportation, can and do use all open street lanes. When referring to "privileged bike lanes" we're

talking about those lanes sealed off behind man-made concrete barriers, and reserved for one privileged class of user.

Cars, bikes, buses, scooters, commercial trucks, pushcarts, emergency vehicles, skateboards, pedestrians and those in wheelchairs can all use the open roadway. Bike lanes are a public accommodation, paid for with public taxes, and reserved exclusively for use by bikes and scooters. Not even emergency vehicles can utilize them, rather those vehicles can and do get stuck waiting in traffic as the cars ahead of them can't use those bike lanes either, and so cannot 'move to the right for sirens and lights.' That's why we define them as privileged.

We fully endorse free speech, and see nothing wrong with our readers using their own definitions.

City could upzone Broadway's small businesses right out of business

I love the diversity and quality of the small, locally owned businesses on Broadway, including our favorite jazz club, great coffeehouses, a helpful hardware store, and excellent restaurants. They are owned by our neighbors and are very affordable. Many have operated for decades.

Residents treasure these businesses, which attract customers from other neighborhoods, too. But the city's proposed plan to upzone Broadway from Devon to Montrose threatens to drive them out of business, even though the local Aldermen constantly trumpet their support for small businesses.

Most of these small business owners are renters in low-rise buildings that the city has targeted as "under-utilized" properties. Along the whole Broadway corridor, the plan would sharply increase density and height limits — from four to eight stories or more -- making the real estate a lot more valuable.

It would be a no-brainer for property owners to sell out to developers, who would build tall new buildings, displacing the vibrant businesses now there. The affordable apartments above these storefronts would disappear as well.

Here are just a few of the popular small businesses located in low-rise, "underutilized" properties from Devon to Lawrence:

Aunty Joy's Jamaican restaurant, Kim's Hardware, Loaves and Witches coffeehouse, Patio Beef, Independent Wines and Spirits, Bark Bark Club pet store, Little Corner Restaurant, Moody's Pub, Igor Bike Shop, Mas alla del Sol Mexican Restaurant, Rad Pop Vintage store, Alice & Friends Vegan Restaurant, School of Martial Arts, Aroma Pizzeria, Greener Cleaners, Old World Market, Sun Wah Chinese Restaurant, Ba Le Vietnamese Restaurant and Bakery, and the Green Mill jazz club.

For example, the busy Patio Beef, 6022 N. Broadway, has been around for more than 40 years. Johana and Bernardo Huerta, who had worked there for 23 years, bought the business

from the long-time owner last September. They rent the space in a one-story strip mall.

Like all the small business owners I spoke with, the Huertas say they were not informed by the city or their Alderman about the upzoning plan, only learning about it from customers. They fear that the property owner would sell the parcel, forcing them out of the business that they saved up so long to buy.

The same is true for the small businesses on the east side of Broadway just north of Thornedale. That line of storefronts, including Independent Spirits and the Bark Bark Club, is all owned by a single property owner who they say allegedly refuses to offer a lease extension to the business owners.

When the old buildings come down, and new buildings go up, where do those businesses go? Those small business owners would have to move someplace else or close up. Will they be able to ride it out, then afford the higher rents? We've seen the disappearance of local small businesses in other gentrifying areas such as Southport Ave. in favor of chain stores and Amazon. I don't want to see that happen on Broadway.

If our Aldermen truly value local, diverse small businesses, they need to slow their plans down and work with the community on a better plan that makes it possible for those businesses to continue to exist.

Harris Meyer
Uptown

Who is making these bike lane decisions?

French diplomat, Charles Talleyrand, once remarked about French kings coming back into power after the French Revolution, "They've forgotten nothing and they know nothing."

Was he predicting the Chicago progressives taking over and destroying our city with privileged bike lanes [April 2 story]?

They are using Alinsky-ite tricks to destroy the city, balkanize the tribes into hating each other, eliminate law and order, and crash the economy. These policies haven't worked anywhere, and they won't work here.

Toss in regressive taxes like our ever-growing property taxes and our lives, properties and homes just become an ATM for the political classes.

Bikes lanes contribute to air pollution, global warming, climate change, white supremacy or whatever hallucinations are terrorizing the woke, hipster transplants who moved here. So now everyone waits in rush hour-like traffic all day long because concrete lane blockers mean no one can turn right anymore, and everyone waits when someone else wants to turn left. Drivers cannot 'pull over for sirens and lights' due to concrete barriers and people die waiting for help. Your mom in the wheelchair? Careful exiting that CTA bus right into a privileged bike lane when going to the library.

But that's all a small price to pay for Chad and Lyndsey to feel good about themselves as they peddle around looking at all the empty stores that closed because of the disappearance of commer-

cial parking spaces for bike lanes. The majority of real Chicagoans, be they Joe and Mary, Jose y Maria, or Yosef and Murrain, will not load up La Familia, Nanna, toddlers and infants upon a bicycle built for seven and proceed through our pothole provided paradise to buy \$500 in groceries.

Who is making these decisions? Have any of these deciders ever run a small storefront business? Eugene Sawyer was the last educated gentleman we had as mayor. Sawyer was replaced by the Irish dilettante from Bridgeport, who was replaced by a narcissistic grifter from Wilmette, who was replaced by a delusional, paranoid from Ohio, who has been replaced by a failed teacher from Elgin who shows all the symptoms of bipolarism. By this comparison, the last three decades of Chicago Bears's quarterbacks look downright adequate.

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

Free electronic recycling April 19 at S&C Electric

S&C Electric will host an electronics recycling event with an electronics recycling station set up in their drive-up gate next to the Metra tracks at Pratt Blvd and Ravenswood Ave., Saturday, April 19. List of acceptable electronics they will take include printers, computers, video game consoles, scanners, cell phones, tablets, televisions, electronic keyboards, cables and cords, fax machines, and electronic mice.

Japanese volunteers needed for historic reenactment film

Full Spectrum Features is seeking 100+ volunteers from the Japanese and Japanese American community to serve as extras on a film set for Reckoning with Redress, a short narrative film and educational digital history project exploring the Japanese American Redress Movement.

Filming will take place in Chicago on either May 21, 22, or 23. Volunteers must attend a preparation session the week of May 12, either virtually or in person. This is an opportunity to participate in a meaningful project that preserves history and fosters intergenerational reflection.

The film will reenact a reimagined pivotal moment from the 1981 Chicago hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians held at Northeastern Illinois Univ., where community members shared testimonies about their wartime incarceration and consequences of being wrongfully incarcerated during WWII. Volunteers will help recreate the atmosphere of the hearing, bringing this significant moment in history to life.

For more information, visit: <https://sites.google.com/fullspectrumfeatures.com/reenactment>.

Spring 2025 Lecture Series

RAVENSWOOD-LAKE VIEW HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

THE HISTORY OF THE RED & PURPLE LINES WITH TOM DWYER THURSDAY, APRIL 17 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

A Journey with Team RPM – Connecting Generations and Lives



Tom Dwyer at left.

What began as a history project following the RPM Windy City Gantry from Catalpa to Balmoral evolved into an intimate and powerful tribute to the hardworking men and women of Team RPM. This documentary serves as an auditable and historically accurate digital representation of their efforts—an enduring legacy of the people who built the future of Chicago's transit system.

This is more than a construction story—it's about the people behind it. The modern-day Rosie the Riveters, the unsung heroes, and the camaraderie that built not just infrastructure, but lifelong bonds.

Brian Wesolowski from the CTA's Community Outreach Liaison will join this lecture.

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POTAWATOMI from p. 3

and native American nations.

“[These are] international law, inherent tribal sovereignty, treaties, federal statutes, executive orders, federal court decisions, administrative regulations, tribal law, and the U.S. Constitution. Typically, state law does not apply to the tribes, unless they take state money in the form of grants or enter into tribal-state compacts, which is a whole body of research unto itself,” said Margo Hill, a Washington State-based attorney who has served as a Coeur d’Alene tribal judge and John David Tovey III, an urban planner based in Oregon who is a member of the Cayuse and Joseph Band Nez Perce nations.

On the landing page of the City of Chicago’s website, City officials openly acknowledge the taking of Indian property over 180 years ago, stating “The City of Chicago is located on land that is and has long been a center for Native peoples. The area is the traditional homelands of the Anishinaabe, or the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations. Many other Nations consider this area their traditional homeland, including the Myaamia, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac and Fox, Peoria, Kaskaskia, Wea, Kickapoo, and Mascouten.”

“The City specifically acknowledges the contributions of Kitihiwa [Point Du Sable] of the Potawatomi in fostering the community that has become Chicago. We acknowledge all Native peoples who came before us and who continue to contribute to our City. We are committed to promoting Native cultural heritage.”

So now perhaps comes Chicago’s chance to prove that that statement is not just virtue signaling, and back up those words with action by welcoming the Potawatomi back to their ancestral lands, while keeping their hands off their assets and income.

GAMBLING from p. 6

downfall of Illinois’ once-thriving horse racing industry, in addition to noting flagging revenues from the state’s legacy riverboat casinos, the oldest of which have been in business for a little more than three decades.

Last week State Rep. Edgar Gonzalez asked a panel of his fellow House members to imagine Illinois facing another financial downturn like the pandemic and government-imposed economic shut down that caused a recession in 2020. That year, Illinois faced a major budget shortfall, though federal bail out money propped-up state, county and city budgets.

“If we had something like iGaming, we would have still had a financial fallback,” he said Wednesday at a Capitol hearing on his proposal to legalize internet gambling. “Illinois is gambling with its financial future by delaying the adoption of iGaming.”

Proponents of House Bill 3080 point out that plenty of Illinoisans are already gambling on the internet illegally, often facilitated by overseas-based websites.

“Whether or not you choose to pass legislation legalizing iGaming, it is already here,” James Hartmann, a lobbyist for sports betting giant FanDuel, told the panel. “Right now, you can take out your phone and in five minutes, be gambling real money slot machines from the app store, unregulated and untaxed.”

Hartmann, who was heavily involved in drafting and negotiating Illinois’ legalized sports betting framework as a House Democratic staff attorney in 2019, said iGaming sites are “flooding the Illinois market” — and operating unscrupulously.

Meanwhile, FanDuel, Draft Kings and other sports betting platforms must adhere to the law’s strict requirements for age checks, problem gambling prevention notifications and other consumer protections to maintain their ex-

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

pensive licenses.

“And so while these bad actors profit, none of it is being captured in tax revenue for the state of Illinois,” Hartmann said.

He and others pushing the iGaming bill claim Illinois could collect an additional \$1 billion annually in sin taxes on internet gambling. The estimate is extrapolated from a 2024 report commissioned by the Sports Betting Alliance [SBA], an industry group that represents the four biggest sportsbooks in the U.S.

Those mobile sports betting platforms are eager to expand their nascent iGaming business into more states. The SBA has been running geotargeted social media ads urging iGaming legalization in recent weeks in Illinois.

The analysis from the gambling industry consultancy firm Eilers & Krejcik estimated \$775 million in state tax revenues after five years of legalized iGaming at a nearly 25% tax rate. The \$1 billion figure would reflect a higher tax rate more in line with what larger casinos and sports books pay, especially after a hike in the state’s sports betting tax last year. Gov. JB Pritzker last month also floated a tax hike on casino table games to help fill the state’s budget gap.

While overall casino revenue in Illinois is up, that success is mainly attributable to the opening of six new casinos provided for under Illinois’ massive 2019 gambling expansion law.

But the state’s nine legacy riverboat casinos have seen their revenues decline “for nine consecutive years,” according to the report. Visits to casinos in East St. Louis, East Peoria and Joliet’s Harrah’s Casino have seen significant drop-off. Many of those casinos would be even worse off if it weren’t for sportsbook partnerships entered into during the thick of the pandemic, when the type of in-person betting that was provided for under the law was not allowed.

The Illinois Gaming Board opposes the bill due to the agency’s own struggles to keep up with its existing regulatory responsibilities and the General Assembly’s lack of motion on banning so-called “sweepstakes machines,” which are similar to video gam-

Gambling in Chicago

BY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHICAGO HISTORY

Locals were tolerant of gambling when Chicago was founded, and Mark Beaubien’s Sauganash featured it. Further, as gambling itself commercialized, crooked professional gamblers appeared. Affluent people began to class gambling with idleness and vice. The Protestant clergy denounced gambling in the 1830s, and city officials, in the first of many crackdowns, jailed proprietors of two gambling houses.

Gambling appealed most to the poor and immigrants. Working-class men found an independence in gambling, in sharp contrast to their jobs, and risk taking and competition seemed to validate their masculinity. Bettors wagered on card games, checkers, backgammon, horse races and prize fights. They played policy, a lottery-like game, and by the 1850s rowdy crowds gathered and gambled at rat and cock fights.

Gambling became a major business. By 1850, entrepreneurs had established hundreds of gambling houses, typically associated with saloons, especially in downtown Chicago. Some houses were

not only honest but elegant. Gambling on horses was common and was integral to racetracks.

By 1866, “pool rooms” accommodated racing fans away from the track. Gambling payrolls, rents, and customers’ purchases in adjacent businesses were important to the city’s economy.

By the 1870s, gamblers combined into syndicates to handle big risks. The biggest gamblers, led by Mike McDonald, were important political contributors, and officials were reluctant to enforce laws against gambling, and the police were often sympathetic to gambling, and many accepted payoffs.

By 1900, three loosely organized crime syndicates controlled most commercial gambling. For the first time, big gamblers used violence in a struggle to control the business.

In the 1940s Mob gambling reached throughout Chicago and its suburbs. In 1959, the Chicago Tribune estimated that 10,000 employees worked at 1,000 gambling establishments in Cook County. Postwar Chicago gangsters profited from gambling in many other cities as well.

bling terminals but operate in a legal gray area.

Jay Keller, a contract lobbyist for Penn Entertainment Inc., noted the company has spent \$600 million in recent years enhancing and expanding its casinos — an investment “made with the understanding that Illinois’ gaming landscape would remain stable,” he told lawmakers. “The potential negative consequences are clear: The proliferation of online gaming could reduce in-person casino traffic, threatening jobs, lowering the economic benefits to local communities and ultimately discouraging future investments in the state,” he said.

A study published last month, commissioned by the National Association Against iGaming, warned that if Illinois legalizes internet gambling, the state could lose \$252.5 million in direct casino tax revenues and 4,733 jobs, taking into account the gambling industry’s adjacent hospitality in-

dustry.

Though the study concluded that land-based casinos underperformed expected growth in states where iGaming has been legalized, internet gambling proponents disagree. “iGaming brings new customers to casinos,” Sports Betting Alliance President Jeremy Kudon told lawmakers, saying the threat of cannibalization has become a mythical “Loch Ness Monster.”

Illinois’ sports betting market is now second in the nation behind New York in terms of overall sportsbook revenue, according to a report published last month by the American Gaming Assoc.

A recent survey published last week of 800 Illinois voters last month found 71% believed online gambling is more addictive than betting at casinos or other brick-and-mortar establishments.

The October report from the legislature’s economic forecasting commission estimated that in the last five fiscal years, the per-capita amount spent on gambling and lottery tickets in Illinois has increased from \$325 to \$560 annually, driven primarily by the explosion of video gambling terminals in Illinois and sports betting.

And Illinois’ video gambling terminal [VGT] industry is the largest of any state with legal VGTs; a whopping 48,176 machines were in operation at bars, restaurants, dedicated gaming cafes, truck stops and the state fairgrounds as of the end of last fiscal year in June.

Casinos experts know that iGaming presents a more dangerous risk of addiction, as people are alone and within the close reach of minors, without regard for local authority or any reasonable time or spending limits.

This week’s hearing yielded no vote, as it was purely informational, but public officials indicated there would be a long road ahead for any iGaming legalization bid.

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Voter turnout, race, income and the fate of property tax referendums

In a first of its kind analysis, the Cook County Treasurer's Office found that voters from majority-white communities are more likely to vote and determine the outcome of critical property tax-related referendums. The same is true for voters who own their homes or who earn more than the median household income for Cook County.

Findings from the 2024 presidential election year include:

- Wealthier residents are more likely to vote. In the county's wealthiest taxing districts, average turnout topped 60% but was only 34% in districts where median household income fell below the county median of \$81,797;
- White residents are more likely to vote. On average, turnout in majority-white districts was more than 20 percentage points higher than in Black, Latino and majority-minority districts;
- Homeowners are more likely

to vote. In taxing districts where 80% or more of residents own their homes, average turnout exceeded 55%. Turnout, on average, was just 30% in districts where over 20% of residents rent.

Two March 2024 primary referendums — one in a low-income south suburb and the other in a high-income North Shore suburb — highlight these voting trends. Robbin's Park District lies in a majority-Black south suburban area where the median household income is \$38,000, and less than 73% of residents own their homes. In the district's primary referendum, only 14% of voters weighed in — one of the lowest turnouts in the primary.

In Kenilworth — a majority-white North Shore suburb where the median household income is higher than \$250,000, and more than 97% of residents own their own homes — the participation rate was more than double, with

over 33% of voters turning out for a \$2.5 million bond issuance.

The Treasurer's Office analysis also shows that residents across the county in 2024 tended to skip voting when given the chance to decide whether to increase their own property taxes. A majority of voters turned out for property tax-related referendums in less than half of cases. This perpetuates a pattern of frequently leaving crucial pocketbook decisions up to a tiny segment of voters.

The analysis of the 35 referendums in 2024 found:

- Overall average property tax-related referendum turnout increased slightly, to 45.9% from 43%, from the last presidential election year;
- For the March primary election, average turnout was only 20.9%;
- For the November general election, average turnout increased to 62.6%.

Drop-off voters, who go to the polls but skip the referendum questions farther down the ballot, further suppressed overall participation. During the primary, the median drop-off rate was 3% and increased to 8.7% in the general election — for an overall median drop-off rate of 6.2%.

Those who did weigh in approved 26, or 74%, of the referendums on ballots in 2024. The approved referendums gave cities, villages, schools, park districts and other local governments authority to:

- Proceed with 14 bond issuances that created \$563 million in new debt;
- Exceed state caps on tax levy increases by more than \$4.5 million across three taxing districts;
- Establish two mental health service programs in Chicago and a new park district in University Park;
- Dissolve one taxing district;

• Adopt home rule powers — which give municipal officials greater power to impose new or higher taxes — in three suburbs.

Voters again had a say on referendums during the April 1 consolidated election [after this newspapers' deadline]. They asked to decide whether to raise new taxes and increase government debt by hundreds of millions of dollars. These races, in which people vote solely on local issues, tend to have poor overall turnout.

“These findings highlight the pressing need for increased outreach to lower-income and minority communities, where participation is often the lowest. As property tax decisions impact all residents, it's vital that more people educate themselves and exercise their right to vote, because right now, the few are deciding for the many,” said Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas.

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff,

-v.- MICHAEL TAURO, 30 EAST HURON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants
2024 CH 05851
30 E HURON STREET UNIT 2010 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 October 16, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 5, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 30 E HURON STREET UNIT 2010, CHICAGO, IL 60611
Property Index No. 17-10-104-037-1120
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

Real Estate For Sale

confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL, 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@ilcslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-23-07312
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Real Estate For Sale

Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2024 CH 05851
TJSC#: 45-835
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2024 CH 05851
13263818

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF NRPL TRUST 2019-1 Plaintiff
vs.
LORI M. QUINT A/K/A L. QUINT-DEMPESEY A/K/A LORI M. QUINT-DEMPESEY, MICHAEL C. DEMPESEY, FIFTH THIRD BANK, N.A., SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO CORUS BANK, N.A., PNC BANK, N.A., SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MIDWEST BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, EMIGRANT BANK A/K/A EMIGRANT MORTGAGE COMPANY, INC., UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant
20 CH 7488
CALENDAR 60
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on May 12, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL, 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-29-417-009-0000.
Commonly known as 1133 WEST LILL AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60614.
The real estate is: single family residence. If the

Real Estate For Sale

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: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125, 22-01830
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13263674

090909 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK Plaintiff,
-v.-
BOAN INC., DANIEL GILJEN, 535 NORTH MICHIGAN CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
2023 CH 08782
535 NORTH MICHIGAN AVE., UNIT 3201 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 January 30, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 1, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 535 NORTH MICHIGAN

Real Estate For Sale

AVE., UNIT 3201, CHICAGO, IL 60611
Property Index No. 17-10-122-025-1445
The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$280,630.43.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues

Real Estate For Sale

where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA Plaintiff's Attorneys, 180 N. LASSALLE STREET, SUITE 2400, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 782-9676. Please refer to file number WWR 23-000723.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL, 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA
180 N. LASSALLE STREET, SUITE 2400 CHICAGO IL, 60601
312-782-9676
Fax #: 312-782-4201
E-Mail: ChicagoREDG@weltman.com
Attorney File No. WWR 23-000723
Attorney Code. 31495
Case Number: 2023 CH 08782
TJSC#: 45-426

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 08782
8232-951896

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Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff,

-v.- SATESH B DAIBY Defendants
2019 CH 00259
1826 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60626
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 9, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 12, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1826 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD, CHICAGO, IL 60626
Property Index No. 11-31-224-029-0000
The real estate is improved with a tan concrete, two-story single family home, detached 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 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

Real Estate For Sale

interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602, Tel No. (312) 346-9088.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL, 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602
312-346-9088
E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com
Attorney File No. 21-07497IL_700922
Attorney Code. 61256
Case Number: 2019 CH 00259
TJSC#: 44-3263

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2019 CH 00259
13263784

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LEGACY MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2021-RP5 Plaintiff
vs.
SCOTT C. GLUJMM, WOLCOTT COURT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendant

Real Estate For Sale

24 CH 4431
CALENDAR 60
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on May 13, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL, 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 11-31-210-038-1013.
Commonly known as 7001-17 N. WOLCOTT AVE. A/K/A 1846-52 W. LUNT, UNIT 7007-3 A/K/A 7007 N. WOLCOTT AVE., UNIT 3, CHICAGO, IL 60626.
The real estate is: 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: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125, 24-00948
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13263741

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LEGACY MORTGAGE ASSET TRUST 2018-RPL3 Plaintiff
vs.
JOHN J. STAMOOLIS A/K/A JOHN STAMOOLIS, SHERWIN ON THE LAKE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant
22 CH 5665
CALENDAR 63
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on May 13, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m.,

Real Estate For Sale

Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 11-29-318-014-1028.
Commonly known as 1205 W. SHERWIN AVE., UNIT 301, CHICAGO, IL 60626.
The real estate is: 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: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125, 22-01516
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
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13263700

090909 -----

020202 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LIMA ONE CAPITAL, LLC Plaintiff
vs.
NARBURG GROUP, LLC SERIES Q, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; THE CITY OF CHICAGO; KIRK W. TURNER; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant
23 CH 4838
CALENDAR 59
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on May 5, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 11-31-303-004-0000.
Commonly known as 6561 North Seeley Avenue,

Real Estate For Sale

Chicago, IL 60645.
The real estate is: 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: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz, Anselmo & Associates P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563. (630) 453-6960, 6980-192493
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13263274

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. Bank National Association Plaintiff,
-v.-
Danilo L. Jones; Illinois Housing Development Authority; The Birchwood Court Condominium Association; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants
Defendants.
2024CH01395
7715 N HERMITAGE AVE 2C, CHICAGO, IL 60626

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 2/3/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on May 7, 2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 7715 N HERMITAGE AVE 2C, CHICAGO, IL 60626
Property Index No. 11-30-213-055-1013
The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$130,495.86 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com, LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or

Real Estate For Sale

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.
For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-23-07480.
Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com.
Attorney File No. 14-23-07480 Case Number: 2024CH01395

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.
13261624

262626 -----

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POLICE BEAT from p. 8

32-time convicted felon gets 6 years for stealing scooters. He'll be out this summer

Randall Brown, a 30-time convicted felon accused of stealing motorized scooters in Lincoln Park and Streeterville two years ago, is heading back to prison for his 31st and 32nd felony convictions.

Brown, also known as Randall Browning, pleaded guilty on April 3 to two counts of possessing a stolen motor vehicle to resolve the scooter cases. Judge Anjana Hansen gave him concurrent six-year sentences.

However, because he earned 942 days of credit in jail, and the state will cut his sentence by 50% for good behavior, Brown is expected to be back on the streets in about 153 days.

Brown had been on parole for less than a month for 10 similar cases when Chicago police detectives began looking at him as a suspect in

a string of scooter thefts stretching across the North Side and downtown. They eventually charged him with two cases that involved photo and video evidence.

In one case, a Lincoln Park woman saw Brown walking away with her husband's scooter on the morning of April 19, 2023. When she ordered Brown to stop, he claimed the \$1,400 scooter was his, prosecutors said.

The woman took pictures of the thief with her phone and shared them on social media.

Days later, a surveillance camera recorded Brown stealing another scooter from the 100 block of E. Grand in Streeterville. That scooter's owner, Nate Vaysenberg, shared the video with this reporter, and it didn't take long for police and the public to identify the thief.

Prosecutors said Brown admitted to taking the scooter in Lincoln Park and selling it to someone on Central Park Ave.

That's the same operation Brown

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Randall Brown, center, and images of the scooter thief in action in Lincoln Park and Streeterville.

Image courtesy Illinois Dept. of Corrections; Twitter; Nate Vaysenberg

ran for several weeks in 2020—stealing scooters from parking spots and reselling them for a fraction of their value, authorities said.

Brown received 10 concurrent 8-year sentences for the 2020 crimes, but he earned special credits in prison

and was released in less than three years because he demonstrated excellent skills as a mechanic, a source said.

Brown's long criminal career as a thief and forger stretches back to 1993.

In an entertaining moment in 2016, a Wrigleyville resident called 911 to report two people making an adult movie in a car behind their home. As it turned out, the people in the vehicle were undercover cops using video equipment to record Brown as he broke into a nearby coach house. They arrested him when he stepped out of the home.

He received eight years for that break-in, a second burglary, and identity theft, but he was released in 2020 after serving four. Scooters started disappearing from city streets soon after that.

—Compiled by CWBChicago.com

News tips?

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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 PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff,

-v- DONNA TUNTEVICH, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, THE STATESMAN CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants

2024 CH 05489 5601 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 14E 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 February 7, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 9, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 5601 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 14E, CHICAGO, IL, 60660

Property Index No. 14-05-411-012-1083 The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity 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 the section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

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) 794-9876

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.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 630-794-9876

E-Mail: pleadings@ilcslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-24-02455 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21782 Case Number: 2024 CH 05489 TJS#C#: 45-476

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

Case # 2024 CH 05489

13263994

090909 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SERVBANK, SB Plaintiff,

-v-

Real Estate For Sale

BEKNAZAR MENGLIMAMATOV, ANGELOUE TALLY, SHORELINE PARK CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants

4960 NORTH MARINE DRIVE APARTMENT 610 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 February 20, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 6, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 4960 NORTH MARINE DRIVE APARTMENT 610, CHICAGO, IL, 60640

Property Index No. 14-08-412-040-1188 The real estate is improved with a condominium. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiffs 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.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL, 60602

312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 24-18121L_1056696 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 2024 CH 03426 TJS#C#: 45-563

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

Case # 24 CH 03426

13263397

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Plaintiff,

-v- MARIE LEE; JOHN LEE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

2022CH11550 1615 West Granville Avenue, 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 2/10/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on 5/14/2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

Commonly known as 1615 West Granville Avenue, Chicago, IL 60660

Property Index No. 14-06-217-006-0000 The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

The judgment amount was \$406,396.36

Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by

Real Estate For Sale

certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com, LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 23-15212L. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985

You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 23-15212L

Case Number: 2022CH11550 NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFFS' ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

020202 -----

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 LSF 11 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST Plaintiff,

-v- COLM TREACY, TUAN ANH HOANG, STATE OF ILLINOIS - DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, JULIE MAI KIRKEL, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants

2024 CH 06888 4911 N ASHLAND AVENUE 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 December 10, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 21, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 4911 N ASHLAND AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60640

Property Index No. 14-08-309-009-0000 The real estate is improved with a residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, 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

Real Estate For Sale

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) 794-9876

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.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 630-794-9876

E-Mail: pleadings@ilcslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-24-04464 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21782 Case Number: 2024 CH 06888 TJS#C#: 44-3220

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

Case # 2024 CH 06888

13263075

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LSF 11 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST Plaintiff

vs. ALEJANDRO CASTRO, ROBERTO CARO, 5455 EDGEWATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendant

2024 CH 06888 CALENDAR 63 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on April 29, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.I.N. 14-08-203-016-1274. Commonly known as 5455 N. Sheridan Rd., Unit 2505, Chicago, IL 60640.

The real estate is: 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: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1880, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS001392-22FC1

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13262967**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIZENS BANK NA F/K/A RBS CITIZENS NA Plaintiff,

-v- SCOTT J OH, IRENE S OH, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, FIRST AMERICAN BANK Defendants

22 CH 04524 3639 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE CHICAGO, IL 60613

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 17, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 5, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 3639 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60613

Property Index No. 14-20-121-006-0000 The real estate is improved with a two - four apartment building.

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.

Real Estate For Sale

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).

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MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiffs 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.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL, 60602

312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 22-09388L_782897 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 22 CH 04524 TJS#C#: 44-1155

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

Case # 22 CH 04524

13262732

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,

-v- ALAN BOUDREAU A/K/A ALAN H. BOUDREAU JR.; 5125 N. KENMORE RESIDENCES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS & NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants.

24 CH 1602 5125 North Kenmore Avenue Unit 5S, 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 2/5/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on May 7, 2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

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East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL (312-644-2000), is opening lockers: 4528X (Heith Thorndill), 2706X and 3525X (Debra Stubbs), 2721X (Edward Strell), 5556X (Lamonte Poole), 2713X (Tyrone Peterson), 4524X (Elbert Hatley), 2808F (Anita V Stephens), 7158SM (Jaelin Roman) and 7161SM (The Wine Guide, LLC.), for public sale on April 29, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers: 5174X- Bishop, Davonta 3290C- Brown, Ronica 4370E-Eardley, Kerry 4130F-Hofbauer, Michael 4485G- Reynoso, Joseph 5172X- Townsel, Tami for public sale. This sale is to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self-service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 24th of April, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at 3632 E. Lake Ave. Wilmette, IL 60091 at www.storageentreasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m. G3 Mariana Prince

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage at 1200 W. 35th St., 773-247-3000, is opening lockers: 3C3233 (Harold Chapman), 3E3463 (Pam Eng), 3E3464 (Pam Eng), 3D3340 (Hinshaw Culbertson LLP), 3D3313 (Hinshaw Culbertson LLP), 3D3303 (Mark Jaroszewski), 3E3425 (Nicolette Phillips), 1C2084 (Jaquies Phillips) 3D3346 (Jesse Reed), 4C4191 (Carl Smith) and 3F3628 (Giles Travis) for public sale of miscellaneous items. This sale is to be held on Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 2:00 pm. Cash only.


Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 24th of April, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at 2724 W. 21st St, Chicago, IL 60608 at www.storageentreasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m. 1030 Jasmine Bell, 1116 Delisa Newell, 2026 Jessica Ruiz This public sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. The winning bidder must pay by cash at the time he/she is declared the winning bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply; see the Manager for additional details.

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STERLING BAY from p. 1

space on the border between Lincoln Park and Bucktown.

Sterling Bay had agreed to set aside 1,200 future apartments for low-and moderate-income tenants, and pay \$39 million into the city's housing trust fund in lieu of building another 300 affordable units at Lincoln Yards.

According to Crain's, efforts to secure a bail out deal for Sterling Bay faltered, prompting Bank OZK's action. The lender confirmed its intention to start marketing the property to other developers.

But the current market conditions would suggest that nothing much will be happening here for a while, as Chicago presently suffers from a glut of empty commercial space, while interest rates remain stubbornly high for new development deals. The property may be purchased by an investment entity who could bank it, hoping for better days down the road.

POT SHOP from p. 1

Exempt from disclosure are "[p]reliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body." The exemption also applies to "inter- and intra-agency predecisional and deliberative material." This exemption is "intended to protect the communications process and encourage frank and open discussion among agency employees before a final decision is made."

Perhaps to the DOL's dismay, that doesn't stop other city officials from leaking those documents, and some are already circulating within the community. This newspaper has come into possession of some of those

notes and emails, and they clearly point to City Hall concerns that the applicant, G.P. Green House, was clearly in violation of the school exclusionary proximity zone laws.

In a March 13, 2024 email, Brian Pelrine, 2nd Ward Director of Buildings and Development, told Patrick Murphy, First Deputy Commissioner Zoning Administrator, Dept. of Planning and Development [DPD] that the DOL "has determined this qualifies it as a school under zoning definitions and disqualifies the cannabis operator from proceeding to the ZBA due to the school being within 500' of the cannabis dispensary."

Then Murphy agreed, saying "Yes, additional information re the Montessori school was submitted, it appears the campus is offering the equivalent of state mandated education for children through 8th grade. [DOL] has determined this qualifies it as a school under zoning definitions and disqualifies the cannabis operator from proceeding to the ZBA due to the school being within 500' of the cannabis dispensary."

On the same email string, Victor Resa, Asst. to Commissioner, Bureau of Planning and Zoning said, "The Zoning Administrator along with the [DOL] has confirmed that there is a school within the 500' distance from the proposed dispensary site. They will not be able to go forward," on Friday, March 15, 2024, when the applicants first took their case up with the ZBA.

Despite knowing well ahead of their vote, three ZBA members still voted to approve the applicant's request to sell recreational weed at 620 N. Fairbanks Ct., including former 46th Ward Ald. Helen Shiller, who now serves as a ZBA board member.

Now, over a year later, on March 25 a lawsuit has been filed by a neighborhood resident, Beth Padera, who claims that the ZBA improperly approved a special use permit for G.P. Green House, doing business as Guaranteed Dispensary. And based

on documents this newspaper has seen, it appears the DOL and other city officials did know well in advance of the vote that the proposed site was too close to a school.

Additionally, the suit also asserts that Shiller should have recused herself because her son, attorney Brendan Shiller, works for G.P. Green House, helping them to obtain its conditional adult-use license from the state of Illinois.

Chicago's Governmental Ethics Ordinance (Chapter 2-156 of the Municipal Code) imposes restrictions on the conduct of appointed City officials. "Appointed officials" include appointed members of City boards or commissions, such as the ZBA. According to the code section entitled "Employment of Relatives or Domestic Partners," the ethics guide states: appointed officials may not participate in the making of any City decision involving any person who employs or has contracts with their relatives or domestic partner, or exercise contract management authority over contracts with persons doing City work who employ or contract with their relatives or domestic partners.

Appointed officials determined to have violated the law are subject to their names and violations being made public, removal from office, and fines up to \$20,000 and the amount of any ill-gotten gains, for each violation.

For Streeterville area neighbors who lobbied against the proposal it was perplexing to see that the finding of the ZBA stated "neither the Appellant nor the Zoning Administrator, were able to produce direct or testimonial evidence from Guidepost [Montessori School] itself about its curriculum, operations, and importantly, whether or not it provides state-mandated basic education."

The opinion of the Zoning Administrator, based in part on the opinion of the DOL, was that the Guidepost Montessori at Magnificent Mile, 226 E. Illinois St., is a school.

Yet, somehow last year GP Greenhouse was able to persuade the ZBA board that the DOL and Zoning Administrator's information and evidence were weak enough to overturn the Zoning Administrator Murphy's opinion.

In such cases, the burden is on the appellant to prove how the Zoning Administrator [Murphy] erred. Only documents show Murphy was well-advised in advance of the hearing by the DOL opinion of the legality of the applicant's efforts.

This might explain why despite the documents already being in public circulation, the DOL and AG are still blocking the official release of the documents to the citizens of Chicago, as the City may now have to explain their actions in court.

Throughout this whole application process, local Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] and several community groups maintained their opposition to the proposal. Even after the decision, the Alderman's office contin-

ued to press for denying the applicant. In an Aug. 2, 2024 email ahead of the ZBA appeal hearing, Pelrine sent a note to the 600 N. Fairbanks Condo Association saying that "We expect the ZBA to uphold the Zoning Administrator's ruling that it is too close to a school but are watching it closely." On Aug. 16 the ZBA heard an appeal from applicant Aymen Haswah and his Social Equity partner Ahman Shaban. At the hearing, the applicant's representatives, Jim Banks and Nick Ftikas, reportedly argued with the ZBA for over an hour over the legal definition of a school vs a daycare, as if 8th grade students would still be attending daycare.

In an odd twist to this story, in an Aug. 21 email from a community member to Pelrine, the resident noted that Haswah told him that he knew Guidepost was a school because he takes his own son to the school every day. But his representatives were telling the ZBA that the school was not registered with the state as a school.

But the ZBA still ruled that the appeal would move forward, and it was added to the ZBA hearing of Sept. 20, 2024, where it was approved by the 3-2 vote. After voting to approve the permit in Sept. 2024, the zoning board took five months to issue its written ruling.

In an Aug. 20 email from Pelrine to Resa, Pelrine requested that now that the case was proceeding, "I understand that it is possible for the ZBA to subpoena an administrator of Guidepost Montessori to get an actual understanding of their curriculum offerings. Is this something that the board will do?" He said that Ald. Hopkins requested that they do that "via a formal letter."

In an Aug. 22 email from Pelrine to a local resident, he discussed a conversation he had with Resa asking if the ZBA would be issuing a subpoena, and Resa reports to Pelrine that he had asked the ZBA chairman [Brian Sanchez], "who decided they were not interested in pursuing that avenue." It makes the Board's statement that they wanted to hear from the school more than a little disingenuous.

As this drags on in court, it may be entertaining to watch the circus act of the same city attorney's that knew all along this was illegal, now in front of a judge defending the illegal action. This newspaper imagines that the presiding judge will not accept page after page of blacked out documents like those that were presented to this newspaper after our Freedom of Information Act request.

TOWER from p. 1

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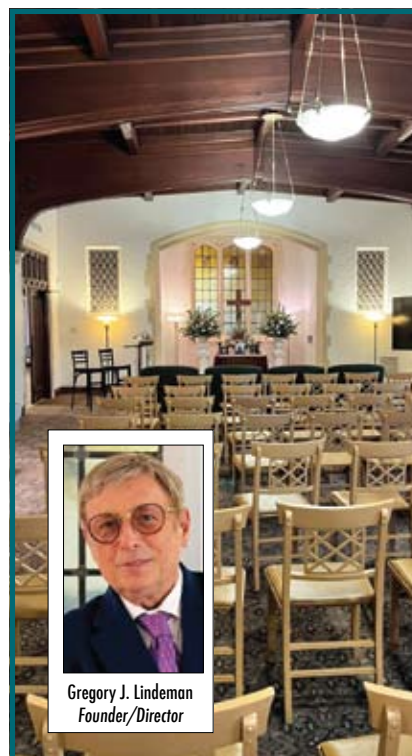
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