

History is a vast early warning system.

— Norman Cousins

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Alderman takes victory lap as clout-heavy developer gifted Lincoln Square parking lot

BY PETER VON BUOL

Four months after Ald. Matt Martin [47th] had been told by officials in Mayor Lori Lightfoot's administration that they could not support his plan to give away a city-owned parking lot at 4715 N. Western Ave. to a clout-heavy Boston-based developer due to three serious flaws, the city's Commissioner of Housing said she now supports a modified version of that plan.

The plan, supported by Marisa Novara, the city's housing commissioner, includes 65 apartment units in six stories, 36 parking spaces (18 for residents, 18 for shoppers), retail space on the ground floor and a parking lot entrance on Western Ave.

Novara has now done a full 180-degree flip after she had expressed her displeasure in March to developer TCB for presenting a mixed-use apartment building which included not only 51 apartment units but also 40 parking spaces, retail spaces on the first floor and a parking lot entrance on Western Ave.

While Ald. Martin and his staff continue to ignore questions

about the genesis of this insiders' clout-heavy deal for the parking lot - which serves as critical infrastructure for Lincoln Square's businesses - this newspaper hopes a source within the 47th Ward office will share information about last week's sudden policy reversal in City Hall.

According to Dr. Eugenia Orr, director of public affairs for the city's Dept. of Housing, the commissioner used parking lot utilization data to make her decision.

"An agreement was reached that bases parking spots on both Transit-Oriented Development policy as well as current parking utilization data," said Orr.

According to Orr, the project is still far from being approved and Novara's decision to support the project is only part of the process.

"The project will need to complete a full review process before funding is secured, including the Community Development Commission, the Chicago Plan Commission, and the Chicago City Council. If these steps are completed, construction could begin as soon as spring 2023," said Orr.

In March, Novara had said she

was adamantly opposed to use her limited funding to build something other than apartments.

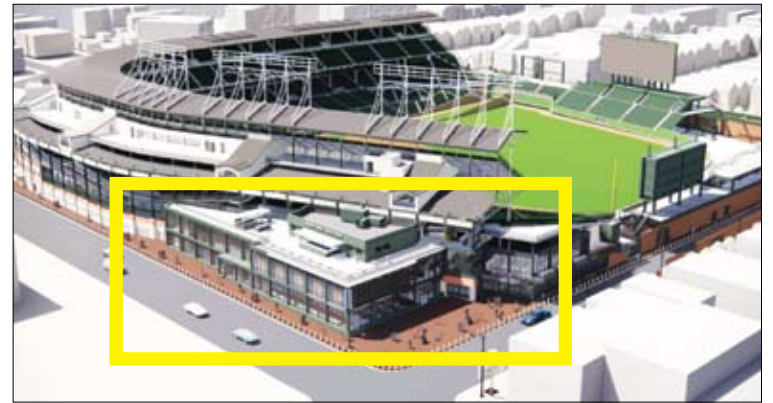
The development plan presented by TCB includes a parking lot entrance on Western Ave., which ignores the 4700 block's designation as a Pedestrian Street (P-Street). The city council designates sections of Chicago streets to prevent sidewalk cut-outs, which are considered unfriendly to pedestrians.

According to information posted on the city's website, P-Streets are meant to "preserve and enhance the character of streets and intersections that are widely recognized as Chicago's best examples of pedestrian-oriented shopping districts."

The announcement also does not address the long-term costs related to taking parking spots and revenue away from the owner. The real estate the parking lot sits on is now owned by the city, but the actual parking spaces, and the income they generate, are owned by LAZ Parking Chicago, LLC.

TCB, Inc. wants all of that gift-

GIFTED see p. 12



The Wrigley Field sports wagering addition will go at the corner of Addison and Waveland. Image courtesy Gensler

Wrigley Field addition lands building permit for new gambling site

It wasn't that long ago that gambling in baseball was considered one of the worst offenses in the game. Now Major League Baseball is promoting it and profiting off of it.

In fact, it is generally accepted baseball lore that Major League Baseball got its first commissioner due to gambling. Kennesaw Mountain Landis, who took office in the wake of the 1919 Black Sox gambling scandal, reportedly believed that even small wagers made in the stands threatened the game's integrity.

(But for the 2022 Cubs, trading away Kyle Schwaber, Anthony Rizzo, Kris Bryant, and perhaps Willson Contreras maybe the more urgent threat to their integrity.)

Once the purview of organized crime and the Chicago Outfit, City Council passed the ordinance to allow sports betting in Dec. 2021.

Last week City Hall issued a full building permit for the new addition at Wrigley Field, that will rise at the site of the former Captain Morgan Club, at the cor-

ner of Addison and Waveland.

The new DraftKings Sportsbook, which would be among the biggest in the country at 22,350 square feet. The addition will stand three floors tall and is expected to also provide food and beverage offerings. The Cubs signed a \$100 million deal with DraftKings in 2020 to build the sportsbook.

That it was attached as an addition to the facade of the North Side landmark meant it got added scrutiny before being given the go-ahead.

The Cubs first revealed plans to redevelop the corner site as part of the team's 2013 master plan. The addition doesn't require rezoning since it was already approved under Wrigley's existing Planned Development.

The updated design was approved by the Commission on Chicago Landmarks' Permit Review Committee in Aug. 2021.

The Cubs hope to have construction completed by the end of 2022, and the team and promoters hope to have it open by the start of the 2023 baseball season.

Little Goat leaving West Loop for Lakeview's former Southport Lanes

Will join two other restaurants in Lakeview

One of Chicago's best known chefs is leaving the West Loop and heading to Lakeview. Chef Stephanie Izard's Little Goat will be leaving its decade-old home in the West Loop in early 2023 for the Southport corridor, and the site that once held the Southport Lanes.

The diner will join two other Boka Group restaurants inside the 122-year-old building at 3325 N. Southport Ave. The diner will reportedly seat just 50 people which is a third of the West Loop location's capacity, and offer three meals a day.

Southport Lanes closed in Sept. 2021, after 98 years in business. Its colorful and often unlawful history included times as a tavern, bowling alley, speak-easy, brothel and illegal off-track horse betting venue. The building also has a legacy as it was originally a Schlitz Brewery Tied-House. A Tied House 'Schlitz Belted Globe' insignia stands prominently on the building's facade.

The relocation is due in large part to the economic and labor fallout from the ongoing COVID-



The Little Goat will be leaving their current location at 820 W. Randolph St., and moving into the landmarked former Southport Lanes site in Lakeview. Photo courtesy Preservation Chicago

19 pandemic, Boka Group co-founder Rob Katz told Chicago Eater. Serving three meals a day means hiring, training, and managing an enormous number of employees — a lift so significant that Little Goat has cut out dinner service for the time being. "[The diner] is wildly busy — I don't know if we've ever been busier than we are today," said Katz. "But the diner model of breakfast, lunch, and dinner has

become exceedingly difficult in the pandemic and post-pandemic world of extreme labor shortages — it takes an army to put forth that effort."

They will be leaving their current location at 820 W. Randolph St., which is located across the street from Girl & the Goat, Izard's flagship restaurant.

The Little Goat partners have

GOAT see p. 12

Maps of inequality, page 5

Armed robberies reported in North Center, Lakeview

BY CWBCHICAGO

Police are investigating two overnight armed robberies in the Lakeview-based Town Hall 19th District. Robberies in Town Hall are up 66% this year compared to last year and 27% compared to 2018.

A CPD spokesperson said that around 1:16 a.m., two armed robbers held a man and woman at gunpoint and forced them to lie on the ground in the 4300 block of N. Damen. The robbers took the victim's belongings and headed east on Montrose.

The victims, a 28-year-old man and a 40-year-old woman, were

not injured. They described the robbers as two Black males wearing black hoodies pulled tightly around their heads.

Then, around 2 a.m., two armed men confronted a 22-year-old man in the 600 block of W. Oakdale in Lakeview. They forced him to walk to an ATM and withdraw money, which they took, the police spokesperson said.

The suspects are two Black males who stand about 5'-10" tall. One wore a black "AntiSocial" hoodie and the other had dreads, according to officers at the scene. They were last seen heading south on Broadway.

Wanted: holy monk looking to save us, some traveling required



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

In ancient times having the right companion for the journey was critical for its successful completion. Critical to the life of the travelers, to their very survival. With the right companions you could reach your destination. You could live to tell the tale.

Choose the wrong companion and you'd just be another casualty of the wildernesses. One more victim of the forces of nature and the earth. A quick meal for the beasts of the trails.

Travel and survival were all about trust. And mutual concerns for intelligent travel, wise routes of passage and keeping an eye on one another's safety. That's where the term "riding shotgun" came from, referring to sitting next to the driver.

Remarkably some things never change.

I've always been a good traveler, and often relished the companionship of others when crossing borders and frontiers, hotel lobbies, railway platforms, strange airports, cathedral aisles, or the holdings of great art museums collections.

But I have also been a scandal-

ous solo traveler. Treasuring the chance to hang out with myself. Challenging my tastes, intellect and ability to fill the day with elements of interest and surprise.

I don't need constant amusement, but I do need amusing people while on the road. Just the odd eccentric gushing over a Caravaggio, the superiority of the roast saddle of lamb at the Savoy Grill or discovering a charming thatched country house in the Highlands with good grub and curious fellow guests from France or Australia.

I owe this to having been a foreign student studying in places of history and literary charm, finding hangouts with fellow students.

One of the great joys of being a student at Oxford in the early 1980s was going to a charming Chinese restaurant called the Opium Den. We'd always order fried wontons with black bean sauce, and bottles of Chablis. Our little group there became great friends. Bonded by good vittles, wine and stories of our curious lives.

In the winter when snow laid lightly on the ground we'd pile into taxis and go to a neighboring village with a French restaurant and a huge fireplace. Wrapped in coziness we'd wile away winter nights sipping onion soup.

There was a unique harmony to those times, and very often we would take side trips.

London to see museums. Make the round of bookstores to search out the writers we read. I could always find something new on Wil-

liam Butler Yeats.

In many ways academic life shaped our bonding for wise and intelligent companionship. But I also loved the moments I could go off on my own to Scotland, Wales or Ireland for a quick solo journey.

Studying in Poland during the communist era was more complicated. A similar bonding also occurred, but in Poland the foreign students really kept an eye on one another. We were watchful for who went where. Or who traveled alone. It was not a time for student experimentation or independence.

When we were children my parents were great automobile travelers. Two kids and an Irish grandmother in the backseat. There was no place we could not get to. No game we could not amuse ourselves with, no Rexall drug store we would not stop in for a malt or a Coke. No county seat we didn't scrutinize. No state capital whose dome we did not climb.

It was the 1950s, and it was the time to see America. To embrace what all the fighting had been about with Mr. Hitler and Tojo.

Along America's highways we discovered marshmallow Pepsi's, and often had pie at breakfast. We loved the fried chicken we found in small towns.

My father loved rubbing elbows with the locals, drinking a cold beer with them. Listening to their stories and telling them where he was from. Chicago then was as foreign as Paris to many. But everyone knew of the original Mayor Daley. I say all this, attempting to discover the roots of my predilections for travel.

I'm not wild about seeing Kilimanjaro. Or climbing Mount Everest. Or even breakfast in Kathmandu. Thank you very much.

The Ritz Hotel in Paris is just perfect for breakfast.

Or the Maurice Hotel for a splendid lunch.

Or the endless series of tasty trattorias that dot every inch of Rome or Florence or Milan.

So I join Thomas Aquinas and Saint Augustine and Saint Anselm, all ancient writers with significant passion about travel. And about the value of companions in travel. They knew the necessity of having a holy monk with some brains and some brawn to travel with you along the dangerous roads. And the necessity of hearts speaking to hearts, brains communicating with brains about the quality of art. The stability of culture. The rigors of learning. The power of faith.

And the splendor of good veal. Yes, good veal.

Here in Chicago I believe travel and good companions are the perfect metaphor for a pre-election eve. We have some serious work ahead of us and we must measure the value of the companionship we have with political leaders now in office.

It is vital that we recognize that there is trouble in the glen. There is little harmony. Just disunity, and an inhumane violence that stalks our streets.

For the journey we are on now in this American city, we need sturdy intelligent companions for the journey. Political leaders capable of clear thinking. The vital assessment of urban needs. The critical ability to evaluate the structures and programs for urban enrichment. And urban growth.

The body count following the Fourth of July is unacceptable. The constant mayhem and murder on our streets is making international news and sucking the life from Chicago.

We need to recognize who really are the helpful companions for our journey.

We need to be honest about whose limited intellect is bringing down our beautiful city.

Carjackings and lootings are not just social problems, they're expressive elements of great crime. Of broken social and cultural foundations.

The companions we have presently in public office, for our journey now, are not fit to be there.

Time to sweep them out. We must have new companions for the journey. We need fresh political leaders who will not break us by their own limitations.

Watch the Summer unfold. Keep track of the bodies. Identify who has the ability to embrace what is already broken. Pick out who you think will work to bring Chicago back to life.

Travel is supposed to open our minds and hearts to others. Those different. Foreign. Capable of expanding minds and hearts. We need them now. We've never needed fresh traveling companions more. There must be some holy monk looking to save us.

YOUR WALLET: Who is the well-known Gold Coast restaurateur who was standing outside his posh restaurant when he was approached by two men who threatened him and sought to rob him in broad daylight? The two thugs took his wallet and vanished.

STAY HOME: Who is the woman-of-power who was told by Chicago EMT's to stay away from the Northwestern Hosp. ER? She had a bad respiratory attack from the diabolical air we breath, and called 911. Two Fire Dept. paramedics were quick to arrive. As they were attempting to stabilize her, she asked, "Can't you just take me to Northwestern? Take me to the ER." They hesitated and then said, "Ma'am, you don't want to do that. If we take you to the ER you will lay on a gurney for six hours. The ER if filled with gunshot and and stabbing victims from Taste of Chicago. You don't want the ER if you can help it." They stabilized her at home.

These are just two examples of the boldness and consequences of street crime. Thieves have no line they will not cross. Crime is bravo. Violence awarded. A cynical stand in a civilized society. All the hand-wringing and jive talkin' won't change the reality,

but it may change leadership.

Crime is personal, hurtful and is meant to terrify and dishearten. Brash urban cleansing at its worst. Have you had enough?

FRESH FACE: Anthony Zamora has been named the new general manager of The Langham. With more than 20 years experi-



Anthony Zamora

ence in the business, this hotelier will be a great fit for Chicago.

DEVIL'S DUE: The third and final audio production of A Theater in the Dark's season will be the original audio play *The White City: An Audible Exhibition on H.H. Holmes, Murderer* by Rick Kinnebrew, and directed by Corey Bradberry, planned for a digital streaming release in early

2023. It is a theatrical thriller surrounding the notorious Chicago serial killer **H. H. Holmes**, who is said to have murdered more than 20 people during the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. The Edgewater theater's story focuses on the victim of the only murder for which Holmes was convicted, his business partner **Ben Pitezel**.

DUCKY DERBY: The annual Ducky Derby, August 4, at the Columbus Ave. Bridge, when 70,000 rubber ducks are dropped off the bridge.

R.I.P.: A memorial service for **Rev. Kent Marcus Organ** will be at Fourth Presbyterian Church 11 a.m. Sat., July 23; live-streamed at <http://www.bit.ly/fpcservices>. Kent, 83, of Streeterville died on June 18, of COVID pneumonia. A minister of the Presbyterian

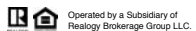
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Horse's ass defaces Bailey - Horse of Honor



Heart of the 'Hood by Felicia Dechter

Sheila Swann was out of town on vacation when she got the call that the spectacular Horse of Honor she had painted in 2015, Bailey, had been defaced.

For several years now, Bailey has stood proud and handsome in front of the Guesthouse Hotel, 4872 N. Clark St. Bailey was beautifully created -- painstakingly and with a lot of love -- by Swann, the immensely-talented art director of this newspaper. Back then, I saw the enormous amount of work that she put into making him the stunning horse that he became.

Some things are near and dear to our hearts, and for us here at Inside Publications, such is the case with Bailey. So it's extremely frustrating and upsetting that earlier this month, a person or persons defaced the horse, spraying pink spray paint all over his head and some of his neck.

It was such a low-rent act of shallow and cowardly defiance.

I'm told that it possibly could be a case of "pink washing" - something the LGBTQ community does to police and corporations they're not happy with. Since Bailey is a police horse -- he's a target. Public art pieces are easy targets, and all they really show us is the arrogant intolerance of criminal taggers. Vandalizing art is not bold or thoughtful, it's just mean, petty and vindictive.

"I don't understand people who vandalize art," said Swann, who, understandably, is upset. "Art stands by itself, it should not be attacked because someone is trying to push their agenda. That's what voting is for."

"You leave the art alone, because you only create more enemies and lose any validity to your cause when you attack objects of art," Swann continued. "And the bottom line is, you're hurting the artist - not the organization or corporation or whoever it is that the vandals have a gripe against."

Horses of Honor is a public art campaign raising money and awareness to support police-related charities, particularly those benefiting the families of police officers who have been killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

Bailey was painted in honor of Chicago Police Officer Michael Bailey, who was killed on July 18, 2010, just a few weeks before his retirement. Officer Bailey had



The 13-point lightning bolt on the horse's face is from the well-known Grateful Dead icon called a "Steal Your Face," a symbol of transformation and enlightenment," said artist Sheila Swann.

gotten off of the overnight security detail for Mayor Richard M. Daley and was working on his car in the driveway of his home early in the morning when he was shot and killed. In 2019, the killer was sentenced to life in prison.

Swann was "very honored" by the opportunity to paint a Horse of Honor for the Chicago Police Memorial Fund. "Losing a loved one is very traumatic. Losing a loved one through the senseless act of murder is even more traumatic," said Swann. "I have read that Officer Bailey had a good sense of humor, which I appreciate. And I am acquainted with someone who had worked with Officer Bailey on the force, so I know that Bailey was highly respected and a good guy. And that's why I chose to paint a horse in honor of him."

And as you can imagine, Swann was totally depressed when she got word from Bailey's owner, The Guesthouse Hotel, that the horse had been vandalized while she was out of town. "It was very rough, as I was not able to attend to the horse right away," said Swann. "Basically, I was just crushed. I still am."

"It meant the world to me to have the opportunity to paint one of those horses in 2015, and it was a labor of love," she added. "It was a lot of work, but worth every minute."

While designing Bailey, Swann kept in mind his story, as well as the fact that he

honors the dead. She also incorporated a touch of her favorite band, the Grateful Dead, into Bailey.

"The 13-point lightning bolt on the horse's face is from the well-known Grateful Dead icon called a Steal Your Face, a symbol of transformation and enlightenment," she said. "I think most of us hope that upon death we are transformed and enlightened. But it also doesn't hurt to work for enlightenment while we're here on Earth! I seriously wish more people would aim for that."

While on her trip, Swann injured her right thumb. When she got back in town she worked on Bailey for two days - which only exacerbated the pain and probably damaged the thumb more, she said.

"So, it's a bit of a setback for me and the horse, especially since I'm right-handed. But I have to move forward with the restoration. It's a pretty big undertaking to get it done correctly, and I want to get it taken care of as soon as possible."

Knowing Swann, she'll make sure that Bailey will be as good as new as soon as possible. I know neighbors will be happy to hear that, because since his posting up in front of the hotel, Bailey has become sort of a landmark in the neighborhood. A rock star of a horse.

"Quite a few people stopped to talk as I was working on trying to remove the spray paint, also upset that Bailey was vandalized," Swann said. "It was heartening to hear them say 'Thank you so much for fixing him.'"

"My goal is to get Bailey back to his normal pre-vandalized self," Swann added. "It will take more time and a lot of work. But that's what needs to be done. To quote the Grateful Dead's song 'Touch of Grey,'... 'We will get by, We will survive.'"

Oh jeez, now I'll be singing Grateful Dead songs all day. But we truly thank Swann too. And we can't wait until Bailey is back in the saddle again, and watching over Clark St. and getting even more attention and love than he already does.

All shook up ... everyone in the house was "All Shook Up," -- in a good way -- when that hunk of burning love former

governor of ours, Rod Blagojevich, took the stage at Martyr's in Lakeview recently for a rousing rendition of "Jailhouse Rock," with the band The Drawers.

We can't help but chuckle at the gov's choice of tunes, which also included "Don't Be Cruel."

Happy birthday! ... to Lakeview resident Edith Renfrow Smith, who turned 108 on July 14. On that day back in 1914, Mrs. Smith was born in Grinnell, Iowa, where in 1937 she became the first black woman to graduate from Grinnell College.

Mrs. Smith loves reading and cooking and in her more than a century of life she has met some impressive folks including Amelia Earhart, Muhammad Ali, and Herbie Hancock. Ald. Tom Tunney [44th] stopped by Mrs. Smith's birthday party and to wish her many happy more and we wish her the same -- many happy and healthy more!



Ald Tom Tunney (44th) parties with 108-year-old Edith Renfrow Smith.

Food glorious food ... Ald. Tunney, in coordination with Rep. Ann Williams [11th], is holding a food drive collecting healthy foods for Common Pantry, which serves families throughout the North side. The pantry is looking for whole grain cereals and crackers, low sodium canned-soups, brown rice, and nuts. Drop donations at 3223 N. Sheffield until Aug. 15.

Garden party ... The Chicago Parks Foundation is looking for experienced community gardeners to volunteer with the ongoing maintenance of the AIDS Garden Chicago at Belmont and the lakefront.

Stewards will be provided with supplies and gear and will meet at the site on a regular basis to provide routine garden maintenance. Contact info@chicagoparksfoundation.org or 773-505-9742 for more info.

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Deadline here for decision on speed camera tickets

BY DYLAN SHARKEY
Illinois Policy

Last month the Chicago City Council blocked a vote to repeal the lower speed camera ticket threshold, responsible for \$59 million in tickets last year.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot had until today, July 20, to save a policy that issued more tickets than Chicago has residents.

The Chicago City Council appeared ready to repeal Mayor Lori Lightfoot's lower speed camera ticketing threshold June 22, but her allies were able to block a vote and give her until July 20 to save the policy.

Under the proposed ordinance that was up for a vote, the minimum threshold for speed camera tickets would increase to 10 mph over the speed limit instead of 6 mph. On June 21, the Council's Finance Committee narrowly approved the ordinance in a 16-15 vote.

Lightfoot had the city's 160 speed cameras set March 1, 2021, to issue \$35 tickets for 6 to 10 mph over the speed limit. Prior to that decision 1,178 tickets were issued on average each day. After the change, that average jumped up dramatically to 9,014 tickets per day.

The new policy generated \$59

million worth of the \$35 tickets out of \$89 million in total tickets last year. The 2.8 million tickets outnumbered the city's residents. City Hall is desperate for revenue because the city holds more pension debt than 45 states, and they need the money.

Ald. Anthony Beale [9th], who spearheaded the new ordinance, argued the full council had to cast a vote because his ordinance was deferred already.

When council members blocked the vote, Beale and mayoral challenger Ald. Raymond Lopez [15th] used the same procedure to delay every other item from the finance committee. After the meeting ended, Beale accused Mayor Lightfoot of manipulating the rules in her favor.

"We can't debate it. We can't bring it to the floor," said Beale. "That's a dictatorship. That's not a democracy."

The mayor defended the lower ticket threshold, insisting it keeps speeders in check where the cameras are installed in parks and near schools.

"No one likes speed cameras. I get it. But this is life or death that we're talking about here, and we've got to step up as a city and address this," she said.

However, an Illinois Policy Institute investigation found despite Chicagoans being ticketed every 11 seconds, fatal crashes still rose by 13% in the year after the 6 mph threshold went into effect. Three major speed camera studies have failed to show they improve safety, with one concluding drivers actually speed up once they are past the automated devices.

Higher rates spark slow down in North Side home market



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

With inflation and interest rates on the rise, the once booming market for existing homes on Chicago's North Side suddenly is a forgotten memory.

Historically low inventory levels in June were responsible for a drop in home sales and units under contract for the fourth consecutive month, reported Baird & Warner's "July 2022 Market Analysis," which focuses on four key neighborhoods—the Near North Side, Lincoln Park, Lakeview and North Center.

Despite an abundance of buyers, year-to-date home sales have declined 2.1% compared with the first six months of 2021, and inventory levels plummeted 34.9%, noted John Irwin, veteran broker with Baird & Warner.

"Rising interest rates and a plunging stock market have driven some buyers to the sidelines," Irwin said.

"Homes that are priced well are selling quickly, but there is not enough inventory to match last year's sales numbers. This looks like it will be the new normal for the foreseeable future."

Mortgage rates rise again

Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported on July 14 that benchmark 30-year

fixed home loan rates nationwide averaged 5.51%, up from 5.30% a week earlier. Last year at this time, the 30-year fixed loans averaged 2.88%.

Fifteen-year fixed rate loans rose to an average of 4.67%, from 4.5% a week earlier. A year ago, the average 15-year fixed mortgage averaged 2.22%.

"Mortgage rates are volatile as economic growth slows due to fiscal and monetary drags," said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist. "With rates at the highest level in more than a decade, home prices at escalated

dian home prices rose 3.4%, in June, while units priced under \$500,000 fell 4.8%. On the sales side, the number of Near North homes closed slipped by 9.0%.

• Lincoln Park: Over-all median prices in the neighborhood rose 6.7% in June. However, homes sold in the upscale price range of \$500,000 to \$1-million declined 0.8%. On the sales side, the number of Lincoln Park units closed slipped by 22.1%.

• Lakeview: Over-all median prices rose a solid 9.3% in June. However, prices on luxury homes in the \$1-million to \$2-million bracket slipped 4.6%. On the sales side, the number of Lakeview units closed plummeted by 18.8%.

• North Center: Over-all median prices in this hot neighborhood—which includes the popular St. Ben's area—rose a hefty 13.5% in June. However, the median price of homes priced at more than \$2-million declined by 0.9%. On the sales side, the number of North Center units closed rose by 7.6%.

"Homes that are priced well are selling quickly, but there is not enough inventory to match last year's sales numbers. This looks like it will be the new normal for the foreseeable future," said John Irwin.

levels, and inflation continuing to impact consumers, affordability remains the main obstacle to homeownership for many Americans."

Prices inching higher

North Side home prices already are being impacted by higher interest rates. Home resale prices rose 8.6% in June of 2022, compared with June a year ago. Meanwhile, market times have dropped 33.7% to 51 days during that same time period.

In June, median sale prices in all four surveyed neighborhoods rose, compared with June a year ago, according to Baird & Warner:

• Near North: Over-all me-

Crystal-ball gazing

"COVID, inflation, the stock market, interest rates, supply chain issues, rising crime, and city financial issues are just some of the variables both buyers and sellers are trying to analyze before getting into the market," Irwin noted.

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

Governor spends \$12M Rebuild Illinois funds before election

Program provides cash to renovate aging affordable housing stock

On Friday, Gov. JB Pritzker and the Illinois Housing Development Authority [IHDA] Board announced they were handing out taxpayer-funded awards totaling

nearly \$12 million in Rebuild Illinois funding to 27 affordable housing developments throughout Illinois, 16 of which are in Chicago.

Program provides taxpayer-funded grants of up to \$475,000 to affordable housing developments for property stabilization, rehabilitation and/or improvements, that the governor wants credit for. As a condition of receiving Preservation Program funding, all property owners are required to extend their current use and income restrictions for an additional 10 years beyond their current expiration date to ensure these rehabilitated units remain affordable.

The funds are supposed to preserve the long-term stability of affordable rental housing for the benefit of very low-income or low-income households across the state.

But four of the properties are located in wealthy North Side communities. They are Over The Rainbow Unit I, 754 W. Belden, (\$474,991); Pat Crowley House, 1537 W. Rosemont Ave., (\$472,543); Fountain View Apartments, 4739-4745 N. Lincoln Ave., (\$473,550), and 4700 Beacon Apartments, 4700 N. Beacon St., (\$474,152).

To that end, the IHDA created this program to provide taxpayer funds to developments that claim to offer affordable rental units. It was funded through a portion of the \$200 million appropriation to IHDA in the Rebuild Illinois capital plan.

Statewide, more than 1,400 rental units will be getting that \$12 million taxpayer cash.

According to Gov. Pritzker, "In Illinois, affordable housing is a right—not a privilege."

Created in Jan. 2022, during an election year, the Preservation

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Maps of inequality: From redlining to urban decay and the Black exodus

A new Cook County Treasurer's Office study details how federal government-sanctioned housing discrimination from the 1940s brought about urban decay and the ensuing exodus of Blacks from Chicago and other major U.S. cities.

"Redlining" was the practice of denying home loans in minority neighborhoods that were branded a financial risk. It was a designation that found home in many neighborhoods across Chicago-land.

A study just released by Cook County Treasurer's Maria Pappas' Office shows how redlining led to today's urban decay and the Black exodus from many cities including Chicago.

Today, those homes in redlined areas are three times more likely to be vacant or abandoned. These neighborhoods continue to suffer from high crime rates and population loss.

Systemic discrimination via redlining had pernicious and damaging effects. Without bank loans and insurance, redlined areas lacked the capital essential for investment and redevelopment. As a result, after World War II, suburban areas received preference for residential investment at the expense of poor and minority neighborhoods in Chicago. The relative lack of investment in new housing, rehabilitation, and home improvement contributed significantly to the decline of older urban neighborhoods and compounded Chicago's decline in relation to its suburbs.

In the 1930s, the New Deal's Home Owners' Loan Corporation [HOLC] instituted a redlining policy by developing color-coded maps of American cities that used racial criteria to categorize lending and insurance risks.

New, affluent, racially homogeneous housing areas received greenlines, while Black and poor white neighborhoods were often circumscribed by redlines, due to their 'undesirability.' Banks and insurers soon adopted the HOLC's maps and practices to guide lending and underwriting decisions. Further, the Federal Housing Administration, created in 1934, also used the HOLC's methods to assess locations for federally insured new housing construction.

Pappas' study found that vast tracks of vacant and abandoned properties in Chicago, Detroit and Philadelphia lie in areas where the U.S. government warned against mortgage lending. That government-sanctioned redlining — denying loans to homeowners in minority areas because they were deemed a financial risk — thwarted generations of Blacks from obtaining generational wealth through home ownership.

Redlining, combined with racist housing covenants that locked Blacks and other minorities out of white neighborhoods that were not redlined, led to predatory contract sales that came with ex-

cessive interest rates, bigger down payments and no equity until the entire loan was paid off.

In contrast, homes in areas that weren't redlined, but instead greenlined, are 60% less likely to be vacant or abandoned.

Subprime mortgages later replaced contract sales and often ended in default and investment loss.

Housing discrimination persists to this day in several forms, including sparse lending in minority communities, below-value real estate appraisals and regressive property taxation. As a result, hundreds of thousands of Blacks in recent decades have fled a number of cities, including Chicago, where in the last 40 years, the Black population has plunged by nearly 400,000.

Indeed a WBEZ report in 2020 showed that modern-day redlining is still happening in Chicago. There are 90% more Black Chicagoans nowadays in redlined communities compared to the surrounding area.

Housing discrimination also has affected the county's Latino residents. More than 6,000 mostly

vacant and abandoned properties offered at the Cook County 2022 Scavenger Sale — designed to return distressed properties to productive use — are in areas with majority Latino populations or majority-minority areas with significant Latino populations.

This study is the latest in a series of studies by Treasurer Pappas' office that looks at inequities and inefficiencies in the property

Housing discrimination persists to this day in several forms, including sparse lending in minority communities, below-value real estate appraisals and regressive property taxation. As a result, hundreds of thousands of Blacks in recent decades have fled a number of cities, including Chicago, where in the last 40 years, the Black population has plunged by nearly 400,000.

tax system.

Key findings include:

- The overwhelming majority of vacant and abandoned properties that plague Chicago's South and West sides, as well as many south suburbs and west suburban Maywood, were either redlined — deemed hazardous for lending — or drawn in yellow, meaning they were at risk of falling into the red category.

- Similar discriminatory patterns existed in Detroit and Philadelphia, two other major cities that struggle with urban decay and the departure of Black residents.

- Vacant and abandoned properties in the Chicago area fall almost exclusively in areas where majority Black, majority Latino or majority-minority populations are declining.

- So many homes and busi-

nesses are vacant and abandoned in some south suburbs that those towns collect a fraction of the property taxes needed to provide basic government services. That drives up tax rates on the remaining property owners to some of the highest in the nation and, in turn, drives up the cost of owning a home or business.

- The Cook County Scavenger Sale, a decades-old program

meant to put distressed properties back to productive use — in combination with efforts by Chicago and the Cook County Land Bank Authority — has been insufficient to address the complexities of urban decay.

These findings were based on a review of data, maps and scholarly research from across the nation. The study features interactive maps, data and a review of research on the topics of housing discrimination, and vacant and abandoned properties.

The Treasurer's Office makes several recommendations, including replacement of the Scavenger Sale with a fairer, more effective system of restoring distressed properties to productive use, as well as the creation of a database that contains an exhaustive inventory of the Chicago area's vacant land and abandoned properties. The database could be used by governments, developers and non-profit agencies working together to rehabilitate struggling neighborhoods.

Chicago has one of nation's highest foreclosure rates

BY RACHEL HERZOG
TheRealDeal.com

Chicago had one of the nation's highest foreclosure rates in the first half of 2022 as the end of moratoriums pushed the numbers back toward pre-pandemic levels.

Some 0.30% of the city's housing units had foreclosure filings, compared with the national rate of 0.12%, according to a midyear report from Attom Data Solutions that analyzed more than 200 major metro areas.

Cleveland, OH, topped the list with a foreclosure rate of 0.4%,

and Atlantic City, New Jersey, and Jacksonville, North Carolina, were close behind with 0.33% and 0.31% respectively.

The report found that there were a total of 164,581 properties with foreclosure findings in the U.S. in the first six months of the year, up 153% from the same time period last year and down just one percent from the same time period in 2020.

The data represents a slow, steady climb of foreclosures back to pre-pandemic levels, Rick Sharga, executive vice president

of market intelligence at Attom, said in a statement.

"While overall foreclosure activity is still running significantly below historic averages, the dramatic increase in foreclosure starts suggests that we may be back to normal levels by sometime in early 2023," he said.

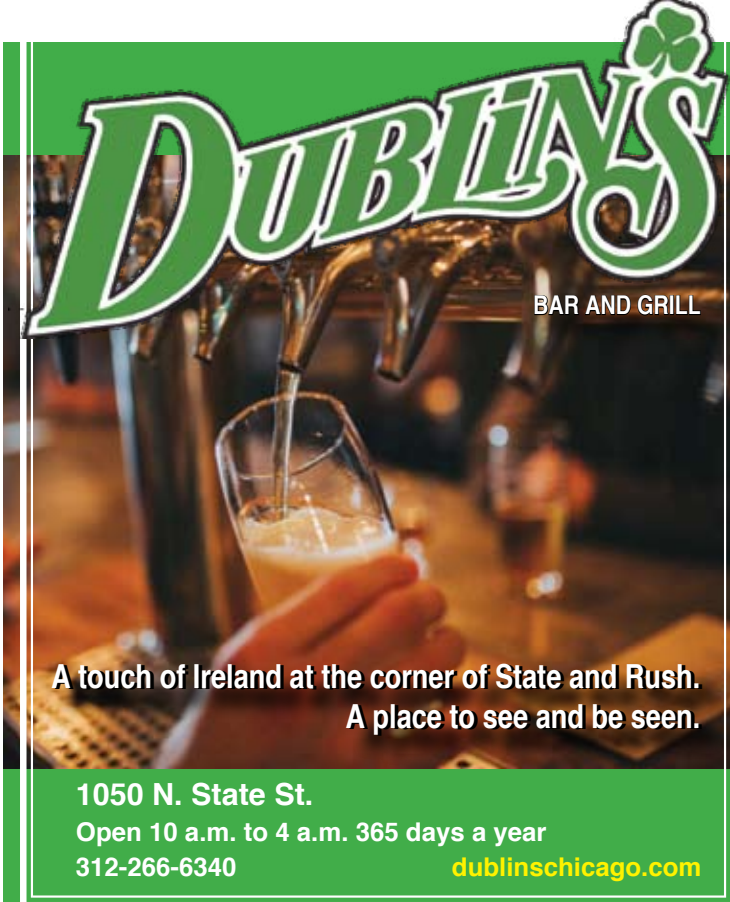
Much of the foreclosures were on loans that were already in foreclosure or were more than 120 days delinquent before the pandemic.

"Many of these loans were protected by the government's

foreclosure moratorium, or they would have already been foreclosed on two years ago," he said. "There's very little delinquency or default activity that's truly new in the numbers we're tracking," he said.

Just seven of the 223 metro areas analyzed bucked the trend.

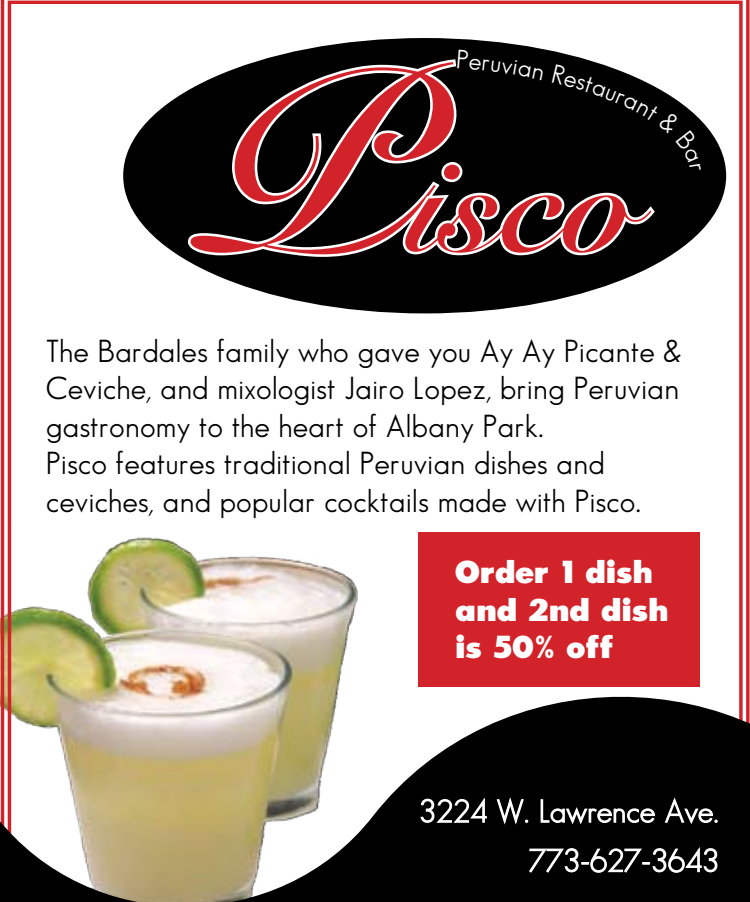
By state, Illinois had the highest foreclosure rate, at more than a quarter of a percent of housing units. Close behind were New Jersey, at 0.24%, Ohio at 0.21%, Delaware at 0.2% and South Carolina at 0.19%.



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Police Beat...

Woman slashed during robbery aboard Red Line CTA train in the Loop

Two robbers took a woman's purse and slashed her friend's hand with a knife while riding a Red Line train in the Loop July 18, Chicago police said. No arrests have been made.

The offenders, described as males with "youthful appearances" in a CPD media statement, approached the victims on a train near the Monroe station, 26 S. State, around 2:15 a.m., according to a CPD media statement.

Police said one of the robbers displayed a knife and took a 21-year-old woman's purse by force. The armed man then approached the second woman, age 22, and cut her on her right hand during a struggle, police said. Both robbers ran from the train at Monroe.

EMS treated the women at the scene.

According to officers who spoke with the victims, the robbers were two Black males wearing ski masks and all black clothing. The suspects were last seen on the platform walking toward Adams St.

Monday's incident is at least the second knife attack on the downtown train in 48 hours.

At 4:39 a.m. Saturday, an assailant stabbed a 40-year-old man in the back during an altercation at the Roosevelt station, police said. The offender, described by police only as a male, fled the scene. EMS took the victim to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in fair condition.

Man who robbed two at gunpoint in Wrigleyville was on bail for a gun case

A 26-year-old man is charged with helping a juvenile rob two men at gunpoint in Wrigleyville July 15. Damichael Bishop of Indianapolis already has a felony gun case pending



Damichael Bishop

in suburban Cook County. Now, he's charged with armed robbery. The victims, ages 21 and 22, were walking westbound on Newport just east of Clark St. around 2:58 a.m. when Bishop confronted them with a handgun and demanded their property, prosecutors said. Two accomplices, including a 17-year-old boy who was charged with robbery on Friday, approached the victims from behind and rifled their pockets.

Suddenly, one of the victims screamed for a passerby to call 911 because they were being robbed. The group fled with the victims' cash, credit cards, IDs, and jewelry. Prosecutors said surveillance cam-

eras recorded the robbery.

Chicago police arrested Bishop and the 17-year-old near the Addison Red Line CTA station and recovered a firearm nearby, officials said. Bishop allegedly admitted to participating in the robbery. The third suspect got away.

Bishop's public defender said he lives in Indianapolis and has two children.

Judge Kelly McCarthy set bail at \$150,000, which means Bishop must post \$15,000 to get out of jail on the robbery charge. She also ordered Bishop to be held without bail for violating his bond in the ongoing gun case.

The 17-year-old boy was charged on Friday with two counts of felony armed robbery with a firearm and felony possession of a stolen firearm. He was also cited for possessing a replica handgun.

An armed crew committed nine armed robberies and hijackings in about 70 minutes

A group of armed young men committed at least nine robberies and carjackings in about 70 minutes July 16, taking cars and then dumping them as they committed more crimes across Chicago and back. No arrests have been made.

The crime wave began around 6:30 a.m. with two robberies in Little Village. The crew took an Uber driver's car with a sign on the roof similar to advertising displays on taxi cabs. Then, the crew headed to the West Loop, where a man reported that a team of about four teenagers in a car that appeared to be a taxicab tried to hijack his vehicle in the 100 block of N. Morgan around 6:40 a.m. The attempt failed.

About 15 minutes later, a driver noticed a group of young men following him in a car with a sign on its roof. When they reached the 1200 block of N. Greenview, three offenders stepped out of the car with guns and tried to hijack him, the man reported. He said the gunmen chased him with their weapons drawn as he reversed down the street and escaped.

Future victims would not manage to get away:

Three males armed with guns took a newspaper delivery driver's red Jeep in the 3400 block of N. Hamilton in North Center at 7:20 a.m. They abandoned the Uber driver's car taken in Little Village at the scene.

Moments later, three or four men exited a red Jeep and attempted to carjack a woman in the 900 block of W. Newport in Boystown. The crew took the woman's wallet, phone, and keys but left her car at the scene.

The crew traveled only two blocks to the 800 block of W. Buckingham for their next heist, according to police. There, they displayed guns and took a man's Toyota Corolla at gunpoint. They left the stolen Jeep behind with the engine running.

The hijackers bailed out of the Toyota in the 2500 block of N. Orchard in Lincoln Park at 7:33 a.m. and quickly carjacked a man of his maroon 2009 Nissan Murano, according to a CPD report.

According to CPD, they drove it to Wicker Park and robbed a man at gunpoint in the 1600 block of N.

Marshfield around 7:36 a.m. Officers at the scene said the offenders were last seen heading west in the stolen Murano.

On Saturday afternoon, Chicago police issued a community alert about the crime spree, stating that the suspects were three or four Black males between the ages of 18 and 25, dressed in dark clothing and wearing ski masks.

However, several victims stated that the robbers appeared to be very young, possibly under the age of 15. According to witnesses, at least three of the robbers were armed.

Anyone with information about the crimes can call detectives at 312-744-8263 about crime pattern P22-CWP-016.

Man gets probation for falsely reporting a gunman on North Side college campuses

A Lincoln Park man who allegedly made a series of false 911 calls about armed men on a North Side college campus has been sentenced to probation.

Michael Gallo, 54, pleaded guilty to two counts of felony false report in exchange for the 18-month probation term, according to court records. Judge Catherine Haberkorn handed down the sentence on July 7.



Michael Gallo

Gallo was accused of falsely reporting armed men on the Chamberlain Univ. and neighboring DeVry campuses in Nov. 2019. Police received similar calls on different days that month. The caller allegedly gave police dispatchers a license plate for the non-existent gunman. Prosecutors said the plate belonged to one of Gallo's neighbors who worked on campus.

The schools' campuses went on lockdown for each reported incident.

According to court records, after prosecutors charged Gallo with two felony counts of filing a false report, he filed additional false police reports against the same neighbor.

On Nov. 13, 2019, Gallo allegedly told police that his neighbor threatened him with a handgun in the 800 block of W. Willow. According to prosecutors, he later filed false reports of criminal damage to property against the neighbor.

Two weeks after police arrested Gallo for the school campus incidents, they arrested him again for the second set of allegedly false reports. They took him into custody at the Near North 18th District station after he walked in and tried to file yet another report against his neighbor, according to CPD records.

Man who allegedly tried to take control of a Blue Line train gets charged with a misdemeanor

A man who allegedly tried to take control of a CTA Blue Line train in the middle of its run on July 8 is only charged with a misdemeanor, according to court records. The accused man, Forrest Dix, 30, was released from prison on a felony gun case in February, but the state will not be reconsidering his parole status, despite the allegations, a prosecutor said.

Dix climbed through the CTA operator's window when the train stopped at the Cicero station around 7:36 p.m. on Friday, according to statements from police and prosecutors.

The train operator locked himself in the cabin with Dix, turned off the power, and asked Dix to leave, a prosecutor said during Dix's bail hearing. He is charged with misdemeanor criminal trespass to a vehicle with physical control.



Drivers did donuts for 30 minutes in downtown intersection

A car, surrounded by spectators, does donuts in the intersection of Clinton and Monroe on July 17.

A crowd of about 300 people closed a downtown intersection overnight as tricked-out cars spun donuts in the street for more than 30 minutes before Chicago police could muster up enough units to address the problem.

After police dispersed the crowd, some attendees relocated to another

popular car meet-up spot, the Whole Foods garage at 1101 S. Canal. Cops appeared to be prepared for them. CPD officers blocked the garage exits, trapping a few cars whose drivers were cited.

One man was arrested for tossing fireworks toward officers.

But prosecutors provided few details about what happened, and Judge Mary Marubio wanted to know more.

"I just wanna scratch the surface a little here, because it's not every day we see this," Marubio said after hearing the state's meager presentation. Apparently reading from other court records, Marubio continued: "It was a stationary train. He entered through a window and attempted to operate it."

"Do we have any statements made as to what his intentions may have been?" Marubio asked. The prosecutor said he did not have any information about possible intentions.

"Here's my concern," said Marubio. "Safety of CTA. It impacts a lot of people, not just the riders ... This is a public accommodation, and the security of it is of paramount importance to the functioning of our city."

"I don't have a lot of information about his intentions, but I do note that when the conductor was able to thwart his desire to drive [the train], he left," the judge continued.

Marubio held Dix in lieu of \$10,000 bail, meaning he must post \$1,000 to get out of jail. Another judge will review the bond amount on Tuesday, July 12.

Dix's public defender said he did not cooperate with their efforts to gather information before the hearing.

Chicago police found Dix about a block from the station and took him into custody.

On July 9, Chicago police dispatchers repeatedly tried to find officers to respond to calls of a man intruding on a CTA train operator cabin, but no cops were available to handle the call for 15 minutes.

Street gang member sentenced to 35 years in prison for racketeering conspiracy

A member of a violent Chicago street gang has been sentenced to more than 35 years in federal prison for engaging in a pattern of racketeering activity that included multiple murders, armed robberies, drug trafficking, and extortion.

Tremayne Thompson, 38, pleaded guilty last year to a racketeering conspiracy charge.

Thompson admitted in a plea agreement that he conspired with leadership of the Four Corner Hustlers street gang to engage in a pattern of racketeering activity that included using violence and intimidation to

protect the gang's drug dealing activities, primarily on the West Side of Chicago. Thompson admitted participating in the April 2003 murders of George King and Willie Woods. Thompson stated in his plea agreement that he shot the victims after receiving instructions to do so from a leader of the Four Corner Hustlers. In addition to the murders, Thompson sold heroin and crack cocaine and committed multiple armed robberies to further the gang's interests.

U.S. District Judge Thomas M. Durkin imposed the 427-month prison sentence after a hearing on July 6, 2022, in federal court in Chicago.

The sentence was announced by John R. Lausch, Jr., United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois. Assistance was provided by the Chicago FBI's Safe Street Task Force, the Chicago High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force, ATF's Chicago Crime Gun Strike Force, and the Chicago Police Gang Investigations Division. Additional assistance was provided by the Illinois Secretary of State Police Dept., U.S. Bureau of Prisons, Illinois Dept. of Corrections, and Illinois State Police.

The investigation was led by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, which identifies, disrupts, and dismantles drug traffickers, money launderers, and other criminal offenders that threaten the United States by using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach that leverages the strengths of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies against criminal networks.

"For nearly two decades, Tremayne Thompson terrorized the West Side of Chicago as a member and enforcer for the Four Corner Hustlers street gang," Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kavitha J. Babu and William Dunne argued in the government's sentencing memorandum. "The defendant, along with other members of the gang, peddled heroin and crack cocaine, robbed people at gunpoint, extorted others, and murdered men as they stood on city sidewalks. Every year the defendant is incapacitated is a year that the people who live on the West Side of Chicago are safer."

Thompson was indicted on the racketeering charge in 2017 along with eight other alleged members of the Four Corners Hustlers and two additional defendants. Seven co-defendants pleaded guilty and one went to trial and was convicted. Thompson is the fourth defendant to be sentenced.

POLICE BEAT see p. 9

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New gun charge filed against man who went viral after being pinned by jiu-jitsu instructor in Uptown

BY CWBCHICAGO

Remember Christopher Cruz, the thug who went viral last month when a Chicago jiu-jitsu instructor pinned him to the floor of an Uptown 7-Eleven after he allegedly battered a store clerk? Well, his legal troubles have escalated.

Prosecutors last week charged him with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Cruz, 30, was taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center over the weekend for treatment of a medical condition, prosecutors said. While inventorying his property, a hospital worker allegedly discovered an unloaded firearm in his backpack. According to prosecutors, the gun had been reported stolen.

Judge Charles Beach held Cruz on \$10,000 bail for the gun charge. But Cruz is also now being held without bail for violating the



Christopher Cruz

terms of bond in a pending stolen motor vehicle case. Additionally, Beach set bail at \$10,000 for violating bail terms in the 7-Eleven battery case. Bail in the battery case has since been increased to \$25,000, according to sheriff's office records.

Prosecutors said on Monday that Cruz was convicted in 2009

of aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, which resulted in a one-year sentence.

Cruz is a father of two, according to Assistant Public Defender Suzin Farber, and he works full-time for a cleaning service.

Back on June 17, third-degree black belt jiu-jitsu instructor Idriz Redzovic pinned Cruz to the

floor of the 7-Eleven store at 1532 W. Lawrence after Cruz allegedly struck the cashier.

"He assaulted a 7-Eleven employee, so I jumped in and took him to the ground and did a gift wrap hold, which is taught in the art of Jiu-Jitsu," Redzovic explains. He teaches the martial art at Supreme Jiu-Jitsu Chicago.

For more than 13 minutes, Redzovic effortlessly contained Cruz while waiting for Chicago police to arrive at the store. The task was so easy, Redzovic even propped his phone up to livestream everything.

According to a CPD spokesperson, Cruz stole food from the store around 8 p.m. and then came back a little while later. A store clerk told him to leave.

"The offender took a fighting stance," a CPD spokesperson said optimistically, "at which time the employee informed the offender

that if he did not leave the police would be called."

"The offender then punched the employee/victim and a witness detained the offender until police arrived," the spokesperson continued.

Things got tense about six minutes after Redzovic's phone started recording. Cruz bucked around and tossed some obscenities. He calmed down eventually and declared a pressing need for a cigarette.

When cops finally arrived, Redzovic eased off of Cruz's back as two cops moved in with handcuffs.

"What's going on?" another cop asked upon entering the store.

"I know Jiu-Jitsu," Redzovic replied, "so..."

Cruz was charged with misdemeanor retail theft and misdemeanor battery in that case.

Major crime reports hit five-year highs across Chicago's lakefront neighborhoods, city data shows

BY CWBCHICAGO

With half of 2022 gone, Chicago has a 14% decline in murders compared to last year and a 13% decline compared to 2020. But murder cases are still 29% higher than in 2019 and 20% higher than in 2018. That's according to the Chicago Police Dept.'s latest statistics, called CompStat.

And that concludes the good news.

Across the city, the seven major crime categories, called "index crimes," are at their highest levels since at least 2018, which is as far back as the reports go.

The real story, however, is found in the neighborhoods. Index crime in all five police districts lining the lakefront from 31st St. to the north city limits is at a five-year high. All but one are up 10% or more compared to 2018. Most are up 20% or more. Inland districts aren't faring much better.

"When you got up today did you feel less safe than you did last year at this time?" asked Pat O'Brien, the former judge, prosecutor, and defense attorney who lost a campaign to unseat Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx in 2020. "If you answered yes, then it is not your imagination or paranoia."

"New York Mayor Eric Adams and New Yorkers are having the same problem," O'Brien noted. "Mayor Adams lays blame on the 'soft on crime' approach of progressive prosecutors who 'treat criminals like victims.'"

The city's own numbers tell the tale: When CPD brass and politicians tell you their crime-fighting strategies are working, it's pure codswallop.

Loop, South Loop, surges

Index crime is up 25% from 2018 in the Central 1st District, which patrols the Loop, South Loop, the north end of Bronzeville, and the

adjacent lakefront.

Year-over-year, crime in the district is up a whopping 110%.

A stunning increase in shootings in the Loop is added to downtown's troubles. As of July 11, 22 people have been shot in the Loop community area this year. There were 14 shooting victims at this point last year, seven as of this date in 2020, and four for the entire year of 2019. There were seven victims as of July 11, 2018.

Near North Side

Just north of the Loop, CPD's Near North 18th District stretches from Streeterville and River North through Old Town and Lincoln Park to Fullerton Ave. Index

crime there is up 4% compared to 2018 and 71% compared to last year.

"When you got up today did you feel less safe than you did last year at this time?" asked Pat O'Brien, the former judge, prosecutor, and defense attorney who lost a campaign to unseat Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx in 2020. "If you answered yes, then it is not your imagination or paranoia."

Robberies in the area declined during the COVID era when offices and hotels were all but vacated due to COVID. But muggings are on the way back up.

Then there are the shootings. So far this year, 20 people have been shot in the River North neighborhood, up from eight at this point last year and four as

of July 10, 2020. The Near North community area, which includes River North, has seen 45 shooting victims so far, up from 18 at this point last year and 17 during the period in 2020.

Sky-high in Town Hall

From Fullerton to Lawrence and the Chicago River to the lake, the Town

Hall 19th District's index crime is up an eye-popping 20% compared to 2018 and 70% compared to last year.

Worse, robberies are up 27% compared to 2018, aggravated batteries are up 26%, and murders, while low in comparison to many parts of the city,

are up 133%.

Crime isn't sinkin' in Lincoln

Heading north, the Lincoln 20th District patrols the northern end of Uptown, Andersonville, and much of Edgewater and Lincoln Square.

Index crime there is up 45% from last year and 10% from 2018. The primary drivers are property crimes like theft and motor vehicle theft.

Double digits in Rogers Park

North of Peterson, the Rogers Park 24th District is seeing double-digit index crime increases compared to all recent years — up 40% over last year and 23% versus 2018.

Robberies, aggravated batteries, and criminal sexual assaults are at or near five-year highs.

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The O'Neill Women....Julie, Rose, Margaret and Maddie.



Kipper and Bud Hendricks.



Vito and Blasé Foria.



Rollo



Betty Ward



Tracey and Joey Tarantino DiBuono.



Ken and Mary Claire Scorsone Moll.

WANTED from p. 2

Church for 57 years, Kent served as pastor or interim pastor of 18 churches, nine of them in Chicagoland. He was also Executive Presbyterian of the Presbytery of Western Reserve, and Associate Executive of Miami Presbytery. Kent was a transformational leader and strategic problem solver. An activist for racial and economic justice, he was passionate about the church, sports, music, and politics. Renewed by nature, he was an avid reader and traveled to 40 countries with his beloved wife of 37 years, Victoria Curtiss.

MENU ITEM: Betty Ward is a vet with 43 years serving ribs at Twin Anchors in Old Town. Always full of warmth, with smiles for everyone. Stop in, and ask for extra sauce.

APPROACH THE BENCH: Hon. Philip Sheridan is a Cook County Circuit Court Judge, retired. Back in the 1950, his dad, **Paul Sheridan**, was the powerful alderman of the 16th Ward. The Southside. Visitation Parish. But Phil was the brightest of sons. A Notre Dame graduate. Elegant. Well-mannered. Virtues he held close all his life. He made a fine legal career after law school.

A trusted jurist in the age of mischief. A pro for whom honor was all. A St. Ignatius Prep dad from Beverly. Well-liked. Hu-

mour-filled. But first and foremost he was a nextdoor neighbor on Peoria St. A college lad to look up to. Especially when his parent carted me up to Long Beach, IN, to splash and swim as a young boy. I'm thinking of his parents, **Paul and Verna**. And aunt **Alice Formless**. Like Judge Sheridan, all woven deeply into the joy of memory by countless acts of boyhood friendship. His death at 90 brings a vibrant life to its fullness.

A BIRTHDAY BASH: No one should be surprised that **Sherry Lea Fox** was honored by the beauty brigade with birthday joy at Knollwood Country Club. So many made the journey to Lake Forest. **Sherrill Bodine, Sheree Schwimmer, Kathleen Haines Finley, Liz Teasley, JoAnn Fakhouri, Myra Reilly, Heather O'Hara, Patricia Maxwell, Ann McAveaney, and Lori Rozdalsky.**

TAYLOR STREET ROYALS: Little Italy restaurateur, **Joe DiBuono** and wife, fashion designer **Tracey Tarantino DiBuono**, are caught up in the details of remembering the love that swept them up 40 years ago, before children and grandchildren altered life forever. The popular couple are hosts to countless diners in their top class Italian eatery. Life is abundant wherever pasta is served, fashion is accessed and golf balls are sailing on a green.

Congratulations **Joey and Tracey**. **SUMMER GREEN:** Milwaukee Irish Fest, Aug. 18-21, is a four-day festival of music and culture now in its 41st years. COVID forced a two-year hiatus. But it's back in 2022 with a roar. A Blarney Bang 90 minutes away at Henry Maier Festival Park.

THE BLISS: Kipper and Bud Hendricks at the WAC for their fourth wedding anniversary where they dine on their recreated wedding supper. It's too romantic.

BON VOYAGE: Rollo, the English purebred beloved by our family died suddenly. My niece, **Erin**, and her husband, **Adam**, are heartbroken. They made a sweet home for her and her loss is pure heartache.

WHO'S WHERE: **Chris and Sheila Kennedy** in Hyannis Port, MA, gathering the clan... **Ken and Mary Claire Scorsone Moll** in Corfu, Kerkia, Greece... **Jim and Ann McNulty** visiting a pile of grandkids in Kennebunkport, ME... Ret. Judge **Dave and Eileen Murphy Donnersberger** on their way north in Scandinavia, even the Arctic Circle... **Desiree Glapion Rogers** still in Capri... not far from **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus**... **Eamonn Cummins** entertaining the lads at Chicago Cuts... **Taylor Fox** having a birthday in CA with mom, **Sherry Lea Fox**... Streeterville crowd out in full force celebrating the founders' vision of Captain Streeter... **Todd S. Davis** appears to be healing his leg injury, now on a walker... **Dr. Joaquin and Jennifer Sutton Brieva** celebrating a wedding anniversary... **Jim Kinney** visiting England's poetic Lake Dis-

trict before heading to Ireland... Bondgirl **Dianne O'Connell** and Gibson's **Peggy Lombardo** lunching at Topo Gigio's in Old Town... **Jane Justic** with her **Justic Boys** at Abbey Springs Resort in Fontana, WI... Old Town honorary mayor, **Shelley Howard** with **Chase Garrett** for sushi Saturday at Kamehachi... **Nikki Friar** keeping the warmth aglow at Gibson's Italia for shindig for birthday girl **Kathy O'Malley**



Arny Granat, Irene Michaels and Shelley Howard.

to hear that the Flowing Tide Pub, a legendary and popular Dublin watering hole is closing.

CANTY MEMORIAL: The memorial for my aunt, **Anne O'Gorman Canty**, at Throop Studio, gave American family and friends the chance to swaddle her in Irish poetry and song, a suitable tribute to her lyrical life. The family was well-spoken and still gripped by an ancient mourning two months after her death in Ireland. Tears and great vittles abounded.

GOLDEN: Fifty years for the music giant Jam Productions. Friends and production pioneers gathered to toast the remarkable groundbreaking enterprise. Jam changed the music world for many. **Jerry Mickelson, Arny Granat, Irene Michaels, Shelley Howard, Joe Shannahan and Jerry Kliner** were all on hand with memories and historic stories of the music business in Chicago back in the day.

Piccone... Longtime Kiki's stalwart, **Mark Kolassa** at Montrose Point Bird sanctuary, now a volunteer steward. Lucky birds... **Liz Hoffman** and **Roslyn** doing an early birthday thing at the Peninsula's Shanghai Terrace... **Vito** the barber is back from Sicily and **Blasé Foria** got a trim... **Jeffrey and Stephanie Leese Emrich** hosting dinner at **Amy Morton's** Barn in Evanston... Broadway's gentleman **Richard Robin** sharing birthdays with American painter **David Cook**, and British painter **David Hockney**... Auction house pro **John Waldorf** gaveling down the pink bargains at the Barbie's 80th birthday auction... Star rugby man, **Rex Dunleavy**, just turning 12 and looking ahead to a summer of sport... sad

WOMEN OF THE CLAN: Rose O'Neill gathered for a Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill dinner that included sister in law, **Julie O'Neill**, and niece **Margaret O'Neill Marbury**, a New York publishing chief, and grandniece **Maddie Marbury**.

Tolerant, but not stupid! Look, just because you have to tolerate something doesn't mean you have to approve of it! ..."Tolerate" means you're just putting up with it! You tolerate a crying child sitting next to you on the airplane or, or you tolerate a bad cold. It can still piss you off!

-- Mr. Garrison, South Park

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Former directors of The Newberry Consort to receive Lifetime Achievement Award

The Newberry Consort has announced that Early Music America [EMA] is presenting the 2022 Howard Mayer Brown Award for lifetime achievement in early music to Ellen Hargis and David Douglass, the Rogers Park husband-and-wife team who stepped down recently after many years of serving as The Consort's artistic directors.

Douglass began performing with The Consort when it was founded in 1986, and he assumed the role of artistic director in 2007, when it became independent of the Newberry Library.

Hargis, a soprano who is well-known in the early music world, joined Douglass as co-artistic director in 2009.

Over their tenure as artistic directors, they performed rarely heard music from the medieval era to the Renaissance and beyond. Over the years, EMA claims their programs have been well-received, inspiring, innovative, and meticulously researched, as well as historically informed.

Under their stewardship, The Consort attained a national reputation for exceptional artistry.

Hargis and Douglass retired from their role as artistic directors at the end of the 2022 season, passing the mantle off to Liza Malamut, a trombonist and an early music scholar, who will assume the role of artistic director of The Consort beginning in the 2022-2023 season.

"Ellen Hargis and David Doug-

lass together upheld, sustained, and magnified one of the greatest early music ensembles in the world," said Malamut. "They broke ground in early music performance and research, producing numerous recordings and multidisciplinary shows. They discovered music that no one else had ever seen and brought it to life, making it not only beautiful, but accessible."

Hargis and Douglass said they are both grateful to EMA for recognizing the contributions they have made to the early music field. "We are humbled to receive this award from EMA and are grateful to the community of scholars and musicians who made our careers in early music so rewarding. Little did we know when we met in Lyle Nordstrom's collegium musicum in 1973 that we would see all our dreams come true: collaborating with amazing colleagues all over the globe and having the opportunity to create, perform, and record our dream projects, now for more than 40 years."

"For the last 15 years we had the joy of co-directing, which was our primary focus until our retirement from the ensemble in 2022," they said in a prepared statement thanking the EMA. "We have been fortunate to be teachers and mentors of many talented and dedicated young artists who are already new leaders in the field."

In the mid-1980s, Douglass began performing with The Newberry Consort, as well as the Mu-



David Douglass and Ellen Hargis.

sicians of Swanee Alley, a group of Renaissance musicians that focused on music from Elizabethan England.

As a violinist, Douglass became interested in how the violin and its cousins (including the viola and the violoncello) were performed during the Renaissance, which were often played by professionals and taught to apprentices without the technique being written down.

Douglass' research into 16th and 17th century dance and consort music led to him found the King's Noyse, a leading North American Renaissance-style violin ensemble, in the 1990s. He created the group's repertory by arranging tunes found in dancing manuals of the time and encouraged the musicians to play in the style of Renaissance fiddlers, who improvised their music while one instrument kept a rhythm on a bass line, similar to how modern

jazz musicians play.

He also incorporated that same style in many performances and continued to delve into research about music from the Medieval to the Baroque periods.

Hargis specializes in 17th- and 18th-century music, ranging from ballads to opera and oratorio. One of Hargis's most important accomplishments was digging into a set of choir books housed at Newberry Library that were originally from the Convento De La Encarnacion, which existed in Mexico City from the late 16th century through the 19th century. Hargis researched the music, adapted it for modern musicians and then presented this music in several different concerts, including two that have been recorded as albums.

The Howard Mayer Brown Award is given out annually by the non-profit group EMA to honor an individual's lifetime achievement in the field of early music. The award is named in memory of the musicologist from the Univ. of Chicago, Howard Mayer Brown, who collected thousands of librettos, cantatas, plays, and microfilms of music from the 13th to the 19th century, which he donated to the Newberry Library upon his death in 1993. It was Brown who originally founded The Newberry Consort with an endowment that he made to the Newberry Library. "That's why this award is especially meaningful for us," Hargis said.



Monster Truck Mash July 23

A free Monster Truck Mash will be held 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 23, at Chicago Printmakers Collaborative [CPC], 4912 N. Western Ave.

The Mash is part of the Steamroller Printing Festival of Ink at the CPC, where guests will witness an industrial steamroller print large-scale woodcuts and gigantic relief blocks in a driveway.

There will also be food, live music, t-shirt printing, and kids activities.

Steamroller printing is essentially traditional woodblock relief printing, but on a massive scale. At the Mash, they'll be inking up carved woodblocks as large as 24 square feet. Once covered in ink, large bolts of fabric will be laid on top of the blocks, and then they'll run the whole thing over with an industrial steamroller. Think of it like a rubber stamp that you need 10 people, a whole driveway, and construction equipment to print.

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Wrigley Field renovations may have violated ADA

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois filed a federal civil lawsuit July 14 against the Chicago Cubs, alleging the team failed to ensure that recent additions and alterations at Wrigley Field were appropriately accessible to individuals with disabilities, including people who use wheelchairs, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The lawsuit alleges that the team's renovation, rehabilitation,

expansion, and reconstruction of Wrigley Field – a multi-year undertaking known as "the 1060 Project" – discriminated against individuals with disabilities.

To facilitate the changes made by the 1060 Project, the Cubs rebuilt a sizable portion of the pre-existing Wrigley Field facility, including demolishing and reconstructing the bleachers and tearing down most of the lower grandstand and rebuilding it. These extensive changes were subject

to the ADA's requirements for design, construction, and alterations, the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit alleges that throughout the 1060 Project, the Cubs failed to provide wheelchair users with adequate sightlines as compared to standing patrons or incorporate wheelchair seating into new premium clubs and group seating areas. In the general admission areas, the Cubs designed and constructed the wheelchair seating so that it is largely

clustered in the last row of seating sections – in violation of the requirements of the ADA Standards for Accessible Design – and failed to remove architectural barriers to access in unaltered portions of Wrigley Field where it was readily achievable to do so, the lawsuit states.

There has been no hint yet if the U.S. Attorney's Office will also soon charge the City of Chicago and Chicago Park District with similar violation for allowing homeless viaduct campers to block ADA access to Lincoln Park in Uptown.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

Waters School teacher pleads guilty to sexually assaulting a 14-year-old student

A former teacher at the Waters School in Lincoln Square will serve 16 years in prison after he pleaded guilty on July 7 to sexually assaulting a 14-year-old student between 2017 and 2019, and possessing child pornography.

He was sentenced by Judge Anjana

Hansen at the Skokie courthouse, where Gil admitted his guilt.

In 2019 prosecutors charged Jason Gil with felonies for sexually abusing a minor on at least two occasions. He also sent text messages to her referring to the sexual assaults. He also had 25 naked photos of the minor on his phone.

Prosecutors said Gil kissed the student in the school and asked her to send naked pictures of herself to him. He also engaged in "sexual activity" with the girl in his car and at her home

when parents weren't home, prosecutors said. He will be credited with three and a half years time served.

Gil has been free on electronic monitoring since 2020. He pleaded guilty to two counts of criminal sexual assault and two counts of solicitation of child pornography. Prosecutors said the convictions carry a combined sentence of 16 years.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE BUNGALOW SERIES IV TRUST; Plaintiff, vs.

Real Estate For Sale

SABRINA KOSTENKO-BROWNE; IRA BROWNE; 680 LAKE RESIDENCE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; 680 PRIVATE GARAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 21 CH 6054 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17-10-202-063-1129 AND 17-10-202-085-1052. Commonly known as 680 N. Lake Shore Drive, Apt 1309, Chicago, IL 60611. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection For information call Ms. Mary E. Spitz at Plaintiff's Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130. (440) 572-1512. ILF2106010 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13198465

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CONSUMERS COOPERATIVE CREDIT UNION A/K/A CONSUMERS CREDIT UNION; Plaintiff, vs. I G S GROUP OF COMPANY, AN ILLINOIS CORPORATION IFTEKHAR A. SHAREEF; NATIONAL BANKCARD CORPORATION; UNITED STATES SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION; LAKE POINT TOWER AKA LAKE POINT TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN TENANTS, OCCUPANTS AND LEASEHOLDS; Defendants, 21 CH 968 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as

Real Estate For Sale

set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17-10-214-022-0000 AND 17-10-214-035-0000. Commonly known as 505 North Lake Shore Drive, Unit 101, Chicago, IL 60611. The mortgaged real estate is improved with an office/retail space of approximately 5,300 square feet. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. David Lipschutz at Plaintiff's Attorney, Trunkett & Trunkett, P.C., 20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 324-3101. 56601 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13198063 131313

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs. STEVEN V. IVANKOVICH AKA STEVEN IVANKOVICH; JEANNETTE IVANKOVICH; ANTHONY D. IVANKOVICH, M.D.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 19 CH 14866 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-33-413-004-0000; 14-33-413-017-0000. Commonly known as 235 West Menomonee St & 234 W. Willow St., Chicago, Illinois 60614. The mortgaged real estate is improved with two single family residences. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g)-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The properties will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. F19120045 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com

Real Estate For Sale

13197554

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY AMERICAS, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCREDITED LOANS, INC, MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-QA3 Plaintiff, -v- SANJAY K. SUKHRAMANI, MERS AS NOMINEE FOR HOMECOMINGS, FINANCIAL, LLC (F/K/A HOMECOMINGS FINANCIAL NETWORK, INC), RIVER EAST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2020CH03907 512 N. MCCLURG COURT, UNIT 4201 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 September 13, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on August 1, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 512 N. MCCLURG COURT, UNIT 4201, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-223-033-1427 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$234,671.73. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admon-

Real Estate For Sale

ished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact Alexander Potestivo, POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610, Chicago, IL, 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to file number 312792. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610 Chicago IL, 60606 312-263-0003 E-Mail: hipleadings@potestivolaw.com Attorney File No. 312792 Attorney Code. 43932 Case Number: 2020CH03907 TJSC#: 41-1666 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2020CH03907 13197657 060606

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GIFTED from p. 1

ed to them to do this sweetheart deal. This gifted real estate and parking is literally worth millions of dollars over the 66-year span remaining on the lease.

While Martin claims his plan for the parking lot has widespread support from area residents, most of his supporters belong to a relatively small echo-chamber of his political supporters. Those who support giving the parking lot to TCB include members of groups co-founded by Martin (Heart of Lincoln Square / HOLS); or with whom he is closely connected (the Active Transportation Alliance).

Horst Siegel, a retired optician, and a longtime resident of Lincoln Square questioned an approval process which consisted of a series of tightly controlled virtual meetings where few questions were taken. Those in charge of the meetings decided which questions were asked and who was able to speak. Anyone who opposed TCB's plan was tarred as a NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard), or worse.

Last year, Lincoln Square residents and small business owners started a petition on Change.org titled "Save Lincoln Square's Small Businesses" which has, currently, gathered over 3,500 signatures in support of keeping the parking lot as an asset for neighborhood businesses and cultural institutions.

That opposition and those signatures do not seem to have been taken into consideration by the rookie alderman.

Yet, a Change.org petition started by political activist Dan Ronan, which supports the giveaway to TCB has only garnered 394 signatures to date. While that is only a fraction of those who signed the oppositions' petition, Ronan has direct access to

the mayor's office. In 2019, he served as her campaign's manager of operations.

Since late 2019, TCB officials have consistently said they expected that their company would be gifted the multi-million dollar public parking lot. TCB hopes to take over management of the parking spaces and had allocated the funding to finance construction of their new building.

A March 4 memo, written by Laura Reimers, Ald. Martin's Chief of Staff, was leaked to this newspaper from a source in City Hall. It states: "Our office received the detailed parking utilization data that we requested in early 2021. While frustrating that it took a year for LAZ to provide this data, the city's Dept. of Finance has informed us that this is the most detailed data request that LAZ has fulfilled in their memory. We hope this data can be used to help us have informed conversations about how much the parking lot is/isn't utilized. Because LAZ views this data as proprietary, I am not able to share the raw data, but in this email, I include materials that summarize important points."

"LAZ's more detailed hourly data does reinforce the point many small businesses have made: the parking tends to be well-utilized at certain peak business hours, but not well-utilized at other times. Using this data, we were also able to estimate what the utilization rate would have been if we adjusted parking lot capacity to DPD/DOH's proposal that includes 11 public parking spaces. This calculation assumes that the same number of cars would attempt to visit the smaller lot."

If TCB is indeed gifted the parking lot, City Hall will be forced to pay off the balance due for 66-years on the lease to make

whole LAZ's loss of that property. Alternatively, city officials could replace those lost parking spots with parking spots of equal value at another location.

Financing for this project includes federal low-income housing tax credits. Typically, TCB uses creative financing mechanisms and taxpayer funds to underwrite their projects, to minimize any risk to their

Financing for this project includes federal low-income housing tax credits. Typically, TCB uses creative financing mechanisms and taxpayer funds to underwrite their projects, to minimize any risk to their own capital. TCB is also now asking for financial support from the city's Tax Increment Financing Program through the Western Avenue North Tax Financing District (which expires in 2024).

own capital. TCB is also now asking for financial support from the city's Tax Increment Financing [TIF] Program through the Western Avenue North Tax Financing District (which expires in 2024).

When an area is declared a TIF district, the amount of property tax the area generates is set as a base Equalized Assessed Valuation amount. As the area's property values increase, all property tax growth above that amount is used to fund redevelopment projects. The increase, or increment, is often used to pay back the bonds that had been issued to pay the upfront costs.

When the project was first announced, TCB officials tried to ameliorate the public's concerns about losing a parking lot considered essential for the neighborhood's businesses by saying the spaces would eventually be replaced.

At a virtual public meeting hosted last year by the 47th Ward, Will Woodley, a TCB vice president, claimed only a few public parking spaces would be lost when the parking lot was replaced by their apartment building.

"[Our proposal] provides 40 public parking spaces to be preserved in the long run," Woodley said.

Last year, Woodley, who is not a registered lobbyist, exchanged emails with numerous city officials lobbying them over the possibility of having TCB taking over the operation of the parking spaces. These spots would provide his company with an additional source of income.

Last year, Woodley recognized the gifting of these public parking spaces to TCB would draw the ire of some within Mayor Lightfoot's administration.

"I'd be happy to explain our inclusion of business parking in this ETOD to anyone," wrote Woodley in an email to Deputy Mayor Samir Mayekar.

Based on Woodley's previous comment to Mayekar, it seems as if the city-owned parking lot has been causing a problem. Either someone within the mayoral administration does not want TCB to take over the operation of the parking lot, or perhaps, the inclusion of 36 public parking spaces has caused a problem among those with an anti-automobile agenda.

The first official local meeting that this newspaper has been able to verify, hosted by Ald. Martin about his desire to give away the city-owned lot to TCB was a secret meeting held in Fall of 2019 at American Legion Tattler Post 973, 4355 N. Western Ave.

It was a meeting held with members of HOLS, the political organization Martin co-founded, that positions and promotes itself as a community group.

During that meeting, HOLS went on record endorsing that project, before ever presenting it to any other residents in the Lincoln Square community, or any of the local businesses that utilize the parking lot.

Notes from that meeting were later leaked to this newspaper, by a meeting attendee, which was the first we had heard about the scheme.

Later, in notes released after a Freedom of Information request, we found a letter written by Paige Worthy, HOLS board president to Cmsr. Novara, that states:

"On Wednesday, Oct. 9, members of the HOLS Planning & Advocacy committee met with Will Woodley of TCB to learn about its proposed redevelopment of the city-owned parking lot at 4715 N. Lincoln Ave. into a mixed-use, mixed-income transit-oriented development. We are encouraged by TCB's proposed intent to provide apartments that will remain affordable to households earning a range of incomes, which we believe would fill a deeply felt need in our community. TCB has not requested HOLS' wholesale support for this project; rather, it has requested that HOLS offer its support for the project to be invited by the city to proceed to Stage Two. We offer that support wholeheartedly."

After nearly four years of fighting with 47th Ward residents and the business community, it looks like Martin is finally going to be able to get his way, and transfer the community's parking lot over to TCB for their own personal financial gain.

GOAT from p. 1

not announced the future fate of the Randolph St. space, which they happen to own, but Katz told Chicago Eater that they plan to use it again "in some form or fashion." Sugargoat, Izard's bakery, also uses the space. Boka officials teased an announcement about the sweet shop's future.

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