

A river cuts through rock,
not because of its power,
but because of its persistence.
— Jim Watkins

News-STAR

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

Vibrant new
Nepali mural, see page 20

FREE

VOL. 122, NO. 32

NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE

insideonline.com

Developer lists historic Edgewater church property for sale

BY PETER VON BUOL

A historic Edgewater church property at 1244 W. Thorndale Ave. has been re-listed for sale by its current owner and now neighborhood residents have been expressing concerns the project will flood an already high-density neighborhood with an additional 32 residential apartments with zero off-street parking available to new residents.

Completed in 1914, the Arts and Crafts style church building is believed to have been designed by the prestigious early 20th century Chicago architectural firm of Patton and Miller (which designed many Carnegie Libraries across the country) and originally served the Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, whose founding pastor Rev. Karl G. Scherf was brought over from



Completed in 1914, this Arts and Crafts-style Edgewater church building at 1244 W. Thorndale has been put up for sale.

Hillsdale, MI.

The 43,545 gross square foot former church complex includes multiple levels, a structural basement and a detached parsonage, according to the listing agent, Triton Realty Group.

Triton's listing notes, "[It's] a by-right adaptive reuse opportunity to convert a historic early-20th-century church campus into a 32-unit multifamily asset.

CHURCH see p. 20

Insight Health Systems may take over Weiss Hosp.



(L) Cook County Judge Patrick T. Stanton. Courtesy The Beverly Review (R) A 2022 Range Rover Sport. Courtesy Land Rover Akron



Settlement offer presents \$1 takeover if CEO gets to keep Range Rover

BY BOB ZULEY

Lawyers for one of the owners of Resilience Healthcare, Reddy Rathnakar Patlola, are pushing Cook County Chancery Judge Patrick T. Stanton to accept a bid to sell Weiss Memorial Hospital and West Suburban Medical Center to Insight Health Systems for only \$1.

That change in ownership comes as the on-going legal battle escalates between Patlola, the hospitals' landlord, and CEO Manoj Prasad concerning control of the two hospitals.

Patlola's attorneys filed a

motion on July 31, asking Judge Stanton to either enforce the settlement agreement agreed to in May or appoint a receiver to take control of the hospitals. The lawyers accuse Prasad of delaying the process and jeopardizing the settlement.

"Plaintiffs requested receiver, Mike Flanagan, is ready, willing and able to act as receiver and execute the effectuate the Settlement," according to Patlola's attorney, Scott M. Kaplan, of Blank Rome LLP.

Under the draft settlement, Prasad would step down – something that he has resisted despite community wishes from the Weiss and West Sub. communities.

Prasad would also get to keep

the title to a 2022 Range Rover Sport luxury automobile owned by a subsidiary of Resilience, and be paid \$100,000 as a consultant to the hospitals for six months, according to the Tribune.

Insight entered the Chicago medical scene when it took over Mercy Hospital in Bronzeville for \$1 in 2021 when it was about to close its doors. Mercy originally opened in 1850 as the Illinois General Hospital of the Lakes when it was founded by physicians connected to Rush Medical College before the Sisters of Mercy took over in 1851.

Representatives of Prasad and Insight did not respond to requests from the Tribune for comment.



Chalk Howard Street Fest features world-renowned 3D and 2D chalk artists, food by local purveyors, opportunities for amateur artists and family-friendly music and entertainment. Courtesy do312.com

Chalk Howard Street returns Aug. 22

The popular Chalk Howard Street 3D fest will return to Rogers Park Aug. 22. National and local artists will convene on Howard between Paulina and Ashland, using the street as a canvas to bring vibrant and colorful pieces of art to life.

The event features internationally renowned 3D street artists and local 2D chalk artists, as well as emerging artists and kids' art that will create vivid and interactive chalk drawings on the street. The free event will take place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Historical Society recognized by Illinois Humanities

Illinois Humanities announced the Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society as a recipient of its 250th Gift, part of a statewide initiative commemorating the United States' 250th anniversary. They were one of 50 organization chosen to receive \$5,000.

The Historical Society was selected for its efforts in preserving and sharing the diverse stories, experiences, and histories that shape this part of Illinois. Awardees are community-based nonprofit organizations with mis-

sions focused on creating and preserving history, heritage, archives and collections.

The Historical Society plans to use this grant to continue developing and sharing the stories of Rogers Park and West Ridge, drawing on the history to help understand the community today.

Other local recipients included the Haitian American Museum in Uptown, the Chicago Cultural Alliance, Chicago Collections, and the American Indian Center.



Catapult Real Estate Solutions wants to construct this building at 4006 N. Sheridan Rd.

New 91-unit project underway in Uptown

Last week a new building permit application was filed for a project in Uptown as Catapult Real Estate Solutions filed plans to construct a mixed-use building at 4006 N. Sheridan Rd., at the northwest corner of Sheridan and Irving Park Rd.

The \$31.5 million seven-story mixed-use building is replacing storefronts for El Palmar Restaurant, Roots Smoke & Vapor Shop, and the former home of the Holiday Club Lounge. The 91-unit project includes ground-

floor retail, but only 38 indoor parking spaces.

Last year, the Zoning Board of Appeals approved zoning variations including a variation to reduce the required off-street parking spaces from 91 to 38, and a variation to eliminate the required loading berth. Prior to the onslaught of Transit Oriented Developments, zoning for a project like this would have required a minimum of 91 off-street parking spots.

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Summertime is park time, and we need more parklands



By Thomas J. O’Gorman

Few American cities can boast the splendor of its parks and the wide-range of uses as does Chicago and our Park District. From the northern border to the Indiana state line, we boast nearly 27 miles of elegant parkland and summer waves rolling over the lakefront.

It is a majestic unbroken inland beachfront terrain and waterway.

Our nation’s interior system of waterways met early on in Chicago where the river met Lake Michigan. The lake has always been Chicago’s greatest asset and natural advantage.

Chicago’s growth in the decades after the Great Fire of 1871, saw our population doubling every 10 years, and the town was always careful to measure parkland expansion along with that urban expansion. We built some of our most beloved parks right on top of the fire’s refuse. It was the talk of the town, and indeed the entire world watched in wonder as we rebuilt.

The city’s devotion to its expansive network of parks has its origins in the significant place Lake Michigan holds for the population. Spread across 1,214 acres, 421 parks mark the measure of the city’s access to landscaped beauty and usage across town.

Our parks buffer countless North Side homes, vintage high-rises and many modern glass and steel skyscrapers, condos and apartment buildings. The parks were created for recreation and



Chicago can boast of some of the world’s most significant conservatories. One fashioned by architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee in Garfield Park and the other by landscape architect Jens Jensen in Lincoln Park [above].

also to keep up with the endeavors of landscaping and gardening in harmony with new urban garden designs underway in cities across the world.

Five glass botanical conservatories were constructed in the parks to enhance the ecological quality and historical connection of Chicago to the landscape on which it sits. The science of new gardening techniques offered new approaches and fresh designs on how plants and green houses were established and understood.

These extraordinary botanical glass houses became architectural wonders when vast improvements in both metal and glass production occurred. Chicago can rightfully boast of some of the world’s largest and most significant conservatories. One fashioned by architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee in Garfield Park and the other by landscape architect Jens Jensen in Lincoln Park.

Life, here, was the 19th century inspiration of young architect Silsbee, a graduate of Exeter, Harvard and MIT. A most influential architect on the students he

taught at Syracuse Univ. But he was mentor to, and then heavily influenced by his former pupil Frank Lloyd Wright, from whom he absorbed the flair for Prairie design. The Lincoln Park Conservatory was his finest work.



Jens Jensen circa 1905. Courtesy of The Clearing Folk School

Chicago parks were spaces for everyone. They are social, cultural and even political at times. They provide the city with an ecological repository, an organism helping Chicago to breathe. Most of all they are an area of relaxation, reflection and fresh learning, demonstrating a growing urban sophistication in Chicago’s character.

While Chicago can be proud of the parks we have at our disposal, the job is not done. Daniel Burnham’s 1909 Plan for Chicago envisioned an uninterrupted public shoreline spanning the entire 30-mile-long Lake Michigan from Evanston to Indiana. While about 27 of those 30 miles inside the city are public parks today, gaps remain near the northern and southern borders.

The portion in Edgewater would provide a fine next effort, and it could fix several big problems.

If we fill in that gap north of Hollywood we can also fix the problem of Lake Shore Dr. spilling its daily traffic onto Sheridan Rd. by building an access road to serve the eastern border



along Sheridan. We can move all that residential traffic going to and from the high-rise homes off Sheridan, and with it, also relocate all the Amazon, UPS and FedEx trucks, taxis, Ubers and Lyfts that now double park on that road.

We can also move all the scooter and bike traffic off Sheridan’s sidewalks, and into a park by extending the Lakefront Trail north.

And what the heck, let’s add another conservatory so that we may enjoy the lakefront and gardens during the worst of weather.

“Make no small plans... Small plans lack the power to excite people or spark real change,” Burnham advised us back in his day. He was right.

Traffic-wise, nobody in Uptown and Edgewater thinks things are going well right now along Sheridan. And many know it is about to get worse. Much, much worse.

The city wants to add vast new density along Broadway including 18,000 proposed new residential units from Montrose to Devon avenues. Those new residences would all be within walking distance of a new lakefront park.

Under this plan, we could gift 50-feet of new lakefront land to the private property owners along the lake north of Hollywood to camouflage a new access road with gardens and trees,

as we also add a thousand acres of new parkland west of a Lake Shore Dr. extension north of Hollywood. That’s more public park - and double parking space - in an area now hemmed in by private development.

We can also be uplifted by the influence of our best designers, like Silsbee and Jensen, the visionary designer and Chicago parks creative boss whose remarkable skills enhanced the “Chicago method” that set a scene unrivaled in their day.

Imagine all the big ideas we can come up with. Chicago can use this project as a catalyst to help recover from the disastrous damage done by the misguided government-imposed COVID lockdown. The skill and creative display of nature at its best would spark in our hands, connected to our inspired and industrious people.

As Chicago’s commercial opportunities increase along Broadway, life where the land meets the

PARK see p. 8



Joseph Lyman Silsbee (1848-1913)



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By the fourth day of the 2026 Lollapalooza Festival, on Sunday the mega-event was marked by a sea of slurry, mud and mess that left Grant Park's softball fields unplayable. Bird's-eye view (center photo) of the aftermath of Lollapalooza concert after one memorable weekend in Chicago's 2026 summer festival season. *Courtesy Chicago Sun-Times*

Grant Park - Chicago's historic front yard - sold for cash



The Home Front
by Don DeBat

First of two articles on the future of softball on Chicago's lakefront.

While music blasted from multiple stages during the recent epic "Lollapalooza" event, Grant Park's historic and cherished 16-inch softball diamonds were trampled into utter destruction. Was this the final toll of the death knell for Grant Park softball?

By the fourth day of the Lollapalooza festival, on Sunday, Aug. 2, the mega-event was marked by a sea of slurry, mud, monsoon rains and endless blasting music as 115,000 concert goers celebrated, and struggled to find space standing in the ankle-deep ooze.

With a total of 400,000-plus concert attendees over four days and nights, that's a total of approximately 800,000 human feet trampling on Grant Park's grass and softball diamonds. The grass never had a chance.

While skinny dipping in Lake Michigan and free love wasn't witnessed, the event was the equivalent of the famed 1969 Woodstock Music concert highlighting three days of peace and love held on Max Yasgur's dairy farm in Bethel, N.Y.

While a 3-day ticket to Woodstock cost

\$18 in advance, and \$24 at the gate, tickets to Lollapalooza ran from a single day \$185 general admission ticket, to four day passes running from \$400 to \$800.

Lollapalooza's entertainment was mostly B-class bands. The event never even came close to Woodstock, which featured The Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, The Who, Santana, Janis Joplin, Joan Baez, Sly and the Family Stones, and Jimi Hendrix.

By the end of the Lolla concert on Friday, a non-profit drug-control group, dubbed "This Must Be the Place," had passed out 4,000 free doses of the opioid harm-reducer Naloxone from a booth on Grant Park grounds. Drug use was a prominent feature of both Woodstock and Lollapalooza.

However, the aftermath leaves a lot of work for the producers of Lollapalooza to pay for. Landscaping experts say Grant Park has a long way to go before it's restored back to its old green self. In 2027, a mud-wrestling championship should be added as a post-concert event.

Last year, organizers spent more than \$1 million on cleanup and restoration after Lollapalooza. This year's costs will likely be higher after heavy rains soaked the grounds all weekend, said the organizer "C3 Presents," which must cover the costs of all re-sodding. No problem. Gross revenue of \$488 million was reportedly raised by C3 Presents.

Critics say the Chicago Park District [CPD] now is about leasing public property for profit-making ventures. As a result, Grant Park, the place once dubbed "the city's green front yard," is off limits to the general public for a good deal of the

summer. Lollapalooza's contract with the city of Chicago runs a whopping length of time—through 2032.

Is softball officially dead at Grant Park?

Meanwhile, die-hard Windy City softball players and fans say the desecration of the dozen pristine ball fields in Grant Park's landmark "Valley"—between Balbo and Roosevelt Rd. east of Columbus Dr.—may have put the final nail in the coffin for "Chicago's Game." It is likely our beloved 16-inch softball is dead at Grant Park. It was once the biggest slow-pitch venue in the Windy City.

Downtown softball at Grant Park, where more than 350 teams once competed in leagues organized by the CPD, took a turn for the worse after the tragedy of 9/11. Metered parking along Columbus Dr. near the fields was removed for security reasons. Players were forced to park several blocks away and walk to the fields, or take a cab.

Critics noted that the demise of softball at Grant Park really accelerated in 2020

with the COVID lockdowns, followed in 2022, when NASCAR racing, got the green light on two years of racing.

Back in 2022, dozens of teams that had played in the corporate, industrial and saloon leagues at Grant Park for decades were tersely notified that their season had been compressed or canceled because of the upcoming June 22 through July 5 NASCAR race, festivals and events.

"Mayor Lori Lightfoot and the city killed 16-inch softball in the Windy City," said Ron Roenigk, publisher of Inside Publications, and a player-manager who participated in the Media Co-ed Softball League for decades. Roenigk's respected "Inside Dirt" team played at Grant Park, Lincoln Park, and Waveland Park on Tuesdays and Thursday nights.

"There are so many profit-making 'close-off-the-park-to-non-payer' events in Grant Park now that tax-paying Chicagoans have basically lost their recreational front yard for the better part of the summer. It really

GRANT PARK see p. 4

Homage Aug. 22 for DuSable's 208th

The Annual DuSable Commemoration Memorial will be held 11 a.m. Saturday Aug. 22 at Pioneer Court, 401 N. Michigan Ave. DuSable Heritage Association will join fellow members of the DuSable Park Coalition and Friends of the Parks to honor the memory of the Haitian-born founder of the City of Chicago, Jean-Baptiste Pointe DuSable, for the 208th

anniversary of his passing.

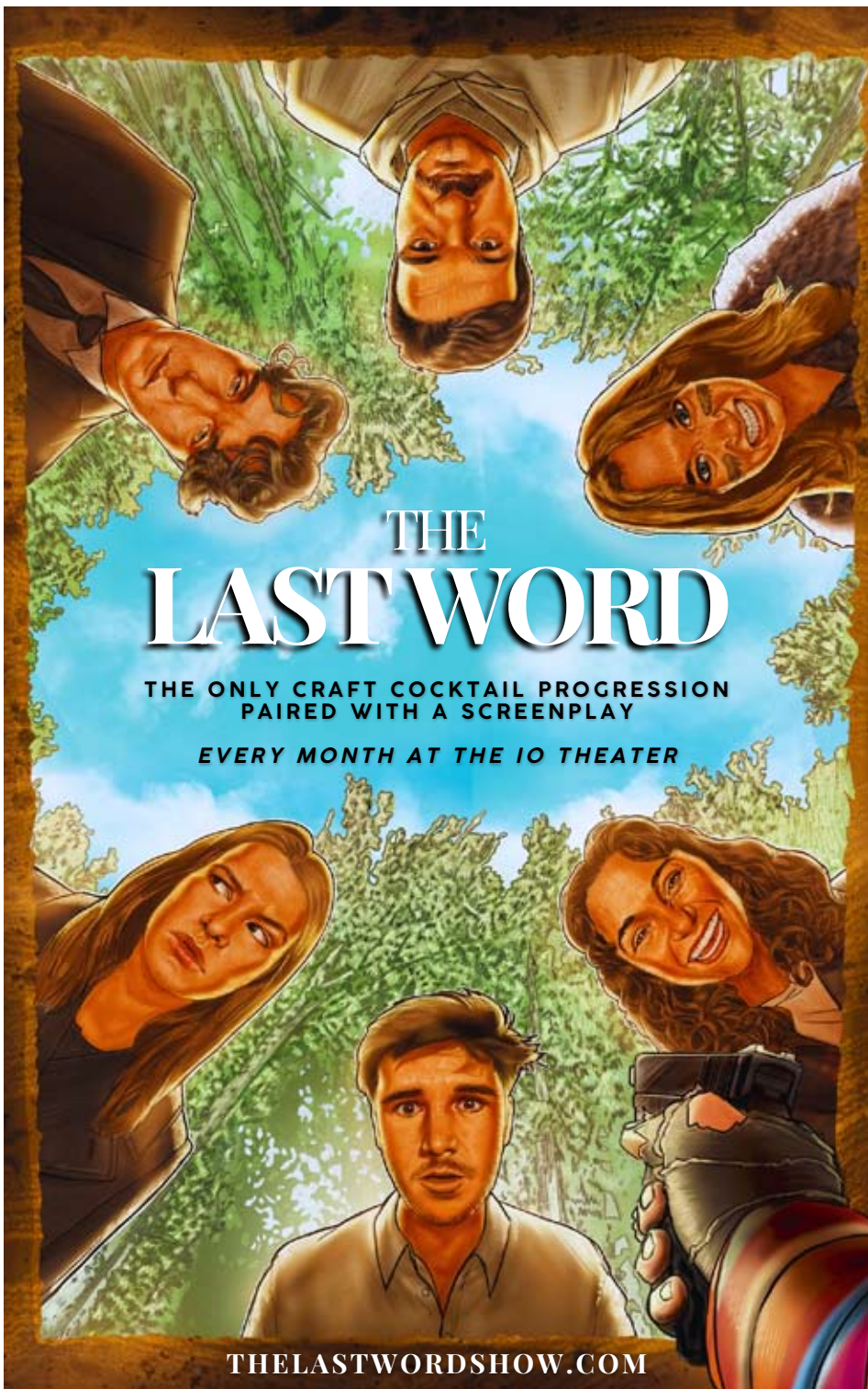
Those gathering for the festivities will pay homage to his legacy of entrepreneurship and inclusion, which was instrumental in the founding of Chicago as its first colonial settler. This free community event features a wreath-laying ceremony, walking tours, and art displays.

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Iconic Air and Water Show returns Aug. 15–16

Beloved summer tradition returns to the lakefront, celebrates America’s 250th anniversary

The City of Chicago will present the 2026 Chicago Air and Water Show on Aug. 15 and 16 along the lakefront from Fullerton Ave. to Oak St., with North Ave. Beach serving as the show center from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. This year’s event will feature the return of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, the U.S. Army Golden Knights, military demonstrations, civilian aerobatic performers and more as millions gather for one of Chicago’s most beloved summer traditions.

Fans may recall that last year

the Navy Thunderbirds performed and broke the sound barrier on Friday’s practice runs, with the sonic boom busting out glass windows and doors along the lakefront.

The show was first held in 1959, and it remains the nation’s largest free-admission air and water exhibition. The event draws millions of spectators annually, generating significant tourism and economic activity for Chicago businesses. It will also serve as one of Chicago’s signature celebrations of America’s 250th anniversary, honoring the nation’s history through spectacular aerial demonstrations and military tributes while bringing together residents and global visitors.

“The Show is one of Chi-

cago’s defining summer traditions, bringing families, visitors and aviation enthusiasts together along our extraordinary lakefront. “We are proud of the spirit of innovation, service and patriotism that has inspired generations, while showcasing the very best our city has to offer. The Chicago Air and Water Show reflects [Chicago’s] commitment to creating free, accessible experiences that connect people through unforgettable moments,” said Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Cmsr. Kenya K. Merritt. “As we commemorate America’s 250th anniversary, we’re proud to welcome residents and visitors to our lakefront to celebrate this historic milestone while honoring the courage, excellence and

Featured military and civilian performers:

- U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds
- U.S. Air Force C-17 Demo – 15th Airlift Squadron
- Illinois Air National Guard KC-135 – 126th Air Refueling Wing
- U.S. Coast Guard Search & Rescue Demo
- F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team
- USMC F-35B Lightning II Demonstration Team
- Kevin Coleman – Red Bull
- Susan Dacy Super Stearman “Big Red”
- Ed Hamill Folds of Honor Biplane
- Trojan Phlyers Flight Demonstration Team
- Chicago Police Dept. Helicopters
- Chicago Fire Dept. Air / Sea Rescue



GRANT PARK from p. 3

is sad,” said Roenigk.

The 70-year-old Media League shrunk to six teams in 2022 from 36 teams in 2019—an astounding 83% loss in the historic Chicago sport in just three years.

Roenigk noted that many who used to go to games after work downtown, started working from home. He said, “Once they learned they could work from home, they never came back to the city.”

The softball teams being booted out of Grant Park were not playing for free. The annual league fee was \$1,000 or more per team.

“Most Chicagoans don’t have any concept of how much public-park real estate the city has leased out to private companies involved in profit-making ventures,” Roenigk said.

“The Chicago Sport & Social Club [CSSC], which bills itself as “a leader in the social-sports industry,” locks-up diamond permits early in the season, and that just reduces the days and times available for traditional Park District softball saloon leagues, which are rapidly disappearing.

The organization’s website says CSSC is “the largest organizer of adult sports leagues, social events and tournaments nationwide. There currently [are] more

than 100,000 annual participants CSSC across 20 sports, including softball, flag football, kickball, beach volley ball, pickleball and cornhole, to name a few.

Over the past decade, traditional men’s and women’s 16-inch softball saloon leagues have been shut down in far too many city parks to mention. At Lake Shore Park on Michigan Ave’s. Magnificent Mile, elite competition was played in the shadows of high-rises, and teams partied on Rush St. after games. Now, that only is a memory.

The CPD collects their cut of the fees, and provides diamonds. The CSSC organizes, administers and profits heavily from men’s and co-ed recreational and competitive softball leagues.

The CSSC play seven days a week in more than a dozen city parks, including Lincoln Park South, Revere, Hamlin, Stanton, Seward, Waveland, Union, Brands, Oz/Jonquil, Clarendon, Wrightwood, Welles, and Union.

CSSC leagues also are booked at the Univ. of Illinois/Chicago Turf Recreation field, Whitney Young and Walter Payton high school fields.

For the 2026 season of seven games, each team pays an entry fee of \$1,325. The fee includes team jerseys, an online schedule and standings, a certified umpire, and championship shirts for

the winning team. Other perks and giveaways are handed out after the games in sponsor bars. Another bonus—a free Athletico Injury Assessment.

Historic game was born in 1887

“Grant Park’s historic softball fields should be nominated for landmark status,” noted softball umpire Larry Comstock, whose team, “Smoke,” was inducted in 2011 as a historic team in the Hall of Fame.

“After all, the very game of softball was invented here in Chicago in 1887, when the first indoor game was played at the Farragut Boat Club at Lake Park Ave. and 31st St., only a couple of miles from Grant Park,” said Comstock, who also played on the historic Chicago Sun-Times Hall of Fame team, inducted in 2008.

This writer was inducted into the softball Hall of Fame in 1999, played hundreds of games at Grant Park and won more than 30 championships in the Industrial League for the Chicago Daily

News and the Sun-Times from 1975 through 1995.

As a player, manager, HOF inductee and life-long promoter of classic 16-inch slow-pitch softball, I am thoroughly shocked that “Chicago’s Game” has been driven out, and our public parks were sold for cash.

“With the Michigan Ave. high-rise cityscape to the west and Lake Michigan to the east, playing softball at Grant Park—Chicago’s beautiful front yard—always was an awesome experience,” recalled Robert Egan, a Chicago Sun-Times player and manager.

Egan organized and managed the Sun-Times tournament team and won the elite Mike Royko Classic Softball Tournament five times at the park in 2001, 2002, 2006, 2007 and 2009.

Egan was inducted into the HOF in 2008 along with 120 other Sun-Times and Daily News players as teammates on that historic team.

“Chicago’s clueless, Democratic-Socialist politicians are rewriting history, and spitting on the grave of famed columnist Mike Royko, a great promoter of the game,” Egan said.

Over the past decade, traditional men’s and women’s 16-inch softball saloon leagues have been shut down in far too many city parks to mention. At Lake Shore Park on Michigan Ave’s. Magnif-

icent Mile, elite competition was played in the shadows of high-rises, and teams partied on Rush St. after games. Now, that only is a memory.

The once-elite 16-inch softball league at Clarendon Park, where the legendary “juiced ball” was mandatory in the 1960s by park director George Morris to hold scores down, now caters to 12-inch glove co-ed leagues in a “social setting.”

“Chicago’s game once was played in every park and gravel school yard across the city,” Egan recalled. “At the neighborhood level, serious and skilled blue-collar saloon teams flocked to corner taverns after the game for camaraderie—the life blood of softball.”

A tavern sponsor like Chicago Joe’s, a now-defunct saloon on Irving Park Rd. and Western Ave., typically paid a sponsorship fee of about \$600 per league to bring in the players for shots and beer, Egan said.

“Softball was good for neighborhood businesses, pumping tens of thousands of tax dollars into the city. Now, virtually all of the very competitive neighborhood leagues are dead and the bars are closing. It’s very sad,” Egan said.

Paul Rowan, president of the 16-inch Chicago Softball Hall of Fame, noted that elite 16-inch suburban softball teams play at Forest Park and Westchester, and tournament action is starting to pick up again. This writer wishes them well. Keep cutting, dumping and pounding that Clincher.

For a good read on the history of softball in Chicago, buy a copy of “The Greatest Game on Dirt” by Al Maag. And, visit the 16-inch Softball Hall of Fame website: <http://16inchsoftballhof.com/shop>.

NEXT WEEK: If Grant Park diamonds were razed and covered with Astro Turf for concerts, where should elite downtown softball leagues move?

For more softball and 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. DeBat also is putting the finishing touches on “Chicago’s Game,” a book dedicated to 16-inch softball.

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More Divvy stations along North Lakefront, new 'No Bike Parking' zone too

Bikers may soon be fined for parking violations

For several years now, Divvy bike-share bicycles have been intentionally dumped into Lake Michigan along the North Lakefront, creating an ongoing environmental and safety concern. Vandalism and theft have driven this problem, as people forcibly dislodge the bikes from docks or abandon them after illicit use, or in committing crimes, hoping to eliminate evidence.

Other times the Divvy bikes end up in the lake due to poor biking skills, bad behavior, from bike accidents or just due to congestion.

Swimmers, shore fishermen and locals have spotted large clusters of submerged bikes along popular stretches of the North Lakefront

Letter to the Editor

Sun-Times backed JFK

Columnist Thomas O'Gorman compared Chicago newspapers from his very young days in the 1950s and 1960s with today's social media reporting [Aug. 5]. In contrasting the Chicago Sun-Times with the Chicago Tribune he suggests that the Sun-Times was "Way left of center but good at local sports. It still is. God bless their little hearts."

In several previous columns he relishes the first Mayor Daley, Sen. John Kennedy, and the important role Daley played in helping Kennedy secure both the Democratic Party's nomination and the presidency in 1960. He neglects to report that this was accomplished with help from the Sun-Times and absolutely no help from the Tribune.

In the summer and fall of 1960 the Tribune attacked Kennedy as inexperienced, naive, and incompetent. Meanwhile the Sun-Times spoke very favorably of Kennedy in numerous articles.

The Sun-Times endorsed Kennedy while the Tribune endorsed Richard Nixon.

Then in the 1964 election the Tribune blasted and insulted President Lyndon Johnson, who had been Kennedy's choice for vice-president, his social programs and his work for a "Great Society." One editorial dared to compare it to Soviet style communism. The Sun-Times meanwhile reaped praise on Johnson's social agenda and endorsed him for president.

The Tribune endorsed arch conservative Barry Goldwater. Johnson won in a historic landslide.

In my youth, I loved visiting the area where reporters worked in both papers. The Sun-Times building is long gone and in its place is the Trump Tower. The very impressive Tribune Tower no longer is home to the Tribune; their best writers from more recent years have either accepted buyouts, or just left. Despite their "way right of center" editorials I appreciate how good their comics have been. It still is. God bless their little hearts.

Fred Case
Lakeview

Trail like between Oak St. Beach and North Ave., and around Montrose Beach and Montrose Point.

Because the city and Lyft struggle to keep up with all the dumping, citizens formed the Alternative Anglers Assoc. (aka, the Divvy Fishers Society), a grassroots group of Chicago swimmers and volunteers who are dedicated to diving into Lake Michigan to retrieve and pull out hundreds of stolen and vandalized Divvy bikes that have been thrown into the water.

Now the city, in partnership with the Chicago Park District and Lyft, operator of Chicago's Divvy bike rental system, have announced the expansion of Divvy stations along Chicago's North Lakefront.

The additions come as Divvy recorded its busiest month ever in July, surpassing one million rides in a single month for the first time in history.

The new stations will make it easier for users to find and return Divvy bikes to their stations - or into the lake - while accessing popular lakefront destinations.

New Divvy stations were installed at Lake Shore Dr. and Jackson Dr.; Lake Shore Dr. and Balbo Dr.; at North Avenue Beach and the North Avenue Beach Pedestrian Bridge, and in the Lincoln Park Zoo.

These new stations should improve availability where demand is highest, for those who choose Divvy.

Between Fullerton Pkwy. and Grand Ave., riders have taken more than 120,000 Divvy trips so far this year, and the area surrounding North Avenue Beach has consistently been the highest-demand location for a new Divvy station anywhere in Chicago.

On e-bikes, the on-bike screen will prompt riders to check the app when e-bikes are in the No Parking Zone. From there, the app will direct riders to find proper parking options.

Anyone who bikes, walks, or runs along the lakefront knows it gets very crowded. So in addition to the new stations, the city is also expanding new parking enforcement measures east of Lake Shore Dr. between Fullerton Pkwy. and Grand Ave. The goal is to enforce more orderly bike parking in the area to keep the Lakefront Trail clear.

So the city and the Chicago Park District, are piloting a new parking approach that started last week, affecting the area from the North Avenue Beach Pedestrian Bridge on the North to Navy Pier on the South. This stretch sees some of the highest ridership anywhere in the Divvy system, so it's where more parking options make a difference. So rental riders must now end their trips at Divvy sta-

tions, overflow corrals directly next to stations, or in designated bike racks throughout the area.

This stretch has become a No Parking Zone, with specific cut-outs for where bikers can end their ride. Riders will be required to park in one of three places: A Divvy station; An overflow corral — areas directly adjacent to Lakefront Trail-side stations, for use when the adjacent station is full or approaching full, and a designated public rack — a public bike rack specifically marked in the app as an approved spot to end a Divvy ride.

On e-bikes, the on-bike screen will prompt riders to check the app when e-bikes are in the No Parking Zone. From there, the app will direct riders to find proper parking options.

The program will run for an advisory period when no fees and fines will be issued. After the test period, the zone becomes fully active and riders who end a ride outside of a station, overflow corral, or public rack in this stretch may be hit with a parking violation fine.

To help riders adjust, the city is using on-site valet support at North Avenue Beach every weeknight and weekend through the summer, along with roaming crews keeping bikes tidy throughout the pilot zone.

The length of the pilot test trial period and full rollout dates when fines will start accruing has not yet been announced.

Teen Architecture Ambassadors applications due Aug. 21

The Chicago Architecture Center's Teen Ambassadors Program is accepting applications from students in grades 10–12. Applications are due by Aug. 21.

This multi-week program invites teens to explore Chicago architecture through place-based research and hands-on community engagement. Students will earn \$500 upon successful completion of the program.

Participants will visit historic buildings and culturally significant sites, then apply what they've learned by serving as on-site ambassadors during Open House Chicago this October—one of the city's largest architecture and cultural festivals.

The program hopes youth will explore the history and legacy of Chicago architecture, build confidence in public speaking and presentation skills, visit and investigate significant landmarks and present a final creative project. For more information visit www.architecture.org/events-programs/teen-ambassadors.

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Police Beat...

Man in custody for deadly Lakeview hit and run crash

A woman was killed Aug. 8 in a chain-reaction hit-and-run crash in Lakeview at about 9:22 p.m. in the 1400-block of W. Irving Park Road, police said.

The victim was identified as Sarah Milcarek, 25, of Columbia, Missouri, walked between two parked cars and onto the street when the crash occurred. She was struck by a man driving a blue sedan, police said.

The woman who died was the only person on foot in the crash. The driver responsible did not stop after he hit the woman, and he crashed into other cars as he fled the scene.

Police say he struck a dark-colored SUV, which caused a chain collision with a black car.

After the second crash, police said the driver of the dark-colored SUV chased the man driving the blue car.

Police said the driver then crashed into a tree in front of Lake View High School, and then ran into a nearby building in the 4000 block of N. Ashland Ave.

The 25-year-old woman was taken to Illinois Masonic Hospital, where she died.

Woman charged with attempted murder

Ivory Buchanan, 41, of the 1300 block of Brummel St. in Evanston, was charged with Attempted First Degree Murder and three other counts on Aug. 8, after she was arrested on Aug. 6 by members of the Chicago Police Dept. and the U.S. Marshals Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force.

Buchanan was identified as the offender who, on July 26, struck and injured a 61-year-old man with her vehicle in the 6100 block of N. Ravenswood Ave. in Edgewater.

The offender was placed into custody and subsequently charged accordingly.



Ivory Buchanan

Chicago woman charged after investigators link her to \$100K Lululemon shoplifting crew

A 42-year-old Chicago woman is accused of being part of a massive organized shoplifting crew that stole more than \$100,000 worth of merchandise by recruiting homeless people to steal from Lululemon and other retailers in exchange for cash and drugs.

Roise Spencer was arrested Aug. 3 after Lululemon loss prevention employees and Cook County Sheriff's Police Organized Retail Crime investigators spotted what they believed was a fraudulent return at the retailer's store at 930 N. Rush St., according to the sheriff's office.

Investigators said the returned merchandise had been stolen, and Spencer returned it for store credit before leaving the store in a black Jeep. Sheriff's police stopped the Jeep near the Mag Mile and took Spencer into custody on an outstanding warrant for a separate drug possession and theft case, according to the sheriff's office.



Rosie Spencer

But investigators continued digging and learned Spencer rents a storage unit in the 1000 block of W. 111th St. that investigators had identified as part of a theft crew that operated throughout northeastern Illinois, recruiting homeless people to steal merchandise from stores, including Lululemon, the sheriff's office said.

The crew allegedly provided the recruits with money, narcotics or clothing in exchange for stealing merchandise. The stolen goods were then returned to retailers, allowing members of the crew to obtain store credit. Spencer's storage unit was among several searched by investigators in April, leading to the recovery of tens of thousands of dollars worth of allegedly stolen merchandise from the units, the sheriff's office said.

The Cook County State's Attorney's Office charged Spencer with theft of more than \$10,000. She is currently detained on the outstanding warrant.

Man with 30 arrests robbed woman on CTA, then walked into Taco Bell where she works

A man who has been arrested 30 times by Chicago police made a critical mistake after robbing a woman at a downtown CTA station last month, prosecutors say: He later walked into the fast-food restaurant where she worked, and she flagged down a passing patrol car to alert police.

Around 3:40 p.m. July 29, the 39-year-old woman was at the Lake Red Line station when Davon Thomas, 29, sat down next to her and asked if she had any minutes on the phone she was holding, according to a detention filing.

Thomas then looked around to see if anyone was watching before slapping the woman's hand down, taking her phone and fleeing, the filing said. CTA surveillance cameras recorded the robbery, and detectives quickly distributed photos of the suspect to the city's transit cops.

About four hours later, the victim was working at Taco Bell, 178 N. Wabash Ave., when she saw the man who had robbed her inside the dining room, according to prosecutors. She watched him leave the restaurant and walk toward State St., then flagged down police and described what he was wearing, the filing said.

Officers suspected Thomas would return to the Red Line, so they started their search there. They arrested him after he jumped the turnstile at the Jackson Red Line station, according to the filing.

Thomas' arrest report said the officers recognized him from internal bulletins about the woman's robbery and another robbery reported earlier that day. He has not been charged with the second crime.

Judge Antara Rivera ordered Thomas detained on a robbery charge. He was already on pretrial release at the time of the robbery for a misdemeanor retail theft case filed July 9.

Thomas' 30 arrests in Chicago since 2015 have resulted in two felony convictions: a 2016 robbery ended with probation, and a 2024 aggravated battery conviction resulted in a two-year prison sentence.

Man gets 35 years for fatal shooting during 2020 Puerto Rican Day festivities

On Aug. 4, a judge sentenced a man to 35 years in prison for shooting two people, one fatally, during the 2020 Puerto Rican Day festivities in Bucktown.

Lazerice Drew, 27, pleaded guilty to murder and attempted murder in



Lazerice Drew, left, and Brandon McGhee.

exchange for consecutive 25- and 10-year sentences from Judge John Lyke, according to court records. He must serve 100% of the murder sentence and 85% of the 10-year term.

Just before 7 p.m. June 20, 2020, Brandon McGhee and some friends stopped at a convenience store near the Western Blue Line station. McGhee and a 16-year-old stepped out of the car when Drew, convicted murderer Carlos Coleman, and a third person crossed the street toward them, prosecutors alleged, yelling for them to give their gang affiliation.

McGhee's friends and family later explained that he was in the area for the festival and had no gang affiliation.

At an initial court hearing, prosecutors said Coleman, who was 39 at the time, tried to punch McGhee's companion. The boy ducked, causing Coleman to fall, and the confrontation spiraled quickly. The boy and Coleman began running when they saw Drew moving a hand toward his waistband as if he had a gun, prosecutors said. Drew opened fire, striking McGhee in the neck and the 16-year-old in the arm as they ran away.

McGhee was killed. Police said neither he nor the 16-year-old had any previous contact with CPD.

The gunfire also put passersby in danger. One bullet flew through the windshield of a couple's car as they drove on Western Ave. The bullet narrowly missed the occupants, while the man driving was cut by flying glass.

After the shooting, prosecutors said, Coleman ran in one direction while Drew and the unknown third suspect went another way. Witnesses said the men appeared to have Puerto Rican flags wrapped around their bodies.

Surveillance cameras captured Drew changing his shirt before he ditched his gun in an alley behind the 1900 block of N. Milwaukee Ave. Police found the weapon about 20 minutes later.

Within two weeks, a judge issued an arrest warrant for Drew after investigators identified him by comparing tattoos visible on his social media accounts with images of the gunman. But he remained on the loose for a full year until police caught up with him after a traffic crash in July 2021.

Coleman pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in March 2024, court records show, but he has not yet been sentenced. His next court date is August 20. Prosecutors said he was previously convicted of murder in 1998, received a 40-year sentence, and was paroled in 2018.

Parolee charged with 2 iPhone rip-offs arranged through Facebook Marketplace

A felon on parole is accused of using Facebook Marketplace as a hunting ground, arranging two deals for iPhone 17 Pros and snatching the devices during the meet-ups. In one case, prosecutors said, he handed the seller \$700 in counterfeit cash and threatened to shoot the man when he tried to get his phone back.

Jumanni Butler, 33, is charged with armed robbery and felony theft in connection with the two cases, which happened less than two weeks apart in Edgewater and on the Near West Side.

The first victim, a 45-year-old man, agreed through Facebook Marketplace to sell Butler his phone for

\$1,800, and they met at the BP gas station at 1600 W. Van Buren St. to complete the deal on June 20, prosecutors said. Butler arrived in a Dodge Charger registered to him and approached the victim's car. Prosecutors said he handed the victim an envelope containing \$700 in counterfeit cash, then immediately snatched the iPhone box from the victim's hands and ran back to his Charger.

The victim followed Butler and demanded that he return the phone. As Butler got into the driver's seat, he allegedly reached toward the handle of a black firearm tucked into his waistband and told the victim to step back or he would shoot him. The victim jumped back, and Butler closed the door and sped away with the phone, according to prosecutors.



Jumanni Butler

Gas station surveillance cameras captured the encounter, and the victim reported the robbery shortly afterward.

Investigators say Butler was involved in another Facebook Marketplace theft just 12 days later. In that case, a victim agreed to sell an iPhone 17 Pro Max for \$1,200. Butler allegedly met the victim on July 2 at an apartment building in the 6100 block of N. Sheridan Rd., snatched a bag containing the phone and ran out without paying. Surveillance video allegedly shows Butler arriving in his Charger, entering the building, running out with the bag, and driving away.

Detectives used the vehicle's license plate and a pawn shop transaction to link Butler to the crimes. A search warrant served on his phone allegedly showed it was in the immediate area of the July 2 theft.

Butler was on parole for unlawful possession of a weapon by a felon at the time of the two crimes, according to prosecutors. He previously received a six-year sentence for armed robbery in 2012.

Judge Antara Rivera ordered Butler detained on the new charges.

Gold Coast carjackers get 16 years after spree near Pritzker's mansion



Charles Benson (L), Demontae Watkins.

Two men with lengthy juvenile criminal records, including prior carjacking adjudications, were sentenced to 16 years in prison Aug. 6 for a violent Gold Coast crime spree that saw them beat a woman, try to carjack a man outside Gov. J.B. Pritzker's mansion, and finally steal a food delivery driver's car at gunpoint.

Demontae Watkins, 20, and Charles Benson, 23, pleaded guilty before Judge Neera Walsh to charges stemming from the January 16, 2024, spree, which lasted about 20 minutes and ended with both men fleeing in a stolen Nissan as police helicopters tracked them from above.

It all began around 7:30 p.m. as the pair approached a 26-year-old woman in the 1500 block of N. State St. Watkins allegedly pointed a handgun at her and demanded her keys and valuables before the men pushed her to the ground and kicked her repeatedly, including in the face, prosecutors alleged.

They abandoned the hijacking attempt when a passing car startled them.

But the pair struck again minutes later in the 1400 block of N. Astor St., just steps from Pritzker's mansion. A 41-year-old man was sitting

in his 2008 Audi when the two men climbed inside, displayed guns and demanded his wallet, police said. The victim handed over his property and got out.

Then the carjackers ran into a problem: They didn't know how to drive a stick shift. So, they abandoned the man's Audi and took off on foot.

They found a more suitable target in the 1000 block of N. Lake Shore Dr.: a 33-year-old food delivery driver. Prosecutors said they pulled a gun on him and stole his 2019 Nissan Sentra, with Benson getting behind the wheel and heading south.

But the Nissan had barely begun its escape when it started ping-ponging on the city's vast network of license plate readers. The Chicago Joint Vehicular Hijacking Task Force happened to be conducting a special operation that night, and Illinois State Police troopers pursued it on the ground as helicopters from CPD and U.S. Customs and Border Protection shadowed it from above, according to court filings.

Benson eventually pushed the car to more than 90 mph on the Dan Ryan Expy, prosecutors said. The chase ended in the 7000 block of S. Wood St., where the two men bailed out and ran. The CPD helicopter helped cops find Benson hiding under a stairwell, according to police records. An ISP dog sniffed out Watkins, who was lying in nearby bushes. A loaded handgun was lying near Watkins' feet, police said.

Despite their relatively young ages, both men had extensive histories, officials said.

Benson had been off parole for a gun case for only about 30 days when he joined Watkins in the Gold Coast spree, a court filing said. His juvenile record included adjudications for carjacking, possessing a stolen motor vehicle, robbery, reckless conduct and aggravated robbery with a firearm, officials said.

Watkins was still on parole. He had been adjudicated delinquent in 2023 for armed carjacking and had accumulated eight arrests, according to prosecutors. Those cases allegedly included assault, domestic battery, electronic harassment, criminal damage to property by explosion and two counts of criminal trespass to a vehicle.

And prosecutors say Watkins had already carjacked someone else on the South Side about an hour before the Gold Coast spree began. In that case, he allegedly approached a man who had just parked in the 7200 block of S. Winchester Ave. Wearing a mask and black clothing, Watkins allegedly pressed a gun against the man's side and demanded the keys to his 2002 Honda.

On Thursday, Watkins pleaded guilty to multiple counts of aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon, aggravated battery in a public place, attempted aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm, armed robbery and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon. He received sentences ranging from five to 16 years, all served concurrently.

Benson pleaded guilty to aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon, aggravated battery in a public place, attempted aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm, aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon and unlawful possession of a stolen vehicle. He also pleaded guilty to two cases he picked up while in the Cook County Jail: possession of cannabis in a penal institution and arson.

Aldermen demand changes after \$8 million wrongful-conviction recipient pleads guilty to traveling to meet 13-year-old

BY CWBCHICAGO

Twelve Chicago aldermen are calling for changes to the city’s legal settlement policy after a CWBChicago report revealed that a man who received an \$8 million wrongful-conviction settlement from the city has pleaded guilty to traveling to meet a 13-year-old.

The aldermen made the request Aug. 6 in a letter to Corporation Counsel Mary Richardson-Lowry, explicitly citing our reporting about Francisco Nanez, a 61-year-old who served decades in prison for a murder conviction that prosecutors moved to vacate.

In their letter, the aldermen asked the Dept. of Law to change how approved settlements are distributed, requiring payments to be made in quarterly installments rather than lump sums. The proposal would also suspend payments to anyone arrested for a felony and void the settlement if the person is ultimately convicted.

The letter notes that the Department of Law recommended an \$8 million settlement for Nanez last year in connection with his wrongful conviction. At the time, he was in custody awaiting trial on charges of attempted predatory criminal sexual assault of a victim younger than 13, solicitation of child pornography from a victim younger than 13, groom-

ing, traveling to meet a minor, and other felonies, according to court records.

“We find it reprehensible that such a criminal would be receiving any taxpayer settlement,” the aldermen said. The aldermen said settlements should be intended to help people recover from government mistakes rather than continue receiving payments if they later engage in criminal conduct.

“Settlements should be used to rebuild lives after mistakes happen, not given for the purposes of continuing a life of crime, perversion and abuse,” they wrote.

The City Council approved Nanez’s settlement a year after CWB Chicago reported that he has been arrested.

The letter was signed by aldermen Brian Hopkins, Anthony Beale, Marty Quinn, Raymond Lopez, Derrick Curtis, Silvana Tabares, Felix Cardona Jr., Gil-

bert Villegas, Nicholas Sposato, Anthony Napolitano, Brendan Reilly, and Debra Silverstein.

Nanez was sentenced to life in prison for a 1986 arson that killed two people. His path toward freedom began in 2007, when one of his two co-defendants saw an episode of “Myth-Busters” in prison that tested whether a lit cigarette could ignite gasoline. The result cast doubt on a key aspect of the prosecution’s arson theory.

The case eventually reached the courts, and the convictions were vacated in July 2021. The Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office declined to retry the three men. The group later sued the city, prosecutors and Chicago police officers involved in the 1986 case. The City Council approved an \$8 million settlement for Nanez while his two co-defendants each received \$20 million.

Less than two years after his

release from his life sentence, Nanez was arrested in May 2024 in a case involving an undercover investigator posing as a minor. According to the Cook County Sheriff’s Office, the agency’s Internet Crimes Against Children Unit learned that a minor was receiving inappropriate messages from Nanez on a social media application. An investigator posing as the child continued the conversation by text, authorities said.

Nanez allegedly sent sexually explicit messages, requested nude photographs and arranged to meet the child outside a Berwyn convenience store. Investigators

arrested him when he arrived, according to the sheriff’s office. A forensic examination of his cell-phone found conversations with the victim and non-explicit photographs of the child, the sheriff’s office said.

Nanez pleaded guilty Aug. 3 to traveling to meet a minor before Judge Eulalia De La Rosa. He was sentenced to five years in prison and must serve 50% of the sentence under state law. With credit for 825 days he had already spent in the Cook County Jail, he had about 87 days remaining to serve.



Francisco Nanez

PAWS 5K race is Aug. 29

The PAWS Chicago 5K Walk/Run for Their Lives will be held starting at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at Montrose Harbor, 400 W. Montrose.

The race is Chicago’s largest dog-friendly charity event, and

it includes dog agility courses, raffles, entertainment, and treats.

For more information visit <https://www.pawschicago.org/events-dog-training/fundraising-events/5k-walk/run>.

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PARK from p. 2

lake will be enhanced by the work of bright architects. After the fire, Chicago, in its growth, was reinforcing its commitment to public urban gardening. Let's do it again.

Our largest park, Lincoln Park, is named for the state's native-son, a president assassinated in 1865. It runs from 5700 north all the way down to Ohio St. and it includes beaches, marinas, sporting fields, tennis courts, a golf course, zoo and the city's greatest neighborhoods.

This column proposes that a parkland extension north also be named after another native son: Obama Park. We create a president's row north to south on our lakefront... Obama, Lincoln, Grant, and Jackson parks. George Washington and James A. Garfield also have their parks, but alas, they won't be on the lakefront.

The Garfield Park Conservatory, named for the assassinated President James Garfield, was designed and built by the Danish American landscape designer Jensen whose Prairie artistry fashioned an exquisite botanical glass home for featuring plants, trees and flowers of Prairie origin. Jensen's conservatory was completed in 1908 and is ranked by many to be the most stunning in the world. His ability to create architecture reflecting the Prairie was a powerful and sensuous design feature.

Jensen's influence on landscape architecture and Prairie botanical artistry is without equal. His work placed Chicago at the most influential position in the struggle to provide architecture that enhances the ecology of design coupled to the beauty and function of American design.

We all cherish the style and evocative artistry that have been gifted to us by God and mother nature with the beauty of the Prairie and water. And we have have been gifted with artists of intelligence and reason. Somewhere out there are our era's Jensen and Silsbee. Let's put them to work

and do it again.

SOUND: Edgewater's Experimental Sound Studio continues their sound installation program, Florasonic, Aug. 23 through Oct. 11 at Lincoln Park Conservatory. Admission is free to the public with advance reservation. This year's installations celebrate Florasonic's 25th anniversary, with three newly commissioned works presented in quadrasonic sound by **Jenn Grossman**, **Oskar Thor Arngrimsson (Ótal)**, and **Regina Martinez** with **Mario V. Martinez**. All three installations will run recurrently, one at a time, throughout each day in the Conservatory's Fern Room. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, Aug. 23 at Lincoln Park Conservatory, with a play-through of each commissioned work. This year's Florasonic artists were selected from an open call for proposals, a first in the series' history, which yielded 145 submissions.

MAYORAL TICKET: Secretary of State **Alexi Giannoulas**, a North Sider, has shaken Chicago's political ground declaring his candidacy for Mayor of Chicago. Word is he has secured support from the City's business community. And Crain's says his \$22 million war chest is reshaping the mayor's race. The one big blot on his resume is his family's bankrupting and looting of Broadway Bank. **Dan Balanoff** was reporting live from Giannoulas HQ. Meanwhile, Cook County Treasurer **Maria Pappas** made a comment directed at Giannoulas during an Aug. 5 discussion regarding candidate standards for the mayoral race, "If you want to be mayor of the city of Chicago, your IQ has to be higher than your body temperature."

HOUSE: The City has announced the return of the Chicago House Music Festival and Conference, taking place Aug. 27 through Aug. 30, in the city where House music was born. The festival honors Chi-

cago's impact through free performances, dance, education and community programming across several venues. This year's festival kicks off at the Daley Plaza Farmers Market, as well as continued programming at SummerDance in Grant Park, the Chicago House Music Conference at the Chicago Cultural Center, the return of the Chicago House Dance Summit and the closing celebration along the Chicago Riverwalk.

Own your industry. Don't miss the Aug. 27 presentation by **Kenard Gibbs** of Northern Trust; **Bill Patterson**, Intellectual Property Attorney, and **Dr. Shannon Switzer** a music audiologist at Sensaphonics who specializes in the prevention and treatment of sound-induced hearing inju-



Victoria Del Santo with Donna Keane and Kim Hargreaves-Geary.

ries. Leave this workshop with practical tools you can put to work immediately. Learn how to protect your creative assets while building a career that supports your future. They will help artists build individual financial security through publishing registration, financial literacy, royalty management, savings strategies, intellectual property protection, merchandise branding and preventative measures by an audiologist to protect two of your most precious instruments, your ears.

LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND: **Candace Jordan**, **Kathy O'Malley Piccone**, **Stephanie Faher Krol** and **Sheila Gibbs** are already hard at work organizing the special event at the Walnut Room at Macy's on Oct. 2 in aid of the blind. Make plans now.

BYE-BYE BUILDINGS: Preservation Chicago Executive Director **Ward Miller** was interviewed by **Bret Bugansk** of Fox 32 News in front of five century-old buildings on Sheffield Ave. that DePaul is demolishing to clear the site for their new multi-million dollar basketball practice facility.

BLUEGRASS BRUNCH: The Sunday series you know and love is coming back to Garcia's Chicago, with a brand new look. Tickets now include entry to the show, seating, and unlimited food and drinks. This is a deal you won't want to miss. It's happening August 23 and 30 at 1001 W. Washington Blvd. Get tickets at <https://garciaschicago.live>.

WHO'S WHERE: **Mark Olley** hard at work photographing the many spectacular urns ebullient with fresh flowers and beautifying the Gold Coast. Hope he's got a book in the works. He knows plant life

and is a botanical photographer... **Victoria Del Santo** at Sisters Lake with gal-pals **Donna Keane** and **Kim Hargreaves-Geary** after her trip to Mackinaw following daughter, **Cristina Dombrowski**, who made the journey under sail... **Kim Duda** and **Barb Bailey** with **Jeannae Paul** and **Irene Michaels** were out on the town... **Stephanie Leese Emrich** has been manning the fort at the Obama Presidential Center for the past 44 days helping people understand the Museum's Exhibition Galleries... **Piccolo Sogno's Dario Pizano** in lovely San Julian, Mexico, for his cousin's wedding bash, lavish... **Nikki Friar** is back in town from the Scottish Highlands adding humor, friendship and love to sprinkle

around Chicago and enjoying bubbly Rosé and carpool karaoke on the ride from O'Hare... **Zack Koran** in Paris at the Louvre catching **Leonardo da Vinci's** Mona Lisa, and The Coronation of Napoleon by **Jacques-Louis David**... **Julia Jacobs**, sad, sending her two college boys back to school... **Karen Schmid** getting together with longtime childhood friends... **Bobbi Panter** and **Matt Arnoux** bidding 'adieu' to Paris... **Tom Hackett** and **Tom McGuire** with **Sarah Tuohy** and **Don Wiener**

aboard Chicago Private Yacht Rentals with Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce event aboard the Adeline's Sea Moose... **Irene Mojica** at Gibson's Steakhouse devouring the Strawberry Shortcake on her birthday... **The Molls, Mary Claire** and **Ken**, getting ready to leave the Mediterranean, Sardegna... Former Lincoln Park Ald. **Charles Bernadini**, a true gent with wife and friends entering Piccolo Sogno for fine vittles... Christie's **Steven Zick** dining at The Dock at Montrose Avenue Beach... **Jack** and **Sandy Goggin** ensuring that the grandchildren have enough summer stories and treats to snuggle with grandma... For **Mauro Berruti** Sunday is funday at the farmers market... **Lucien Lagrange** having a most creative architectural summer with fresh designs near completion... **Eddie Burke Jr.** visiting ma and pop, **Ed** and **Anne Burke**, in cozy Wisconsin... **Irene Michaels** has been nominated for a Josie Music Award and will celebrate at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville soon... **John Buchbinder** having a great Chicago summer visit from work in Recoleta, Ciudad De Buenos Aires.

LOLLA: **Whitney Reynolds** made Lolapalooza a mom and daughter moment... Hugo's Frog Bar's **Flavia Magdalin** was rocking and said she was interviewed by a reporter as the oldest ticket holder... We heard that **Desiree Glapion Rogers** looked like she had a five-star dinner spread out with good wine and a chic outfit in spite of the rain.

RECOVERY ONE: Chicago is wildly populated by American heroes. Men and women who at great risk reach wide and restore health and life. Recently, **Harold Buford**, majordomo at Mart Anthony's Restaurant appeared on WGN News, interviewed by reporter **Ben Bradley**. Harold, who today is indispensable to the workings of that wonderful eatery at 1200 W. Hubbard, has made a remarkable recovery from an addiction to drugs. He now successfully manages the parking for restaurant guests, sees to the welcoming of diners arriving for dinner and accomplishes a full list of special duties.

His recovery has been life altering. He is popular, successful, well-organized and sober. Everyone, it is said, relies on Harold. Relying on the love and friendship of a strong woman to inspire and challenge his demons, helped him make a healthy recovery. His story is one that can inspire others in unhealthy life-styles. Harold is a special Chicago hero, wish him well.

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Goethe Statue Nature Garden, Lincoln Park.

Photo by Jane Miller



Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary.

Photo by Cassi Saari

Restoring the wild: Two ways nature returns to town

BY MATTHEW EVANS
Lincoln Park Conservancy

If you have walked through North Side park recently, you have probably noticed areas that are filled with wildflowers and native tall grasses. Some of these areas are carefully designed native gardens, and others are restored natural areas. Although they may look similar at first, they serve different purposes and are cared for in different ways.

Understanding the difference helps us appreciate why both belong in the city.

To provide some background, let's think back to before the city existed, when native plants covered the landscape. There were many different landforms, including prairies (meadows/open grasslands), woodlands, marshes, and sand dunes along the lake, and savannas where scattered trees dotted the prairies. These are the places where our native plants evolved.

Over the past two centuries, the Chicagoland region has been changing from its "pre-settlement" character. It has been developing into a large metropolis with many suburbs. This development prioritized the needs of the people living and moving here, replacing natural landscapes and the plants and animals in them with infrastructure and landscaping familiar to those settling the area.

That meant the introduction and spread of plants from other parts of the world, while simultaneously removing or replacing the natural plant species – "native plants". Today, when you go outside, most of the plants around you are not native to the region.

Why it matters which plants are around us is an important question, with an important answer. Every part of the world has plants and animals that are indigenous there. They each have roles to play in the natural community, and they are adapted to the local circumstances, such as the precipitation, temperature, and seasonal changes.

Together, the organisms interacting in a place are called the "natural community."

Intact communities have most or all of the members that have evolved there, such as plants, animals, microbes, etc. These organisms depend on each other as well as compete, creating complex, harmonious assemblages of organisms.

In these intact communities, everyone has what they need, and the natural biodiversity of the region is supported through reciprocal relationships. A good example of this is the interaction between plants that produce berries or nuts for animals to eat, and in turn, the animals disperse the seeds packaged by the plants in those fruits, allowing plants to move around the landscape.

Biodiversity is valuable because healthy ecosystems benefit people, but many conservationists also believe species have value simply because they exist. Native plant restoration projects of all kinds recognize both ideas.

Introducing native plant species to the city is an important practice in supporting local biodiversity, and the city of Chicago has been doing a wonderful job leading by example for other urban areas.

Native plants can be used in different ways. The two main ways are in "natural

areas" and "native plant gardens." There are many overlapping features and concepts involved in these two approaches, and several important differences. Both provide habitat (shelter and food) for biodiversity such as pollinators, birds, and wildflowers, as well as ecosystem services for people.

Natural Areas

Natural Areas are spaces that are dedicated to nature and are managed as habitat, where food and shelter are prioritized over aesthetics. In practice, this means that natural areas are managed or planned more similarly to forest preserves and national parks, with different goals than a garden.

Re-creating nature takes time, and the

industry/process is referred to as "Restoration Ecology."

Ecology is the study of ecosystems, which includes both living and non-living features. Just like in a play, there are actors, and there is a stage. Ecologists study their interactions in nature.

Restoration ecology seeks to help damaged ecosystems recover many of the plants, animals, and natural processes that once existed there. That means doing our best to recreate the play by restoring the stage and the actors present prior to the changes brought on by the development of the city and suburbs.

With such complete transformation of

RESTORING see p. 10

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Community event Aug. 15 on Studs Terkel, American Dreams book

The Check Out, 4116 N. Clark St., is hosting a free community event examining Chicago author Studs Terkel and his Book American Dreams (1980), starting at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

The event promises a day of conversation and music in celebration of the 250th anniversary of American's founding.

The Check Out is a live performance and music venue. The day will feature samples from Terkel's archive, live music, and conversations with artists, journalists, poets, activists, including Chicago History Museum's Paul Durica, Director of Curation and Exhibitions, and Peter T. Alter, Chief Historian and Director of the Studs Terkel Center for Oral History.

The Studs Terkel Radio Archive was launched in May 2018 on Studs Terkel's 106th birthday. It is a digital platform whereon, eventually, will live the majority of the 5,600 radio programs Terkel created during his career in Chicago between 1952



Studs Terkel

and 1997. This platform hopes to open up Terkel's radio programs and allow for user engagement.

The Chicago History Museum owns Terkel's archival tapes. The radio archive is jointly managed by the museum and WFMT Radio.

Not funny, nearly half of local comedians have no access to health insurance

No joke, we mean it, last week the Health Alliance for Chicago Comedians [HACC] released its report from a survey of local comics about how they access health insurance and what impact it has on their careers.

The survey shows that 16% of Chicago comedians are already uninsured, with 8% on Medicaid and 24% on an Illinois ACA plan. Bad teeth mean fewer smiles, and only 63% of the comics surveyed have dental insurance, and just under half have vision insurance.

The survey includes data from 110 Chicago comedians, and the data was gathered between January and July of this year.

Local comedy clubs and organizations, including ThePlayground Theater, Stir Friday Night, The Lincoln Lodge, Laugh Factory and The Comedy Clubhouse helped distribute the HACC survey to performers.



Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary.

Photo by Cassi Saari



North Pond Nature Sanctuary.

Photo by Jane Miller

RESTORING from p. 9

the region over the past 200 years, creating spaces for nature to thrive harmoniously with dense human populations begins with creating some physical space.

Luckily for nature, Chicago has a lot of park space, and some portions of some parks in our city are dedicated to nature. They are being transformed into prairies, savannas, woodlands, and wetlands, and are carefully managed for ecosystem health.

Some spaces in parks are prone to flooding, or some other costly and unsightly trouble, are underused, or never used by anybody. Some of these spaces are candidates for natural area restoration for the benefit of local biodiversity.

People in Chicago benefit as well if these spaces are chosen with intention.

Natural areas are full of native plants, and those plants have deep root systems that absorb rainwater like a sponge, holding the water in the same location that it hits the ground. In a natural area during a storm, rainwater first hits the leaves of native plants, slowing the water down as it approaches the soil, where it meets porous, air- and root-filled ground that allows the water to penetrate many feet, storing it there for use by the plants.

In contrast, rainwater that falls on streets, sidewalks, building rooftops, and even short-rooted turfgrass, like that in parks, generally moves sideways, where it flows to a gutter and then into the sewer system. This system can then be overburdened with the volume of water and ultimately backs up, as many readers have

witnessed themselves.

Natural areas are one healthy solution to this kind of rainwater management issue. By replacing or changing portions of turf grass areas in parks and impervious “hardscape” (concrete-like) infrastructure where unneeded, into natural areas where native plants can help store rainwater underground, these spaces provide a valuable service to the people of the city.

When the flowers in these spaces bloom, they provide valuable resources to pollinators, and when the plants set seed, they feed local and migratory birds and their bird families. These are just some examples of the benefits of natural areas.

Another important aspect of natural areas is how they are managed, because it is not gardening. There is no big rush to complete the natural community in planning and managing natural areas. The goal is to provide space for as many species of plants to thrive as possible and are appropriate for that area.

Generally, natural area creation in the city consists of choosing a location (relatively quick); Removing the vegetation that is present (relatively quick); Seeding in a diverse mix of native plant species (done each year in fall); Removing non-native species as the native plants establish (done throughout each year), and reintroducing the natural processes that native plants have evolved with (regularly).

Landscape fire is a natural occurrence on the Midwestern landscape, like rain, snow, and wind. However, in modern times, people have mostly stopped the natural fires of the region for many understandable reasons.

Changing natural processes like this is common and has been done all over the world to support modern infrastructure and human needs. It is likely that people would decide to exercise control over other natural dynamics if they could, such as the snow, the winter, etc., but we can't control everything.

What we can control, we generally do. One of those things in our region is landscape fire. However, native plant and animal communities have been evolving with fire for millions of years and are, therefore, adapted to the presence of this landscape dynamic.

When it is removed, there are cascading consequences for the natural community.

Those consequences include declining plant diversity, changes to soil composition and health, and reduction of animal species due to changes in the plant community.

There is a lot to unpack there, regarding the importance of fire. For now it is sufficient to know that restoring both native plants and the ecosystem dynamics they evolved with in the city is important for healthy ecosystems.

Over time, usually a decade or so, seeding native species, removing non-native species, and conducting prescribed burns results in healthy, diverse, natural areas that serve as habitat for our local biodiversity and help with some stubborn urban infrastructure issues.

Natural areas are small wilderness spaces in a big metropolis, and they enrich and restore the natural world here in Chicago. A short list of natural areas in Lincoln Park where you can get involved includes the Montrose Beach Dunes, Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary, North Pond Nature Sanctuary, Bill Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary, and Osterman Beach Dunes.

Outside of Lincoln Park, the most recent big news in Chicago Park District Natural Areas is the reopening of Marian Byrnes Park this season. The reopening marks the completion of new boardwalks, shade pavilions, and interpretive signs for visitors to enjoy.

Nature Gardens

In addition to parks and natural areas, cities also have countless gardens that come in many forms. We have gardens just about everywhere, including on rooftops, in the center of boulevards, and at

our homes. Plant species used traditionally in gardening are typically non-native plant species, but that is starting to change.

Gardening practices are always rich with both traditional and novel approaches envisioned to evoke all flavors of emotion. Plants and their many forms are one of nature's great gifts to the minds and hearts of people, and gardens serve as our canvases for sharing these gifts with each other. Leaves, stems, flowers, seeds, and fruits contribute to the majesty of abundance and the delicate perception of scarce beauty.

We value these attributes of the plant world, and we fill our modern human habitats, our cities and suburbs, with myriad gardens.

Gardening with native plants has become a more frequent practice and has evolved significantly.

There are a few reasons for this that stand out. First, while not all the native plant species from any region are charismatic or otherwise desirable in the design and style fundamental to gardening, many are. The use of these species in gardens provides something different than the traditionally used plant species from other parts of the world. Many gardeners enjoy looking for something different.

Luckily for them, about 2,000 plant species are native to the Chicago region and may be used by gardeners if the plants are available commercially.

Second, native plants are well adapted to the Chicago region for reasons described earlier. This makes them less “fussy” or difficult to keep healthy in our region, for the most part.

There are always some plants that will be more difficult and others that will be easier to garden with; it is the same when gardening with native species. Adaptations such as deep roots and phenology (timing of emergence, flowering, etc.) are intimately choreographed over millennia with the conditions of the seasons and environment.

Choosing plants native to Chicago for a Chicago garden is like opening a deep-dish pizza or Chicago-style hot dog joint in Chicago; you know there will be customers, and the product evolved here. Native pollinators and birds evolved with these plants, and they want to eat and use them.

Gardening with native plants helps to address the habitat loss crisis our expanding city and suburbs have caused for local biodiversity by re-planting habitat. Including native plants in our gardens increases the amount of

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Real Estate For Sale

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COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION**

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. DEMOND D. EDWARDS; CITY OF CHICAGO, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.	CASE NO. 2026CH05883 Subject Property: 814 West 68th Street, Chicago, IL 60621
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NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:
Demond D. Edwards and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants
That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:
Legal description: Lot 5 In Fern's Subdivision of Lots 24, 25 And 26 In Block 1 In Benedict's Subdivision of The Northeast 1/4 Of the Southeast 1/4 Of Section 20, Township 38 North, Range 14, East of The Third Principal Meridian, In Cook County Illinois.
Common address: 814 West 68th Street, Chicago, IL 60621
Tax Parcel Number: 20-20-407-022-0000
And which said Mortgage was made by: Demond D. Edwards
The Mortgagor(s), to Freedom Mortgage Corporation, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, as Document No. 2321429407; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.
NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY
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On or before _____ (answer period expiration date), A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

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By: /s/ Charlotte A. Haack, - ARDC No. 6310785
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for public sale of miscellaneous items.
This sale is to be held on Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 2:00 pm. Cash only.

Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 21st of, August 2026 at 12:00 p.m. at 3632 E. Lake Ave. Wilmette, IL 60091 at www.storage-treasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m.
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POLICE BEAT from p. 6

Like Watkins, his pleas resulted in concurrent sentences of varying lengths, with 16 years being the longest.

Ex-con accused of running ID theft scam as fake rideshare driver for third time

A man who has twice gone to prison for stealing people's credit cards and identities while posing as a rideshare driver in Chicago is accused of resurrecting the same scam, victimizing at least six more people, and possessing cards and identification belonging to 14 additional victims.

We have been telling you about Gabriel Jackson's exploits for nearly a decade, and it looks like we'll be telling you about him for the foreseeable future.

Chicago police arrested Jackson, 58, early on May 22 in the 300 block of N. Wells St. and charged him with felony identity theft after a 38-year-old South Loop man identified him in a photo lineup as the person who picked him up while posing as a rideshare driver on Nov. 15.

The victim climbed into Jackson's car outside the Hangge Uppe, 12 W. Elm St., around 2:33 a.m. and Jackson allegedly asked for his debit card. The victim handed it over and entered his PIN into a machine operated by Jackson, who then returned a different debit card to him, according to charging documents.

Jackson drove the man to his destination, but prosecutors say he later used the victim's debit card to make more than \$2,000 in unauthorized transactions.

That, right down to targeting a victim outside a nightclub, is exactly what Jackson has been accused of doing over and over since at least 2017.

Prosecutors have said the scam typically starts with Jackson posing as a rideshare driver and picking up people who are waiting for rides outside nightclubs downtown or in Wrigleyville. Jackson would then convince them to hand over a credit or debit card, ostensibly to pay for the ride, then has them enter their PIN into a card reader or phone app. He returned a different

card to the victim and used the stolen card information to make unauthorized purchases or withdrawals.

Initially, prosecutors did not seek to detain Jackson after his May arrest. But detectives continued building cases, and prosecutors eventually secured a 25-count grand jury indictment charging Jackson with continuing financial crime enterprise, theft by deception, wire fraud and identity theft, according to court records.

The charges allege a similar pattern of crimes between Nov. 15, 2025 and May 20 involving six victims who fell for the rideshare scam with losses estimated between \$10,000 and \$100,000, according to the indictment. The victims were allegedly picked up in Jackson's fake rideshare on Nov. 15, Dec. 18, Dec. 21, twice on March 15 and again on May 20.

When police arrested Jackson on May 22, he allegedly had credit cards, debit cards and identification documents belonging to 14 people other than the known rideshare scheme victims, according to the charging papers.

After the indictment was returned, prosecutors sought to detain Jackson, pointing to his previous convictions for operating a continuing financial crime enterprise under the same basic scheme. Judge Domenica Stephenson granted the detention request, according to court records.

Jackson received a seven-year prison sentence in 2023 after pleading guilty to running the same rideshare scam in which prosecutors said he stole victims' credit cards and identities.

He had been off parole for about a week when Chicago police arrested him for allegedly resurrecting the scheme in Nov. 2021. Police said they found 32 credit cards belonging to 32 different people in his car.

That spree began Nov. 13, 2021, when a couple from out of town got into Jackson's car outside Spy Bar, 226 W. Ontario St., around closing time. Jackson told the couple they were in the wrong car but offered to let them pay him directly for a ride to their destination in Lincoln Park, prosecutors said. When they arrived, Jackson allegedly scanned a credit card from each victim on his phone and had them enter their PINs. He then told them

POLICE BEAT see p. 17

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RESTORING from p. 10

suitable habitat for pollinators and birds.

Habitat Fragmentation

As cities expand, continuous habitat becomes broken into smaller pieces. Ecologists call this habitat fragmentation. Imagine a bumblebee trying to fly from one wildflower patch to another across roads, parking lots, and buildings.

What was once one continuous landscape of wildflowers has become many isolated islands of habitat separated by novel obstacles. These separations reduce the amount of habitat, but they also reduce how connected the habitats are – habitat connectivity. This matters because what once was one population of insects or plants becomes many separate populations that no longer interact, and that has consequences for population health over the long term.

Some habitat fragments may only have a few individuals of a species of plant or animal, and no way of getting to other populations to breed or cross-pollinate. Population decline follows through a process known as inbreeding depression, or reduced population health because of a limited gene pool.

This leads to populations fitting poorly in their habitat and thus declining. Much of this has already happened in our region, and we can prevent it from continuing by creating more habitat connections.

Welcome back, Native Plants

When we garden with native plants, we reduce habitat fragmentation because we are creating habitat corridors through our own properties/gardens. This idea is described very well by the team that developed the Homegrown National Park concept.

National Parks and State Parks serve as havens for the natural world in our modern landscape and are a point of pride for most Americans. Bringing the plants from local national and state parks, such as the Indiana Dunes National Lake Shore and Moraine Hills State Park, to your garden is

kind of like bringing the park to you, or like living there.

This is an important concept for biodiversity conservation that starts with imagining the culture of gardening benefiting both people and nature during a time when nature really needs us.

The management of nature gardens is approached differently from that of natural areas in the

Gardening with native plants helps to address the habitat loss crisis our expanding city and suburbs have caused for local biodiversity by re-planting habitat. Including native plants in our gardens increases the amount of suitable habitat for pollinators and birds.

city. Where a natural area is a large public space set on a course toward greater biodiversity and ecological health over the long term, a gardener using native plants has a smaller space to consider and can move more quickly toward the plant community they want to see, with much less effort to fill the space of the garden.

Imagine using your shovel and gardening gloves to plant several acres of native plants to make a natural area versus a fraction of an acre to plant your city garden plot.

One reason seeds are used in natural area restoration is because of scale; it is too resource-intensive to plant each individual plant to create a natural area, when seeds can do the same thing, just over a longer time.

Gardeners can create a smaller natural area faster. They can pick and choose where each species will go, incorporating design artistically. The biodiversity doesn't care how it is arranged, for the most part, as long as the right plant is in the right place in terms of sunlight and soil moisture.

To help native plants thrive in natural areas, it was mentioned that the natural ecosystem dynamics should be restored, especially landscape fire. Not many

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

of us are accustomed to burning our gardens every spring or fall to encourage garden health, nor is this practice permitted in the city on private or parkway properties. However, some alternatives serve to promote the natural community. The most popular is mowing or cutting back the garden in the spring. This is also something that is done traditionally in gardening and, therefore, translates well to native plant gardening practices.

By removing the prior year's plant stalks and other plant materials, as a landscape fire would, space is made for fresh growth. However, best practices incorporate balance, and it is important to leave some of the native plant material standing or piled up in a corner to allow insects such as butterflies, moths, and fireflies to emerge from their overwintering habitat in the stems and leaves of the native plants.

Pollinators and birds, to name a few representatives of local biodiversity, just need the plants and what they offer to them, and the plants just need the insects and birds and what they contribute to their lifecycles. By creating more connectivity throughout the city, the whole natural community becomes more complete, and the harmonious interactions multiply and strengthen.

As nature is restored to our gardens and parks, the story of declining local biodiversity begins to turn around. In a time when the Monarch Butterfly is listed as an endangered species, something that is eye-opening to many people, gardening with native plants is a meaningful part of the solution to helping many species of plants and animals recover and thrive again.

Creative landscape uses and designs that incorporate native plants in partnership with human engineering have the power to shift our impact on the local environment from negative to positive while providing ecosystem services and reducing costly externalities.

The Chicago Park District Natural Areas, native gardens, and the various preserve systems we are lucky to have around the Chicagoland area have inspired many worthy efforts based on the same

principles. A few are cited below for your exploration.

The Lincoln Park Conservancy works with the CPD to maintain the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool, a site that is regarded as a unique blend between a natural area and a nature garden. Caldwell, a Prairie Style landscape architect active throughout much of the 20th century, intended the Lily Pool to highlight plants and landscape features of the Midwest, and maintaining that vision is a priority for the community. Native plant species are carefully managed by the Conservancy staff, the CPD, and dedicated volunteers, like a nature garden. However, like a natural area, the Lily Pool will be managed with prescribed burning and seed mixes, as well. Open to the public from late April through November, the Lily Pool is a special place for nature.

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This newspaper vs Sudler Property Mngt.

Inside Publications has hired legal representation to defend ourselves in Sudler Property Management's defamation suit against this newspaper. But lawfare costs money, and we don't have a lawfare budget. So we are now appealing for your help, and donations.

Below is a link to a GoFundMe page that we established to help raise funds to fight this case in the Cook County Circuit Court. The page is titled "Your Friendly Neighborhood Newspapers." We would appreciate you sharing this link with anyone in your network who might like to help out their friendly neighborhood newspapers.

Visit: www.gofundme.com/manage/your-friendly-neighborhood-newspapers

Subscribing to this newspaper for online weekly issues for \$20 a year will also help. Visit www.insideonline.com Prefer to stay offline? Mail a check to: 6221 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640

We are grateful for your support

North 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	Real Estate For Sale
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff, -v- CHRISTOPHER KYLE WHITE, 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2025CH06664 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE APARTMENT 2011 CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 11, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 14, 2026, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE APARTMENT 2011, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-222-007-1053; 17-10-222-007-1699 The real estate is improved with a multi unit high rise condominium. Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.	If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 333 West Wacker Drive, Suite 1820, Chicago, IL, 60606. 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 333 West Wacker Drive, Suite 1820 Chicago IL, 60606 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccallaw.com Attorney File No. 25-21781IL_1254912 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 2025CH06664 TJSC#: 46-1694 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 # 2025CH06664 13292006	121212 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION Nationstar Mortgage LLC Plaintiff, -v- Ralph A. Zajeski; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants; One East Scott Condominium Association Defendants. 2025CH10535 1 East Scott, Unit 2204, Chicago, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 6/11/2026, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the Online Only auction at www.auction.com, with the bidding window opening on 9/14/2026 at 10:00 AM CDT and closing on September 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM subject to extension, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 1 East Scott, Unit 2204, Chicago, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-03-112-033-1221 The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$77,797.46 Sale Terms: Full Sale Terms are available on the property page at www.auction.com by entering 1 East Scott, Unit 2204 into the search bar. If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, the winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within twenty-four (24) hours of the auction's end. All payments must be certified funds. No third-party checks will be accepted. All bidders will need to register at www.auction.com prior to placing a bid. 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)(l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: MDK Legal (312) 651-6700 please refer to file number 25-024383. Auction.com, LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60602 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 25-024383 Case Number: 2025CH10535 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. 13291867 050505 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2016-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE Plaintiff, -v- TANVIR BUKHT, 474 NORTH LAKE SHORE DRIVE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 25 CH 9097 474 N. LAKE SHORE DR., UNIT 4108 CHICAGO, IL 60611	NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 27, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 1, 2026, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 474 N. LAKE SHORE DR., UNIT 4108, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-222-007-1297 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$571,418.51. Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF	AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 357-1125 Please refer calls to the sales department. Please refer to file number 25-01711. 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. LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO IL, 60606 312-357-1125 E-Mail: pleadings@nevellaw.com Attorney File No. 25-01711 Attorney Code. 18837 Case Number: 25 CH 9097 TJSC#: 46-1320 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 # 25 CH 9097 8232-967496 292929 -----	Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

80th annual Japanese block party

The Japanese American Service Committee is holding their 80th annual community block party from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, at 5700 N. Lincoln Ave.

The afternoon will feature grilled Japanese teriyaki hot dogs, sweet treats from Rita's Dessert Truck, games and activities including ring toss, face painting, and a fishing game, plus unique hidden treasures from Obachan's (Grandma's) Attic.



Andrea Raila presents an ERRD 2026 Aware of Excellence to Joe Mitas, owner of Little Corner Restaurant.

Edgewater group honors 50 legacy businesses

BY BOB ZULEY

On July 30, the community organization, Edgewater Residents for Responsible Development [ERRD], held a community gala at the historic Colvin House on Sheridan Rd. to recognize local stakeholder businesses.

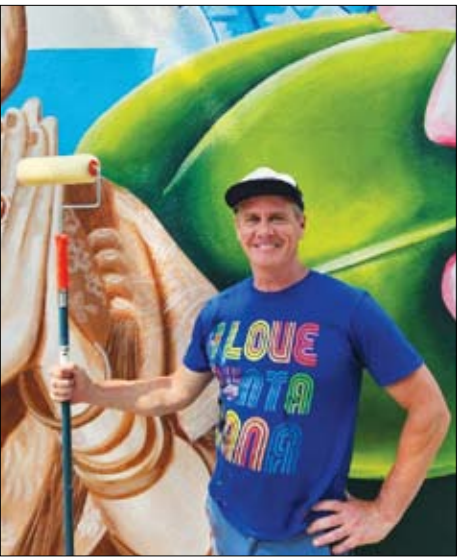
The event recognized more than 50 Legacy Community Businesses whose decades of service have helped make Edgewater and Uptown welcoming and vibrant neighborhoods. Their commitment, ERRD president Pat Sharkey wrote, has strengthened the community and enriched the lives of generations of residents.

Longtime businesses recognized included Barr Funeral Home, B&R Development, Clark-Devon Hardware, Exposition Flooring Center, Gino's North Restaurant, Little Corner Restaurant, Patio Beef, State Farm Insurance, Vee-Vee's West African Restaurant, and many others.

One particular business honored was Exposition Flooring Design Center at 5718 N. Broadway which is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. It remains a family-owned and operated business that has been serving residential and commercial clients as a premier Chicagoland carpet and flooring destination since its founding in 1975 and opening in 1976. It is still operated by Dena Isaacson, daughter of the founder.



(L) A new Nepali mural may be seen at 6116 N. Broadway. Photo by Bob Zuley (R) Noted muralist Jeff Zimmermann. Courtesy Edgewater Chamber of Commerce



Vibrant new mural celebrates Nepali presence in Edgewater as Chicago's home for their community

BY BOB ZULEY

A stunning new colorful wall mural now adorns the south exterior wall of 6116 N. Broadway facing Glenlake Ave. [across the street from Lickity Split Frozen Custard & Sweets] in the Edgewater community.

Entitled, "From Nepal to Chicago. Our community. Our identity," the mural celebrates the identity, culture, and faces of Chicago's Nepali community, a significant segment of which now calls Edgewater home. It is around the corner from a local Nepali restaurant, Kathmandu Cafe, 6141

N. Broadway.

The mural was commissioned by taxpayer dollars coming from the Edgewater/Broadway Special Service Area 26, and completed by prominent local artist Jeff Zimmermann, a muralist known for vibrant, large-scale public artworks and pop-culture-infused graphic styles.

While he began painting in Pilsen around St Pius V, he may be more well-recognized locally as having completed the Mile of Murals in Rogers Park and other works for the Chicago Park District. His work may be viewed at jeffzimmermann.com.

Over 2.6 million people of Nepali origin and citizenship now live outside Nepal. The emigration was driven by economic opportunity, education, and political changes. Today large Nepali populations live in India, the Middle East, Malaysia, the United States, Australia, and Europe. The Edgewater community serves as home for the Nepali Cultural Center, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., the Chicagoland Nepali Friendship Society, and Nepalese Aid, which is featuring the first ever Nepali Street Festival, this weekend, Aug. 15 at 5602 N. Kenmore Ave.

Devon Ave. parades Aug. 16 and 23

There will be two Asian ethnic parades along Devon Ave. in August, one for India and the other for Pakistan.

The Pakistan Independence Day Parade will be on Sunday, Aug. 16, starting at 11:30 a.m. The parade route runs along Devon Ave. from Ridge to Leavitt.

The following weekend, the India Independence Day Parade will be will start at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23. The parade route runs along Devon Ave. from Western

to California.

Residents can expect street closures on Devon Ave. during the parades. No Parking signs will also be posted in proximity to the parade routes.

India and Pakistan have fought four major wars since their independence in 1947, in 1947-1948, 1965, 1971, and 1999, but there will be no fighting on Devon Ave. in Chicago, where old grudges have been put to rest. The only fighting along Devon Ave.

these days is over parking spots.

The long-standing hostilities between the two nations is rooted in the 1947 British partition of India into a Hindu-majority India and a Muslim-majority Pakistan. The primary driver of ongoing hostilities is the disputed territory of Kashmir, which both nations claim in full but rule in part, heavily compounded by cross-border militant attacks, water rights, and a history of deep national and religious nationalism.

CHURCH from p. 1

Located on a prominent corner site at Thorndale and Magnolia [in Edgewater], the transit-oriented property is steps from the Thorndale CTA Red Line, local Broadway retail, and Lake Michigan beaches."

The former church property includes architectural features such as exposed heavy timber ceilings, lofted spaces, and private patios, "creating a high-character product that standard new construction cannot replicate."

The Terret Properties, the current owner, had projected the studio through 3-bedroom units would earn an average rent of \$2,825/month. Terret describes itself as a

company which builds luxury apartments in historic buildings.

"We love the architectural details that you can find in old Chicago buildings, and we strive to preserve the character of each structure we develop," notes the company's website.

Terret's founder, Josh Krueger, co-founded Campbell Street Asset Management, which is also known for its adaptive re-use of historic properties. At the time Terret acquired the church building, Krueger had reassured neighborhood residents his company was committed to the neighborhood and would be seeking community input. For a while, Krueger keep neighbors informed of the project's progress.

According to the information posted in the listing by Triton, the sale includes a project that is well underway. "[It is] fully by-right of execution under current zoning, requiring no variances, planned development designations, or aldermanic approvals, and explicitly aligning with the 48th Ward's adopted path for the site."

The listing includes the church campus redevelopment project qualifies as a Transit-Oriented Development due to its close proximity to the CTA Red Line station.

The former church campus is immediately adjacent to the Broadway Corridor that had been controversially up-zoned by Ald. Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth [48th] and the Chicago City Council last October.



MIDTOWN



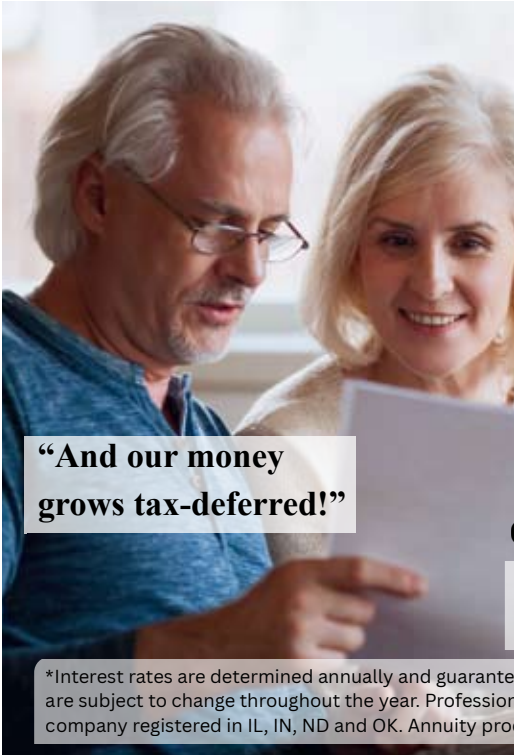
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