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JUNE 21 - JUNE 27, 2023

Truth is so rare that it is delightful to tell it.
— *Emily Dickinson*

NEWS-STAR

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

Memorial July 8 for Don Selle, ***see page 13***

VOL. 119, NO. 25 FREE NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE insideonline.com

Over three years later, alderman to host first open, in-person community meeting on parking lot give-away

After holding one lone public meeting in Nov. of 2019, with just one local organization invited, Ald. Matt Martin [47th] will finally be holding a real, in-person community meeting about the future fate of the commercial parking lot at 4715 N. Western Ave.

Labeled as a "meeting for businesses," community members and neighbors may finally get an in-person look at the people who plan to develop the lot that was gifted by Ald. Martin and City Hall to an out-of-town developer.

Construction of a mixed-use apartment building at 4715 N. Western is expected to begin later this summer. The alderman and developer, The Community Builders [TCB], are hoping the meeting will be solely about concerns that businesses might have about losing the parking lot for the duration of construction.

The meeting will take place 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 27, at Ricochet's Bar, 4644 N. Western. Those who wish to attend may register in advance at bit.ly/4715Construction.

The public parking lot that served the community as critical infrastructure for 50 years, was taken from private owners through imminent domain in the mid-1970s. Federal funds were used to make those losing their properties whole. That means that the federal taxpayer funds used to take the properties for the betterment of the community were converted into private assets through the gifting of the lots to TCB.

The lot served a variety of commercial, public, personal and cultural users throughout the last half century before it was gifted to TCB. It served as parking for dozens of local businesses, the DANKhaus German Cultural Center, Davis Theater, The Old Town School of Folk Music, and the popular Lincoln Square farmer's markets. It was also used as event and logistical space for a variety of cultural events and festivities.

The parking lot will now officially be decommissioned and closed for use midnight on Monday, June 26. Those who may be planning to park there to shop at the popular farmers markets Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings will have to seek parking elsewhere, or attend some other market in another community.

The first and only public meeting over the proposal was held in Nov. 2019 at the Tattler Post, 4355 N. Western Ave., for the Heart of Lincoln Square, a community-based political organization co-founded by Ald. Martin. Despite strong demand to hold a series of in-person public meetings on the issue, none were ever offered by the alderman or developer until now.

Despite a petition campaign that produced over 3,000 signatures, and broad opposition to the project from area businesses, institutions and local residents, only a few online virtual meetings were held throughout the process. During those meetings the developer, alderman and their supporters were able to stage craft the sales jobs with pre-planned speakers and presentations, while at the same time literally muting those in opposition via their Zoom mute option, denying citizens the ability to speak freely on the project, or question public of-

MEETING *see p. 16*

Broadway Armory, 5917 N. Broadway.

June 27 meeting over fate of Broadway Armory postponed

Many North Siders know that Chicago Park District properties are now being used as migrant refugee shelters and that the Broadway Armory in Edgewater is now being considered as one of those sites.

A community meeting scheduled for June 27 over the potential use of the large building at 5917 N. Broadway has now been postponed, with no new date yet announced.

According to Ald. Lena Manaa-Hoppenworth [48th] the meeting will take place sometime in July. "Please know that no decisions have been made about the Broadway Armory and no decisions will be made without a process of community engagement."

North Side residents who utilize that facility are worried this would mean youth and senior programs getting canceled or postponed and would be a loss for the neighborhood this summer, and fall.

The building has multiple rooms, five gymnasiums, showers, several bathrooms and a kitchen. Further north in Rogers Park, the High Ridge YMCA and Leone Beach Park field house are both being used as a refugee shelter centers.

Manaa-Hoppenworth has announced the location of her new ward office, 1129 W. Bryn Mawr. It will be opening to the public starting Monday, June 26. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Fridays are remote office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The phone number is 773-784-5277, and email (info@the48thward.org).

Bureaucratic foot-dragging or harassment keeping permit in limbo?

With al fresco rules back on, one local restaurant says alderman bullying them over politics

BY RONALD ROENIGK

During the government-imposed pandemic economic lockdown, one of the few ways local restaurants and bars were able to survive was by expanding their outdoor service. And to their credit, City Hall cooperated, allowing for quick approvals of expansion of outdoor dining programs.

Earlier this year, as pandemic fears faded, the city rolled those regulations back to a pre-pandemic reading.

Yet the cultural shift of customers favoring al fresco dining over indoor dining had established itself, an unintended consequence of the pandemic lockdown.

Again, to City Hall's credit, in early June they heard the advice coming from the hospitality industry and moved quickly to reestablish the expanded outdoor dining regulations.

Now one local restauranteur is settling in for what could be a tense summer, as the new rules seem to be fungible, and based on politics. Bar and restaurant owners got good news June 1 when the city announced they would allow outdoor dining at pandemic levels. The city's Expanded Outdoor Dining [EOD] program was quickly made permanent. And those who have passed through various restaurant districts in town, know that the patios are back, big time.

Only it seems The Irish Nobleman, 1365 W. Erie St., and perhaps other establishments are being treated differently.

The new EOD permit allows businesses with a retail food establishment, tavern or consumption-on-premises/incident-activity liquor license to expand services. It allows cafes to operate year-round, have street closures, take up the whole sidewalk, to extend into parking spaces or lots, or other unconventional set-ups. Applicants must have a valid Retail Food Establishment license and a valid Liquor license pursuant to Chapter 4-60 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago.

Along with hundreds of other

PERMIT *see p. 10*

Seniors celebrate Father's Day with new Rep. Huynh

STORY AND PHOTO
BY RENO LOVISON

About 75 seniors, most of whom are Asian immigrants gathered, at the South-East Asia Center in Uptown to celebrate Father's Day, a uniquely American holiday that purportedly has at least part of its roots in Chicago.

Harry C. Meek, president of the Lions Club in Chicago, toured the nation, giving speeches expressing the need for a day to honor fathers. Meek, who is interred at Rosehill Cemetery, was a member of the Chicago Lions Club.

In 1920 the Lions Clubs of America presented him with a gold watch, with the inscription "Originator of Father's Day."

Meek is credited with petitioning President Coolidge to proclaim a holiday that would honor fathers. In 1924 Coolidge recommended a national day of observance, then in 1972 President Richard Nixon signed a congressional resolution which created the holiday we now observe. Like most folk traditions, the creation of Father's Day had its growing pains. It took 57 years from conception to official acceptance of the day to honor America's fathers.

The celebration at South-East Asia Center, 5120 N. Broadway, was a cross-cultural celebration that included an Asian inspired meal and karaoke as well as remarks by an ethnically diverse panel of local political representatives including Ald. Matt Martin [47th], new State Rep. Hoan Huynh, and State Sen. Mike Simmons.

New State Rep. Hoan Huynh (second from the right), State Sen. Mike Simmons and Ald. Matt Martin all made an appearance Sunday at the Father's Day celebration at South-East Asia Center, 5120 N. Broadway.

With the Broadway Armory now at risk of being converted into a refugee housing center, the current migrant refugee crisis was a large part of the program. Huynh, the new State Rep. for the 13th District, says this area has historically been very welcoming, but managing this crisis will require support on the city level, state level and federal level.

"My family and I are refugees from the Vietnam war. We want to make sure that when folks come here they have avenues to succeed."

Huynh says that in the past several weeks the House of Representatives in Springfield passed an equitable, compassionate and socially responsible budget that allocated funding for community

HUYNH *see p. 16*

Expanding the imagination of children too smart for their own good

By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Who doesn't love geography? You know, the study of landscapes, terrains. The full-blown array of mountains, lakes, oceans, coastlines, islands, plateaus, prairies, deserts, beaches and any other unfolding of our planet earth.

Maybe I saw too many movies in my childhood, but I was anxious to travel to foreign ports. I wanted to see the Eiffel Tower out my hotel window in Paris. And hear the fog horn of the Queen Mary as the ocean liner steamed across the seas. I wanted to ride the Orient Express. Skip my way up Fifth Avenue in New York City. Go to Mass in St. Peter's, Rome. Visit the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Eat sandwiches at tea in Dublin's Shelbourne Hotel. And have bar-b-ques at a dude ranch in Montana. While we packed our kimonos for a trip to Tokyo. Wait. I think I did see too many movies.

But I found geography more understandable than math. A foreign hotel menu preferable to long division. And ordering my lunch in French to knowing how to spell.

Growing up I loved books that featured insights into travel. Literature that gave real clues into what it was like to live in foreign places and exotic climates. I was always grateful to Agatha Christie, Barbara Pym, Jules Verne, Ernest Hemingway, Zane Gray, the Bible, Elizabeth Bowen, Rudyard Kipling, Homer, Virgil and J.D. Salinger. They really stirred me up. I wanted a Coke at the Ritz Bar in Paris. Would they serve a 10 year old?

Literature also gave me a good eye to evaluate travel. Places to go, sites to see, foods to eat, festivals to attend. I was always upset that my mother would not allow me to go to Spain to run with the bulls when I was in grade school. Although she did look favorably on seeing Pope Pius XII, President Eisenhower, Eloise and Music Man on Broadway. And seeing every art museum I could.

But I was always proud of Chicago. We read up on how Chicago came to be. We loved the stories of Chicago's early days. Not just Mrs. O'Leary and the Fire of 1871. But of Mr. Marshall Field and his department store where we loved the sandwiches in the restaurant with Earl Grey tea and Frango Mint Pie. We loved the skyscrapers and the Berghoff and the spinning salad bowl at the Blackhawk Restaurant on Wabash.

We loved the site of old Fort Dearborn and the stories of what life was like back them. As well as the stories of the railroads and the Stockyards on Halsted. Chicago was no second hand city. It had adventure at every turn. Don't forget the adventures of Al Capone and the tales of the bootleggers and hoodlums.

We loved the stories of how Chicago was a water city with the lake and the river. But it was also a Prairie city made for the railroads of the nation all coming here. The 20th Century Limited overnight to New York was our favorite train. You had your breakfast in the morning, early, as you traveled down the Hudson River. You could see West Point as you ate your eggs and bacon.

So having a steady diet of geography and travel, Chicago held its own in a privileged place of honor and urban celebrity.

We weren't Terre Haute. Or even Atlanta. St. Louis, St. Paul or Milwaukee. We were the real thing.

So we were very happy to have a great mayor, like Richard J. Daley. And an archbishop arrayed in red, Samuel Cardinal Stritch. I still remember going with my family to his wake in Holy Name Cathedral in 1958. Seeing his body in his coffin. Still makes me sad.

We loved watching the city grow. Remember when the Prudential Building rose through the clouds? And later the John Hancock and Sears Tower. Chicago meant business. No wonder we had two MLB teams.

Retrospective map showing how Chicago may have appeared in 1812 (right is north).

Do they still teach geography in schools? After all, no one knows how to write cursive anymore. That was my second favorite subject. Handwriting. I think of that and give thanks every time I sign my name or write a thank you note. They are as distant today to young Chicagoans as Binyon's Turtle Soup.

Life in this city was filled with imagination back then. And great desserts. And terrific fried chicken. And really interesting people. I liked palling around with my grandmother, Rebecca O'Gorman. She was a great traveler. Always seemed to know where she was going, and never complained about going out of her way for others. That was the greatest example of being a Chicagoan. Being present to others. Chatting them up. Sharing a story, or a fresh baked coffee cake. Or some top-class baked ham and kosher pickles.

David Cooper

People brought the best out of each other back then. No matter if they were for the Sox or Cubs.

We liked riding the bus with grandma too. She always had candy in her purse and wasn't too bothered about how much sugar we were getting.

We had more grandparents than many of my friends. Didn't think much about it at the time. But how lucky we were. We delighted in going to Mass with grandma. She loved having us along. We'd meet in front of her house, just three houses away, and walk with her to church. She always dragged us over to have a chat with the monsignor. Then we would walk her to the bakery where we would all splurge on donuts, bismarks and fresh bread to take home.

I guess I have better summer memories of Chicago than I thought. I have forgotten the trips to the dentist and the aunts who had no patience. Summer was for reading, geography and travel. And expanding the imagination of children too smart for their own good. All in summer. All in Chicago. All beyond the limits of our delight. Oh yeah. And watching too many movies.

FATHER'S DAY: Her future is so bright, Cook County Treasurer **Maria Pappas** has got to wear shades. Pappas was doing a pre-Father's Day giveaway Saturday at the southeast corner of Michigan Ave. and Pearson St. Among the giveaway items: keychains, sunglasses and assorted flowers.

CSO: The CSO'S **David Cooper** is only 44, but he is the finest French horn player in the world. Despite that, he was recently denied tenure with the orchestra. The reasons were not made public. However, when the symphony performed last week to end their season, **Jakub Hrůša** conducted the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in **Gustav Mahler's** Symphony No. 9, and the response to Cooper's superb playing literally brought the house down. The thunderous applause and standing ovation would not end. Among the most faithful of symphony fans such an outpouring of emotion hasn't been seen in years. Such dramatic and dynamic passion stirred unbounded in living memory. Does this show what a terrible lack of leadership is presently underway? Does this signal a fissure in the life of the CSO? Does anyone on the Symphony Board have the brains and the clarity of vision to see?

Buddy Guy

CHICAGO BLUES: Annie Lawlor notes some important music history. Reminding us that **Buddy Guy** says, "Eventually, **Jimi Hendrix** came over to me and introduced himself. He said, "I just canceled a gig, 'cause I wanted to see you.' And that's how we became friends." The world learned it

IMAGINATION *see p. 12*

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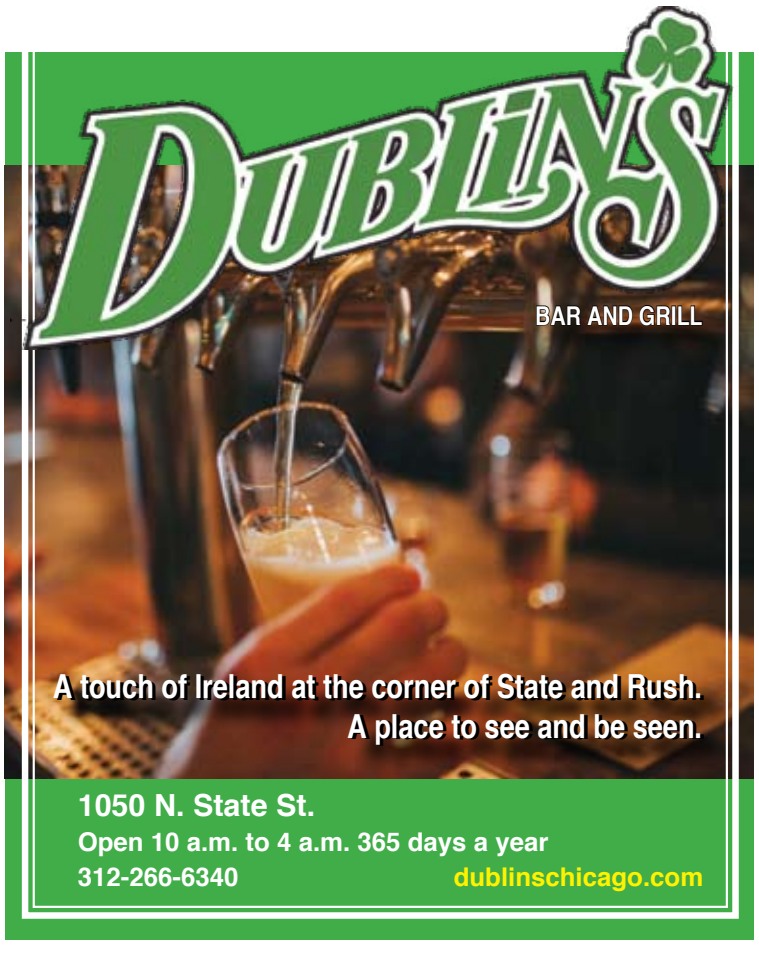

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INSIDE
is published every Wednesday
by Inside Publications
6221 N. Clark St., rear
Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 465-9700
E: insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com

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No beat car was on duty when five were shot outside Lincoln Park Zoo, despite repeated assurances by police, alderman

BY CWBCHICAGO

In no fewer than three recent newsletters, freshman Ald. Timmy Knudsen [43rd] assured his constituents that Chicago police leaders had assured him of their commitment to providing a consistent, steady police presence in their Lincoln Park ward.

It's the same hollow promise alderman all over the city are making to their constituents.

The assurances came on June 2 after shots were fired at North Avenue Beach; on June 9 after a string of robberies broke out near DePaul Univ.; and again on June 14.

So, given those assurances from on high, why is it that a third of the local police district's beat cars were not on patrol when five people were shot outside Lincoln Park Zoo on June 17? The unit that should have been patrolling the area outside the zoo was one of the cars not in service.

Within hours of the shooting, Knudsen issued a joint letter with Illinois State Rep. Margaret Croke. In it, they again assured residents that CPD leaders "have committed to consistently patrol this area."

Neither Knudsen nor Croke replied to messages seeking their input for this story.

Promises made

After the North Avenue Beach incident, Knudsen said he had spoken with 18th District Commander Jon Hein.

"Our police are sending additional patrol vehicles and tactical missions to the area," the alderman wrote to his constituents.

A week later, following the DePaul area robberies, Knudsen said Hein, who had since been promoted to deputy chief, "reinforced his commitment to a physical police presence in our Ward."

Two days later, the 18th District didn't have a single beat car assigned to most of Knudsen's ward for a recent night shift.

Last week, three days before the shooting, Knudsen said he had spoken with new 18th District Commander Michael Barz.

"[T]he Commander and I discussed a shared belief in community policing. In particular, a strategy of community policing can bring more consistent police patrol to our local beats in order to both deter and solve crimes more effectively," Knudsen wrote.

So, what did Knudsen and Croke tell their concerned constituents after Saturday's shooting?

"We have spoken with Commander Barz and Deputy Chief Hein of the Chicago Police Dept. … They have committed to consistently patrol this area…"

Down cars

When those five people were shot in the 1900 block of N. Stockton around 4:40 a.m., no patrol cars were assigned to patrol the local police beat. Inside the yellow crime scene tape, draped between a chain of thick tree trunks and vehicle side view mirrors, liquor bottles and plastic cups dotted the ground.

"The shooting occurred after a group, which had been drinking, gathered on the street and a fight to [sic] broke out," Knudsen and Croke wrote, calling the shooting "reckless behavior."

In CPD slang, the unit that should have patrolled Stockton Dr. that night was a "down car."

The neighboring beat to the south, 1824, was also not on duty at the time of the shooting. It was unclear if the car was "down" all night or if the unit ended patrol early to enjoy accrued comp time.

By the way, that's a common CPD sleight-of-hand. If you look at the shift's schedule, the beat car will appear to be staffed, even though the officers went home.

Beat 1812, responsible for part of the neighborhood west of the zoo, was on duty at the time of the shooting. But it was assigned to be the district's prisoner transport unit for the night. That's because the squadrol, or "paddy wagon," was also a "down car" for the night.

In CPD slang, the unit that should have patrolled Stockton Dr. that night was a "down car."

Beat 1813, responsible for the other part of the neighborhood west of the zoo, was also on duty. But two sources said CPD leadership ordered that unit to spend the night towing cars in River North rather than patrolling its beat.

Speaking of River North, one of its cars, Beat 1832, was also "down."

Integrity

Occasionally, Chicago police brass and politicians will speak in platitudes about "beat integrity." That's a fancy way of saying they think it's essential for neighborhoods to have a dedicated beat car on patrol.

"This focus on beat integrity allows police and community to more closely monitor the problems on their beats, and to develop more effective solutions to those problems," says the CPD.

For example, if a group is drinking and partying outside Lincoln Park Zoo at 4:40 a.m. on a Saturday, the beat car might ask those folks to move along. After all, alcohol is not permitted on park property.

Or, the beat car might decide to keep an eye on the group, making their presence known — giving them, in another CPD vocabulary term, "special attention." The beat car could also inform the district's camera surveillance room about the issue, and they could keep an eye on the group remotely.

None of that happened on Saturday morning because 1814 didn't have a beat car.

In Chicago, "beat integrity" is pie in the sky — a media talking point, a dream of what should be, not what is.

This all raises a few questions.

Why are Lincoln Park's beat cars being "downed" or assigned to other tasks when the 18th District's commander and its former commander—now a deputy

BEAT *see p. 14*

Knudsen and Croke's joint letter:

Here is the full text of the letter Knudsen and Croke distributed on Saturday:

June 17, 2023
RE: Joint Statement from Representative Margaret Croke and Alderman Timmy Knudsen

Dear Neighbors,

Last night and into early this morning, a group of people engaged in reckless behavior leading to an altercation ending in gunfire. At approximately 4:40 am, five individuals were shot and injured on the 1900 block of N. Stockton Dr. near the Lincoln Park Zoo. The shooting occurred after a group, which had been drinking, gathered on the street and a fight to broke out. At this time, police are still investigating, and when more details become publicly available we will work with our partners in law enforcement to make sure the community is informed. We encourage anyone with additional information or camera footage to share to call Area 3 detectives at 312-744-8263 so those responsible can be held accountable for their actions.

Let us be clear: this type of violence is unacceptable in our city and as elected officials, we will work to ensure there is a rapid response to deter this from happening again.

We have spoken with Commander Barz and Deputy Chief Hein of the Chicago Police Department to receive updates on this incident. They have committed to consistently patrol this area and our offices are looking into reinstating parking restrictions in strategic places and times at the request of the police.

As your elected officials, nothing is more important to us than the safety of our residents and our community. We are deeply disturbed by this news and will continue to stay in close contact with CPD on updates about this case and to work together to keep our neighborhoods safe.

In the coming weeks, we will share additional community events focused on public safety, including opportunities for residents to meet our new 18th District Commander Michael Barz.

Yours in service,
Alderman Timmy Knudsen
43rd Ward
Representative Margaret Croke
12th District

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Demand for food aid at farmers markets, food pantries up dramatically due to SNAP cutbacks, inflation, refugees

Green City Market, the nonprofit behind Lincoln Park's popular farmers market, is also a major provider of nutrition assistance in Chicago.

So are many other North Side farmer's markets.

Reportedly, one in seven households in Chicago today face food insecurity, and government nutrition assistance benefits are chronically insufficient.

Toss in the 12,000 recently arrived migrant refugees and their need for free, or taxpayer-funded food support, and suddenly demand has spiraled up. Care For Real, an Edgewater-based food pantry, has seen a 332% increase in first-time visitors compared to this time last year.

For many, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP] benefits run out for most households well before the end of the month, leaving many families struggling to make ends meet.

To make matters worse, at the end of February, almost 2 million people in Illinois saw their taxpayer-funded food benefits reduced with the ending of the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Farmers markets like Green City Market [GCM] increases SNAP users' purchasing power by accepting and matching SNAP benefits through a program called GCM For All, enabling customers to access nutritious, sustainably-produced food.

After emergency SNAP allotments were cut in March, the need for GCM and others to fill in the gaps left by fading government assistance became even more essential to keep food-insecure households fed. On average, SNAP households will now see a 30% to 40% drop in their monthly benefits

While the government-imposed pandemic lockdown drove up need, federal nutrition assistance benefits are now the lowest they've been in three years. At the same time, supermarket prices are hitting all time record highs due to inflation. The price for home-consumed food rose by 11.4% last year, according to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Kate Maher, executive director and CEO of the Greater Chicago Food Depository, says they're seeing a 35% increase compared to last year. Those numbers are similar to what the depository saw at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. But that 35% is much more impactful this year because of inflation.

Families straining to cover the basics have also been hit with the triple whammy of record high gas and energy prices, and rising housing costs. With inflation at a 50-year high this year, demand for the GCM For All matching funds has also skyrocketed.

They've seen a 183% increase in program participants, a 283% increase in first-time participants, and they've distributed almost triple the amount of SNAP benefits and matching funds than the same period last year.

Unfortunately, the sudden increase in demand for nutrition aid means they're on pace to run out of the funds to continue their 2:1 SNAP benefits match before the end of July.

And now, charity providers are concerned that the hunger crises will worsen during the summer months when children, who may have had their meals at school, are now eating more at home and refugee migrants continue to arrive in Chicago. As the federal funds dry up, and millions of migrants continue to cross America's southern border, food pantries across Chicago - and the nation - have been forced to help meet the surge in demand for their services.

"It is a crisis right now for food pantries and the people they serve," Man-Yee Lee, director of communications at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, told Crain's Chicago. Greater Chicago Food Depository serves over 700 pantries in the city with food and other support.

At some local food pantries, the increase in clients has been stark. Some pantries are having to make tough decisions as they seek to meet the demand, by limiting the number of times a client can visit.

Yet food price inflation is likely to continue spiraling upward through the rest of the year and into 2024. The near-term outlook is indeed dire.

Chicago special education chief steps down amid reports that the district violated state law

CPS limit up on property tax increase

BY SAMANTHA SMYLIE AND MILA KOUMPILOVA
Chalkbeat

Stephanie Jones, the chief of Chicago Public Schools' Special Education Dept., left the district on June 9, amid criticism for her role in the district's failure to fix violations involving the use of physical restraint and timeout on students.

Jones' leadership has faced scrutiny from the district's teachers union, parents, and advocates for students with disabilities over concerns about high staff turnover on her team, recovery services for students during the COVID-19 pandemic, and other issues.

The Chicago Teachers Union's governing body passed a vote of no confidence in Jones in late May and called on the district to fire her for "dismal failures to protect the district's most vulnerable students, continued violation of special education laws and the creation of a toxic workplace."

Chicago named Richard Smith as interim chief while the district conducts a nationwide search for a new department lead, according to a spokesperson for CPS. Smith is a former CPS school principal, chief network officer, and chief officer for the Office of Special Education and Supports.

CPS is now under watch by the Illinois State Board of Education because the district has been violating state laws governing the use of restraint and timeout in classrooms.

In a letter dated April 18, the state board cited Jones for not properly fulfilling her role as the designated official responsible for restraint and timeout policies and incidents. The official is supposed to maintain a copy of records, be notified of every incident by the end of the school day on which it occurred, and receive documentation or any evaluation of any incident that exceeds 15 minutes of physical restraint or 30 minutes for timeout.

Jones told the state board on Dec. 23, 2022 that she had delegated the responsibility to another person on her team but that person left in March 2023. Without anyone monitoring restraint and timeout incidents across the city's public schools, the state said the district was not in compliance with state law.

"We sincerely thank Dr. Jones for her commitment to serving students in Chicago with diverse learning needs, and we wish her well in her future endeavors," a spokesperson for Chicago said on June 9.

Earlier in the week, at a Wednesday press conference, CEO Pedro Martinez said in response to a question about the state's restraint and timeout concerns that improving services for students with disabilities is a top priority for his administration. He vowed that the district will meet all state requirements around training and compliance with restraint rules before the start of the school year in August.

He noted that the district is increasing funding for disability services by $100 million in the next school year's budget and said schools will staff more teachers and aides working with students with disabilities.

"This is an area that has been a challenge in our district for the last two decades," he said. "But we're going to fix it." At the event, Martinez sidestepped a question about who will be held accountable for the restraint issues.

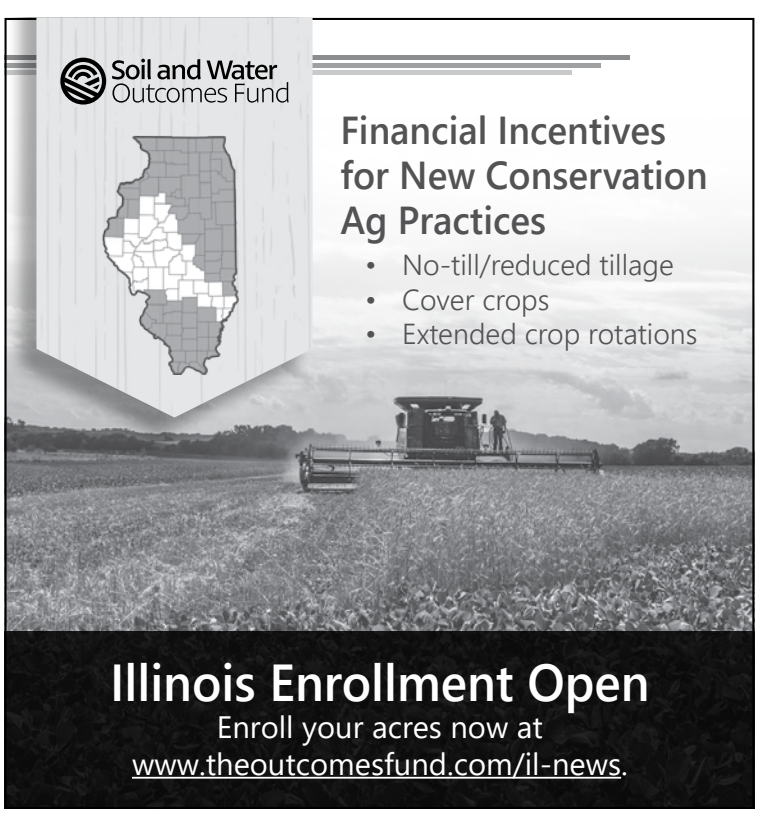
CPS boosts property taxes with focus on special education

Chicago Public schools are boosting property taxes to their legal limit next fall with, claiming a focus on special education. CPS is issuing its highest-allowed property tax increase of 5%, or about $131 million, to help support its budget.

Despite CPS student population dropping, the school system's spending will remain steady at $9.4 billion in the 2023-2024 school year. The district serves 340,658 students now. Between 2019 and 2022, CPS lost nearly 37,000 students — 10% of its total enrollment. Of those students, 91% came from low-income families.

A significant number of low-income families are choosing to leave the district, opting for private and charter schools. Those departures are part of a troubling trend in CPS, a district with a majority Black and Latino population. Students are leaving their neighborhood schools, opting for private and charter schools —

CHIEF *see p. 15*



Construction of the temporary viewing stands and entertainment amenities around the 2.2-mile NASCAR circuit is expansive and expensive, with VIP ticket packages that start at $799.

NASCAR will shift Chicago's lakefront into a parking lot

The Home Front

by Don DeBat

The NASCAR race coming up at the end of June is the first of its kind to be run on real city streets in NASCAR's 75-year history.

Despite all the hoopla about NASCAR's Chicago Street Race boosting tourism, enriching hotels and filling downtown restaurants, the truth is former Mayor Lori Lightfoot has left Chicagoans with a monumental urban mess and a traffic gridlock at Grant Park and the lakefront.

Only a couple of weeks before the June 28 to July 4 race-construction and competition window, Chicago transportation officials now reveal drivers will have to merge along an eight-mile section of Lake Shore Dr. between North Ave. and 47th Street.

Southbound drivers will feel the pincers most. For seven days, south bound traffic on Lake Shore Dr. will be squeezed to two lanes at North Ave. and to one lane at Chicago Ave. Then, all traffic will be forced to exit at Grand Ave.

Northbound traffic will be slashed to two lanes at 47th St., and to one lane near 31st St. All traffic will be forced to exit at Interstate 55, except for drivers headed to the museum campus. Those drivers will be allowed to continue to the 18th St. exist.

NASCAR estimated 100,000 people will attend the races and watch race-car drivers speed up to 130 miles per hour around Grant Park on Lake Shore Dr., Michigan Ave., and Columbus Dr.

Last year, Lightfoot signed a three-year deal with NASCAR to hold one downtown race per year. This year, the Cup Series Race, dubbed the "Grant Park 220" will be a 220-mile race with 100 laps. The Xfinity Series Race, called "The Loop 121" will be 121 miles with 55 laps.

Chicago, the "Second City" now will have a chance to be the "First City" of street racing. The race is the first of its kind for NASCAR to be run on real city streets in its 75-year history.

Unlike the typical oval-shaped courses in the South and other parts of the nation, the Chicago race will have 12 turns, both right and left.

Along one stretch, the road downshifts from four lanes to two. Even Hall-of-Fame driver Dale Earnhardt, Jr., called the route "challenging and miserable" when he test-drove it earlier this month.

"It's going to be a mess," State Rep. Kam Buckner told Crain's Chicago Business. "Lollapalooza times 10."

Twelve-foot-high fences and large concrete barriers will be set up to protect attendees from flying road debris if there is a crash. And, like the chariot-race crowds in the movie "Ben Hur," the audience likely will cheer for blood.

"It's going to be a mess," State Rep. Kam Buckner told Crain's Chicago Business. "Lollapalooza times 10."

Besides the monumental traffic jams caused by the race, critics and downtown residents also are concerned about the noise level, which can be "96.5 to 104 decibels at 150 feet from the track," reports www.NASCARchronicle.com.

Construction of the temporary viewing stands and entertainment amenities around the 2.2-mile circuit is expansive. Truly, NASCAR has made no small plans.

Movie stars, professional sports heroes and rich Chicago corporate VIPs will occupy the most prestigious reserved ticketing option—the President's Paddock Club. This sweeping, bi-level club offers 360-degree panoramic views of the downtown skyline, Lake Michigan and Buckingham Fountain.

"For a ticket price of $3,377 per person, this elevated experience includes a VIP concert-viewing area to enjoy performances by The Chainsmokers, Miranda Lambert, The Black Crowes, Charley Crockett and the JC Brooks Band.

The big shots will enjoy VIP entrance lanes to the event, a shaded open-air deck, premium bathrooms, comfortable lounge seating and big-screen TVs with a live race feed. Sight lines also give guests a direct view into the pit boxes and most of the race course.

NASCAR Chicago Experiences also is offering various VIP ticket packages that start at $799. "Experiences include a pit road walk to witness the adrenaline of tire changes and fuel fills," noted Julie Giese, president of NASCAR Chicago Street Race.

"There also are guided track or garage area tours, premium photo opportunities, podium celebration access, and behind the scenes glimpses of the NASCAR world

NASCAR *see p. 14*

Mike Royko Memorial Softball tourney cancelled

BY DON DEBAT

The 16-inch Chicago Softball Hall of Fame (HOF) attempt to resurrect the once-popular Mike Royko Memorial Softball Classic Tournament has failed.

"Unfortunately, we are postponing the tournament that was planned for Centennial Park in south suburban Oak Lawn because of a lack of team participation," said HOF president Paul Rowan. "Only four men's recreational teams signed up."

After learning the NASCAR Road Race's planning and construction will greatly diminish softball-league play in Grant Park between June 22 through July 5, the HOF stepped up to offer recreational and co-ed teams an opportunity to play in a tournament on Saturday, June 24. The HOF is working to reschedule the tournament later this summer.

Billed as the "Mike Royko Memorial Classic," the event would effectively resurrect the top-flight tournament played between 2000 and 2010 at Grant Park in honor of the revered, Pulitzer-prize winning columnist and HOF inductee who passed away in 1997.

Eleventh annual Grateful Dead Meet-up at the Movies June 22 and 24

On June 22 and 24, the 11th annual Grateful Dead Meet-Up at the Movies event will feature the first-ever concert the band played at Soldier Field.

The June 22, 1991 concert, with an attendance of 60,000, is widely considered one of the greatest nights of that year's tour, and of the entire 1990s.

This concert will screen worldwide in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.

For more information and tickets for screenings in Chicago visit www.meetupatthemovies.com or visit these local theaters: ShowPlace ICON Theatre & Kitchen at Roosevelt Collection, AMC NEWCITY 14, Regal Webster Place and Regal City North IMAX& PRX.

Chicago Pride Parade this weekend, expect congestion

Chicago's Pride celebration culminates with the annual Chicago Pride Parade, which takes place this year on Sunday, June 25.

The parade is Sunday, at noon, and the Pride in the Park festivities are Friday and Saturday, June 23-24.

Chicago Pride Fest starts in Uptown and meanders through Lincoln Park, but takes place on the streets of the Boystown neighborhood.

That means there will be hundreds of thousands of people gathered on streets and major road blockages along the North-east lakefront. It steps off from Montrose and Broadway and ends near the intersection of Diversey Pkwy. and Sheridan Rd. in Lincoln Park.

Since its modest beginnings, Chicago Pride has grown to be one the largest and most well-known Pride events in the world. It also has become quite a party scene, that draws in people from around the country, leading to security concerns. Crime and fights have been a part of most past parades. Last year three people were shot and three were stabbed during the Pride Parade. Pick-pocketing, felony retail theft and phone theft are also known problems with large crowds these days. Chicago police arrested 26 people in connection with the 2022 Chicago Pride Parade.

Hundreds of thousands of people will gather along the north-east Lakefront this weekend.

The inaugural Pride in the Park, held in June 2019 in Grant Park, drew about 5,500 attendees. After being cancelled in 2020, Pride in the Park returned as a two-day festival in 2021 with over 30,000 attendees. This weekend Pride in the Park Chicago will be at Butler Field, Grant Park, just north of Buckingham Fountain.

Those who do not wish to be a part of the parade but still need to go someplace should make plans to use western exits and access to the communities involved in the parade.

Elected Chicago School Board means governance of CPS separated from City Hall

BY THE CIVIC FEDERATION

With the upcoming implementation of an elected school board to oversee Chicago Public Schools [CPS], the governance of CPS will be separated from the City of Chicago. The 21-member elected school board, set to replace the existing seven-member board appointed by the Chicago mayor, will be phased in beginning in 2025, with the fully elected board in place beginning in 2027. The separation raises questions about the ongoing financial responsibility of the City to the school district and whether partnerships between the two agencies will continue. Before the elected school board takes office, the Civic Federation says there are two key questions that still need to be answered:

1. How much financial responsibility should the City of Chicago have to CPS once the school district governance becomes fully independent?

2. How will CPS deal with the looming budget deficit of $628 million projected to begin in FY2026?

The new regulations required the Chicago Board of Education to commission an independent review of the district's finances and entanglements with the City of Chicago by Oct. 31, 2022. The legislation also requires the State Board of Education to make recommendations on the Chicago Board of Education's ability to operate with the financial resources available to CPS as an independent unit of local government, based on the review of financial entanglements.

Those recommendations are due to the State legislature on July 1.

Historically, the CPS and the City Hall have had a close financial relationship, partly established in state statute and partly through intergovernmental agreements. As a result, the City provides the school district with significant annual subsidies. This is a situation unique to Chicago. No other Illinois municipalities have a financial responsibility to their school systems. Rather, each unit of local government is fully responsible for its own financial obligations. With CPS set to become a fully independent government, it is not clear that the City would or should be obligated to fund CPS pension, debt and other related costs.

An analysis of entanglements between the City of Chicago and CPS released in Oct. 2022 lays out in detail each of the financial entanglements that need to be resolved. Based on the report, the City provides CPS with approximately $383 million in financial benefits, either through direct appropriations or reduced payments in FY2023. These include:

• $142.3 million in payments from the City to CPS from a property tax levy that the City levies on CPS' behalf to pay for the debt service on bonds used to support capital improvements in schools. This agreement exists per an intergovernmental agreement that runs until the end of calendar year 2031.

• $97.7 million in pension contributions made by the City on behalf of CPS employees and retirees who are members of the Chicago Municipal Employees Annuity and Benefit Fund. The full cost of the CPS portion of the contribution to the pension fund is $272.7 million, of which CPS is covering $175 million in FY2023. Previously the City covered the full cost of the pension contributions, but CPS began reimbursing the City in FY2021 beginning with a payment of $60 million, which increased to $100 million in FY2022 and $175 million in FY2023.

• $97 million in Tax Increment Financing [TIF] Surplus revenue, which is distributed pursuant to State law.

• Other capital funding intergovernmental agreements, including $7.9 million in Modern Schools Bonds, which are financed through TIF.

• $27 million in free or reduced CTA fares for students.

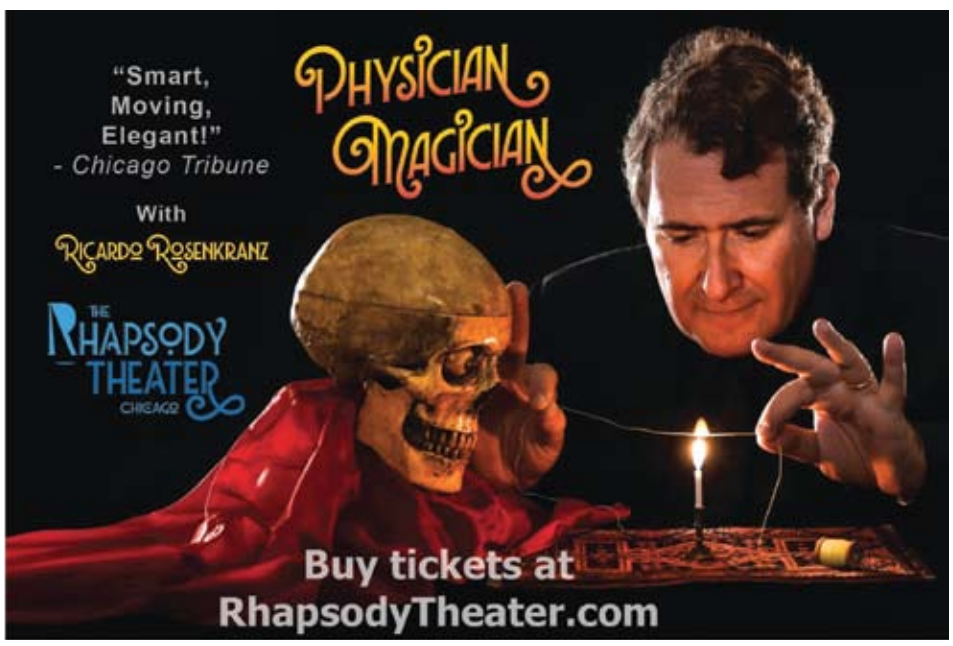
• $11 million in user fee waivers. Pursuant to City ordinance, the City waives the water and sewer bills for CPS properties used by CPS (estimated to total a value of $10 million), as well as a number of other permitting fees such as driveway permitting, building inspections, vacant building registration and sprinkler inspections (estimated to total a value of $1 million).

Additionally, the City and CPS have many other partnerships. The City provides some small grants to CPS for programming. CPS and the City collaborate on early childhood education: CPS pays $80.2 million annually to help fund preschool programs. CPS now takes on the full cost of school resource officers ($10.2 million in FY2023) and school crossing guards ($16.6 million).

In addition to addressing the entanglements, CPS desperately needs a long-term financial plan to address its unstable finances. The District relies on short-term borrowing each year to generate enough cash-flow throughout the year to pay for ongoing operations and personnel costs. The CPS budget currently also relies heavily on federal COVID-19 pandemic relief funding; 8.3% of the CPS budget is funded through federal funds in 2023. This one-time federal funding is projected to run out in 2025.

Deficits are projected beginning in 2026, with a deficit of $628 million estimated for 2026, increasing to $733 million in 2027 and $650 million in 2028. Additionally, operating reserve levels remain below targets.

CPS *see p. 11*



Original British Invasion stars to perform at Old Town School

Peter Asher and Jeremy Clyde.

BY PETER VON BUOL

Two of the biggest stars of the first wave of the British Invasion, Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) and Jeremy Clyde (Chad and Jeremy), will be returning to perform 8 p.m. Friday, June 23, at the Old Town School of Folk Music [OTS], 4544 N. Lincoln Ave.

Performing together as a duo on the stage of the school's Gary and Laura Maurer Concert Hall, Asher and Clyde will not only be performing the numerous hits of their respective bands, but they will also share the stories behind their songs.

"Our goal for the evening, is to play some good music and to share with the audience some interesting stories from our lives. We want [everybody] to enjoy themselves. Jeremy and I always have a good time when we are together on stage and our intention is to share that with the audience," said Asher.

Tickets for the show are $50 for the General Public and $48 for OTS members with a VIP package which includes a pre-show question and answer and meet and greet with the artists. The package must be purchased in combination with a ticket to the concert.

Asher and Clyde have been performing together since 2018. Asher's partner, Gordon Waller, had died in 2009. Chad Stuart (who died in 2020) had retired from performing in 2016. The four had played at the same folk-music venues in Great Britain early in their careers and had known each other well.

Asher and Clyde both cite OTS co-founder Big Bill Broonzy as a major influence. In the early 1960s, Broonzy extensively toured Great Britain and became highly influential to aspiring British musicians.

"[Our earliest influences] were Ramblin' Jack Elliott and Broonzy. They were the sort of people who came over [from America] and showed us how to do it, back in the early British folk era, the late 1950s-early 1960s," said Clyde.

In a previous interview with this newspaper, Asher said he believes Broonzy may have been even more popular in Great Britain than he was in America.

"Broonzy was very big in the UK when Gordon Waller and I were starting out in the British folk scene. He came over and he played a lot of shows. He might have been bigger in the UK than he was in America. He played shows a couple of times in London that I was able to attend. He was great," said Asher in 2018.

"Even today, people ask me how we were able to get those songs from The Beatles. Once you have a Number One record, we found we had no trouble getting songs from anybody," said Peter Asher.

Peter and Gordon's recording output includes more than a few songs written by The Beatles' Paul McCartney and John Lennon. Most of these songs were never recorded by their band. These include Peter and Gordon's "World Without Love" which was a number one hit in 1964 in the US and UK. The duo's subsequent Lennon-McCartney songs "Nobody I Know" and "I Don't Want to See You Again" also were hits on both sides of the Atlantic.

"World Without Love" was an early unfinished Lennon/McCartney song that had been rejected by The Beatles. Asher had learned about the song because his sister, Jane, was Paul McCartney's girlfriend. When Asher and Gordon Waller were offered a recording contract, the duo found they needed an original song.

"The song was a leftover. The Beatles had decided not to record it. Fortunately, I was there, and I asked if we could adopt the song and record it. Paul said yes. The song was still incomplete. I needed to get him to finish the bridge. Just prior to going to the recording studio, I asked him to finish it and he wrote it in eight minutes, on guitar," said Asher.

"World Without Love" has been recognized by The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland as one of the 500 songs that shaped rock and roll.

After their first single became a number one hit, Peter and Gordon found themselves to be in-demand recording artists and their subsequent songs also became hits. Some were also written by Lennon-McCartney. The duo also had a hit with McCartney's "Woman," a song released under a pseudonym because McCartney had wanted to find out if it was his music or his fame which sold records.

"Even today, people ask me how we were able to get those songs from The Beatles. Once you have a Number One record, we found we had no trouble getting songs from anybody," said Asher.

In 1965, they recorded Del Shannon's "I Go to Pieces," a song the Michigan-born singer had decided not to record. In 1961, Del Shannon's self-penned song "Runaway" had been a number one hit. Fortuitously, Peter and Gordon were touring in Australia on the same bill as Del Shannon and they found out the song was available.

"He had decided that it wasn't a good song for him to record and he had been trying to find it a home. I think he had played it to other people, even before he left the US, even for this tour. We learned about it because he was trying to

STARS *see p. 13*

SailGP opener draws more than 50,000 fans for raving Lake Michigan

The 'Windy City' showed up last Friday, but slept late on Saturday as Navy Pier kicked off the summer racing season in Chicago last weekend, marking the start of SailGP's Season 4 global championship.

The 10-strong fleet put on a great show for the more than 50,000 spectators gathered along "Chicago's Skyline Stadium" – Lake Michigan between Navy Pier and the Adler Planetarium. The 10 identical F50 catamarans represent the United States, Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, New Zealand, Spain and Switzerland.

After the perfect foiling conditions on June 16 that define SailGP's adrenaline-fueled racing, the race on June 17 with ultra-light winds provided a different challenge for the fleet. Even with the F50s utilizing the largest sail configuration, the 29-meter wing (95-foot), the boats could not produce enough power to foil.

Peter Burling's New Zealand SailGP Team claimed victory over rival Tasman competitors and Chicago's defending champion, Australia SailGP Team driven by Tom Slingsby. Phil Robertson's Canada finished the event in third place.

Despite a second-place finish in Saturday's first race, the U.S. SailGP Team finished in ninth place overall. "While we had a slightly better day today, this weekend was definitely disappointing," said U.S. SailGP Team CEO and Driver, Jimmy Spithill.

"On the bright side, it was great to see and hear the huge crowds at Navy Pier this weekend. Chicago is an iconic sports city and it's an incredible place to race," he added.

"SailGP has been a very welcome addition to Chicago's sports offerings," said Kara Bachman, executive director of the Chicago Sports Commission. "Our amazing race location, Chicago's Skyline Stadium, delivered a great weekend to kick off the summer racing season in front of local fans and visitors alike."

Marilynn Gardner, Navy Pier President and CEO, agreed. "Navy Pier was buzzing with anticipation and excitement all weekend," she said. "We're grateful for this rewarding partnership with SailGP and the Chicago Sports Commission."

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Police Beat…

Police escort arrests Pittsburgh Pirates' bus driver for DUI

A bus driver hired to transport the Pittsburgh Pirates from Chicago to Milwaukee was charged with DUI on June 15 after Illinois State Police troopers escorting the team out of the city noticed he was driving erratically, officials said.

After losing their game against the Cubs on Thursday evening, the Pirates boarded contracted buses for a ride to Milwaukee, where they played the Brewers on June 16.

With a state police escort, the team headed out of town. But, around 11:28 p.m., troopers noticed something wasn't right.

"During the escort, the bus driver, 61-year-old Ronald E. Funderburke from Shelby, NC, was not following the escort and was traveling away from the escorting officers," an ISP spokesperson said in a written statement. "Troopers observed more erratic driving and stopped the bus on the right shoulder of I-94 northbound at Dempster St."

"After observing multiple signs of impairment, troopers arrested Funderburke for driving under the influence of alcohol and transported him to Chicago Police Department 16th District," the state police spokesperson said.

In an ISP radio transmission archived by crimeisdown.com, a trooper initially summoned an ambulance to the scene because they suspected the bus driver was experiencing a "medical emergency."

Pirates Senior VP of Communications Brian Warecki confirmed the incident by email June 16.

"We are deeply concerned regarding what transpired last night. The important thing is that all of our personnel arrived in Milwaukee safely," said Warecki. "Buses are contracted out to a local provider, which was consistent with this trip, and we are now in communication with the appropriate parties regarding this matter."

The state police spokesperson did not reply to a follow-up inquiry seeking Funderburke's blood alcohol content.

Violent robberies in Lincoln Park

Police are warning residents of Lincoln Park about recently reported strong arm robberies. In each incident, an unknown offender approaches the victim from behind and strikes the victim in the head disorienting the victim. The offender then takes the victim's property and flees the scene in a white 4-door sedan. These incidents have occurred in the 600 block of W. Armitage Ave, Monday June 12, in the afternoon hours, and on the 2200 block of N. Geneva Terrace, Monday June 12, in the afternoon.

The offenders are described as male, African American, wearing a black sweatshirt, and black pants.

Police warn of men exploiting kids at Maggie Daley Park playground

Chicago police are warning the public about two recent cases of sexual exploitation on a playground at Maggie Daley Park. Detectives said the same man may have been involved in both cases.

The most recent incident happened between 10:30 and 10:45 a.m. on Thursday.

Police said a 6-year-old girl was playing inside a wooden tower, and a man followed her to the top. There, he "performed a lewd act on himself," a CPD alert said. It described him as "a possible Caucasian or light complexion adult male" with curly or wavy black and gray hair. He was wearing a gray t-shirt and blue jeans.

A similar incident was reported between 2 and 2:20 p.m. on May 25.

That time, a man led a 4-year-old girl to the top of the tower and exposed himself, according to the alert.

Police are encouraging adults to keep a close eye on children in the area and to instruct children to report anything suspicious to an adult right away.

Anyone with information about the incidents can contact detectives at 312-492-3810.

Chicago man is charged with eight more restaurant burglaries; now accused of 14 break-ins

Charvale Bass

Charvale Bass, accused last week of burglarizing six restaurants and stores, was charged with eight more restaurant burglaries June 15 after Chicago police investigators linked him to the crimes through video and GPS evidence.

According to prosecutors, the new charges stem from break-ins that are nearly identical to the previously-charged cases.

During overnight hours, Bass used rocks, bricks, or chunks of concrete to break windows or glass doors of restaurants, Assistant State's Attorney Sarah Dale-Schmidt said June 15. He crawled through the openings, stole cash registers and safes, and frequently escaped in a silver Nissan.

In late May, Chicago police secured a warrant to place a GPS tracker on the Nissan, which linked Bass to several cases and eventually allowed cops to locate him, officials said.

Thursday's charges involve burglaries of restaurants between March 17 and May 26 in the 2300 block of W. North Ave., the 2500 block of W. Division, the 3700 block of W. North Ave., the 4100 block of W. North Ave., the 3200 block of W. Fullerton, the 4200 block of W. Fullerton, the 3500 block of W. Fullerton, and the 3000 block of W. Armitage.

Cops attached the GPS tracker to Bass' car on May 23, and it showed his vehicle at three of the burglaries just three days later, Dale-Schmidt said.

Detectives put the car under surveillance and followed the tracker on May 31 as Bass allegedly broke into Slide Bar, 939 S. Western Ave., at 4 a.m.

Officials said Bass bailed out of the car as cops moved in, then ran into a building and tried to escape by jumping from the third floor. Police arrested him after he landed ungracefully.

Judge Ankur Srivastava set bail for the eight new cases at $75,000. That means Bass must post $7,500 to be released. He will have to post another $2,500 and go on electronic monitoring for the previously-charged cases.

In addition to Slide Bar, those break-ins allegedly occurred at Crater Foods, 1148 N. Milwaukee, on March 2; Output Bar, 1758 W. Grand, on April 15; Beetle Bar and Grill, 2532 W. Chicago Ave., on April 14; Burger Baron, 1381 W. Grand, on April 29; and Don's Grill, 1837 S. Western Ave., on May 15.

Four men indicted in violent kidnapping, ransom plot

Four men have been indicted for allegedly abducting a suspected drug dealer in Chicago and holding him for ransom. The four alleged kidnappers conspired in May 2018 to kidnap the suspected dealer, rob him of drugs and cash, and hold him for ransom, according to an indictment unsealed June 15 in U.S. District Court in Chicago.

The kidnappers, brandishing firearms, entered the suspected drug dealer's residence and used restraints to bind him and others inside the home, the indictment states. One of the kidnappers allegedly burned a victim's arm with a hot object. The kidnappers then searched the residence for drugs and cash and forced the suspected dealer to place calls to obtain ransom money, the indictment states.

Charged in the indictment with conspiracy, robbery, kidnapping, and firearm offenses are Calvert Williams, 34, of Chicago, Derris Burns, 30, of Bellwood, Ahzami Hamilton, 27, of Chicago, and Christopher Gregory, 35, of Chicago. The charges carry a maximum sentence of life in federal prison.

Seven years for man who shot at Chicago police station because he was angry about Adam Toledo's death

The man who fired shots at a Chicago police station two years ago because he was angry about the fatal police shooting of Adam Toledo has been handed a seven-year prison sentence.

Lanny Cantway, 20, pleaded guilty to aggravated discharge of a firearm into an occupied building before Judge Aleksandra Gillespie. She ordered him to serve 85% of his sentence, giving him an anticipated parole date of May 31, 2028.

On April 18, 2021, three days after the city released videos of Toledo's death, Cantway fired a gun at the Rogers Park 24th District station, 6464 N. Clark, as he rode in the back seat of a passing car, officials said.

Cantway fired about seven rounds at the building as three other people rode with him in the car and a bystander watched from a nearby bus stop, prosecutors alleged.

Bullets struck the stationhouse wall, but no one was injured.

Lanny Cantway

Cameras on CTA buses captured images of the gunman's car, and police used that information to reconstruct the vehicle's movements. Police also released a surveillance image of the car as they tried to drum up leads.

As investigators painstakingly assembled footage of the car's travels, they discovered surveillance video from a carwash near the police station that showed Cantway get out of the vehicle and wait for it to be cleaned. Cantway's large neck tattoo was visible on the video footage, and Chicago cops recognized two of the vehicle's other occupants.

The vehicle left the carwash about three minutes before Cantway fired shots at the police station, officials said. All three of the people traveling with Cantway pegged him as the shooter, and two of them said he did it because he was upset after seeing a video of the officer shooting Toledo, prosecutors alleged

Cantway initially blamed a fifth person for the shooting, but he later admitted to firing at the CPD station, police said.

He had no criminal background at the time of the incident, his public defender said last year. He has a three-year-old child.

CPS teacher sexually assaulted, exploited three students

A Chicago Public Schools teacher was charged June 16 with predatory criminal sexual assault and exploitation of a child, crimes that prosecutors said involved three of his former students.

Judge Kelly McCarthy held Andrew Castro, 36, without bail.

Officials did not identify the school by name, but he is listed as a physical education teacher at Federico Garcia Lorca Elementary School in Avondale on an archived copy of the school's website.

Castro came to know the boys' families over time through their sporting events, Assistant State's Attorney Anne McCord said during his bail hearing. He grew so close that he expressed an interest in becoming their godfather.

Andrew Castro

The boys, who were between 8 and 11 years old at the time, began visiting Castro's home to play video games, watch movies, and spend the night, according to McCord. She said from 2018 to 2019, Castro engaged the boys in a "dice game" that required whoever rolled the lowest number to expose their private parts or engage in touching.

McCord said the sexual behavior escalated, and in June 2020, Castro sexually assaulted one of the boys, who was 11 years old. He went on to assault the boy "numerous times" over the next two years, McCord alleged.

Another victim's parents became concerned last month when they noticed cuts on his arms. He subsequently revealed the abuse to a family member, and his parents reported it to Chicago police, said McCord.

She told Judge McCarthy that CPS suspended Castro in 2021 to investigate allegations by three additional students. Those cases, which involve reported kissing or touching a student's buttocks during gym class, do not meet the criteria for felony charges, McCord explained.

Castro's defense attorney said he has been an "upstanding member of society," working as a real estate agent for nine years in addition to serving as a teacher. She said he has been working the real estate job full-time since CPS suspended him.

Woman carjacked at gunpoint in Lakeview

A woman was carjacked at gunpoint while dropping off a passenger in Lakeview on June 16, Chicago police said.

The car pulled into an alley in the 3500 block of N. Marshfield around 4:47 p.m., and the 44-year-old driver stopped to let her passenger get out, a CPD spokesperson said.

That's when a man walked up, displayed a gun, and ordered everyone out of the victim's beige 2014 Volkswagen CC.

Then he drove away with the car.

Police believe the carjacker arrived in a white sedan with two other occupants. An officer at the scene described the gunman as a young Black male wearing a black hoodie and dark jeans.

Carjacking reports citywide are down 28% compared to last year. But the number of cases seen so far this year, 499 as of last Saturday, is more than double the number at this point in 2019.

Vehicular hijacking cases began

POLICE BEAT *see p. 15*

More charges filed as sheriff's office tackles illicit drugs in Cook County jail

Two inmates charged with having drug-laced paper inside the Cook County jail are the latest to face felony charges as authorities continue to root out trafficking of the materials behind jail walls.

Mugshots Kiante Byrd (left) and Alexander Hansen. *Photos courtesy Cook County sheriff's office*

Alexander Hansen, a 19-year-old being held on armed robbery and gun charges, had drug-soaked paper in his sock on April 27, the sheriff's office said in a statement June 14.

On April 28, jail workers allegedly found drug-soaked papers in a notebook carried by Kiante Byrd, 22, who is awaiting trial for first-degree murder.

The papers recovered from both men tested positive for synthetic cannabinoids, according to the sheriff's office.

They are each charged with felony possession of contraband in a penal institution.

Hansen is accused of working with a juvenile to rob two people that they allegedly lured to the 6900 block of W. Shakespeare by advertising a phone for sale online, according to court records. Chicago police said he had a gun with no serial number in his backpack when they arrested him.

Byrd is accused of fatally shooting 18-year-old high school student Lazarrra Daniels on May 31, 2020, a day that saw 18 murders in Chicago, the most in 60 years. Byrd was on bail for a felony drug charge at the time.

Last month, the sheriff's office announced charges against three people who allegedly tried to import drug-soaked papers into the jail.

Dwain Johnson, 20, who is currently on trial for murder, offered a jail employee $1,500 to pick up laced papers from his girlfriend and bring them into the facility, prosecutors said.

Instead of doing that, the correctional officer went to their supervisor, launching an investigation. Police arrested the girlfriend after she delivered the papers to an undercover investigator at the North Riverside Park Mall on May 18, officials said.

One week later, prosecutors charged a jail contractor's employee who allegedly had $125,000 worth of cannabinoid-soaked papers in her possession as she prepared to make a delivery.

The sheriff's office enacted new restrictions on paper in April after two private defense attorneys were caught bringing contaminated papers into the facility for client meetings. Under the new rules, defense attorneys who want to bring paperwork to client meetings must schedule an appointment so the documents can be inspected. Correctional workers and county employees are also barred from taking paper into the jail unless it is work- or union-related.

Investigations into the private defense lawyers who allegedly brought contaminated papers into the facility remain active.

Sources familiar with the Cook County jail's operations believe smuggled drugs are responsible for increasing in-custody deaths.

Medical examiner records show that 12 people have died in jail this year. Three passed of natural causes, and one was murdered. The causes and manners of death in the other eight cases have yet to be determined.

By comparison, there were seven jail deaths during all of last year, two of which were attributed to drug ingestion. In 2021, two of the jail's ten deaths were the result of drug use, according to medical examiner records.

DePaul receives $4.2M grant to bring mental health resources into local public schools

BY LUCIA PREZIOSI
The DePaulia

DePaul Univ. received a $4.2 million grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education to help establish a stronger presence of mental health counselors in high-need Chicago Public Schools [CPS], as Illinois faces an imbalance in their student-to-counselor ratios.

The funding will also be used for tuition support and training efforts to prepare counselors for placement in schools. In an interdisciplinary collaboration, the university's psychology department, along with the counseling sector of the College of Education, will use this grant to fund and execute project STRIDE (School-Based Trainee Recruitment and Retention through Innovation and Diversity Enrichment).

As current demographics show, the ratio of students to school counselors is unbalanced, and proper mental health resources for students are lacking in Illinois.

"The American school counseling association recommends one school counselor to every 250 students, and unfortunately Illinois is one to every 600 students, so we are well beyond the number of students that a school counselor should be having," said Melissa Ockerman, a professor of counseling.

STRIDE's goal is to prepare graduate students at DePaul who dedicate themselves to working in high need public schools.

Psychology professor Antonio Polo worked in collaboration with a team of faculty from DePauls' counseling program to formulate an initiative combining psychology and school counseling. Team members include Ockerman, Alexandra Novakovic, Rebecca Michel and Autumn Cabell. DePaul's continued relationship with CPS presented an opportunity to apply for this grant, according to Polo.

"As I looked around at DePaul and thought about possible partners for this initiative, it became clear that the department of counseling and special education was an ideal place to collaborate because of their long standing partnership with CPS," Pollo said.

Not only is Project STRIDE setting out to place more counselors in CPS, but it puts an emphasis on training a group of diverse individuals to adhere to the specific backgrounds of Chicago's students.

"We definitely need more school counselors in Illinois, and we certainly need school counselors to mirror the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the students they are serving," said Ockerman.

The CPS system ranks as the fourth largest school district in the U.S. It has such a diverse student body, with 46% of their students classified as Latino and 35% as African American.

Polo says the program will emphasize on the severe mental health impacts that stemmed from Covid-19 lockdown and school closures, especially on Latino youth.

A recently conducted study by Polo found that Latino students reported higher depression and anxiety symptoms than any other group of students during the pandemic lockdown.

The severe uncertainty and loss dealt with by students throughout the pandemic resulted in a spike in social anxiety along with general anxiety stemming from worry, according to Polo. "We still don't know the full impact because we're still dealing with it… this is another good reason to support the students," he said.

As side benefit, DePaul graduate students are also receiving positive reinforcement benefits from the effort, which Ockerman and professor of counseling Alexandra Novakovic characterized as a "win, win, win" scenario.

Novakovic explains how the funds received from the grant will go to giving graduate students compensation for their counseling internships which place them in CPS.

"Currently our students don't get any compensation for their internships, so this is really a way to help our students get into schools, and become compensated for it," Novakovic said. "It's very hard to complete an internship if you're not getting paid."

Project STRIDE will also utilize Polo's "Act and Adapt" intervention initiative which has been in action in CPS since 2016. The initiative uses evidence-based intervention to help students through a 10 session video program where students can learn coping skills and find further resources for mental health assistance.

"Our goal has been to bring the services to the schools, instead of relying on parents, or services in the community to fill these needs, and we think schools are an ideal place to reach out to students and serve them, and they might not otherwise receive these services," Polo said.

All the collaborators of Project STRIDE agree that a strong presence of diverse school counselors is crucial for the mental health benefits of CPS students. "As much we can get diverse counselors in the school serving our students, the better it will be for everyone involved," Ockerman said.

The 2023 Chicago Air and Water Show is being held Saturday and Sunday Aug. 19-20 offshore to Lincoln Park.

Book now for the best seat at the air show

It might be the best seat for the show. The 2023 Chicago Air and Water Show is being held Saturday and Sunday Aug. 19-20, and Theater on the Lake is now taking reservations for seating where guests can spread out comfortably and enjoy incredible views in the center of the action.

Chicago's second most popular festival, it has been held every year since 1959.

Located at Fullerton and the Lakefront, Lakefront Green at Theater on the Lake's 5th Annual Air and Water Show Viewing Party tickets include Smoque BBQ, open bar with beer, wine, mixed drinks, non-alcoholic offerings and other summer favorites from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. General admission tickets start at $10 with the all-inclusive ticket at $100.

Ample seating is provided but guests are free to bring their favorite folding lounge chair. Portable restrooms will be available within this space. Tickets for children 6-12 are $45. There is no charge for children 5 and under. Due to the air show congestion, parking is not available on-site.

The first show was held under the direction of Al Benedict, a Chicago Park District [CPD] supervisor. Held at Chicago Ave. and Lake Michigan, the show was titled the Lakeshore Park Air & Water Show, and was a part of a "Family Day" celebration for children enrolled in the CPD's day camp program. The budget was $88, and the show featured a Coast Guard Air Sea Rescue demonstration, water skiers, a water ballet, games and a diving competition.

The following year, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and Golden Knights Parachute Team performed to a huge crowd and the event became a Chicago summer tradition.

Eventually, the show was expanded to two days, and moved to its current location at North Avenue Beach.

Lookingglass Theatre hosts birthday party June 22

The Lookingglass Theater is hosting their own birthday party 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at Seneca Park, 220 E. Chicago Ave.

Guests will tumble down the rabbit hole with Lookingglass teaching artist Edmund O'Brien as they explore scenes and characters from Lewis Carroll's Through the Looking-glass and What Alice Found There.

The event is being presented by Lookingglass to celebrate their birthday, in collaboration with Seneca Park and the Eli M. Schulman Playground.

As part of the Chicago Park District's strategic plan, Lookingglass works with the Culture, Arts and Nature unit to co-design and implement a four-phase plan to transform 15 Chicago parks across the city.

The show is recommended for ages 5-12. For more information call 312-337-0665 or write to curiosity@lookingglasstheatre.org.

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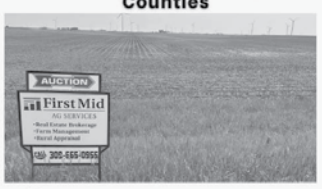

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PERMIT *from p. 1*

restaurants, The Irish Nobleman quickly submitted EOD permit applications after the City Hall vote. But this time the industry was not given clear guidance as to the length of time anticipated to get approved. Upon contacting Business Affairs and Consumer Protection [BACP] by phone and in-person, some are being told they will need to wait 60-90 days for approval. That's 40-60% of the entire length of the permit term just to get approved from the city.

The one big change from the prior regulations is that the new ordinance gave each aldermen the right to sign off on the use of outdoor spaces in their wards. Mayor Brandon Johnson got the EOD regulations passed by giving more control to local aldermen.

The June 1 change was considered a big win for restaurant owners, who said they needed the extra space to recoup the revenue lost during the government-imposed lockdown. And indeed, the move has been lauded by many hospitality industry business groups, chambers of commerce and community associations.

But now that control is back in aldermanic hands, how much power is too much, and how will ward politics play in decision making? With indoor capacity limited throughout much of the pandemic lockdown, the ability to offer outdoor dining became a lifeline for many restaurants. And to a large extent now, the power to help or harm restaurants lies in the hands of local aldermen.

In a Sept. 2021 survey fielded by the National Restaurant Assoc. [NRA], 65% of restaurant operators said they offered on-premises outdoor dining in a space such as a patio, deck or sidewalk. That was up from 57% in April 2021, and roughly on par with the 67% who reported similarly in Sept. 2020. Seventy-two percent of full service operators say their restaurant offered on-premises outdoor dining in September.

The NRA survey shows 40% of consumers say they're more likely to choose a restaurant with outdoor seating. In a recent Open Table survey, 82% responded that they want to see outdoor dining and seating options continue to grow. Twenty-nine percent of limited-service operators that offer outdoor seating say it accounts for more than 40% of their average daily sales. Thirteen percent say it represents more than 70% of their daily sales.

Hot spot dining areas like Rush St., Broadway, Fulton Market, and Randolph St. are now in full bloom again with expansive outdoor dining options, operating under the new 'old' rules, with or without an updated license. But for others, there is light being shed on the anticipated processing times to approve these permits. In one email exchange this reporter saw between an applicant, and Linda Ruelas of BACP, Ruelas referred the applicant back to another City Hall staffer in the Chicago Dept. of Transportation [CDOT] who had referred them to BACP. This technique is the time-honored tradition called 'The City Hall Shuffle,' where staff keep transferring a problem to other City Hall staffers until the questioner gets tired of the run-around, and gives up in frustration.

Well, except for one… The Irish Nobleman is still slugging away at several layers of city bureaucracy, after being cut back from 24 outdoor tables to 14. Under they new 'old' rules, they should be allowed 24 tables.

The couple who own the restaurant think the 1st Ward Alderman's office is bullying them by dragging their feet on approval, and sending over a stream of city inspectors to harass them. The 'shuffle' is on, with the local alderman and several other city departments all passing the buck around as to why they can't operate under the reenacted EOD regulation.

"I don't think we'll survive if we lose that patio space, we'll lose $250,000 in sales this year" due to reduced outdoor seating, said co-owner Declan Morgan, an Irish immigrant.

EOD permits are valid from May 1 through Oct. 31, and Declan and his wife Candace Morgan believe they're losing about $50,000 a month in sales while waiting for public officials to issue the license that allows the extra outdoor spaces. Candace says weeks pass before questions posed to the alderman's office and city officials are answered, and they believe the real problem is harassment by Ald. Daniel La Spata [1st]. Declan also believes part of the problem may be an anti-business attitude in La Spata's office and a bias against immigrants.

But Declan's original sin is likely more political, in that he supported the opposition in the last aldermanic election. In March, Ald. La Spata emerged victorious in a tight race, pulling in just enough votes (50.11%) to avoid a runoff with challenger Sam Royko. In a town with few checks and balances against abuse of power, backing the loser leaves the door open for political retribution by the winner.

This technique is the time-honored tradition called 'The City Hall Shuffle,' where staff keep transferring a problem to other City Hall staffers until the questioner gets tired of the run-around, and gives up in frustration.

When this newspaper questioned Ald. La Spata's staff about potential political harassment, they denied the charge, and now refuse to speak with this newspaper on the matter.

"We are hearing from customers that they would still prefer to dine outside," pleaded Candace to Bryan Gallardo, an Assistant Commissioner with CDOT. "Quite a few places have their outdoor extended dining outside along the Fulton Market area. I just drove past Girl & Goat with outdoor dining in parking spaces." This newspaper contacted Gallardo's office, he never returned phone calls or emails requesting a comment. But to CDOT's credit, on June 15, they contacted the Morgans asking how they could help expedite the process.

The Morgans say they just want to be treated fairly. Email exchanges show the couple have been working with various city officials on their 2023 patio licenses since Dec. 2022. There have been multiple exchanges, including four last week, when she again wrote to ask what's causing the hold up.

In mid-May, before the regulations were changed back, this reporter visited City Hall with Declan to witness the application process, and was impressed by the frank and straight forward conversation between the applicant and Matthew Viveros, a staffer at the BACP. Declan did not get what he wanted, but he was listened-to and treated fairly and with respect as Viveros explained how the rolled back regulations were going to affect him and the entire industry. He also hinted to changes coming in the regulations.

That stands in stark contrast to the lack of support or respect they were getting from their own alderman and his staffers. Declan and Candace made personal visits to Ald. La Spata's office, only to be told by his staffers that there were too many complaints about The Irish Nobleman from the community.

When he was still talking to this newspaper, Nicholas Zettel, LaSpata's chief of staff, said they were sending city inspectors over to Irish Nobleman responding to 311 complaints. Zettel shared a 311 call list showing 38 calls relating to 1365-67 W. Erie St. ranging from July 18, 2019 through Aug. 18, 2022. No names or addresses were attached to the 38 calls.

Of the 38, 32 show they were "completed," which means city inspectors visited the establishment and either found no violation, found one that was fixed, and that no fines or violations are presently open and outstanding. The five "open" complaints all took place during the pandemic economic lockdown. One had to do with social distancing, another with outdoor music, and a third was over the extended patio taking parking spaces; the other two had no notations (one of which was at 10 a.m. Sept. 23, 2019, when the restaurant was closed.)

Declan says the city inspectors who visited all those times were polite, thorough, conducted the inspections, and told him they're "being sent," and that 'they're sorry, but we have to do it' all again and again.

The couple believes that many of the 311 calls came from one source, a tenant who moved into an apartment above their establishment. Zettel said he could not verify that, "as some of the requests are anonymous so I honestly don't know, and I also cannot tell you the last time our office heard from anyone in the building."

Last week Zettel said he and the alderman will no longer speak on the record on this matter. The silence came after we asked if there was any targeted harassment, and if they knew of any other businesses who also had the same frequent number of city inspections in such a short span of time.

Just before the alderman's office went dark, Zettel said of the large number of inspections, that "this happens all over the 1st Ward, we are a very busy ward and lots of people call 311 and 911 on businesses." When we asked for a few examples of other 1st Ward establishments receiving as many inspections, none were offered, or forthcoming as of deadline.

Still the Morgans pushed on, seeking specific information as to the processing of EOD permits due to the "time sensitive nature of the limited seasonal permit," said Candace. "I am [also] the CEO of Chicago Bar Shop and I would like to give some additional information to my restaurant clients who are asking us the same questions about their EOD applications."

The Morgans have spent most of their adult lives working in the hospitality industry. Their company has helped build over 500 commercial bars/restaurants and retail locations in Chicago. "Through our relationships and hospitality experience over the last 50 years, we consult with a large number of Chicago based restaurants. So, we would like to offer some realistic time-frame estimates and any helpful tips [or] suggestions to our clients and followers," said Candace.

A cursory look around the 1st Ward by this reporter shows that many restaurants and bars big and small are currently operating under the renewed EOD regulations, with patio seating spilling out into sidewalks and streets. BACP told the Morgans they should contact CDOT to find out the status and estimated issue date of their EOD permit. And they did.

The portal presently just shows their license as "Pending" and "Application Checks." But now it appears the logjam has loosened. "[CDOT] told me [June 15] that they'd help us," said Declan.

Up to $50K reward offered for info leading to five men who robbed mail carrier in Chicago

BY CWBCHICAGO

Postal investigators are offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information that leads them to the arrests and convictions of a group of men who robbed a Chicago mail carrier in last month.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service said the five men were armed when they robbed the letter carrier in the 1000 block of N. Hamlin around 3:11 p.m. May 19. The agency said the crew escaped in a silver Jeep or Ford SUV after the robbery.

A photo of two of the men accompanied the reward announcement. The group consisted of five Black men in their late teens or early 20s, according to the reward offer. The group wore black masks and black hoodies during the robbery.

Tips can be shared with postal inspectors at 877-876-2455 regarding case number 4043101. The agency said all information provided to it will be kept confidential.

While the reward bulletin does not say what the men took from the mail carrier, armed robbers have been targeting postal workers for their master keys. Highly organized identity theft and fraud organizations use the stolen keys, called "arrow keys," to steal large volumes of mail from public mailboxes and residential building mailrooms.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service released this photo of two of the suspects. *Photo courtesy USPIS*

Last month, a joint operation involving postal inspectors and Chicago police netted an arrest after investigators allegedly saw a man use an arrow key to steal mail from one of the postal service's ubiquitous blue mailboxes in the West Loop.

In March, another man was charged with possessing two forged postal service master keys, also known as "arrow keys," during a traffic stop on the North Side. Prosecutors said the man also had a trove of financial information, including W2 forms and checks.

And prosecutors charged another man in February with burglarizing the mailroom of a single Lakeview apartment building 14 times in nine weeks. Patrick Slagel allegedly admitted to being a "jogger," the slang term for people who collect bulk mail in theft scams, and to using postal service master keys that were either provided by relatives of USPS employees or were bought or stolen.

"Never put anything into the postal system unless you are comfortable with it landing in the hands of criminals instead of at its intended destination," an investigative source advised the reporter a few months ago.

"Checks, credit cards, PPP loans, and identity theft are the new hustle in urban America," another source said.

The mail theft problem has become so widespread that the U.S. Postal Service has advised people

not to put mail into its blue mailboxes after the last collection time.

Mail thieves might occasionally score a valuable package or an envelope containing a birthday gift card from someone's grandma. But experts say the real value comes from identity theft and check fraud mills, which use information from stolen mail to steal people's identities and checks.

Some crews specialize in altering and depositing checks, sometimes multiplying the face value of the note by many times its original amount.

A source said that those teams often operate with the assistance of marginalized people who open checking accounts they do not need.

"The stolen $40 utility payment is changed to $4,000. The halfwit withdraws the money, and the account crashes," the source explained.

The source said they believe the postal service's problems are even more significant and widespread than the agency is letting on.

"They're reluctant to tell the truth to keep consumers buying stamps and keep citizens from using other means of delivery" like UPS or FedEx.

Two North Side police districts get new captains

Two of the three police stations serving the North Side will have a change in leadership.

The new Captain of the 24th Rogers Park District will be Patrick Quinn.

Quinn is a 21-year member of the CPD, most recently served as a Watch Operations Lieutenant and Field Lieutenant in the same 24th Rogers Park District.

Prior to that, he was the Commanding Officer of the Crime Prevention and Information Center where he managed day-to-day operations of the unit. He has also served as a Lieutenant in the Education and Training Division where he was the supervising instructor on the Department's revised Use of Force policy. Additionally, he worked as a Watch Operations and Field Lieutenant in the 19th (Town Hall) District.

Further south the new Commander of the 18th Near North District is Michael Barz.

Barz, a 27-year member of the CPD, and most recently served as the Executive Officer of the 16th Jefferson Park District. Before working in the 16th District, he was Deputy Chief of the Community Safety Team, where he was also Commander. He also led the Department's Summer Mobile Patrol as its Commanding Officer.

Letter to the Editor

Schools out and North Side officials got failing grade

With props to Alice Cooper, schools out for summer, so let's go down the list of our local elected officials and give them their final grades.

State Senators Sara Feigenholtz, Mike Simmons and Cristina Pacione-Zayas.

F-. If they were paid according to their accomplishments, they would owe the taxpayers money. They failed to change laws protecting criminals. They abandoned special needs children. They failed to renew the Invest In Children Act to extend the choice of private schooling for low-income students who otherwise couldn't afford to pick a private elementary or high school. Over one-eighth of the scholarships went to children with special needs.

State Reps Ann Williams, Kelly Cassidy, Margaret Croake, Jaime Andrade, Robyn Gabel and Hoan Huyhn.

F-. They also let the Invest in Children Act expire. And they never got the families of special needs funding to replace the Lyman Trumbull Elementary School at Ashland and Foster avenues shut down by former mayor Rahm Emanuel. The school was turned over to a private group, The Waldorf School. Who did the movers and shakers at The Waldorf School donate to?

This group also did nothing to help police and crime victims.

Being female, lesbian, Jewish or a person of color is not an accomplishment.

Ald. Matt Martin. F-. Let's see: Give away a critical city parking lot and tens of millions of dollars in subsidies to an out-of-town developer -- Check! Grease the skids for a campaign contributor to open up and sell narcotics near a kindergarten, daycare and a preschool -- Check! Fail to have the Park District train and hire enough lifeguards to open the Welles Park pool for the second summer in a row -- Check!

Would Martin get away with this if he were Irish? I doubt it. Quick someone get me my auld shillelagh!

Ald. Andre Vasquez. D-. Besides painting an art plaza at Western and Gunnison what has he done? Redevelop Lincoln Ave.? Nope. Finish and help fill vacant condos at 5035 N. Lincoln? Nope. Seal a deal to redevelop the northwest corner of Western and Lawrence avenues? Nope. Wreck the 5900-6400 Blocks of Ashland Ave. and Clark St. with dozens of traffic impediments and privileged bike lanes? Yep! Let's say there is room for improvement, and change that grade to an F+. A sanitation laborer working alone behind a garbage truck does more good in one day than Andre has done in four years.

Ald. Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez. D-/F+. Albany Park is experiencing a regrowth of violent crime not seen since the late 1970s. And Irving Park is getting just as bad. The 17th police district is a ghost town. Too few cops on patrol, plenty of squad cars parked in the lot.

And why has the old Gordon Tech High School not been bought by the City to expand Lane Tech High School and give Chicago families more choices in education?

Looks like it's summer school for all of them.

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

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

CPS *from p. 6*

Because many of the District's revenue sources are largely out of its control, legislation may be required to provide new or increased revenues if they are needed to keep up with costs. Given the District's fragile financial condition, coupled with the potential for CPS to lose even more revenue as it becomes independent of the City of Chicago, the City must plan ahead for the inevitable fiscal cliff looming after federal relief funds run out.

The City of Chicago and the Board of Education will need to work together to develop a plan for how each of these entanglements will be handled in future years and develop a long-term financial plan that sets up the elected school board with clear guidance on the City's financial responsibility to CPS after 2024.

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IMAGINATION *from p. 2*

from Jimi. Jimi learned it from Buddy. Buddy learned it from **Guitar Slim**. Chicago history at its best.

SERVICE CLUB: Bobbi Panter, **Whynnis Mackey** and **Liz Teasley** were spotted at the Philanthropic Reception held at the Four Seasons. The Service Club of Chicago is doing amazing work, changing lives in Chicagoland and they're on the team. These Chicagoans are proud to be a part of the dynamic that changes lives. The grant recipients all gathered together for a joyous night.

MANGE, MANGE: Restauranteur **John Campos** and son, **Jack Campos**, were super busy Monday at MartAnthony's on Hubbard, with every table in the house filled, even the bar jammed with eaters, including a group led by the erudite aristocratic **Nick Hahn**, looking very swell, sharing stories of stunning varietals of Châteauneuf du Pape he's sampled.

BACK FROM VEGAS: Irene Mohica, **Joey Majumdar**, **James Place**, **Jeanae Paul**, and **Hansen Connery Murray** Heritage for The 2nd Annual Barb Bailey showcase titled "Barb Is A Four Letter Word." Doors open at 5:30 p.m., showtime, 7 p.m. $55 includes a fabulous three-course dinner (plus tax and gratuity), plus $15 performance fee. Limited seating available. RSVP to Marchesa 312-527-9535.

30th ANNIVERSARY: Tracey Burns Scoto front and center at the Field Museum, with everyone's favorite, architect **Lucien Lagrange** and wife, **Melinda Jakovich Lagrange**. Supporting children and families battling Pediatric Cancer at the 30th Annual Necessities Ball. **Paul R. Iacono**, **Sherry Lea Fox**, **Ann-Marie Hanson**, **Tracey Tarantino DiBuono** and **Kathleen Haines-Finley** all in attendance in grand style. Congratulations to **Amanda Puck**, the 2023 William Casey Hope Award recipient. And Co-Chairs **Donna Rotunno** and **Kirk Williams** on a hugely successful event.

FLOWER POWER: Christie's **Steven Keliher Zink** over in Ireland clearing garden land and replanting flowers, hundreds of tons (yes, tons) of soil was brought in and sifted before top dressing the living rock. And this was after the clearance of hundreds of hazel and hawthorn trees. A labor of love and a passion project for sure. Today, the collections include hawthorns, hostas, ferns, hydrangeas, roses, astilbes, camassias and endangered Irish daffodils.

POWER GRANDKIDS: Former Cook County Assessor **Jim Houlihan**, former Cook County Comtroller **John Chambers**, former Ald. **Pat Levar**, and former high profile trial lawyer **Jack Goggin** were busy yakking away, not about politics, but about the grandkids at St. Mary of the Woods School Grandparents Day in Edgebrook, did anyone call former Mayor **Rich Daley**? Are any of these grandkids running for class president?

Ann-Marie Hanson and Paul R Iacono.

Eammon Cummins and Larry Cummins.

Lucien Lagrange

Samurai Bros.

Cynthia Olson

Irene Michaels with Ireen Mohica, Lori Mertz, Irena Grachova Kaiser, Jeanae Paul, Heather Bushong, Tricia Roberson, Kim Duda, Karyn Meyers, Kay Lynn Rose and Joyce Selander.

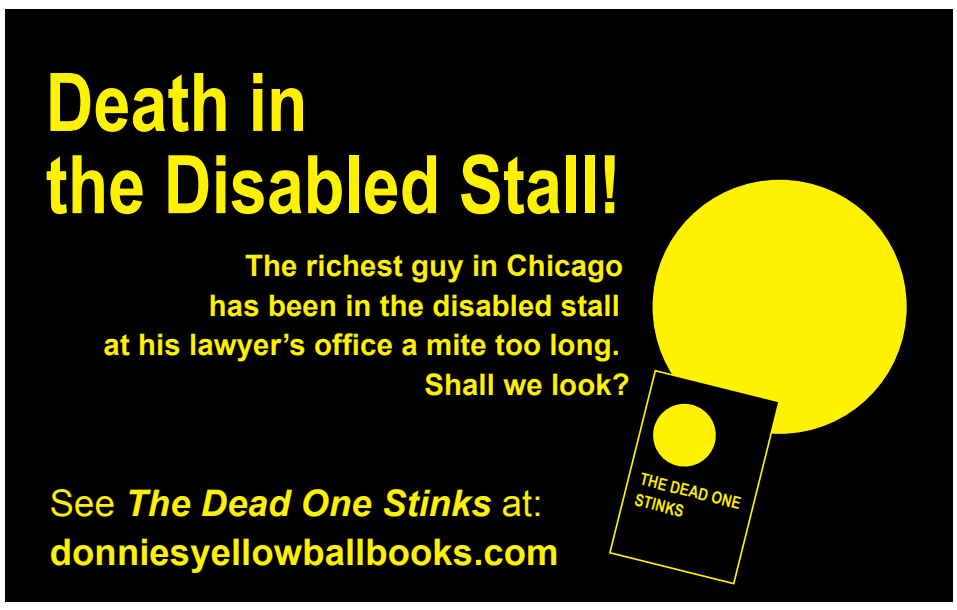
Tracey Tarantino DiBuono and Sherry Lea Fox.

Chef Bill Kim and Yvonne.

Bobbi Panter, Whynnis Mackie and Liz Teasley.

WHO'S WHERE: Tina Weller celebrating her anniversary a week late thanks to a sciatic nerve problem, but she and her Dr. Husband are happy to toast 22 years now… **Lalo Grimshaw** is a lifelong Cubs fan with the power to lift crowds of fans… **Ann Ponce** (Mrs. Phil) is lovely and elegant in Mexico City in the Condessa neighborhood… A sweet summer lunch for **Kathy Wolter Mondelli** and **Dr. Sandy Goldberg** at the fab Athena Restaurant in Greektown… the **Magdalan** girls take to their blackboards to announce the end of the school year… best wishes to birthday boy **Jay Barksdale** who's just ripening, celebrating with **Shelley Howard**, **Susan Strange**, and **Lisa Paul** at table 31 on Wildcard Wednesday at Lux Bar… **Tom McGuire** and **Tom Hackett** feasted at the gala 25th anniversary dinner at Mon Ami in the Belden Stratford… Unabomber South Sider **Ted Kaczynski**, a Chicago native, died in federal prison at 81… Another amazing James Beard Foundation Award for the team at Virtue in Hyde Park, one for the books, the team was proud beyond words to celebrate **Brown Damarr** as he took home the Emerging Chef Award this year… Bar hopping at the new Bellevue on Rush WGN Radio Lawyer **Karen Conti** had her cocktails shaken by actor **Mark Wahlberg** so she flashed him her biceps… **Eamonn Cummins** with the "Da," his birthday boy pappy, **Larry Cummins**, toasting eight decades of living and parenting with Irish lagers at the Kerryman, Slainte… **Cynthia Olson** has returned from Paris and the familiar sites of a life well-lived… Master of radio **Steve Dahl** digging through the memory pile of the past… the candles are aglow, the pine walysare pickled and the ice cream melting at the first grand soirée of the summer at **Brian White** and **Jim Kinney's**… **Sherrill Bodine** and **Cookie Cohen** up to some serious fashion with the divine **Contessa Bottega**… Noted in demand chef **Bill Kim**, and wife **Yvonne**, from early RL days look stunning on the town celebrating peers at the James Beard Awards… Congrats to the **Samurai Bros** on their big achievement at Francis Parker School… **Irene Michaels** had a wonderful birthday celebration at Bellevue with pals including Ireen Mohica, **Lori Mertz**, **Irena Grachova Kaiser**, Jeanae Paul, **Heather Bushong**, **Tricia Roberson**, **Kim Duda**, **Karyn Meyers**, **Kay Lynn Rose** and **Joyce Selander**... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenas** are at the Cote d'Azur, the French Riviera, Antibes, France and write the secret to life's true happiness: "Carry your own chef and start your morning with a drink."

tog515@gmail.com



Memorial July 8 for Don Selle, founder of beloved Rogers Park cafe

Don Selle, who founded Don's Coffee Club in Rogers Park in the '90s, passed away in late November.

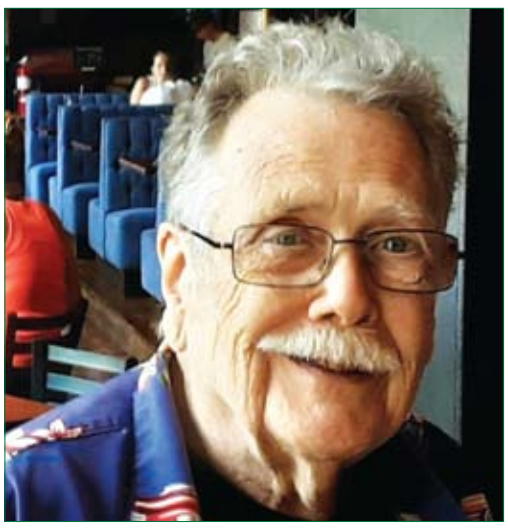
Friends and neighbors are planning a memorial for him. The memorial will take place noon, Saturday, July 8, in the space that used to be Don's Coffee Club, 1439 W. Jarvis.

Everyone who attends and who would like to speak will have an opportunity to do so. Organizers are asking for RSVP's at donscoffeeclubmemorial@gmail.com so organizers can get a rough headcount.

In 2000, The Reader's Neal Pollack wrote a well-read story about Selle, a Rogers Park cafe owner, who became a beloved, if curmudgeonly, member of the community.

"For the last four years around Labor Day, he threw an elaborate prom on the concrete patio outside his building, complete with refreshments, decorations, and hours of swing dancing," wrote Pollack. "One year Don donated all his prom proceeds to a neighborhood arts group and another year to the widow of a nearby Russian cobbler who'd been killed in a brutal holdup. He was friends with nearly everyone."

"Don hosted meetings for tenant organizers, scheming landlords, and political groups both left and right. He counted among his customers local actors, directors, and radio personalities, as well as hundreds of more plebeian folk."



Don Selle

"For their comfort and entertainment he featured nothing but thrift-store furniture, yellowed lighting, and a backdrop of 40s big-band music. During one period of sagging revenues, he tortured patrons by playing "Gal From Kalamazoo" in an endless loop. His only break from the big-band era came when he got into a Donna Summer album he'd picked up in a junk store. Customers begged him to stop playing it, so he didn't."

The story of the Coffee Club's demise has become all too familiar in Chicago, reported Pollack.

"One year Don donated all his prom proceeds to a neighborhood arts group and another year to the widow of a nearby Russian cobbler who'd been killed in a brutal holdup. He was friends with nearly everyone," wrote Neal Pollack.

"After 1439 W. Jarvis spent most of the 90s as a seedy hangout for ragtag locals who didn't mind the black coffee and convenience-store food at Selle's, some people decided to buy the building as an investment property. They evicted most of the tenants and eventually drove Selle out—though he had a long-term lease for both the cafe space and his apartment above—through a combination of deferred maintenance, construction noise, and class hostility."

Selle put the Coffee Club up for sale with an ad in the Reader. Phil Tadros, then a 21-year-old Columbia College student, bought the place and in Aug. 2000 opened the first coffee shop in what would become a much-maligned empire of food and beverage businesses.

Porchlight's annual outdoor series kicks off June 27

Free summer concert series

Porchlight Music Theatre has announced its free summer concert series Broadway in your Backyard, starring Broadway veterans and new faces. Now in its third year, the free performances will be held June 27 through Aug. 8, as part of Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks series.

This 60-minute concert, starting at 6 p.m. in parks throughout Chicago, includes favorite Chicago music theatre performers singing some of the best loved hits from the Broadway songbook including songs from Funny Girl, Guys and Dolls, Mary Poppins, Grease, RENT, Hairspray and others. Broadway in your Backyard is suitable for all ages and audiences are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to enjoy the outdoor concerts.

The summer schedule includes North Side events at Unity Park, 2636 N. Kimball Ave., Tuesday, June 27; Wicker Park, 1425 N. Damen Ave., Thursday, June 29; Portage Park, 4100 N. Long Ave., Thursday, July 6; Seneca Playlot Park, 220 E. Chicago Ave., Tuesday, July 11; Gill Park, 825 W. Sheridan Rd., Thursday, July 13; Schreiber Playground Park, 1552 W. Schreiber Ave., Thursday, Aug. 3, and at Washington Square Park, 901 N. Clark St., Tuesday, Aug. 8.

Performances, performers and dates subject to change. For more information visit Porchlight MusicTheatre.org.

STARS *from p. 7*

sell it to [British Invasion band]. With their initial hit "Needles and Pins," the Liverpool-based Searchers had become one of the most successful British bands in America.

"The Searchers didn't think it was the right record for them. I disagreed. I overheard their failed transaction and then asked if Gordon and I could record it. He said fine and he taught us the song there in Australia. We worked on the song continuously and asked him not to give it to anyone else because we would record it as soon as we got back to London and that is what we did," said Asher.

The duo's instincts were correct. After its release, "I Go to Pieces" was another Top 10 hit.

In the early 1960s, singles were how the recording industry measured a recording act's commercial success. Recording artists were under constant pressure to produce another hit.

"It was all about singles. Not albums [LPs], at that point, too. Albums and singles were considered separate entities. In England, it wasn't customary to even include the singles on an album. They were two separate ventures. The pressure was always on when you had to have a follow up record," Asher said.

Clyde's duo, Chad and Jeremy had the same experience. After they achieved commercial success with their first two singles "Yesterday's Gone" and "A Summer Song" in 1964, their record company asked them to record "From a Window," a Lennon-McCartney composition not recorded by The Beatles.

"It was a commercial decision. They hoped we would get another hit. Chad had written "Yesterday's Gone" and it's a great song. He also had co-written "A Summer Song" which nobody [in the UK] really thought was going to be anything." Clyde said.

Shortly after its release, it was played on a popular British television show which featured The Beatles' Ringo Starr as a panelist. While Starr predicted the song would fail to chart in the UK, he predicted it would do well in the United States.

"Ringo said it could become a very big hit in America and, he was absolutely right. [Radio] disc jockeys in America picked it up out of our album to play on the radio. The rest is history. At that point, we did not have a lot of material to record. We had bits and pieces from our folk-act, but we didn't have commercial hits," said Clyde.

Chad and Jeremy were discovered by John Barry, musical arranger for the James Bond movie series.

"Chad Stuart had been to music school. He could really write charts. He was a proper musician. "Yesterday's Gone" was arranged by Chad. Barry had said to him, 'Go ahead, you try. That was very generous of Barry as he was "The Man" when it came to arrangements," said Clyde.

Buoyed by the success of 'A Summer Song' the duo became more popular in America than in their home country. Their subsequent hits included "Willow Weep for Me" and "Before and After." Quickly, the duo became popular guest stars on American television shows, including Batman and the Dick Van Dyke Show. Ironically, their popularity as TV guest stars in America caused some of their peers to dismiss their musical output.

"What's interesting is that the television appearances are kind of regarded as sort of not the thing to do. At the time, we were living in California. We'd both been to drama schools and could handle a little bit of dialogue. We became the go-to guys for anybody that wanted to do a joke about the British Invasion, which at that time wasn't called the British Invasion. That name came later. So, if you wanted to do a British Invasion joke, we were right there," Clyde said.

In early 1966, Chad and Jeremy appeared in an episode of "Laredo," a comedic television western on NBC. This episode had been written to serve as a pilot for a spinoff featuring the popular British duo in their own TV western.

"We were going to get our own series but later, the way it was put to us by the powers-that-be, they chose another band entirely, The Monkees," said Clyde.

The Monkees featured British singer/actor Davy Jones as one of the band's two lead vocalists and each episode showcased the band's songs on the NBC network.

A classically-trained actor, Clyde has fond memories of his band's appearances on the "Batman" television show.

"Adam West [who played Batman] was one of the most wonderful comedic actors I have known. Leslie Nielsen was the same. They both had a wonderful deadpan comedic style. They could say absolutely stupid things and appear to be completely serious. That's a great comedic acting gift," said Clyde.

Since his days as a rock star, Clyde has never stopped working as an actor. Among his more recent roles was a guest appearance on the popular British television series Downton Abbey.

After his career as a recording artist, Asher became an in-demand music producer. Production credits include recording artists James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, Bonnie Raitt and 10,000 Maniacs.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MILWAUKEE COUNTY

BREWERY CREDIT UNION
1351 N. Dr. Martin Luther Jr. Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53212

PUBLICATION SUMMONS
Case No: 23-CV-003385

Plaintiff,
v.
STEVEN D. WRIGHT
8608 S. King Dr.
Chicago, IL 60619,

Defendant.
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 days after June 21, 2023, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is 901 N. 9th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233 and to the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 735 N. Water Street, Ste. 205, Milwaukee, 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

We are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2023.

DARNIEDER & SOSNAY

By: Electronically signed
by Michael A. Sosnay
Michael A. Sosnay,
Attorney for Plaintiff

State Bar No: 1059549

P.O. ADDRESS
735 N. Water Street, Suite 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 277-1400

BEAT *from p. 3*

chief—are apparently telling the alderman they're committed to patrolling his ward and maintaining a presence?

Why does the alderman keep repeating what he has been told even when it's obviously not being done? Why do alderman trust but not verify what's being done, and check it out?

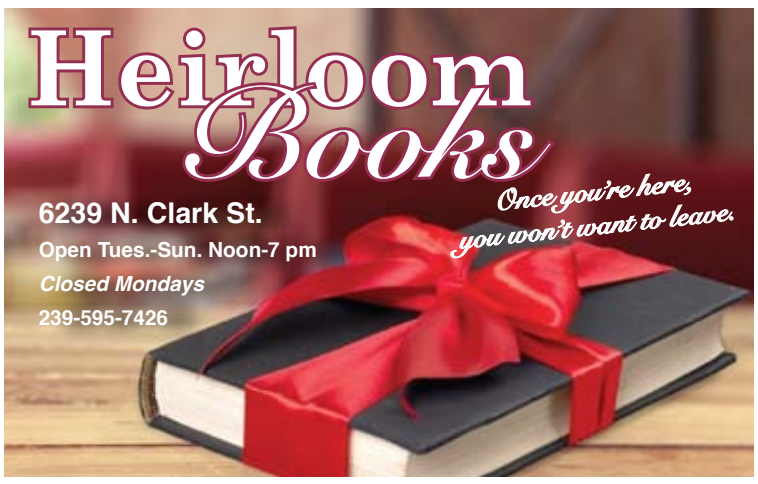
Negative growth

In June 2019, the month after Lori Lightfoot became mayor, 389 cops staffed the 18th District. There are 286 officers in the district this month, according to the Chicago Office of Inspector General. That's a 26% haircut.

During the same time, staffing in the Town Hall 19th District, which patrols the north end of Knudsen's ward, dropped 27%.

Overall, the CPD has 11,704 officers this month, down 16 from May and down more than 11% in four years. The city has loosened hiring standards, hoping to draw more recruits. And CPD brass and Lightfoot frequently claimed that the police academy was churning out newly-minted cops to replenish the ranks.

Despite those efforts, according to the OIG, CPD's force has declined by six officers since December.



NASCAR *from p. 5*

and legacy," Giese said.

The NASCAR website—www.nascarchicago.com, reports that the cheapest ticket to the race is $269, obviously priced for the poor peons like this writer.

The event is expected to generate more than $113 million in economic impact and more than $3 million in tax revenue for Chicago in 2023. However, the NASCAR contract says the Chicago Park District will earn only a $2 commission for each admission ticket.

That's a bad deal, considering NASCAR has effectively taken away our front yard and has shut down "Chicago's Game" of 16-inch softball in Grant Park, and will close the park to recreation-minded Windy City residents on the July 4 holiday weekend.

Lollapalooza generated $335 million over a four-day weekend in 2022. "Lollapalooza doesn't cause nearly the amount of inconvenience and obstruction that the NASCAR races will certainly cause," said Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd].

"Holding a car racing competition on our streets sets a dangerous example at a time when too many drivers are going too fast, endangering the lives of everyone who uses our streets," according to a statement from Safe Streets Chicago.

A spokesperson for Mayor Brandon Johnson said: "Events like the Chicago Street Race are critical to continuing positive tourism growth and the type of economic activity necessary to benefit Chicago residents and communities."

Chicago's great, green front yard, Grant Park and the lakefront, were part of Daniel Burnham's

"Holding a car racing competition on our streets sets a dangerous example at a time when too many drivers are going too fast, endangering the lives of everyone who uses our streets," according to a statement from Safe Streets Chicago.

signature 1909 Plan of Chicago. Burnham envisioned the open space as belonging to the working-class citizens of the Windy City—certainly not to be used for corporate greed and profit.

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.

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
BMO HARRIS BANK NA;
Plaintiff,
vs.
CHARLES S. ODDO; AMY C. ODDO; RBC MORTGAGE COMPANY; WELLS FARGO BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; THE BRISTOL CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
22 CH 7689
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 17-03-217-015-1019; 17-03-217-015-1334.
Commonly known as 57 E. Delaware Place Unit 1206 and Parking Space P155, Chicago, IL 60611.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6180-181122
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3222632

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
CITIZENS BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
-v.-
KAREN M. PETERSON, KAREN M. PETERSON AS TRUSTEE OF THE KAREN M. PETERSON DECLARATION OF TRUST DATED 12/15/2014, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
2022 CH 11725
1810 N LINCOLN PARK W UNIT 2
CHICAGO, IL 60614
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 19, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on July 31, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1810 N LINCOLN PARK W UNIT 2, CHICAGO, IL 60614
Property Index No. 14-33-407-050-1002
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium

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.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-22-06892
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2022 CH 11725
TJSC#: 43-1768
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2022 CH 11725
I3222940

212121 ----------

141414 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK
Plaintiff,
-v.-
CHRISTIENA P. AUGUSTE, THE SANDBURG VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM HOMEOWNERS'S ASSOCIATION, CARL SANDBURG VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION NO. 7
Defendants
2022 CH 00867
1560 NORTH SANDBURG TERRANCE, APARTMENT 709J
CHICAGO, IL 60610
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 10, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on July 11, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1560 NORTH SANDBURG TERRANCE, APARTMENT 709J, CHICAGO, IL 60610
Property Index No. 17-04-207-087-1325
The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.
The judgment amount was $279,263.91.
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

Real Estate For Sale

fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, contact MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250, Chicago, IL, 60601 (312) 651-6700. Please refer to file number 22-000429.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250
Chicago IL, 60601
312-651-6700
E-Mail: AMPS@manleydeas.com
Attorney File No. 22-000429
Attorney Code. 48928
Case Number: 2022 CH 00867
TJSC#: 43-1553
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2022 CH 00867
I3221851

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
ARETE INVESTMENTS FUND III, LLC AS ASSIGNEE OF BYLINE BANK, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FIRST BANK & TRUST;
Plaintiff,
vs.
SIGALIT R. ZETOUNI; 535 N. MICHIGAN AVE. CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
20 CH 3656
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
Commonly known as 535 N. Michigan Avenue, Unit 1406, Chicago, Illinois 60611.
P.I.N. 17-10-122-025-1181.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection
For information call Mr. Scott H. Kenig at Plaintiff's Attorney, Randall & Kenig LLP, 455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611. (312) 822-0800. Zetouni
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3221636

070707 ----------

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For Only $150.00.
Call 773-465-9700

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

212121 ----------

141414 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
DATA MORTGAGE, INC.
Plaintiff,
-v.-
SANDRA LYNN HARMON, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., 5455 EDGEWATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
2022 CH 08999
5455 N SHERIDAN RD UNIT 2912
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 March 15, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on July 17, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 5455 N SHERIDAN RD UNIT 2912, CHICAGO, IL 60640
Property Index No. 14-08-203-016-1333
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admon-

Real Estate For Sale

ished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-22-05940
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2022 CH 08999
TJSC#: 43-1213
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2022 CH 08999
I3221796

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC;
Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF MARIO LENZI; IMPERIAL TOWERS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; ALEXANDRA LENZI; WILLIAM BUTCHER, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MARIO LENZI; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
22 CH 5257
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, July 10, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-16-301-041-1181.
Commonly known as 4250 North Marine Drive, Unit 2107, Chicago, IL 60613.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W22-0187 ADC
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3221606

070707 ----------

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Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR BANTAM FUNDING TRUST 2018-1
Plaintiff,
-v.-
MARTIN ESQUIVEL, JESUCITA VALENCIA A/K/A JESUCITA ESQUIVEL
Defendants
2019 CH 09952
1634 WEST MORSE AVENUE
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 April 24, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on July 26, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1634 WEST MORSE AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60626
Property Index No. 11-31-218-036-0000
The real estate is improved with a townhouse.
The judgment amount was $248,462.11.
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 JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number

Real Estate For Sale

22 9617.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
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JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC
30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650
Chicago IL, 60602
312-541-9710
E-Mail: ilpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
Attorney File No. 22 9617
Attorney Code. 40342
Case Number: 2019 CH 09952
TJSC#: 43-1774
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2019 CH 09952
I3222836

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Under the Assumed Business Name of BARKER N BUBBLES GROOMING SPA
with the business located at: 4755 N CLARK ST, CHICAGO, IL 60640
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3F3613 (Ingersol, Donna)
3F3662 (Lewandowski, Brett)
3F3629 (McCaskil, Tiffany)
3C3242 (Sherrod, Sven)
1C2062 (Wilbourn, Nicolas)
3F3599 (Williams, Leroy)
3D3358 (Young, Patrick)
for public sale of miscellaneous items.
This sale is to be held on Thursday,
June 29, 2023, at 2:00 pm.
Cash only.

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It's what you learn after you know it all that counts. — *John Wooden*

CHIEF *from p. 4*

even if they're located father away.

CPS will spend about $220 million more in the 2023-2024 school year to hire teachers and other support staff as students continue their pandemic academic recovery. These budgets represent the funding the district is giving its principals, who will decide what staff to hire next school year.

Property taxes are the schools system's largest revenue source. Most of the new money is reportedly going toward special education services, where CPS plans to add $126 million, granting about 85% of schools more special education funding. Officials said any special ed cuts are due to shifting enrollment. Special ed services have been troubled at CPS for years.

About 90% of 499 schools districtwide are getting more total funding next school year than the one that just ended, ranging from an additional $1,075 to $3.9 million. The remaining 10% of schools are facing cuts from $544 to $400,745, largely because of significant enrollment losses.

POLICE BEAT *from p. 8*

to fade last summer as the "Kia Boy" phenomenon arrived in Chicago.

Using a simple technique shared widely on social media, thieves can steal many Kia and Hyundai models with little more than a USB plug.

Auto theft reports skyrocketed immediately, and there are no signs that the problem will end soon. Car theft reports are up 134% this year compared to the same time last year and up 235% compared to 2019, according to CPD's latest CompState data.

In the four weeks ending June 11, CPD recorded 2,317 motor vehicle thefts, up 153% from the 917 thefts seen during those weeks last year.

That accelerated pace is continuing despite the automakers' recent offer to install a software update that, they claim, will prevent their cars from being stolen with USB plugs. In April, Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul called on the federal government to recall vulnerable Kia and Hyundai models in the interest of public safety. So far, that has not happened.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

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Steep Theatre names new Executive Director

BY BOB KITSOS

Chicago's well-regarded Steep Theatre announced that Marisa Macella joined the company as its new executive director on June 12. Macella's previous post was at the Lyric Opera of Chicago where she served as senior manager, fundraising events. Prior to the Lyric, she was the Executive Director of Red Theatre at 1133 W. Catalpa from 2017 to 2020.

"I am so excited to begin my journey with Steep Theatre," said Macella. "This is such an exciting time for the company – the new space opens so many opportunities – and I am thrilled that the Board of Directors and the Ensemble have put their faith in me to lead the company alongside Peter Moore (artistic director)."

"Marisa possesses a unique appreciation of where we've been as a company, where we're headed and what it will take to get there. We're thrilled to bring her passion and skills on board and continue our growth as a cultural institution," said Moore.

Marisa Macella brings 15 years of theatre management experience to her new position as executive director of Steep Theatre. Macella received her degree in Acting with a minor in Directing from Oklahoma City Univ.
Photo courtesy of Steep Theatre

Steep purchased the former Christian Science Reading Room, 1044 W. Berwyn, in the spring of 2022. The current location is just two blocks from the previous theatre, which was the company's home from 2008 until Sept. 2020. It vacated the building due to impending commercial development.
Photo by Joanne Kitsos

When she served as lead producer at Red Theatre, she oversaw 10 productions, including the critically acclaimed "The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity" by Kristoffer Diaz, which was re-mounted at Theatre on the Lake.

She also spearheaded Red Theatre's commitment to accessibility on and off the stage, and managed the Chicago Annual Unified Storefront Accessibility Auditions, which brought together many Equity and non-Equity theatre companies.

Founded by three actors in 2000, Steep has grown into an ensemble of 45 artists, supported by a team of arts administrators and community members.

Chicago Tribune theatre critic Chris Jones described Steep as "the most fearless theater in town." The theatre is known for hard-hitting, finely tuned ensemble work. It has garnered a growing community of audiences and artists into new territories of story and performance.

Steep is currently in the midst of its "Lights Up Edgewater" capital campaign to support the creation of its new theatre and artistic home and to fund more compensation for artists and staff.

Northtown Garden Society plant swap July 15

The Northtown Garden Society will host a free house plant swap and trade, where attendees can exchange a familiar plant for something new and different.

The swap will be held 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 15, in the parking lot of Warren Park, 6601 N. Western.

Registration is required, visit www.northtowngardensociety.org.

Levy Center meeting June 28

The Northeast Levy Center Village, 2019 W. Lawrence Ave., will be holding their next meeting via Zoom, 9 a.m. Wednesday, June 28. Christine Washkevich, a Community Liaison with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office's Community Justice Center North, will be our guest speaker.

To join the meeting by phone, call 312-626-6799 and use meeting ID: 823 4581 3973, and passcode 316527.

The Levy Center is a collaborative volunteer network that aims to increase the accessibility of resources for older adults on Chicago's North Side. To register for the meeting (and obtain a Zoom link), email Sean Dolan at sean.dolan@cityofchicago.org.

City ID event at Northtown library

A CityKey signup event will host an ID issuing event 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, July 10 at the Northtown Library, 6800 N. Western. The event will be co-hosted with the City Clerk's Office and Chicago Public Library.

The CityKey is a free and optional ID card available to all Chicagoans. It serves as a government-issued ID, a Chicago Public Library card, a Chicago Transit Authority Ventra card, and a Chicago Rx prescription drug discount card. CityKey holders are also eligible for the many discounts and benefits offered by participating business partners across the city.

The City Clerk can only print a limited number of ID cards in the three-hour window, and the demand is high. So the event is first come first served.

Two men stabbed in Rogers Park

BY CWBCHICAGO

Two men are hospitalized after they were stabbed inside a Rogers Park apartment on June 18, Chicago police said. A suspect is in custody.

The victims, ages 33 and 49, know the man who stabbed them, a police spokesperson said.

They were all arguing in the 7300 block of N. Damen when the offender pulled out a knife around 8:25 p.m. An officer said they found a large crime scene inside the apartment and on a sidewalk outside the apartment building.

The older man is in fair condition at St. Francis Hospital with injuries that include a laceration to his face. Also at St. Francis, the younger man is in critical condition with stab wounds to his abdomen and chest.

Police arrested the suspect nearby and took him into custody. CPD did not reveal how the men knew each other.

MEETING *from p. 1*

ficials directly.

Between the gifted real estate, Tax Increment Financing funds, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, the value of the parking business itself, and other give-aways, the Boston-based TCB has been gifted well over $20 million in taxpayer assets to construct the proposed 61-unit building.

HUYNH *from p. 1*

programs including increased funding for community care programs which help support our seniors, plus additional funding for elementary schools and infrastructure as well.

"There are a lot of things in this budget that speak to our values and speaks to us being a more inclusive state," he said.

Huynh, who was a cosponsor on the bill that fights banning of books in Illinois was on hand at the bill signing ceremony at Harold Washington Library that ensures that we will continue to teach inclusive history in Illinois.

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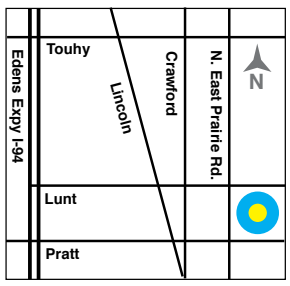

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