

I don't try to describe the future.
I try to prevent it.

— Ray Bradbury

NEWS-STAR

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NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE

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Residents celebrate arrest after beloved Rogers Park store manager stabbed; but prosecutors rejected felony charges

BY CWBCHICAGO

“They got him! They got him!” a man rejoices, fist-bumping a Chicago police officer seated inside a nearby squad car. The elated North Sider was one of many people featured in an NBC5 Chicago story after police arrested a local troublemaker for allegedly stabbing the beloved manager of Morse Fresh Market, 1430 W. Morse, on Easter Sunday.

“He could have gotten killed,” a member of the local business community told the news station, the reporter adding that Rogers Park residents were “demanding change to make sure that their community is safe.”

But, this reporter has learned prosecutors refused to approve



Mugshot John Kempksi (inset) stabbed the manager of Morse Fresh Market, 1430 W. Morse.

any felony charges against the man who's accused of attacking the store manager. Instead, they dinged him with misdemeanor battery and criminal damage violations.

So, what happened on Easter Sunday, and who's the guy that police arrested and prosecutors wouldn't charge with a felony?

His name is John Kempksi, a 35-year-old who's well-known to local businesses and residents. Last Sunday, Kempksi was on probation for three felony cases, including a felony case that involved Morse Fresh Market, officials said.

ARREST see p. 12

Epworth Church landmarked

On April 13, the Commission on Chicago Landmarks voted for a final landmark recommendation for Epworth Church, 5253 N. Kenmore Ave.

Last year the church was at the center of a neighborhood debate over efforts to preserve the building.

John Lewis Cochran, the founder of Edgewater, donated land for the church in 1886. Its facade combines granite fieldstone, as well as cast stone, a new material in the 1930s. The picturesque design of both the church and community house display influences of Gothic Revival and Romanesque styles of architecture.



The founder of the Edgewater community, John Lewis Cochran, donated land for the Epworth Church in 1886.

The church had fallen into disrepair at about the same time its congregation started to dwindle.

As a congregation, Epworth

EPWORTH see p. 12

Tensions rise at NEIU, as school struggles to build back student population

BY MATT MEDINA

Northeastern Illinois Univ. [NEIU] is undergoing major transitions, with motions towards a potential strike for the school at 5500 N. St Louis Ave.

The university now serves approximately 9,000 students on two campuses across the North Side. On April 12 the Board of Trustees held a meeting at their “El Centro” building, 3390 N. Avondale Ave., overhanging the Kennedy Expy. The Board met a group of roughly 75 teachers, faculty, and students that day representing University Professional of Illinois [UPI] Local 4100 union, who expressed concerns over the direction of the struggling school.

With a potential strike on the

table, tensions now are high and opinions strong regarding an enrollment decline, perceived lack of leadership, and demands over pay and working conditions for NEIU.

The school's teachers recently held a strike authorization vote, which passed with an overwhelming majority (95%) of voting members, signaling a willingness to risk striking if a deal cannot be reached. The vote does not guarantee a strike, it authorizes the NEIU teachers and faculty to start striking on April 24, if negotiations do not progress. UPI and NEIU's last work agreement ended in 2019.

Their contract is usually negotiated every 4-5 years, however, due to the government-imposed COVID-19 school lockdown, ne-

gotiations were postponed. Now NEIU is following the lead of many other universities across Illinois considering a strike for better wages and working conditions.

Strikes are now being threatened at several Chicago and Illinois schools from the same UPI union. Those in the crosshairs include Governors State, Chicago State, and Eastern Illinois Universities all who experienced walk outs and strikes in the past couple of weeks. None have yet to reach a settlement, except Univ. of Chicago at Illinois [UIC], which was able to secure favorable negotiations after an eight-day strike in January.

NEIU teachers dissatisfaction

NEIU see p. 12



Grant Park is a prime location for Chicago's 16-inch softball history, a sport born here in 1887.

'Mike Royko Field' first step in battle for Grant Park

'Make no little plans'

BY DON DEBAT
The Home Front

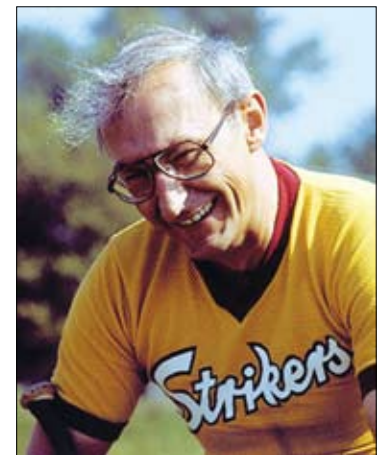
Following the NASCAR debacle it is time to repair the damaged legacy of Grant Park, as Chicago's 16-inch softball birthplace in 1887 and sports mecca since 1933.

If the revered Pulitzer-prize winning columnist Mike Royko were alive he would be like Gen. George S. Patton fighting the “Battle for Grant Park” on behalf of the Windy City's 100,000 softball players and their families.

So, why not begin work now on upgrading and transforming the park's historic softball diamonds under a new name: “Mike Royko Fields” in honor of Royko, a 16-inch softball advocate and promoter, and legendary Chicago Daily News and Chicago Sun-Times manager and pitcher.

After his passing in 1998, Royko was inducted into the Chicago 16-Inch Softball Hall of Fame [HOF] in 2000, and the Mike Royko Memorial Softball Tournament was launched and successfully run for a decade in Grant Park.

In 1975, Royko was instrumental in the planning and launch of



Mike Royko, 16-Inch Hall of Fame, 2000. Photo by Tom Bonen

the Chicago 16-Inch World Series of Softball Tournament played at Soldier Field and televised on WTTW.

Royko, and TV Sports anchor Tim Weigel (another HOF player), announced the historic games along with broadcaster Marty Robinson from Channel 11. The 16-inch tournament attracted more than 25,000 fans to a championship diamond built at the north end of Soldier Field. Thousands more watched the games on TV.

In the mid-1970s, Royko also

FIELD see p. 4

Ald. Osterman going away parties, page 12

Community meeting April 26 on proposed new Howard St. building

The 49th Ward office is hosting a community meeting April 26 with representatives from Housing for All, LLC to present their plans for a 100% affordable housing project proposed for the northeast corner of Howard and Paulina. The meeting will take place at 6 p.m. at Willye White Park field house, 1610 W. Howard.

During the meeting, Housing for All will share updates on its application, on the planned development process, and answer questions.

The high density project will span 7603-7619 N. Paulina and

1646-1660 W. Howard.

The plan is for 110 units, 88 of which would be set aside for households earning at or below 60% of the Area Medium Income [AMI]. The other 22 units would be for households earning at or below 30% AMI.

The developers plan to present their application to the Illinois Housing Development Authority's board in June hoping to be gifted taxpayer-funded low-income housing tax credits. If approved this round, the developer will seek supplemental taxpayer-funded financing from the City's Dept. of Housing.

Thought we'd grown beyond the limitations of the past



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

We tend to define ourselves by a wide array of identities. At least I do.

Some identities get formed by what we do. Some by what we believe or espouse. Some by physical attributes. Others by what limits us. Or shapes the contents of our thoughts and emotions.

Many folk have a variety of identities. You know you're a bi-lingual, ambidextrous, ballet-dancing poet. Or a left-handed French speaking vegan with a large schnozzola.

It doesn't take long to uncover such self-understandings, though some are easier to define than others. It doesn't take long living abroad to discover that to many folk you are "the American." Or "the scholar," "the reader," "the troublemaker," "the comedian" or "the politician."

Some identities we embrace with both arms. Some require more distance to tolerate. Some we run from. Others, we hide. And still

others we revile. "Look, there's the chubby freeloader."

Some identities are readily apparent to us. "Hey shorty."

Some more complex. "Hey klepto."

Some strictly in the eye of the beholder. "Hey gorgeous."

Such nomenclature may take a long time to blossom. Some have to grow on you, or need to be grown into.

People who readily introduce themselves as a writer are often not very good. Writing I believe is something you have to grow into. You might put a lot of words on paper. But the quality of a person's imagination, the grace of one's vocabulary and the stylishness of their readability all condition their function and success.

The same can be said with a person's identity as an artist. I put paint on canvas everyday. Does that make me an artist? I usually tell people that I am a painter. "An Irish Impressionist. With Fauvist proclivities." Referencing the movement of painters who love working in bold colors, unafraid to paint the ocean red, or the sky orange.

I often ask myself if I am a more defined painter than a writer or a cook? More often than not, it's the melding of such identities that bring encouragement, growth and fresh self-understanding.

I've learned a valuable lesson about identity from this past municipal election. In future such elections, I will only vote for Catholic candidates. I guess sticking with

your own is the way to go.

That's so funny because after all my years of sophisticated political education this was not how I thought I'd see either my loyalties or convictions end up.

When I was knocking on doors during the Wisconsin primary of 1968 for presidential candidate Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy I was filled with what I thought was the spirit of the age. The energy of the new epoch of fresh political liberalism, racial change and empowerment, and anti-war drama that every 18-year-old worth their salt should embrace.

As a college freshman, I knew it was a stirring time when larger-than-life heroes walked the streets of the nation. Changing politics. Changing culture. Altering the conscience of the nation. The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Sen. Robert Kennedy, the priestly Berrigan Brothers, Cesar Chavez, Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem and Rosemary Radford Ruether. People whose ideals and dreams challenged our souls and minds.

The Democratic National Convention was held at Chicago's International Amphitheater at the Stockyards in 1968. Sen. McCarthy was not given the nomination for president. The streets of Chicago erupted in chaotic turmoil during the convention. Hippies, yuppies and liberal Democrats were to blame. I only saw them as the disillusioned. Those tired of war. Those fed up with poverty. Those with a short fuse for responsible government. Those tired of racial inequity in America. Those who believed in America's promise of change.

Ironically the nomination went to Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey. Angry convention-goers blamed Mayor Richard J. Daley for what unfolded outside the Amphitheater, and in Grant Park and Lincoln Park where hippies and yuppies were camped out. And brutalized.

Across America people blamed the Democrats and elected Richard Nixon as president. And placed the word Watergate within the vocabulary of American English.

My parents were wonderfully supportive of the liberal traditions of American political thought. In fact, they were greatly encouraging.

But to many in the family I was the looney left-wing fanatic. A teenager filled with dangerous notions of what was just or needed changing in America.

My attitudes about war, peace, Vietnam, social justice, race, Chicago's machine politics, America's military were often in conflict with beloved aunts and uncles. Family gatherings rarely remained peaceful or social.

This wasn't book-club. Irish tempers were powder kegs of conflicting opinions and experiences. The stuff of real Donnybrooks.

I am only half-joking of my "Catholics only policy" for candidate support in the future elections. And while I don't take orders from the Pope, I feel uneasy with the recent election display that appeared to be so lock-step in its following predetermined racial and sexual orientation loyalties in voting. There's a sadness there for me. I had hoped we'd grown beyond the limitations of the past.

TWIN ANCHORS: Twin Anchors was honored to receive a resolution from the City of Chicago recognizing 90 years in business. **Ald. Brian Hopkins** [2nd] stopped by the restaurant to present the resolution to co-owners **Gina Manrique, Mary Kay Tuzi** and **Paul Tuzi**.

ART INSTITUTE CASH: The former payroll manager for the Art Institute of Chicago, **Micheal Maurello**, pleaded guilty in federal court to misappropriating more than \$2 million in museum funds over a period of 13 years, according to the plea agreement. The employee siphoned money from the museum's payroll account to his personal bank accounts by falsely designating the payments as legitimate compensation to other employees. The AIC still isn't talking. How WOKE. Now they'll really feel the **Ken Griffin** pinch of funds.

PARIS THEATRE: Chicago actress **Consuelo Lepauw** is in a play in Paris called "Rembrandt Under the Stairs," "Rembrandt

Sous L'Escalier." Opened Thursday night to great reviews.

SHE'S BACK: After time off, critically acclaimed singer, **Josie Falbo**, returns as a guest artist to the popular downtown haunt, Catch 35, on Wacker Dr., with the cool Eric Hochberg Trio, April 22 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. RSVP at 312-346-3500, www.Catch35.com



Josie Falbo

DANCE: Giordano Dance Chicago hosted a power-packed performance and gala to celebrate its 60th anniversary April 1. The event was a sellout and a huge success - from the dynamic VIP committee who lent

their support, to the 380+ gala attendees to the over 1200 audience members who came out for the performance - in every respect it was a blow-out.

NASCAR: Chicago Street Race will take place over two days of Fourth of July weekend, but it will cost us the summertime use of our beloved front yard, and affect traffic around Grant Park for over a month. Thank Calamity Jane for that.

BEER: Eris Brewery, 4240 W. Irving Park Rd., is the first women-owned brewery in Illinois. Owners **Katy Pizza** and **Michelle Foik's** brewery, cider house and restaurant breaks boundaries by creating a space for women in every aspect of their business.

WHO'S WHERE: Actor-funny man **Jim Belushi** knows where the best pasta is twirled, at **Joey Mondelli's** LaScarola... **Ikram Goldman** and family on the Nile River, in Egypt... Field Museum's **Nancy O'Shea** breakfasting in North Carolina home of old Field Museum colleague **Emily Waldren**... **Heather Farley** in Scottsdale, AZ... WGN

LIMITATIONS see p. 8

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Is Chicago's bet on sin taxes finding its ceiling?

Andersonville dope deal falls through; casino revenue down \$200M since 2012

BY DYLAN SHARKEY

Chicago is in line for land-based casino gaming soon, but its chances for success may be dwindling as video gaming machines and online sports betting are on the rise.

Meanwhile, a deal to sell two Dispensary 33 stores (in Andersonville and West Loop) has fallen through due to changing market conditions in the recreational pot selling business.

The casino industry for decades has been a significant contributor to the Illinois economy, but from 2012 to 2022 it has seen a \$200 million decline, according to data from the Illinois Gaming Board.

The drop in revenue may create another hurdle for Bally's who plans to open a giant \$2.6 billion land-based casino along the Chicago River at Halsted St. and Chicago Ave. High interest rates on borrowing are currently challenging the highly-leverage project as well, and dropping gaming revenue forecasts may frighten some lenders.

One of the reasons for the decline is the emergence of other forms of gaming which weren't available to Illinoisans in 2012. Video gaming terminals, for example, have nearly doubled from \$395 million in revenue during 2019 to \$762 million in 2022.

They allow players to place bets on video poker and slot machines in local bars and restaurants, providing a more accessible and convenient experience than casinos.

Sports betting also has quickly gained popularity, slightly edging out casino revenue \$142 million to \$140 million in 2022.

The new Bally's casino hopes to bring in as much as \$200 million for the city and the money has been earmarked for first responders' pensions. Still, the big picture shows that the expected casino taxes are a pittance compared to the city's \$48 billion in unfunded government pension debt.

Mayor-elect Brandon Johnson said video gaming revenue is part of his plan for the city, but Chicago would need to legalize video gambling machines to do that.

A statement from Johnson's spokesperson says he "is a supporter of legalized video gambling as an important revenue source for critical investments in public safety, transportation, housing and other public accommodations."

Overall, state gaming revenue was up to nearly \$1.9 billion in fiscal year 2022, the highest ever and almost 39% higher than in 2021.

On the recreational pot front, multi-state operator Ayr Wellness said it has canceled its acquisition of Chicago cannabis retail operator Dispensary 33, citing changing market conditions.

Following the Jan. 27 mutual termination, Ayr will no longer be required to pay the announced purchase of \$55 million upfront, including \$12 million of cash, \$3 million of sellers notes and \$40 million of Ayr stock.

"The cannabis market has changed significantly in the 15 months since we agreed to acquire Dispensary 33. Both parties have acknowledged this reality and engaged in good faith dialogue as we came to the mutual decision to terminate the proposed arrangement," said David Goubert, President at Ayr. "We are focused on optimizing our business and will prioritize our efforts in markets where we can build meaningful depth and drive strong revenue and cash flow in the near term. Additional

plans for optimization include implementation of operating efficiencies, lowering costs across our business, and reorienting our investments into the markets, segments and activities that are most impactful for our growth and profitability."

Illinois saw record recreational cannabis sales of \$1.55 billion in 2022, a jump of 12% from the previous year — despite delays in opening new stores and clear signs the market had reached a plateau and mar-

The new Bally's casino hopes to bring in as much as \$200 million for the city and the money has been earmarked for first responders' pensions. Still, the big picture shows that the expected casino taxes are a pittance compared to the city's \$48 billion in unfunded government pension debt.

ket saturation inflection point. Monthly sales have flattened out recently around \$130 million until the annual holiday increase saw a record of nearly \$144 million in December, state records showed.

Still, sales continued an upward trend, more than doubling over 2020, the first year of legalized recreational marijuana in the state. But with so many new dope dealer licenses being issued in the last year, supply may surpass demand in 2023. There are currently 113 adult-use cannabis dispensaries in Illinois, including just the first three "social equity" dispensaries that opened their doors last year. Nearly 200 more such stores have been licensed to open in Illinois.

Sales to out-of-state residents again accounted for nearly one-third of purchases, at \$479 million, but other nearby states now offer pot at lower prices than Illinois. Michigan for one now has way too much weed.

The number of cannabis growing operations serving the state's recreational market has almost doubled in the past year. The number of active marijuana plants now exceeds 1.2 million, roughly six times the volume seen in 2020.

By one estimate, Michigan has enough cultivation capacity to supply three times as much weed as the state's consumers are buying — and that doesn't include the huge illegal market that by all accounts commands a large share of sales. Over the last two years, the price of weed in the recreational market has plummeted about 75% from nearly \$400 an ounce to less than \$100. And frugal Chicago consumers are surely making the trip to Michigan to stock up. The forces of supply and demand have given way to a market glut and plummeting prices that have put scores of businesses at risk of collapse. The slump is messy enough in Michigan that some industry officials are calling for a moratorium on cultivation licenses three years after the state launched a recreational market.

In Colorado, prices have dropped by 51% over the last two years. The price of a pound of weed has plunged by 36% in Massachusetts and 46% in Missouri in just the last year, according to LeafLink, which tracks wholesale transactions.

There is one clear winner in all this, dope buyers who are price shoppers. It's a buyer's market these days. And industry

BET see p. 9

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FIELD from p. 1

defended the historic game of bare-handed softball when he filed a lawsuit against the Chicago Park District to prevent the blasphemy of allowing the use of fielder's gloves in 16-inch games at Grant Park.

Crafty Royko won the lawsuit with the help of testimony from Bernie Neistein, an old West Side ward boss and former 16-inch player, who told the judge: "Gloves? The only time anybody on our team ever wore any kind of gloves was when they didn't want to leave fingerprints."

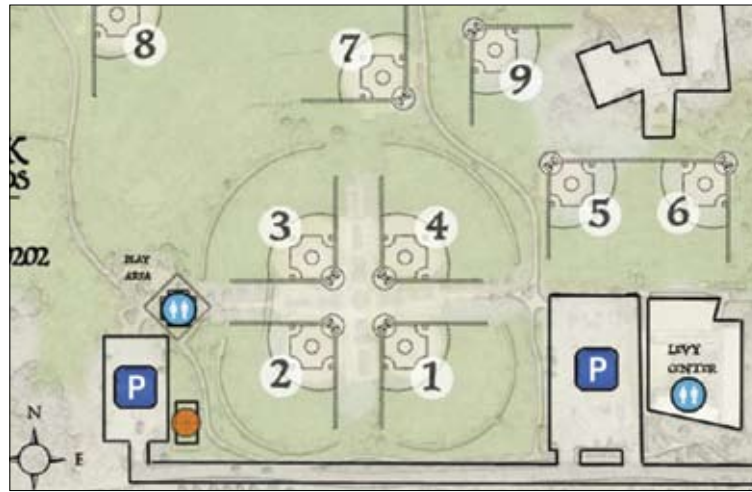
During a recent séance with his medium and alter-ego Slats Grobnik, Royko wholeheartedly approved this writer's suggested plan for Mike Royko Field.

Here are details of the plan—supported by the HOF, veteran players and the media—and presented last week in a letter to Ald. Brendan Reilly [42nd], who holds legislative prerogative over Grant Park:

- The proposed Grant Park diamond-naming designation, with appropriate park signage, should be accompanied by a City Council proclamation recognizing Mike Royko's softball and journalistic contributions.
- Columbus Dr., between Balbo Dr. and Roosevelt Rd., should be commemorated as "Mike Royko Way" with appropriate street signage.



(L) Mike Royko and the Chicago Daily News softball team in 1975. (R) Sixteen-inch softball fans are calling for Columbus Dr., between Balbo Dr. and Roosevelt Rd., to be named "Mike Royko Way" with appropriate street signage. They would also like to see the softball diamonds at Grant Park reconfigured into a "pinwheel" backstop (right).



- An existing statue, commemorating the birth of softball in Chicago in 1887 at the Farragut Boat Club, at Lake Park Ave. and 31st St., a couple of miles south of Grant Park, should be taken out of mothball storage at the Chicago Monuments Project warehouse and rededicated at the North end of Grant Park overlooking the 12-diamond "Valley."
- The metered parking that was removed after 9/11 should be reinstated along both sides of Columbus Drive (a.k.a. Mike Royko Way) between Roosevelt Rd. and Balbo Dr. Because of the great width of Columbus Dr., parking spaces should be created "nose-in" to double the number of possible spaces and increase revenue.
- All money collected from Columbus Dr. parking should NOT go into the city's controversial and

notorious general parking meter fund or Chicago Parking, LLC. Instead, a special "Grant Park Taxing District" should be created so that the parking money that is generated will be earmarked and targeted to a special fund to support improvements and maintenance of Grant Park's softball fields and the surrounding landscape.

• For the future, the city should install electric auto-charging stations on Columbus Dr. Any revenue derived from the charging stations also should be earmarked for the Grant Park Taxing District.

Redesign and upgrades at Grant Park

To enhance "Chicago's Game" and create a world-class tourist and festival attraction, a later Grant Park diamond redesign plan should be launched, funded in part by accrued parking meter money, and reallocated funds from NASCAR and the proposed Lake Shore Outer Drive rebuild.

"Make no little plans. They

have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not themselves be realized," Daniel Burnham advised Chicago long, long ago. "Make big plans, aim high in hope and work, remembering

in the overlapping outfield, which often happens with Grant Park's current outmoded 90-year-old layout. The centerpoint, where the four home plates meet, also allows for more fraternization with

Crafty Royko won the lawsuit with the help of testimony from Bernie Neistein, an old West Side ward boss and former 16-inch player, who told the judge: "Gloves? The only time anybody on our team ever wore any kind of gloves was when they didn't want to leave fingerprints."

that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever growing insistency."

The plan would involve reconfiguring the softball diamonds at Grant Park into the nationally conforming "pinwheel" backstop layouts similar to James Park in Evanston.

This safety design avoids the problem of players colliding into each other while chasing the ball

players from other teams. The 12 Valley diamonds could be reconfigured with low-maintenance, water-proof Astro Turf infields into three pinwheel setups with a refreshment center and temporary toilet facilities at each hub.

Astro Turf infields, like the softball field at the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago, may require special drainage, but there would be fewer rainouts and softball leagues could start April 1 instead of May 1 in Grant Park, thus avoiding conflicts with festival events planned in late July and August.

The four diamonds at the Upper Hutchinson section of Mike Royko Field should receive the same pinwheel design hub with a refreshment center and temporary toilet facilities.

The beauty of the pinwheel design is that it can also be utilized for events, such as the Taste of Chicago food venues and small concert stages when the softball season ends. Following the events, workers could vacuum the Astro Turf infields. There would be no need for repeated installation of new sod.

Royko Field a future landmark?

When the work is done, Grant Park, designed by famed landscape architect Daniel Burnham, should be nominated for both for Chicago landmark status and listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

This landmarking would replace the once-historic Soldier Field, which was removed from the National Register of Historic Places after the stadium was rehabbed and remuddled into its present flying-saucer design.

For more housing news, visit www.dondebat.biz. Don DeBat is co-author of "Escaping Condo Jail," the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com. DeBat currently is writing "Chicago's Game," a book on 16-inch softball.

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THE DEAD ONE COMPLICATES

Loyola U., Sheil Park getting fed funds

The federal government's Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development has announced taxpayer funding for two North Side community projects for the upcoming fiscal year. The projects were selected from nearly 50 applications of organizations requesting taxpayer funds.

Those two are the Chicago Park District [CPD], who is getting \$1 million for a Sheil Park restoration, 3505 N. Southport Ave. The funds will help the CPD repair the fieldhouse, including a new roof, masonry and lintels. This facility offers over 300 programs and serves close to 5,500

patrons.

While the Corboy Law Center, 25 E. Pearson St., will get an \$800,000 air system upgrade. This project will allow Loyola Univ. to replace outdated air handlers and components with new, high energy efficient equipment. The existing system is in need of an update as the current equipment is old, failing, and difficult to maintain.

Replacement of this system with an energy-efficient alternative and updated air filters will reduce electricity consumption and improve the indoor air quality for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Booming gains in government pension funds likely short-lived

Airports boost economy without burdening property taxpayers, report finds

A once-in-a-generation investment market for local government worker pension funds likely will be fleeting, according to a Cook County Treasurer's Office report of local government debt.

The office's latest analysis shows overall local government debt in Cook County rose 1.6% to \$160.5 million from fiscal 2020 to 2021 — a modest increase held in check by the exceptional investment performance of the pension funds. But those gains are expected to be diminished by investment losses in fiscal 2022 that have yet to be fully recorded.

The report, based on data submitted to Treasurer Maria Pappas under the Debt Disclosure Ordinance enacted at Pappas' urging in 2009, also explains how the region's primary economic engines — its two airports — rack up significant debt that is no burden on Chicago property taxpayers. Although billions of dollars of debt stem from work at O'Hare and Midway airports, all of it is paid off with federal revenue and from fees and taxes paid by airline travelers.

That's just one way some types of local debt don't push up property taxes. That's also the case for water and sewer line upgrade debt, which is paid off with water and sewer fees, and bonds backed by sales taxes instead of property taxes.

Those alternate debt-funding sources help explain why Chicago has one of the lowest tax rates in Cook County despite having one of the highest debt levels.

The report also explains why some predominantly minority south suburbs have

high property tax rates despite relatively low amounts of overall debt. That occurs when troubled finances constrain the ability to borrow, forcing local leaders to instead raise property taxes to fund government.

In addition, this report includes dozens of governments previously excluded for lack of adequate assessment data, including 13 additional municipalities, 17 more school districts and 50 other local governments.

"This is the ultimate in government accountability," Pappas said. "It opens government books that were previously closed. People can now see where their tax money goes and how much debt their governments have incurred."

The latest debt report can be found at cookcountytreasurer.com.

History of Chicagoland Maps April 29 at Sulzer Library

A presentation titled "The History of Chicagoland Maps," will be given 11 a.m. Saturday, April 29, at the Conrad Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

Donald and Tonya Smith will present a history of map making and land surveying in Chicago and beyond. They will focus on some of the more interesting projects from the archive of their family business, Greeley - Howard - Norlin - Smith, which has been in the surveying and map making business since 1854 and worked on numerous significant projects in the Chicagoland area.

Early cartographers showed the growth of the city from its origins at the Chicago River and its fork. Later cartographers and artists took liberties in showing the cityscape in different ways, highlighting certain elements like new transit lines, parks and boulevards, and modern aerial views.



The annual raising of 27 bridges from S. Ashland Ave. to N. Lake Shore Dr. to allow boats to leave their winter storage grounds is now underway.

Here come the boaters, plus get your spot at the River Museum

The city has announced the dates of its spring bridge lifts, that began last Saturday, with the raising of 27 bridges from South Ashland Ave. to N. Lake Shore Dr.

The annual bridge lifts allow recreational sailboats to safely move from boat storage to harbors in Lake Michigan. Boat runs will start at 8 a.m. with bridges raised sequentially. Each bridge lift takes an average of eight to 12 minutes.

Each year, in the spring and fall, CDOT raises the movable bridges along the Main and South Branches of the Chicago River on a twice-weekly schedule on Saturdays and Wednesdays to accommodate recreational boats traveling to and from their storage yards. Bridge lifts typically begin at 8 a.m. on Saturdays and 9 a.m. on Wednesdays.

The Spring 2023 schedule is Saturdays, April 15, 22, 19 May 6, 13, 20, June 3, 10

and 17. Wednesdays, April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, June 7 and 14.

A lightly known activity is witnessing the Michigan Ave. Bridge opening from inside the McCormick Bridgehouse and Chicago River Museum. It is quite a treat.

Watching the massive bridge rise to the sky from inside the bridge powered by just a tiny 108 horsepower motor as the gears turn, the bridge rises - and one can't help but be awed by the ingenuity of it all. Advance registration is required for Saturday bridge lifts. For more information or to reserve a spot, call the museum at 312-977-0227.

Tickets details for a Bridge Lift vary per season. Those who are interested in a private rental for a bridge lift may contact Josh Coles at jcoles@chicagoriver.org.

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Police Beat...

Group attacks three people in an hour in Rogers Park, one victim was robbed

Police are investigating three apparently random attacks on pedestrians in Rogers Park on April 10. The group of three offenders robbed one victim and tried to rob another, according to Chicago police.

The first incident occurred in the 7400 block of N. Clark between 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., according to a CPD spokesperson. A 25-year-old man told police he was walking down the street when three male attackers hit him in the back of the head and tried to take his property.

Police said the man got away before the offenders took anything.

Around 8:46 p.m., a 29-year-old man sought help at a fast food restaurant after three males attacked him in the 1900 block of W. Howard.

The police spokesperson said he was walking when the group struck him from behind, hitting him in the face and back. He got away and ran into the restaurant. The group did not try to take his property, according to CPD.

Then, around 9 o'clock, a 26-year-old man was attacked by three men in the 7300 block of N. Ridge. The police said the group pushed him to the ground and kicked and punched him while demanding money. They took his property and fled the scene.

EMS transported the victim to St. Francis Hospital for treatment of minor injuries, according to CPD.

At least two of the victims described the suspects as Black males between 16 and 20 years old. One attacker, described as heavysset, wore a yellow hoodie. They all stood 5'-6" to 5'-10" tall.

Bank robber busted after his lover turns him into the FBI



John Boettjer after his arrest (left) and two surveillance images of the bank robber.

The FBI has filed charges against a man suspected of robbing four Chicago banks since late February after his romantic partner identified him from surveillance images, according to federal court filings.

"All those pictures are John. Every single one," the person identified in federal complaints only as "Individual A," told federal agents.

John Boettjer, 38, is now charged with one count of bank robbery for allegedly holding up the Chase Bank at 3204 W. Irving Park on April 5. But the FBI has linked him to three other bank robberies in Bucktown and Logan Square.

During each robbery, Boettjer handed tellers notes demanding

\$50 and \$100 bills that federal officials said had similar handwriting and "similar underlining."

In addition to the Irving Park holdup, Boettjer allegedly robbed Chase Bank, 2235 N. Milwaukee, on Feb. 28; PNC Bank, 2300 N. Milwaukee, on March 8; and PNC Bank, 1955 N. Damen, on April 5.

The day after the April 5 robberies, the FBI received a tip from Individual A, who has "known BOETTJER romantically for many years," the federal complaint said. They told the FBI that they remembered riding past the bank on Irving Park recently with Boettjer, who said something about wanting to rob the bank.

On April 5, Boettjer allegedly borrowed his lover's car to commit the bank robberies. Shortly after the Irving Park holdup, the FBI said, Boettjer texted Individual A: "Baby I had to do this to make sure we were okay I love you very much I'm trying to prove to you. I took \$2,000 I'm giving you a thousand right away."

In fact, Boettjer did give them \$1,000 as soon as he returned their car, said the FBI agent's complaint.

Chicago police and other law enforcement officers arrested Boettjer at the O'Hare Inn and Suites in Schiller Park April 7. Individual A told the FBI they had rented a room there for Boettjer, according to court records.

\$1 million bail for sex offender accused of violently attacking two women on DePaul campus



Frank Redd

A Wisconsin man who was convicted of sexual assault in 2016 attacked two women on the DePaul Univ. campus April 13, trying to drag one into a restroom and choking another until she felt she was going to die, prosecutors said.

Frank Redd, 26, of Madison, WI, was ordered held on \$1 million bail by Judge David Kelly during a bond hearing April 14. Redd must post 10% of the bail amount to get out of jail.

The crime spree began on the school's Lincoln Park campus around 3:45 p.m., when a 28-year-old woman asked Redd for help finding a classroom in the Schmitt Academic Center, 2320 N. Kenmore.

Redd agreed to take her to the room, but the woman realized that he didn't know where he was going, so she thanked him and turned to walk away, prosecutor Sarah Dale-Schmidt said. As she turned, Redd grabbed her from behind, covering her nose and mouth with one hand and wrapping his other arm around her chest so she could not escape, according to the allegations.

Claiming to have a knife and threatening to hurt the woman if she screamed, Redd dragged her toward a nearby restroom, Dale-Schmidt said. The victim managed to grab a wall so Redd could not get her into the restroom, then dropped to the floor, breaking Redd's grip on her.

Redd ran away when the woman started screaming for help.

About 15 minutes later, a 22-year-old DePaul student struck another car as she tried to park in a school parking garage in the 2300 block of N. Sheffield. She stepped out to inspect the

damage and encountered Redd, who offered to help her dislodge her car from the other vehicle, Dale-Schmidt said.

Redd allegedly climbed into the woman's car, put both hands around her neck, and squeezed until the woman became lightheaded and felt like she was losing consciousness.

With the woman "believing she was dying," Redd threatened to choke her harder if she screamed, Dale-Schmidt continued.

He eventually loosened his grip and ran away when she yelled for help, but he left a book bag in the woman's car that contained his driver's license and other IDs, said Dale-Schmidt.

Then, about 15 minutes later, a student reported that a man stole her book bag, which contained about \$2,000 worth of electronics, from a Depaul building in the 2200 block of N. Sheffield.

Witnesses informed officers that the thief was still in the area and pointed them toward Redd. Cops arrested him.

He is charged with two counts of unlawful restraint, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, and theft.

Judge Kelly ordered Redd to go on electronic monitoring if he posts the six-figure bail amount. A defense request to allow Redd to return to Wisconsin to await trial was "absolutely denied," Kelly said.

Redd is a registered sex offender in Wisconsin and Illinois, according to the states' online records.

Fake ID operation found in home of man on electronic monitoring for major narcotics case

Sheriff's office investigators found a fake ID operation while inspecting the home of an Albany Park man on electronic monitoring for two major narcotics cases, prosecutors said.

Keith Funches, 29, has been on electronic monitoring since 2020 when prosecutors accused him of possessing 4.78 pounds of ecstasy with a street value of over \$200,000. Officials subsequently charged him with possessing another 1,811 ecstasy pills worth about \$64,000.



Keith Funches

The purported fake ID operation was discovered last week when investigators from the sheriff's electronic monitoring office went to Funches' home in the 4900 block of N. Albany for a "compliance check."

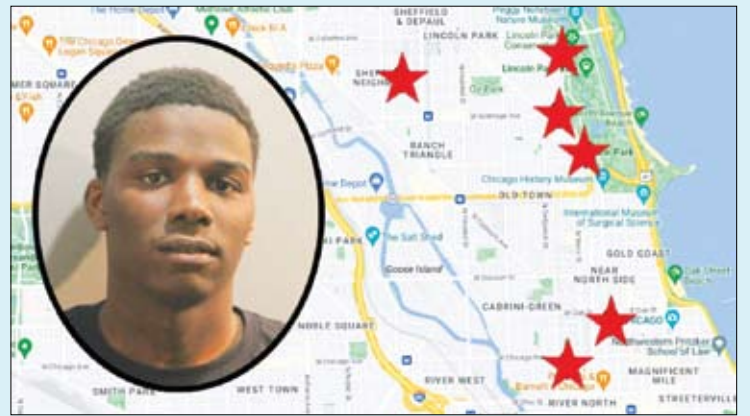
While searching the home, the investigators found an ID-making machine, printers, a scanner, and blank identification cards in an office, Assistant State's Attorney Sarah Dale-Schmidt said during a bond court hearing Tuesday.

Also in the office, she said, were 15 California driver's licenses with an invalid ID number and another man's face and name. Three more California licenses featured a valid ID number that did not match the name, face, and date of birth shown on the cards. According to Dale-Schmidt, investigators also recovered two invalid Florida licenses and an invalid Wisconsin ID.

Officials said Funches was the only person in the home, and there were no indications that anyone else lived there. But his defense attorney claimed that Funches lives in the house with his family, and, the lawyer argued, other people may have access to the office where the items were allegedly found.

He said Funches is self-employed as a party decorator, a business he built from scratch, and they were expecting all of the narcotics cases to be "disposed of" this week.

Judge David Kelly held Funches without bail for violating bond conditions in the narcotics matters. Separately, he said Funches would have to pay a \$2,000 bail deposit to be released on the new charges of pos-



Vincent Griffin (inset) has a penchant for stealing scooters.

Man caught with stolen scooter an hour after cops warned about a scooter theft pattern

Chicago police issued a community alert on Saturday evening to warn downtown and Lincoln Park residents about a series of motor scooter thefts in their neighborhoods. Coincidentally, just over an hour later, cops assigned to a "large group" incident in the Loop arrested a man for allegedly driving a stolen motor scooter the wrong way on Michigan Ave.

According to the alert, someone stole six motor scooters between April 10 and April 14 that had been parked on the street. The thefts were reported in the 2200 block of N. Lincoln Park West, Monday, April 10, in the morning; first block of W. Chestnut, Monday, April 10, in the morning; 1100 block of W. Dickens, Wednesday, April 12, in the evening; 600 block of N. Franklin, Wednesday, April 12, in the evening; 100 block of W. Eugenie,

Thursday, April 13, in the evening, and one on the 1900 block of N. Lincoln, Friday, April 14, in the evening.

Police did not release suspect information or explain how the scooters were stolen.

Then, at 8:19 p.m. Saturday, a Chicago police officer who was deployed to the Loop due to a "large crowd incident" saw a man driving a black scooter the wrong way near 98 N. Michigan Ave., prosecutors said. That's pretty much across the street from The Bean sculpture.

The cop, working on foot patrol, managed to stop the scooter and asked the driver, 19-year-old Vincent Griffin, to step off. Prosecutors said the scooter's steering column had been stripped, and Griffin operated

SCOOTER see p. 11

Former Art Institute payroll manager admits to \$2M theft

The former payroll manager for the Art Institute of Chicago [AIC] pleaded guilty on April 12 in federal court to misappropriating more than \$2 million in museum funds.

According to the written plea agreement, from 2007 to 2020, Michael Maurello, 56, of Beach Park, siphoned money from the AIC's payroll account to his personal bank accounts by falsely designating the payments as legitimate compensation to other employees.

In his plea agreement, Maurello admitted that he kept spreadsheets and notes to track the misappropriated money so that he could later make reversals within the payroll system to hide his fraudulent scheme. When the AIC's assistant controller asked Mau-

relo in Jan. 2020 about one of the payments, Maurello falsely stated that the transaction had been a test of the payroll system.

Maurello then edited and altered a report from the payroll system to conceal information about the misappropriated funds.

Sentencing has been set for Sept. 14. Maurello faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison followed by up to 3 years on supervised release. He may also be sentenced to pay a fine of up to \$250,000, or twice the gross gain or loss from his offense, whichever is greater, and he must be sentenced to pay restitution to the museum of \$2,308,772.

sessing an altered ID and issuing a fictitious identification.

Gunmen robs three people

Police are investigating two robberies that unfolded April 12, one along Wacker Dr. in the Loop and the other in West Town. The cases have some similarities, but Chicago police have not linked the two cases.

In the first incident, a 20-year-old man and two 18-year-old men were sitting in a parked car on Wacker Dr. just east of State St. when a black sedan pulled up next to them around 1:40 a.m.

Three men exited the sedan with handguns and demanded the victims' property, a CPD spokesperson said. One of the offenders punched the 20-year-old in the face as the robbery unfolded.

Police said the victims tried to run away, but the crew was able to take their property before escaping in the sedan, which may have been a BMW, according to CPD.

An officer who responded to the scene said the robbers were three Black males, one of whom wore a tan sweater and another wearing a black sweater.

Then, around 2:28 a.m., three robbers jumped out of a gray sedan and robbed a 27-year-old woman and 31-year-old man who were walking in the 2500 block of W. Division, police said. The group struck the male victim

in the back of the head and took property from both victims, but no weapons were displayed, according to the police spokesperson.

Man stole car from Chicago hotel valet stand while on bail for driving a different stolen car

Prosecutors say a Chicago man



Jhamar Howard

was caught driving a car stolen from a Loop hotel valet stand while on bail for allegedly driving another stolen car that he claimed to have purchased from "a crackhead."

Jhamar Howard, 41, appeared in bond court on April 11 on charges of possessing a stolen motor vehicle and burglary.

The situation began April 8 when a driver handed their keys to the valet attendant at the Kimpton Gray Hotel, 122 W. Monroe, according to prosecutor Victor Aberdeen. Hotel surveillance video would later show Howard taking the car's keys from the valet desk, Aberdeen said.

A police helicopter spotted the stolen car in traffic the next day.

POLICE BEAT see p. 11

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Another mob overwhelms Loop, Chicago police

Two boys shot, several people arrested

BY CWBCHICAGO

Two teenagers were shot Saturday night as hundreds of people descended on the Loop, jumping on vehicles, getting into fights, and overwhelming Chicago police resources for the third consecutive night.

The victims, boys ages 16 and 17, were standing in the crowd on Washington St. near Michigan Ave. when someone fired shots at 9:05 p.m., according to a CPD statement. The younger boy was shot in the arm, and the other boy was shot in the left leg. Chicago Fire Dept. ambulances transported them to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in fair condition, CPD said.

Saturday's crowd, which formed after invitations to attend circulated on social media, began to go out of control around 7:30 p.m. as police said about 200 young people were fighting and jumping on cars near the intersection of Washington and Wabash.

A video shared on Twitter in-

cludes a compilation of incidents from the area. People are seen climbing a CTA bus, fighting, and running through the streets after a loud "bang" is heard.

Around 8:50 p.m., officers radioed that they came upon two robbery victims who were attacked during the incident. The pair was transported to Insight Hospital for treatment. A CPD spokesperson said further details were not available on Sunday morning because the case report had not been finalized.

Chicago police made several arrests throughout the incident, but the exact number of people taken into custody is not known. According to CPD radio transmissions, officers were taking detained persons to the Wentworth 2nd District because the local district's station could not handle them.

Fox32 News announced that it pulled its news crews out of the area after they heard shots fired near the intersection of Michigan and Madison.

The station also reported that "a woman whose car was smashed by people jumping on the windshield



Video stills show people climbing onto a CTA bus (left) while others run for safety after a loud "bang" sounded during a fight as a "large group" overtook the Loop on April 15, 2023.

Image courtesy @ChicagoCritic and @JuanSmith1776

said her husband was beaten as he sat in the driver's seat. He's been taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital." Chicago police officers escorted tourists and others to their cars in Millennium Park garage, the station said.

CTA limited stops in the Loop for Brown, Green, Pink, and Orange Line trains for about two hours late Saturday due to the incident. Regular service resumed shortly before midnight.

On April 14, a 14-year-old boy

was shot as a social media-fueled crowd formed at 31st Street Beach. Hundreds of people traveled to the lakefront area, but the situation devolved as night fell.

Video recorded by a source named ChicagoCritic and posted online showed Friday's crowd jumping on a car in the traffic lanes of a nearby street before the vehicle caught on fire.

"Save the excuses and rationalization," Ald. Raymond Lopez [15th] said on Saturday morning.

Lawmakers consider banning police vehicle searches based on dope odor

BY NIKA SCHOONOVER
Capitol News Illinois

There may be good news out of Springfield on the horizon for marijuana users.

Just before lawmakers went on their two-week spring break, the Illinois Senate passed two bills that would work to further decriminalize pot use in Illinois.

The bills – Senate Bills 125 and 1886 – would prevent an individual's vehicle from being searched by police solely based on the smell of pot, and would allow some individuals on probation to consume weed or alcohol.

When Illinois legalized dope in 2020, it also made individuals previously charged with minor cannabis offenses eligible to have their records expunged. At

the end of 2020, Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced 492,129 cannabis-related convictions had been expunged and 9,219 people with low-level cannabis convictions had been pardoned.

"It was incredibly important as we were looking to legalize this product that has clearly demonized so many communities," said Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth, April 11 of the pot smell legalization law. Both bills will still need approval in the House and a signature from the governor to become law.

SB 125 would ensure that the smell of "burnt or raw cannabis in a motor vehicle" cannot alone be probable cause for an individual's vehicle to be searched.

"People – especially people of color – are unnecessarily pulled

over far too often," said Sen. Rachel Ventura, lead sponsor on the bill. "The odor of cannabis alone shouldn't be one of those reasons (for their car to be searched). Cannabis is legal in Illinois and it's a pungent scent that can stick to clothes for extended periods of time."

An amendment to the bill created an age exemption, specifying that individuals under the age of 21 are still eligible to have their vehicle searched solely based on odor.

After that provision was added, the ACLU of Illinois shifted from supporting the bill to having a neutral stance on it.

"We do have concerns that the amendment to the bill creates a workaround, or a loophole, that

could have the effect of incentivizing police to target youth for unnecessary traffic stops or vehicle searches," Atticus Ballesteros, an attorney with ACLU of Illinois, said in an interview.

The measure passed 33-20 in the Senate and awaits action in the House.

SB 1886 would bar courts from preventing individuals from using pot or alcohol if they're on probation, conditional discharge or supervision.

The bill has several exemptions, though, including if the person is sentenced to a crime that involved "the presence of an intoxicating compound in the person's body."

Courts would also still be al-

ODOR see p. 9

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"Unless you want this to be the norm in Chicago, hold them and their parents accountable."

But State Sen. Robert Peters [13th] fired back at Lopez: "The main thing about a certain politician tweeting obsessively about Black children on a Friday night is how lonely and sad that must be. Go see a movie. Have a nice dinner. Meet up with friends. But for the love of God stop being a weirdo every time it gets warm out here."

"Just doom scrolling about Black children and snitch tagging media late at night seems unbearably depressing. Like it was a nice spring week and they're expecting snow on Monday. Chill," Peters advised.

On April 13, more than 100 young people spontaneously gathered in Millennium Park until a fight broke out, prompting police to break it up. No arrests were made, but a 16-year-old girl was treated for a head injury.

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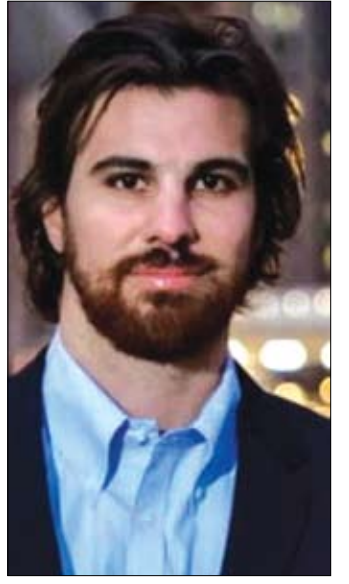
Matt Junkins with Mary Grace Junkins.



Victoria Rogers with Desiree Glapion Rogers.



Patrick O'Malley, Congressman Jonathan Jackson and Mark O'Malley.



Chad Chelios



Rodger and Janet Owen, Jim Kinney, Peggy Snorf and Brian White.



Ikram Goldman and family.



Joey Mondelli and Jim Belushi.

LIMITATIONS from p. 2

Radio lawyer **Karen Conti** dining with **John Borowski** whose docu-series on JW Gacy is coming out soon... **Julia Jacob** with **Mike** and the boys celebrated Passover with friends... The Hagerty Irish Hour radio program celebrates the 70th anniversary of its initial broadcast, hosted by **Jack Hagerty, Sr.** Judge **Jack Hagerty, Jr.** led the family in honoring a Chicago Irish institution... **Jake Chelios**, decorated nine-year career defensive player in the Kontinental Hockey League, is now a part of the Conlon Group... **Sherry Léa Fox** and **Patricia Maxwell** were dynamic in red while at San Jose Cabo, Las Vetanas Paraiso, Mexico... St. Ignatius College Prep hockey star **Matt Junkins** at old St. Patrick's Church as a Confirmation sponsor for his sister, **Mary Grace**... **Brian White** and **Jim Kinney** were joined by **Janet** and "Birthday Boy" **Rodger Owen**,

and **Peggy Snorf** at the Women's Athletic Club... nearby were **Lynn Graham**, Col. **Paul Malarik, III**, and many friends... Congressman **Jonathan Jackson** joined his longtime pal, **Dorothy O'Malley**, and her son, **Mark O'Malley** and grandson, **Patrick O'Malley** at the Union League Club for the Envision Award... **Maura Farrell** with the family at Lago Mar Beach Resort and Club, Fort Lauderdale, FL... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** sipping away in Mendoza, Argentina... **John Buchbinder** doing the polo matches in Provincia de Buenos Aires... **Jane Justice** with daughter, **Jill Cross**, and son, **Todd Justice** at the Crust in Naples, FL with grandsons **Michael Barton**, **Ryan Rosenberg** and Justice (ret) **Maureen Connors** ... **Todd S. Davis** at 900 N. Michigan Ave. shops creating some memorable snaps... **Kathy O'Malley Piccone**, **Heather Spyra** and **Kathy Wolter Mondelli** at the White Sox home



Tina Gravel, Bethany Florek, Sherrill Bodine and Lauren Lein Cavanaugh.



Cheri James, Nikki Friar and Kathy O'Malley Piccone.



The Guggenheim

opener... **Joey Majumdar** was a proud voter at The Fordham... **Christopher Clinton Conway** in London's South Kensington visiting the Joffrey Ballet's **Jennifer Anton**... **Marty Mularkey** keeping both his eyes on McCormick Place... **Cathy Bell Bartholomay** and mom, **Carol**, fresh as Spring... **Jolanta Ruede** bright in fabulous green... the **Dan Lawlor** Family squeezing out all the birthday happiness they can... **Shelley Howard** and son, **Shaun Howard**, at the United Center cheering the Bulls... **Tina Gravel**, bride-to-be

Bethany Florek, **Sherrill Bodine** and **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh** in Cabo, Mexico for wedding prep mischief... **Bobbi Panter**, **Whitney Reynolds**, **Paula Borg** added elegance to an RL lunch... **J. William Curran** sunning in the Maldives Islands.

THE GUGGENHEIM: When **Frank Lloyd Wright** designed the Guggenheim Art Museum on New York's Fifth Ave. in 1948, he intended the great spiral center to be painted red. The Museum's first director, **Hilla Rebay**, refused to allow it to be turned red. Now, 70-

plus years later that project is finally underway. It's great art itself.

RUNWAY: **Victoria Rogers** with her mother, **Desiree Glapion Rogers**, former Obama White House administrator, at MOMA in New York walking the runway looking statuesque and tall.

MANGE, MANGE: **Victoria Dal Santo**, baker extraordinaire, with her sister, **Lois Dal Santo**, baking classic Grustoli pastries. Well south of the border, **Jon** and **Tera McGreal** in Santiago, Chile, sampling delicious food at Barrio Lastarria.

GOODMAN THEATRE: Performances of **Anton Chekov's** "The Cherry Orchard" started April 1. Don't miss your chance to experience this "classic but modern play" adapted and directed by Tony Award-Winning Director **Robert Falls**. Get tickets at Goodman.

The hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax.

- *Albert Einstein*

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Letters to the Editor

Impact of mansion tax may be significantly less

The mansion tax [story of April 12] even if it is approved are not as much of a threat to wealth creation that property ownership leads to as much as job losses. Businesses are hemorrhaging clients.

The old guard is being pushed aside in favor of the new rich, [who are] young, impressive and talented.

If home values have already dropped 30%, should the tax legislation pass, the impact will be significantly less. The current tax could be more effectively distributed and of course appraisers, inspectors and surveyors have a contribution to the equation.

Eliminate property taxes and give small independently owned companies a chance.

Lisa Petro

Election letter has falsehood

In a [April 5] letter to the editor titled "The Election Day Quiz," Mike Sullivan shared some election facts and one big falsehood about Vote By Mail ballots being sent out with false postmarks on return envelopes. Mr. Sullivan is incorrect, offers no evidence to this claim, and should have contacted law enforcement to investigate any supposed election fraud. I believe freely sharing election misinformation does us all a disservice and further erodes our trust in our democracy for no good reason.

If citizens have questions about the election process, it may benefit them to serve as a future election judge or poll watcher so they can witness the many layers of rules and regulations involved.

Max Bever
Lincoln Square

Dig deeper

Regarding the uptick in crime in the Lincoln 20th District which you indicated as the "worst-performing" area in the city so far this year, I think the information can be misleading based solely on percentages.

In beat meetings from past years, Lincoln Square was always noted as an area with the lowest crime rate in the city. If Lincoln Square had five car thefts in 2022 and 10 car thefts in 2023, that

would indicate a 100% increase. An alarming percentage without the actual numbers for background information.

I realize you presented your information based on police districts but the crime in Lincoln Square can be totally different than Uptown or Edgewater. Essentially, the percentages and the article provide little useful information other than to allow citizens to shake their heads about rising crime in our neighborhoods and to stoke more fear about living in the city. Dig more deeply. Combining through the police reports and determining how many cars were left unsecured on the street or had the keys left in the ignition or were unlocked while driving would be more worthwhile reading and provide some useful information to your readers.

Lorraine Klabunde
Lincoln Square

ODOR from p. 7

lowed to impose substance use restrictions if the person is under the age of 21 or if they are participating in "problem-solving court," a system of courts designed to help people with mental health and substance abuse problems.

The measure passed with a 34-21 vote and will head to the House.

Chris Cleveland, GOP Party chairman of Chicago, is criticizing Illinois senators for passing this measure.

"This law is foolish," he recently told the Chicago City Wire. "What if a car reeked of gin? Would an officer have probable cause to check to see if the driver was drunk?"

The bill would not alter the state's laws concerning impaired driving, meaning the act of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of marijuana would remain a criminal offense.

BET from p. 3

sources say the biggest problem now is illicit cannabis seeping into the market from other states. Oregon, Oklahoma and especially California are frequently cited as sources for illegal products that end up in other state's weed shops. Yes, throughout history, the dope dealing business has always featured a shady side.

Ayr's planned acquisition of Dispensary 33 and its two Chicago retail locations was originally announced in Nov. 2021. Ayr did not specify any termination fees to be paid in relation to the deal's cancellation.

Two nights of glamour, high camp coming in May to Uptown

Fundraiser for The Dancer's Fund

Chicago Dancers United, a tax-exempt charitable organization that provides financial relief for preventative health care and critical medical needs for Chicago dance industry professionals, will be holding the drag shows of the year this May.

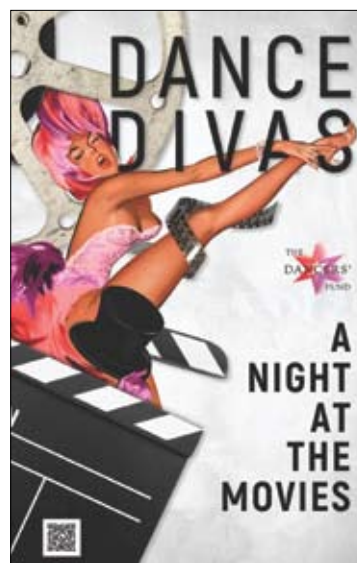
Now in its 15th year, artists from Chicago's professional dance community are once again unifying to put on an evening of high strutting and high camp for Dance Divas 2023. To purchase tickets visit www.dancedivaschicago.com.

Dance Divas will offer a night of music, dance, and laughter at the Baton Show Lounge, 4713 N. Broadway.

The effort is intended to raise funds for The Dances Fund, which provides an important safety net for those working in the professional dance industry, including choreographers, directors, pro dancers, and others, who need short-term financial assistance with critical medical or routine wellness expenses.

Since 1996, Dance Divas has raised over \$250,000 for The Dancer's Fund.

This is no high school musical, the Dance Divas event will showcase some of Chicago's top professional performers live on



stage, giving it their all for a good cause.

This year's theme is "A Night at the Movies" and festivities will start at 5 p.m., Saturday, May 20, and finish late on Sunday night, May 21. The cavalcade will feature leading male dancers in full drag honoring the legendary dancing divas from the silver screen.

For more information call 312-678-7919 or visit info@chicago-dancersunited.org.

Dance for life

Having lost many close friends and dance colleagues due to HIV and AIDS, Keith Elliott, a member of Joseph Holmes Chi-

cago Dance Theatre, decided it was time for Chicago dancers to take an active role in preventing the spread of the disease. Elliott's idea was to bring Chicago's dance community together for one night... to Dance for Life.

In 1991, Elliott and Todd Kiech began working to make Dance for Life a reality, enlisting colleague Harriet Ross to give the event force and impact. Elliott also asked community activist and fundraiser Danny Kopelson, along with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Executive Director Gail Kalver, to join him as co-founders.

The inaugural Dance for Life took place in June 1992 at the Organic Theater. Every seat was sold.

During the next few years, annual Dance for Life performances filled the Athenaeum Theatre, the Skyline Stage at Navy Pier, and the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, each selling out weeks in advance.

This year Dance for Life will be held Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Auditorium Theatre.

Today, nearly 40 Chicago-based, professional dance companies and numerous choreographers have participated in Dance for Life.

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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 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS, INC., ASSET BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-4; Plaintiff, vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF MAREN KARRAS AKA MAREN ANDONIA KARRAS AKA MARINA KARRAS AKA MARINA ANDONIA KARRAS; HOLLYWOOD TOWERS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; JOANNE RIMKUS; DEMETRA KARRAS JAKEMAN; ROBERT KARRAS; KIMBERLY KARRAS; THOMAS KARRAS; WILLIAM P BUTCHER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MAREN KARRAS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, May 22, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate.

P.I.N. 14-05-407-017-1414. Commonly known as 5701 North Sheridan 10 Q, Chicago, IL 60660.

The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g) (4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiffs Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 1396-18824 ADC INTERCOUNTRY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountryjudicial.com **13217815**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION GREAT LAKES CREDIT UNION Plaintiff,

-v- JOLYNN MCCRAY INDIVIDUALLY AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE JOLYNN MCCRAY TRUST DATED THE 21ST DAY OF JUNE 2005, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS. ALSJ, INC., CITY OF CHICAGO, WHEELER-DEALER LTD. D/B/A WHEELER FINANCIAL, INC. Defendants

2018 CH 04935 1057 W. WINONA 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 15, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 16, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1057 W. WINONA, CHI-

Real Estate For Sale

CAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-08-405-029-0000 The real estate is improved with a two story single family townhouse.

State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS 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.tjisc.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. 20-061951L Attorney ARDC No. 61256 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 2018 CH 04935 TJSJC#: 43-845

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. **13217959**

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WINTRUST BANK Plaintiff,

MARJORIE TESS WALDMANN, BALMORAL GARDENS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, NFP Defendants 2022 CH 10130

1733 W. BALMORAL AVENUE APARTMENT 1B CHICAGO, IL 60640

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 26, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1733 W. BALMORAL AVENUE APARTMENT 1B, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-07-213-036-1005 The real estate is improved with a residence.

State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

Real Estate For Sale

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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 20, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 26, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1733 W. BALMORAL AVENUE APARTMENT 1B, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-07-213-036-1005 The real estate is improved with a residence.

State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 24, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 17, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 3950 N LAKE SHORE DR APT 319D, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-101-034-1396 The real estate is improved with a residence.

State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.

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

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on February 6, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 10, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1733 W. BALMORAL AVENUE APARTMENT 1B, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-07-213-036-1005 The real estate is improved with a residence.

State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 395734. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 395734 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 19 CH 12926 TJSJC#: 42-2431

Real Estate For Sale

OF THE ESTATE OF AYI AKPORIDO, WILLIE AKPORIDO SR, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2022 CH 02386

3550 N LAKE SHORE DRIVE, UNIT 508 CHICAGO, IL 60657

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 30, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 10, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 3550 N LAKE SHORE DRIVE, UNIT 508, CHICAGO, IL 60657 Property Index No. 14-21-111-007-1090 The real estate is improved with a condominium.

The judgment amount was \$194,462.86. State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, CHICAGO, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 22 9278.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650 CHICAGO, IL 60602 312-541-9710 E-Mail: lpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com Attorney File No. 22 9278 Attorney Code. 40342 Case Number: 2022 CH 02386 TJSJC#: 43-1369

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 # 2022 CH 02386 **13217420**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIBANK, N.A., NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF NEW RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2019-RPL3 Plaintiff,

-v- THOMAS M. ZUPONECK, MIDLAND FUNDING LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, GRANVILLE TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2022 CH 07464

6166 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD, APT 2J 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 16, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 17, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 6166 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD, APT 2J, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-210-024-1009 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.

The judgment amount was \$120,254.21. State terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

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

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

For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 395734. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 395734 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 19 CH 12926 TJSJC#: 42-2431

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 # 2022 CH 07464 **13217417**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR MASTR ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2006-WMCS, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-WMCS Plaintiff,

-v- UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW AND LEGATEES OF AYI AKPORIDO, BESTMAN MAMOMO AKPORIDO, AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR

Real Estate For Sale

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

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

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

For information, contact MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1520, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 651-6700. Please refer to file number 22-008201. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1520 CHICAGO, IL, 60601 312-651-6700 E-Mail: AMPs@manleydeas.com Attorney File No. 22-008201 Attorney Code. 48928 Case Number: 2022 CH 07464 TJSJC#: 43-846

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 # 2022 CH 07464 **13217496**

121212 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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Miscellaneous, cont.

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Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage at 1200 W. 35th St., 773-247-3000, is opening lockers:
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3E3408 (Robinson, Kimberly)
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4C4183 (Hristeva, Lilia)
for public sale of miscellaneous items.
This sale is to be held on
Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 2:00 pm. Cash only.

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The mystery of government is not how Washington works but how to make it stop.

— P. J. O'Rourke

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

191919
121212

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION TIAA, FSB Plaintiff,

-v- DAVID KARIOTIS, RIVER EAST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants

22 CH 07905
512 N MCCLURG COURT UNIT 4609 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 February 8, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 10, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 512 N MCCLURG COURT UNIT 4609, CHICAGO, IL 60611

Property Index No. 17-10-223-033-1483

The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.

The judgment amount was \$224,412.79.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is

Real Estate For Sale

due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS 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

Real Estate For Sale

identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 1652638.

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.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC

601 E. William St.

DECATUR IL, 62523

217-422-1719

Fax #: 217-422-1754

E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com

Attorney File No. 1652638

Attorney Code. 40387

Case Number: 22 CH 07905

TJSC#: 43-659

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 07905

13217018

050505

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SCOOTER from p. 6

it without a key. The scooter was reported stolen on April 12, but it's unclear if its theft is included in the crime pattern CPD warned about.

During Griffin's bail hearing Sunday afternoon, prosecutors said he has a pending stolen motor vehicle case in which he was released on a recognizance bond in February. He is now

charged with possessing a stolen motor vehicle again.

Many scooter thieves are opportunists who see an unattended scooter and decide to take it.

However, others keep an eye out and plan their theft ahead of time. When a scooter user habitually parks a scooter in the same spot at the same time of day, that makes it easier for thieves to know when to strike.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

Chicago police patrol units found it at a gas station with Howard in the driver's seat wearing the same clothes he was seen wearing in the hotel video, prosecutors alleged.

Howard was on parole and on bail for another stolen car case at the time.

The previous auto theft case was filed in June after Chicago police allegedly found Howard driving a car stolen a few days earlier in Forest Park. During a bail hearing last June, prosecutors said Howard told police he bought the car "from a crackhead."

At the time of that incident, he was on bail for a burglary case. He settled that case by pleading guilty to a felony charge of causing injury while resisting police and was released from prison on November 15. Two days after he got out, a Cook County judge reduced his bail in the stolen motor vehicle matter from \$30,000 to a recognizance bond, according to Aberdeen.

On Tuesday, his public defender said he has four children, lives with his wife, and has worked in baggage claim at O'Hare for six years. Last June, a different public defender said he had been working for a plastics company for three years.

Judge David Kelly ordered Howard to pay a

\$2,500 bail deposit to go home on electronic monitoring in the new stolen vehicle case. Separately, he held Howard without bail for violating bond in the June filing.

Man shot in Loyola Park as shootings spike in Rogers Park

A man was shot while standing in Loyola Park on April 13, Chicago police said. He was the second person shot within hours in Rogers Park, which is experiencing a significant increase in shootings this year.

Police said the 28-year-old was on a sidewalk inside the park when a dark sedan pulled into the parking lot at Sheridan and Touhy. Someone fired on the victim from inside the car, which sped from the scene.

The man was shot several times throughout his body and was taken to St. Francis Hospital in critical condition.

Earlier, a 33-year-old man was shot in the foot when a drive-by gunman opened fire in the 1400 block of W. Arthur at 1:25 p.m., according to CPD.

The men are the 11th and 12th persons shot in Rogers Park this year, compared to six at this point last year and three as of this date in 2021.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

Chamber seeks proposals for new Clark St. mural

There is a new mural coming to Rogers Park. Plan are moving forward to commission a new taxpayer-funded mural on the south facing wall of the property located at 7015 N. Clark St.

The wall faces the parking lot of a plaza that houses Wild Onion Food Coop, a few chain restaurants and a loan business. The wall has one panel and is approximately 50' wide and eight-feet tall.

The Rogers Park Business Alliance [RPBA], the service provider for Clark/Morse/Glenwood Special Service Area #24, is now seeking proposals for a single artist or artist team to paint a mural at this site.

The RPBA has established a theme, that should illustrate the eclectic Clark St. commercial corridor in Rogers Park that is multicultural and that offers welcoming experiences for everyone. They are seeking proposals expressing an abundance of joy, opportunities, ethnicities, languages and ideas from the community.

The artist stipend is \$10,000, which should cover the wall preparation, priming, design and materials including; paint, tools, any rentals if needed, and sealing the wall with anti-graffiti coating once the mural is completed. RPBA will incur the cost of washing and liability insurance for the property.

Proposals must be emailed to Ana Bermudez, abermudez@rpba.org no later than Friday, May 12. Preference will be given to artists from Rogers Park and those with bicultural backgrounds.

Going away parties for Ald. Osterman

Ald. Harry Osterman [48th] is having two going away parties now that his time as alderman is coming to an end. The first will be an office party 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, April 21, at 5533 N. Broadway. The second party will be at St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church, 5649 N. Sheridan Rd., 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 22.

Book sale at library

The Friends of Rogers Park Library are holding their annual Spring Book Sale at the library, 6907 N. Clark St., on Saturday, April 22, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. All the proceeds will be used to buy additional books and fund more programming at the library.

Edgewater Singers free concert April 29

The Edgewater Singers are hosting a free concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at Unity Lutheran Church, 1212 W. Bal-moral.

Titled "Sing Me A Story," the program will include offerings from musical theater, a salute to Shakespeare and more.

Artists will be notified on acceptance status by June 23. The final design will be announced July 14, and they hope to unveil it by Aug. 31.

EPWORTH from p. 1

traces its origins to Aug. 1888 when three persons began meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. T. M. Slocum at 5047 N. Kenmore, and then at a school near Broadway and Argyle St.

The church was completed in 1891, becoming the second church in Edgewater. The structure was enlarged in 1930, and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2008.

The final service at the church was on May 15, 2022. The buyer of the church first submitted, then withdrew an application for a demolition hoping to build a residential development at the site. The stop for those plans came due to extensive neighborhood advocacy.

"This is a tremendous step towards preserving this incredible and unique building in our community," said Ald. Harry Osterman [48th].

NEIU from p. 1

coincided with a Board of Trustees meeting on April 13, in which current University president, Gloria Gibson, and a group of roughly eight board members were present.

With a packed house of union advocates attending the meeting, eager for public comment, NEIU teachers and students took turns during the public comment section, each getting three minutes to speak to the Board, amid cheers from their supporters. Declining enrollment was a common topic for speakers, as student enrollment has dropped by half from a decade ago.

Speakers noted the declining statistics at NEIU, blaming a failed plan to adapt generational and pandemic dynamics.

Some speakers compared other contemporary schools' successful adaptations, such as Illinois State Univ., and the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago.

Speakers also called for creating more accessible higher education across the board for minority, working class, and transfer students. Those groups historically have been a major part of the student population as NEIU was the first university in Illinois to be designated a Hispanic Serving Institution in 1997, with an average student age of 27 years.

ARREST from p. 1

According to court records, in July 2021, Kempiski threatened to kill one of the market's employees and "ruin the store," and broke out the store windows. In the same case, he was charged with shoplifting from the store, slashing tires on two of the market's trucks, and punching the same manager who was stabbed on Easter Sunday, the records show.

Easter stabbing

Chicago cops responded to the store around 6:30 p.m. on Easter. When they arrived, the store manager of more than 20 years was already in the back of a Chicago Fire Dept. ambulance, being treated for a stab wound to his abdomen.

During a misdemeanor bail hearing last week, a prosecutor said the manager's girlfriend was seated in his truck while he went into the store. When the manager came back out, Kempiski was in the process of slashing the truck's right front tire.

The manager swung a golf club at Kempiski, who took out a knife, stabbed him in the stomach area, and fled into an alley, the prosecutor said, describing the manager's injury as a "minor stab wound."

He said the manager knew Kempiski as someone who frequently harasses the area, particularly Morse Fresh Market. The police arrested Kempiski in the 1500 block of W. Estes on April 11 after someone spotted him nearby.

Judge Charles Beach ordered Kempiski to pay a \$7,500 bail deposit to be released

Teachers also advocated for better wages for teachers, along with improvements to the campus, using cash reserves to enhance the learning environment as a long term investment.

Students and union members showed little faith in the school's administrations' ability to deal with these concerns, by a telling 89% vote of "no confidence" from NEIU Faculty in Fall 2022. President Gibson's contract has not been renewed, with her time at the University up this June. Students and teachers even put forth a new candidate from within the university - Manish Kumar - who now serves as Vice President of Finance and Administration for NEIU. The group claimed Kumar was more connected to the University, and is a viable candidate to begin to rebuild the school following Gibson's departure.

The Board of Trustees responded to the protest at El Centro with gratitude, without any detail on what the future holds for negotiations. They thanked teachers, faculty and students for "recommendations we cannot ignore."

Presently no solid commitments were offered by the NEIU Board of Trustees or administration. Negotiations will continue, with a potential strike authorized to begin April 24 if no deal is reached.

on the new charges. Kempiski must post another \$30,000 deposit to be released on three probation violation warrants, the judge said. Those probation sentences are for aggravated battery of a peace officer, causing injury while resisting a peace officer, and felony criminal damage to property, according to a CPD arrest report.

The report said police asked the Cook County State's Attorney's office to approve felony charges for the stabbing allegations, but a prosecutor in the felony review unit denied their request.

A history of problems

Three days before the stabbing at Morse Fresh Market, Chicago police arrested Kempiski for allegedly punching the manager of the Dollar General store across the street, according to an arrest report reviewed by this reporter.

The 58-year-old manager reported that he kicked Kempiski out of the store due to a series of previous incidents. When the manager went outside later to throw away garbage, Kempiski accosted him and punched him in the face, the report said. Police issued Kempiski a citation, and he walked out of the Rogers Park police station less than three hours after he got arrested.

Kempiski was charged with simple battery on Jan. 8 after a 48-year-old man accused him of punching him in the face at the Morse Red Line CTA station, another CPD report said. Prosecutors dropped the case on Feb. 24. The court record does not indicate why the charges were stricken.



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