

All good ideas
arrive by chance.
— Max Ernst

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NEWS OF LINCOLN PARK, LAKE VIEW, NORTH CENTER & LINCOLN SQUARE

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This high density 450-foot tall skyscraper proposed by The Georgetown Company will be replacing a small commercial building.

Plan Commission approves 37-story tower at Halsted, Clybourn

The Chicago Plan Commission has approved a new \$175 million, 396-unit, 37-story mixed-use tower on Halsted St. at Clybourn just south of North Ave.

Next the proposal goes before the Committee on Zoning, and then the full City Council. The developers expect to get final city approval soon.

The project is situated on a relatively small 12,000 square foot lot at 1565 N. Clybourn Ave. across the street from the Apple Store at North Ave. and Clybourn. The high density 450-foot tall skyscraper proposed by The Georgetown Company will be replacing a small commercial building.

When done, it will be the tallest building in an area that is quickly

becoming a new high-rise district.

It will include 2,500 square feet of new retail space. Construction could commence in early 2025 with a completion sometime in late 2026.

The building would be located in the middle of one of the most congested intersections on the North Side, and will have no on-site parking. They will provide 70 off-street parking spaces for residents in an adjacent 158-spot parking garage. The developers will also dedicate 73 parking spaces for retail customers, and 15 spaces for employees.

Those future residents who are unable to secure off-street parking will discover there there is a

APPROVES see p. 12

Open houses for Lincoln Park public housing

The Chicago Housing Authority's Edith Spurlock Sampson Apartments located at Lincoln and Sheffield avenues in Lincoln Park, is a newly redesigned seniors residential community geared towards seniors looking for a redesigned, contemporary setting.

They are now hosting open houses from 9 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

They have one-bedroom 451 square foot units, and 358 square foot studio public housing units available with indoor and outdoor social gathering spaces. For more information call 773-975-3198.

Prospective tenants may apply to the waitlist for Senior Living at Edith Spurlock Sampson Apartments at the Chicago Housing Authority website.

City, state offer big change concepts for N. LSD project, Page 3



Proposed changes for Belmont Harbor

Ascension sells nine Illinois hospitals; St. Joseph's not included

History of Medicare fraud, worker grievances

BY BOB ZULEY

On July 25, Prime Healthcare Services [PHS] of Ontario, CA, announced it has entered into an asset purchase agreement with Ascension, which is selling nine of its Illinois hospitals and four care centers as Ascension continues to shrink its Midwestern footprint leaving it with 12 hospitals in Illinois. The sale price was not disclosed.

The deal marks Prime's largest acquisition and first entry in the Illinois market. In April of this year, it purchased five hospitals in California and New Jersey from Medical Properties Trust for \$350 million.

The nine hospitals include several in Chicagoland including Ascension St. Francis in Evanston, Ascension St. Elizabeth, Ascension St. Mary, Ascension Resurrection in Chicago, and Ascension Holy Family in DesPlaines. Ascension also sold off associated physician practices as well as four of its post-acute and senior living facilities to PHS.

Ascension St. Joseph Hospital,



Prime Healthcare Services of Ontario, CA, announced it has entered into an asset purchase agreement with Ascension selling nine of its Illinois hospitals and four care centers.

2900 N. Lake Shore Dr., in Lake View is not included in the sale.

St. Francis Hospital in Evanston will be a charity hospital under the new Prime Healthcare Foundation plan. Many critical care cases from the North Side of Chicago are treated at Ascension St. Francis Hospital.

"Ascension selected PHS to steward its hospitals and care sites into the future after thorough due diligence, a values compatibility assessment, and an ethics discernment process," Prime said in a statement.

The sale agreement must gain approval from the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board. The sale is expected to be finalized in the first quarter of 2025.

The agreement includes Prime investing \$250 million to upgrade the facility's systems and technology, as well as other capital improvements. No debt will be put on the hospitals to complete the transaction.

ASCENSION see p. 12

Two prolific mail thieves sentenced to federal prison

BY CWB CHICAGO

Two men have been sentenced to months of federal prison time for using stolen and forged U.S. Postal Service master keys to steal huge volumes of mail from Lakeview and Lincoln Park to Logan Square. Attorneys representing the men blamed their actions on methamphetamine addiction.

Joseph Solomon, 39, used an authentic arrow key to open a bank of mailboxes inside a high-rise apartment building in the 1900 block of N. Clark in Feb. 2022, officials said.

Video showed Solomon and a woman walking out of the complex with three large trash bags and a Ross Dress For Less shopping bag stuffed with mail.

The next day, Solomon crashed a stolen U-Haul truck in Hammond, IN, while being chased by cops from Gary, according to a federal complaint. Officials did not immediately connect him to the mail theft and he went free.

Days later, U.S. Postal Inspection Service investigators searched the U-Haul and found three trash bags, a Ross Dress For Less bag, dozens of pieces of mail addressed to residents of the Clark Street address, and other evidence.

Federal officials said they believed Solomon and the woman

had been living in the U-Haul's cargo area.

Authorities caught up with him and the woman again in May 2022 when cops in Council Bluffs, Iowa, allegedly saw them stealing mail from roadside mailboxes while driving a stolen Volkswagen. According to officials, the woman sped away at up to 114 miles per hour as Solomon tossed stolen mail out of the passenger window. The pair eventually surrendered, allowing police to retrieve stolen mail and a postal service master key from inside the Volkswagen.

He has a history of theft and burglary convictions, officials said. However, his attorney argued for leniency, saying his actions were "entirely the product of an individual who was in the pernicious hold of an insidious addiction to methamphetamine."

U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Kendall sentenced him to two years in federal prison.

The other man, Thaddeus Harper, 44, was sentenced to 20 months by U.S. District Judge Sharon Coleman.

In August and September of 2021, Harper used copied postal service master keys to steal mail and packages from residential buildings across the city. Prosecutors said he had 37 sets of

keys when police finally caught up with him.

Harper "knew that USPS Arrow keys unlock the locks and entry systems to entrance doors on



Joseph Solomon

nearly every apartment and office building in Chicago and several of its surrounding suburbs," prosecutors said in a sentencing memorandum.

One letter he stole from a building in the 1000 block of West Huron contained two checks worth \$2,500, officials said. He took packages containing items worth \$6,605 that were addressed to the same victim.

Prosecutors allege that Harper also targeted mailrooms in the 1900 block of N. Fairfield, the 1400 block of W. Irving Park, the 5000 block of N. Lincoln, and the 5200 block of N. Riversedge Terrace.

His "extensive criminal history" dates back nearly 24 years, prosecutors said.

Harper's defense attorney said he "would typically turn over the items he stole in exchange for methamphetamine." He once stole a chandelier and traded it for a day's worth of meth, the lawyer claimed.

DNC delegates can't be carjacked if they take the train



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

The streets and boulevards of Chicago are ripe with rumor.

So are the steakhouses of quality along Rush St. And the Mayor's office on the fifth floor, the elevators in City Hall, and the offices of the Corporation Counsel, the City's Attorney.

An unusual panoply of true and false stories are making their way around the office staffs, ward offices and zip codes.

Were there really four members of the Chicago City Council with outstanding water bills owed to the City of Chicago? With two Aldermen paying up right away when publicly shamed, while two others are still in arrears?

That should really make Democratic delegates to the upcoming convention proud.

If our elected aldermen don't pay their bills, then why should anyone else? Time to begin to

whittle away some of those aldermanic pay raises. Check those swindled Uber costs to the United Center. Have you seen the list of Illinois convention delegates yet?

That's what you get when no one is in charge. Or worse, the wrong people are in charge.

There was a time when embarrassing facts like outstanding bills owed by elected officials were quietly taken care of by generous politicos who knew how bad such things looked.

But of course we don't have any generous political big shots, any more, with big cash to smooth away the bumps. No wonder there's so much chaos. It's "every man for himself" these days. Kindness and generosity are things of the political past. Too bad.

So when the mayor evicts the homeless from the lakefront parklands, removing their tents, porta-potties, and gas grills, it really becomes a heinous urban horror story.

Of course Brandon tossed them out so he could replace them with fresh homeless. Of course he has plans for the land. He wants to fill it with the tent encampment folk currently abutting the Dan Ryan Expy. Unhoused people are now pushed back onto the streets, so any visible homeless will now be "fresh" in case any convention delegates catch a glimpse of them.

"Hide the Homeless," should be the mayor's new political motto. Among other things to hide.

Needless to say, the "Johnson touch" has created a climate of fear and terror among the homeless in Chicago. Instead of offering some human compassion and resolute change of circumstances, for the lakefront's homeless families, they are further tragically wounded and filled with fresh anxieties so Mayor Johnson can look like a big-time mayor.

It's gonna take a lot more than that to change his public perception.

The fact that Convention delegates, of course, rank higher for the mayor than the victims of homelessness in Chicago is just plain wrong. And it's un-Amer-

ican. And un-Democratic philosophically. What would Franklin Roosevelt say about that? Or Harry Truman, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

How ashamed Mayor Johnson makes all Democrats. There's no political genius or bright intelligence at work in his decisions to break the lives of the homeless.

Just down the street from the United Center is the brand new Damen Ave. Green Line station along Lake St. Just recently completed and it's truly a gem of modern design and transit function. Total cost of the station was \$80 million dollars. It resembles a new terminal at O'Hare. Maybe the convention delegates won't be notice the homeless if they can see an "EL" train making its way to Oak Park.

At least CTA train riders won't get carjacked.

Maybe the station can assist disrupters and demonstrators making their way to the United Center for a street-fest of protests and urban battles with the Chicago Police when they "storm the battlements."

Meanwhile delegates from Alabama, Nevada, Hawaii and Michigan can be found huddled together looking for Michael Jordan in the house that he built, and wondering how they're going to get back to their downtown hotels with all the roads closed.

The Democrat National Convention at the United Center is Aug. 19 to 22. Time is ticking away. Democratic leaders sit behind closed doors in more trepidation than ever. Pulling out candidates names and trying to hold on to the cash.

Apparently there is still a lot of unfinished business.

Many are discovering that Chicago's top Democrat is the "Kiss of Death," especially after his stunt clearing out the homeless from the lakefront. That's hardly an intelligent or valid solution to America's most systemic domestic issue.

Who told Mayor Johnson to do that? Tony Preckwinkle? How stable are Chicago's other urban institutions in light of the convention coming to town? You know, police, fire, sanitation. Who's going to be the fall guy?

Looks like the City Council is just rejecting outright any attempts to reinvent Chicago City Government. What a mess.

We're ready, though, to face



Sanford Burris, William and Ward Kinney's Maverick Team won Mackinac Race.

Trump and his followers. What could go wrong?

Twenty years ago one of America's most extraordinary economists, John Kenneth Galbraith, summed it up this way: "The modern conservative is engaged in one of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness."

D R I N K : Hermanas Amigas, the first African American owned and produced Tequila in the U.S., launched July 27 at the Chicago Summer Tequila Tasting Festival.

Chicagoan **Toya Watts-Banks** makes history by being the first African American Woman to produce and own her own tequila.

WGN NEWSROOM: "This is the first time the newsroom can remember the Sun-Times newspaper not being printed at all." No edition of the paper on Tuesday, July 16. Did you notice?

FILM FEST: "Fitting Descriptions" was the featured film screened at the Midwest Film Festival held at the Gene Siskel Film Center July 29. The film spotlights the film industry's age stigma for female actors and how it disproportionately impacts women over 40. This issue hits close to home for the film's star, **Tiffany Bedwell**. Bedwell makes her directorial debut teaming up with **John Mossman**. She also stars in the main-character role

of Dina, an aging, struggling actor who faces in real life the social media currency of strangers' likes, comments, and indifference. Anonymous or not, comments from people can have a profound impact on your mental health.

MACKINAC RACE: Sanford Burris, William and Ward Kinney's Maverick Team will be etched in Mac Race history as the new race record holder for the fastest Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac in 22 years. Maverick earned the honor from **Roy E. Disney** aboard Pyewacket back then.

IN THE SHIRE: Chicago Shakespeare Theater will bring the highly anticipated *The Lord of the Rings - A Musical Tale* with a 24-member ensemble cast Jul. 19-Sept. 1 in The Yard. Based on

DELEGATES see p. 8

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(L) The present Lake Shore Dr. "S" curve at Oak Street Beach. (R) The proposed Lake Shore Dr. "S" curve at Oak Street Beach.

City, state offer big change concepts for N. Lake Shore Dr. project

For fans of Daniel Burnham's 'Make No Small Plans' philosophy for public works projects, the proposal being offered to the community Aug. 8 for the upcoming rebuild of N. Lake Shore Dr. [NLSD] are going to be pleasing. On July 24 the Illinois and Chicago departments of transportation released the options and images they plan to present to the community.

And for city planners and contractors who like spending and/or collecting taxpayer money, the plan will be super pleasing. This

'no small plan' effort will cost \$3.4 billion in 2021 dollars.

The recommended preferred alternative for proposed future improvements to NLSD (U.S. 41), between Grand and Hollywood avenues, as part of the phase I study task force, will be offered for public consumption and consideration during an open house 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at Harry S. Truman College, Main Building Cafeteria, 1145 W. Wilson Ave.

The open house will feature staffed exhibit areas showing pro-

posed project features as well as an audio-visual presentation that will be shown continuously.

Exhibits will review the five finalist multimodal roadway alternatives, along with their evaluation results (the Recommended Preferred Multimodal Roadway Alternative), and recommended Lakefront improvements within the north lakefront corridor and Lincoln Park. And those proposed changes are dramatic.

The more than 80-year-old roadway will be completely rebuilt, including seven miles of

For city planners and contractors who like spending and/or collecting taxpayer money, the plan will be super pleasing. This 'no small plan' effort will cost \$3.4 billion in 2021 dollars.

outer NLSD, 12 junctions, over 20 bridges/tunnels and parts of the inner drive.

Perhaps the most stunning part of the proposal is along the southern section from Grand Ave. north to North Ave. where the "S" curve will see a new intersection built at Chicago Ave. that will remove the stop light, which has caused daily traffic jams for decades. The planners claim that the new intersection will reduce delays, improve safety and access

to the lakefront for people on foot or bikes.

And while not specifically mentioned in words, imagery shown in the plan implies that speeding cameras may also be coming to NLSD.

The stretch will add dramatic new park space by expanding landfill further out into the lake. Indeed, the plan claims to add 100 net acres of lakefront park land mostly created between Grand and Fullerton avenues and along

BIG CHANGE see p. 10

Dept. of Housing gets broad new powers to forgive debt, cut red tape

The Chicago Dept. of Housing's [DOH] Commissioner has been given broad new power and authority under a new ordinance that grants the Commissioner authority to approve the restructuring of certain terms and conditions associated with financing for affordable housing developments.

Those new powers include the right to authorize modifications including:

- Loan payment deferment
- Loan modification
- Loan forbearance
- Forgiveness of default interest, overdue interest, fees and the

conversion of a loan to a grant

• Subordination of the City's lien to a lien securing new financing that is senior to the City's loan or grant

DOH says they receive approximately 15-20 requests annually to restructure or modify existing City loans issued to finance affordable housing developments. They says these changes will allow for cutting regulations to streamline processing. In a statement released last week, the city claims that this ordinance "will aid in the prevention of tenant displacement and the loss of af-

fordability within housing."

The new powers will include consent to a change of the general partner or managing member of a borrower or grantee, when the Commissioner makes a written finding that such restructuring is likely to improve the City's financial position in connection with the applicable development; or preserve or otherwise promote affordable housing.

The city says they hope these changes will result in significant improvement in the physical conditions of the affordable housing development.

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[Left] The \$7 billion development proposed for the parking lots adjacent to the United Center; and [right] the proposed multi-billion dollar Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park.

Hot Chicago launching two new billion-dollar projects



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

With billion-dollar projects proposed all over town, Chicago suddenly looks like the hottest real estate development city outside of Manhattan.

However, where are all of the ground-breakings and construction cranes? It is a Presidential election year, and politicians and donors must be tooting their horns.

Last week, two mega commercial projects were announced. One promised a huge Silicon

Valley style computer technology facility on the far South Side. The other unveiled plans for a giant private development on the West Side transforming parking lots around the United Center into a music venue, hotel and housing.

Here are the details:

• **Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park.**

The multi-billion-dollar project is proposed by PsiQuantum, a California-based tech company, for construction on vacant land formerly occupied by the long-dormant 440-acre U.S. Steel South Works site at 91st St. and S. Lake Shore Dr.

Financially backed by the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago, this facility would be built around the world's first commercially viable quantum computer.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker earmarked \$500 million in the state's 2025 budget for development of the quantum park. In addition, the state offered PsiQuantum another \$200 million in incentives for a minimum \$1-billion investment and the creation of at least 150 jobs.

Mayor Brandon Johnson said a \$1.25 billion bond passed in April by the City Council to fund economic development and affordable housing was a catalyst for bringing PsiQuantum to Chicago. The quantum park project would be developed by Chicago-based Related Midwest.

• **The 1901 Project.** The Reinsdorf and Wirtz families,

owners of the United Center, at 1901 W. Madison, announced they are planning a \$7-billion campus on a sea of vacant parking lots surrounding the arena.

The owners of the Chicago Bulls and Blackhawks (and lots of other stuff) plan to privately convert 55 acres into housing, retail, entertainment and public spaces. The biggest segment of the 1901 Project would be development of a 6,000-seat music theater.

The ownership families already have committed to make 20% of the proposed new housing units affordable rentals and condos. The only public money involved would be for minor infrastructure improvements.

Although the grandiose West Side plan has been five years in the making, timing of the announcement, with a press conference outside of the United Center, was designed to perfectly capture national media attention generated by the Democratic National Convention coming to the arena.

With all of the fanfare and trumpets blowing, now is a good time for Chicago's politicians and taxpayers to review a few other boondoggle billion-dollar mega developments currently sputtering along. Here are several big plans that offer sizzle, but no steak:

• **Lincoln Yards.** Developer Sterling Bay's 2019 plan to create a 14.5 million-square-foot office, entertainment and living destination along the Chicago River, north of North Ave., is floundering after its two main financial backers walked away.

The developer paid \$100 mil-

lion for the former A. Finkl & Sons property in 2016 after then Mayor Rahm Emanuel updated development guidelines for industrial corridors in the city.

Sterling Bay completed an environmental remediation of the site, erected one building—a 320,000-square-foot life sciences hub at 1229 W. Concord—and built part of a mile-long riverwalk, but failed to get much of the critical infrastructure even started.

• **Bronzeville Lakefront.** This Near South Side site, the former Michael Reese Hospital location, originally was purchased by the city of Chicago when former Mayor Richard M. Daley was in office. Back then, plans for the site were to build an Olympic Village for the 2016 games. Ya, that failed when Chicago lost its Olympic bid, and the property has been sitting vacant for more than a decade.

In 2017, the city selected a team—Farpoint Development, McLaurin Development Partners, Loop Capital Management, and Bronzeville Community Development Partnership—to redevelop the site as a health innovation hub, along with residential, senior housing and retail space. Infrastructure work now is finally underway, including 2.5 miles of new grid streets.

• **The 78.** In 2015, developer Related Midwest took control of this 62-acre site, between Roosevelt Rd. and Chinatown, along the banks of the Chicago River. The \$7-billion development plan called for 10,000 units of housing and commercial space.

Earlier, the 78 also was suggested as a site for a future casino. In early 2024 it was touted as the future home of the Chicago White Sox. However, the new stadium has not materialized. The site also could eventually become the future stadium site for the Chicago Bears.

After months of planning delays and financing problems, the corporation behind Bally's Chicago Casino last week accepted a buyout offer from its largest shareholder under a \$4.6 billion merger agreement that will keep the company publicly traded.

So far, the developer has only built a road running south through the tract, connecting Wells St. to Wentworth Ave. The housing phase was reduced to 5,000 units.

• **Bally's Casino.** After months of planning delays and financing problems, the corporation behind Bally's Chicago Casino last week accepted a buyout offer from its largest shareholder under a \$4.6 billion merger agreement that will keep the company publicly traded.

Bally's currently operates a temporary casino at Medina Temple. The final casino site was selected by former Mayor Lori Lightfoot after Bally's offered her \$40 million upfront.

As originally planned, the casino site at 777 W. Chicago Ave., the \$1.34 billion casino and entertainment complex were to feature a hotel at the south end of the site. The plan now calls for a 34-story hotel near Ohio St. at the north end of the site. With so many gamblers moving onto iPhone betting, we'll be quite impressed if this deal ever gets done.

Original plans to place the hotel along Chicago Ave. and the river were scrapped when planners realized the proposed project would damage city water mains.

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.

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New study shows how tax buyers transfer wealth from low-income areas

\$280 million siphoned off in seven years

BY MARIA PAPPAS

My office redesigned this year's property tax bills to clearly show where your tax dollars go. On the front of every bill, you can see how much of your hard-earned money goes to each taxing body.

What is less visible, however, are the millions of dollars taken each year from the property tax system by wealthy investors. Hedge funds, private equity firms and others who buy tax debt siphoned nearly \$280 million from Cook County governmental agencies over seven years beginning in 2015. Of that, 87% came from Black and Latino communities.

That money should have gone to help pay for schools, parks, police protection, public works and other essential services. Instead, property owners had to bear a greater share of the tax burden.

This transfer of wealth was documented in a study my office published in Oct. 2022 about our property tax system's little-known sale-in-error statute. The study showed how private investors known as tax buyers exploit loopholes to profit from already financially struggling communities.

The study prompted Illinois lawmakers

to overhaul the sale-in-error statute, closing loopholes and making the system more equitable. It also made recommendations — many adopted — to various county agencies to reduce costly government mistakes.

Researchers from my office identified a flaw in the system after gathering and analyzing years' worth of tax sale data. They reported their findings in a study that served as a catalyst to reform the system.

Here's how tax buyers diverted wealth from communities: When you are unable to pay your tax bill by the due date, interest is added every month. If your taxes remain unpaid about 13 months after the due date, your debt will be put up for auction at the county's Annual Tax Sale.

Tax buyers pay the county the delinquent taxes in exchange for a lien against the property. These investors aim to make money when the tax debt is repaid in full and with interest. If the debt goes unpaid, the tax buyer can take ownership of the property. But tax buyers rarely want to do that so they look for a way out of the deal.



Maria Pappas

My office's sale-in-error study found that tax buyers got their money back plus interest for such frivolous reasons as:

- A house was listed as made of stucco when it was made of brick;

Tax buyers pay the county the delinquent taxes in exchange for a lien against the property. These investors aim to make money when the tax debt is repaid in full and with interest. If the debt goes unpaid, the tax buyer can take ownership of the property.

- A two-story commercial building was listed as having zero square feet of space;
- A home was listed as not having air conditioning when it did.

Taxes on sections of major Chicago highways have been mistakenly sold at tax sales. Churches, government-owned buildings and other property that is exempt from taxes have been wrongly listed as taxable. Often, investors who bought the tax debt are awarded their money back with interest.

The sale-in-error study prompted legislative reforms that were among the most significant changes to the Illinois Property Tax Code in decades. Among other changes, the legislation slashed the interest rate on late payments in half from 18% to 9% per year.

You can read the full sale-in-error study on my website, cookcountytreasurer.com.

Western Ave. rezoning sails through City Council

On Wednesday, July 17, one of the longest linear zoning applications passed through the City Council. It was an up-zoning of about seven-miles of Western Ave.

The new zoning effort was part of a Western Ave. study undertaken in 2021.

This rezoning is perhaps the first of its kind in city history, and extends through four wards, the 40th, 47th, 49th, and 50th wards. The zoning map changes mean that nearly all of Western Ave. from Addison to Howard streets will have B3-3 zoning, allowing mixed use and residential buildings up to four and five stories tall.

A goal of the up-zoning was to establish a long-term plan for the Western Ave. corridor that includes future land use and zoning recommendations, design guidelines, and potential public right-of-way changes.

The study recommended that higher-density mixed-use developments be allowed and encouraged along Western Ave., to fill in the many vacant properties.

The plan would allow the corridor to develop from one primarily serving people using cars to one that mimics the World Economic Forum's "15-minute city" cam-

paign, an urban planning concept where everything a Chicago resident needs can be accessed within a 15-minute walk, bike ride, or CTA ride from their residence.

But 15-minute cities have legitimate drawbacks, including those who fear it will threaten personal freedom and free movement throughout a greater metropolitan area. It could also reinforce spatial segregation if not properly planned, as the scheme encourages residents giving up private vehicle use, which can then create all new institutionalized, systemic segregation. Those people living in poorer areas are by design encouraged to stay within their own 15-minute area, which may lack the amenities or services found in wealthier parts of town.

The city also has expensive plans to someday install a bus rapid transit network along 40-miles of Western Ave. roadway that would require spending hundreds of millions of dollars to buy back metered commercial parking spaces that are currently owned and managed by Chicago Parking LLC and LAZ Parking.

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Police Beat...

Man displayed machine gun while filming music video on Chicago Riverwalk

An 18-year-old man was ordered detained as a safety risk after he allegedly displayed a machine gun while filming a music video on the Chicago Riverwalk.

Police responded to a 911 call about people with guns near City Winery, next to the Dearborn Street bridge, around 8:30 p.m. July 15, a CPD report said. The caller told police that four men and four women were flashing guns and filming a music video near the bridge.

Arriving officers saw Armani Gilbert leaving the scene with a speaker box and stopped him for a chat. According to police, the officers saw a handgun inside the box next to the speaker. The weapon was equipped with a "Glock switch, an after-market modification that could make the gun fire automatically, prosecutors said. A 50-round drum magazine containing an unknown number of bullets was also found inside the box, according to police.

Judge Antara Rivera granted the state's detention petition for Gilbert, who is charged with unlawful use of a machine gun, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, and possession of a high-capacity magazine.

Burglary crew targeting restaurants on North, Northwest Sides

Twice last week, Chicago police warned businesses about nighttime burglars who are prowling the city. The latest alert focuses on the North and Northwest Sides, where three men broke into four restaurants in under an hour on July 19.

CPD said the burglars used a hammer to break through the front glass doors at the businesses. The crew took cash, cash registers, and safes.

A video released by CPD shows the men rifling through cash drawers at Edison Park Inn, 6715 N. Olmsted, around 3:15 a.m. Moments later, the group hit Moretti's at 6727 N. Olmsted.

The @CPD1617scanner account tweeted another video on Saturday that shows the same group breaking into the Vincent restaurant at 1475 W. Balmoral at around 2:25 a.m.

Zia's Social, 6158 N. Northwest Hwy., got hit at 2:50 a.m., too, according to preliminary info.

A community alert issued by police said the suspects are males of unknown races between 16 and 25 years old. They wore black masks, black hoodies, black pants, and gloves. In the video released by CPD, the group was seen with a light-colored sports car. A similar vehicle was also seen in the area of other burglaries.

A couple of days ago, CPD warned about a different group of burglars that targeted businesses in Wicker

Park, Bucktown, and Logan Square on July 10.

Woman suffers graze wound in Loop shooting

A woman suffered a graze wound after someone fired shots from a car in the Loop July 29, Chicago police said.

At about 1:54 a.m., the gunman pulled onto the 200 block of S. Wabash and fired shots toward the woman, who was standing on the sidewalk, according to CPD. A bullet grazed her thigh.

The SUV sped away, heading south on Wabash. The police offered no description of the shooter or any possible motive.

So far this year, eight people have been shot in the Loop. That includes shootings on Feb. 24 and March 14 that officials deemed self-defense. By comparison, 11 people were shot in the Loop as of this date last year.

There were 22 shootings during the same period in 2022 and 16 as of this date in 2021. In 2019, the year before shootings began to rise with the arrival of COVID, the Loop had five shootings for the entire year and two of those were in self-defense.

Two men get probation in \$6 million Home Depot gift card scam

Two men have been sentenced to probation for their roles in a massive multi-million dollar gift card fraud against Chicago-area Home Depot stores. Prosecutors continue to pursue cases against several other people connected to the scheme.

We told you about the racket when it first surfaced last spring. Officials said Home Depot stores in the city were defrauded by scammers who collected \$900 credits more than 6,000 times for a single purchase made three years ago.

Officials said the scam began in March 2020 when someone purchased over \$6,000 from the home improvement chain's 2570 N. Elston location. Days later, someone returned to the store, claimed the purchase was for a tax-exempt church, and received a \$900 gift card for the tax amount. (Oddly, the taxes for the purchase only totaled \$555, according to a Chicago police report.)

Officials said the scam started slowly, with unknown persons using the receipt to get \$900 gift cards 15 times in 2020. In 2021, the receipt was used to generate gift cards 33 times. But the ruse grew substantially in 2022, with 1,372 gift cards issued for \$900 in "tax credits" on the same purchase.

Last year, Home Depot issued \$900 gift cards for the exact same receipt 3,200 times between Jan. 1 and mid-May, which is when the arrests began.

Cashiers scanned the receipt bar code from an accomplice's phone each time, manually entered the tax exemption information, and then cut a gift card for the difference. Some cashiers issued multiple gift cards for the same purchase in one sitting. And some cashiers even had a copy of the receipt stored on their personal phones so they could issue gift cards by themselves, officials said.

One of the accused individuals, 26-year-old Tyler Clark, has now pleaded guilty to felony theft in exchange for two years of probation from Judge Thomas Byrne.

Prosecutors said Clark got involved

while working as a cashier at the company's 4555 S. Western location. He was initially accused of using his employee credentials to issue \$900 gift cards for the same 2020 purchase on 971 occasions, costing the company \$873,900. Clark sometimes issued multiple gift cards from the receipt at a time, according to the CPD report.

Officials said that between May 1 and May 11, 2023, when investigators were actively investigating the scam, he issued \$108,900 worth of \$900 gift cards using the receipt.

Thomas McNeal, 63, of Westchester, pleaded guilty to operating a continuing financial crime enterprise before Judge Byrne. He also received two years of probation.

McNeal allegedly presented the receipt to a customer service representative at the 1300 S. Clinton location on May 10, 11, and 12, 2023, as Home Depot investigators and the Chicago Police Department's organized retail crime task force watched. He received gift cards worth \$12,600 during those transactions, police said.

Officials never publicly explained how the fraudulently issued gift cards were converted to cash. It is unclear how the scheme operated for three years, generating thousands of \$900 gift cards from a single \$6,000 receipt.

Burglars target three North Side businesses in 30 minutes

Police are investigating a string of business burglaries that were reported July 29 in Lincoln Park and Lakeview.

In Lincoln Park, two businesses were burglarized in the 2200 block of N. Lincoln around 3:30 a.m., according to CPD.

Officers found the front glass windows broken at both stores, including a smoke shop. Police said "several" people entered the stores and stole property. They escaped in two sedans, one silver and the other black.

A similar burglary occurred at Lakeview Smoke & Vape, 3149 N. Broadway, about 20 minutes later.

Police did not release descriptions of the suspects.

Man committed 12 robberies and burglaries while on pretrial release for 6 similar cases

On September 23, 2023, we write a story about Joachim Nwachukwu, the headline was "Judge releases man accused of burglarizing Loop stores six times in two weeks."

On July 25, Chicago police said 33-year-old has committed 12 more robberies and burglaries since being arrested, repeatedly striking the same businesses time after time.

If only someone could have seen this coming.

Last autumn, prosecutors said Nwachukwu, of the 6000 block of N. Sheridan Rd., burglarized Printer's Row Wine Shop, 719 S. Dearborn, on Aug. 31, Sept. 1, Sept. 5, and Sept. 13. The fifth time he returned, the store's owner told this reporter, she chased him out while wielding a golf club.

He was also accused of burglarizing the 7-Eleven at 48 N. Wells on Sept. 7 and Sept. 8, taking bottles of alcoholic beverages each time, sometimes worth hundreds of dollars.

Nwachukwu's arrest report from September said police found an array of still-packaged merchandise in his bag: two pairs of headphones, five packs of cigarette lighters, a miniature security camera, a car charger, and two backpacks.

On Sept. 19, the second day under Illinois' new cashless bail system, Judge Mary Marubio released Nwachukwu with instructions to show up in court and stay out of trouble.

Officials say he didn't do either of those things, claiming he hasn't



Police are trying to identify these people in connection with a July 19 robbery at the Morse Red Line station.

Cops seek four after Red Line passenger is mugged on North Side

Police are trying to identify four people who pepper sprayed and robbed a CTA passenger in Rogers Park.

Detectives released CTA surveillance images of the suspects on Friday, saying the group robbed a victim on a train at the Morse CTA station around 12:20 a.m. July 19. After spray-

ing the victim, the group physically assaulted and robbed them, police said.

All of the suspects are believed to be between 18 and 25.

You can share tips with CPD's public transportation unit by calling 312-745-4447. The case number is JH352746.

shown up for court since last November and he started robbing and burglarizing stores again.

Yesterday, prosecutors charged him with six more counts of robbery and six more counts of burglary in connection with crimes he allegedly committed between Feb. 16 and June 1.

The crimes were included in several community alerts that CPD issued as warnings to businesses. One recent version of the alert listed more than 20 cases that detectives believed were committed by the same person. Nwachukwu is formally charged with 12 of those:

- Cops say he targeted a store in the 200 block of W. Adams on Feb. 16, 22, 27, March 24, April 3, April 9, April 17, and May 3.

- He allegedly struck in the 100 block of W. Adams on Feb. 24 and April 18

- In Lakeview, he allegedly hit a convenience store in the 900 block of W. Diversey on May 29 and June 1

Judge Shauna Boliker granted the state's detention petition, keeping Nwachukwu in jail as a safety threat and flight risk.

Men charged with robbing 60-year-old go home after prosecutors don't ask judge to keep them in jail



Omareon Coleman, left, and Samuel Gaines.

Two men charged with attacking and robbing a 60-year-old man in Uptown July 17 were sent home with nighttime curfews after prosecutors decided not to ask a judge to keep them in custody pending trial.

Omareon Coleman and Samuel Gaines, both 19, and two 16-year-old boys were arrested minutes after the robbery, police said.

The alleged victim flagged down Chicago police officers at 9 p.m. to report that he had just been jumped, beaten, and robbed of \$25 in an alley behind the 4400 block of N. Malden, a CPD report said.

Prosecutors said the group kicked and punched the man in the head and body before taking his cash. The juveniles also robbed the man at gunpoint, according to CPD. EMS transported him to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center for examination due to his complaints of head and back pain.

The cops found "multiple" people in the alley and arrested Gaines, Coleman, and the juveniles after the victim identified them as the assailants.

Coleman and Gaines are charged with robbery, aggravated battery in a public place, and aggravated battery of a person older than 60. However,

court records show that prosecutors did not ask Judge Caroline Glennon-Goodman to keep them in custody.

So, the judge sent them home and told them to stay in the house at night.

The juvenile cases are not open to public review. However, police said the boys are charged with armed robbery with a firearm.

Five victims reported in violent robbery spree across Lakeview, Lincoln Park, the Loop

Police are investigating five robberies, some of which turned violent, that were reported July 23 in the Loop, Lincoln Park, and Lakeview. There are indications that the same people may have committed some of the crimes.

In one incident, a 22-year-old woman was pepper sprayed and robbed near the Lincoln Park Zoo around 12:15 a.m. She was near the intersection of Fullerton and Cannon Dr. when a man sprayed her and took her phone, according to initial information. EMS took her to St. Joseph Hospital for treatment.

The other four robberies, all similar in nature, occurred within an hour, starting in the Loop around 2:40 a.m.

Police said a man and woman were walking in the 100 block of W. Adams when four men stepped out of a car to rob them. The victims, a 49-year-old man and a 46-year-old woman, were taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital for treatment of minor injuries they suffered when the group physically attacked them.

A few minutes later, someone robbed a 61-year-old man in the first block of N. LaSalle. Police said four robbers jumped out of a dark car and attacked the victim. They took his phone and money, then fled the scene, leaving the victim with injuries to his head and elbow.

About 30 minutes later, another man was mugged as he walked in the 2300 block of N. Clark in Lincoln Park. He told police that four men got out of a sedan, started beating him, and put a gun to his head around 3:15 a.m. The robbers stole his keys and wallet and sped away.

Finally, around 3:30 a.m., a similar robbery occurred in Lakeview. A man told police he was on the southeast corner of Broadway and Wellington when four men got out of a car, hit him, and threatened him with a gun. They took his wallet and keys before fleeing in the vehicle.

The suspects in the LaSalle, Clark, and Broadway robberies were described as Black males wearing hoodies. No descriptions were available for the other two crimes.

While citywide robbery reports are down slightly from decade-high levels seen last year, some neighborhoods aren't doing as well.

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Chicago braces for another non-budgeted migrant surge

DePaul professor points to policy errors

BY JIM TALAMONTI
The Center Squared

The three-year long migrant surge is not over. Chicago may soon have thousands of additional migrants arriving before the end of summer, but government officials have not budgeted for a major surge.

At the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott promised that his state would continue busing migrants to sanctuary cities until the U.S. border is secure.

According to reporting by WBEZ Chicago, this fresh influx of asylum-seekers could be used to embarrass local Democratic officials during the upcoming DNC convention. City officials now anticipate needing upwards of 25,000 beds in the lead up to the convention.

"The city is maintaining sufficient bed capacity in our existing temporary shelters and preparing sites in the event that new temporary emergency shelters need to be activated on short notice," a city spokesperson told WBEZ.

On July 23, Chicago Budget Director Annette Guzman told the City Council Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights that she fully expects a surge, but that additional shelter beds have not been budgeted for.

"No, so the surge that we anticipated is above and beyond the model that the state, county and the city put together," Guzman said.

DePaul Univ. Professor Jason Hill said these are the effects of what happens when people are not properly vetted before they enter the country. "We do have a lot of criminals. We do have a lot of gang members coming into

City study on how to deploy police as resources shrink, crimes spikes

In February the Chicago Police Dept. [CPD] and city officials undertook a staffing analysis to determine how to best deploy its dwindling ranks after several previous studies were scrapped.

According to reporting by The Sun Times, the study was initiated after Ald. Matt Martin [47th] cited the need to respond more quickly to 911 calls, and close the gap between response times in different police districts. Similar studies, commissioned in 2016 and 2019, weren't completed, and preliminary results were never made public.

Indeed over the last four years, Chicago police dispatchers have experienced periods when they could not meet 911 response demand during periods of high crime and violence. The city simply ran out of officers available to follow up on 911 those calls.

Rising quality of life crimes and a dropping CPD workforce have been credited for the problem. CPD ranks have dropped from

13,011 in 2018 to about 11,687 cops this month, according to the city records.

The CPD must provide "quarterly updates" on the progress of that study to the mayor, the full Council and the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability now through Feb. 2025. A written report would be required within a year, with a joint committee meeting 30 days after that public release.

Staffing remains a big political issue, with alderman fighting over dwindling CPD resources, as crime patterns lead to an outcry about armed robberies and violence in neighborhoods across the city. With each new crime spree that occurs, the local alderman inevitably claims that the CPD will be allocating more resources to their community, without ever stating where those resources would come from. Failing CPD recruitment efforts and a high attrition rate continue to diminish overall police resources.

Chicago, into other states," said Hill.

According to city data, more than 44,000 migrants have arrived in Chicago in the last two years.

Hill is himself an immigrant from Jamaica. He said it is heart-breaking, but the government cannot be sentimental about this issue.

"Our infrastructures are being taxed in certain states. Welfare benefits are being given to migrants that are being deprived from what I would call foundation Americans, Americans who have been here, who were born and raised here. There is a dis-

symmetry and something untenable about that state of affairs," Hill said.

Guzman said the city was spending \$1.4 million dollars a day on new arrivals last December, even though officials knew it was unsustainable. Yet the city's political leadership have still not altered its Sanctuary City designation, which is one of the reasons why migrants continue to arrive here.

Extended street, parking closures in Uptown for Red Line project

Lawrence Ave. between Broadway and Winthrop Ave. will suffer from extended parking lane closures resulting from work on the Red Line CTA tracks, on weekdays and Saturdays now through Saturday, Aug. 24.

The parking and road shifting is for station utility work and street reconstruction.

There will be continuous (24/7) lane shifts on Lawrence Ave. until the work activity is complete, and the parking lanes on both sides of Lawrence Ave. between Broadway and Winthrop will be closed

continuously until the work activity is complete.

Sidewalk closures within the work zone will alternate between the north and south side of Lawrence.

Not far away, Ardmore Ave. between Broadway and N. Winthrop Ave. is also closed now through Wednesday, Aug. 14.

Ardmore Ave. will be closed to vehicular and bicycle traffic throughout the work. Sidewalk closures will alternate between the north and south sides of the street.

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Treasurer sending \$22M in automatic tax refunds to more than 10,000

More than \$22 million in automatic refunds to more than 10,000 property owners who overpaid their property taxes last year should be landing in mailboxes this week.

"For many senior citizens and others, the value of tax breaks known as exemptions is greater than the amount of property taxes they were billed," said Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. "Since they already made a First Installment payment in March, they are entitled to refunds that we send automatically as a convenience for taxpayers."

Most automatic refund recipients will not have to file applications, fill out forms or deal with any paperwork. Some will have refunds directly deposited into bank accounts, while others will be mailed checks.

The \$22 million in refunds will be distributed to owners of 10,099

properties. Those who are getting a check in the mail will receive those checks by Aug. 9.

Visit cookcountytreasurer.com to see if you have an automatic refund coming. Select the purple box labeled "Your Property Tax Overview" and enter your address or 14-digit Property Index Number.

Most of the refunds will go to homeowners receiving property tax exemptions, which are applied to the Second Installment tax bill and reduce the total taxes due. Exemptions include Homeowner, Senior Citizen, Senior Freeze and Disabled Persons. Second Installment 2023 bills are due on Aug. 1.

Since launching the automatic refund program in 2018, Pappas has refunded about \$143.2 million to more than 165,114 property owners without the need for applications.

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Wilco's Jeff Tweedy to headline Navy Pier's free Performing Arts Festival Sept. 21

You can pay real cash to see them live at venues across town, or see them for free this September.

Navy Pier has announced that Jeff Tweedy, lead vocalist and guitarist for Wilco, will headline this September's Chicago Live! performing arts festival at the Pier on Saturday, Sept. 21.

The Illinois native is one of contemporary music's most accomplished songwriters, musicians, and performers. He will treat fans to a rare free, solo acoustical set on the first evening of the free, two-day festival.

Raised in Belleville, IL, and

now living on the North Side, the teenaged Tweedy cofounded the legendary alt-country band Uncle Tupelo, which released four albums and inspired the careers of countless Americana bands. By 1994, Tweedy had formed Wilco, his own band, which has gone on to release 13 (and counting) studio albums and toured continuously for over 30 years. Tweedy now resides with his family in North Center and pursues a diverse slate of solo projects, including authoring three New York Times charting books.

Wilco has collected numerous industry awards including two

recent Grammys for the 20th anniversary reissue box set of its iconic Yankee Hotel Foxtrot album. Having just completed sold-out tours with Wilco in Japan, Australia, and North America, Tweedy's Navy Pier performance will be his only solo concert in the Chicago area this summer.

"Chicago's lakefront is one of my favorite places on earth and I'll jump at any opportunity to play on its shores," said Tweedy.

Slated for Saturday, Sept. 21, and Sunday, Sept. 22, this year's fourth annual Chicago Live! will be the largest to-date, welcoming more than 100 Chicago-grown



Jeff Tweedy

warts, including The Joffrey Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Second City, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Chicago Philharmonic, Black Ensemble Theater, and the perennially popular Blue Man Group, to pop culture icons like RuPaul's Drag Race's Ginger Minj, Tony-nominated Felicia Fields, The Voice's Oliv Blu, and many exciting up-and-comers.

More than 50,000 Chicago-area residents and out-of-town guests are expected to take in the free performances over the course of the two-day festival.

performing groups in back-to-back performances across five Pier stages. Featured artists range from Chicago's world-class stal-

DELEGATES from p. 2

the books by **J.R.R. Tolkien**, this production comes to the stage in a US premiere directed by **Paul Hart**. Tickets start at \$41.

ACE: Bobby Weir & Wolf Bros featuring The Wolfpack are back in action this Fall, performing with the Chicago Philharmonic Nov. 17 and 18 at the Auditorium Theatre with original orchestration provided by Stanford professor and composer **Dr. Giancarlo Aquilanti**. Tickets on sale now.

RIOT FEST: The three day music fest known as Riot Fest has relocated to GeekSeat Stadium in Bridgeview, and will run Sept. 20-22.

DECOLONIALIZE MUSEUMS: The Spanish are taking inventory. They're attempting to establish a method of operation that will "decolonialize" their art museums. Today, it's supposed begin at the Museo Nacional de Antropología and the Museo de América in Madrid. The museums want to reshuffle the treasures they have.

The object is to modernize. Heritage, history and artistic legacy is a task they must redeem. It's foremost. All in accord with international commitments and fresh museum guidelines. This sounds like the intelligence of museum staff knows the direction it must go. Let's hope that a fresh view of stolen, pilfered, hijacked art will be high on the list. Can



Paul Hart

someone alert the Art Institute of Chicago?

NEARY'S NEW YORK: I've only known one real Leprechaun in my life. And he wasn't from Notre Dame. He was from County Sligo. **Jimmy Neary**, himself. A man of diminutive size, but filled with big dreams and even bigger plans.

He arrived in Midtown Manhattan in the mid 1960s and was hired to be the towel boy in the New York Athletic Club. Ironically on 57th St. Jimmy also bartended at night in the Irish saloons along New York's First Ave. He became very popular, and he saved his earnings.

In 1967 he was able to convince the Munster Leinster Bank, an



Tiffany Bedwell



Eileen Harmon Junkins

Irish bank that had just opened in New York, to give him a loan to buy an establishment on East 57th St. To everyone's shock they bankrolled him. He then renovated an 18th century building there and began the stunning story of "Jimmy Neary's Irish Pub and Restaurant."

It was every Irishman's dream of America.

I met Jimmy in the 1990s when I was doing a feature for Hibernia magazine, enchanted with the fact Jimmy wouldn't let anyone inside without suit coat and tie. It was the start of a great friendship. Jimmy took a piece of my article and made it the cover of his menu.

Neary's food was high-end, stick to your ribs Irish. A favorite of **Sen. Ted Kennedy** and New York Gov. **Hugh Carey**. And **Jimmy Roosevelt**, **Bill Clinton**, **Ed Koch** and **Michael Bloomberg**, and **Mary Higgins Clark**, whose novels often featured Jimmy as a character. **Joan Didion** and **Joyce Carol Oates** were often there as well. **Tim Mara**, NY Giants co-owner, went so far as to give Jimmy two Super Bowl rings.

But perhaps the most poetic patron was nearby neighbor, actress **Maureen O'Hara**.

Jimmy died in 2021 and his daughter, **Una Neary**, who worked with Jimmy for 40 years made "Neary's" flourish. But now after 60 years the venerable Neary's has been sold. Una says she will open a smaller scaled version in the months ahead. But that little corner of New York on East 57th St. will always remain "Jimmy Neary Way," thanks to former Mayor Bloomberg.

WHO'S WHERE: Master



Jimmy Neary



Paul Episcopo



Bobby Weir.

Photo courtesy Reese Cann

American Politico **Sam and Honey Jacobs Skinner** out for dinner with their **Skinner** boys, **Will** and **Sam**, and great friends at the Happ Inn Bar & Grill... **Ken Moll**, **Mary Claire Scorsone Moll** and daughter, **Keeley** in seaside Villasimius, Sardinia, Italia... **Janet Owen** hosted fab lunch at the Women's Athletic Club with **Christina Hand Mandich**, **Susan Hand** and **Lizzy**... **Rick Barrett** was a rider in Cycle Across Illinois 2024 benefiting Concerns of Police Survivors. He cycled some 337 miles in three and a half days... **Jim Kinney** representing the bipartisan National Assoc. of Realtors at the Republican Convention in Milwaukee... **Jane Justic** visiting friends in rustic Westport, MA... **Shaun Rajah** getting packed for Sydney, Australia making plans for a wedding "Down Under"... **Rodney Alex** at Big Star in Wicker Park with **Gabriella Fitzpatrick** doing adult beverages... Cook County Treasurer **Maria Pappas** and husband **Peter Kamberos** sharing Gemütlichkeit, visiting old friends July 20 at the Niedersachsen Club in Lincoln Square... Mega lawyer, **Paul Episcopo**, proprietor of Astor Street's Court of the Golden Hind, lunching under the umbrellas at Piccolo Sogno with two lovely friends... Native Chicagoan **Archbishop Jerome Listeck** has just retired as Archbishop of Milwaukee... **Barb Bailey** and **Paul Hansen** in McHenry at Bugsy's for **Ronnie**

B. Elvis' performance and **Debra Decker Banckaert's** birthday... Judge (ret.) **Rhoda Sweeney** and husband, **Fred Drucker**, at Grant Park Orchestra concert... **Helma Wardenaar** in Sophia, Bulgaria getting her hair done... **Dan** and **Laurie Baker Lawlor** ready for their adventure in the Amazon, already reaching Lima, Peru... **Eileen Harmon Junkins** at Afternoon Tea in the rarified environs of the Plaza Hotel in New York, the home of writer **Kay Thompson's** "Eloise"... "Small Cheval" will be opening in Lincoln Park near Halsted... **Jeffery** and **Stephanie Leese Emrich** already in the heart of Paris for the Olympics listening to "Chariots of Fire"... And the lovely **Elaine Levinson** lunching on the patio with a friend at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill.

BIG CHANGE: Grown ups are now back in charge of Anglo-Irish relations. All change with Labour. British Prime Minister **Keir Starmer** hosted Irish Prime Minister **Simon Harris** at a wee country house in Buckinghamshire. Sláinte is táinte. **David Caldwell** reporting.

This country has gotten where it is in spite of politics, not by the aid of it. That we have carried as much political bunk as we have and still survived shows we are a super nation.

- Will Rogers

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Design awards event Designight 2024 coming Sept. 5

Tickets are now on sale for the Sept. 5 Chicago architects' global design competition, Designight 2024, which is where the public votes for the People's Choice "best of" design awards. The event will be held at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park, 205 E. Randolph St.

The American Institute of Architecture [AIA Chicago] is the second largest local chapter of the AIA with over 4,000 licensed architects, emerging professionals, architecture students, and allied professional members.

The festival award submissions represented the highest number of projects in the past five years. This year nearly half of the projects submitted came from smaller firms of 30 persons or fewer.

Designight 2024 is a ticketed event where everyone is welcome. Events are 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with an after party to follow.

The award program includes the third annual Lerch Bates People's Choice Awards—presented in partnership with the Chicago Architecture Center and chosen by the public which will be announced live along with the juried awards.

Finalists for the juried awards, and the Lerch Bates People's Choice Awards, chosen by docents of the Chicago Architecture Center, will be announced in August along with information on how the public can vote for their favorite designs.

To purchase tickets call 312-334-7777, or visit <https://aiachicago.org/designight2024/>.

Duck Derby returns to Pioneer Court Aug. 7

Special Olympics Illinois will host the annual Chicago Ducky Derby 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7. This beloved summer event features the spectacular splash-down of 100,000 rubber ducks from the Columbus Dr. Bridge into the Chicago River at 1 p.m. and then race to the finish line.



souvenirs, and music.

To enter the race, participants can adopt a duck starting at \$10. The race winner's grand prize is a Chevy Trax, second prize of \$2500 cash, or third prize VIP Experience at Six Flags Great America.

Ducks can be adopted at <http://chicagoduckyderby.com>, or on race day until 12:50 p.m. in person at Pioneer Court. This fundraiser helps the athletes of Special Olympics Illinois.

The Ducky Derby kicks off with a festival at 10 a.m. in Pioneer Court, 401 N. Michigan Ave., with games, food trucks,

com, or on race day until 12:50 p.m. in person at Pioneer Court. This fundraiser helps the athletes of Special Olympics Illinois.

Letters to the Editor

Sounds like Russia

So now the aldermen want to deputize private citizens to turn in their fellow neighbors for parking in bicycle lanes [July 24-30 edition]? Sounds like Russia to me.

These aldermen are in bed with the bicycle community. The bicyclists are kind of a minority group which, based on their numbers, have an inordinate amount of influence on the aldermen and mayor.

About parking in bicycle lanes: The city took away a number of driving and parking lanes to accommodate the bicycle riders. So where are deliveries or taxi pick-ups supposed to go? In car lanes?

Are they also going to be deputized citizens to go after the bicyclists who don't obey the laws?

Mario Caruso
Lincoln Square

Is O'Gorman OK?

I typically chuckle at Thomas J. O'Gorman's column of grumpy and demented rants. They usually are neurotic stories from an artist that unfold like a LSD trip until the whole point of the story is damaged beyond repair to even care about.

However, his latest column [July 24] about shopping for guns and gun possession to fix Chicago's troubles is not an idea that even a click-thirsty gossip columnist begging for more attention should be promoting.

Is he doing okay? Can someone get him the therapy he needs before he spirals down a violent echo chamber? Can we cancel him now before publishing more stories that romanticize guns and taking care of politicians we disagree with?

Keegan Meyer
Rogers Park

The Second City extends annual free drop-in class event

If you think you have an inner comic in you, then there is a free chance to explore that by testing the hilarious embrace of improv.

World-renowned comedy powerhouse The Second City, in Old Town at 230 W. North Ave., is offering a final week-long series of free 90-minute drop-in classes from Aug. 5 to Aug. 11.

We all improvise at times in life and this time there is nothing to sign and no need to commit to a full term. Budding comics may test the waters of comedy and see how spontaneity can change their world with minimal planning and commitment. To register, visit <https://www.secondcity.com/classes/chicago/drop-ins/summer-fling-week-of-free-drop-ins>.

The Second City suggests improv can punch up your life by:

- Boosting confidence. You'll be encouraged to think on your feet and trust your instincts.
- Enhancing creativity. Improv is a way to flex your creative muscles. The more you practice, the more innovative and imaginative your ideas become.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

In the Central 1st District, which includes the Loop, robberies are up 9% this year, with 252 cases reported as of July 22. That's equal to 2022's year-to-date number, but 52% higher than 2020.

Robberies are the highest level in at least five years in the Near North 18th District, which sits between the river, the lake, and Fullerton Ave. The 253 robberies reported so far are up 4% from last year and up 48% compared to 2020.

In the Lakeview-based Town Hall 19th District, robberies are up 17% this year and up 73% compared to 2020.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com



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Grant Park Music Fest at Lake Shore Park

The Grant Park Music Festival moves north to Lake Shore Park, 808 N. Lake Shore Dr., 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 1.

The festival brings music and fun to Streeterville featuring the Grammy-nominated Grant Park Chorus in a pair of programs devoted to concerts featuring the Festival's talented String and Vocal Fellows in an eclectic mix of music for string quartet, string orchestra, and solo voice.

Bring a blanket or picnic chair to the park for a free, hour-long concert.

Then at 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2, Lake Shore Park will feature the movie The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes.

18th District National Night Out Aug. 6

The 18th District will host National Night Out 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. This nation-wide annual event promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

The boundaries of the 18th District are roughly Fullerton Ave. south to the main branch of the Chicago River.

The event will offer activities, food, entertainment and is an opportunity to engage with law enforcement agencies and services.

For more information contact the community policing office at caps.018thdistrict@chicagopolice.org.

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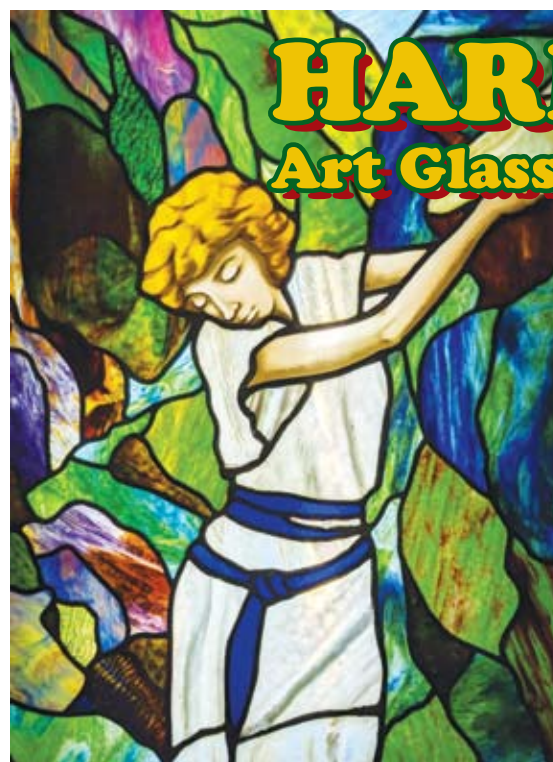
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BIG CHANGE from p. 3

Belmont Harbor.

North Side residents should also be aware that the plan calls for creating bus-only priority lanes at side ramps rather than in medians, and would eliminate one lane of roadway in each direction (from four to three lanes) between Irving Park Rd. and Foster Ave., to add park space and reduce “expressway-like features.”

Transit access to/from lakefront parks will be altered with 11 new bus turnaround and boarding areas, especially along northbound inner drive. All proposed transit-

Residents of Lakeview East will be happy to discover that it appears Barry Ave. will not be expanded east into Lincoln Park for a new vehicle onramp to Belmont Ave. Though there will be extensive work done on the bike and pedestrian paths.

related improvements will be designed to provide added capacity for future transit growth, at the expense of personal vehicles.

And residents of Lakeview East will be happy to discover that it appears Barry Ave. will not be expanded east into Lincoln Park for a new vehicle onramp to Belmont Ave. Though there will be



Belmont Harbor, dedicated bus lanes red, dedicated bike lanes green.

extensive work done on the bike and pedestrian paths.

The Lakefront Trail bike and pedestrian paths will be separated to help protect pedestrians from speeding bikers. New waterfront pedestrian promenades will also be created.

The planned shoreline protection upgrades between Grand and Fullerton avenues will purportedly prevent wave action from flooding onto expanded lakefront park spaces, as happens when

lake level cycles reach their peak heights, as they did in 2019.

Other planned changes include rebuilding all park trails, bridges, tunnels and added lighting, and adding bike overpass bridges on the North Lakefront Trail at points where it crosses over major east/west roadways.

East-west access points for park users will be increased from 22 to 27, achieving ADA-compliant lakefront access every 1/4 mile or less. Path widths and underpass heights will be increased to improve visibility, and to accommodate existing and future users.

The North Avenue, Oak and Ohio streets beaches will be expanded, and new landscaping will enhance the urban forest.

They also plan to create and enhance habitat areas for aquatic and terrestrial species.

Construction staging work would be conducted in three stages (south, central and north) but no timeline has been presented.



Oak St. and Michigan Ave.



Belmont Harbor.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	
<p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIMORTGAGE INC. Plaintiff, -v.- LEO J. DONOVAN, 5040-60 NORTH MARINE DRIVE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2023 CH 06255 5056 N MARINE DR CHICAGO, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 28, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on August 29, 2024, 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 5056 N MARINE DR, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-08-047-022-1148 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$98,857.53. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.</p>	<p>SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 23-129400. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 23-129400 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code. 65582 Case Number: 2023 CH 06255 TJSC#: 44-1476 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 06255 13248733</p>	<p>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.J.N. 14-08-203-017-1462. Commonly known as 5415 North Sheridan Road #3615, Chicago, IL 60640. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC db/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS001487-22FC1 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13248258</p>	<p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR NATIONSTAR HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2007-FRE1 Plaintiff, -v.- MARIA STOYANOVA, 6300 SHERIDAN BUILDING CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 23 CH 05450 6300 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD # 406 CHICAGO, IL 60660 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 29, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on August 30, 2024, 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 6300 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD # 406, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-202-019-1051 The real estate is improved with a condominium with no garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes</p>	<p>levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments 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 and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 22-12353IL_833721 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 23 CH 05450 TJSC#: 44-1453 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 # 23 CH 05450 13248351</p>	<p>242424 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v.- LATRICE FOULES, AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF STANLEY FOULES, DECEASED, ANGELO BRANDONISIO, PARK PLACE TOWER I CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, LATRICE FOULES Defendants 23 CH 03556 655 W. IRVING PARK RD., #2608 CHICAGO, IL 60613 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 8, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 A.M. on August 13, 2024, 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: UNIT (S) 2608 AND C62 TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS IN PARK PLACE TOWER I CONDOMINIUM AS DELINEATED AND DEFINED IN THE DECLARATION RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 0011020878, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, IN THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Commonly known as 655 W. IRVING PARK RD., #2608, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-105-054-1787 t/k/a 14-21-101-047-1787; 14-21-101-054-1399 t/k/a 14-21-101-047-1399 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$116,758.02. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and</p>	<p>plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St. DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 1676223. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 1676223 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 23 CH 03556 TJSC#: 44-1332 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 # 23 CH 03556 13248156</p>

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Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREDDIE MAC SEASONED LOANS STRUCTURED TRANSACTION TRUST, SERIES 2019-3 PLAINTIFF

PHILLIP E. TAYLOR, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, DAUPHINE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS. DEFENDANTS 22 CH 11217 NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercountry Judicial Sales Corporation will on September 4, 2024, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercountry's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

P.L.N. 11-32-312-022-1007. Commonly known as 1301 W Northshore G, Chicago, IL 60626.

The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4)

of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act.. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1880, Chicago, IL 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS001416-22FC1 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION IntercountryJudicialSales.com 13248695

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Lyric Opera of Chicago's annual free concert Aug. 25, in Millennium Park

North Siders may celebrate the start of Chicago's opera season with a melodic evening of free opera under the stars.

The Lyric Opera's annual free concert, Sunday in the Park with Lyric, takes place 7 p.m. Aug. 25, at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park.

The evening show provides an opportunity to embrace opera for free with a fun-filled night of music. The evening will showcase performances by members of The Ryan Opera Center and the Lyric Opera Orchestra in selections from Lyric's upcoming 2024/25 Season, conducted by Music Director Enrique Mazzola and Ryan Opera Center Conductor Chi-Yuan Lin.

As an added feature, Lyric's

Artist-in-Residence Karen Slack will also make her inaugural appearance. All selections will feature projected English titles.

The event will be hosted by Lyric's Chief Artistic Administration Officer Matthew Ozawa, NBC5's Arts and Entertainment Reporter LeeAnn Trotter, and the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Commissioner Clinée Hedspeth. As part of the Sunday in the Park with Lyric festivities, children and their adults can enjoy a new Lyric offering, Art-See Jamboree, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Highlights include ongoing creative performances by storyteller Jasmin Cardenas of Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World, with sessions starting every half

hour from 11:30 a.m. This will provide a preview of the upcoming Opera in the Neighborhoods performance tour based on the story.

Attendance is first-come, first-served, and no tickets are required. For more information, visit lyricopera.org/millennium.

Lyric's performances in the 2024/25 Season will take place at the Lyric Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Dr., and will feature easy-to-follow English translations projected above the stage. The upcoming season opens on Saturday Sept. 14, with a mix of new, contemporary works and familiar, classic productions.

For more information, visit lyricopera.org or call 312-827-5600.

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Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self-storage Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 14th of August, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at 2724 W. 21st St, Chicago, IL 60608 at www.storage-treasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m.

- 1092 Kyle Nunn
- 1117 Kyle Nunn
- 1120 Kyle Nunn
- 1123 Kyle Nunn
- 2023 Kyle Nunn
- 2039 Kyle Nunn

This public sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. The winning bidder must pay by cash at the time he/she is declared the winning bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply; see the Manager for additional details.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers:

- 5230D- Akinwumi, Akinseye (AE-Clemments LLC)
- 8194SM- Akinwumi, Akinseye
- 3290C- Brown, Ronica
- 4370E- Eardley, Kerry
- 1085F- Escobedo, Evan
- 1165E- Escobedo, Evan
- 5495E- Johnson, Reneesha
- 2062C- Komas, Anna
- 8154L- Lanigan, Katie
- 4405B- Orga, Michael E
- 1175E- Rudenko, Olha
- 8176SM- Rudenko, Olha
- 8180SM - Vaughn, Maya for public sale.

This sale is to be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

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— Les Brown

DePaul DeBlock party is Aug. 10 at Wish Field

Returning for the second year, DePaul Athletics has announced the date for the 2024 DeBlock Party.

The event will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, underneath the L tracks next to DePaul's Wish Field.

The DeBlock Party is a free event for all fans, alumni and community to attend that includes a wide variety of family-friendly activities including music, face painters, inflatables, yard games, enter-to-wins and an opportunity to interact with DePaul staff, coaches and student-athletes.

The event will be held in conjunction with a pair of DePaul soccer exhibition games with the women's exhibition against Michigan State at 1 p.m. followed by the men's against Bradley at 4 p.m. Admission to both exhibition games is free.

Clark St. bike repair pop-up Aug. 4

Is your bike broken? The Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce and Clark St. Special Service Area #23 are hosting their first ever Bike Repair Pop-up, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4.

Curbside Bicycles at 401 W. Belden will be offering 16 tune-ups throughout the event, with 10 spots available to sign up in advance and 6 spots available for walk-ups.

Bikers can RSVP in advance to secure a spot at <https://form.jotform.com/242047417327151>, or simply walk up on the day of the event. Walk-up spots are limited on a first-come-first-served basis and not guaranteed.

Whether you need air in your tires or a full-service tune-up, Curbside's skilled mechanics have got you covered.

ASCENSION from p. 1

Ascension is a not-for-profit Catholic health system owned by Ascension Health Alliance and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops with over 2,600 care sites in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

PHS was founded in California in 1991 by Dr. Prem Reddy, M.D., 78, as a privately-held health care company including the for-profit PHS of 44 hospitals and 300-plus out-patient locations in 14 states. It also operates an affiliated charity called the Prime Healthcare Foundation under which 14 hospitals operate.

Once acquired by PHS, these hospitals will no longer be Catholic, and will keep their current names minus the "Ascension" branding.

This deal marks the latest in the string of Midwest divestitures for Ascension as it offloads hospitals from New York to Kansas as it shifts focus from hospital services to ambulatory care and telehealth.

Ascension had a rough 2023. It battled increased expenses, posting a net loss of \$2.7 billion, PHS has a reputation for transforming financially struggling hospitals. Prime plans to offer employment to "substantially all associates" when the deal is finalized.

However PHS is likely to be under the keen eye of federal authorities. In 2018, Dr. Reddy agreed to pay the U.S. government \$65 million to settle allegations that 14 Prime hospitals in California knowingly submitted false claims to Medicare by admitting patients who required only less costly, outpatient care and by billing for more expensive care, according to a U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services [DHHS] news release. Dr. Reddy was required to personally pay \$3.25 million.

In 2021, PHS and two doctors agreed to pay \$37.5 million to settle allegations of kickbacks, billing for a suspended doctor, and false claims for implantable medical

hardware, according to a U.S. Justice Dept. news release. Dr. Reddy personally paid \$1.775 million.

In 2016, a federal judge dismissed a lawsuit brought by PHS against California Attorney General Kamala Harris, denying allegations that she improperly restricted the sale of six non-profit hospitals, a deal the company walked away from.

Also in 2016, the National Labor Relations Board [NLRB] ordered PHS to pay an estimated \$6.5 million in lost wages to 500 employees at two California hospitals after refusing to issue the negotiated raises for five years.

In 2015, The NLRB issued a decision requiring PHS to reimburse 630 employees at an Inglewood, CA, hospital an estimated \$1.6 million for illegally cutting workers' healthcare benefits over a 5-year period.

A 2007 news report by the Los Angeles Times alleged that the policies of PHS resulted in higher than average profits at the possible cost of patient care.

"When Reddy's company takes over a hospital, it typically cancels insurance

contracts, allowing the hospital to collect steeply higher reimbursements. It has suspended services — such as chemotherapy treatments, mental health care and birthing centers — that patients need but aren't lucrative.... On four occasions since 2002, inspectors have found that PHS facilities failed to meet minimum federal safety standards, placing their Medicare funding at risk," wrote the L.A. Times.

In 2005, two former nurses at Desert Valley Hospital won a lawsuit in which they claimed they were fired after accusing hospital management of providing inadequate care to save money and of Reddy of repeatedly reporting to work under the influence of alcohol.

Wikipedia also reports that PHS was investigated by the DHHS and the California Dept. of Justice about concerns over a reported spike in sepsis. The investigation centered around whether the spike represented a large public health issue or potential Medicare fraud.

APPROVES from p. 1

lot of competition for free on-street parking in the surrounding area.

Permit approved for former Cenacle Convent site

The city's Permit Review Committee has approved plans for a residential development planned by Ogden Partners at 2323 N. Cambridge, in the heart of Lincoln Park.

Situated at the former Cenacle Convent site, the proposal calls for two buildings, which will have eight townhomes each, all standing four stories, and 43-feet, tall.

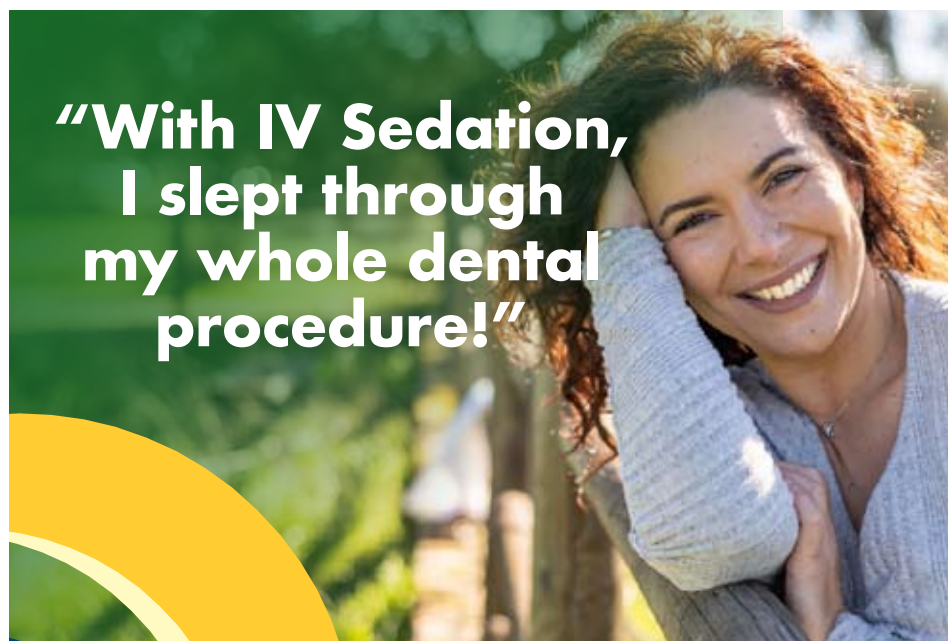
The property spans between where Cambridge Ave. stops between Fullerton and Belden avenues. The former Cenacle

Retreat Center that was located at this site was a modernist red brick structure designed by Chicago architect Charles Pope. It was built in 1967 to replace buildings the order had been using since the 1920s

The Sisters of the Cenacle, an order that originated in mid-1820s France, focus on 'awakening and deepening faith,' according to their website.

According to tradition, the Cenacle Convent is a kind of religious retreat.

The Cenacle (from the Latin cenaculum, or "dining room"), is a room in Mount Zion in Jerusalem, just outside the Old City walls, traditionally held to be the site of the Last Supper, where Jesus washed his disciples' feet (John 13:1-20), which symbolizes the ministry of loving service.



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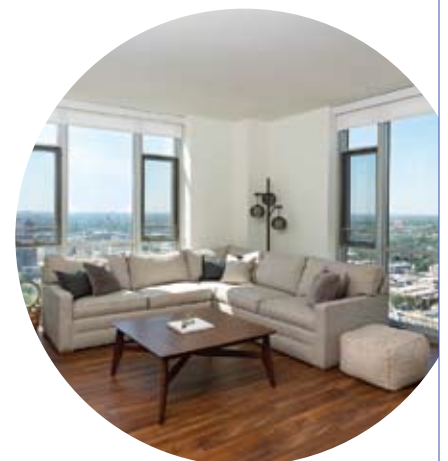
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