

It takes less time to do a thing right,
than it does to explain
why you did it wrong.

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



The Purple Heart City designation is part of a national initiative led by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Purple Heart City

On May 21, the City of Chicago hosted a public ceremony honoring Purple Heart Veterans, recognizing the City's official designation as a Purple Heart City. "This designation reaffirms our city's commitment to remember and honor the price paid by so many," said Kevin Barszcz, Director of the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs.

The city has also unveiled Purple Heart City street signs at City Hall [above] and near the site of

Old Fort Dearborn adjacent to the river on Wacker Dr. and Michigan Ave.

The Purple Heart City designation is part of a national initiative led by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, a veteran service organization dedicated to recognizing U.S. military personnel wounded or killed in combat. The program highlights municipalities that demonstrate ongoing support and appreciation for Purple Heart recipients and their families.

After second late-night shooting, alderman wants a 'more coordinated strategy' for handling River North nightlife crowds, page 16



The former Harris Trust & Savings Bank building, 111 W. Monroe.

Loop's Harris Trust & Savings Bank building proposed for Landmark status

Tax rebate proposed

The former Harris Trust & Savings Bank complex, 111 W. Monroe St. in the Loop would be designated as an official Chicago landmark under a proposal introduced to City Council May 21.

Comprised of a Classical Revival building constructed in 1911 and a modern east tower added in 1960 and designed by Walter Netsch, the complex reflects the Loop's growth as a financial center during the 20th century.

The landmark designation would protect all exterior elevations of the property, as well as the bas relief bronze lion sculpture

on the facade of the 1911 building.

In conjunction with the designation, the site is proposed for a Cook County Class L property tax incentive valued at \$19.4 million over the next 12 years.

City Council previously approved a planned \$179.2 million adaptive reuse project for 111 W. Monroe that would convert 315,000 square feet of office space to create 345 mixed-income residences, part of a City initiative to repurpose underutilized high-rises on the LaSalle corridor, that had been vacated by the former financial industry users that once lined LaSalle St.

Neighbors request city to revise Washington Square Park closure plan

BY ADRIANA FOUSTANOU

Washington Square Park has announced a plan of being closed for several months, beginning fall of 2025. Those plans have been revised by residents, based on concerns about access, transparency, and community disruption.

On March 31, in a letter request from the Washington Square Park Advisory Council [WSPAC], submitted by Advisory Council President John Phillips, the original proposal called for full aeration and reseeding of the park's lawn

from Fall 2025 through Winter 2026, as well as the removal of the eastern gate along Dearborn to improve accessibility.

In response, Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd] formally endorsed the proposal in a letter dated on April 7, writing:

"I am in full support of these requests. My office will coordinate with WSPAC, and the Chicago Park District, to ensure action is taken on them."

Hopkins letter confirms support of full closure of Washington Park, with no mention of a phased

implementation. The proposal drew backlash from neighbors during the community meeting held on May 15, with concerns centered on lack of public engagement and disruption of the daily use of the park, especially for dog owners and families.

Following that feedback, a revised plan was adopted at the meeting, suggesting the park would be now reseeded in phases, allowing partial access and while work will be completed in

CLOSURE see p. 16

Riverfront Kingbury apartment Tower moving forward; Briar St. Theater to become apartments



Apartment tower at 1333 N. Kingsbury St. (at center in black).

A plan to construct a new 23-story, 176-unit apartment tower on the banks of the Chicago River adjacent to Goose Island on May 21 received final approval from City Council.

Developers ZSD Corp. and Structured Development plan to erect a 272-unit development at 1333 N. Kingsbury St. near the intersection of Division and Halsted streets.

The site is currently a surface parking lot. The building's second through sixth floors will serve as

off-street tenant parking.

Blue Man

Meanwhile in Boystown, plans have been announced for converting a former theater property into residential units at the Briar Street Theater, 3133 N. Halsted St. The building most recently hosted a three-decade residency of the Blue Man Group.

Originally built in 1901 by Marshall Field's as a stable for the company's horses, the building later housed a moving and storage

company before being purchased by local resident Walter Topel for his production company. It was eventually converted into a theater in the 1990s and quickly leased to the Blue Man Group.

Now, JAB Real Estate is hoping to purchase the property and convert it into an apartment building. While the property will house 66 new units, it will only have 14 off-street parking space.

One 1,200-square-foot retail space will be created at the street corner.

New commander announced for Near North police district

BY STEVEN DAHLMAN
Loop North News

The Chicago Police Dept. [CPD] has announced command staff promotions aimed at enhancing public safety across the city.

Supt. Larry Snelling introduced Lieutenant Ricky Rivera as the new Commander of the 14th Shakespeare District, Lieut. Thomas Hanrahan as Acting Commander of the 16th Jefferson Park District, and Captain Christopher Bielfeldt as Commander of the 18th Near North District.

The 18th Near North District encompasses the area south of Fullerton Ave., between the Chi-

cago River and Lake Michigan. This includes several neighborhoods, such as most of Lincoln Park, Old Town, the Gold Coast, Streeterville, River North, River East and sites like Navy Pier, Michigan Ave., the Jardine Water Filtration Plant, and much of southern portion of Lincoln Park and the Zoo.

Bielfeldt has been with CPD for 26 years, previously overseeing operations at Midway Airport and serving in various divisions. He was also a Captain in the 17th Albany Park District and

worked with the Bureau of Detectives on re-opening Area Four and Area Five detective divisions.

"Their depth of experience and the expertise they have gained throughout their careers have equipped them for these roles," said Snelling of the three new commanders. "Each have demonstrated a clear commitment to making our city safer for every Chicagoan."

Bielfeldt replaces Michael Barz, who commanded the 18th District since June 16, 2023.



Christopher Bielfeldt

The meaning of life is as close as some buttermilk, raisins, caraway seeds and crunchy fresh baked crusts



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

As humans we repeat the circle of nourishment continuously throughout our day, ending the yearnings from hunger. Our ability to quiet the need to be filled, means most of us never know the real reach of human hunger.

When hungry, choices include waiting for something we crave, or sacrifice to fit our tight 'skinny' jeans.

In our plentitude, food not only brings restorative satisfaction, it can bring delight and harmony. Whether it is rugged, refined, complex or simple.

The concoction of food is a major element of life in the post-modern age. The quality and variety of food has altered the creation and abilities of efforts in our kitchens. Cooking is a singular pursuit filled with reason, intelligence, imagination and creative ability. It ties us to the past, his-

torically. Favorite foods from childhood. Longed-for meals of memory, enhanced perhaps by parents and ancestors skilled in the kitchen.

We are a nation filled with citizen cooks adept at oven and stove. Filling memories and tummies with the meals that please. Reminders from another era of life. A more languid period of appreciation of foods and customs. When families actually ate together, relishing their ability to share a table. With stunning family recipes and the expansive human embrace of happy dinners nourishing not only the body, but the soul.

As I continue to work away at what I call "a cookery book," I am certain such a book might enhance such needs still.

For all the rush and mayhem of everyday life, the establishment of an eating custom is one richly necessary to sustain the bonds of family and friendship. Meals are opportunities to share deeply personal moments of time. Our resourcefulness can allow them to deepen the bonds of human companionship and family vitality.

We believe that around such tables real human health is restored. Where it happens, restorative life is unleashed. Whether in the family home or in small apartments. Wherever the fire is lit. The oven is hot. The kitchen is warm and the table is welcoming, with room for all.

Accompanied by the ability to boil water. Cook pasta. Slice some good bread and open a nice bottle of wine.

The menu need not be complex. A plate of stew and a garden fresh salad. With house-made dressing,



This writer's grandmother baked her own supply of daily bread. She preferred bread mixed, kneaded, rolled out and rising in the warmth of her own kitchen.

as simple as balsamic vinegar and olive oil.

In such moments of civility we discover the importance of the food we share. And the scope of our cooking abilities. Without much complexity, that ability just needs to be nudged. It will surprisingly grow. With calm patience. Aptitude. Utilizing basic skills, and a commitment to take the time needed to make cookery a rational and reasoned part of life. Not just grilling steaks with an hour free. But enhancing your menu with treasured sauces. Timeless classics. Romantic platters of savory favorites. Roasting more. Sautéing more creatively. Baking more fruit. Making more historic meat pies. Using fresh herbs.

Balancing the menu for yourself begins with better grocery shopping, kitchen organizing and letting the world of food enwrap you.

Oh yeah, buying better wines. Or even more, know the wines you buy.

Cookery is fun. Concocting. Enchanting. What works with what? What compliments what? It's even intellectually challenging. It lets you concoct that meal you ate in Venice, in the comfort of your own kitchen. Or make the Irish soda bread you remember your grandmother making when you were a child.

So why not discover the outrageous drama of making your own fabulous French onion soup? This should keep your children coming back to the table with smiles on their faces, without their phones.

Imagine when you take the time to concoct a scrumptious Chicken Cacciatore, classic Boeuf Bourguignon or a pork and mushroom pie with roasted gingered carrots.

What amazing meals you can easily prepare. Not to mention the

best of all garlic breads.

These are all dishes rooted in classic food history. So I continue to shape and devise my cookery book. I hope it will eventually give a fresh understanding of such books occupying an important place, as well, in poetry and verse. Or the literature and tales of other days and other cultures. From looking at the people who invented cheese, smoked salmon, and brined turkey, to the people who cherished every detail of the process. Remembering the tastiest meals from inventive chefs in great cities of the world - Chicago included. In favorite bistros, trattorias, country inns and glamorous hotels. Cookery books should be about discovering the ascetic value of favorite foods.

Recently, my sister, Mary Regina's arrival at my house for dinner heralded the arrival of the family "scones." Actually they're more of a yeasty muffin. Always a familial and historic addition to our family dinners that cannot be measured in mere human proportions. Cuz to me it always marks a cosmic moment. The chance to sample a long-standing part of our family's heritage. What, as an arrogant teen, I took for granted with disdainful cynicism. But now in my mature years I recognize in culinary and cultural proportions that leave me grateful and pampered.

Mary Regina has remained very faithful to the simple Irish recipe by which our grandmother, Nora O'Connor, baked her supply of daily bread. No store-bought substitutions for her. She preferred the real stuff. Bread mixed, kneaded, rolled out and rising in

the warmth of her kitchen. Bread sweet and delectable right out of the oven, usually with someone waiting for it to cool down enough so the rich butter would just ooze its way into your mouth.

These are thoughts that shape the memory of days gone by and galvanize nostalgic traditions, tastes and a sense of appreciation for the past.

Who knew the meaning of life was as close as some buttermilk, raisins, caraway seeds and crunchy fresh baked crusts?

HOME GROWN HATE: Ald. Debra Silverstein [50th] is suddenly our "It" girl, with her strong statement against hate. "I am deeply concerned to learn that the attacker came from Chicago. I am horrified by the antisemitic terrorist attack outside the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington D.C. My deepest sympathies are with the victims, their families, and the entire Jewish and Israeli communities as they deal with



Ald. Debra Silverstein

the aftermath of this horrific attack. I call on Mayor Johnson and our leadership in Chicago to take real action to protect our Jewish residents. Statements condemning antisemitism are not enough. Thoughts and prayers are not enough. We need action, and we need it now. Anti-

Jewish hate is at an all-time high in the City of Chicago, and now is the time to take a public stand. Highlighting the rich and unique Jewish culture and the contributions of Jewish Americans to the United States is one of the greatest ways to combat the rising wave of antisemitism."

BUTTERMILK see p. 12

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State officials offer stark 'urgent challenge' during public transit funding meeting

BY SOFIE KELLAR

Illinois State Sen. Sarah Feigenholtz [6th] spoke on a webinar May 22 to address severe funding issues with public transportation in Illinois. She was joined by Rep. Ann M. Williams [11th] and Chair of the Transportation, Sen. Ram Villivalam [8th].

"We are definitely facing an urgent challenge," said Sen. Feigenholtz. "Our office has received over a thousand emails."

She said that 40% of the residents in her district rely on public transportation as their primary form of transit, but the efficiency, use and safety of public transit has declined sharply since the pandemic.

Real or imagined, the fear of criminal activity is keeping many riders off trains and buses, to the benefit of ride share services.

Indeed the options are stark, and the problem has now been punted down to Springfield, where there is no clear path to funding the current level of services. It's a problem that nobody in city, state or federal government really wants.

What local public transportation users may soon own is a dire mix of fair increases, new transportation taxes, service cuts and reduced overhead.

Part of the problems cultural, in that the work-at-home trend has left the North Side's public transportation systems lightly used.

Improving the efficiency, accessibility, and safety of public transit relies on increasing ridership across the region, ex-

plained Sen. Villivalam.

Local public officials have mostly ignored known problems. Instead they've gone begging for a state to bail out, now that federal pandemic funds have dried up.

Systemic inefficiencies exist in all bureaucratic organizations and they certainly plague the current public transportation system.

"We have four agencies—RTA, CTA, Metra, and PACE—and we have 21 different appointing authorities to appoint 47 different people to all of these boards," he said. "That leaves a structure where everybody is accountable and no one is accountable." And everyone gets pay and benefits that cost real money.

While federal funding for Chicago transit has screeched to a stop, the screeching over crashing budgets continues in City Hall and the Statehouse.

Proposed solutions include the Metropolitan Mobility Act (Senate Bill 5), which emphasizes public funding and a central authority for transit. Senate Bill 1938 also "empowers a central authority to make decisions as it relates to fair policy, to service planning, capital planning, customer service, safety, all the issues that we care about."

"We're going to introduce a bill, or a merged version of both bills," said Sen. Villivalam.

CTA, Metra, and PACE will answer to a central authority. For riders, this means using one app or ticket instead of multi-

FUNDING see p. 4

Northside Community Resources returns to Truman College for 13th annual housing fair

Everyone is concerned about housing now, particularly on the North Side. While many fret, others are doing something about it.

Northside Community Resources [NCR] and its housing counseling subsidiary Northside Community Development Corporation [NCDC], in collaboration with Illinois State Sen. Mike Simmons [7th] and Ald. Angela Clay [46th], have announce their 13th Annual Northside Housing Fair, a housing resource event that is free and open to the public.

The event will take place 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 14, at Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson.

The Fair is an annual event where numerous government, nonprofit and private housing-related organizations come together under one roof to provide information and resources on "all things housing." The event offers access to an array of resources and insights into housing opportunities and free housing counseling services available to tenants, future homebuyers and homeowners in the city of Chicago and beyond.

Attendees can speak with HUD approved housing counselors, mortgage lenders, realtors, home inspectors, and even local government agencies to learn more about housing resources. Attendees can also participate in workshops and find access to vital information about diverse housing resources and assistance programs available to the public.

Key fair highlights include:

- Over 32 exhibitors comprising of real estate agents, mortgage lenders, non-profit housing and pro bono legal organizations, as well as local and state government agencies.

- Attendees can participate in workshops covering essential topics such as "Credit & Home-buying 101" and "Tenant's Rights & Fair Housing."

- The event will offer translation services in multiple languages besides English,

including Spanish, Arabic, Polish, Arabic, Hindi, Gujarati and American Sign Language.

- Guests will enjoy free admission to the fair along with complimentary parking in Truman's parking garage. Truman College is located next to the Wilson Redline CTA stop, and there are bus stops located in front of the college, which make it convenient and accessible for all attendees.

- Attendees can schedule one-on-one consultations with housing experts

- Access a wealth of free resources aimed at homeowners, renters, and housing providers.

- Engage with reputable lenders to explore mortgage products and refinancing options.

- Discover available down payment assistance programs tailored for first-time home buyers, easing the financial burden of purchasing a home.

- Gain insights into resources and assistance programs designed to support families at risk of foreclosure, providing vital support during challenging times.

- Attendees have the chance to win prizes in multiple giveaways throughout the event.

NCR was established in 1952 as the Rogers Park Community Council, and has a rich history of serving and strengthening communities across Chicago's diverse North Side populations. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, it offers a spectrum of free services including rental housing counseling, senior services, multicultural resource programs, and fair housing advocacy.

NCDC is a 25+ year old 501(c)3 HUD approved housing counseling agency that provides first time homebuyer counseling, foreclosure prevention counseling, and employer assisted housing. For more information contact Chris Zala, Executive Director, at 773-338-7722 Ext. 22 or via email chris@northsidecr.org.

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Assessment cuts on commercial property raise home taxes



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Thousands of Chicago and Cook County homeowners soon may feel the tax bite caused by empty offices and sinking commercial real estate values downtown.

According to Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi, many North Side Chicago homeowners could see their property taxes increase this year because residential property took on a greater share of the city's tax burden after appeals for the 2024 reassessment cycle were finalized at the Cook County Board of Review [CCBR].

When the Cook County Assessor's Office completed its triennial reassessment of Chicago in 2024, total assessed value in-

BOARD OF REVIEW APPEAL CHANGES BY TOWNSHIP		
Chicago Township	Assessed Value Change	Percentage change
South Chicago	-\$1.6 billion	-21%
North Chicago	-\$1.1 billion	-19%
West Chicago	-\$0.8 billion	-15%
Lake View	-\$0.3 billion	-14%
Lake	-\$0.2 billion	-13%
Jefferson	-\$0.2 billion	-13%
Hyde Park	-\$0.2 billion	-13%

The largest assessment reductions by the Board of Review for commercial properties came in three townships that cover Chicago's downtown—North Chicago, South Chicago and West Chicago.

creased \$5.4 billion. Residential values set by the Assessor's office decreased by 1% in all townships except Lake View and West Chicago, where they decreased by 2%.

"Because the total value of non-residential and commercial property in Chicago increased slightly more than residential value, homeowners saw their share of assessed value decrease from 51% to 49%," Kaegi explained.

"This could have reduced homeowners' share of the property tax burden," Kaegi said. "However, the Assessor's Office is not the final word on a property's taxable value."

The CCBR, a separate office within the property tax system, has the final authority to alter assessments appealed to their office before tax bills are calculated, Kaegi said.

However, this year, the CCBR cut commercial property values in Chicago by 17%, or a whopping \$4.3 billion in assessed value. By contrast, the CCBR only

decreased residential property values by 1%, or \$0.4 billion.

These commercial cuts by the CCBR mean that homeowners saw their share of assessed value—which correlates with the overall property tax burden—jump to 54% from 49% under the Assessor's assessments.

For the Class 5A properties that make up the majority of commercial property in Chicago—such as office buildings, retail stores, and hotels—total assessed value at the end of the 2024 reassessment and appeals cycle was \$14.3 billion. This was lower than the \$14.4 billion value of these properties when the reassessment cycle began.

While the Assessor's office increased the value of Class 5A property by 21% initially, the CCBR reduced values for properties in this class that appealed their assessments by more than \$3 billion.

This burden-shifting is not new," said Kaegi about the ongoing battle between his office

and the Board of Appeals. "During the last Chicago reassessment in 2021, residential properties made up 53% of citywide assessed value after appeals to the Board of Review were finalized, in large part due to \$6.2 billion in cuts for commercial properties on appeal."

In the intervening years, reassessments in the suburbs of Cook County have also seen the tax burden shift onto homeowners. A recent study from the Cook County Treasurer's Office showed that homeowners in Cook County saw nearly \$2 billion added to tax bills over a period of three years after "businesses found particular success appealing to the CCBR."

Chicago's total assessed value, a proxy for its tax base, could have grown 22%, or \$9 billion, under the Assessor's values. After the CCBR's appeals were finalized, the tax base instead increased by 11%, or \$4.4 billion.

The largest reductions from the CCBR for commercial properties, both by percentage and As-

essed Value, came in the three townships that cover Chicago's downtown: North Chicago, South Chicago, and West Chicago.

More detailed data on these changes is available at the Data Dashboards on the Assessor's Office website or <https://www.cookcountyassessor.com/dashboard> and <https://www.cookcountyassessor.com/data-dashboard-municipalities>.

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.

FUNDING from p. 3

ple. "We did have federal funding that was able to assist through the pandemic, and that is now being eliminated."

Nikolas Merten, policy analyst at Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning [CMAP], addressed the budget gap in more detail.

The budget deficit amounts to 17%, (estimated \$771 million) which, he said, would result in 30%–40% drop in service, due to the fixed expenses.

This means that "more than 20 neighborhoods and six suburban communities could soon be losing access" to some public transportation, and "more than 150 bus routes would be cut across the region," said Merten.

To combat this, the Illinois General Assembly directed CMAP to complete an innovative report. "We produced tons of subreports and analyses to really dig into the core issues facing our transit system and how to resolve them in a durable way," said Merten.

Highlights of the report include improving transit beyond pre-pandemic levels while maintaining financial stability.

"First we need to solve the budget gap; then money will go towards improving the transit system," he said.

Covering this gap will rely on the transit agencies themselves cutting spending and overhead costs, increased riders' fare, regional taxpayers, and the state of Illinois to match sales tax and raise transportation fees.

Certainly the future will also include advanced use of robotics, AI and driverless vehicles to lower labor costs.

Transit-oriented development will also "help the whole ecosystem," claimed Sen. Feigenholtz, of the concept of piling people who do not own cars into high-density buildings near train stations and bus lines. The more riders, the better the transit, she said.

"That's the vision," she said. "Bringing the walls of these silos down, and increased accessibility to transit."

But the consumer is fickle, and many are choosing to work from home, eliminating the need to use public transportation. While others will choose to use private vehicles and/or ride share services over trains and buses. In the end, cutting back on service and overhead may only hasten the move - already underway - away from public transportation into more private travel.

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Homeowners see tax burden increase after appeals finish

Commercial values cut by \$4.3 billion

Let's face it, Chicago and Illinois have a spending problem, and that money has to come from somewhere. For almost every North Side resident, whether they be a property owner or renter, after income taxes, the foremost burden we all share is the property tax levy.

Many Chicago homeowners could see their property taxes increase this year, as residential property took on a greater share of the city's tax burden after appeals for the 2024 reassessment cycle were finalized at the Cook County Board of Review.

When the Cook County Assessor's Office [CCAO] completed its triennial reassessment of Chicago in 2024, total assessed value increased \$5.4 billion.

Because the total value of non-residential and commercial property in Chicago increased slightly more than residential value, homeowners saw their share of assessed value decrease from 51% to 49%. This could have reduced homeowners' share of the property tax burden.

However, the CCAO is not the final word on a property's taxable value. The Cook County Board of Review [BOR], a separate office within the property tax system, has the final authority to alter assessments appealed to their office before tax bills are calculated.

This year, the BOR cut commercial property values in Chicago by 17%, or \$4.3 billion in assessed value. By contrast, the BOR only decreased residential property values by 1%, or \$0.4 billion.

More detailed data on these changes is available at the Data Dashboards on the CCAO website or www.cookcountyassessor.com/dashboard.

These commercial cuts by the BOR meant that homeowners saw their share of assessed value – which correlates with the overall property tax burden – jump to 54% from 49% under the CCAO's assessments.

For the Class 5A properties that make up the majority of commercial property in

Chicago – such as office buildings, retail stores, and hotels – total assessed value at the end of the 2024 reassessment and appeals cycle was \$14.3 billion. This was lower than the \$14.4 billion value of these properties when the reassessment cycle began.

While the CCAO's increased the value of Class 5A property by 21% initially, the BOR reduced values for properties in this class that appealed their assessments by more than \$3 billion.

This burden-shifting is not new. During the last Chicago reassessment in 2021, residential properties made up 53% of city-wide assessed value after appeals to the BOR were finalized, in large part due to \$6.2 billion in cuts for commercial properties on appeal.

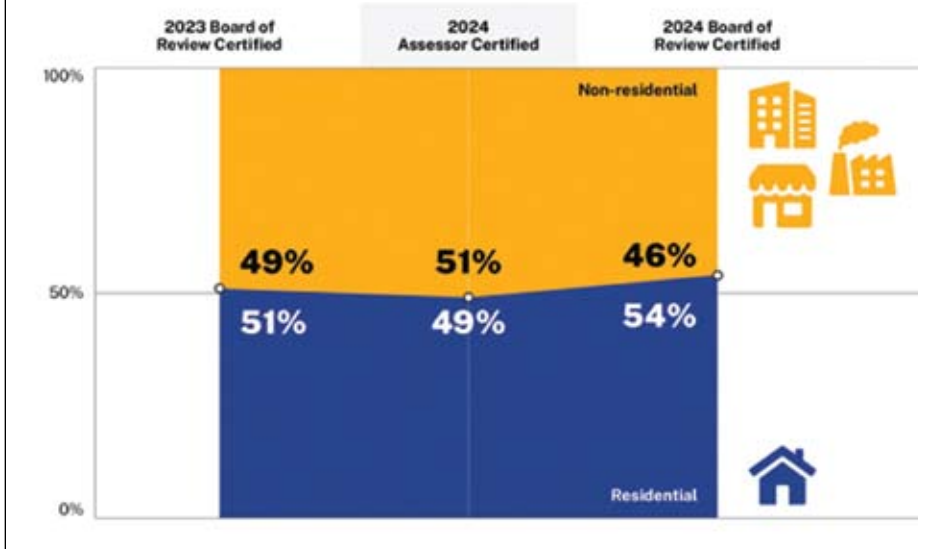
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In the intervening years, reassessments in the suburbs of Cook County have also seen the tax burden shift onto homeowners. A recent study from the Cook County Treasurer's Office showed that homeowners in Cook County saw nearly \$2 billion added to tax bills over a period of 3 years after "businesses found particular success appealing to the BOR."

Board of Review appeal shifts

• Chicago's total assessed value, a proxy for its tax base, could have grown 22%, or \$9 billion, under the CCAO's values. After the BOR's appeals were finalized, the tax base instead increased by 11%, or \$4.4 billion.

Chicago: Percentage share of total assessed value



• The largest reductions from the BOR for commercial properties, both by percentage and Assessed Value, came in the three townships that cover Chicago's downtown: North Chicago, South Chicago, and West Chicago.

On the North Side, North Chicago Township was down 19% (-\$1.1 billion), Lake View Township was down 14% (\$300 million), while Rogers Park Township was down \$100 million.

The major property classes with the largest percentage reductions were Class 5B Industrial (22% reduction) and Class 5A Commercial (17% reduction). The major property classes with the largest assessed value reductions were Class 5A commercial (\$3.0 billion reduction) and Class 3 Large Multi-Family (\$0.6 billion reduction).

Residential values set by the CCAO decreased by 1% in all townships except Lake View and West Chicago, where they decreased by 2%.

Residential properties made up 51% of the city's share of assessed value before the 2024 reassessment. This increased to 54% after the BOR's appeals were finalized.

There is currently no mechanism in place to protect Cook County homeowners who experience significant property tax increases.

According to recent data released by the CCAO, 240,000 households in Cook County have recently seen their tax bills spike by 25% or more in a single year.

The CCAO has worked on state legislation to create a property tax relief initiative for homeowners. This "circuit breaker" program would provide relief to qualifying homeowners with a 25% bill spike. Credits given to homeowners would cover up to half of the tax bill increase.

The Circuit Breaker Property Tax Relief Act was filed in the Illinois Senate as SB1978 by Sen. Patrick Joyce [40th] and in the House as HB3808 by Rep. Justin Slaughter [27th].

Board of Education hosts in-person community meeting June 2 on CPS CEO search

The Chicago Board of Education is hosting an in-person community meeting 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, June 2, at the Nettelhorst School, 3252 N. Broadway, to review their national search for the next Superintendent/CEO of Chicago Public Schools.

Focus Groups and on-site interviews by representatives from Alma Advisory Group, the Board's executive search

partner, will visit select CPS locations to gather input from staff and community members on the next Superintendent.

Whether by attending a public forum, completing a survey, or sharing ideas, citizen opinion will help guide the search for a new CPS CEO. To take part in the survey visit <https://surveys.zencity.io/chicago-board-of-education/ljKKoM/en?s=sd>.

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Chicago 'climate disinfo' suit should be in Cook County court, not federal, judge says

BY JONATHAN BILYK
Cook County Record

Chicago City Hall has won clearance from a federal judge to move ahead in Cook County's Democrat-stacked and famously plaintiff-friendly courts with a lawsuit seeking to extract a potentially massive payout from oil and gas companies for allegedly "deceiving" people and businesses into using oil and gas to heat and power their homes, cars, factories and other necessities of modern life.

On May 16, U.S. District Judge Franklin U. Valderrama ruled against a collection of petroleum companies, including Chevron and BP, and granted the city of Chicago's request to send the case back to Cook County Circuit Court.

The city had initially filed the case in Cook County court in Feb. 2024.

In that lawsuit, the city, joined by a collection of prominent trial lawyers, seeks to make Chevron, BP and other petroleum producers and distributors pay for allegedly misleading consumers and the public for decades about the alleged climate altering affects of using oil and gas products in transportation and many other economic sectors.

The lawsuit claims so-called "climate change" has in turn led to more frequent bad weather events, such as floods, droughts and severe storms, among other alleged harms, costing the city large amounts of money to address.

The Chicago lawsuit asserts this makes oil and gas use a "public nuisance" by allegedly also contributing to racial and social "inequities" for the city's low income and minority communities.

The lawsuit particularly takes aim at what it calls "disinformation" from the oil companies, which the city claims has misled consumers into continuing to use the products for decades after the energy companies allegedly knew of the supposed harms caused by the use of their fuels.

"This successful climate deception campaign had the purpose and effect of inflating and sustaining the market for fossil fuels, which - in turn - drove up greenhouse gas emissions, accelerated global warming, and brought about devastating climate change impacts to the city of Chicago," the city wrote in its lawsuit at the time.

The city's lawsuit largely copies a path blazed by other local government lawsuits against the same energy companies, as well as by earlier litigation against tobacco companies, pharmaceutical companies and others who have supplied many of the products common to American life.

The city is joined in the action by trial lawyers from the firms of DiCello Levitt LLP, of Chicago, and Sher Edling LLP, of San Francisco.

The Sher Edling firm has also served as counsel on dozens of virtually identical climate-related lawsuits against the oil and gas

industry throughout the country. Published reports indicate Sher Edling has received millions of dollars in funding from a dark money group backed by billionaires, known as the Collective Action Fund for Accountability, Resilience and Adaptation." That funding has drawn scrutiny from members of Congress, who have noted it pays for the firm's lawsuits on behalf of local governments aimed at bankrupting the nation's oil and gas companies.

To date, those claims have met with mixed results in court, at best.

On May 16, for example, as Judge Valderrama was sending Chicago's case back to Cook County court, a judge in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, tossed a similar lawsuit brought by the Bucks County government and their hired trial lawyers against Exxon, Chevron and other energy companies.

In that ruling, Judge Stephen Corr said his court would "join a growing chorus of state and federal courts across the U.S., singing from the same hymnal, in concluding that the claims raised by Bucks County are not judicable by any court in Pennsylvania."

While cases in Hawaii and Boulder, CO, have survived attempts to snuff them out in the initial stages, judges in New York, Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware have dismissed so-called "climate disinformation" suits as improper attempts to use lawsuits to regulate federally controlled emissions standards.

In Chicago, the oil and gas companies sought to remove the case from Cook County court to federal court. They also argued the lawsuit amounted to an illegal attempt by progressives at City Hall, including Mayor Brandon Johnson, to use state courts to force energy companies which operate globally and are regulated by federal law to comply with the political demands of anti-oil activists and politicians in the notoriously Democrat-dominated city of Chicago and state of Illinois, and then pay large sums of money in the process for their alleged past transgressions.

"The scope of Plaintiff's (Chicago's) theory is breathtaking — it seeks to regulate the sale of oil and gas anywhere in the world, including all past and otherwise lawful sales, including sales to the federal government," the energy companies said in their petition in federal court, filed in April 2024.

"Because Plaintiff challenges the extraction, sale, and consumption of fossil fuels over the past several decades, the Complaint necessarily calls into question longstanding decisions by the federal government regarding, among other things, national security, national energy policy, environmental protection, the maintenance of a national strategic petroleum reserve program, development of energy resources on the United States' outer continental shelf lands, mineral extraction on federal lands (which has produced billions of dollars

in revenue for the federal government), and the negotiation of international agreements bearing on the development and use of fossil fuels and the appropriate response to the problem of global climate change."

After more than a year of proceedings over that dispute in federal court, Judge Valderrama sided with the city, sending the case back to Cook County court.

In his ruling, Valderrama noted the oil and gas companies have consistently failed throughout the rest of the country to bump local governments' "climate disinformation" lawsuits into federal court.

In this case, Valderrama similarly rejected the companies' attempts to argue federal regulations, federal contracts and federal government directives concerning the extraction of oil and production of fuels should mean the case belongs in federal court under the so-called "federal officer" theory.

The judge agreed with the city that the regulations and directives do not "demonstrate ... (the companies were) closely controlled by the government, but rather demonstrate 'the story of a narrow business relationship'" which he said he and other courts "found to be insufficient" to hold up their "federal officer" theory claims.

Further, the judge agreed with the city that its lawsuit "does not take aim" at the companies' "production of fossil fuels."

"Instead, the Complaint takes issue with Defendants' alleged campaign of deception and misrepresentation in the 1980s of the dangers of fossil fuel vis-à-vis the environment. The fact that Defendants acted under the federal government by operating and managing government-owned and/or government-funded petroleum production facilities is of no import.

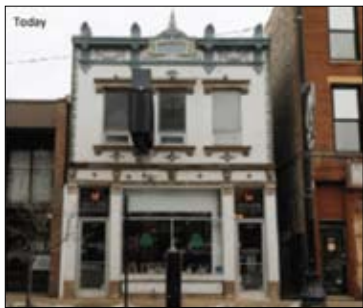
"... This case is about Defendants' alleged misrepresentations; not their work with or on behalf of the government that led to or contributed to fossil fuel emissions," Valderrama wrote.

Valderrama was appointed to the federal bench in 2020 by President Donald Trump during his first term in office. Valderrama had previously served as a Cook County Circuit Court judge.

Cook County courts have consistently been named among the top destinations of choice for trial lawyers suing businesses. The American Tort Reform Association, for instance, has consistently awarded Cook County's courts the distinction of standing as one of America's worst "judicial hellholes." Court systems are selected for such criticism by business advocates and court reformers because they assert business defendants struggle to receive a fair opportunity to defend themselves against lawsuits.

Cook County's courts are also heavily dominated by Democrats. In 2024, for instance, a Republi-

Former site of Lincoln Park WAX TRAX! record store approved as landmark



The former WAX TRAX! Records building in Lincoln Park was designated an official Chicago landmark May 21 following approval by City Council.

The two-story, Renaissance Revival-style building at 2449 N. Lincoln Ave., was constructed in the 1880s. In 1978, WAX TRAX! opened in the building and quickly became an international destination for an eclectic variety of music genres including punk, new wave, rockabilly and dance.

WAX TRAX! subsequently launched its own record label and helped establish Chicago as the birthplace of industrial music. Until its closing in 1993, the store also offered clothing, fanzines, concert tickets and other items that made it a gathering place for musicians and music lovers.

The landmark designation protects all exterior elevations of the building.

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After 150 years, Mary Lincoln's 'madness' still haunts American psyche

Mrs. Lincoln's own words offer insight into her sometimes tortured mind

BY PETER HANCOCK
Capital News Service

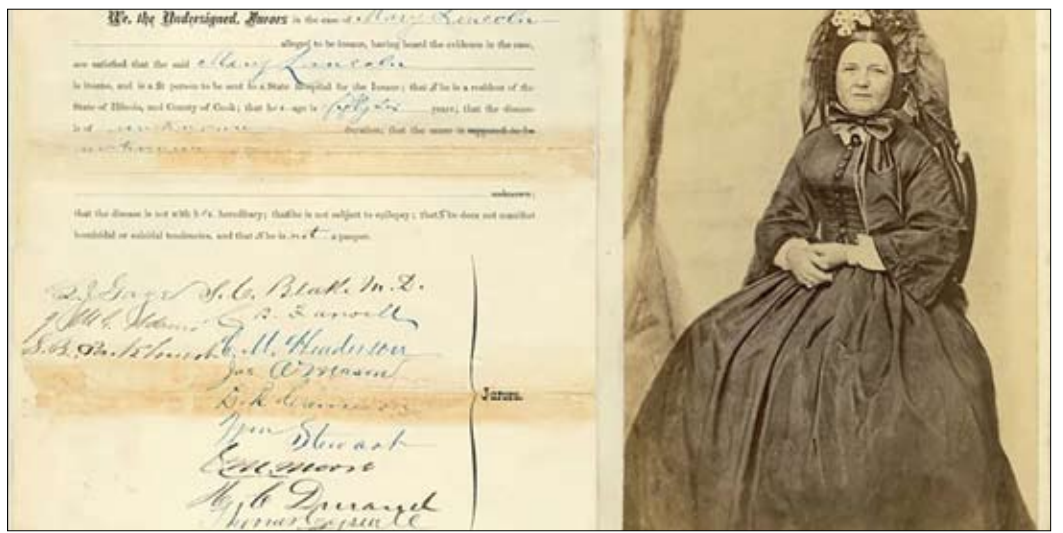
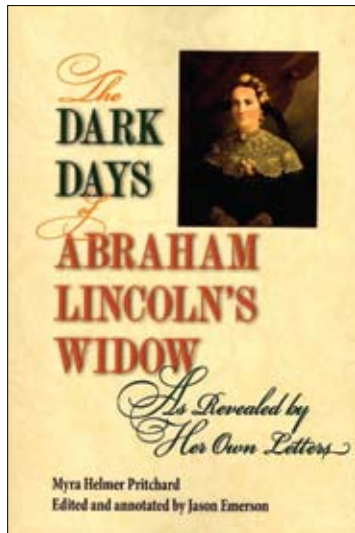
On May 19, 1875, a Cook County jury handed down a verdict in a case concerning the health and welfare of Mary Lincoln, widow of the former president who had been assassinated a decade earlier.

After listening to only a single day of testimony, the 12 men on the jury signed the standard verdict form stating simply that they "are satisfied that said Mary Lincoln is insane, and is a fit person to be sent to a State Hospital for the Insane ..."

The case had been brought to court by her surviving son, Robert Todd Lincoln, then just 31 years old and a successful practicing attorney in Chicago. At his request, the court ordered her committed to the Bellevue Place Sanitarium in Batavia, west of Chicago, and named him conservator of her estate for a period of one year, based on the finding that she was at the time incapable of managing her own affairs.

But Mrs. Lincoln would not spend a full year in the facility. With the help of two of her closest and only remaining friends, James and Myra Bradwell, of Chicago – and against the strong protests of Robert Lincoln – Mary Lincoln would be released after only four months to the custody of her sister in Springfield, Elizabeth Edwards.

The subject of Mary Lincoln's mental health has long been the subject of public debate. Was she, in fact, a danger to herself and others, and was her son truly acting in her best interests? Or was Robert Lincoln, as his mother would sometimes allege, scheming to shove her aside in order to take over her money and property?



(L) The Dark Days of Abraham Lincoln's Widow, As Revealed by Her Own Letters," edited by Jason Emerson and published by Southern Illinois University Press. Images courtesy of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (R) A verdict form, left, from a Cook County jury dated May 19, 1875, officially declared Mary Todd Lincoln "insane" and ordered her commitment to a sanitarium. At right, is a portrait of Mary Todd Lincoln, circa 1869.

Now, 150 years after her commitment, a newly rediscovered collection of correspondence between Mrs. Lincoln and her friends and family – letters long assumed to have been lost or destroyed – shed new light on the nature of her illness as well as the nature of her relationships with the few friends and family she had left by that time.

"People have always wondered if these missing letters, if they showed that, in fact, she was perfectly sane, that her son Robert did actually railroad her, bribe the judge and jury because he wanted to steal her money," Emerson said in a podcast interview with this reporter. "And they do not show that at all. They show that Mary thought that's what was happening – which, in my opinion, and the opinions of psychiatrists I've consulted – that was one of her delusions, that everyone was trying to steal her money, not just Robert." The book was

actually first compiled a century ago by Myra Helmer Pritchard, granddaughter of James and Myra Bradwell, and they were scheduled for publication in 1927, first in installments in the magazine "Liberty," and then as a book.

Before the publication, however, Pritchard, as a courtesy, offered to show them to Mary Harlan Lincoln, widow of Robert Lincoln, who had just died the year before. Although she was initially agreeable to the project and even offered to add additional information, after reading the manuscript, Mary Harlan Lincoln withdrew her consent and launched a series of legal efforts to suppress their publication.

Pritchard eventually agreed to hand over the material and never publish them in any form, in exchange for a payment of \$22,500.

Emerson's book recompiles that material and presents it as it was intended to be pub-

lished in 1927, including Pritchard's comments on the letters. But it also includes Emerson's own annotations and footnotes that provide context, as well as clarifications and corrections to some of Pritchard's commentaries.

The letters reveal her to be lonely, occasionally depressed and at times desperate for companionship. But on their surface, do not necessarily portray someone of an unsound mind, especially considering the traumas she had endured through much of her life.

"Pray for me that I may be able to leave such a place as this," she wrote to Myra Bradwell on Aug. 3, 1875. "Let me see Judge Bradwell. I beg you to come on Friday morning. I should like to see Dr. Evarts. I feel I must have some further conversation with him. Write me, your heart-

MADNESS see p. 14

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Deaths of Great Horned Owls was driving force behind use of birth control

The never-ending war on rats, and the City's use of rodenticide (rat poison) has taken innocent victims, which is one of the reasons why the city is seeking a new process for controlling the spread of rodents.

It turns out that rat poison is neither the most effective approach nor is it the safest for the other mammals and birds natural to our lakefront community.

In the spring of 2024, a pair of beloved Great Horned owls and their owlet living in Lincoln Park died one after the other. Tests confirmed that all three died from eating poisoned rats.

Theirs was a slow painful death.

The Willowbrook Wildlife Center has confirmed other raptor deaths due to rodenticide poisoning. Limiting the use of rodenticides would help local hawks, eagles and owls to live longer lives, as they all dine daily on fresh rodent kills.

The truth is that rat poison isn't fixing Chicago's rat problems, and it kills more than just rats. It can be lethal to birds and mammals, including children and pets.

That's why animal supporters from the Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago Bird Alliance [CBA] and Dept. of Streets and Sanitation sought out an experiment in using birth control rather than poison to try and mitigate the rat menace.

Local wildlife — from owls and hawks, to squirrels, foxes, coyotes, raccoons, opossums and even family pets - are also likely to consume this poison.

We've all heard about the food chain, and rat poison creates a toxic food link in that chain and ends up in the water and soil. This is bad for people and animals alike.

That risk has lead to the use of alternative rat control methods such as contraception and carbon dioxide or carbon monoxide, which have been successful in other locations. The CBS is calling for funds currently spent on



Lincoln Park's Great Horned Owls and owlet were killed by rat poison. Photo courtesy Russ Smith

Anticoagulant rodenticides [AR] toward alternative methods of controlling rats such as birth control pellets.

The Willowbrook Wildlife Center has confirmed other raptor deaths due to rodenticide poisoning. Limiting the use of rodenticides would help local hawks, eagles and owls to live longer lives, as they all dine daily on fresh rodent kills.

The City of Chicago is now working with the CBA to run a pilot study near Lincoln Park using these pellets, and conducting a fundraiser to help pay for the test. They are hoping to raise \$32,100 to fund a year-long rat contraceptive pilot program. Right now they are at about \$29,000.

Ald. Timmy Knudsen [43rd] and the Lincoln Park Conservancy are helping raise funds along with private citizens. The results of the pilot test will no doubt be shared wide and far.

CBA's position on anticoagulant rodenticides

ARs are not an effective means of controlling urban rat populations, reports the CBA, and are harmful to non-target animals.

They recommend we reduce the use of anticoagulant rodenticides as a method to control Chicago's rats in favor of alternatives, while growing resources and public education focused on eliminating environmental conditions that favor rats.

Rats thrive in cities because they can access human-associated resources such as food waste in garbage.

CBS suggests that enabling Streets and Sanitation staff to automatically replace damaged garbage receptacles as they are noticed during garbage collection; increase the frequency of garbage collection in wards and parks with proportionately more rat complaints, and invest in the development of rat-proof garbage receptacles that are feasible with garbage collection systems.

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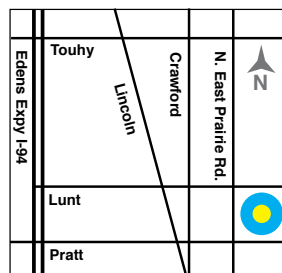


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Police Beat...

Cops detain 3 following separate stabbings in River North, South Loop

Chicago police detained three individuals in connection with two separate stabbing incidents that injured victims in the South Loop and River North neighborhoods on May 25.

At approximately 6:30 p.m., a 35-year-old man was stabbed in the arm and back during an argument at a bus stop in the 500 block of W. Roosevelt Rd. in the South Loop. CPD said that the suspect, a 65-year-old man, used a sharp object to attack the victim before leaving the scene.

Officers located and detained the suspect during a search of the area. The victim was transported to Stroger Hospital in fair condition.

In an unrelated incident, at around 9:20 p.m., a 22-year-old man was stabbed in the 700 block of N. State St. in River North.

According to CPD, the victim was involved in an argument with a 24-year-old man and a 17-year-old female. The altercation escalated, and the suspects allegedly punched the victim repeatedly, causing him to fall.

The pair then stabbed the victim while he was on the ground and stabbed him twice more as he attempted to flee. Officers applied a chest seal to the victim to control bleeding until paramedics arrived. He victim was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition.

Using surveillance camera feeds, police identified and located the suspects at the Grand Red Line station before they could board a train. Charges were pending against all three suspects.

Man seriously injured in Ashland Ave. beating

A 34-year-old man was seriously injured in an attack Sunday morning, say Chicago police. The man was battered at 5:25 a.m. May 25 in the 1200 block of N. Ashland Ave. He has been hospitalized at Northwestern Hospital in serious condition. The attacker fled in an unknown direction say police. Area 5 detectives are investigating.

Parents can't sue Teachers Union for illegal COVID strike

Parents of school children enrolled in Chicago's Public Schools don't have the legal ability to sue

the Chicago Teachers Union [CTU] for illegal strikes, such as the one the parents said CTU staged in early 2022 in a bid to keep Chicago's schools closed amid the COVID pandemic, even as the rest of the country was returning to normalcy, a Cook County judge has ruled.

On May 8, Cook County Circuit Judge Daniel Kubasiak sided with the CTU and its current and former union presidents, dismissing the lawsuit brought by parents over the allegedly illegal strike.

In the ruling, Kubasiak agreed that allowing the parents' lawsuit to continue would conflict with state educational labor law and would undermine the ability of the CTU and other teachers unions to deal directly with school boards to resolve supposed conflicts, no matter if those disputes are genuine and legal or manufactured and outside the law.

The lawsuit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court in Feb. 2024, sought to make the CTU and current and former presidents Stacey Davis Gates and Jesse Sharkey, pay at least \$250 million for causing learning loss, income loss and general headaches for Chicago Public Schools students and their families when the union executed a labor action in 2022 to protest CPS' return to full-time, in-person learning.

Chicago cops abused rights of street preachers

A group of Christian street preachers are suing the city of Chicago, claiming Chicago Police wrongly detained or arrested them under the guise of an ordinance regulating amplified noise, as part of an alleged unwritten discriminatory policy hostile to religious speakers.

Two separate lawsuits have been lodged against the city and various Chicago Police officers.

The first was filed in Dec. 2024 by Moody Bible Institute student Ethan Acevedo, of Chicago.

It was followed in March by a separate lawsuit filed by attorneys for traveling street preacher Brett Raio, of Maine; Chicago street evangelist Perez Ndi; and street preacher Reetik Dhamala, of Wheaton. Those three men renewed their claims against the city and four Chicago Police officers in an amended complaint filed April 17.

According to Acevedo's lawsuit, he was part of a group speaking on a religious basis against abortion while near a Planned Parenthood clinic at 1200 N. La Salle on March 30, 2024.

According to the lawsuits, all of the allegedly wrongly detained Christian street preachers were standing on public sidewalks in Chicago when they were engaged by police.

According to the other lawsuit, Raio and Ndi were accosted, handcuffed and cited by Chicago Police while proselytizing at the intersection of E. Madison St. and N. Michigan Ave. near

Millennium Park on Dec. 21, 2024. Ndi and Dhamala were later arrested at the same location and detained for seven hours by Chicago Police on Feb. 24, 2025.

According to the complaints, all were arrested, detained or cited by police claiming authority under a Chicago city ordinance which the officers allegedly said prohibited speaking using amplification without permits on public streets.

The lawsuits seek court orders blocking the city from wrongly enforcing the sound amplification ordinance to allegedly target street evangelists near Millennium Park or the Planned Parenthood facility at 1200 N. LaSalle.

Rental car records, video, phone data identify Wisconsin man as gunman in Rogers Park murder



Jakobe Barker, left, and Antwon Jackson

A Wisconsin man has been charged with committing the first murder of 2025 in Rogers Park thanks to rental car records, phone location data, and volumes of video.

Antwon Jackson, 31, was detained by Judge Dedire Dyer over May 18 after prosecutors detailed why they believe Jackson is the man who killed 28-year-old Jakobe Barker in the 1300 block of W. Estes.

Officials said Jackson rented a blue Buick Encore from Hertz on Valentine's Day in Madison and was seen on video two days later at the Sonic restaurant, 1022 W. Wilson, in Uptown. Detectives found at least two other videos linking Jackson to the car, according to a proffer filed by prosecutors.

Very late that night, about 25 minutes before the murder, another video showed Jackson outside with a man who had a gun, the proffer said.

At about 12:25 a.m. Feb. 17, video showed Barker driving near the Encore and the two vehicles seeming to overtake each other, prosecutors said.

When Barker turned to go to his girlfriend's house on Estes, the Encore continued going straight and then turned around at a gas station to follow him.

As Barker stopped in front of his girlfriend's house, the Encore drove alongside him, and someone in the Encore fired multiple shots, killing him. Prosecutors believe Jackson fired those shots from the passenger side while a witness was in the driver's seat.

Cops found the Encore abandoned in the 1400 block of W. Catalpa and staked it out. Someone who knows Jackson tried to retrieve the Encore on the day after the murder, but the police arrested him when he got inside, the proffer said.

That man and four separate law enforcement officers identified Jackson from images recorded at Hertz and elsewhere, according to prosecutors. GPS from the Encore and Jackson's phone location history tracked together "at all the locations, including the scene of the murder," said the proffer, which did not provide a clear motive for the crime.

Man found shot at Uptown intersection May 25

A man was found shot at an Uptown intersection on May 25, but he didn't want to cooperate with the Chicago cops who showed up to help him.

Officers responded to a 911 call about a man who fell out of an SUV in the 4800 block of N. Sheridan around 5:12 a.m. It turned out that the man

had a gunshot wound in his lower right leg, according to CPD.

An officer who reviewed surveillance video said the footage showed the injured man pull up to the intersection in an SUV, get out, and sit down on the ground around 5:03 a.m. He was already shot when he arrived, according to the officer. CPD said he was in good condition at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center.

Investigators suspect the man was shot near the 4900 block of N. Winthrop around 5 a.m. That's because they received calls of shots fired in that area, which is only a block or two from where the man was found.

So far this year, only two people have been shot in Uptown. That's down from seven victims at this point last year.

DC shooting suspect protested outside Mayor's Ravenswood home after McDonald killing

Years before he allegedly shot and killed two Israeli Embassy employees in Washington D.C., Elias Rodriguez was an active member of left-wing groups in Chicago. Among his targets were police violence and a proposed Amazon headquarters in Chicago.

Elias Rodriguez, 31, was charged May 22 with the murder of foreign officials and other crimes in connection with the deaths of Israeli citizen Yaron Lischinsky and American Sarah Milgrim. He lived in a modest 850-square-foot apartment in Albany Park and worked as an administrative assistant at a medical trade group.

On Sunday, the Chicago Sun-Times reported that an Oct. 2017 article in Liberation, the online newspaper for the Party for Socialism and Liberation, quoted Rodriguez as a member of the group participating in a protest outside the Ravenswood home of then-Mayor Rahm Emanuel over the police shooting of teenager Laquan McDonald and the city's bid to be the site for a new Amazon headquarters.

A photo of a man holding a protest sign published with the article appeared to match photos of Rodriguez posted on social media. Video of him protesting in Downtown Chicago for Palestinian refugees and against Israel has also been posted online.

Last week the organization denied that Rodriguez was an active member, though it acknowledged a "brief association" in the past. The group also scrubbed the 2017 article identifying Rodriguez as a member from its website.

Mom stabbed 7-year-old son for making a mess in their Rogers Park apartment

A woman was jailed after prosecutors accused her of stabbing her 7-year-old son for making a mess in their Rogers Park apartment May 17.

Chicago police arrested the woman at Evanston Hospital after she went there to have her son treated for a stab wound.

On May 18, prosecutors said Llovana Torres, 26, who stayed up late on May 16 cleaning her apartment in the 1700 block of W. Touhy. But she awoke on May 17 to discover that her son had made another mess.

She struck her son a number of times, and he hid in a cabinet under the kitchen sink to get away, according to the allegations.

Torres tried to pull him out, but when those efforts failed, she grabbed a kitchen knife and repeatedly stabbed him, prosecutors claimed.

After the boy screamed, Torres took him to her mother's apartment downstairs, and the grandmother ordered her to take him to the hospital, officials said.

Evanston Hospital transferred the boy to Lurie Children's Hospital by air ambulance, and he remained on a ventilator as his mother stood in court yesterday.

Prosecutors said Torres told a hospital employee that she had stabbed

the boy and later told CPD that she accidentally struck him with the blade.

Judge Sabra Ebersole ordered her detention on a charge of aggravated battery of a child under 13.

Anonymous tipster leads to arrest of suspect in violent robbery of two women in the Loop



Surveillance images of the suspects.

A twice-convicted robber is once again facing robbery charges after an anonymous tipster recognized him in CTA surveillance that Chicago police released to the media earlier this year. Both victims suffered concussions during the attack.

Tremain Giles, 26, violently attacked two Lakeview women inside the Jackson pedway late on Jan. 24, prosecutors

say. Two men who remain at large helped.

Officials said the women, ages 22 and 25, were walking through the pedway between the Blue and Red Lines when Giles spread his arms to keep them from passing.

He allegedly put his arms around the younger woman's chest and pushed her against the wall while calling her "b***h" and trying to rip her bag away. As he did that, the other two men blocked the second victim, according to prosecutors.

When the second woman tried to intervene in the robbery, Giles slapped her across the face, grabbed her by her hair, and threw her into the pedway wall, officials said.

He ultimately got away with the older woman's purse but failed to get the first victim's backpack, according to court filings.

Judge James Costello detained Giles, saying he "exhibited far more violence than necessary to achieve [the] robbery." Costello said an anonymous 311 caller identified Giles, and one of the victims subsequently picked him out of a photo lineup.

Chicago cops recently arrested him after they saw him jump a turnstile at the Roosevelt CTA station and realized he was wanted for the robbery, according to his arrest report.

Both victims required medical treatment for concussions and one of them has suffered hearing loss, Costello wrote in a detention order.

Giles received a six-year prison sentence for robbing a victim older than 60 in Bridgeview. He pleaded guilty to robbery as a juvenile, too, prosecutors said.

He's now charged with robbery, attempted robbery, and two counts of aggravated battery.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com and Jonathan Bilyk

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Snap Curfew Ordinance vote delayed until June 18

The City Council Public Safety Committee voted May 20 to pass Ald. Brian Hopkins' [2nd] curfew ordinance out of the committee. The ordinance was "deferred and published," delaying a full vote until the next City Council meeting on June 18.

The ordinance allows the CPD Superintendent and the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety to de-

clare a curfew for minors when groups of 20 or more have the potential to cause a danger to public safety.

North Side cosponsors of the ordinance right now include and Brendan Reilly [42nd], Timmy Knudsen [43rd], Bennett Lawson [44th] and Scott Waguespack [32].

Get Behind The Vest fundraiser June 25

A Get Behind The Vest fundraiser will be held 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, hosted by Mario Stefanini of Mario's Table, 21 W. Goethe St.

A policeman's vest is not bulletproof forever. It wears out and breaks down, and it needs to be replaced every 5 years. Just one bullet permanently damages

a vest, making it unusable.

At \$500 or more per vest, in addition to other equipment and uniform expenses, the costs can quickly add up. That is why a group forms every year to help raise money to buy new vests. These donations ensure that every officer out protecting Chicago citizens is protected.

This is the 4th Annual Get Behind the Vest event. Since 2022, they have raised over \$200,000.

The event is co-sponsored by Gold Coast Neighbors Assoc. and the 2nd Ward Office. For tickets or more information call 312-643-2299.

Survey underway for agriculture plan

Chicago is creating its first Urban Agriculture Plan, and is conducting a public survey to help guide in its formation.

Over the next few years, Advocates for Urban Agriculture and Chicago Community Gardeners Assoc., will be focusing their efforts on co-creating this plan. The purpose of their survey is to receive community feedback on what focus areas should be included in the urban agriculture plan.

They endeavor to shift policy to reduce red tape in the City to be more supportive of individuals, organizations and businesses growing food, medicine, flowers, and other pollinator habitats within the city; identify challenges within departments of the City of Chicago and sister agencies to better serve growers; and encourage improved resources. To participate visit <https://www.auachicago.org/>.

Steppenwolf Theatre Company wins Pulitzer Prize

Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company celebrated the announcement earlier this month by the Pulitzer Prize Board that playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins won the 2025 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for "Purpose."

The play, commissioned by Steppenwolf Theatre Company, is a fictional work that debuted in Chicago in 2024 and moved earlier this year from Steppenwolf to Broadway in New York City, where it is still being staged today with the original Chicago cast.

Directed in New York and Chicago by Phylicia Rashad, it's loosely based on the family of civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

This marks the first time a play that grew out of Steppenwolf has won the Pulitzer Prize since Tracy Letts' "August: Osage County" in 2008.

Jacobs-Jenkins was also named one of Time's 100 Most Influential People of 2025.

Wilding alert: 14 suspects sought in violent robbery, battery aboard CTA train in downtown



Surveillance images of 14 people identified as suspects in a robbery and battery aboard the Red Line downtown. *Courtesy Chicago Police Dept.*

BY CWBCHICAGO

It may be the most individuals sought in a single Chicago Police Dept. bulletin in years. Cops are looking for at least 14 people who were involved in the armed robbery and physical attack of two passengers on a Red Line train in the Loop.

CPD said the group "aggressively battered" a couple on the train at Harrison around 11:23 p.m. May 7.

The crowd battered and pepper-sprayed the victims and took their valuables while at least one offender displayed a knife.

According to the alert released Friday evening, all of the suspects are Black and 15 to 25 years old.

Anyone who recognizes someone in the CTA surveillance images can contact detectives at 312-745-4447 regarding case #JJ246554.

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Letters to the Editor

Serious concerns about proposed relocation of Old Town Walgreens

As a long-time Old Town resident and neighbor at 1660 N. La-Salle, I'm writing to express serious concerns about the proposed relocation of Walgreens into the former Treasure Island grocery space. This isn't just a change in tenancy—it raises real questions about safety and transparency.

The property at 1639 N. Wells St. has only one customer entrance and exit. The southern wall faces an enclosed, windowless zone with no active security features, no direct visibility from the street, and no natural foot traffic.

Introducing a late-night or 24-hour retail use in this uniquely constrained setting—without transparent planning or public input—raises understandable questions.

How will access, deliveries, and pedestrian flow be handled? What steps will be taken to ensure pedestrian safety, minimize disruption, and provide necessary security for those parking in the former Treasure Island parking lot, customers on foot or all pe-

destrians?

It has been widely reported that safety, violence and theft issues continue to plague Walgreens at 1200 N. Dearborn. Is the current proposed relocation of the Old Town Walgreens into 1639 N. Wells factoring in these well-reported issues?

Those of us living next door should be a part of any conversation about how this space will be used.

To my neighbors at 1660 and throughout Old Town: for over 50 years, this site supported a full-service grocery store that served the community's daily needs. Temporarily replacing it with a pharmacy store that may bring more traffic, new issues, and fewer tangible neighborhood benefits has left many of us questioning the direction and process behind this change. We deserve transparency—and a seat at the table for discussion.

Kate Leatham
Old Town

It's time for kids to walk or bike to school

As a mother to a toddler, I am excited to see the installation of a protected bike lane on Clark St. I hope that the city continues to install more protected bike lanes on our streets to create a connected network that people can safely use to get to many destinations.

In the past, I never thought of biking to get around the city; it seemed too dangerous. But when the city installed a protected bike lane in front of my home, I started using a Divvy bike. Being an exhausted new mom, I was very happy to have a safe, inexpensive, quick, reliable way to travel that did not require me to drive. Now, I use a bike to get to shopping, restaurants, and appointments on a weekly basis. If even a fraction of drivers are enticed to switch to biking during rush hour, it would ease congestion.

For decades, American cities have been prioritizing driving at the expense of all other modes of transportation in order to combat congestion. That approach has utterly failed, and I can think of no better example of this than school drop-off. According to the National Household Travel Survey run by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, in 1969, 48% of kids aged 5-14 walked or cycled to school, and only 12% were driven by their parents. In 2009, only 13% of kids aged 5-14 walked or cycled, and 44% were driven by their parents. That is a massive increase in cars

crowded around schools in the morning, and a massive increase in congestion. Not only is this terrible for traffic, but it creates danger for our kids. The situation has gotten so bad that more and more schools are pushing for traffic calming.

Multiple studies have shown that kids who walk to school have better physical and mental health and feel more connected to their community. At a time when kids are struggling with loneliness and not getting enough exercise, we should be making it easy for them to get around independently. Protected bike lanes, which increase safety for pedestrians as well as cyclists, are an obvious choice.

My dad tells a funny story about being tricked into walking across the city of Dhaka when he was 10 years old. When I first heard the story, I couldn't imagine how a kid could be so free. I was driven everywhere by my parents, so I had no idea how to get around by myself or how I would even navigate a big city. Now that I am a parent, I know that I want my son to have some taste of the freedom his grandfather had. I accept that he won't be able to cross the city when he is 10, but I have hope that we will have improved traffic safety enough that he can at least walk to school.

Tasnim Tanveer
West Loop

Have something on your mind about your community?
Write a Letter To The Editor at insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com



Barb Bailey and Barry Edwards.



Yo-Yo Ma

BUTTERMILK from p. 2

DA BEARS: Why is Mayor "Don't Tackle Me" Johnson giving up so easily on the Bears. His quote, "I've done all I can," appears light years from the usual scrapping that Chicago Mayors have been famous for over the years. **George Halas** must be laughing in Heaven. Truth is, the Bears have big plans, while our city's leadership is made up of small minds.

LOWER TAXES: Illinois is one of the highest taxed states, but the new budget bill in Congress means an increase in the State and Local Tax (SaLT) Limitation from \$10K to \$40K. The original measure only included raising the limit to \$30K. For our overtaxed North Siders, that helps you.

SPRINGFIELD: Gov. **JB Pritzker** has signed an executive order prohibiting state agencies from sharing autism-related data outside the state without consent from an individual or guardian. He really is a protector.

AVIATION: Do we still have a Dept. of Aviation in Chicago? What's all the raised voices and bitter words surrounding the American Airlines presence at O'Hare? Their apparent internal battle with United Airlines is turning into a brouhaha. But their clumsy air service is now apparently becoming a bigger issue as the airlines have their hands out for more gates. Big court case is part of the conflict. How did things get so bad?

WHO'S WHERE: **Debi Catanacci** met up with **Sherrill Bodine** in Iceland before heading back to the States aboard the Liner SS Silverseas... **Shaun Rajah** in Cabo San Lucas having the good fortune bumping into superstar **Paula Abdul**, one of his favorites... **Kathy Wolter Mondelli** assembling the ladies of Chicago Society to become stars and appear on the hit **Dick Wolf** NBC UNIVERSAL TV show "Chicago Med," Season 10, episode 21, filmed in Chicago, so many familiar faces... **Eamonn**



Charlie, Ken and Mary Claire Scorsone Moll.



Shaun Rajah and Pula Abdul.

Cummins and **Pennie Taylor** attended the fabulous opening performance of the Trinity Dance Troop at the Museum of Contemporary Art... **Jim Kinney's** summer reading list is extensive, sophisticated and very apt to keep him well-occupied... **Dr. Rose Gomez** on her summer journey with a stop in Barcelona, Spain to see an epic cathedral, as well as the Bar Lobo... **Karen Zupko** in NYC viewing the immortal **John Singer Sergeant** exhibit at the MET with a portrait of Sergeant in his 30s and "Madame X" still causes quite a scandal... Architect **Lucien Lagrange** digging into a Pisano's pizza and meeting friends, nothing like it... **Ald. Brian Hopkins** [2nd] marking the 10th anniversary with "A Decade of Service," June 5 at Maple and Ash at 5:30 p.m... Good news, **Yo-Yo Ma** will return to Symphony Center for a solo recital March 28, 2026... **Irene Mojica** among the many stunning hat ladies at the Service Club Lunch... Congrats to **Charlie Moll** who just graduated from Loyola/Marymount Los Angeles, mom and dad, **Ken** and **Mary Claire Scorsone Moll**, couldn't be more proud... Superstar librarian **Leah Steele** recovering from emergency surgery, now back home and resting... bravo to LaCrosse star **Marty Junkins** for graduating from St. Ignatius College Prep, getting ready for Denison Univ.

CABARET: **Barb Bailey** is

being presented on June 18th by **Barry Edwards** of **Dick Clark's American Bandstand** and Chicago's CBS News. In less than four weeks she'll be at The Den Theatre, 1313 N. Milwaukee, with the show she did in New York at "Don't Tell Mama!" All new Hollywood stories. Box Office: 773-697-3830

STEPPEWOLF: Steppenwolf Theatre Company kicked off its 50th anniversary year with a gala at its campus on N. Halsted St. Themed "Half Century Full Throttle." The May 10 event welcomed over 400 guests including civic leaders, artists and longtime supporters and raised \$1.85 million, the second-highest fundraising total in the company's history.

BIRTHDAY FEAST: Happiest of birthdays to the 'Divine' **Mamie Walton** honored by an army of friends at Neiman Marcus luncheon, luxuriating as always in her grace and nobility.

POET: Chicago is looking for its next Poet Laureate. The selected poet will serve a two-year term starting in 2026 and will be awarded an honorarium of \$70,000 (\$35,000/year) for the commissioning of new poems and for attendance at public events and presentations. The application deadline is May 29, it's not too late.

MUSIC NIGHT: **Denise Tomasello** had a full house at The Carnivale / The Alley speakeasy in downtown Chicago thanks to **Bill Merivitz** and staff. Star-studded audience with Gibson's **Steve Lombardo**, former State Sen. **James Deleo**, joined **Irene Michaels** and **Kim Peterson Leffew** for one great night.

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Coyotes are typically shy and nocturnal, but become bolder during mating season.

Coyote pupping season underway on North Side

Pupping season is now underway for coyotes in the Chicago area, meaning that many new infants are being born and there are increased chances that you could come across one in your community.

There are an estimated 2,000 coyotes in the Chicagoland area in parks, cemeteries and woodlands, but they are normally reclusive and try to avoid human contact at all times.

Coyotes are a natural part of the local ecosystem not unlike pigeons, squirrels, or rabbits but often raise special attention and concern among residents. Just seeing a coyote does not warrant a report to the city through 311 or 911. But do report an injured, sick, viscous animal, or any animal on the public way, in a public place

including city parks.

Typically coyotes will only be seen in human spaces if they are expecting food, chasing food down, or desperate for it. However, pup rearing season can cause an increase in sightings and interactions as parents becoming more desperate to provide food for their pups may take otherwise unlikely risks.

Residents are advised to take special precautions, especially those with small pets. Cats and small dogs should be kept inside or monitored, as should their food and water bowls. Food waste can also be a draw for coyotes, so keep waste in high-quality, lidded containers when outside.

How the railroads shaped Chicago

The Edgewater Historical Assoc. will be hosting a free book discussion 10 a.m., Saturday, June 14 on the book *The Iron Horse and the Windy City: How Railroads Shaped Chicago*, by author David M. Young.

The talk will be held at the Edgewater Branch, Chicago Public Library, Betty A. Barclay Community Room, 6000 N. Broadway.

Railroads were instrumental in shaping Chicago's early growth and development, transforming it from a small settlement into a major urban center and industrial powerhouse. Rail enabled the city to become a

hub for grain and meatpacking industries, fueled suburban expansion, and facilitated trade and commerce across the Midwest that continues to this day.

In addition to a tour of railroad history, the book also covers its importance to Chicago's economic and physical development. It was also one of the first books to deal with the history of accidents and issues of safety.

Books will be available at the first floor circulation desk. This program is in partnership with the Edgewater Branch Library.

Maifest this weekend in Lincoln Square

Ethnic celebration has been an annual festival

Maifest will be celebrated this year in Lincoln Square, a cultural event brought to you by the Maifest Committee and Ald. Matt Martin [47th], taking place in Lincoln Square, Chicago's original German neighborhood.

Maifest is the traditional German celebration of the arrival of spring. Maifest is still celebrated throughout Germany with the maypole (maibaum) decorated to show off the history and crafts of the local village or town.

It's a time for community festivities, including parades, dances around decorated maypoles, and traditional German foods. The origins of Maifest can be traced back to ancient pagan celebrations of spring, with some sources suggesting it may have been celebrated as early as the 6th century BC.

While the famous Lincoln Square maibaum is missing this year (due to road construction), the celebration remains. But due to that road construction, this year's events will be centered at 4521 N. Lincoln Ave.

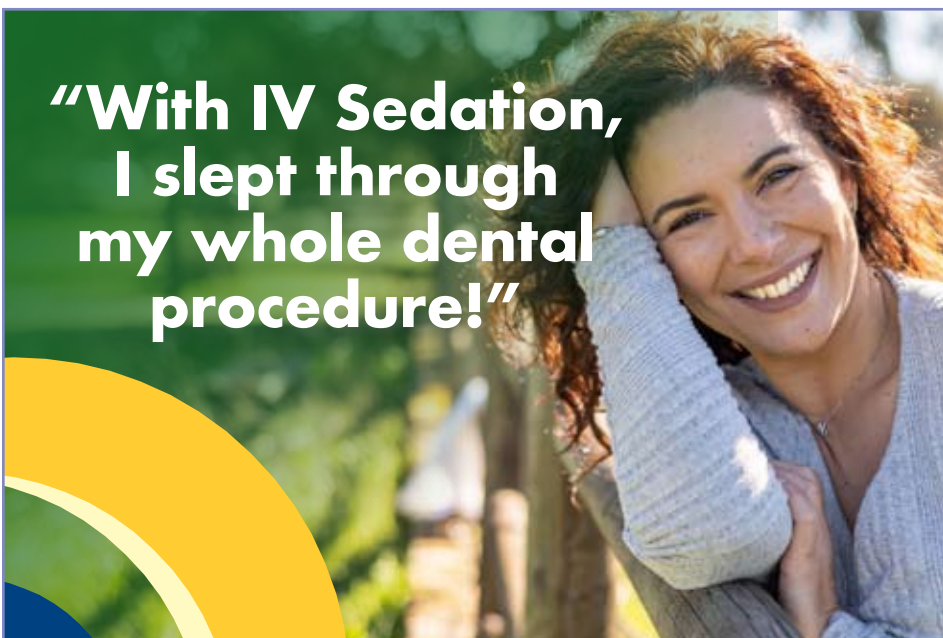
across from The Old Town School of Music.

Like Oktoberfest, Maifest has now become a popular celebration throughout the world. Chicago's German community welcomes all to the heart of Chicago's German Community in Lincoln Square.

Festivities start at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 29 and run through 10 p.m. Sunday, June 1.

The event is organized by Committee President Joe Matuschka and Vice President Joe Bradtk, and is a 501(c)(3) organization founded to promote Chicago's German heritage. The four-day fest benefits German-American organizations including The Rheinischer Verein, St. Hubertus Jagd Club, the American Aid Society, the Donauschwaben Youth Group, Edelweiss Trachten Verein, D'Lustigen Holzacker Buam, Egerlander Dance Group, Dank Haus and others.

Admission to Maifest Chicago is free and open to all ages. Outstanding German and American food and beer are available for purchase. German and American bands provide entertainment throughout the fest.



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Case No. FL-24-002947

You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association.

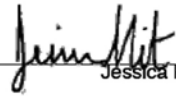
These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Stanislaus
Main Courthouse
800 11th Street, Modesto, CA 95354

Pat Iziegbe Ekenomaghele
3987 Purple Finch Lane
Modesto, CA, 95355 309-585-8099

Clerk, by (Secretario, por)



Deputy (Asistente)

COURT from p. 6

can candidate made news as the first non-Democrat to seek election to a countywide judgeship in Cook County in 14 years.

The Democratic Party in recent years has become increasingly hostile to the use of oil and gas and to the companies who extract and refine the fuels, as they seek to use the cause of combatting so-

MADNESS from p. 8

broken friend, frequently, daily. But come to me. Will you kindly bring out some samples of black alpaca a best quality without luster and without cotton. Also some samples of heavier black woolen goods.”

The book is Emerson’s second work on the subject of the lost letters, which he uncovered in 2005. He found them locked away in a trunk that had once belonged to one of Robert Lincoln’s personal attorneys, Frederick Towers.

Using those letters and a wealth of other material, Emerson wrote his first book on the subject, “The Madness of Mary Lincoln.” in 2007.

In that book, Emerson cites a modern psychiatric expert who

called “climate change” to enact laws and regulations that increasingly force Americans to abandon the use of internal combustion powered cars, landscaping tools and other implements, while also shutting down reliable traditional power plants in favor of so-called “renewable” energy sources, such as solar and wind.

Following the ruling, the energy companies told the court

theorized that Mary Lincoln suffered from what would likely be diagnosed today as bipolar disorder.

“And he told me that today, Mary would be committed involuntarily for probably about seven days,” he said. “Doctors would look at her. They’d give her medication, and she’d be fine today, as long as she took the medication.”

“But back then, they didn’t have that,” Emerson said. “But if you look at her whole life, it’s very clear the incidence of bipolar disorder, or what used to be called manic depressive illness, where she’s high and she’s low, and she’s wonderfully loving and horribly mean. Her spending could be considered a manic action. She was depressed a lot. So it’s clear throughout her whole life.”

they intend to appeal the ruling to the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. They have requested Valderrama put a hold on enforcing his ruling until they have filed their appeal.

The city has opposed that request. As of May 20, Valderrama had not yet ruled on the motion to stay pending appeal.

After her release, Mary Todd Lincoln lived a relatively quiet life, although she remained plagued by both psychiatric and physical ailments. She died in 1882 at the age of 63. She is buried next to her husband at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, along with three of their sons: Edward, William and Thomas.

Robert Lincoln went on to lead a distinguished career of his own. In addition to his legal career, he served as secretary of war under President James Garfield and continued in that post under President Chester A. Arthur after Garfield’s assassination. He also served as minister to Great Britain in the Benjamin Harrison administration. He died in 1926 at age 82.

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2017-6, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE Plaintiff, -v- TERRECIDA WRIGHT A/K/A TERRECIDA WRIGHT- GRANT, LEONARD GRANT, ESTES COURT CONDOMINIUM INC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2024 CH 03835 1640 W ESTES APT 108 CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 24, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on June 25, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1640 W ESTES APT 108, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-31-203-022-1008 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$167,162.59. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate

Real Estate For Sale

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 CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 6400 SHAFER CT, STE 325, ROSEMONT, IL, 60018 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 24-187139 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code: 65582 Case Number: 2024 CH 03835 TJS#F: 45-866 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff’s attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 03835 **13266933** 282828 ----- 212121 -----

Real Estate For Sale

SON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 6400 SHAFER CT, STE 325, ROSEMONT, IL, 60018 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 24-187139 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code: 65582 Case Number: 2024 CH 03835 TJS#F: 45-866 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff’s attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 03835 **13266933** 282828 ----- 212121 -----

Real Estate For Sale

CORP. Plaintiff, -v- JOSETTE H. TERRELL A/K/A JOSETTE TERRELL, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, CITY OF CHICAGO, VELOCITY INVESTMENTS, LLC, SYMPHONY OF EVANSTON HEALTHCARE, LLC, 1239-41 WEST JARVIS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2023 CH 00436 1241 WEST JARVIS AVE #G2 CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 12, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on June 10, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1241 WEST JARVIS AVE #G2, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-29-315-027-1010 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$32,353.45. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of

Real Estate For Sale

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 Alexander Potestivo, POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to

Real Estate For Sale

file number 316501. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610 Chicago, IL, 60606 312-263-0003 E-Mail: ilpleadings@potestivolaw.com Attorney File No. 316501 Attorney Code. 43932 Case Number: 2023 CH 00436 TJS#F: 45-1161 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff’s attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 00436 **13266103** 141414 -----

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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 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, -v- JUSTIN M. HERZOG A/K/A JUSTIN MICHAEL HERZOG A/K/A JUSTIN HERZOG; LELAND HEIGHTS CONDOMINIUM; Defendants. 24 CH 7273 1424 West Leland Avenue #3, 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 4/7/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on 7/9/2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60602, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 1424 West Leland Avenue #3, Chicago, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-17-102-027-1006 The real estate is improved with a Multi-Family. The judgment amount was \$207,720.77 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com, LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act,

Real Estate For Sale

765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff’s attorney: LOGS Legal Group LLP (847) 291-1717 please refer to file number 24-101565-FC01. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 24-101565-FC01 **NOTE NUMBER: 24 CH 7273** 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. 8277-953537

Real Estate For Sale

Commonly known as 531 W ADDISON ST, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-111-009-1001 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$88,506.21. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver’s license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 6400 SHAFER CT, STE 325, ROSEMONT, IL, 60018 (561) 241-

Real Estate For Sale

6901. Please refer to file number 23-163845. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 6400 SHAFER CT, STE 325 ROSEMONT IL, 60018 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 23-163845 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code: 65582 Case Number: 2024 CH 01820 TJS#F: 45-833 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff’s attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 01820 **13266848** 282828 ----- 212121 -----

Real Estate For Sale

The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on June 9, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 3950 N LAKE SHORE DR APT 523D, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-101-034-1486 The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium

Real Estate For Sale

Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver’s license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-24-04579 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2024 CH 07212 TJS#F: 45-691 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff’s attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 07212 **13266026** 141414 -----

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Miscellaneous, cont.

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6480D- Filipescu, Cristina
4130F- Hofbauer, Michael
5495E-Johnson, Reneesha
8184SM- Konieczna, Dori
4270F- Long, Kim
3125G- Mallick, Manish
4075D- Talley, Tefny Catrice
3415G- Trujillo, Henry
8180SM- Vaughn, Maya I
for public sale. This sale is to be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

Sleeping Rooms

Cook County - Chicago


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News tips? Call 773-465-9700

Walk Edgewater routes announced

The walking tours hosted by the Edgewater Historical Assoc. are back, and they are allowing up to 20 participants on each tour.

The fee for each tour is \$15, and the schedule is subject to change.

- Surprising Broadway: This tour of the main business area of Edgewater has many surprises because it features several of the significant Motor Row buildings and a collection of two-flats built before the street was designated commercial. This tour captures a moment in Edgewater history when homes and businesses were side by side. Date: June 8; 1 p.m.
- Andersonville Historic District: This district exhibits some of the finest commercial architecture built by Swedish architects at the beginning of the 20th century. Also included are a few residential buildings of early construction. The walk begins at the Edgewater Historical Society Museum garden at Balmoral and Ashland, and ends at Foster and Clark. Date: June 22; 11 a.m.
- Lakewood Balmoral Historic District: Des-

- igned in 1999, this district displays many of Edgewater's finest architectural gems in residential housing. Many are locally important landmarks on the Chicago Historic Resources survey of 1986. Date: July 9; 5 p.m.
- North Edgewater Beach: You will see seven Chicago landmarks and homes from the 1890s in the area around Granville and Kenmore. Learn from discussion of examples of each major residential building boom and housing transition in Edgewater since the 1890s. Date: July 10; 6 p.m.
- Magnolia Glen: This neighborhood is one of Edgewater's oldest, developed by William H. Cairnduff in 1888 as an addition to J.L. Cochran's Edgewater. The homes are well cared for and show some interesting architectural details. The tour booklet includes an early map. Date: July 12, 11 a.m.
- Discover the Art Underfoot: This is a unique exploration of the hidden artwork along Edgewater's lakefront. Join Edgewater's Bill Swislow in the walk along the shore. The July 19 tour begins near Bryn Mawr, at

- the Osterman Beach pier. The August 24 tour tour begins at the Foster Ave. beach house. Date: July 19, 10:30 a.m., and Aug. 24, 10:30 a.m.
- Bryn Mawr Historic District: The center of Edgewater and Edgewater's main street. Learn how J.L. Cochran planned to develop Edgewater as a suburb until urbanization happened. The street has a unique mix of what are called hybrid buildings, including luxury apartments and stores. Many of the buildings are named Chicago landmarks. Date: Aug. 2, 11 a.m.
- Edgewater Glen Historic District: This neighborhood is a popular section of single family homes and two-flats developed from some of the Kransz family original farm at the end of the 19th century. In 1903 one architect, A.E. Norman, was hired to build almost two blocks of homes. Other specialties are homes of the Kransz family and some early homes by J.L. Cochran. Date: Aug. 9, 11 a.m.

Now is the time to sign up by going to www.EdgewaterHistory.org.

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Letter to the Editor

Retail struggles to survive

I enjoyed Jane Lewicki's recent piece on Orvis—that's always been one of my favorite stops. I actually picked up two shirts there just last week.

I believe the Spanish tourism high-rise built next door had a short-term but serious impact on the store. For a couple of years, access became difficult during construction, even for those of us who tried to make the effort.

It reminds me a lot of what we're now facing in Old Town with another tower on the horizon. Politicians can say what they want about staging and access plans, but they often miss the reality on the ground—foot traffic gets choked off, visibility declines, and retail struggles to survive.

It's surprising the influx of Spanish visitors and out-of-towners wasn't enough to sustain the store. But I think people underestimate how vulnerable brick-and-mortar retail really is to long disruptions.

And yes, there's also the aging of us trout fishermen—not helping the numbers. But we'll miss that friendly, knowledgeable staff who made every purchase feel like part of the next adventure. They were part of the fishing tourism ecosystem, too.

Thanks again for shining a light on it. What takes its place—and whether it truly serves the community—is the hard part.

*Tim Carew
Old Town*

After second late-night shooting, alderman wants a 'more coordinated strategy' for handling River North nightlife crowds

BY CWBCHICAGO

An alderman representing much of River North is calling for a “more coordinated strategy” to handle late-night crowds in the neighborhood. Ald. Brendan Reilly [42nd] made the announcement May 19, one day after the neighborhood saw its second late-night shooting in a week.

Shortly after Reilly distributed an email addressing the shootings, the Chicago Police Dept. announced that it was assigning a new commander to the Near North 18th District. Christopher Bielfeldt will be the district's third commander in less than two years.

Around 12:39 a.m. May 18, a 39-year-old man was shot multiple times while sitting

in his car in a parking lot at 319 W. Ontario, according to CPD and Reilly.

“After the shooting, the victim exited his vehicle and walked to Franklin and Erie, where he collapsed,” said Reilly, who added the victim is in critical condition at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Almost exactly a week earlier, around 4:02 a.m. May 11, a 25-year-old man was shot during a fight outside a nightclub in the 100 block of W. Ontario.

Yet another man was shot around 3:15 a.m. Sunday, March 9, during an argument involving a group of people in the 500 block of N. Franklin.

“While targeted acts of violence like this can be difficult to prevent, the late-night activity in this area is predictable and requires a more coordinated strategy,” said Reilly. “This type of violence in the heart

of River North is incredibly concerning. It's still early in the season and temperatures are mild—we need to get ahead of this now.”

He said he will meet with the 18th District commander to discuss CPD's late-night strategy for the neighborhood.

Shortly after Reilly released his statement, CPD sent an announcement of its own, putting Bielfeldt in charge of the district, which covers the area between Fullerton, the river, and Lake Michigan.

Bielfeldt, a 26-year veteran of CPD, most recently served as the captain in charge of public safety operations at Midway International Airport. He previously served as a captain in the Near North District, experience that will come in handy as the department tries to get a handle on the club crowds before summer arrives.

Free health & wellness weekend

Kick off summer out in the sunshine at Lincoln Park Health & Wellness Weekend, and enjoy energizing workouts and expert self-care, sponsored by the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce.

Workouts will take place 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, June 7 with a free classes at Lincoln Commons, 2335 N. Lincoln Ave., and a Health & Wellness Showcase featuring a variety of local businesses specializing in health and wellness products and services.

Then, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 8, a workout will be held at Theater on the Lake on the lakefront at Fullerton Ave. For more information call 773-880-5200.

Bloomsday in Chicago comes of age June 16 with Ulysses in Lincoln Park

For its 21st year - including two virtual presentations during the COVID pandemic - Bloomsday in Chicago will once again return Monday, June 16, to the second floor of The Galway Arms in Lincoln Park, 2442 N. Clark St.

Bloomsday is a commemoration and celebration of the life of Irish writer James Joyce, observed annually in Dublin and elsewhere on June 16, the day his 1922 novel Ulysses takes place on. (Purportedly it's also the day when he has his first sexual encounter with his future wife Nora Barnacle.)

The book follows the protagonist, Leopold Bloom, through his day in Dublin, unfolding in one day, a Thursday in 1904.

This date is celebrated annually in Dublin, Ireland, and other locations, with events like festivals and readings.

This year, participants will include cast members for a planned production of the off-Broadway show Ulysses in Nighttown and will be presented under the sponsorship of Puddin'head Press, in combination with the release of “Do It Yourself Bloomsday,” a collection of excerpts from James Joyce's Ulysses as developed since the 100th anniversary of the day on which Joyce's novel is set in 2004 as comprised by Jeff Helgeson.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and there is a \$7 cover charge.

CLOSURE from p. 1

two years. The revised schedule includes half of the park closed Fall 2025 to Spring 2026 and the second half closed Fall 2026 to Spring 2027.

A proposal that would shut down the central green space in a dense neighborhood for the better part of a year—without any apparent effort to gather community feedback—raises serious concerns about transparency. While advisory councils play a vital role in shaping neighborhood spaces, their meetings often happen with little public awareness and minimal outreach. When those decisions carry sweeping implications, especially in a landmark park that serves as a community anchor, the bar for public input should be higher.

The Washington Park, as a city land-

mark since 1990, is not eligible for dog runs due to historic preservation rules. While the dog-topic is essential to the debate, Ald. Hopkin's letter does not reference any changes regarding dog rules nor does it suggest those issues were part of the original Advisory Council request.

No further documentation has been released considering the revised phased plans on Washington Park. However, the April 7 letter, confirms that conversation between the alderman's office and the WS-PAC is ongoing.

It shouldn't take a roomful of upset neighbors to slow down an unpopular plan. But in this case, it did—and that's a reminder of how critical in-person community pressure still is when it comes to shaping public debate over public space in Chicago.

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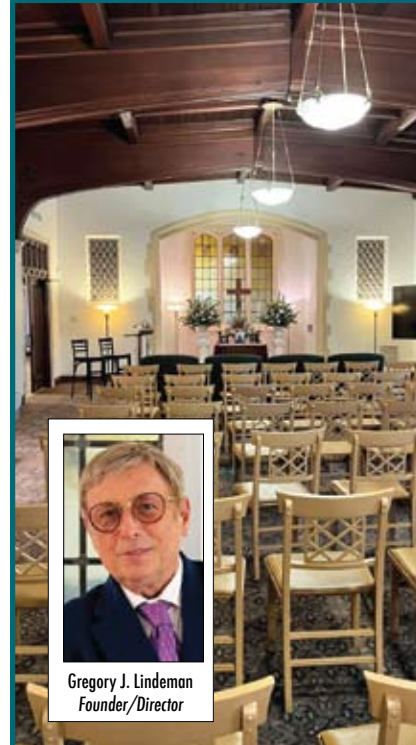
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