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An aim in life
is the only fortune
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— *Robert Louis Stevenson*

INSIDE-BOOSTER

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Neighbors, alderman oppose new late night club in Old Town

Over 100 people attended a community meeting Aug. 24 regarding a new late-night bar going in on Wells St. in Old Town. Most meeting attendees were there to speak against the plan. The meeting was co-hosted by both the Old Town Merchants and Residents Assoc. and Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd].

Many of those people are strongly opposed to Caché operating a 2000 square foot bar at 1446 N. Wells St. The club had already passed the city's inspections and zoning review process needed for a tavern license with late night service. The bar would operate out of the building's basement, underneath a nail salon and apartments.

It would be open 8 p.m.-2 a.m., except on Saturdays, when it would close at 3 a.m., said attorney Tom Loukas, who is representing Angela Calaras and Emil Nichitoi. Last week this newspaper reported that the bar would be open until 4 a.m., but the owners - Calaras and her son, Nichitoi - have not applied for that late-hour license. While neighbors fear potential bad behavior from unruly customers, the two Moldovan immigrants said their plan for the bar is for it to be a high-end cocktail lounge where business professionals can go to hang out.

The gang activity, shootings, fighting and criminal activity that has been experienced around late night bars and clubs in neighboring River North over the last few years may be driving neighborhood concerns in Old Town.

The alderman is asking for those who feel they may potentially be impacted by the new club to contact his office and Chicago Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection [BACP] to express their concerns.

Ald. Hopkins, whose ward boundaries shifted this year to include this part of Wells St., said he only learned of Caché's application for a liquor license two weeks ago, and that he too had concerns about how another bar would affect rowdiness along the strip. The alderman is asking for those who feel they may potentially be impacted by the new club to contact his office and Chicago Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection [BACP] to express their concerns.

Both concerned neighbors and the alderman blamed a lack of communication from the city for why the issue did not come up sooner. Neighbors said they had not heard of Caché's proposal until only recently.

The BACP recently received their tavern license application, one that was submitted in 2022 under former Ald. Walter Burnett [27th].

The space has already been built out with textured gold walls, epoxy floors, tables, armchairs and couches; chandeliers for lighting, and a small raised platform surrounded by bookshelves that could serve as a stage or pri-

OPPOSE *see p. 16*

The Chicago Dept. of Transportation [CDOT] recently installed a 10 MPH speed limit sign on the stretch of Leland which connects Western and Lincoln avenues, even though a CDOT official publically admitted that a speed limit below 20 MPH would violate state statute.

Lincoln Square Mall parking logjam may become a regular event

BY PETER VON BUOL

We hate to say 'we told you so' … but…

On the afternoon of Aug. 26, automobiles were parking all along the west side of the Lincoln Square Mall from Lawrence Ave. to Leland Ave., which made it nearly impassable for those who were entering and leaving the mall.

The traffic logjam is most likely going to become a common occurrence for nearby residents and local retailers due to the elimination of the city-owned parking lot at 4715 N. Western Ave., which had been deemed surplus city property by Ald. Matt Martin [47th].

That critical piece of commercial infrastructure was given away to the city's vice-chair of the Chicago Landmarks Commission and The Community Builders, a Boston-based developer which includes on its board Patrick Nash, a former Chicago Housing Authority official whose grandfather, also named Patrick Nash, had founded Chicago's Democratic Machine.

The lost parking lot, lost lane of traffic on Western Ave. and lost sidewalks for construction have exacerbated the traffic and parking situation in Lincoln Square. Toss in those days when the Lincoln Square Farmers Market takes over another commercial parking lot and you have a perfect storm of a highly popular retail district with a severe lack of available customer parking.

Another oddity for the area occurred when the city's Dept. of Transportation [CDOT] also recently installed a speed limit sign of 10 miles an hour on the stretch of Leland which connects to Western and Lincoln avenues.

At a recent meeting about the conversion of Leavitt into a bike route and at which representatives from Martin's office were present, a CDOT official told those in attendance a speed limit sign with a limit below 20 mph would not be legal per state statute.

Frustrated by lack of parking enforcement, residents and customers of the shops on Lincoln posted their complaints on NextDoor, an on-line message board.

Shortly after numerous participants blamed Martin for supporting the elimination of the city-owned parking lot, his former Director of Constituent Services and Community Outreach jumped into the conversation to launch an ad hominem attack.

Michael Sewall

"People are lazy and want to park immediately outside of where they are going and which is a ridiculous conceit in a dense urban area," said Michael Sewall.

Observant participants noticed Sewall's defense of Martin and asked him about being one of Martin's employees.

Sewall denied working for the alderperson, even though Sewall is listed on the city of Chicago's official website as his employee.

Outside of working for Martin, Sewall continues to be an active advisory member of the Ravenswood Advisory Council. In that capacity, Sewall continues to have significant influence on developments throughout the Lincoln Square neighborhood.

According to information Sewall has posted to LinkedIn.com, "I lead the [Ravenswood Neighbors'] Events Committee, organizing social outings and community programs, and also serve on the Planning & Development Committee. In that capacity, I have helped develop the RNA Development Framework Plan and sit on a task force for the Leland Avenue Greenway Extension project," wrote Sewall.

City analysis finds high rates of co-infection with HIV, STDs among Chicago Monkey Pox cases

Screenings for gonorrhea and chlamydia urged for people with confirmed and probable mpox

BY PETER VON BUOL

Over the last couple years this newspaper had an inside joke, the kind of dark joke that frequently pops up in newsrooms when an item arrives at our desks that seems hard to believe.

This one was about reassurances given that while sexually transmitted diseases [STDs], and Monkey Pox was running rampant in other towns, the Chicago Dept. of Public Heath assured the media that 'we're not experiencing that rise in cases here.'

It appears that may not be much of a joke, anymore.

A recently published Chicago Dept. of Public Health-led [CDPH] study of people with Monkeypox [mpox] in the 2022-23 outbreak found a high rate of co-infections with STDs including gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, and Human immunodeficiency virus [HIV].

Epidemiologists from the Systemic Infectious Disease Bureau analyzed surveillance and mpox case investigation data reported to the CDPH between June 1, 2022 - March 9, 2023, and examined STDs and HIV diagnoses among people with confirmed and probable mpox.

The analysis, published as a Correspondence in The Lancet Infectious Diseases on Aug. 4, found that among mpox cases, co-infections with STDs were common; specifically, having a rectal site of gonorrhea infection was associated with a 7% increase in having an HIV and mpox co-infection as compared to genito-urinary site of infection and similarly, having a rectal site of chlamydia infection was associated with a 29% increase in having an HIV and mpox co-infection as compared to genito-urinary site of infection. In addition, those with a positive syphilis serology had a 55% increase of having an HIV and mpox co-infection.

Monkeypox first emerged in May 2022 in Madrid, Spain. It is spread through close physical contact. Spanish health authorities believe that that string of 23 new mpox cases was linked to a gay sauna near Madrid and a Pride event on that nation's Canary Islands that drew tens of thousands of people from throughout Europe, and the world.

This newspaper plans a deeper dive into the local data to see if this increase may have emerged earlier in Chicago testing than has been reported and was therefore withheld from the public before the CDPH press release arrived in our office late last Friday.

This newspaper contacted the CDPH immediately after receiving the notice, at about 3 p.m. Aug. 25, and was told there was nobody in the office who could speak to the media.

The United States was the fourth country outside of the African countries with endemic mpox, to experience an outbreak in 2022. The first case was documented in Boston, on May 17, 2022. As of Aug. 22, mpox has spread to all 50 states in the United States, as well as Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.

According to the Center for Disease Control, through July, there have been 1,517 cases reported in Illinois, out of 30,767 nationwide. Neighboring states Indiana has 291 cases, Wisconsin 93 and Iowa 30.

Data showed that racial minorities also had increased rates of HIV and mpox co-infection as compared to White, non-Latino persons, with those identifying as Latino having a 34% increase in HIV co-infection, Asian, non-Latino having a 90% increase in HIV co-infection, and Black, non-Latino having over a twofold increase in HIV co-infection.

Having information such as this may help guide efforts in prioritizing these populations in

MONKEY POX *see p. 16*

Power to re-establish the past, reconfigure present, in remembering childhood summers

By Thomas J. O'Gorman

We must be doing something right. The time just flew by. Like a favorite Beatles tune.

Laughter never left the atmosphere. Close as Jackie Gleason with a golf club in Brooklyn.

And the search through shared memories was as ripe as the fabulous fruit salad in the large Waterford Crystal bowl, once bought in Dublin for my mom.

Some poor souls have no living cousins. Some do but have little time to nourish the relationships beyond the customary off-handed meetings of wakes and weddings.

Others, thanks to the healing hope they bring, know the value of reliving the drama and humor of the past, trying to cherish the keepsakes of bumbling mishaps, and the moments frozen in childhood laughter. Or the hilarity of aging and the bringing to life the souls of those long gone, but never forgotten.

I'm still cherishing my recent gathering of cousins who assembled recently at my sister's on a balmy night.

We have so many provinces of cousins that we must arrange their get-togethers in careful stages. Not just a "free for all" cluster of relations, as the Irish might say. But a carefully orchestrated arrangement of "who grew up with who." The overlap of ages, interests, blood lines, politics, careers, card games and humor. "Bridge or canasta?"

In our branch of the Irish Corleones all cousins fall south of 50 years old. But a few rest north of Holy Sepulcher. Some of the children of our mother's brothers, all vets of World War II. Some the children of our mother's sister who used to live across the street from us growing up. Her children more like our siblings, still, to this day.

With them we still share a love for bike rides, fireworks, the delight of our grandmother's fresh baked scones, her roast chickens, kosher wines, Fannie Mae candies, mashed potatoes, train travel, strong tea, homemade pie, corn on the cob, beefsteak tomatoes, the "Barn Dance," Jack Parr on TV, Jack Eigen on WMAQ radio, St. Therese, the Little Flower, Mayor Richard J. Daley, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Adlai Stevenson, the White Sox, the Blackhawks, Pope John XXIII, Doris Day, Shirley Temple, Maureen O'Hara and John Wayne in "The Quiet Man," Toll House chocolate chip cookies, macaroni and cheese.

We bond too over Irish soda bread, stealing a cold beer, baked ham, First Communions, Confirmations, bowling, the Museum of Science and Industry, outdoor movies, fish fries, turkey and dressing, fresh peaches, Hershey bars, a Marshall Field's special sandwich at the Walnut Room, Pizza Castle, pretzels, Stop & Shop coffee cakes, chicken salad, the Rosary, libraries, Rainbow Cone, long car rides, French fries, Canasta and Mahjong.

This list of all the sticky favorites of a Baby Boomer's life, was recalled by our cousins beyond the encroaching season of forgetfulness. Each favorite a reason for delight and hope. A nostalgic parade of people and recipes and birthday cakes. Especially eating a 2 a.m. breakfast after fasting for Christmas Midnight Mass. Our Catholic faith being the great "catch all" net beneath our high wire act.

Cousins bond over Irish soda bread, stealing a cold beer, baked ham and First Communions.

Living cousins help pack the air with the truthfulness of the past. That strange leverage which "bona fides" the memory, making fleeting recall as good as gold. Trustable, not invented. Establishing a harmony in the gathering of cousins, evolved now into the final word on childhood recollection, adolescent remembering, teenage recall and American history.

There is restorative veracity in our stories of growing up. Like David Copperfield, we can discover in them our roadmap to rational self-understanding, not so easily available to Charles Dickens and his generation. But our stories so easily shared with cousin-folk help to establish a network of reflective truth about life. Not pie-in-the-sky silliness, but rather the shaping of intelligent reporting that catalogues the dependable reasonable facts of everyday life. I hope you have that in your life.

You might ask just what caused the things that work in life? Or sum up what might have caused the worst collapse in the history of human achievement?

Or perhaps you might want to know who booby-trapped our past chances of success in life?

Or even ask how can we pull success from the damage in life all around us?

This is what I heard in the laughter of cousins remembering with each other. They're viewing the larger scale photo. Or the whole painting. Or reading the full recipe for our favorite soup.

Life teaches sometimes that we often do not use the full benefits of our peripheral vision. We only see a portion of the world around us. Areas of importance can be blocked or obscured. Sharing what we remember about those who have shared our past can light up all the objects in our vision. What rings true often establishes the cogent strength of truth. It permits the ground beneath our feet to grow more secure. Into a firmness that is heartening, like an artist's signature on a painting.

The real harmony of our living is to be found in our truthfulness. I do not just mean our avoidance of using false information, or an explosive exaggeration of reality. Or the everyday reinvention of our vocabulary. Or even the questionable bravado of deceptive recall.

Instead, I question the reliability of having to repeatedly fact-check each name, fingerprint each event, strip search each situation for others to hear. Isn't truth telling just easier than frisking for the truth? Not telling fibs is a less complicated way of living.

The impact of a cousins fest is just too good to miss. Especially in the deepening of past affections. Or the surprise of new accomplishments, politics, travels taken, storms survived, drinks concocted, old friends kept up with and memories of people, long past, and events, long over, relived and brought back to life. Much akin to a classroom of students entertaining themselves until the teacher arrives.

Memory has the power to re-establish the past and reconfigure the present. Favorite uncles. Cherished aunts. Quirky grandparents, familiar nuns and crazy neighbors. So we take our turns at bat savoring the recollection of childhood summers at the sea. Or epic moments in Major League Baseball on either side of Madison St.

EASY MONEY: How much fraud was in the federal Payment Protection Plan? The SBA estimates $200 billion. How did our public servants ever get so careless with money? By the end of June PPP loans have so far resulted in 1,011 indictments, 803 arrests, and 529 convictions.

The PPP program gave out hundreds of billions of dollars in forgivable loans to be used to keep businesses afloat during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, but it has been rife with fraud. And you know how much we like fraud in Illinois.

Some of our beloved government officials got exposed for smelly PPP deals, including 16 fired at the Chicago Housing Authority, more at the Cook County Board of Review, the Assessor's Office, Cook County Human Resources Dept., Comptrollers Office, Dept. of Health, Bureau of Technology, Chicago Police officers, Chicago Park District, a sitting alderperson, Water Reclamation District… city, county, state, federal… it may turn out to be America's single biggest racketeering conspiracy in history.

The private sector got their taste too. Now just unsealed, records allege that $2 million in PPP was spent on a 12-seat Learjet, and another $32,000 on country club dues, in the battle for Maple & Ash, the Rush St. steakhouse. The Feds accused Maple & Ash restaurant co-founders **Jim Lasky** and **David Pisor** of fraud. Instead of spending $7.6 million in PPP funds on workers at their Chicago and Arizona restaurants, the investors allege the money went toward personal expenses. In Miami federal agents found **Daniela Rendon** misused $381,000 of PPP money to lease her Bentley, and rent a luxury apartment. She plead guilty to conspiracy to commit wire and bank fraud in connection with the scheme. She was sentenced to 41 months. Next up Maple & Ash?

PAY UP: What Cook County Commissioner is way behind in paying their mountain of past due parking tickets?

CHILDHOOD *see p. 12*

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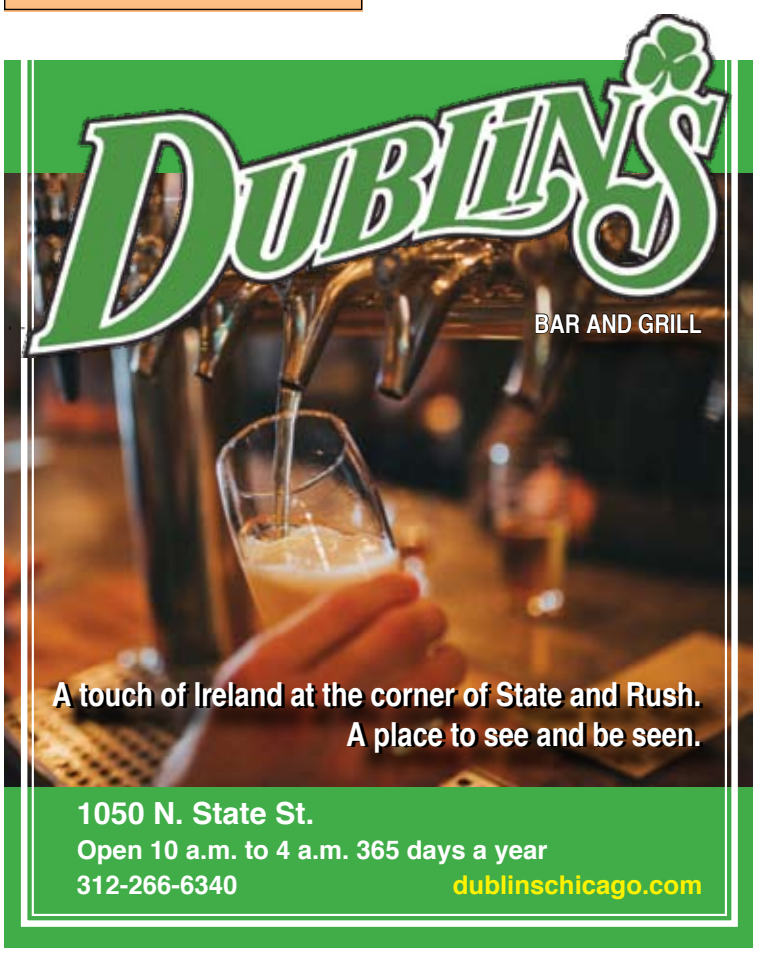

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TV news crew robbed while reporting on Chicago robbery sprees; armed men targeted at least 30 people in about 12 hours

BY CWBCHICAGO

The armed robbery problem has become so bad in Chicago that on Aug. 28 armed robbers robbed a TV news crew doing a story about an armed robbery in West Town.

That unbelievable development came as at least 30 people were robbed or carjacked during sprees between Sunday afternoon and Monday morning.

And, no, Chicago police have not announced any arrests in connection with the latest crime waves.

The newspeople were in the 1200 block of N. Milwaukee early Aug. 28 when three or four masked men robbed them, according to preliminary information from the scene. An officer said the robbers were Black males wearing ski masks—one with a rifle, the others with handguns.

Without identifying the victims as a news crew, a Chicago police spokesperson confirmed that a 28-year-old man and a 42-year-old man were outside in the 1200 block of N. Milwaukee when a black SUV and a gray sedan pulled up around 4:53 a.m.

Three men got out of the vehicles wearing ski masks and displaying guns. They took the victims' belongings and fled southbound, police said. An initial police dispatch said the robbers took the journalists' TV camera, but that has not been confirmed. They are the second Chicago TV news unit to be robbed this month.

Earlier, a woman was carjacked on the same block. Police said three men got out of a blue sedan around 10:12 p.m. One pointed a gun at her and took control of her white Ford Escape.

The gray Nissan was used in armed robbery sprees on Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday afternoon.

A burst of robberies hit Wicker Park and Bucktown on Aug. Aug. 27. Based on the description of the offenders' getaway car, a gray Nissan with heavily tinted windows, officers believed it was the same crew responsible for a similar crime spree on Aug. 26.

Sunday's afternoon holdups began around 2:55 p.m. in the 1800 block of W. Cortland. A CPD spokesperson said a 54-year-old man was parking in his garage when two robbers exited a gold Nissan Altima and took property from him and a 22-year-old woman in his car.

More incidents quickly followed:

• Several masked men robbed a woman in the 400 block of N. Carpenter around 4 p.m.

• A group tried to rob a man in the 1300 block of N. Wicker Park around 4:05 p.m. But witnesses intervened, and the offenders fled.

• The crew tried to take a white SUV in the 1100 block of N. Hermitage around 4:10 p.m. That effort also failed.

• Another robbery attempt was reported near Bloomingdale and Winchester around 4:20 p.m. Officers who responded said they spoke with a neighborhood security patrol officer who saw a delivery driver get robbed, but the victim was gone when cops arrived.

• The group apparently tried to carjack another vehicle in the 1600 block of W. Chicago around 4:30 p.m. That attempt also failed, officers said.

As the robberies were unfolding, a Chicago police officer radioed that they saw the crew's getaway car traveling on Damen near Wabansia around 4:12 p.m. But the cops also radioed that they were neither following nor pursuing the vehicle full of armed men.

The nighttime crime wave began around 9:45 p.m. in the 2200 block of W. Hirsch. Police said a man and woman were robbed by two gunmen who exited a dark sedan with guns. The robbers repeatedly punched the male victim before escaping with the couple's valuables.

Five minutes later, a 67-year-old man and a 29-year-old woman were robbed while walking in the 2000 block of N. Hoyne. CPD said three men jumped out of a blue sedan with handguns and took their property. They punched the male victim before fleeing.

Moments later, the same crew battered a 35-year-old man who refused to give up his property in the 2100 block of N. Hoyne, police said. He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment. CPD said he was in good condition.

Around 10:31 p.m., two men robbed a 44-year-old woman and a 23-year-old woman at gunpoint in the 1300 block of W. Randolph. The offenders kicked the younger woman when she refused to cooperate. She was taken to Rush Hospital.

In the 2100 block of W. Ohio, a man was carjacked at gunpoint around 10:45 p.m. CPD said he was exiting his black SUV when a gunman walked up to his driver's door with a handgun and took control of the vehicle.

About five minutes later, two armed men robbed a 33-year-old man in the 3000 block of N. Lamon.

After an hour-long break, robberies started popping up in Lincoln Park, each involving four or five Black males armed with guns and wearing dark clothing and ski masks: near Lincoln and Armitage

ROBBED *see p. 6*

Mayor Johnson proposes higher taxes on high-end Chicago properties

North Lakefront would be hardest hit

What's clear at first glance about Mayor Brandon Johnson's proposed new real estate transfer taxes hike is that it will hit the Near North and North Sides hardest.

While Johnson has made some changes to his campaign promise to fight homelessness by raising taxes, the fact remains that the burden of the proposed tax hikes will be born on owners of high value real estate.

Johnson's updated plan shifts away from the city's flat tax rate on all property sales in Chicago by breaking home sales taxes into three categories, intended to hit high-end properties hardest.

Mayor Johnson originally proposed a two-tier system, 0.75% tax on home sales below $1 million and 2.65% on properties above $1 million. Last week he released the revised proposal which would split home sales into three sections: properties under $1 million, properties between $1 million and $1.5 million, and properties above $1.5 million.

For now and the foreseeable future, the vast majority of those million-dollar-plus Chicago properties are located along the North Lakefront.

The proposal may be presented to the full City Council Sept. 13, and the council could vote as early as October to place the measure on the primary ballot in March 2024. The resolution must be approved by Jan. 3 for it to appear on the ballot for the next election. If it is approved in the March 2024 election, a new ordinance would need to be approved to dedicate those tax funds to homeless services.

Criticism of the plan was immediate from owners of large commercial properties downtown. Real estate investors warn that hiking taxes during a period of over-supply and soft sale and leasing demand, rising loan defaults, and high interest rates risks creating a downward pressure in property values. Chicago's central business district is already experiencing dropping investor demands for commercial real estate.

In a released statement, Michael Jacobson, CEO of the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Assoc., said that the proposal provides "yet another reason for them to take their business elsewhere." Hotels in Chicago's central core have been particularly hard hit by the loss of Chicago's convention and tourism business resulting from the government-imposed pandemic economic lockdown that damaged so much of Chicago's economy.

"To increase [taxes] to support important programs, including reducing homelessness, we should instead focus on ways to grow the hotel industry and ensure the long-term success of our city's vital hospitality and tourism sectors," said Jacobson.

Farzin Parang, executive director of the Building Owners and Managers Assoc., told Crain's Chicago that the mayor's three-tier plan "will hurt the city's commercial office industry at a historically vulnerable time. Homelessness is a challenge that should be shared by the entire city. Placing the burden on only one industry sector — and one that is at its weakest state in almost a century — is bad public policy."

The proposal now being offered means owners of properties below $1 million will actually see lower tax rates. Their rate drops from 0.75% to 0.6%. Owners in the second and third tiers would see their tax rates increase to 2% and 3%, respectively,

HIGHER *see p. 14*

An artist rendering for what the future campus plans are for the Moody Bible Institute [MBI] at Chestnut and Wells St.

Campus plans for Moody Bible Institute redevelopment

In late 2021, the Chicago Plan Commission approved the rezoning of an existing residential building at 141 W. Oak St. as part of a greater expansion and growing density in the area.

The centerpiece of the plan is the new Solheim Center, which will serve as Moody's athletic and wellness facility, relocating its name and function from the previous venue west of Wells St.

In July, developer JDL unveiled architectural designs and initial floorplans. Set to be established on Moody's primary campus, east of Wells St., the facility hopes to boost student athletics, fitness, events, and continue Moody's partnerships with local organizations.

In 2019, MBI announced plans to sell 10 acres of real estate near its main campus on the Near North Side. The sale of this property is expected to result in roughly $200 million in net proceeds. These proceeds are reportedly being poured into campus improvements, infrastructure, long-term reserves, and educational endowments.

MBI's Culbertson Hall is set for a significant renovation expected to start this December, and conclude by Aug. of 2024. Right now the $30 million men's residence hall project will modernize the 20-story tower, while converting several of its floors to women's residences. Meanwhile, Houghton Hall, a women's residence hall, will have updated furnishings this coming fall semester.

Howard Brown Health Center construction concludes in Lakeview East

Exterior construction has concluded at the new five-story Howard Brown Health Center, 3501 N. Halsted St. The new building will soon function as a central location for Howard Brown, who offers a broad range of healthcare services for the LGBTQ community.

The new 91,000-square-foot building will replace the current Howard Brown clinic at 3245 N. Halsted St.

The custom building is designed by Eckenhoff Saunders architects, with construction by James McHugh Construction Co., in partnership with Inland National Development Company.

Once it's ready to take in patients, the the building will feature a large 7,600-square-foot retail area on its ground floor. Medical clinics will occupy the first and second levels, while the top three floors will be dedicated to administrative operations. It will provide underground parking and a rooftop terrace for events and functions. Once the property is fully activated, the clinic anticipates a two-fold increase in its ability to accommodate patients and visitors on site.

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Home-loan rates surge to highest levels in 22 years

The Home Front

by Don DeBat

The Federal Reserve Board's effort to control inflation is turning the American Dream of homeownership into a nightmare.

On Aug. 24 benchmark 30-year fixed-rate home-loan interest charges hit a national average of 7.23%, the highest level in 22 years, reported the Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Survey. The rate jumped from 7.09% a week earlier.

A year ago, lenders were charging an average of 5.55%.

It was the fifth consecutive week that the Freddie Mac national average rate rose, hitting its highest level since April 2002 when it averaged 7.13%

"Last week, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage reached its highest level since 2001 and indications of ongoing economic strength will likely continue to keep upward pressure on rates in the short-term," predicted Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist.

"As rates remain high and supply of unsold homes woefully low, incoming data shows that existing homes sales continue to fall," Khater said.

However, Khater optimistically said there are slightly more new homes available, and sales of these new units continue to rise, "helping provide modest relief to the unyielding housing-inventory predicament."

High inflation forced the Fed to raise its benchmark rate 11 times since March 2022, lifting the Fed-funds rate to the highest level in 22 years.

Before August of this year, 30-year fixed-rate mortgage spiked to 7.08% on Nov. 10, 2022, said Khater.

If the Fed continues to raise interest rates again to fight inflation, interest charges could go on a roller-coast ride for the balance of 2023. Veteran mortgage watchers predict home buyers soon could be paying 8% for a home loan.

Rates last floated in the lofty upper 7%-bracket in 1999 and 2000, when many of today's young home buyers were in diapers. In July of 1999, borrowers paid 7.52%, while rates rose to 7.84% in December of that year. Rates skyrocketed to a whopping 8.23% in March 2000, but fell back to 7.54% in December of that year.

Mortgage rates don't necessarily mirror the Fed's rate increases, but tend to track the yield on the 10-year Treasury note.

"The economy continues to do better than expected and the 10-year Treasury yield has moved up, causing mortgage rates to climb," said Khater. On Aug. 24, the 10-year Treasury yield hit 4.24%, up from 4.20%.

Late last week, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note—which lenders use to price rates on mortgages and other loans—touched its highest level since Oct. 2022, and it is inching closer to where it was in 2007.

Fifteen-year fixed mortgages averaged 6.55% on Aug. 24, up from 6.46% a week earlier. A year ago, lenders were charging 4.85% for a 15-year fixed mortgage.

The Freddie Mac survey is focused on conventional, conforming, fully amortizing home purchase loans for borrowers who put 20% down and have excellent credit.

High rates can add hundreds of dollars a month in costs for borrowers, limiting home much they can afford to spend in a market already unaffordable to many Americans.

Mortgage-rate history

A tsunami hit the nation's mortgage market over the past 32 months. Thirty-year fixed-mortgage interest rates ended 2020 at a rock-bottom 2.65%—the lowest level in the Freddie Mac survey history, which began in 1971.

Archives of the now-defunct Federal Housing Finance Board show long-term mortgage rates in the 1960s were not much higher than the Great Depression, when lenders were charging 5% on five-year balloon loans.

Nearly six decades ago, between 1963 and 1965 you could get a mortgage at 5.81% to 5.94%. Between 1971 and 1977, the now-defunct Illinois Usury Law held rates in the 7.6%-to-9% range.

In the early 1980s, run-away inflation caused home-loan rates to skyrocket into the stratosphere. According to Freddie Mac, benchmark 30-year mortgage rates peaked at a jaw-dropping 18.45% in October 1981 during that Great Recession.

Rates finally fell below 10% in April 1986, and then bounced in the 9%-to-10% range during the balance of the 1980s. Twenty-four years ago—in Aug.1999—lenders were quoting 8.15%.

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

Two new high density projects get City Hall OK

High density is in on the North Side, while off street parking is out.

Last week the city approved two new mixed-use projects that will add 199 new units, but provide only 61 off street parking spots for its residential and commercial tenants, guests, employees and customers.

In Lincoln Park, the Chicago Plan Commission approved the mixed-use development planned at 1649 N. Halsted. The project will replace the shuttered Royal George Theater and adjacent four-story structure to the south.

The former theater space died during the government-imposed pandemic lockdown, and found no interest from other theater companies including Steppenwolf located across the street. Ultimately the dire state of live theater in Chicago post-COVID has made many former theater spaces obsolete.

This site will soon hold 131 residential units, along with 4,500 square feet of retail space, but offer only 34 off-street parking spaces.

To reduce the mass of the $53 million building, the eighth and ninth floors have been setback from the street.

Meanwhile in North Center, the intersection of Damen and Irving Park Rd. is about to get a lot more congested. The city approved foundation permits for a mixed-use development at 3914 N. Lincoln Ave. Consisting of multiple parcels, the wedge-shaped property fronts N. Lincoln and N. Damen avenues. That project will add 68 residential units and 7,500 square feet of retail space on the ground floor, but provide only 27 hard to find off street parking spaces, accessed off an alley.

The building will occupy the entire site, rising 61 feet. The fifth floor will be setback and not visible from the street.

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German-American Fest, an Oktoberfest tradition, celebrates German culture in Lincoln Square

For more than 100 years, Chicago's German community comes together for the annual festival

The 2023 Von Steuben Parade Queen is Karina Thut who will lead the Sept. 10 parade along with Honorary Grand Marshall Illinois State Rep. Ann Williams.

Grand Marshall:
State Rep. Ann Williams
Queen of the Von Steuben Parade: Karina Thut

Celebrate the coming of fall at the German-American Fest, Lincoln Square's Oktoberfest, from Sept. 8 through 10 at Lincoln, Lawrence and Western avenues.

German food, drink, music, dancing, fun and games are all part of the festive happenings throughout the weekend.

For more than 100 years, the member clubs of the United German-American Societies of Greater Chicago come together to celebrate German traditions of hospitality and family fun. Oktoberfest originated in Munich, Germany in 1810 to celebrate a royal wedding. They were so popular they became an annual event, now celebrated around the world.

Since 1920, Chicagoans have joined in the fun, relishing German bands, dancing and singing, while enjoying traditional German food, served alongside German beer from HB München.

"We have a large German community here and love celebrating and sharing our German culture and traditions with Chicago every September," said Joe Bradtke, President of German-American Fest. "As we

pass down cultural traditions to our children and their children, we open our arms and hearts to everyone to celebrate along with us."

Bands this year include The Phenix Band, Paloma, The Tuesdays and more. German-American Fest hours are 5-11 p.m. Friday, 12-11 p.m. Saturday and 12-10 p.m. Sunday.

The Festival Opening ceremony is at 8 p.m. on Friday and the Von Steuben Parade starts at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, going north on Lincoln Ave. from Irving Park, to Wilson, turning west to Western Ave. to pass the viewing stand at Leland and Western. The 2023 Von Steuben Parade Queen is Karina Thut who will lead the parade along with Honorary Grand Marshall Illinois state representative Ann Williams. On Sunday, September 10 at 11 a.m., a German and English church service will be celebrated at the festival site by the Honorable Rev. Terry Keehan, before the fest gets underway that day.

German-American Fest benefits various German-American organizations including The Rheinischer Verein, St. Hubertus Jagd Club, the American Aid Society, the Donauschwaben Youth Group, Edelweiss Trachten Verein, D'Lustigen Holzhacker Buam, Egerlander Dance Group, Dank Haus and others.

Bally's taking new casino out for a test drive

It's pre-season for the Chicago gambling industry now, and Bally's plans to host a scrimmage.

The River North casino will host practice gaming sessions at Medinah Temple for the Illinois Gaming Board on Sept. 5, 6 and 7.

If the new staff and crew perform well, the casino may open for bettors soon thereafter.

The test run will include a gaming operations assessment and practice gaming. This three-day test run before Illinois gambling regulators and auditors is the final hurdle for Bally's to jump before getting their license for real cash betting to start up in the River North community.

Presently there is no official opening day being projected for the casino. But if all goes well, the facility could be up and running by mid-September. Bally's has been renovating the 130,000-square-foot building since January.

In June, Bally's began installing more than 750 slot machines and 50 gaming tables at Medinah Temple, 600 N. Wabash. They hope to have approximately 1,000 gaming positions in place by the end of the month.

Built by the Shriners in 1912, Medinah Temple will serve as a temporary casino for up to three years.

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at Lincoln & Irving Park Road
Sunday, Sept 10th: Noon to 10:00pm Fest
11:00am German Mass & Service

Learn More at GermanDay.com/Oktoberfest

Jazz Fest is on this weekend

The Chicago Jazz Festival is this weekend Aug. 31 to Sept. 3. Events are produced by the Chicago Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and programmed by the Jazz Institute of Chicago. Celebrating all forms of jazz in Millennium Park, at the Chicago Cultural Center, and citywide, the festival showcases Chicago's local talent alongside national and international artists to raise awareness and appreciation for one of the city's most treasured art forms.

This year's highlights include three-time Grammy-winning jazz legend Ron Carter and Foursight; acclaimed American Jazz singer Dianne Reeves; prolific drummer and composer Makaya McCraven; and celebrated Cuban band Juan de Marcos and the Afro-Cuban All Stars, and other artists.

There will also be a special celebration as Chico Freeman plays the 100 Von Freeman Centennial tribute on Thursday, Aug. 31 at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. At the Chicago Cultural Center, The Natalie Scharf Quartet, Bobbi Wilsyn and more perform under the famous Tiffany dome, and the newly renovated Claudia Cassidy Theater features an exciting lineup with Francis Wong's "Legends and Legacies" presented by Asian Improv, and The Fred Jackson Quartet.

The Harris Theater Rooftop brings two nights of performances, including top Chicago high school talent with the Young Lions Jazz Showcase (Sept. 2), followed by the hottest up-and-coming artists on the jazz scene with Next Gen Jazz (Sept. 3) and enjoy musicians in the South Promenade Listening Lounge (Sept. 2 and 3).

New this year, the food and beverage options are expanding with a jazz-inspired restaurant pop-up, "Wally's Creole Corner" offered during the Chicago Jazz Festival. Presented by Eleven North Hospitality, menu items include chicken gumbo, alligator sausage po' boy, crawfish boil, New Orleans-style beignets with powdered sugar, and Double Clutch Jazz Kolsch Brew, an exclusive beer made for the Chicago Jazz Festival, in addition to the array of concessions on-site at Millennium Hall and Casa Bonita.

As in previous years, outside alcohol is not allowed at the Chicago Jazz Festival in Millennium Park, but alcohol at various price points may be purchased inside the venue. The Jazz Institute of Chicago celebrates its 54th year promoting and nurturing Chicago's world class jazz community. Founded in 1969, this not-for-profit organization works tirelessly to provide education, develop and support musicians, build audiences, and foster a thriving jazz scene in Chicago through education and public programs.

As the programming partner for the Chicago Jazz Festival since 1979, Jazz Institute of Chicago works with the city to help ensure audiences experience the highest quality international, national, local, and young future jazz artists.

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New high density building approved for Uptown

Eight-story building for 5035 N. Sheridan

A new high density building with 77 residential units but only 39 parking spaces has been approved by the Chicago Plan Commission [CPC].

Planned by DLG Management, the new construction will bring an eight-story mixed-use building, with retail space on the first floor, but only 39 parking spaces to serve the retail tenants, their employees, customers and those living in the 77 new residential units in the top seven floors.

East Uptown is among the most congested areas of the North Side, and high density, low parking buildings like this tend to draw in a large volume of vehicular traffic with all the car share services, and food and parcel delivery vehicles it draws in to serve the carless residents and businesses. Nearby residents can expect a dramatic uptick in double-parked delivery vehicles in the community once this project is done.

The new construction at Sheridan Rd. and Carmen Ave. will replace a one-story retail building that once housed Supermart 4 Food.

The CPC has approved an application for a mixed-use development located at 5035 N. Sheridan, at the northeast corner of N. Sheridan Rd. and W. Carmen Ave. The new construction will replace a one-story retail building that once housed Supermart 4 Food. That building has already been demolished.

CPS says they met deadline to train staff on student restraint, time outs, seclusion

BY SAMANTHA SMYLIE
Chalkbeat Chicago

Chicago Public Schools [CPS] says it has met a state deadline to train school employees on the proper use of restraint, timeout, and seclusion, according to a Aug. 21 press release.

The district said it has met the Illinois State Board of Education's Aug. 21 deadline to train two staff members per campus at 517 schools in de-escalation and physical restraint.

The state board placed CPS schools under watch last fall after the district repeatedly failed to comply with state laws governing the use of restraint, timeout, and seclusion.

Over 3,000 staff members have reportedly completed training or are "in progress" at 513 district schools as of Aug. 21, similar to the district's final count, according to an analysis of the district's public database. Of the staff members trained, about 1,300 are school security officers.

The district missed several deadlines throughout the 2022-23 school year to come into compliance. In the press release, CPS CEO Pedro Martinez said restraint should be the last resort in schools and thanked school officials for making sure that staff were trained.

"We are proud to start the new school year with staff appropriately trained at every school and will continue to prioritize this important training for our school staff," Martinez said.

Over the last school year, the State Board of Education issued repeated warnings to CPS over the use of restraint and timeout in schools.

In an April 18 letter to the district, the state board said CPS is "jeopardizing the health and safety of students and staff" because staff were not properly trained in restraint and timeouts.

Last school year, Chicago Public Schools reported 220 incidents of physical restraint and timeout, according to data obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request. The numbers were a slight increase over the previous school year when the district reported 205 incidents.

Prior to 2021, the district did not report physical restraint and timeout incidents to the state. The data showed that in the 2022-23 school year, 151 employees involved in incidents were not trained, while in 2021-22, 113 untrained staff members were involved.

Between school years 2021-22 and 2022-23, a majority of students involved in physical restraint and timeout incidents were identified as Black and male, the data showed.

Other issues cited in that letter included the use of outlawed methods of restraints, students placed in restraints for long periods of time, and failure to notify parents within 24 hours if their children were restrained.

Restraint, timeout, and seclusion are disciplinary methods used to prevent students from harming themselves or others in school buildings. A state law passed in 2021 aimed to reduce the use of these tactics and keep students safe during incidents, but did not did not put an end to their use.

ROBBED *from p. 3*

around 11:40 p.m., followed by the 200 block of W. Eugenie, the 2600 block of N. Mildred, and near the 1600 block of N. Mohawk.

In the Loop, a 24-year-old man was targeted around 12:27 a.m. Monday. Police said he was walking in the 600 block of S. Wells when four men exited a dark sedan and told him not to move. He ran away.

That was followed by a robbery reported in the 1700 and 1900 blocks of W. Fulton around 4:40 a.m., followed by the 300 block of N. Claremont.

It's been more than a month since Ald. Daniel La Spata [1st] promised his constituents that police had a "concrete and collaborative plan" to address the relentless robbery crews that had been victimizing residents of his ward and neighboring areas.

While police have had some success, the robberies continue unabated.

Robbery reports are up 22% this year, according to CPD's latest statistics. But some areas, particularly Humboldt Park, West Town, and Logan Square, have been especially hard-hit.

In the Austin 25th District, which includes the west side of Humboldt Park, robberies are up 107% this year. For the 28 days ending Monday, robberies were 322% higher than the same period last year.

The Shakespeare 14th District, which includes the eastern part of Humboldt Park and Logan Square, West Town, Bucktown, Wicker Park, and parts of Avondale, is seeing a 49% increase in robberies this year. The last 28 days were 190% higher than last year.

Robberies are up 54% this year in CPD's Near West 12th District, which includes parts of West Town and the Near West Side, much of the West Loop, Fulton Market, and Pilsen.

Holdup sprees have been happening on an almost daily basis for months.

The immigrant refugee problem may be greater than Feds admit

Despite the valiant effort Chicago city officials are making to find housing for the steady stream of refugees arriving in Chicago from America's southern border, the problem may be worse than government officials are saying.

The federal government admits to the release of 2 million migrants from U.S. border custody in the last two years, but many think the number is much greater than that. The U.S. has processed a record number of migrants in 2022 and 2023.

But what is the real number?

As of June 2023, the Federation for American Immigration Reform [FAIR] estimates that approximately 16.8 million illegal aliens reside in the United States. This is significantly higher than a Jan. 2022 study that showed an illegal alien population estimate of 15.5 million.

This estimate is also a 2.3 million increase from their end-of-2020 estimate, meaning the migrant refugee population may have increased 16% nationwide in the last two years.

Although the terms migrants and asylum-seekers are often used interchangeably, not all migrants are asylum-seekers. The latter are people seeking protection from persecution or violence but who haven't yet been legally recognized as refugees.

Buses filled with both migrants and asylum-seeker immigrants still arrive in Chicago daily and the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security [DHS] is deliberately not releasing the monthly totals of all illegal border crossers who wind up getting released into the U.S. after they are encountered by U.S. authorities, says former U.S. immigration judge Andrew Arthur.

Arthur, who served for eight years as an immigration judge, told reporter Nicholas Ballasy that DHS does track the total number of migrants released after an encounter with border agents, but making that data available to the public would expose their struggle to control the human flow coming across the border.

"The only reason why ICE and OFO [Office of Field Operations] would refuse to disclose that information is to hide the fact that it is releasing more than 100,000 aliens per month into the United States, and to conceal the effects of those migrant releases on communities across the United States," Arthur said.

Right now Chicago is housing over 7,000 migrants staying at police stations, O'Hare and Midway airports, Chicago Park District field houses, churches, a downtown hotel, schools, and at a YMCA. The official tally of new arrivals that the city has managed is reportedly somewhere between 12,000 and 13,000. Chicago has struggled to house many of these destitute migrants, and local officials are calling for federal action, as immigration and border control is a clearly defined federal responsibility in the U.S. Constitution.

"The timeline is now, it's been about one bus a day since July, so on any given bus, we have 40 to 50 individuals," said Beatriz Ponce de León, Chicago's deputy mayor of immigrant, migrant and refugee rights. "We are working diligently across the city to expand our shelters, looking first and foremost at our city-owned properties and then also creating new opportunities. We know that the police stations are a temporary place."

In Chicago, many of the migrants in city shelters escaped Venezuela's Marxist economic collapse and don't have relatives in the U.S. who can take them in. Both New York City and Washington D.C. have reportedly received more of the migrants than Chicago.

Several local churches have established ministries to address the specific needs of asylum-seekers, who often arrive in Chicago with little more than the clothes they're wearing. For example, St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, 1424 N. Dearborn Pkwy. in the Gold Coast neighborhood, started Chrys' Closet, a donation-based clothing ministry that rapidly grew into a weekly initiative run by volunteers. The ministry has expanded beyond just clothing and shoes, and now offers other necessities for donation, including furniture, toiletries, school supplies, luggage, baby strollers, toys and more. Now every Wednesday, as many as 150 asylum-seekers gather at St. Chrysostom's to collect clothing and basic living essentials.

"Most of the time, the asylum-seekers either have no idea where they're heading, or they think they'll arrive at their intended final destinations to reunite with families already settled in the United States, only to end up surprised that they ended up in Chicago instead," said the Rev. Steven Balke, canon for outreach and pastoral care at St. James Cathedral, 65 E. Huron St.

To help alleviate some of the discomforts, church volunteers from St. John's Episcopal Church in Old Irving Park started tallying how many people were staying

REFUGEE *see p. 14*

Celebrating Ben Vereen

Fundraiser honors famous music man on Sept. 8

Porchlight Music Theatre has announced that the star and director/choreographer of its Jeff Award-winning production of Blues in the Night are reunited as co-chairs for Porchlight ICONS: Celebrating Ben Vereen. Events will take place 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, at the Athenaeum Center, 2936 N. Southport Ave.

Felicia P. Fields and Kenny Ingram are the honorary co-chairs for this new event that replaces the previously announced 2023 ICONS Gala.

Celebrating Vereen is a new special event featuring the presentation of the 2023 ICONS Award to Vereen, and the 2023 Luminary Award to WGN's Paul M. Lisnek with live performances directed by Artistic Director Michael Weber, music directed by Linda Madonia and musical staging by Isaiah Silvia Chandley, highlighting Vereen's career that includes Sweet Charity, Hair, Jesus Christ Superstar, Pippin, Funny Lady, All That Jazz, Chicago, Wicked and more along with an on stage interview between award recipients.

Over his nearly 60-year career, few entertainers today are as accomplished or versatile as Vereen. As an actor, dancer, singer, instructor, spokesperson and more, Vereen has graced stages on Broadway and around the world as well as television, most notably as 'Chicken' George Moore in Alex Haley's landmark TV miniseries "Roots," for which he received an Emmy nomination in 1977.

Vereen has also worked to raise awareness for multiple causes including UNICEF and Abundance International's Ukraine efforts, diabetes prevention, drug rehabilitation, educational programs and inner city community-based projects, houseless support, arts advocacy and has served on the boards of Ballet Florida, the American Red Cross and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Association. As a lecturer, he has become one of the nation's most requested speakers among audiences of all ages.

Single tickets are $500 (which includes a cocktail reception with Mr. Vereen and priority reserved seating on the main floor), $250 for main floor seating and $100 for seating in the front balcony. Tickets are on sale now at PorchlightMusicTheatre.org or call 773-777-9884.

In 2020, the ICON Award was established to celebrate a notable artist who has made an indelible contribution to American entertainment. The award has been presented to living legends Hal Prince, Joel Grey, Chita Rivera and in 2022, Donna McKechnie as well as historic music theatre greats Fred Astaire, Ethel Merman, Bob Fosse, Elaine Stritch, Frank Loesser, Michael Bennett and others.

The Luminary Award this year is being given to Lisnek. This honor recognizes an outstanding individual, family or family foundation with a history of philanthropic and volunteer leadership on behalf of Porchlight and music theater in Chicago, and whose generosity inspires others to philanthropic action. Past honorees include Rick and Deann Bayless and the Bayless Family Foundation, Elaine Cohen and Arlen D. Rubin, Jim Jensen, Jean Klingenstein, Dan Ratner and the Ratner Family Foundation.

Tragedy strikes: 12-year-old drowns at Jarvis Beach in Rogers Park

BY NATALIE FRANK

The Rogers Park community suffered a great loss on Thursday, Aug. 17, when 12-year-old Fred Pascal Elouga passed away after a drowning incident at Jarvis Beach the night before. Red 'no swimming' flags were flying at the time signaling rough waters, and that no one should enter the lake. Tragically, he remained submerged in the water for an extended period before being rescued.

Elouga died after being pulled from Lake Michigan in Rogers Park around 6:09 p.m. Aug. 16. He is survived by his parents and four older siblings.

He was a student at Kilmer Elementary School and remembered as a good student and a happy child.

His family are coordinating funeral services and working on a GoFundMe to allow community to assist with related expenses.

Although a life guard was present, she remained out of the water and waited for emergency personnel to take over. There was no indication that the safety ring installed at this beach had been utilized which raises the question of when the lifeguard realized there was a problem, as she may not have seen him in the water at all. It is unclear at this time why anyone was allowed in the water especially a child without being warned about rough conditions.

Around 6:30 p.m. sirens could be heard speeding down Sheridan to round the corner onto Jarvis Ave. A boat with police and paramedics was quickly dispatched to search for the missing child. He was found and placed on shore where paramedics began CPR, which continued for over 15 minutes with onlookers appearing shocked, several in tears.

They were able to restart his heart and he was then placed on a gurney, placed in an ambulance and rushed to St. Francis Hospital in Evanston in critical condition. Despite the efforts of medical personnel, Elouga's condition did not improve, and he was ultimately pronounced dead at 12:32 p.m. the following day at Lurie Children's Hospital. The Cook County Medical Examiner's office confirmed the outcome.

Authorities, including the Chicago police, are treating this incident as a death investigation. The circumstances surrounding Elouga's entry into the lake and the subsequent chain of events are currently under scrutiny by area detectives, however at this time it appears it was an accidental death brought about by rough waters and a strong undercurrent.

Fred Pascal Elouga, age 12.
Photo courtesy of the Pascal Elouga family

The flag warning system (green for safe, yellow for caution and red for warning that no one is to enter the water due to rough conditions or bacteria) should be better enforced. Even when the weather is good, when there are waves in the lake it generally means that there is a strong undertow that can pull even the best of swimmers further out into the lake. For those not familiar with these conditions a simple summer swim can become dangerous, or, as in this case, tragic.

This new drowning death leaves area neighbors thinking of all those who have passed away from drowning years prior. The loss of a young life underscores the importance of water safety awareness and education, and guardians and communities are urged to remain alert in preventing such tragic incidents.

Let the fountain flow

Daughter shares her fathers' 100th Heavenly Birthday celebration at The Melas Fountain

BY ELIZABETH MELAS

In 1989, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District dedicated the centennial fountain at 400 N. McClurg Ct. to recognize and honor Nicholas Melas (photo upper right), and his 30 years of public service. It was a joyous occasion and the writer of this story remembered how proud and excited her father was. That fountain now has not flowed in over three years, and Chicago citizens think the fountain needs to be fixed.

My father, Nicholas J. Melas, was born 100 years ago in Hyde Park, where my Greek immigrant grandparents had a restaurant called The Kimbark Cafe.

My Dad spent most of his career working to protect the water and air quality in Illinois. That was his passion, he was a true environmentalist, before it was popular.

He was first elected to the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District [MWRD] in 1962 and served for 30 years, 18 of those years as President.

In 1989, the MWRD dedicated the centennial fountain in his honor to recognize his 30 years of public service. It was a joyous occasion and I remember how proud and excited my Dad was. The fountain has become a civic landmark and is beloved by many residents and tourists alike, but for me it's personal. Since my father's death in 2013, the fountain serves as a living memorial where I go to honor his memory.

However, in the Fall of 2020, just weeks before I moved to Arizona to care for my mother, the fountain was damaged and shut off due to a flood. I came back to Chicago briefly last summer and the first place that I went was the fountain. But the fountain was still off and there was a sign saying "Closed for Repair." So I was disappointed, but didn't think much of it, since I assumed it was a temporary closure and my timing was just unlucky.

I didn't know that it had been off for nearly two years at that point.

I returned to Chicago this past June, and again went to the fountain only to find it closed, dirty and neglected. It was at that point that I came upon a CBS news story and realized how long it had been off - nearly three years!

The MWRD says that the project will take at least another year to complete. Buckingham Fountain was built from the ground up in only two years - and that was in 1927! Surely, it shouldn't take fours years to make some repairs on a much smaller fountain.

So, I thought that my father's 100th heavenly birthday was the perfect opportunity to celebrate and honor him by gathering family, friends, elected officials, community activists and residents of Chicago to make a strong showing of support for the restoration of the fountain.

In attendance was Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd], Architect of the fountain Dirk Lohan, Gail Spreen of The Streeterville Organization of Active Residents, Craig Kaiser of The Streeterville Neighborhood Advocates and Gary Kolesar as well as many other concerned citizens.

I met many people who live in the neighborhood who came to tell me how much they miss the fountain. There were many personal stories that strangers relayed to me about their children and grandchildren who loved to play in the fountain and now are deprived of this summer retreat.

The most wonderful surprise was that my first grade teacher saw the original story in the Skyline newspaper and came just to see me.

So, I implore the MWRD to expedite the repairs and I look forward to the day that the fountain will be flowing again for all of us to enjoy.

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Timeline Theater scraps plan for building rehab; it's a teardown and rebuild from ground up

TimeLine Theater's timeline now calls for raising another $20 million, seeking both private and public sources of support to fully fund al $35 million project.

For a theater company named "TimeLine,' in hindsight the timeline for the theater's planned move into a new Uptown location looks horrible.

Their path toward the current design plan has been a long one, with several unexpected discoveries that necessitated dramatic changes along the way.

The organization had high hopes in 2018 after announcing they were leaving their humble space located in a Lakeview East church, by buying into a large new five-story complex in Edgewater located at 5033-5035 N. Broadway.

Now, two years later their original timeline has blown up. Plans now call for demolishing the existing building and starting fresh.

And TimeLine's timeline now calls for raising $20 million, seeking both private and public sources of support to fund the full $35 million project tab.

Thus far, TimeLine says they have raised about half of that $20 million, with donations from 74 private contributors.

As for public funding, TimeLine has secured $2.5 million in grants from the State of Illinois; they are applying for Tax Increment Financing assistance from City Hall, and they are pursuing federal New Market Tax Credits.

TimeLine's timeline trauma was caused first by the pandemic, followed by the CTA's Red Line rehab, and finally by the age, wear and tear on that existing building itself, and the realization that gravity didn't care much about their timeline… and gravity always wins.

The government-enforced pandemic economic lockdown decimated local live theater. COVID-19's arrival meant the shuttering of live entertainment venues all across town. Like all their colleagues, TimeLine had to kill off their entire 2020-2021 season. To this very day, much of the once vibrant Chicago theater scene has not recovered.

The lockdown also meant their plans to build a new theater building at 5033-35 N. Broadway were delayed. Delayed enough so in fact that the CTA came along with their powers of eminent domain and took part of their property as a work site, adjacent to the Red Line. They are still using that property. Their lease lasts through 2026, making it unavailable to TimeLine.

That roadblock to progress was followed by the march of the engineers and architects. The need for higher ceiling heights for theater uses in the old property would not work because the circa 1910 building's structure was not able to support the needed floor and ceiling changes. The engineers realized a new below-ground caisson foundation system would have had to be built to support the structural changes required for retrofitting the building into a theater.

Then TimeLine's problems grew even more severe when the engineers found significant structural deterioration due to

TIMELINE *see p. 15*

Sponsored by the Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce, the Festival of Arts is a dynamic and diversified community event rich in culture, history and the arts.

Lakeview East Festival of the Arts Sept. 9 and 10

The 18th annual Lakeview East Festival of the Arts will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9 and 10, along Broadway. The event partners with artists across a wide variety of mediums to curate a local celebration of art, culture, family activities, food, and music.

This year's festival will showcase more than 120-juried artists featuring world-class original paintings, sculpture, photography, furniture, jewelry and more. In addition to the artists, the festival also includes live music on multiple stages, a children's play area, wine, beer and food booths, an interactive garden oasis and much more.

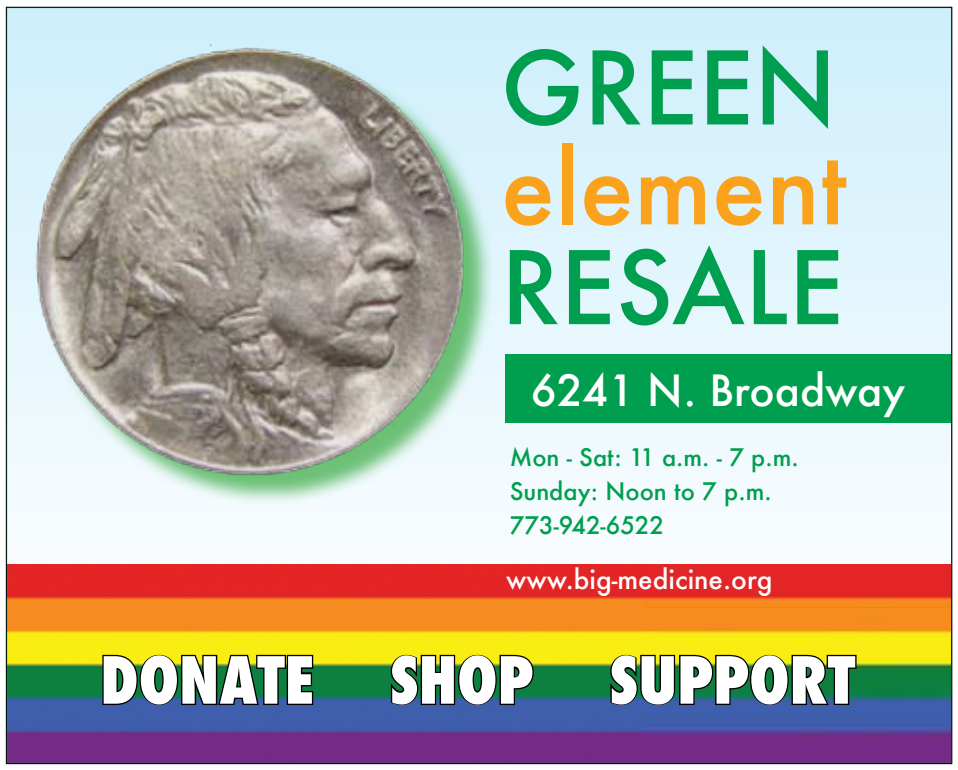
The image chosen for the 2023 Festival is by Dallas-based artist Alex Grimmer and is a 73" x 36" piece of mixed media work called "Dark Lady" and is comprised of 20 Cher albums including "Two The Hard Way" with Greg Allman, original Imperial Record Cher label, original "Half Breed" vinyl, original "Foxy Lady" vinyl and original "Black Rose" vinyl.

"Dark Lady" is comprised of 20 Cher albums by Alex Grimmer, a 31-year-old artist out of Dallas.

The festival hours are Saturday, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. with additional hours for live music, food and drink tents until 10 p.m. and Sunday, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sponsored by the Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce [LECC], the area is a dynamic and diversified neighborhood community rich in culture, history and the arts. The Chamber works hand in hand with its local residents and business owners to offer the Chicagoland area one of the premier fine art outdoor festivals. For more than 17 years, the LECC has presented one of the most unique and popular art festivals on the North Side.

Lakeview East Festival of the Arts asks for a $5 donation upon entrance, this fee goes to supporting additional events and offerings in the Lakeview East area. For more information, visit LakeviewEastFestivalOfTheArts.com, or LakeviewEast.com.



Police Beat...

Eleven years for carjacker who was tracked by victim's stolen AirPods

A Chicago man arrested for carjacking a driver in Lincoln Park after the victim tracked the movements of AirPods inside the hijacked vehicle has been given an 11-year sentence.

Kejuan Franklin, 19, received the sentence from Judge Diana Kenworthy after pleading guilty to aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon, according to court records.

Kejuan Franklin

Prosecutors said the victim was standing with a witness near his Toyota Prius in the 1200 block of W. Fullerton when Franklin pedaled up on a bicycle on the evening of Oct. 14, 2021.

Franklin jumped off the bike and slid into the driver's seat. But when the victim tried to get him out, Franklin allegedly pointed a laser-sight-equipped gun at him and the witness.

The victim pushed his companion out of the line of fire, and Franklin drove away with the car. And the victim's AirPods, which were inside the vehicle, went along for the ride.

Police tracked their signal and located the hijacked car in the 8200 block of S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. They said Franklin and a woman were standing beside it when they arrived.

Prosecutors said officers also found a loaded handgun in the car's center console. It had a laser sight attached.

Franklin got a pretty heavy sentence, even though he has no other criminal background. His plea deal saved him from the possibility of a much longer sentence. By pleading guilty to aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon instead of with a firearm, he avoided a 15-year sentencing enhancement.

His 11-year prison term will be halved for good behavior. He is also receiving 1,125 days of credit earned in jail. The Illinois Dept. of Corrections says he will be paroled the day after Christmas 2025.

Teen kidnapped, robbed driver near North Avenue Beach

Chicago police say a 17-year-old boy kidnapped and robbed a man in Lincoln Park early Friday, only to be arrested less than two hours later after dumping the victim.

The boy and at least two other people held the man at gunpoint after forcing their way into his vehicle in the 1600 block of N. Lake Shore Dr., according to a CPD media statement.

They robbed him and eventually let him go. But the victim flagged down police officers near Fullerton and Damen, and cops arrested the boy minutes later. He is charged with armed robbery with a firearm, kidnapping, and misdemeanor obstruction of identification.

Man shot during late-night party near Montrose Beach

A 25-year-old Chicago man was shot during an argument at a late-night party along the lakefront on Sunday evening.

The victim arrived at Thorek Hospital in a relative's car around 11:30 p.m. and was subsequently transferred to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center for treatment.

Police said he was in the 4500 block of N. Simonds Dr. when someone shot at him during an argument. Simonds Dr. runs roughly parallel to the lakefront near Montrose Beach.

One bullet struck the victim in his leg near the knee. Police went to the park and found two shell casings. CPD did not release a description of the suspect.

The man is the 12th person shot in Uptown this year. That compares to 13 as of this date last year, 15 in 2021, and nine at this point in 2020.

Five years for robber who forced his way into woman's downtown hotel room

An Uptown man accused of robbing and trying to sexually assault a woman after forcing his way into her downtown hotel room one year ago has reached a plea deal.

Prosecutors allowed Keshawn Bunch to plead guilty to a charge of aggravated robbery in exchange for a five-year sentence from Judge Michael Clancy. The state dropped the most serious charges he faced, including multiple counts of home invasion, kidnapping, and five counts of attempted criminal sexual assault, according to court records.

Bunch was accused of forcing his way into a 32-year-old woman's room at the Congress Plaza Hotel, 520 S. Michigan, around 11 a.m. on Aug. 24, 2022.

Keshawn Bunch

Officials said he didn't know the woman when he knocked on her door, posing as a housekeeping worker. The woman opened her door and found him pointing a pistol at her, although police would later discover that it was a BB gun, officials alleged.

Once inside the room, Bunch allegedly took the woman's phone and about $1,000 in cash and demanded to know if she had CashApp so he could try to transfer her money.

Bunch asked the woman if she wanted to die while continuing to demand her PINs as she hurriedly called the hotel operator for help on the room phone, according to a version of events presented by prosecutors last year. The hotel operator notified security after hearing a man demanding passcodes and other commotion on the phone line.

Before security arrived, Bunch tried to get the woman to remove her clothing, but she refused. He then lowered his pants to expose himself and pushed her head down, ordering her to perform a sex act at gunpoint, prosecutors alleged.

He stopped when the woman told Bunch her boyfriend would return soon and that help was coming. Bunch left the room as security guards arrived.

As they detained him in the hallway, the woman's phone and the BB gun fell to the ground, officials said.

Bunch was on bail at the time for felony identity theft and illegal possession of more than three debit or credit cards. The case is still pending.

The charges stem from an incident in which two Uptown men were awakened early on July 27, 2022, after getting fraud alerts from their banks.

They found that their wallets and car had been stolen from their home. Prosecutors said the men tracked the alerts and saw Bunch discard a receipt bearing one of their names and credit card numbers at a McDonald's in Uptown.

The men called the police, who arrested Bunch after he allegedly used one of the stolen credit cards at a nearby grocery store.

Prosecutors said that Bunch had six of the victims' credit cards in his possession. He told investigators that he found a wallet in the grass.

Bunch is expected to be paroled on July 18, 2024. He is receiving credit toward his sentence for the time he spent in jail and for participating in a high school program while in custody. His sentence will also be reduced by 50% for good behavior.

Three years for man who fired gun outside West Loop hotel

A suburban man has been sentenced to three years for firing a gun during an incident outside a West Loop hotel. Tyrale Johnson, 31, pleaded guilty to endangering others by reckless discharge of a firearm before Judge Adrienne Davis last week, court records show.

Hotel gatherings were a significant driver of shootings and gun-related incidents around the downtown area after occupancy plummeted during COVID and hotel operators slashed rates to generate income.

Tyrale Johnson

Chicago police responded to a call of shots fired in the 100 block of N. Jefferson around 2:27 a.m. April 11, 2021, and spoke with witnesses who described the gunman, a CPD said at the time.

Officers also reviewed surveillance video that showed the man walking out of a business and passing through a group of people. Police said the video showed him pulling out a handgun and shooting at the group. No one was injured, but bullets struck several nearby vehicles.

Police spotted Johnson walking several blocks away and ordered him to stop. Instead, prosecutors alleged, he tossed a gun into a puddle of water and kept walking. After detaining Johnson, officers returned to the puddle and recovered a handgun from the water.

Prosecutors said Johnson admitted to firing three shots into the air.

Johnson arrived at Stateville Correctional Center on Aug. 24. His sentence will be reduced by 50% for good behavior and another 407 days for credits earned in jail. While his parole date is not yet posted on the Illinois Dept. of Corrections website, he should expect to be released in early 2024.

Woman shot during robbery across from Chicago police station; separate shooting reported nearby

A woman was shot on Aug. 23 during a robbery in an apartment building across the street from a Chicago police station on the Near North Side. A few hours later, a man was critically injured in a shooting just a block north of the same police station.

In a sparse media statement, CPD said a 28-year-old woman was inside an apartment in the 1100 block of N. Larrabee when an unknown person fired a shot, grazing her left hand, around 3:40 p.m.

But we have learned that the woman was shot during a robbery, and police are looking for two men.

After the robbery, the woman sought help at the Near North 18th District station at 1160 N. Larrabee. She was taken to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment.

Officers were told to look for two suspects: a tall, thin black man wearing jeans with a gray sweatshirt and a short, heavyset black man wearing black clothing. They were seen in an alley between the victims' building and Holy Family Lutheran Church, directly across the street from the 18th District station parking lot.

Then, around 8:31 p.m., an officer in the parking lot radioed that he heard shots fired north of the police station.

Officers found a 34-year-old man with gunshot wounds to his legs in the 500 block of W. Scott a few minutes later.

CPD said the victim was fighting another person when three men approached, and one began shooting. He was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition, according to a police statement.

So far this year, 25 people have been shot on the Near North Side, with nine being shot in August.

On Aug. 20, 24-year-old Brandon Hatcher was shot and killed while waiting for a red light to change in the 800 block of N. Orleans.

Four people were shot by a gunman who sprayed over two dozen bullets near the Clark-Division Red Line CTA station around 11:46 p.m. on Aug. 13. Chicago police said a 28-year-old man was critically injured. The other victims—a 22-year-old woman, a 24-year-old man, and a 42-year-old man—suffered gunshot wounds to their legs.

About three hours later, another man was shot a few blocks away in an unrelated incident, according to Chicago police. The 32-year-old was sitting in his car in the 900 block of N. Cambridge when an unknown person shot him. He drove himself to Northwestern Memorial Hospital for treatment.

A 40-year-old man was shot in the leg during an altercation in the 500 block of N. State early on Aug. 5.

Teen kidnapped, robbed driver near North Avenue Beach

Chicago police say a 17-year-old boy kidnapped and robbed a man in Lincoln Park Aug. 25, only to be arrested less than two hours later after dumping the victim.

The boy and at least two other people held the man at gunpoint after forcing their way into his vehicle in the 1600 block of N. Lake Shore Dr., according to a CPD media statement.

They robbed him and eventually let him go. But the victim flagged down police officers near Fullerton and Damen, and cops arrested the boy minutes later.

He is charged with armed robbery with a firearm, kidnapping, and misdemeanor obstruction of identification.

At least 46 cars were burglarized in the Loop

Burglars have broken into at least 46 cars in the Loop this month, Chicago police warned in a Aug. 28 community alert.

One or more people are breaking side windows to access the interiors of locked cars, except in one case in which the thieves took the vehicle's catalytic converter. The alert said "a vast majority" of the incidents occurred in parking lots and garages.

Police advise people to park in well-lit areas away from large vehicles that could shield thieves from view. They also suggested that people who will be away for a while should have a friend or family member check on their car periodically.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

Anthony Colone (inset) and the baseball diamond where Edward Schultz was found. *Photo courtesy Cook County sheriff's office*

Man charged with murder on Uptown baseball diamond; gas mask, Hawaiian shirt, bag full of knives cited

Dressed in a gas mask, bicycle helmet, dark suit jacket, white shorts, gloves, and a Hawaiian shirt and carrying a bag full of knives, Anthony Colone was a sight to behold, even as he rode the CTA's Red Line, where unusual visuals can be the norm.

A commuter was so intrigued by the 26-year-old that July evening, they posted a Snapchat video of him from the train. Officials say that Colone threatened the Snapchatter with a staple gun when he saw what they were doing. Thinking quickly, the commuter calmed Colone by complimenting his Darth Vader wristwatch until Colone exited the train downtown.

Around 4:10 a.m. the following day, July 14, Colone draped his arm around a 64-year-old homeless man, Edward Schultz, and they walked into Clarendon Park together. As the sun rose about an hour later, a passerby found Schultz stabbed to death on the park's baseball diamond.

On Wednesday, prosecutors charged Colone with Schultz's murder.

About 14 minutes after they walked into the park together, Colone emerged alone and walked toward the Wilson CTA station, prosecutors said. Citing surveillance videos, they said he stopped along the way to remove his white shorts, which now had large blood stains, and held the shorts in the air before tossing them into the street.

He entered the CTA station holding a knife, blood visible on his arm, and took the Red Line downtown, according to the proffer prosecutors presented during Colone's bail hearing.

Chicago police allegedly found Colone's suit jacket, gas mask, bike helmet, and Darth Vader watch scattered around the baseball diamond where Schultz was found. Broken serrated knife blades and intact knives were strewn about the field.

Police records indicate officers arrested Colone around 7 p.m. that night after they received 911 calls about a man exposing himself to children at a playground on the Far North Side.

When they found him, he was wearing the Hawaiian shirt and one glove, "surrounded by a circle of knives and pliers plunged into the ground around him," the proffer said. He had a staple gun in his bag.

Colone was taken in for a psychiatric exam. He tested positive for amphetamine, cannabinoids, and benzodiazepines, prosecutors said. While police guarded him at the hospital, he allegedly made statements about murdering someone.

Prosecutors said Colone's mother, who told police he has a history of mental illness and drug use, identified him in surveillance videos. The commuter who posted the Snapchat video identified him, too.

Colone has been in Cook County jail since being released from the hospital because he stopped complying with conditions of a probation sentence he received for felony aggravated battery of a peace officer last year.

At the end of the Aug. 23 bail hearing, Judge Susana Ortiz ordered Colone held without bail on a charge of first-degree murder.

Heartbreaking animal case reaches positive outcome for dog and human

BY CWBCHICAGO

A heartbreaking case we we reported on in 2021 recently reached a much more positive conclusion.

Back then, prosecutors charged Amir Ahmed with animal cruelty after a passerby saw him spraying a puppy with Lysol inside a car on the Near North Side.

Today, the dog is living it up with a new family, and Ahmed, 49, is better, too, thanks to a treatment plan and his own supportive family.

When Chicago police responded to the passerby's 911 call in the 200 block of W. Walton in Nov. 2021, the 6-month-old Lab mix was wet and squinting. Cops noticed the "overwhelming odor of bleach" coming from Ahmed's vehicle, prosecutors said.

He told police he sprayed the dog, which he claimed was his, with bleach to clean it. The puppy's fur was discolored, and vets said he suffered eye injuries and had discolored fur.

Ahmed remained in the Cook County jail from the day after his arrest until about three weeks ago, when he pleaded guilty to one count of animal torture.

Judge Lauren Edidin sentenced him to two years, which was satisfied by the time he spent in jail and good behavior credits. She also sentenced him to two years of mental health probation.

The Garrido Stray Rescue Foundation took the puppy under its wing and closely monitored Ahmed's court case. In a Facebook post this month, the group said they were pleased with the outcome.

Amir Ahmed and Goose. *Photos courtesy Cook County sheriff's office; Garrido Stray Rescue Foundation*

"We believe people who harm animals need to be held accountable. We also understand it's not one size fits all. There are a variety of ways to seek justice and sometimes, sometimes help the abuser change. This is one of those cases," the post read.

"The dog is now named Goose … [He] has been living the life he deserves with an amazing family. He has several animal siblings and an amazing mom and dad who are happy to have him as a member of the family."

The foundation's court advocates said Ahmed is much better these days, too: "He has been under Psychiatric care and is now on medication. What a big difference medication made!"

"When he committed this offense, he was going thru a divorce, lost his job and was living in his car and not on any medication. He will now be living with his family and they will help him to move forward in life," the post continued.

"We do hope that Ahmed follows his mental health treatment plan and continues to get better."

The foundation will continue to monitor the case during Ahmed's probationary period.

Not guilty: Two Chicago men charged with 2020 murder on the Wabash Bridge walk free

BY CWBCHICAGO

In the steamy summer of 2020, months that were full of violence and social unrest, one of the highest-profile crimes was a murder that occurred on the Wabash Ave. Bridge, steps from the Trump Tower.

Chicago police released surveillance video of the shooting, resulting in two men being charged with first-degree murder.

Two weeks ago, a judge found one of them not guilty in a bench trial. Prosecutors immediately dropped all charges against the second man. And a third man authorities identified as a shooter in the case has never been charged.

Curious to know how a case that prosecutors said included video evidence of both accused men at the scene could end without a conviction, we ordered a transcript of the court hearing in which Judge Carol Howard handed down her finding.

(L) In a frame from video released by Chicago police, a man identified as Charles James is seen extending his arm at bottom center. (R) The man identified as Charles James is seen holding an object on the Wabash Bridge in video released by the Chicago police. *Courtesy Chicago Police Dept.*

The crime

In the video of the shooting, several Chicago police cars were seen stationed in the background, sitting on Wacker Dr. with their blue lights flashing in an unsuccessful effort to keep a lid on things as the city's violence boiled over. For two hours before the shooting, police responded to a series of disturbances and complaints about large groups of people congregating and partying near Trump Tower and along Wacker Dr. between Michigan Ave. and State St.

The video shows many people walking back and forth on the bridge around 2:35 a.m. One pulls out a gun and starts shooting toward the traffic lanes. Officials said a second man in the video also fired shots.

People dove to the bridge deck, ducked, and ran from the scene.

Gregory P. Crawford, 35, was killed, and a 25-year-old woman was injured.

Charges filed

Nearly six months after the shooting, prosecutors filed murder charges against Charles James. They said he was the second gunman who pulled out a weapon and fired shots.

Six months later, they filed murder charges against Deandre Lewis, 25. Officials never accused him of firing a gun. Instead, they alleged, as the intended target hid behind cars, Lewis pointed toward the man and encouraged others to shoot him.

At one point during the video that police released to the public, investigators froze the footage. A big red arrow with the words "second subject with weapon" appeared, pointing directly at James' hand.

Prosecutors said he and James were part of a group wandering around near Trump Tower when the still-uncharged man confronted a 27-year-old man near the bridge.

A video that authorities did not release to the public showed the 27-year-old ducking behind cars as he tried to get away from the group, prosecutors said in 2021. Passengers in a passing car saw the man hiding and stopped to ask if he was okay.

Prosecutors claimed that the man told passersby that James and others in the group were going to shoot him.

When one of the passengers opened their door to let the man inside, the uncharged gunman began shooting at the car.

Bullets pierced the vehicle's windshield, striking Crawford in the neck and hitting a woman twice in her left arm, according to prosecutors. The car's driver sped from the scene, and the man who was allegedly targeted by the shooters fled on foot without injuries. James and the other gunman allegedly got into a car and left the area.

But exactly what James did during those critical moments is not as straightforward as the state made it out to be, Judge Howard found.

Not guilty

At one point during the video that police released to the public, investigators froze the footage. A big red arrow with the words "second subject with weapon" appeared, pointing directly at James' hand.

As the uncharged gunman shot from down the bridge, James placed a Remy Martin bottle he was holding on a bridge girder and pulled out an object that pointed toward the bridge, Judge Howard found. But she was not convinced that the object was a firearm.

"There is no indication or solid proof that the object pointed toward the street was a gun or that he fired it because no fired shell casings were found in the area where he was standing and no guns were recovered," Howard said during the Aug. 9 court hearing.

But investigators did find five shell casings from where the still-uncharged man fired.

"Based on the careful review of the evidence, the [police surveillance] video, and all of the video evidence submitted to the Court, as well as the testimony of witnesses, this Court finds that the State has not proven beyond a reasonable doubt that Charles James is accountable for the actions of the person believed to be [the uncharged man]," Howard continued.

She said there was no evidence that James conspired to participate in the shooting or even that he fired any shots.

"I am not finding that Defendant James is innocent, but I am finding based on the record in front of me that I cannot conclude

FREE see p. 15

Food truck taco throwdown Sept. 1 at Daley Plaza

The winner of the first-ever event will be chosen through public voting

The Chicago Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection [BACP] has announced the first-ever Chicago Food Truck Taco Throwdown to be held 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1. The event will include an opportunity for members of the public to vote for their favorite tacos sold by participating food trucks at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St.

The winner will be announced at 2:30 p.m. and be recognized as the People's Choice winner.

The event hopes to combine the love of flavorful tacos with the opportunity to champion diners' favorite food truck, all the while enjoying lunch outdoors against the backdrop of the landmark Chicago Picasso sculpture.

From sizzling carne asada to innovative vegetarian delights, the food trucks are sure to have something for every palate. By participating in the voting process, attendees will play a role in supporting the local entrepreneurs who make up the local culinary community.

"When you vote for your favorite taco truck, you are actively contributing to the success of small businesses in Chicago," said BACP Cmsr. Kenneth J. Meyer. "You can eat, vote, and support the food truck industry all during your Friday lunch."

The Food Truck Fest Taco Throwdown hopes to provide food truck operators with a unique opportunity to showcase their culinary talents. The event will provide an economic boost to food truck operators if it attracts a large crowd of attendees.

The event is part of the Chi Food Truck Fest, a weekly staple held May 19 through Oct. 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., celebrates local food truck owners.

John Wrenn and Rose O'Neill.

Courtney Daley Thompson with Daley Thompson nieces and nephews.

Roderick Sawyer

CHILDHOOD *from p. 2*

ROYALTY IN ROGERS PARK: The great loss on Maui reminds us of **Mrs. Kulamanu McWayne Nash** and daughter **Wayne Kulamanu Nash**. When the Field Museum's **Ryan Schuessler** started work on the new Chicago's Legacy Hula exhibition, he discovered an unexpected link in the Museum's collection to a distant cousin of the Hawaiian royal family, who lived in Rogers Park after World War I.

Ryan contacted the Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society, and together they discovered McWayne was widowed soon after the Queen was deposed. She and her daughter **Kulamanu Beatrice**, came to Rogers Park around 1919.

After Kulamanu married well-to-do Chicagoan **Lucius Nash**, the family lived first on Juneway Terrace, and later in the North Shore suburbs. The story of **Lucy Robinson McWayne** and her older sisters, was presented Aug. 14 at the Society. They were childhood friends of the queen, and through them, the sacred royal standards of Hawaiian royalty came to the Field Museum.

REOPENING NEWS: Lisa Vanderpump's shuttered restaurant Pump will reopen next to TomTom after landlord issues are resolved.

CLOSING NEWS: Chicago's oldest movie theater, the New 400 on Sheridan Rd., announced it is closing to the public after 100 years. Just down the street from Loyola University's lake shore campus it is a cinematic tragedy. Owner **Tony Fox** said times were bad, and they were. Fox said, "The problem is, we've lost too much money."

Dave Wannstedt

Corey McPherrin

Ethan Dooley

END OF AN ERA: Newsy Fox anchor **Corey McPherrin** retired from Fox 32 as co-anchor and longtime reporter. McPherrin grew up in the Chicago suburbs and went off of his career path once he secured his goal of a full time news beat in his Chicago. He was always erudite, prepared, well-presented, and handsome, growing in stature at the news outlet, shaping its reputation by his own dignity and hard-hitting work ethic. He gave Chicagoans a golden road to local knowledge and world events in an era of profound social and political upheaval and change. He gathered a lot of devoted fans in the process. Good luck Corey.

BILLY GOAT: Jane Canepa and the Publicity Club of Chicago hosting a networking party 5: 30 tonight at the world famous Billy Goat Tavern, just show up, and bring business cards!

OUT AND ABOUT: Bond Girl **Diane O'Connell** at Cindy Fischer's birthday bash at Hugo's Frog Bar with **Peggy Lombardo**, **Lyn McKeaney**, **Virginia Siddons**, **Muffie Sanfilippo** and **Michelle Love**. Then off to McKeaney's Rush St. saloon, "Mother's," for their 55th anniversary soirée.

SCRAPPER: The movie "Scrapper," written and directed by **Charlotte Regan**, stars **Harris Dickinson** (Triangle of Sadness) as a young father reunited with his estranged daughter, a resourceful 12-year-old girl who secretly lives alone in her flat in a working class suburb of London following the death of her mother. It opens Sept. 15 at The Music Box on Southport. It was the winner of the World Cinema Dramatic Prize at Sundance.

RIP: Honorable **William James Laurino**, son of Ald. **Anthony Laurino** and brother of Ald. **Marge Laurino**, a longtime state legislator and delegate to the sixth state constitutional convention has died at the age of 82.

HISTORIC BUSINESS: Pamela C. Rayner, 65, co-owner of A.A. Rayner Funeral Home has died, a member of Chicago's premier African American, family-owned, mortuaries.

WINNETKA DEATH: Ebraham S. Akroon, 18-year-old Winnetka swimmer, did not resurface from the waters of Lake Michigan at Elder Lane Beach.

NEW NORMAL: John Holden tells us of his bike ride past the Walgreens in Andersonville last week. "The whole store was taped off as a crime scene. Multiple cop cars all over, at least a dozen cops milling about on Clark St. No one was going in and out of the store, which had police tape around the entrance." Turns out to have been part of our 'new normal,' - a cross-town armed robbery spree that ended with two arrests. Read about it in our police blotter this week.

SALERNO'S: Elvis was in the house when **Barb Bailey** joined **Mike** and **Connie Salerno**, **BJ Murray**, **Johnnie LoGalbo** and **Paul Hansen** at the Salerno Family's eatery at Grand and Racine, remembering Elvis on the anniversary of his death with **Ronnie B. Elvis** and wife, **Debra Decker Banckaert**.

CONDUCTOR: Taijiro Iimori has died from acute heart failure at 82. The late conductor studied at Toho Gakuen College and then honed his skills in the United States. Going on to win prizes at the Dimitri Mitropoulos International Music Competition for Conductors (1966), and at the First Herbert von Karajan International Conducting Competition (1969). A treasured music assistant at the Bayreuth Festival for more than 20 years from 1970, he was a strong advocate of **Richard Wagner's** music in Japan.

WHO'S WHERE: Eamonn Cummins and **Pennie Taylor** joined generous Chicagoans at Boss Bar for a fundraiser honoring active U.S. Servicemen… **Al** and **Ginny Shorey** set sail from New York for an adventure in Greenland… **Ethan Dooley** celebrating his 21st birthday, out for toast with dad, realtor **Ken Dooley**, bravo… **Kathy Wolter Mondelli** in Florida with husband, La Scarola restauranteur **Joey Mondelli**, and having a great time with sweet pal **Elizabeth A. Bertucci**… Lunching at charming Bistro Monadnock was architect **Lucien Lagrange** with wife, realtor **Melinda Jakovich-Lagrange**… **Bobbi Panter** in Las Vegas, NV, with cutie pooch **Little B**… **Takara Beathea-Gudell** looking superlatively modern showing-off her folding chair earrings… **Nora Dankner** and **Adam Umbach** having a successful summer filled with painting sales in the Hamptons, Manhattan and Brooklyn NY… **Brian White** and **Jim Kinney** enjoy a lively batch of elegant summer cocktails amidst the refined interiors of **PB Warner** and friends… Belated happy birthday to lovely **Julie Barrish** who celebrated with **April Schwartz**… **Susie Fortsmann Kealy** has returned from her cruise stretching across the Mediterranean from Amalfi to Santorini safe and sound… **Cynthia Olson** feeling bombarded in the palace during airshow practice runs when the noise gets deafening… Happy to see former alderman and mayoral candidate **Roderick Sawyer**, a St. Ignatius alum, at Erie Cafe, while this columnist noshed with Rod's classmate, restauranteur **John Wrenn** (another "Iggie" grad), and the lovely **Rose O'Neill**… Tufano's **Joey DiBuono** had a bustling night, first former Chicago Bears coach **Dave Wannstedt** was spotted exiting the Italian eatery with greetings from the crowd outside… also dining al fresco on the balmy Tufano patio was Mayoral Chief of Staff **Rich Guidice**, kind enough to stop and send a thumbs up to this columnist… ran into the lovely, **Jackie Jackson**, **Mrs. Jesse Jackson**, at Greek Islands where she looked so fashionable, especially when I realized she was wearing our friend Takara Beathea-Gudell's folding chair earrings.

DALEY REUNION: Aunt **Courtney Daley Thompson** is a great gatherer, like her mother, **Patricia Daley Martino.** It's great to see yet another generation of **Richard J.** and **Eleanor "Sis" Daley's** family stand so adult and accomplished.

Half the time when brothers wrestle, it's just an excuse to hug each other. — James Patterson

tog515@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

We tried, and it failed

I read with incredulity the [Aug. 16] "Gangbangers" article.

Native Sons: with the exception of rampant social media (which decades ago didn't exist in its instantaneous and Hydra-esque forms), all this has been tried before and failed.

Appeals made to gang members fall on deaf ears. However many of them might have children (some), siblings (many), or parents (all), thugs don't care about them or any of us. They thrive on discord and fame, however localized or fleeting, as normal people do not.

Parents will have limited leverage with their teens and young adults when they cannot be there as the kids go to school (or are out doing whatever), because they're working to benefit their families.

Thugs do not care one whit about time — did you think they'd stop at the stroke of 9 a.m., so we can get to work alright? They shoot at each other while at funerals, celebrations and barbecues.

Among other wrongheaded ideas with this timing, many kids are still on the school bus at 8 a.m.; are they therefore at more peril for the disembarking hour, before gangbangers will supposedly put on their good guy hats and put down the guns? They won't stop shooting at 8:59 a.m. to comply with the wishes of the law-abiding, but they're somehow only ready to pick them up as the clock strikes 9 p.m. — and any other time they feel the impulse to pay someone back for the slightest insult or injury, real or perceived.

In nearly 40 years as a cop, I was told, among other nonsensical utterances, that "New Year's Eve is a free night!" (to shoot off guns). This is the same sort of tripe, that we should all look the other way for thugs shooting between night and the morning or whatever are the hours du jour. They don't care about the Mexicans on their bikes hoping to make it to their jobs, the Polish janitors going home at odd hours, students taking night classes, nor the rest of the hard-working world.

This plan is a pipe dream at best, conferring an air of believability onto not just the young and misguided and poorly supervised, but the active predators looking to distract and disarm us with their promises to behave, fingers crossed/laughing at those gullible enough to believe them meanwhile.

Maja Ramírez
(retired) Warrant/
Summons CPD Officer
Avondale

Voting with my feet

The State St. revival plan story [Skyline, Aug. 23] reveals a plan that we've seen before.

Mere cosmetic changes such as planters and removing curbs on sections of the street to designating areas for retail, arts and educational purposes will accomplish what, exactly?

This a pathetic.

Talk about putting lipstick on a pig!

We don't need to be told an area is an arts district.

What we need is assurance that we're not going to get robbed and/or shot and killed when we're downtown.

I'm sure this committee will receive an enormous amount of money to implement these time- and money-wasting projects, and they'll pat themselves on the back, and present each other awards and certificates suitable for framing, for these fundamental failings.

But until criminals start getting apprehended, prosecuted and jailed for their rampant crimes, and until the politicians with their paid-by-taxpayers-money security details get a clue, it doesn't matter how they plan to dress up State St., I'll vote with my feet.

Sydney Moore
Andersonville

Will your eyes recognize the real lies?

Will you believe your eyes or the lies?

Taxes will continue to skyrocket to pay for bloated City budgets. Been to City Hall or the County Building lately? But for the Cook County Treasurer's Office, most city and county staff still have not returned to their desks. More and more personnel doing less and less work for more and more pay.

Does anyone else see City trucks parked at City parks doing nothing from lunch time to quitting time?

Our retail districts continue to be hurt by higher parking costs, less parking choices, more concrete bike barriers, more shoplifting, higher robbery rates, and more of us avoiding the crooks, while shopping on Amazon Prime.

No more criminal prosecution, forget about it, not gonna happen. Even if a repeat offender smashes grandma in the face, on camera at a CTA station. Remember most of our great public officials refuse to criticize the do-nothing, "Free Willy" States Attorney, Kim Foxx. Even when a schoolteacher was shot by gangbangers shooting at other gangbangers while leaving White Sox Park.

And if you liked the original, just wait for COVID Part Deux.

Everyone here had to get the poison jabs, but none of the migrants crossing the border illegally have to be vaccinated? Not even asked about TB, small pox or measles? No medical test like we once did at Ellis Island, not even vaccinations offered? Like an alderman's mistress, they are exempt from public health requirements.

Does anyone really think that the Chicago Public Schools will get better with one of the Chicago Teachers Union [CTU] members now in charge of refilling the public trough? Now that CTU members got a 20% raise, will reading and math levels also go up 20%? Will the 12 weeks of maternity pay for teachers evolve into a 12 month lockout / remote learning opportunity for teachers to stay home and remote teach from a living room, beach or neighborhood tavern? Feeding' time, eat up.

The Chicago Police Dept. will continue to atrophy as hirings can't keep up with retirements, especially with the Democratic Convention coming to town. More and more police officers assigned to North Side districts will be "redeployed" to other parts of town. And what will our North Side alderkids say then? Nothing. They will say nothing as the once great City of Chicago crumbles.

But will our real eyes realize the real lies we're being told today?

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

Death in the Disabled Stall!

The richest guy in Chicago has been in the disabled stall at his lawyer's office a mite too long. Shall we look?

See ***The Dead One Stinks*** at:
donniesyellowballbooks.com

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

Chicago resident, and Hall of Fame singer Mavis Staples, will perform a free concert 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at Navy Pier.

Illinois legend Mavis Staples to perform free show at Chicago Live

Iconic singer will offer 45-minute concert as the closing act on Sept. 23

For the first time, civil rights activist and Grammy Award-winner and Chicago resident, Mavis Staples, will perform during Chicago Live!, 8 p.m. Saturday Sept. 23, on the Peoples Gas Lake Stage in Polk Bros Park.

Hailed as one of America's defining voices of freedom and peace, Staples is a once-in-a-generation artist whose impact on music and culture would be difficult to overstate. She's both a Blues and a Rock and Roll Hall of Famer; a chart-topping soul/gospel/R&B pioneer; a National Arts Awards Lifetime Achievement recipient; and a Kennedy Center honoree.

As an activist, Staples marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., performed at John F. Kennedy's inauguration, and sang in Barack Obama's White House. She's collaborated with everyone from Prince and Bob Dylan to Arcade Fire and Hozier, blown away countless festivalgoers from Newport Folk and Glastonbury to Lollapalooza and Bonnaroo, performed with The Band at The Last Waltz, and graced the airwaves on Fallon, Colbert, Ellen, Austin City Limits, Jools Holland, the Grammys, and more.

This year marks the third year for the free performing arts festival, which now presents 80 distinct artists and cultural organizations in back-to-back performances on three stages Saturday, September 23, and Sunday, September 24. Performances span every artistic genre – including music, dance, theatre, spoken word, improv, vocal performance and more. This year, 25 new groups will join over 40 returning organizations performing at Navy Pier to showcase their talents.

Chicago Live! employs hundreds of artists, support staff and union laborers over the course of this two-day event.

Medicare seminars at library

The Lakeview Branch of the Chicago Public Library is hosting free educational only seminars on the new Medicare rules, options and enrollment opportunities.

Seminars will be held in the community room of the Lincoln Belmont Branch Library, 1659 W. Melrose St. The scheduled dates are Sept. 6 and 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 3 and 17.

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HIGHER *from p. 3*

the latter being quadruple the current rate. Transfer tax increases for the second and third tiers would only apply to buyers, while the first tier would apply to both buyers and sellers.

Johnson's team claims that the lower rate on sales below $1 million would affect almost 96% of property sales in Chicago. But the proposal does not provide any indexing of the transfer tax to inflation. Over time, without indexing, the forces of price appreciation and inflation mean that at some point in the future, all Chicago property will be valued at over $1 million.

The tax increases are being sold as a way to address the city's homeless population. City Hall hopes to collect more than $100 million in taxes per year, which is $60 million less than the mayor's campaign suggested before the election. Properties that reportedly may be exempted from the tiered tax system would be those receiving government subsidies from Chicago, Cook County, the state and Chicago Housing Authority.

REFUGEE *from p. 7*

at police stations on any given day and delivering food to them. Members of the St. John's community have also raised money to help asylum-seekers pay for temporary living expenses and legal fees.

Last year, federal officials also considered sending migrants from the U.S.-Mexico border to cities of their choosing across the U.S., including Buffalo, Denver, Detroit, Miami, New Orleans, Newark, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE] would then process them there, according to internal agency documents that were obtained and published by CBS News.

U.S. immigration judges, formerly called "special inquiry officers'" are not part of the federal judiciary, but rather are employees of the U.S. Dept. of Justice, and report to the Attorney General.

DHS should be "required to release all pertinent information to the public. It should be done as a matter of course because the public has a right to know," Judge Arthur told Ballasy.

Arthur explained that the government "publishes statistics on the number of aliens its officers encounter at the ports monthly who are placed into removal proceedings with the filing of a 'Notice to Appear,' but separate monthly disclosure lines on the number of those aliens who are released or alternatively are detained are blank—reading '0' across the months.

DHS should be "required to release all pertinent information to the public. It should be done as a matter of course because the public has a right to know," Judge Arthur told Ballasy.

That is a legal and factual impossibility, because those aliens are either released or detained—there is no third option."

ICE publishes monthly statistics on the number of migrants U.S. Customs and Border Protection transfers to its custody as well as the number of aliens ICE itself releases monthly, but it fails to disclose how many of the aliens it releases monthly were originally encountered at the southwest border and transferred to ICE are released monthly, explained Arthur.

Reporting from Shireen Korkzan of Episcopal News Service was included in this report.

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST,
Plaintiff,
vs.
MICHAEL J. NATARUS, AS SURVIVING CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BURTON F, NATARUS TRUST DATED APRIL 20 2017; PARK PLACE CHICAGO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; ARCHANGELS BIORECOVERY INC.;; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
22 CH 1907
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, October 2, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
PARCEL A: UNIT 501 AND PARKING SPACE UNIT P-439 IN PARK PLACE CHICAGO CONDOMINIUM AS DELINEATED AND DEFINED ON THE PLAT OF SURVEY OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PARCEL OF REAL ESTATE:
PARCEL 1: THAT PART OF BLOCK 3 IN ASSESSOR'S DIVISION OF THE KINGSBURY TRACT, IN THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING EASTERLY OF THE EAST DOCK LINE OF THE NORTH BRANCH OF THE CHICAGO RIVER, LYING SOUTHWESTERLY OF THE SOUTHWESTERLY LINE OF KINGSBURY STREET, LYING SOUTH AND SOUTHEASTERLY OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHWESTERLY LINE OF KINGSBURY STREET AND A LINE 3.0 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE CENTER LINE OF ONTARIO STREET (AS NOW LAID OUT) EXTENDED WEST; THENCE WEST ALONG A LINE 3.0 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE CENTER LINE OF ONTARIO STREET (AS NOW LAID OUT) EXTENDED WEST 163.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY IN A STRAIGHT LINE TO A POINT IN SAID DOCK LINE OF SAID NORTH BRANCH OF THE CHICAGO RIVER, WHICH IS 70.80 FEET SOUTHEASTERLY (MEASURED ALONG SAID DOCK LINE) FROM THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF SAID DOCK LINE WITH SAID LINE SO DRAWN 3.0 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE CENTER OF ONTARIO STREET EXTENDED WEST AND LYING NORTH AND EAST OF A LINE DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF KINGSBURY STREET AND A LINE 8.50 FEET SOUTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE PROLONGATION WEST OF THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF BLOCK 4 IN SAID ASSESSOR'S DIVISION OF SAID KINGSBURY TRACT; THENCE WEST ALONG SAID PARALLEL LINE, 142.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH AT RIGHT ANGLES 13.0 FEET; THENCE WEST AT RIGHT ANGLES TO A POINT ON THE EAST DOCK LINE OF THE NORTH BRANCH OF CHICAGO RIVER, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
PARCEL 2: THAT PART OF BLOCK 3 IN ASSESSOR'S DIVISION OF THE KINGSBURY TRACT, IN THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A POINT IN A LINE 3.0 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE CENTER LINE OF ONTARIO STREET (AS NOW LAID OUT) WHICH IS 163.0 FEET WEST FROM THE INTERSECTION OF SAID LINE WITH THE WEST LINE OF KINGSBURY STREET; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY TO A POINT IN THE DOCK LINE OF THE EAST BANK OF THE NORTH BRANCH OF THE CHICAGO RIVER WHICH IS 70.8 FEET SOUTHEASTERLY FROM INTERSECTION OF DOCK LINE, SAID RIVER WITH THE SAID LINE DRAWN 3.0 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE CENTER LINE OF ONTARIO STREET; THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID DOCK LINE OF SAID EAST BANK OF SAID RIVER, 9.80 FEET; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY IN A STRAIGHT LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN A DEED FROM HUGH MCBIRNEY AND ISABELLE M. MCBIRNEY, HIS WIFE, TO PERCIVAL W. CLEMENT, DATED NOVEMBER 22, 1899, RECORDED IN VOLUME 6925 PAGE 164 OF LAND RECORDS IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. WHICH SURVEY IS ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "A" TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED AUGUST 21, 2002 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 0020921139, AND AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS
PARCEL B: EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS FOR THE BENEFIT OF PARCEL A AFORESAID, AS CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS RECORDED AUGUST 21, 2002 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 0020921138.
SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND COVENANTS OF RECORD, IF ANY.. P.I.N. 17091260221011.
Commonly known as 600 N. Kingsbury St., Chicago, IL 60610.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 1491-191517 ADC
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
I3227761

303030 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS LEGAL TITLE TRUSTEE FOR TRUMAN 2016 SC6 TITLE TRUST
Plaintiff,
-v.-
JAMES O. STOLA, PAMELA J. STOLA, STATE OF ILLINOIS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Defendants
17 CH 001325
2633 N. BOSWORTH AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60614
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 12, 2018, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 21, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 2633 N. BOSWORTH AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60614
Property Index No. 14-29-301-030-0000
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.
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, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-17-01051
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 17 CH 001325
TJSC#: 43-3270
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 # 17 CH 001325
I3227453

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
ASSOCIATED BANK, NA
Plaintiff,
-v.-
JAMES NAZAROWSKI, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2626 LAKEVIEW CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION
Defendants
2022 CH 01181
2626 N LAKEVIEW AVE UNIT 2712-10
CHICAGO, IL 60614
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 27, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 21, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 2626 N LAKEVIEW AVE UNIT 2712-10, CHICAGO, IL 60614
Property Index No. 14-28-318-064-1288, 14-28-318-064-1286
The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.
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, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-22-01001
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2022 CH 01181
TJSC#: 43-3272
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2022 CH 01181
I3227455

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE ABFS MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2003-1 MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2003-1;
Plaintiff,
vs.
MARY F. GRIFFIN; 345 FULLERTON PARKWAY CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
19 CH 5791
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, September 25, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-33-200-016-1033.
Commonly known as 345 West Fullerton Parkway 707, Chicago, IL 60614.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. ADC SPS000055-19FC1
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Real Estate For Sale

303030 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREDDIE MAC SEASONED LOANS STRUCTURED TRANSACTION TRUST, SERIES 2020-3
Plaintiff,
-v.-
JAMES JOSEPH PAPPAS, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, STATE OF ILLINOIS - DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CONSTANCE COUTEE, THOMAS P. QUINN, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONSTANCE COUTEE (DECEASED)
Defendants
2021 CH 05608
6537 NORTH WASHTENAW AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60645
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 29, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on October 2, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 6537 NORTH WASHTENAW AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60645
Property Index No. 10-36-418-008-0000
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
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BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-21-03789
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2021 CH 05608
TJSC#: 43-3097
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 # 2021 CH 05608
I3227420

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

303030 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WINTRUST MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF BARRINGTON BANK & TRUST CO., N.A.
Plaintiff,
-v.-
ROBERT A. MOORE, CITY OF CHICAGO, FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CHICAGO, KINETIC LOFTS AT RAINBO VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, CHICAGO HOUSING TRUST
Defendants
2022 CH 10460
4814 N CLARK ST #311-S
CHICAGO, IL 60640
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 27, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 29, 2023, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 4814 N CLARK ST #311-S, CHICAGO, IL 60640
Property Index No. 14-08-315-058-1042
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
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BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-22-07085
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
Case Number: 2022 CH 10460
TJSC#: 43-2668
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2022 CH 10460
I3227419

232323 ----------

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-BC2)
Plaintiff,
vs.
MARGARET GARNER, AKA MARGARET D. GARNER; WATERFORD CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION; HSBC MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants,
17 CH 10885
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-16-304-039-1250.
Commonly known as 4170 NORTH MARINE DRIVE, APARTMENT 24K, CHICAGO, IL 60613.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 17-026123 F2
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Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL, 312-644-2000, is opening lockers:
2702X (Alfred Mayo)
5002X (Jonathan Moss), 2713X (Tyra Peterson), 3523X and 6619X (Edward Lahood),
for public sale
on September 26, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage at 1200 W. 35th St., 773-247-3000, is opening lockers:
3F3613 (Ingersol, Donna)
3F3630 (Jones, Ethan)
3E3425 (Philips, Nicholette)
3E3408 (Robinson, Kimberly)
4C4252 (Wilbourn, Nicholas)
for public sale of miscellaneous items.
This sale is to be held on Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 2:00 pm.
Cash only.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers:
5490F- Becker, Marshall
3185E- Carone, Brandon
2029A- Carpenter, Valerie
3090F- Colvin, Xavier
6350X- Garces, Alexander
1060H- Hecyk, Angela
4080B- Johnson, Bradford
7610F- Kujo, Josephine
2082C- Ruff, Marcus
for public sale.
This sale is to be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 2:00PM.
Cash payments only.

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TIMELINE *from p. 9*

water damage to the roof parapets and façade that would require rebuilding and restoration.

Gravity was winning, and TimeLine came to realize that the old building could not be saved, preserved and retrofitted for a 21st century theater. In early August they announced plans to raze the building and start over from scratch.

"We're thrilled to share new details about the current architectural design and other updates related to our new home, which will house [our] future operations and support our mission of exploring today's social and political issues through the lens of the past," said Managing Director Elizabeth K. Auman in a released statement.

"This new building is an investment in the future of TimeLine—a home for artists, audiences, and community members that will ensure the company and its mission can endure," she said. "We want to create a space and an organization where artists are supported in doing their best work, where the community can thrive, and where the next generation can see themselves."

The new building design features a façade that offers an open, inviting presence, and interior spaces that fulfill their goal of creating an inspiring home that is driven by and supports the company's mission.

Upon entering, guests will experience a lobby café and bar they hope will encourage people to arrive early and stay late. At the heart of the building is a 250-seat flexible black box theatre that's built to be transformative, accommodating multiple seating and stage configurations to provide unique vantage points for audiences.

Surrounding the theatre will be exhibit galleries designed to support the immersive, interactive lobby experiences that are a TimeLine hallmark.

While backstage will hold several spaces for collaboration and creation—including a rehearsal room, design and production studios, and staff offices. Additionally, the company's Living History program will have dedicated space for its engagement with students, and that space also will be available for community meetings and events.

FREE *from p. 11*

beyond a reasonable doubt that he is guilty of first-degree murder or [the other charges he faced]," Howard said, according to the court hearing transcript.

Shortly after Howard issued her finding, prosecutors dropped all charges against Lewis, court records show.

Uncharged man

Authorities believe they have identified another man seen firing a gun on the bridge. Howard referred to him by name several times during her finding, but we are not identifying him by name because he has never been charged with Crawford's murder.

Court records show the 32-year-old has a Class X armed habitual criminal case pending in Chicago. Last week, while on bail, he was charged with felony manufacture-delivery of cannabis.

He has previous felony convictions for being a felon in possession of a firearm in 2018, unlawful use of a weapon with a prior conviction in 2016, and drug-related cases in 2010, 2009, and 2008, according to court files.

Twilight Canoe and Kayak Sept. 10

The Clark Park Advisory Council is hosting a paddle under the stars 5:30 to 9 p.m. Sunday Sept. 10, where paddlers may experience the tranquil beauty of the Chicago River at night.

Whether you're a seasoned paddler or a beginner, this event promises an unforgettable evening for all. Canoes and kayaks may enter the water at the Clark Park Boat Launch, at the WMS Boathouse, 3400 N. Rockwell St.

Don't worry if you don't have your own canoe or kayak – they've got you covered. All equipment is provided, ensuring everyone can participate. Experienced guides will provide safety instructions and assist throughout the journey.

The tour will be followed by live jazz, a catered dinner, and a silent auction. Tickets are $25 to $100, for more information visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twilight-canoe-kayak-tickets-668898923687-?aff=erelexpmlt.

OPPOSE *from p. 1*

vate meeting space.

Caché would not be the first liquor business that operated out of the buildings basement storefront. It was previously occupied by Suite Lounge, a long-standing bar that closed after 15 years due to the government-imposed pandemic lockdown. Prior to Suite, the basement was occupied by a Blues bar.

Hopkins closed Thursday's meeting by saying that the ward's review process would continue before a tavern license is either granted or denied.

Chicago teacher tried to re-enter USA with a 17-year-old Argentinian boy and possible child pornography

BY CWBCHICAGO

A former employee at a North Side private school has been charged with attempted production of child pornography after federal authorities became curious when he tried to re-enter the country from Argentina with a 17-year-old boy.

Emilio Vrdoljak of Chicago was ordered to post $250,000 bail and remain on house arrest at his South Loop home by a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Miami on July 13, according to court records.

On Aug 25, the president of DePaul College Prep in North Center emailed school employees and parents about the arrest, saying Vrdoljak is "a former, short-term employee" who no longer works for the school.

The allegations do not involve anyone from the school, President Mary Dempsey said, but she sent the email "out of an abundance of caution."

Vrdoljak and a 17-year-old Argentinian boy arrived at Miami International Airport on a flight from Buenos Aires on June 29, a Homeland Security Investigations agent wrote in an affidavit supporting the charge.

Customs and Border Protection officers selected the boy for a secondary inspection. He told them Vrdoljak was his English teacher, and he planned to stay with Vrdoljak in the United States for two weeks as part of his studies.

The officers inspected phones belonging to Vrdoljak and the boy "in an attempt to verify the story," the agent wrote.

Vrdoljak's phone allegedly contained images of a male who appeared to be a minor and a sexual chat he had with Vrdoljak. In the conversation, the male said he was 16, but federal authorities have not confirmed that he is a minor.

According to the affidavit, Vrdoljak also sent the unidentified male an explicit video and asked the male to send one back.

They chatted and exchanged images and videos over several days, officials said.

Vrdoljak told the agent that he teaches Spanish at a private preparatory school in Chicago and English in Buenos Aires.

When asked why he continued to chat and exchange files with the person who said they were 16, Vrdoljak told the agent he was "thinking with his butt," according to the affidavit.

The Argentinian boy who traveled to Miami with Vrdoljak told investigators that Vrdoljak asked him if they could sleep in the same bed while staying at a hotel in Buenos Aires, but the boy nixed that idea, the agent wrote.

Vrdoljak also showed the boy pornography in Buenos Aires and again while they were waiting for their flight to depart for Miami, according to the affidavit. The agent said Vrdoljak denied showing the boy anything on the plane but admitted to the first incident.

MONKEY POX *from p. 1*

HIV, mpox, and STD prevention efforts. If this information was available to Chicago Health officials any earlier, questions also need to be asked as to why that information may have been suppressed.

These findings highlight the importance of rectal screening for gonorrhea and chlamydia among people with confirmed and probable mpox. Published data showed that previous history or concurrent co-infections with STDs are also important indicators to consider for HIV.

Since the current global monkeypox outbreak emerged in Europe, the majority of cases have been found in men who have sex with men, and in particular those who have multiple and often anonymous partners – who meet at venues such as saunas, cruising bars and sex clubs, or through dating apps and sex parties.

Last year, when mpox first emerged, this newspaper ask the CDPH if they were considering tightening regulation on Chicago's bathhouses, and we were told the city wasn't going to do that. Chicago was not experiencing these outbreaks.

In the last two years, the mpox virus had spread quickly in clusters across the United States – at certain music festivals, pool parties and bathhouses – and now public health officials in areas with a lot of infections want more vaccines made available to help control transmission, which appears to happen when people touch intimately or engage in sex.

Last year, when mpox first emerged, this newspaper ask the CDPH if they were considering tightening regulation on Chicago's bathhouses, and we were told the city wasn't going to do that. Chicago was not experiencing these outbreaks.

Mpox found a foothold — not in all gay men — but in a certain subset of people who have been associated with those who attend sex parties. That being said, the potential for it to move into other populations within the L.G.B.T.Q. community or further afield is possible. People should know the facts.

"The analysis also highlights our ability to leverage surveillance and case management data as opposed to relying on incomplete behavioral characteristics, which may not necessarily be an accurate proxy for risk, to identify vulnerable populations and use STI screening visits to prioritize prevention for the systemic infectious diseases by administering mpox vaccination and/or providing pre-exposure prophylaxis," said CDPH epidemiologist Kara Herrera.

"Since there are high rates of HIV co-infection among individuals who had a rectal STI, at the time of mpox diagnoses we strongly encourage HIV-negative individuals to get on PreP for HIV and encourage health care providers to utilize the systemic approaches by offering testing and prevention STIs, HIV and infections such as mpox," Herrera said.

This analysis is also the first to characterize an association between positive syphilis serology and HIV co-infection among people with mpox and warrants further investigation, the CDPH team says.

LIVE MUSIC ON TWO STAGES EACH DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

MAIN STAGE
12:00PM..... STEVIE MCVIE
1:30PM..... BLACK BEAR COMBO
3:00PM..... OUTRONAUT
4:30PM..... FULL VOLUME
6:00PM..... DANCING QUEEN
8:00PM..... JOSE VALDES AND THE MAMBO ALL STARS

GARDEN STAGE
12:30PM..... DAN MCGUINNES
2:00PM..... CUTEST NUISANCE
3:30PM..... OTNES
5:00PM..... NATHAN GRAHAM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MAIN STAGE
11:45AM..... AMANDA COPPOTELLI
1:00PM..... AKASHA
2:30PM..... STARLIGHT CITY
4:00PM..... ELLEN MILLER NELSON STREET
5:30PM..... TRIPPIN' BILLIES

GARDEN STAGE
12:00PM..... STEVE HASHIMOTO / PAT FLEMING DUO
1:30PM..... THE BAND CALDERISI
3:00PM..... PARE PARTS
4:30PM..... POLKAHOLICS
6:00PM..... FEATHERED BEAUS

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