

I'm planning to give up worrying. I want to, but I'm worried I won't be able to.

— Delia Ephron

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Broadway Upzoning committee hearing deferred for irregularities, Alderman's resignation a monkey wrench in deliberation

Mayor seeks to add affordable housing density to Broadway

BY BOB ZULEY

Lacking any independent studies on the practicality of upzoning a significant swath of Broadway, and based solely upon the Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development's [DPD] own whims and wishes, the City was planning to bring the matter before the City Council's Committee on Zoning Landmarks and Building Standards for approval on Tuesday, July 15.

That is before Edgewater Residents for Responsible Development's [ERRD] lawyer requested the Zoning Committee to defer action on the Broadway Upzoning matter over multiple violations of

the written and posted notice requirement specified in the Zoning Code.

On July 11, the Zoning Committee deferred Tuesday's scheduled hearing to a later time, the second time committee action was delayed on this matter, making the City appear to look like the gang that couldn't shoot straight.

And the deliberate impartiality of the Zoning Committee's own chairman, Ald. Walter Burnett, is now called into question over news that Burnett plans to step down from the City Council at the end of July.

Burnett, 61, one of Mayor Brandon Johnson's stalwart allies, hopes the mayor will tap him to lead the Chicago Housing Authority [CHA]. So politically speaking, Burnett, the Dean of the City Council, is not about to

bite the hand that he hopes will feed him his next high-paying plum job.

On July 8, Adam Kingsley, of the Kingsley Law Group of Chicago, sent letters to Ald. Burnett [27th] and Ald. Bennett Lawson [44th], the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Zoning Committee, respectively, requesting them to defer the July 15 hearing on the 48th Ward Broadway Rezoning Ordinance over numerous violations of the Zoning Code.

Kingsley has been retained by ERRD.

In Kingsley's letter, he cites an apparently defective list used to contact property owners of the impending upzoning. This indicates that "the most recent authentic tax records of Cook

HEARING see p. 12

New plan and new name proposed for former Lincoln Yards site

The Lincoln Yards development site has seen fresh energy and new capital arrive on the banks of the Chicago River in

Jim Letchinger and his firm JDL. Last week JDL announced new plans to rescue the failed \$6 billion Lincoln Yards development.

On July 10, JDL and their equity partner, Los Angeles-based Kayne Anderson, announced that they're moving forward with the purchase of the site's 31-acre northern parcel on the border between Bucktown and Lincoln Park.

While the official announcement didn't reveal the full scope of their new plans, reports are that they are seeking to build about

1,000 new housing units. Reportedly they would be mostly rental units.

The plan also calls for some 60,000 square feet of retail space, riverwalk improvements and a large public plaza.

The new development team is also considering a rebranding campaign, removing the Lincoln Yards name, and now calling it "Foundry Park" in homage to the property's century-long history as the A. Finkl & Sons steel mill.

Sterling Bay purchased the mill property from Finkl & Sons in 2016 for \$140 million.

"I am pleased to see progress on the site with JDL and Kayne Anderson," said Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd] in a released

statement. "I believe JDL is committed to a new way forward for this site that takes community input seriously and is actually capable of delivering a plan that is successful for our neighborhoods and the city as a whole. We will be working closely with the surrounding communities and city officials to revitalize the area with new housing and development that will help grow our local economy," he said.

"As we get more detailed information from the development team, we will [hold] community meetings to share concepts and take feedback," said Waguespack. "Throughout the time Sterling

LINCOLN YARDS see p. 12

Still trash, still rats, still no response: Hotel Lincoln neglect persists

BY ADRIANA FOUSTANOU

A week after the city issued a citation to Hotel Lincoln for repeated sanitation violations, Old Town resident Robert Johnson said nothing has changed, and he provided this newspaper with pictures from 1816 N. Clark St., featuring garbage, rat-attracting debris, and a foul, neglected sidewalk.

Two weeks ago this newspaper reported on garbage and sanitation issues at the Hotel Lincoln in Old Town that has created conflict between the hotel and nearby neighbors.

Then on July 9, Johnson reported that on "Wednesday morning

I found [the] Wells St. sidewalk power washed and much cleaner than before. [It is] a step in the right direction."

Last week, neighbors' complaints prompted a temporary cleanup following a citation issued by the city, which we were told came at the request of Ald. Timmy Knudsen's 43rd Ward office.

Chicago's sanitation code includes a series of municipal ordinances that require cleanliness and the safe disposal of all trash and debris. That includes a requirement to keep lids tightly closed on garbage containers; and never let raw garbage sit outside the container; have sufficient con-

tainers to hold all garbage, avoid using city containers for restaurant or food garbage, and use and maintain a clean grease box.

Neighbors have shared photographic evidence that the Hotel Lincoln's ground-level trash area, and their management of it, has long been a magnet for rodents and filth, and showed significant grease stains on public sidewalks adjacent to the hotel's garbage area. According to Johnson, the problem became significantly worse after the hotel changed ownership and stopped storing trash inside the building, but rather behind a metal fence on the

NEGLECT see p. 12



[Top] The Ida and Norman Stone Medical Office Building, 2800 N. Sheridan Rd., and [bottom] the Manor Office Building, 2913 N. Commonwealth Ave.

St. Joseph's Hospital closing two medical professional buildings

Medicaid funding cutbacks may be linked to curtailed services

BY BOB ZULEY

This newspaper has learned that Ascension St. Joseph Hospital, 2900 N. Lake Shore Dr., will be closing two medical professional buildings on the hospital's Lakeview campus. While the closures were set to be implemented on Aug. 31, it now appears to be set for sometime in July.

The two buildings affected are the Ida and Norman Stone Medical Office Building, 2800 N. Sheridan Rd., and the Manor Office Building, 2913 N. Commonwealth Ave.

Olga Solares, Senior Director of St. Joseph Hospital's External Communication office emailed that while she didn't "... have any information to share at this time regarding relocations and timelines..." for closures, she invited questions in the near future when she may have more to share.

However news of the closure was confirmed by independent sources at the hospital who have provided sensitive information to this newspaper in the past.

Such non-denials are commonplace in the corporate world when sensitive information may be embargoed due to on-going real estate transactions or other technical aspects of a deal.

The relocation Solares referred to likely pertained to physicians

who maintained offices in the two buildings who are now left scrambling to find office space, to relocate elsewhere, or retire.

St. Joseph Hospital's parent organization, Ascension Illinois, has been divesting some of its hospitals to improve its financial position. Ascension sold eight of its hospitals in Chicago and elsewhere in Illinois to California-based Prime Healthcare for \$370 million.

Ascension retained control of St. Joseph Hospital which sits on prime real estate near the Lincoln Park neighborhood and Lake Michigan. Ascension is owned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Eduardo Conrado, president of Ascension, said in a written statement on July 3, "We are deeply disappointed with the cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act... While we do not expect immediate operational changes, these cuts risk destabilizing the health care system..."

U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, [5th], wrote in a letter to a constituent, "As health funds are cut nationwide, we can expect hospitals to close, especially those in rural areas. I have heard from local hospitals in our district that they will have to limit the services they offer to offset their loss in funding."

The Illinois Press Assoc. and Capitol News released a state-

HOSPITAL see p. 12

Mayor 'Bulls-eye' Johnson's shoot-em up in Downtown Chicago



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

I've always been a great fan of Westerns. I didn't have much choice as a kid, my father treasured them. We watched those Westerns on our "state-of-the-art" 10-inch black and white TV.

Jim Moran, Chicago's "Curtesy Man" - later becoming my car salesman friend - aired Western adventures every Friday night on WGN in the 1950s, having purchased hundreds of black and white vintage Cowboy flicks from some Hollywood studio. We watched all of them, and my father was Moran's most loyal fan. We just curled up on the sofa and waited to be transported back to the Wild West.

Moran was a smart Chicago car dealer and owned Courtesy Motors, always special buys on used cars. And during the televised Westerns there was just one very long "live TV" commercial, at least 15 to 20 minutes long. Moran showed the viewer his "reconditioned" autos.

We watched all the greatest films of hard-riding American heroes. Crack shots. Bulls-eye hitting cowpokes, sheriffs, rangers and Marshalls. All the greats, John Wayne, Randolph Scott, Gene Autry, Hopalong Cassidy, Gary Cooper, Audie Murphy and

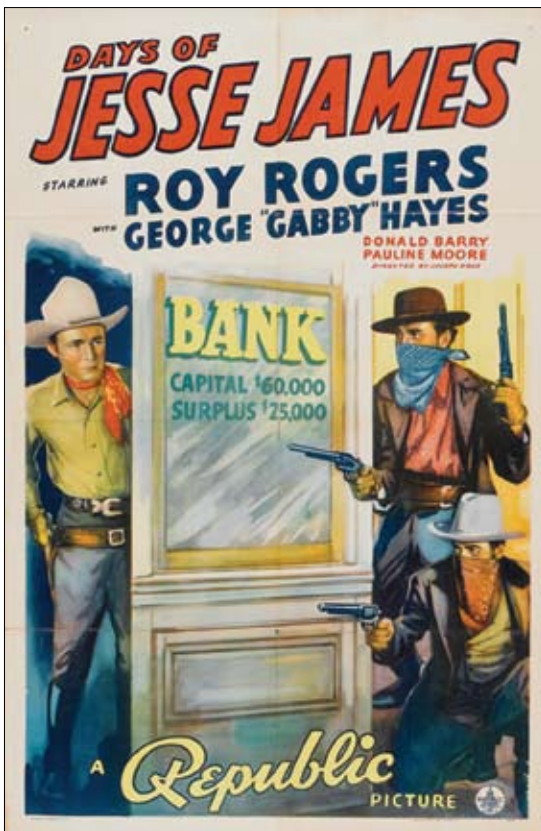
Buck Jones. Bringing he-men, like "Wild Bill" Hickok and John Wesley Hardin to life.

These were real tobacco-chewing, dance hall-girl courting, whiskey-swilling, bronco-busting horse trainer macho men at home in the saddle, mapping out justice. Always putting the reins on gunslingers, cattle rustlers, bank robbers, stage coach thieves and anyone else who off-set the balance in America's dusty streets in one-horse towns.

Of course not everyone was a super hero. Characters like Gabby Hays, Andy Devine, Walter Brennan, Pat Brady and Ken Curtis took some of the seriousness out of all the gun fights and hangings with their courageous Wild West humor and wit. Their cantankerousness and grumpiness merely disguised their soft hearts and generous friendships.

Not quite historically accurate, these films did plunge all of us into a cultural Old West "vaudeville" of sorts, creating rambunctious entertainment. All you had to do every day was just watch young boys at play, creatively imitating the Wild West they had just seen on TV.

We delighted in the adventures that unfolded in these Westerns. There was a rough portrayal of civilizing the wildness that settlers discovered under those spacious Western skies. These movies told the saga of creating a fresh nation out West, assuring viewers



Heroic good guys always came to the rescue in Hollywood's Westerns, lifting the tired hearts of the World War II generation.

there was no place beyond the success of becoming American, with values and moral justice like nowhere else on earth.

Hollywood's storytelling lifted the tired hearts of the World War II generation. Many Americans who, like my father, were in uniform chasing Hitler and Tojo, while they were still teenagers.

These simple, heroic films gave all of the vets the chance to embrace their youth again after the nightmares they endured in Europe or in the Pacific. In the 1950s they were just looking for comfort and understanding, nobody knew about PTSD. They had the thrill of watching cowboy heroes and villains duke it out.

It gave all of us fresh cultural imaginations.

We could use those imaginations right about now here in a Chicago that sadly resembles the Old West more and more in its lack of public safety. With a villainous population beyond the exaggerated numbers of gunslingers, thieves, hoodlums and horse thieves in the Old West.

Four Chicagoans were killed, and 14 critically wounded, in a drive-by shooting on Chicago Ave. at Artis Restaurant in River North. Aldermen have now demanded it be closed for good. This wasn't the first time mayhem was unleashed at Artis with the bodies piling up.

That same week four more Chicagoans were shot and in serious condition at 59th St. and Ashland on the South Side, in broad daylight by two gunman on the street. Later, another Chicagoan, a woman, was killed and another was critically wounded at the 7100 block of S. Jeffrey Blvd. And Robert Harper, 56, was killed in a fight at the Loop CTA platform at Clark and Lake streets.

And the list of victims goes on and on.

What flabbergasts all Chicagoans is Mayor Brandon "Cowpoke" Johnson's response. The confused, disorientated embrace of what's been unfolding continuously during his reign.

You can't even ride a CTA bus or the "L" train for fear of being shot or beaten in the process.

The Gay Pride Parade in Boys Town also provides gripping fear of the mayhem and annual post-parade violence by teens from out of the 'hood.

Violence and shootings are now a standard part of what we are to expect in "Cowpoke" Johnson's Chicago. It's the nightmare of hospital trauma units and the great fear shared by the Chicago Police who don't share in the mayor's distorted understanding with what is unfolding.

Many people are even uncertain of the truthfulness and accuracy of the city's numbers of shootings, and all those other reported acts of brutality. Do you trust the truth of what we are told? The Chicago Tribune and Sun-Times work overtime to collect subscriptions and pay their bills. Fat chance there's real truth-telling anymore at either paper bolstering the mayor and his team.

Chicago has become gripped by summertime violence. The July 4th weekend alone saw 55 shot and 8 fatally mowed down. Chicago once again leads the nation in mass shootings. These are heartbreaking statistics: 83 children shot, 14 killed and 30 mass shootings to date. Worst of all, we're 2,000 police short of full strength.

Does the mayor actually understand how bad this looks on him and his leadership team? When you threaten to veto any tightening of the curfew for teens downtown, it doesn't bode well for Downtown residents, or those in Streeterville or the Gold Coast or the rest of the city. People are locking themselves inside their million-dollar downtown condos after dark and not coming out. Not even to walk their dogs. Pee Pee pads are left at the front door for their pets to use after sunset.

People are terrified of the city's plunge into mayhem, and the clueless response of city leadership. Gang violence today is worse than during the Prohibition era. So Chicago has finally been sunk deep into the depths of the world of gunslingers and stage-coach robbers.

Are there no heroes left to defend the justice of our streets? No good guys with guns? The mayhem of our leadership has stolen the last threads of safety and survival, as mindless lakefront circuses fly around Chicago's make-shift NASCAR race track.

What lunacy is unfolding when the most vulnerable tent-dwellers in Chicago still have not been established in more protective residences, especially in the most crippling weather of killing heat. Does the mayor think he's winning votes anywhere in Chicago by his embrace of inaction and paralyzing fear?

It's time for a new sheriff in town. This cowpoke mayor should

only be the Mayor of Boot Hill, an appropriate geography for his urban plan, more far-fetched than a gunfight at the OK Corral. This is one "Bulls-eye Johnson shoot-em up" of which I am no fan.

CHI-TOWN WELCOME: Welcome, bienvenue to my pal, **Amaury Chardeau** from Paris, great nephew of the Impressionist painter **Gustave Caillebotte**, famed creator of the masterful works currently on special exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago. Amaury spoke at the Arts Club on July 18. He is such a bright charmer. Must run in the family.

IN MEMORY: The Joffrey Ballet dedicated its final performance of "Alice's Adventure's in Wonderland," to the late, great champion of the arts, **Ken Norgan**.

PURPLE HAZE: The Violet Hour, one of our town's most influential cocktail bars, is closing its elegant hatch for good. After 18 incredible years behind their discreet, unmarked doors on Damen Ave. in Wicker Park, the velvet curtains at The Violet Hour have closed for the final time. Thanks for a good run **Toby Maloney, Jason Cott, Donnie Madia, Peter Garfield and Terry Alexander**.

GIBSON'S ANNIVERSARY: From the Atlantic to the Pacific **Steve Lombardo** is Chicago's Toots Shore. A man of excellent resilience and expansive restaurant reputation. The kind that cautions careful geography when the assorted function is French Fries, potatoes clearly in the classical measurement of Idaho's finest,



Amaury Chardeau

MAYOR see p. 8

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Sudler demands retraction—but where is the proof?

BY RONALD ROENIGK

Two weeks ago, this newspaper published a front-page story on alleged budget fraud and reserve risk in Illinois HOAs, focusing on Sudler Property Management's financial dealings with 175 East Delaware Place. On July 11, Sudler, through its legal counsel at Tressler LLP, has since issued a demand for an immediate retraction, claiming the article contained "materially false and defamatory statements."

This newspaper has been given seven days to respond. 'Or else.'

Sudler's attorney, Kathryn A. Formeller, asserts that our reporting—specifically the claim that "a forensic audit revealed Sudler self-awarded nearly \$450,000 in unauthorized raises and bonuses without board approval"—is "demonstrably false." Sudler insists that all actions were within board authority and that any suggestion otherwise is unsupported.

The missing evidence

On July 8, an unidentified caller repre-

sented Sudler promised to provide audited statements disproving our reporting. As of our deadline, no such evidence has been received.

Sudler's legal letter states that if we do not retract, they will pursue all available legal remedies, including a defamation claim. The letter also claims that our reporting has caused "reputational harm" and "potential business loss."

We take these allegations seriously and are committed to correcting the record—if the facts warrant it. However, we cannot do so without seeing verifiable proof that the HOA board noted in our coverage gave informed approval for the raises and bonuses in question.

With this story, published within the seven-day deadline Formeller requested, we formally demand that Sudler produce the following contemporaneous evidence:

- Board Meeting Minutes: Detailed minutes from meetings where raises and bonuses were discussed and approved, explicitly referencing amounts, recipients, and rationale.

- Budget Documents with Line-Item Detail: Approved budgets showing management salaries and bonuses as separate line items—not hidden in broad categories like "Administrative."

- Board Packets and Supporting Materials: All materials provided to board members prior to the vote, including compensation proposals, salary data, and management recommendations.

Sudler's inability to provide this evidence would not only undermine their legal position but also reinforce the community's concerns about transparency and governance.

- Voting Records: Documentation of how each board member voted on these compensation items, with evidence of a quorum and required approval thresholds.

- Written Resolutions or Consents: Any written resolutions or unanimous consents specifically authorizing the raises and bonuses, signed by board members.

Why this evidence matters

A board—especially one with 48 members—cannot meaningfully approve raises and bonuses if those details are not visible or discussed. Fiduciary duty requires informed consent, not rubber-stamping vague budget categories. If Sudler cannot produce this documentation, their claim of board approval is procedural at best—not substantive or legitimate.

The evidence requested should show

why Sudler may not have approval.

- Board meeting minutes: Detailed discussion and approval. There would be no record if the board was uninformed.

- Budget with line-item detail, with raises/bonuses listed separately. Not present if compensation was hidden.

- Board packets/materials: Full disclosure to board. Absent if details were withheld.

- Voting records showing how each member voted on raises/bonuses. There would be no record if no specific vote occurred.

- Written resolutions/consents: Explicit approval of compensation. Missing if approval was only procedural.

Sudler's inability to provide this evidence would not only undermine their legal position but also reinforce the community's concerns about transparency and governance. Without clear, contemporaneous proof, the claim that the board "approved" these raises and bonuses is, at best, misleading.

Our commitment

This article serves as our formal reply to Sudler's demand. We invite Sudler and their attorneys to meet with us—on the record—to present the evidence they claim exists. If corrections to our reporting are warranted by credible documentation, we will make them promptly and transparently. This newspaper fully endorses the concept of 100% transparency.

Until then, we stand by our reporting and our commitment to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. For our readers to trust our reporting, they deserve nothing less.

Everything you need to know about your Property Index Number

BY MARIA PAPPAS

If you own property in Cook County, there's one number you should always know: your PIN.

That's short for Property Index Number—a 14-digit code assigned to every piece of real estate in the county. It's tied to the legal description of your property and is used for assessments, tax rates, exemptions and collections. Whether you own a house, a vacant lot, a parking space or a condominium, your property has a PIN.



Maria Pappas

Think of it as the Social Security number for your home. And just like with your Social Security number, using the wrong one can cause major problems.

If you don't pay on the right PIN—you haven't paid your taxes. You've just paid someone else's. That means your property would be marked delinquent, and you might not even know it until it's too late.

You can find your PIN on any property tax bill. If you recently bought your home or purchased it years ago, it should be on your deed. If it's not on the deed, go to cookcountytreasurer.com, click the purple box and enter your address. You'll see a photo of your property and your correct PIN.

Still think you don't need to know your

PIN? If your mortgage company pays your taxes through an escrow account, you might assume everything is being handled. But you should still double-check. Knowing your PIN allows you to verify that taxes are being paid in full, on time, and—most importantly—on the correct property.

In another scenario you might be sharing a PIN with other owners. That happens with newly built homes, condos or townhouses that haven't yet been subdivided. If someone else with whom you share a PIN fails to pay their share, the whole PIN can go delinquent—and your property can be at risk even if you paid your entire portion.

If that's the case, contact the Cook County Assessor's Legal Department to find out how to make payments by legal description. Doing so ensures you're only paying what you owe—and not footing the bill for a neighbor who has yet to pay.

You'll also need your PIN if you want to request a duplicate tax bill, check for refunds or your exemption status or ask questions about your bill or payment history.

And yes, PINs can change. When a property is split, combined or redeveloped, new PINs are assigned. That's common with new construction, subdivisions and even converted parking spaces. If you just bought a new home or condo, it's especially important to make sure you're paying taxes on the correct—and current—PIN.

Bottom line: the PIN is the key to your property's tax identity. Know it. Use it. And check it online because mistakes can happen, and the longer they're left to fester, the more expensive they become.

Boxing underway in the parks

The Chicago Park District boxing program is on for several exhibitions on the North Side starting today.

Participants ages 8 and older will flex their abilities at these showcases, including at Daley Plaza on July 16, 12 noon to 1 p.m., at 50 W. Washington St.; July 17, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Garfield Park, 100 N. Central Park Ave.; July 24, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Seward Park, 375 W. Elm St., and July 31, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Eckhart Park, 1330 W. Chicago Ave.

In 2024, the boxing program saw a 25% increase in female participation from the previous year, with over 1,200 women and girls training at 24 boxing gyms citywide. On July 10, 20 women boxers ages 8 and older competed in 10 bouts.

Today, from noon to 1 p.m., the active outdoor boxing ring will encourage tour-

ists and other passersby to spectate bouts, witness professional training provided by coaches, and admire the unique sportsmanship of amateur boxers as 10 boxers will compete in 5 bouts.

For more information on CPD boxing, visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/boxing gyms.

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'Throw this guy out!'

Passions well up at Wellington Ave. bike path meeting

BY SOFIE KELLAR

On July 9, the Chicago Dept. of Transportation [CDOT] held a community meeting at the Illinois Masonic Hospital to present plans for a proposed 2.5-mile greenway bike path on Wellington Ave. from Clybourn to the Lakefront Trail.

According to CDOT representative Brad Huff, the bike lanes would not clog traffic flow or reduce parking spaces, but locals at the meeting were skeptical, and caused a stunning uproar that forced the city to shut down the meeting earlier than expected.

"A lot of this is really helping to better organize what we know is already happening, so that everybody can be more predictable to one another," said Huff.

These changes would not add anything other than signage and paved markings.

"We're simply formalizing what they're already doing," said

Amanda Woodall, the second CDOT presenter, "not trying to get more cyclists." (CDOT has already established a greenway on Wellington in the Avondale community west of the Chicago River.)

Things went downhill from there. People attending the meeting were vehement against the changes, and often interrupted the CDOT presenter.

One big concern was access to the Illinois Masonic Hospital's emergency room facilities, which has egress off of Wellington just west of Halsted St. Illinois Masonic has a Level 1 trauma center, it - and Northwestern Hosp. in Streeterville - are the only two such facilities on the North Side of Chicago. A Level 1 ER draws-in the worst, most dire medical emergency cases.

"We've implemented bike facilities near and along hospitals and access to emergency rooms," said Huff. "Every time we've implemented a project like this, we've seen crashes go down for everyone on the street."

If the city moves forward on

these plans, Wellington will have three kinds of bike lanes: contra-flow, advisory, and shared space bike lanes, said Woodall.

(It should be noted that contra-flow lanes allow two-way bike traffic on existing one-way

West Town, and in Edgewater on Granville earlier this year.

"Nice of you to have this conference," yelled one local.

Sometimes, the installation of wide bike lanes make space appear too narrow for a two-way

sense of security; some audience members voiced their agreement.

"I think the markers are there to just remind people who are driving that a bicyclist may be there," said one meeting attendant before the presentation began, when passions were already boiling.

By the end of question and answer period, the city staffers onstage, who continually took the podium to quiet the crowd, disbanded the meeting as the audience became riotous.

"Throw this guy out!" cried one local. "Bullsh*t," shouted another earlier.

Outside the hospital, one commuter, named "David," who claimed to work for a local business on Wellington, said his experience biking the tight street "gets a bit scary sometimes." He expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming greenway.

"Chicago tends to be a pretty bike-friendly city," he said. "I hope it stays that way."

See chicago.gov/completestreets for more information on Wellington greenway.

One big concern was access to the Illinois Masonic Hospital's emergency room facilities, which has egress off of Wellington just west of Halsted St. Illinois Masonic has a Level 1 trauma center, it - and Northwestern Hosp. in Streeterville - are the only two such facilities on the North Side of Chicago. A Level 1 ER draws-in the worst, most dire medical emergency cases.

streets, which is a violation of Illinois state law.)

"So is this a done deal?" asked one local. When Woodall expressed confidence about the plans, the auditorium exploded. Indeed, this newspaper has witnessed CDOT presenting their plans to community groups well after all the major plans and decisions have been made. This also happened in Lincoln Park on Dickens in 2023, on Wood St. in

street. Many were confused about this. Huff explained it's "totally permissible" to cross over the dashed line to move for oncoming traffic after checking for cyclists. This is what they call an "advisory bike lane."

"It is shown to reduce crashes across the board in the locations that we have it installed," said Woodall.

One woman protested that these bike lanes give cyclists a false



Three beaches in Cook County had the highest degrees of dirty water days - Winnetka Lloyd Park had the highest at 21. Glencoe Park and Montrose beaches had 14 days each.

Do our beaches pose danger from bacteria presence?

Montrose Beach has 14 'Dirty Water Days'

BY TERRI DEE
Illinois News Connection

"Don't go into the water" is a warning North Siders may want to heed. A 2024 study released last week found all state-border beaches on Lake Michigan last

year had evidence of contamination.

Findings from the Safe in Swimming Report indicate these conditions could cause serious gastrointestinal and respiratory ailments. The data show bacteria levels were well above the EPA's "Beach Action Value" water quality standards. These guidelines help determine advisories and closures.

Emily Kowalski, outreach and engagement manager for the Environment Illinois Research and Education Center, explained the odds of exposure.

"One hundred percent of those beaches had potentially unsafe levels of fecal indicator bacteria at least one day in 2024, meaning that swimmers were potentially at risk," she said.

A water sample exceeding ac-

ceptable BAV standards increases the chances of a higher illness rate among swimmers. The study shows 71% of Great Lakes beaches had at least one potentially unsafe test day. Three beaches in Cook County had the highest degrees of dirty water - Winnetka Lloyd Park had the highest at 21. Glencoe Park and Montrose beaches had 14 days each.

The study identified runoff from paved streets and parking lots, and overflow from outdated, bacteria-encrusted sewage systems as harmful contributors. Livestock waste from concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, is another source.

Montrose Beach is adjacent to a dog beach, and Escherichia coli (E. coli) and Intestinal Enterococci (IE) are two types of bacteria found in human and animal waste. If it is ingested, they cause

severe GI problems. Concentrations of these bacteria are used to classify a bathing water. Human contact with water tainted by manure could cause an E. coli infection. Kowalski suggested the environment could be one solution to interrupt the pathogen flow.

"Investing in nature-based solutions, green infrastructure, but also the repair needed in aging sewage systems nationally," she continued. The Chicago Park District posts yellow flags when enterococci levels exceed 1,000 CCE.

An estimated 57 million Americans experience nausea, diarrhea, ear and eye infections, and skin rashes after swimming in polluted waters. Kowalski adds the EPA estimates a price tag of \$630 billion over 20 years will be

BEACHES see p. 9

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Permanent NASCAR track a better fit on the Southeast Side



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Whether you love NASCAR or hate it, now is the time to start planning to move this redneck racing show out of Grant Park to save Chicago's Game, 16-inch slow pitch softball, and to promote other more traditional events.

"While NASCAR has brought Chicago business, tourists, and a spectacle unique to sports culture, it has also brought noise, disruption, and road closures," noted Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd], who along with four Chicago alderpersons—Brendan Reilly [42nd], Bill Conway [34th], Pat Dowell [3rd] and Lamont Robinson [4th]—are not fans of the event.

"This past year alone, I heard from numerous 2nd Ward residents whose commutes and daily lives were altered drastically by these street closures," Hopkins said in a letter to NASCAR officials. "Other large-scale downtown events, whose economic impacts are as much or greater than this event, cause less disruption."



Ald. Brian Hopkins

Hopkins said it is his hope, that in the future, the city can create a NASCAR deal that "sufficiently benefits Chicago without putting undue burden on downtown residents and businesses."

After three years of NASCAR madness, which essentially kicked Grant Park Chicago softball to the curb, the good news is the racing venue now is considering an offer to move its July 4th event to San Diego, CA.

Time for a history lesson. Sixteen-inch softball was invented in Chicago in 1887, and the first indoor game was played at the Farragut Boat Club at Lake Park and 31st St., only a couple of miles from Grant Park.

So, softball lovers are cheering any plan to move the NASCAR event out of Grant Park.

Now is the time to stop closing parts of Lake Shore Dr. and major downtown streets, building temporary bleachers and breathing exhaust fumes every July 4 weekend, they say.

To raise tax revenues and help Chicago avoid bankruptcy, city planners should follow the words of legendary Windy City architect and urban planner Daniel H. Burnham: "Make No Small Plans."

Planners and politicians should back construction of a permanent NASCAR track for four to six major races a year on 440-acres of the toxic U.S. Steel land along S. Lake Shore Dr. south of 79th St. in the long-forgotten South Chicago section of the East Side neighborhood.



Quantum Microelectronics Park at 8080 S. DuSable Lake Shore Dr.

Now overgrown with weeds, and dotted with relics of its industrial past, the U.S. Steel site has been vacant for 30 years and until recently wasn't high on Ald. Peter Chico's 10th-Ward agenda.

However, 128 acres along the southeast edge of the site recently has been targeted by Psi-Quantum, a Silicon Valley firm, and Chicago developer Related Midwest, as the anchor in the Southeast Side research park by the planned Illinois Quantum & Microelectronics Park at 8080 S. Lake Shore Dr.

Plans call for the northern end of the site to be anchored by Advocate Health Care, which is planning a \$300-million, 53-bed hospital on 23 acres.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker is an advocate of building a major quantum computer facility in Chicago, and the city would benefit greatly if anything positive happened on vacant South Works land, which has had several failed startups announced for the acreage over the past decade.

The city already has spent \$60 million to bring in Route 41

(South Lake Shore Dr.) and create Steelworkers Park and Park 566 on the site, but the vast majority of the land sits empty.

The proposed NASCAR track, which could run for two or three miles around the perimeter of the Southeast Side research park, and in front of our glorious lakefront, likely would not interfere with the weekday work for computer scientists at the microelectronics facility.

A big problem is the South Works site has serious environmental concerns that has blocked residential developers for decades. Those concerns would need to be addressed. Layers of slag buried underground would need to be remediated or capped. Slag is toxic waste caused by steelmaking.

An asphalt race track is a fine



Jack Smith of the Lincoln Park Gun Club trap shooting, Chicago, Illinois, 1935. Image courtesy Chicago History Museum and The Chicago Daily News

cap. A permanent, concrete-paved NASCAR race track, paid for and leased by the racing giant, might be a better long-term use for a major section of the site on weekends for six to eight annual race events.

The proposed NASCAR track, which could run for two or three miles around the perimeter of the Southeast Side research park, and in front of our glorious lakefront, likely would not interfere with the weekday work for computer scientists at the microelectronics facility.

Imagine the TV-skyline views of the Loop and downtown Chicago from the race track, which would have permanent stands and elite seating just like the arena provided at Grant Park, without the traffic congestion and displacement of softball leagues and other summer park events.

It also provides NASCAR an opportunity to entice an entirely new audience to street racing.

Here are this writer's other whimsical proposals to help anchor the South Chicago section of the East Side neighborhood as a major tourist attraction:

- Once the racing mecca is established, NASCAR could invite participants from the Road American races, currently run in Elkhart, WI, to participate and use the track for general consum-

er use. Those who want to offer a retail racing experience will now have a space to do that. Now in its 70th year of racing, Road America currently sponsors a series of 50 motorsport events ranging from Formula 1 European and American sports cars, to muscle cars and motorcycles. Maybe it is time for Road America to show off its talents in Chicago?

- With Indiana only minutes away by car the track also could be utilized on weekends for other blue-collar sports such as drag racing and demolition derbies when NASCAR is out of town. Americans love their cars. Bikes and scooters, ha! There may be no American-made product that is more beloved than our cars.

- Racing investors likely will

NASCAR see p. 10

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Police Beat...

Charges filed in 'savage and random' stabbing on CTA platform

A 65-year-old woman faces felony charges after prosecutors said she randomly stabbed a man on a CTA Brown Line train platform in River North.

Althea Knight is charged with two counts of aggravated battery in connection with the incident, which occurred around 9:20 p.m. Friday, July 5, at the Chicago-Franklin Brown Line station, 300 W. Chicago Ave.

According to a detention petition, the attack occurred as the victim and a companion were returning from a movie and preparing to exit the train. As the companion stepped off first, the victim gestured to Knight to exit ahead of him. Knight did not respond, so the man proceeded toward the door. That's when, prosecutors say, Knight approached from behind and began stabbing him in the back.

The victim's companion told police they saw Knight drop her bags, clench an object in her fist, and begin making stabbing motions into the victim's back. The companion tried to shield the victim by raising an arm and creating distance between them and Knight, who then fled the scene.

CTA surveillance footage reviewed by police reportedly shows Knight running toward the victim and stabbing him in the back. The video also captured the witness stepping in to protect the victim.

Responding officers located Knight inside the first car of the same train and recovered two knives near her waistband, according to prosecutors. The victim was treated at Northwestern Memorial Hospital for two lacerations to the back of his right shoulder.

Judge James Murphy III ordered Knight held in custody, describing the incident as a "savage and random attack" carried out "for no reason."

Tow truck driver posed as city and insurance worker to steal cars from crash scenes

A tow truck driver previously charged with stealing vehicles from crash scenes is now facing fresh allegations of using similar deception to take two more cars late last year.

Maximillian Gasienica, 27, is accused of arriving uninvited at accident scenes, misrepresenting himself as an authorized tow operator, and persuading crash



Althea Knight

owner, the report said..

Just over a month earlier, on Nov. 20, 2024, Gasienica allegedly swindled a car from a 24-year-old woman in the 200 block of W. Superior in River North. In that case, police stated that he falsely claimed to work for a company contracted to tow vehicles for the City of Chicago.

The CPD report said the woman signed a tow waiver, and he hauled away her Mercedes SUV. This time, the woman's insurance company "was forced to pay an extraorbinant [sic] amount (\$7,500) to retrieve the vehicle," the report said.

Gasienica is charged with two counts each of theft by deception, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, and soliciting tow services at the scene of a crash in connection with the new allegations.

He already faces similar charges stemming from three earlier incidents this year. Prosecutors allege he stole vehicles from crashes in the 600 block of W. Roosevelt, the 3700 block of N. Lake Shore Dr., and the first block of East Grand between February and April this year. Police said neither the state nor the city has authorized "BTA Towing," the company Gasienica claimed to work for, to tow vehicles.

Victims in those cases reported their cars stolen after making repeated attempts to locate them.

You may remember that CPD issued a warning in March about a rogue tow truck driver who stole cars from two drivers who were involved in traffic crashes in the South Loop. Gasienica is not charged with those incidents.

CPD said those victims were involved in traffic crashes when the thief showed up with a tow truck and took their vehicles without permission. The tow driver, operating under a fake company name, took the cars to unknown locations.

One victim was targeted after crashing in the 1900 block of S. Lake Shore Dr. around midnight on Feb. 26. The other had their car stolen following an accident in the 1800 block of S. Clark at 7:40 a.m. on March 8.

CPD's alert described the tow driver only as a man between 25 and 30 years old.

Police are warning drivers to avoid unsolicited tows and to be wary of "chaser" trucks that show up at crash scenes. The department also recommends contacting your insurance company before hiring a tow or roadside assistant. Additionally, CPD said drivers should not give in to high-pressure tactics, check and verify a tow operator's municipal license number, and keep a copy of their license plate and vehicle identification number in a safe place so they have it handy if their car is stolen.

Mail thief had postal service master key, dozens of credit cards, and \$2,600 worth of meth

A 45-year-old man allegedly caught with a counterfeit U.S. Postal Service master key, stolen mail, drugs, and dozens of credit cards in other people's names has been released pending trial after Chicago police arrested him last week.

Officers took Andrew Trotter into custody around 4 p.m. July 3 in the 2200 block of N. Milwaukee Ave. His arrest stems from two residential burglaries in March, during which he allegedly used a counterfeit USPS master key to access apartment buildings and mailboxes.

According to a police arrest report, Trotter is accused of stealing mail and packages on March 20 in the 2300 block of N. Damen and again on March 21 in the 2400 block of W. Fullerton. In both cases, he reportedly used the same type of counterfeit key, which a U.S. Postal Inspector later confirmed was designed to provide "universal access" to secured buildings and mailbox panels throughout the Chicagoland area.

When officers arrested Trotter, he was allegedly holding the counterfeit



Andrew Trotter

key in his left hand and carrying a handbag containing four screwdrivers and two Allen wrenches—tools police say are commonly used in burglaries. Investigators also reported recovering a small amount of suspected acid and approximately \$2,640 worth of suspected methamphetamine.

CPD inventory records list a trove of items recovered during the arrest: mail addressed to three different individuals, four U-Haul storage keys, 31 debit and credit cards in other people's names, 10 stolen or fraudulent IDs, five credit cards issued to another man, a Mexican ID, a state ID, 11 rewards cards, and a CTA employee ID that did not belong to Trotter.

Trotter is not charged with a detainable offense, so Judge James Murphy III sent him home to await trial.

Mail theft has become increasingly prevalent in recent years due to a combination of systemic vulnerabilities, low enforcement risk, and high financial reward. Here's a breakdown of why it's on the rise:

One of the biggest drivers is the black-market circulation of counterfeit or stolen USPS master keys, commonly known as arrow keys. These keys can unlock entire banks of mailboxes in apartment buildings, commercial complexes, and even street-side collection boxes. Once a thief has one, they can hit dozens of addresses at once, often without forcing entry.

Mail is an easy source of sensitive personal and financial information. Thieves look for bank documents, credit cards, government IDs, tax and insurance records, and checks that they can alter for larger sums.

Some mail thieves operate as front-line personnel in much larger, sophisticated operations that launder money, steal identities, and sell personal information on the dark web.

While mail theft is technically a federal crime, prosecutions are almost always handled at the state level.

Woman mugged near Belmont Harbor, suspect found hiding in Lakeshore Drive median

A 32-year-old Hazel Crest man is being held in custody after allegedly robbing a woman on the lakefront trail near Belmont Harbor and injuring a police officer during a struggle as he was being taken into custody.



Frederick Coleman

According to a detention petition filed by prosecutors, the robbery occurred just before 6 p.m. Monday, July 1, in the 3400 block of N. Lake Shore Dr., near the Belmont Harbor dog beach. A couple had stopped with their Divvy bikes along the lakefront trail when Coleman allegedly attempted to grab one of the bikes. He then forcibly took the 43-year-old woman's red book bag, yanking it from her back and breaking the straps, the petition said.

Witnesses told authorities that Coleman moved into the roadway and emptied the bag's contents, which included two sweaters and a pair of glasses. The items were scattered by passing cars and blown into traffic. Police later recovered the bag, but not its contents.

Coleman fled on foot across Lake Shore Dr. and was located in the median just south of Diversey Harbor. A Chicago police officer suffered a dislocated shoulder while attempting to subdue him, prosecutors said.

At a hearing this week, Judge Luciano Panici Jr. ordered Coleman detained on charges of robbery, aggravated battery of a peace officer, and resisting arrest.

Too young to drive, old enough to carjack: Two 14-year-olds charged with violent Edgewater hijacking

In a case that underscores the growing concerns around youth violence in Chicago, two boys — just 14 years old — have been charged with a brutal armed carjacking that left a 39-year-old man critically injured last month in the city's Edgewater neighborhood.

Chicago police say the two teens, who are not even legally old enough to drive, helped orchestrate a violent early-morning ambush on June 10 around 4:15 a.m. in the 1700 block of W. Peterson Ave.

According to a police report, the boys, along with two unidentified accomplices, pulled up in a white sedan and struck the victim with the vehicle. Authorities said the group, which had at least one firearm, stole the man's belongings and fled in his blue Toyota Highlander, leaving him with injuries so severe he was taken to St. Francis Hospital in critical condition.

The first teen was arrested July 1, and the second Monday, July 7, police said. Both boys have been charged with aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm and aggravated battery causing great bodily harm. One of them also faces an additional charge of unlawful possession of a weapon. The other two carjackers remain at large.

Due to their ages, the boys' identities and further details about the crime remain sealed under Illinois' juvenile court confidentiality laws.

Teen shot during robbery on North Side school soccer field

A 17-year-old boy was critically injured July 13 when a robber on an electric scooter shot him during a daylight holdup on a school soccer field in West Ridge.

The attack happened around 4:55 p.m. at Stone Scholastic Academy, 6239 N. Leavitt. Officials said the teen was on the school's soccer field when a man approached on a scooter, pulled a gun, and demanded his belongings.

After taking the boy's phone and backpack, the gunman opened fire, striking the teen in the forearm. The bullet passed through his arm, entered his chest, and exited out the other side, police said. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital in critical condition.

The offender fled on the scooter in an unknown direction. He was described as a Hispanic male, about 5'-6" and thin, wearing all-black clothing and dark sunglasses.

Authorities believe the robbery may be part of a pattern in the area involving a scooter-riding gunman. A similar incident occurred July 8, when a man on a black scooter reportedly robbed another individual near Damen and Fargo. A witness told police the gunman wore all black, a ski mask, and a durag. The victim was no longer on scene when officers arrived, and it's unclear whether he ever filed a report.

Ald. Andre Vasquez [40th] urged residents to share any information about the Stone Scholastic shooting with Area Three detectives at 312-744-8261.

Man shot and killed on same Near North Side block where another was murdered last week

A 41-year-old man was shot and killed July 13 on the Near North Side, marking the second murder on the same block in eight days.

Around 12:20 a.m., officers stationed near the intersection of Chicago and Cambridge avenues reported hearing gunfire. They quickly found the victim lying on the ground with multiple gunshot wounds. He was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Police have not released additional details about the incident, and no description of the shooter has been provided.

On July 5, officers were posted at the same intersection when they heard gunfire and were approached by a gunshot victim in a vehicle. That man, 46-year-old Darrin Carter, also died.

Prosecutors have since charged Obbie Sanders, 49, with murdering Carter directly in front of a police surveillance camera. According to court filings, Sanders, who wears leg braces and walks with a cane due to past gunshot injuries, pulled a gun and shot Carter in the back as he sat in his SUV on the 800 block of N. Cambridge around 9:38 a.m.

Surveillance cameras operated by CPD and the Chicago Housing Authority recorded the shooting and its aftermath. Carter attempted to drive away and sought help from the officers who were stationed about a half-block away. He later died at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Sanders allegedly fled the scene in his Audi Q7 and led police on a chase through downtown, crashing into several vehicles before being taken into custody. Investigators recovered shell casings at the scene and bullets from inside Sanders' vehicle.

Sanders, a convicted felon with a lengthy criminal history, is being held without bail on charges of first-degree murder and murder committed during a forcible felony.

Woman went on '7-minute rampage,' beat woman with whipped cream can aboard Red Line train

A 20-year-old woman is accused of robbing or battering three people on a CTA Red Line train in Lakeview—and then attacking two more



Tam'rell Ashley

people walking dogs near the train station—during what a judge described as a "seven-minute rampage." One of the victims, prosecutors said, was beaten

with a can of whipped cream.

Tam'rell Ashley faces a host of charges, including two counts of robbery, aggravated battery of a transit employee, and aggravated battery of a peace officer in connection with the June 30 incident, which was mostly captured on CTA surveillance cameras, prosecutors said.

It all began around 6:41 p.m. aboard a northbound Red Line CTA train traveling between the Belmont and Sheridan stations. A man told police that a woman approached him on the train, hit him in the head, and forcibly removed his \$200 Ray-Ban sunglasses.

A second victim said she was seated nearby when Ashley and another woman began harassing a passenger. Ashley allegedly sat down beside the second victim and put her leg up on the seat. When the woman got up to walk away, Ashley followed, shouted at her, and then punched her in the face repeatedly, leaving her with a bloody lip, prosecutors alleged.

Moments later, a third passenger began recording Ashley on her phone because she saw her "causing disturbances," according to prosecutors. Ashley allegedly demanded the phone, then struck the woman in the mouth multiple times with a can of Cardi B Whip Shots vodka-infused whipped cream, causing cuts to her upper lip. The victim dropped her phone as she tried to protect herself and the woman accompanying Ashley picked it up and fled,

Under new rules, police can't search vehicles based on smell of raw pot

In Illinois and Chicago, the laws surrounding police searches of vehicles based on the smell of marijuana have been a subject of evolving legal interpretation, even after recreational dope was legalized.

Officials with the Chicago Police Dept. [CPD] agreed to a revision of city code under which police officers will not be allowed to search vehicles based solely on the smell of raw cannabis.

The change comes despite the Illinois Supreme Court ruling in 2024 that the smell of raw pot is sufficient grounds for police to conduct a vehicle search during a traffic stop. Three months earlier, however, the same court ruled that the smell of burnt cannabis is not sufficient grounds for searching a vehicle without a warrant.

Advocates had pursued the change of law

under a 2019 federal court order requiring the CPD to change their policies, and CPD officials agreed to the rule change despite initial objections.

Illinois Supreme Court Justice P. Scott Neville ruled that based on prior, pre-legalization court precedent, "the odor of burnt cannabis is a fact that should be considered when determining whether police have probable cause to search a vehicle, but the odor of burnt cannabis, standing alone without other inculpatory facts, does not provide probable cause to search a vehicle."

The ruling stems from a police search in Sept. 2020, during which an Illinois State Police officer conducted a vehicle search during a traffic stop. During the stop, the officer found one gram of cannabis in a

plastic bag and charged the driver with misdemeanor illegal cannabis possession.

The CPD policy also requires officer training to differentiate between the smells of raw and burnt marijuana before conducting searches based on odor. From Dec. 2024 to June 2025, CPD reportedly conducted only 70 traffic stops based on suspected pot violations. CPD does not however track how many traffic stops occur based on the smell of raw cannabis.

Adult-use cannabis is legal in Illinois, however, state law requires cannabis to be stored in a "sealed, odor-proof, child-resistant cannabis container" when being transported in a vehicle.

Learn about RTA disability programs on July 19

Stop by the lobby of the Edgewater Branch library, 6000 N. Broadway, to meet with a representative from the Regional Transportation Authority [RTA] from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 19. Individuals will receive assistance with applications for RTA Reduced Fare and Ride Free programs, ADA Paratransit, and Taxi Access Program.

For those interested in applying for a card, bring an ID and proof of disability (if applicable). To apply for a Ride Free card, complete the Benefit Access Program application through the Illinois Dept. on Aging prior to your visit. The website is ilaging.il.gov.

This event is offered in partnership with Edgewater Village Chicago and the Edgewater Branch Library.

Father of rapper Mello Buckzz charged in federal gun case days after deadly mass shooting

BY CWBCHICAGO

The father of rapper Mello Buckzz was arraigned on federal firearms charges July 8, just days after drive-by gunmen targeted her fans in River North, leaving four people dead and 14 others wounded.

Federal officials say Melvin Doyle illegally sold 13 guns since May 20 to confidential informants working with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives [ATF] — including one transaction that took place after the July 2 mass shooting outside Artis Lounge, where his daughter, Melanie Doyle, had hosted a record release party.

A law enforcement source told this reporter that investigators have found no evidence connecting Doyle's alleged gun sales to the shooting outside the lounge at 311 W. Chicago Ave. While the complaint does not mention his daughter, a source confirmed that Doyle is the rapper's father.

According to a federal complaint filed July 8, the ATF launched its investigation based on information from a confidential informant who had known Doyle for about three years. That informant, along with two others, worked with agents to document a series of gun purchases that were secretly recorded.

The first sale occurred on May 20, when

Doyle sold a purple .40-caliber Glock pistol to two informants at his home in the 5800 block of S. Martin Luther King Dr. for \$800, the complaint said. During the meeting, Doyle allegedly told the informants that the gun was his personal weapon and that he planned to travel to Alabama with five more firearms to sell.

On May 29, Doyle allegedly sold two informants a 9mm Glock pistol for \$1,200. Nearly a month later, on June 24, he sold a multi-caliber rifle and two pistols for \$3,800, the complaint said. Another deal took place on July 1 — the day before the River North mass shooting — when Doyle allegedly sold four pistols and a 12-gauge

shotgun for \$5,000. The final transaction occurred on Monday, July 7, when he sold three more pistols for \$3,000, according to the complaint.

Federal agents arrested Doyle following Monday's transaction.

According to the complaint, Doyle is prohibited from possessing firearms due to prior felony convictions, including attempted murder in 1998, manufacture and delivery of controlled substances in 2003, and manufacture and delivery of heroin in 2006.

He is now charged federally with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

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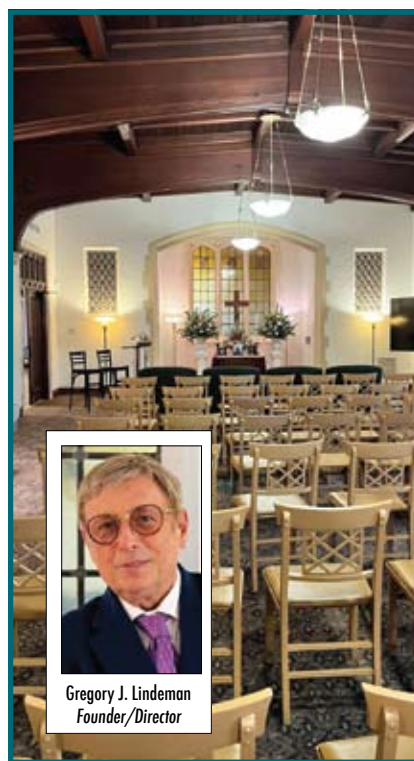


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Alders vs. Chicago Knights charity softball game July 20

Chicago Aldermen - The Alders - will be facing off against the Chicago Police Dept. - The Knights - in a fundraiser softball game Sunday, July 20, at Kerry Woods Cubs Park, 3400 N. Rockwell.

Gates open at 11 a.m. and plenty of celebrity guests are expected, including former Cubs players. Tickets are only \$10, so show up and show support for various inner-city youth programs who will benefit.

Chicago's Best Baker returns July 26

Find out if you are one of Chicago's best bakers 2 p.m. Saturday, July 26, at Wilson Abbey, 935 W. Wilson Ave.

This is Chicago's only amateur baking contest. There are seven categories in the competition and the winners of each category will be awarded first, second, and third prizes in their category. Any baker who enters five or more categories will be entered in the Chicago's Best Baker Contest and the winner will be chosen based on their overall scores.

The categories are bread, cake, classics revisited, cookies, Gluten free, pastry, and pie.

Attendance at the event is free, and passes for tastings after the winners are announced are available for a donation to Cornerstone Community Outreach, one of the largest shelters in Chicago. For more information visit <https://chicagosbestbaker.com/>, or write to chicagosbestbaker@gmail.com.

All proceeds go to support Cornerstone Community Outreach.

MAYOR from p. 2

watched and turned every day.

And if I'm correct, after a long tenure of refinement, **Johnny Coletti** is the return of everyone's favorite from "Guys & Dolls," Nathan Detroit. Which would make **Kathy O'Malley Piccone** Chicago's heroic Dolly Levy, leaving no stone unturned. Of course this assemblage of fine dining experts has been bolstered from the beginning by **Peggy O'Ryan Lombardo**, a Pearl Mesta of natural ability and celebrity talent.

For 36 years this triumphant assortment of the Steakhouse's team worked the magic of producing a menu and tablescape unrivaled anywhere. A watering hole of juicy beefsteaks and fillets, fabled side dishes, and resplendent cocktails fit for film stars, local politicians, papal ambassadors, cops and Chicago teachers, writers, poets, doctors, fashionistas, chefs and big time labor union bosses. Chicago, as it were, in miniature. Happy Anniversary Gibson folk, what would we do without you?

POETS: Poets & Writers, the national service organization for writers, has elected **Christina Baker Kline** and **Anke Steinecke** to its Board of Directors. Both are passionate advocates for literature. **Amy Berkower** and **Wilys Schneider Kals** have been elected to the Emeritus Board.

DIAMOND: Lincoln Square's **Aris** and **Erietta Yanibas** celebrated their diamond 60th Wedding Anniversary July 12 at Psistaria Restaurant with a roomful of friends and family. As a tribute to his welcome as an immigrant in 1946, Aris has run for Congress many times just to celebrate his being an American. Why not!

TALENT: In 1987, at the age of just 21, **Marlee Matlin** shattered expectations as the first Deaf actor to win an Academy Award for her groundbreaking performance in *Children of a Lesser God*. Catapulted into the spotlight, she seized the moment to challenge an industry unprepared for her immense talent, emerging as a trailblazer not only as a performer but also as an author and activist. Her film *Marlee Matlin, Not Alone Anymore*, by director Soshannah Stern opened in theaters on July 11.

SHELTER: **Ian Happ, Dansby Swanson**, and the entire team have donated \$6.9 million to turn a house into a shelter for homeless youth in South Bend, Indiana — the hometown of head coach **Craig Counsell** — as a heartfelt tribute to everything he has done for them.

HOCKEY: As the 29th overall pick, the Chicago Blackhawks selected **Mason West**, bravo. They also took **Anton Frondell** at No. 3 in 2025 NHL Draft, while 6-foot-6-inch giants **Vaclav Nestrzil** and high school QB **Mason West** are also headed to the Blackhawks.

THANKS: Chicago designer **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh** says "Thank You" to everyone who came out to support her French fabric trunk show in her studio — all the new customers will be styling their latest pieces shortly. To celebrate - a night out at Gibsons and Zebra Lounge — it's really the best way to live in Chicago on



Craig Counsell



Todd Rundgren



Paula Fasseas



Carmen Dell'Orefice

a Friday night.

WHO'S WHERE: **Pope Leo's** mother's and father's grave stones mark the burial plots of the Pontiff's parents, **Louis Prevost** and **Mildred Prevost**, at a far South Side Catholic cemetery... Judge **Jim Murphy** and Judge **Susan Kennedy Sullivan** were with friends at Piccolo Sogno sticking with the famed roasted Bronzino in citrus... Wait, are **Shawn Mendes** and **Robert Irwin** really dating?... Lincoln Park's Father **Peter Wojcik**, pastor of St. Clements, visiting his native Poland and bringing his travel pals behind the scenes in Krakow... Fashion model **Carmen Dell'Orefice** looking quite grand at 94 holding on to her fabled beauty... **Barbara LaSpesa** and **Russ Goeltenbott** drove out to Drury Lane Theatre to see "Always Patsy Cline"... **Whitney Reynolds** sent a shout out to her parents who kicked off summer by spoiling the twins in Galena... Chicago fans knew **Ron Santo** would be a special player from the start in 1960, the 20-year-old third baseman went 3-for-7 and drove in five runs in his Chicago Cubs debut... **Todd Rundgren** performed at The Riviera in Uptown last weekend, part of his STILL ME (STILL WE) tour, proving that a dream can go on forever... Happy 81st Birthday, **Robert De Niro**... **Diane Apt** in Valencia, Spain, bringing Happy Birthday wishes to **Michael Zielenzinger** saying, the more I know you, the more I love you... **Dan Balanoff** brunching with visiting sister, **Asa Balanoff Naiditch**, at Meli Cafe... **Jasper Nowell** painting St. Petersburg, FL in rainbow for Pride... happy birthday **Paula Fasseas** and special thanks for being such a champion for helpless animals... The plan is for Australian, **Lachlan Olbrich**, to play on a two-way contract for the Bulls... Chicago Cuts had **Charles Barkley** back in the house... **Ikram Goldman** at the Jardins du Claude Monet, Giverny, France... Happiest 75th Birthday to **Therese DiBuono**

Hall, big sis of famed restaurateur **Joey DiBuono** of Tufano's in Little Italy... The lovely **Contessa Bottega** and dear **Petros** sitting outside at Gibsons with **Chris Chelios**, famed hockey legend... Dearest **Myra** and **John Reilly** are where they belong, in Paris, that would be France... **Susan Gohl** and **Jonathan Grabill** have been busy at the races in Saratoga Springs... **Irene Michaels** and **Arny Garant** having great memories with their dear friend **Alice Cooper**, who is being inducted into "The Radio Hall of Fame"... and the Kennedy Family assembled for their annual reunion in Hyannis, at the oceanside home base of Chicago's **Christopher** and **Sheila Kennedy** with a Noah's Arc of cousins... Hoping **Candace Jordan** can tread water with the rest of the cast of "Titanique," she's a fresh star... Birthday girl **Sherry Lea Fox** is as sweet as she is beautiful, enjoying wide cheers from friends and fans for another year... Many thanks to Mon Ami Gabi server, **Janet**, for her refined dining service on a busy night.

POLITICS: **Ed Howlett** ran into our Illinois Secretary of State **Alexi Giannoulis** at Athena for the political Greek democratic love fest celebrating the many years of service by Democratic Committeeman **Dean Maragos**. Ed also had great night at the 19th Ward with Ald. **Matt O'Shea**, standing with **Samantha Steele** running for Cook County Assessor and **Linnea McHugh** at the Morgan Park Academy.

INSULT: Democratic U.S. Rep. **Jasmine Crockett** went after First Lady **Melania Trump** for coming to America on an "Einstein Visa" despite having no real achievements: "It doesn't take an Einstein to see that the math ain't mathin' here."

The world's a great place and worth fightin' for.

— *The Magnificent Seven*

tog515@gmail.com

Music for you
and with you



Sunday, July 20
6:00 pm

Songbooks provided.
Fee free to bring
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All are invited!
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FREE

Grant Park Music Festival



The Grant Park Music Festival brings music and fun to the neighborhood.



Thursday, July 31
6:30 pm

BEATLES: Come Together the Beatles sang, and you can answer their call. From Me(Us) To You, all are invited! Neighbors, Friends, Families, Singers, Non-Singers, Show-offs & Introverts; Ukuleles, Accordions, Tambourines, Marimbas and Guitars Welcome.

You can get a Ticket to Ride the CTA/Bus or someone may tell you to Drive My Car to Get Back. After You Saw Her Standing There you may say I Want to Hold Your Hand. We'll sing 22+ Beatle tunes led by experienced musicians with songbooks provided.

GPMF: The Grant Park Music Festival Fellows Quartet brings their String Fellows, part of the Grant Park Music Festival to Lake Shore Park for an evening performance. The program can be found at <https://bit.ly/GPMFLSP>.

Presented by the Lake Shore Park Advisory Council and Skyline Village

— 808 N. Lake Shore Drive —

Letters to the Editor

Thomas O’Gorman, you’ve gone too far!

Columnist Thomas O’Gorman wrote about “bad behavior” in the July 9-15 edition, and he’s the worst offender of all.

Mr. O’Gorman referenced observing a round table of eight individuals who turned their dining experience into something akin to being at a Bear’s game and of “knowing one overweight banker among the six loud men and

women.”

Shame on you, Mr. O’Gorman, for using your column for fat shaming!

This newspaper should not support a person of this caliber who thinks this is journalism.

*Nancy Duke
Wrigleyville*

Old Town isn’t a megaplex

As a resident of 1660 N. La-Salle, I’m alarmed by the scale of what’s now legally possible under the City’s rezoning deal with Fern Hill. The high-rise tower is only the beginning. Under the new zoning ordinance, this developer now controls over 1 million square feet of buildable entitlements - and we’ve essentially given them the freedom to allocate that space wherever and however they choose.

This includes the Piper’s Alley garage, the BP gas station, and much more. Sure, we’ve heard the comforting rumor that the air rights obtained by 1550 N. Clark will protect the Wintrust Bank building from redevelopment, but can the same be said for BP and Shell? They’re fair game, and with this much power consolidated under one developer, so will be the rest of Old Town.

There are no clear limits to how far this partnership group is willing to go. Their appetite for profit is matched only by their willing-

ness to remake Old Town into something that serves them and not the people who live here.

The scary part isn’t just the scale of this transformation - it’s how quietly it’s happening. Unless we push back now, our neighborhood could evolve into a megaplex skyline over the next five to 10 years, one project at a time. And it won’t be the Old Town we know and love. I urge the 1660 Board to stop pretending this doesn’t affect us. It affects all of us. We need independent legal counsel to assess what was approved, what’s vulnerable to challenge, and what it means for our future as homeowners. Giving Fern Hill free rein is not “planning.” It’s a mistake, and, if we don’t act, we’ll pay the price in traffic, lost sunlight, density, noise, and declining property values. Old Town deserves better!

*Michele Klanian
Old Town*

Policing for profit and safety

This newspaper’s editorializing as to the City’s motivation for installing cameras at select intersections is puzzling. Positing that the cameras are merely a form of “policing for profit” or a “money grab” neglects half of the equation, giving no credit for safety. Drivers caught breaking traffic laws are not victims of a police state in any meaningful sense of the word. They are victims of their own behavior.

The City may have revenue generation in mind, but safety clearly is a part of the rationale for cameras. Even granting the premise that money is the City’s primary goal, drivers can avoid the so-called “money grab” simply by obeying the rules and demonstrating common sense. If being ticketed for moving violations is considered a money grab, logic dictates that the paper should also make that same case for all other civil transgressions.

Not owning a vehicle, my primary means of getting around town are via foot, bike, or CTA (no Uber app). It is not hyperbole to state that my life is at risk every day on Chicago streets traveling by those means.

Two tons of steel recklessly speeding through lights (usually with phone in hand), ignoring

speed limits, ignoring State law to yield to pedestrians, not fully stopping at stop signs, obviously drifting inside bike lanes, blindly barging out of alleys, blocking crosswalks for no reason, and not using turn signals are just some of the transgressions we see on a daily basis. Further, drivers’ selfish unwillingness to grant two seconds of courtesy for pedestrians, people in wheelchairs, baby strollers, or bicyclists to pass just so they can barrel into the Jewel parking lot, is appalling.

A personal point of reference in all of this happened many years ago as a pedestrian heading east at Ashland and Berneau. Well after getting the Walk sign, I proceeded all the way to the middle of the northbound lanes only to be hit by a northbound car that ran the light long after it turned red. Despite a 360 degree roll over the car, broken leg, separated shoulder, torn rotator cuff requiring surgery, and being off work for two months, I lived to tell this tale.

Perhaps if cameras had been in use at the time, the driver might have obeyed the rules. Or not.

*James Kirby
Lincoln Square*

BEACHES from p. 4

needed to address sewage runoff and other wastewater problems nationwide.

The Chicago Park District manages the city’s 26 miles of

open and free lakefront for the enjoyment of Chicago residents and visitors. North Side residents can check the status of their favorite beach at <https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/facilities/beaches>.

Explain why

Ald. Debra Silverstein’s [July 2] warning about “anti-Jewish hate crimes” in Chicago contains one brief reference to “the alarming rise of antisemitism and radicalization,” but she never bothers to explain exactly what she means by “radicalization,” or why she connects it with anti-semitism.

This is a veiled attack against any politically conscious Muslims in Chicago who would dare to criticize the State of Israel’s policies against Palestinians, as well as the protests both on and off of college campuses in support of justice for Palestinians (in which many Jewish people take part, incidentally).

It is time that we stopped allowing apologists for Israel in our government and media to define any criticism of [Israel’s] actions in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, and Iran as “antisemitism.”

*Derek Davis
Rogers Park*

Car dependency

Regarding the [June 18] column “‘One-Way’ La Spata brings the best of the suburbs to city living,” I was struck by the claim that “Americans have overwhelmingly chosen the car” and that “post-pandemic, the CTA is dying.” This ignores the deeper context: it’s not that Americans freely chose cars, it’s that for decades, we’ve been given no other choice.

After World War II, billions in federal funding built highways that ripped through cities like Chicago, hollowing out neighborhoods and prioritizing car throughput over homes, small businesses, and walkable streets. Meanwhile, transit systems were left to wither.

The result isn’t freedom—it’s car dependency. Today, a new car averages over \$47,000, used cars aren’t far behind, and insurance and maintenance costs are soaring. That’s not liberty that’s a massive cost burden.

Some Americans will always reach for their car keys, but here in Chicago, we still have the bones of a walkable, transit-connected city. In Edgewater, I and many of my neighbors specifically chose to live here where we aren’t forced to drive every day to do even the most basic of daily tasks. Yes, some of us drive—but just as importantly, we have the freedom to walk, bike, take the L, bus, or Metra.

Cars don’t work for everyone. Children, seniors, people with disabilities, and many working-class residents do not or cannot drive. When we prioritize the convenience of drivers over all other considerations such as safety, transit reliability, neighborhood vibrancy, and the environment we are not defending freedom—we’re restricting it.

If we want true freedom of movement in our city, we must continue to invest in transit, walkability, and bike infrastructure. That’s not turning Chicago into the suburbs. It’s making sure Chicago remains a city.

*Neville Hemming
Edgewater*



Photo by Eleana Molise

Clarendon Park field house reopens

At long last Uptown neighbors can once again use the Clarendon Park Community Center, 4501 N. Clarendon Ave., which reopened July 7 after nearly three-years of renovations.

The field house was closed for renovations in Sept. 2022, and the building had been undergoing repairs ever since.

The \$13 million renovation of the community center includes a new fitness space, dance studio, outdoor plaza and program rooms. The building is also now ADA-accessible and has air conditioning.

Local dignitaries including former Ald. James Cappleman [46th], whose support moved the project along, and Park District CEO Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, gathered with members of the community in the building for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

From steering the Park District away from their initial plans to demolish the building, to spearheading efforts to identify and source funds for renovation, Cappleman was critical to seeing this got un-

derway, funded and completed.

The Chicago Park District said that programing in the new building will start later this fall.

The close of the project also means the reopening of the Garfield-Clarendon Model Railroad Club, which has operated out of the Clarendon Park Community Center since 1963. If you’ve never seen it before, this would be a good time to take in the experience.

The Field house was built in 1916 as a bath house for the Clarendon Municipal Beach, when Lake Michigan was directly east

CLARENDON see p. 10

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Mini soccer registration is now open

Looking for a fun way to get your little one moving and making friends this fall? The Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club [NBGC] is hosting mini soccer program that is designed especially for ages 3 and 4. This instructional and recreational program introduces the basics of soccer in a playful, encouraging environment.

The program includes 10 weekly sessions and runs Aug. 20

through Oct. 22, starting at 4:30 p.m., at 2501 W. Irving Park Rd.

Children will build motor skills, coordination, and confidence all while having a blast on the field. To sign up, visit <https://www.hisawyer.com/neighborhood-boys-girls-club-1/schedules/activity-set/1512092>.

NBCG is also offering Co-rec flag football, soccer, cheerleading, and tennis clinics. Fall athletics begin Aug. 18.

HIGH-RISE from p. 5

jump at the chance to build the Chicago NASCAR Museum on land near the track, along with a 200-room South Works hotel and a Country and Western concert venue for after-race entertainment and frolicking fans. Hey, get Garth Brooks on the horn!

• Since the U.S. Steel Works site likely originally belonged to Native American Indians, why not toss in the land for a South Works Casino and offer plenty of parking for American-made muscle cars. The casino will help Chicago and Illinois lock in its place as the third largest gaming market behind Las Vegas and Atlantic City with \$2.19 billion in gaming revenue.

• There still will be enough acreage left over to build a small airport, similar to the city's long-gone private "Meigs Airport," to fly in music concert participants, gambling whales and puffed-up, self-important politicians. Why



Lincoln Park Gun Club trap shooting, Chicago, Illinois, 1935. Image courtesy Chicago History Museum and The Chicago Daily News

not name the new airport after Richard M. Daley, who razed Meigs?

All of this activity will give "Choose Chicago," the city's new branding campaign, plenty of ammo to attract tens of thousands of tourists to the Windy City.

And speaking of ammo, let's bring back the Lincoln Park Gun

Club and let them reopen their trap range on the South Shore with a new Southeast Side gun club. If you don't know about the historic Lincoln Park Gun Club, google it. It was a big deal back in its day.

From 1912 until 1991, members of a private gun club founded by such prominent Chicagoans as Oscar F. Mayer, W.C. Peacock and P.K. Wrigley, were allowed to shoot traps and skeet that were launched over Lake Michigan by hurling devices operated by the Club, which was located near Diversey and the lakefront.

The title of Chicago's new marketing push is: "Never Done. Never Outdone."

For more softball and housing news, visit www.dondebat.biz. DeBat, inducted into the Softball Hall of Fame in 1999, is co-author of "Escaping Condo Jail," the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

prosecutors said.

Officers searching for the attackers were flagged down by a woman walking her dogs in the 700 block of W. Waveland. She reported being attacked by two women who struck her several times. A man who tried to intervene was also beaten, a CPD report said.

Cops found Ashley nearby and took her into custody after the victims identified her. Judge Anthony Calabrese ordered her held in custody, calling the string of assaults "a seven-minute rampage."

Woman shot during armed robbery in Lakeview

A 24-year-old woman was shot during an armed robbery in Lakeview July 13 after three men jumped out of an SUV and tried to take her belongings, according to Chicago police.

The attack happened around 12:23 a.m. in the 400 block of W. Wellington Ave. as the victim was walking with friends.

Police said an SUV pulled up and three men got out. One of them pointed a gun at the woman and demanded her belongings. During a struggle, one of the men shot the woman in the abdomen before all three ran back to the SUV and fled.

The robbers made off with two

backpacks and a cellphone.

CPD said the woman was taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, where she was listed in good condition.

Responding officers were told to be on the lookout for a silver or black Ford SUV with a "baby on board" sticker on the rear window. According to license plate reader data, the vehicle fled south on Lake Shore Drive, traveled through the Loop, and continued toward the Near West Side. As of Sunday morning, no arrests had been announced.

The woman is the second person shot in Lakeview this year.

The shooting happened just a few blocks from the site of a fatal armed robbery in May 2023. In that case, 35-year-old William Hair was walking with a friend when at least two men jumped out of a red SUV and shot him while trying to steal his belongings, according to officials. No charges have been filed in the case.

15-year-old shot, juvenile suspect detained in West Rogers Park

A teenage boy was shot July 7 during a fight in the West Rogers Park neighborhood, according to police. A juvenile suspect is in custody.

Officers responded to multiple 911 calls reporting a fight and gunfire in the 6400 block of N. Washtenaw Ave.

around 3:10 p.m. Callers reported hearing shots and seeing a group of "kids" fleeing from the basement of a nearby residence. One caller told dispatchers they were physically restraining the gunman at the scene.

When officers arrived, they located a 15-year-old boy who had suffered a through-and-through gunshot wound to his left side. He was described as being in fair condition. Officers applied a chest seal to the wound — a first-aid device used to help victims of upper-body gunshot wounds breathe more effectively.

Officers said they were taking a juvenile suspect into custody at the scene.

Man murdered acquaintance directly in front of Chicago police surveillance camera

A man with a long history of felony convictions has been detained after prosecutors said he shot and killed a longtime acquaintance directly in front of a Chicago police surveillance camera on the Near North Side.

Prosecutors said Obbie Sanders, 49, who walks with a cane and wears leg braces due to previous gunshot injuries, parked his Audi Q7 in the 800 block of N. Cambridge around 9:38 a.m. For about 10 minutes, Sanders walked around, using his phone and speaking to people in the neighborhood, Assistant State's Attorney Mike Pekara said in a detention proffer.

But when 46-year-old Darrin Cart-

er pulled onto the block in an SUV, Sanders put his phone away and approached Carter's vehicle, according to prosecutors. Video footage allegedly showed Sanders pull a gun from his waistband with his right hand while holding his cane in his left.

Standing directly in front of a police surveillance camera, Sanders fired multiple shots at Carter, striking him in the back, Pekara said. Other cameras operated by CPD and CHA also recorded portions of the incident.

Carter drove off and sought help from police officers who were posted about a half-block away. He quickly became unresponsive and was later pronounced dead at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Sanders was seen returning to his vehicle after the shooting, according to the detention filing. Two people he had spoken with earlier approached the Audi, took an object from the passenger side, and ran away. One of them appeared to have an object protruding from his waistband, Pekara said.

Using real-time camera footage and license plate readers, CPD surveillance officers tracked Sanders as he drove down Lake Shore Dr. to Michigan Ave. When police squad cars tried to stop him with lights and sirens activated, Sanders allegedly made a U-turn, fled onto Upper Wacker Dr., and crashed into several vehicles. Despite the collisions, he continued driving until a damaged tire caused him to

crash into a cement barrier, Pekara said. He was arrested at the scene.

Investigators recovered three .45 caliber shell casings from the shooting scene and two .45 caliber bullets from inside Sanders' Audi, prosecutors said. Carter's sister and cousin, who've known Sanders for years, identified him from still images pulled from surveillance video.

Sanders has not made any "admissions," according to the proffer.

Prosecutors also detailed Sanders' criminal record, which includes convictions for aggravated DUI in 2012, being an armed habitual criminal in 2011, attempted armed robbery in 2003, possession of a defaced firearm by a felon in 2002, and unlawful use of a weapon by a felon in 1997.

Judge John Hock granted the state's petition to detain Sanders pending trial on charges of first-degree murder and murder committed during the course of a forcible felony.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

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North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

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COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN
LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC.
Plaintiff,
-v-
OLUGBENGA FADIYA, 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE
DRIVE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UN-
KNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIM-
ANTS
Defendants
24 CH 08170
474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE, APT 2904
CHICAGO, IL 60611
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 5, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on August 22, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE, APT 2904, CHICAGO, IL 60611
Property Index No. 17-10-222-007-1154
The real estate is improved with a glass steel and concrete high rise apartment building with attached garage.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and

Real Estate For Sale

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.
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One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC
One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200
Chicago IL, 60602
312-346-9088
E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com
Attorney File No. 24-189151L-1096788
Attorney Code. 61256
Case Number: 24 CH 08170
TJSC#: 45-1335
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

Real Estate For Sale

for that purpose.
Case # 24 CH 08170
13269736
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff
vs.
Gabriela Barrios; 1515 N. Wells Condo. Association
Defendant
24 CH 10969
CALENDAR 63
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on August 19, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 17-04-204-057-1021.
Commonly known as 1515 N. Wells Street, Unit 7D, Chicago, IL 60610.
The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. (630) 794-5300, 14-24-07610
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13269523
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Real Estate For Sale

COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, AS TRUSTEE FOR
FREDDIE MAC SECURITIES REMIC TRUST
2005-S001
Plaintiff
vs.
RICHARD F. SCHWEIG, HSBC MORTGAGE CORPORATION (USA) SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO REPUBLIC CONSUMER LENDING GROUP, INC., STATE OF ILLINOIS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FORTY EIGHT CEDAR CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
1455 N Sandburg Ter, Chicago, IL 60610
P.I.N. 17-03-201-069-1029.
Commonly known as 40 E. CEDAR ST., UNIT 14B, CHICAGO, IL 60611.
The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Suite 201, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125, 22-03752
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13269474
161616

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
-v-
XIAOLEI LU; SHANSHAN YU; CARL SANDBURG VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION NO. 2; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants.
2024CH07241
1455 N Sandburg Ter, Chicago, IL 60610
Property Index No. 17-04-207-086-1417
The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$148,850.24 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com, LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

Real Estate For Sale

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: Robertson Anshutz Schneid Crane & Partners, PLLC (561) 241-6901 please refer to file number 24-220607. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com.
Attorney File No. 24-220607 Case Number: 2024CH07241
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.
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Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 24th of July, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at 2724 W. 21st St, Chicago, IL 60608 at www.storage-treasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m. 1009 Jorge Herrera Jr. 1116 Delisa Newell
This public sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. The winning bidder must pay by cash at the time he/she is declared the winning bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply; see the Manager for additional details.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

161616 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for Plaintiff vs. Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Minnie Clarke; Kaye Clarke Barrett aka Kaye Toland; Tina Clarke aka Tina Bluit; Damon Ritenhouse as Special Representative of Minnie Clarke; Parvenu Condominium Association; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Karen Lee; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Krista Ellen Landrebe; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants; Defendant 22 CH 7915 CALENDAR 59 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on August 12, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-17-203-024-1066.

Real Estate For Sale

161616 -----

Commonly known as 1000 W. LELAND AVENUE, Chicago, IL 60640. The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563. (630) 453-6960. 1446-186160 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13269237 090909 ----- 020202 -----

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Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION MSR Asset Vehicle LLC Plaintiff, vs. Charles Wade; 1529-37 W. Farwell Condominium Association; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of James Wade; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Thomas P. Quinn, as Special Representative of James Wade (deceased) Defendants. 2024CH05935 1531 W FARWELL AVE UNIT 1N, 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 4/10/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the auction in person at 12:00 PM on 8/20/2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60602, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 1531 W FARWELL AVE UNIT 1N, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-32-120-038-1007 The real estate is improved with a Residential Property. The judgment amount was \$163,254.27 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com, LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

Real Estate For Sale

161616 -----

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CO-DLIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-24-03724. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 14-24-03724 Case Number: 2024CH05935 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. 8231-953540 090909 ----- 020202 -----

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Kids from South-East Asia Center Bridge International School summer program take a walk along Broadway in Uptown to learn about local art and architecture. *Images courtesy Reno Lovison*

Kids take Uptown architectural walk on Broadway

A group of area local youths last week undertook an architectural tour of Uptown with the South-East Asian Center [SEAC] to gain appreciation of the art and architecture around them. The goal of this experience was to help them gain an understanding of the unique aspects of their surroundings and a greater appreciation of

how cultures around the world have had an influence on their community.

The kids were told about the materials being used in the buildings around them, what the functions are of the various buildings and why they look the way they do.

The SEAC is a Uptown-based, educational and social service organization that

tries to build bridges of understanding and cooperation amongst peoples of Old and New World cultures.

SEAC's roughly 50 staff and some 100 volunteers provide cultural, emotional, and educational aid and social services to thousands of individuals each year.

HEARING from p. 1

County" were not used.

These continuing violations are not just technicalities. They are serious substantive violations of the due process rights of his clients and many other Chicago property owners whose properties will be upzoned against their will and/or will be adversely affected by the Broadway ordinances.

(On April 16 and May 21, Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth [48th] introduced 12 ordinances which would rezone Broadway in the 48th Ward.)

Kingsley found that under the Zoning Code as well as the principles of fundamental due process, affected property owners have a right to receive clear and effective Notice of the City's proposed actions affecting their property. "Given the

City's continuing significant non-compliance with multiple applicable notice requirements, the Committee has no choice but to defer the July 15 hearing," Kingsley wrote.

However, now that Burnett announced his impending retirement and his dependency upon the Mayor's good will in appointing him to lead the CHA, his deliberate impartiality on deciding a committee vote in a matter close to Mayor Johnson's heart is now called into question.

While Ald. Lawson is vice chairman of the Zoning Committee, he is unlikely to assume the chairman's mantle as he is only two years into his first aldermanic term, and he backed Paul Vallas in the 2023 mayoral race. Mayor Johnson values loyalty and is likely to appoint a known ally as zoning committee chairman.

Mayor Johnson appears to be using the Broadway Upzoning Framework to implement measures to fast-track developments with affordable housing in more affluent, majority-White neighborhoods by easing zoning restrictions and approvals, sources close to housing negotiations told the Chicago Tribune. "Johnson appears to be taking the draft agreement's lead with a push to up-zone a large stretch of Broadway, a move likely to add density in the Far North Side that aldermen are expected to vote on next week."

The upzoning framework, if approved, is anticipated to bring 10,000 new residential units to the Broadway corridor, bring an estimated 6,000-8,000 cars to Edgewater, and create a canyon of 8-story buildings on both sides of Broadway.

HOSPITAL from p. 1

ment citing testimony of A.J. Wilhelmi, CEO of the Illinois Health and Hospital Assoc. before a legislative committee in March about funding cuts to Medicaid.

"Hospital officials in Illinois say they will have to make some difficult decisions in the next few years that could involve laying off staff, cutting back services and even closing some facilities entirely."

The new law signed into effect on July 4 by President Donald Trump will cut federal spending on Medicaid by more than \$1 trillion over the next 10 years. That equates to a \$48 billion reduction in Illinois over the next 10 years.

According to the Illinois Hospital Report Card, patient billing at Ascension St. Joseph Hospital Chicago in 2022 found that 27.30% of inpatients used Medicaid, 35.56% used Medicare, 35.48% used private insurance, and less than one percent was covered by charity care.

Among outpatients at Ascension St. Joseph Hospital, 19.81% used Medicaid, 29.17% used Medicare, 46.69% used private insurance, and 2.34% used charity care.

For the sake of comparison, At Thorek Memorial Hosp. in 2022, 48.32% of inpatients utilized Medicaid, 42.72% used Medicare, 4.46% used private insurance, and less than one percent were covered by charity care.

For outpatients at Thorek, 33.43% used Medicaid, 18.37% used Medicare, 40.28% used private insurance, and less than one percent used charity care.

For inpatients at Weiss Memorial Hospital in 2022, 26.81% utilized Medicaid, 62.94% used Medicare, 9.07% used private insurance, and 1.18% used charity care.

For outpatients at Weiss, 31.57% used

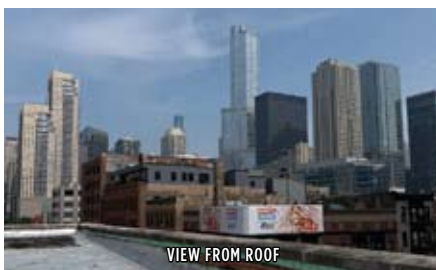
Medicaid, 33.74% used Medicare, 27.04% used private insurance, and 0.05% used charity care.

For inpatients at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in 2022, 15.98% used Medicaid, 34.44% used Medicare, 46.07% used

private insurance, and 1.81% used charity care.

Among outpatients at Northwestern, 8.26% used Medicaid, 27.75% used Medicare, 60.09% used private insurance, and less than one percent used charity care.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION AUGUST 13, 2025



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LINCOLN YARDS from p. 1

Bay [had] the site, we'd encouraged them to move forward with their existing entitlements to develop, providing feedback from the surrounding businesses and community but without any barriers from our office. We consistently shared and provided business opportunities on the Lincoln Yards site that were not accepted, including the possibility of the new Chicago Fire stadium that eventually landed at the 78."

In May, local developer Sterling Bay, lost control of their valuable riverfront property after suffering severe financial difficulties. Bank OZK seized the property back from Sterling Bay in lieu of a foreclosure action. The price JDL and Kanye Anderson paid for the 31-acre parcel is estimated at \$80 million, which is well below the \$125 million debt that Bank OZK was owed by Sterling Bay.

According to reporting in TheRealDeal.com, people familiar with the situation say that Sterling Bay is angry over Kayne Anderson's involvement with Letchinger's rescue attempt. Kanye had reportedly looked at buying into the project to aid Sterling Bay after it became clear the project was in trouble. But Sterling Bay and Kanye couldn't come to terms on an agreement and the proposal floundered.

In May, local developer Sterling Bay, lost control of their valuable riverfront property after suffering severe financial difficulties.

After Sterling Bay fell apart, the city agreed to untether the area's development from that 2019 Tax Increment Financing agreement, allowing Letchinger and Kayne to move forward without needing to build as much expensive infrastructure Sterling Bay had committed to.

Sterling Bay's plan was focused heavily on office space, meaning there would have been a lot more commuters in and out of the site and thus require the extension of roads and construction of bridges to facilitate access.

It is presently unknown what Sterling Bay and their partners plan to do with the southern 25-acre portion of Lincoln Yards that they still control. TheRealDeal reported that JDL and Kayne would be interested in considering a purchase of the southern part of Lincoln Yards from Sterling Bay and JP Morgan.

Foundry Park may also include a greater proportion of affordable housing units than had been proposed by Sterling Bay. The old plan included 600 affordable units, in addition to paying \$40 million in taxes to the city's affordable housing fund.

NEGLECT from p. 1

public sidewalk.

The lack of proper trash containment—often with unsealed bags and uncovered dumpsters—has made the area a feeding ground for rats.

Despite being a prominent business in the community, area residents told this newspaper that the Hotel Lincoln offers little to no support for the neighborhood's upkeep.

When Johnson escalated the issue recently by contacting this newspaper and Ald. Knudsen's office, an aide responded that a citation had been issued.

Yet a week later, with the area once again littered with trash, the lack of follow-up was evident until July 9 when the sidewalk was power washed to remove accumulated grease buildup on the public way.

In the meantime, the rats allegedly remain a community concern, and nearby residents continue to monitor the situation daily, looking for progress after being left wondering for months if this matter would be addressed over the long term.