

Not facing a fire
doesn't put it out.
— Tennessee Williams

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CPS settlement with former Lincoln Park High School principals over unsubstantiated “sexual misconduct” claims

On Aug. 28 the Chicago Board of Education agreed to pay \$700,000 to John Thuet and Michelle Brumfield – the two former Lincoln Park High School [LPHS] principals abruptly fired in 2020 – closing their cases that lasted more than five years. This came after an ugly period at the North Side high school after claims of “adult on student sexual misconduct” shook the school community.

The cases caused turmoil at LPHS with students and parents staging walkouts and protests. The incident cost Thuet and Brumfield their jobs and reputations; and revealed a flawed response by CPS to sexual misconduct claims from Jan. 2020. At that time, the CPS suspended Pat Gordon (the boys basketball coach), Donovan Robinson (assistant basketball coach), Larry Washington (girls basketball coach), John Johnson (dean) and fired Thuet and Brumfield.

Thuet and Brumfield were fired – without notice, warning, or investigation – for what turned out to be unsubstantiated “sexual

misconduct” claims made by a top CPS administrator, claims the Office of Inspector General [OIG] later found to be false, retaliatory and “troubling.”

On Feb. 3, 2020, CPS hosted a public meeting at LPHS to



Michelle Brumfield and John Thuet.

discuss principals’ terminations and the others’ suspensions. At the meeting, the CPS posted and used slides put together by Camie Pratt, the head of Office of Student Protection [OSP], which stated there are claims of “adult on student sexual misconduct.”

But as the OIG report would later detail, there was only ever one claim of “adult on student

sexual misconduct.” That complaint was actually made by Pratt against Washington, who at the time coached Pratt’s daughter on LPHS girls’ team. Pratt alleged that a stray text Washington exchanged with Pratt’s daughter about basketball practice somehow constituted “sexual misconduct.”

At the community meeting, Debroah Spraggins, the chief investigator of OSP, who reported to Pratt, told the audience there were also allegations of “adult on student sexual misconduct.”

But in so doing, she riled up the assembled crowd.

Spraggins neither identified against whom the allegation was made or that the claimed “sexual misconduct” related to a stray text message. She also did not reveal that the complainant was her boss, Pratt, the head of OSP.

OIG would later chastise Pratt and Spraggins in its report, calling them liars and detailing how

SETTLEMENT see p. 12

Fenwick hands DePaul Prep 40-13 loss in season opener

BY JACK LYDON

The DePaul Prep Rams opened the 2025 season hosting the Fenwick Friars at DePaul Prep’s campus stadium. It was their first official game since winning the IHSA 4A state championship last November 40-6 over Mt. Zion. Fenwick shocked the Rams 40-13.

The Rams have a lot of work to do to get back to championship form. The game started rough for the Rams and got worse.

Fenwick recovered a Rams fumble on the first drive of the game at DePaul’s 41-yard line. Three plays later, Fenwick senior quarterback Jamen Williams completed a 16-yard pass to wide open senior tight end, Matt Murphy in the corner of the end zone. It was a blown coverage and a minute and 15 seconds into the game, DePaul was down 7-0.

It got worse from there. The



DePaul Prep defenders converge on Fenwick senior running back Myles Montgomery.

Rams second drive was three and out. Fenwick answered with another quick scoring drive. This time Williams connected with senior wide out Cameron Garrett on a 40-yard pass for their second touchdown. The missed point af-

ter made it 13-0 Friars.

Rams new starting quarterback, junior Jackson Grabinski, struggled. Fumbled snaps, constant pressure and incompletions

OPENER see p. 12



Mayor Brandon Johnson appears on MSNBC on Aug. 26, hours before word leaked that defund-the-police champion Sheila Bedi (inset) will be his new strategy chief.

Images courtesy MSNBC, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

Mayor’s latest hire, a defund advocate, says police ‘harm Black and Brown communities with impunity’

BY CWBCHICAGO

Mayor Brandon Johnson went on national television Aug. 26 and did what Chicagoans have seen him do many times before: talk in circles.

On MSNBC’s morning show, host Joe Scarborough asked Johnson a simple yes-or-no question: Would adding 5,000 more cops, combined with strong social programs, make Chicago safer? Scarborough asked again. And again. Johnson never answered, opting instead to do what he does so often: duck, dodge, and deliver a word salad.

As video of Johnson’s dodging spread online, Ald. Gilbert Villegas [36th] offered the response Johnson should have given: “Yes, we would take the resources to hire additional police officers along with the other resources. Not a hard question to answer.”

By afternoon, Chicagoans had a good idea why Johnson wouldn’t touch the question. Word leaked that he had quietly hired a fierce defund-the-police proponent, Sheila Bedi, as his administration’s new director of strategy.

Bedi is not just a Northwestern Univ. law professor. She’s also a civil rights attorney who has repeatedly sued the city. And she has been a consistent donor to Johnson’s political campaign, sending him \$100 checks month after month, year after year. She’ll

recoup that investment when she cashes her first City Hall paycheck.

And Bedi’s views on policing are no mystery. In a 2022 paper, *The Myths of Effective Law Enforcement and the Demand to Defund the Police*, she declared: “Over-policing and mass imprisonment have not created safe, healthy, peaceful communities—

Sheila Bedi is not just a Northwestern Univ. law professor. She’s also a civil rights attorney who has repeatedly sued the city. And she has been a consistent donor to Johnson’s political campaign, sending him \$100 checks month after month, year after year.

to the contrary, these phenomena leave individuals traumatized and communities destabilized.”

In the same piece, she argued that police offer “minimal public safety benefits” and insisted that “investments in policing and the tools of the carceral state do not reduce violence; but investments in people and communities do.”

That claim doesn’t square with Chicago’s numbers. In 1990, the

HIRE see p. 12

Cortland Street Bridge two-year closure starts Sept. 22

The City is planning on closing the Cortland Street Bridge over the North Branch of the Chicago River starting on Sept. 22. The work will include stringer, floor-beam and truss member replacement. New concrete filled grating, timber sidewalks, railing, lighting and paint system.

Work will also include rehabilitation of the existing bridge house.

This scope of work will necessitate full closure of the Cortland Bridge and establishment of a detour. The sidewalk will remain open for a few months after project start until project progression requires closure.

The estimated duration of this work is 18-24 months. A full closure of the roadway will be implemented on Sept. 22.

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We can clean up our own front yard, not President Trump



By Thomas J. O'Gorman



Wave that flag, wave it wide and high. Lyrics courtesy Robert Hunter/ Jerome Garcia. Photo courtesy Architecture.org

“Your president may easily become king... If your American chief be a man of ambition and abilities, how easy is it for him to render himself absolute,” said Patrick Henry.

On a recent Sunday morning the bells of the Russian Orthodox Churches and the Ukrainian Churches rang out in my neighborhood with exotic sound.

Groups of Millennials were making their way to Michelin starred Kasama, prepared to wait in a long line down Augusta Blvd. for the exquisite pastries and exotic breakfast sandwiches the restaurant offers.

Scooters and bicycles flew up and down Winchester St. recklessly blowing through the local stop lights and stop signs as they frantically rushed for fresh coffee on Division St.

Old-fashioned Inner Town Pub across the street was just beginning to awaken as staff picked up empty bottles that were the final toast of patrons as they exited in the wee hours.

All in all, it was just an ordinary Sunday in my ‘hood. Just how long will these telltale signs of Chicago life survive?

All of us in Chicago have been battered by grotesque imaging as the political reports, rumors, leaks, news bulletins and neighborhood gossip say that the city of Mrs. O’Leary, Bertha Palmer, Ron Santo, Mayor Jane Byrne, Big Bill Thompson, Elliott Ness, Jane Addams, Rich Melman, the Sears Tower, the Chicago Symphony, the John Hancock Building and the Chicago Hot Dog is about to be seized by the military on orders of the President of the United States.

How does a city of remarkable American modernity, politics and wide cultural influence prepare to be relieved of its police command and taken over like we are some casualty of war? To be occupied and victimized because we think for ourselves.

Holding the moral high ground of faith and service soon to be crushed by a man who has neither as a life goal.

How do we respond to a political creature lacking balanced judgement, proper motivation, whose life has been filled with vindictive absurdities after two hoax impeachments, illegal spying, and the weaponization of the judiciary?

We have the very images of such municipal seizures and invasions, already, in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., fresh in our minds.

We know President Trump has Chicago on his enemies list, deserving of violence, municipal chaos, crippling civil unrest,

economic disaster, and the loss of Constitutional freedoms. All these the heinous punishments for rejecting his political leadership.

The building of Old Fort Dearborn in 1803, with its subsequent civilian massacre in 1812 during our war with Britain, stand frozen on our City’s flag. The rebuilding of the Fort was the initial venture that would lead, eventually, to a stunning City on the Prairie.

Six decades later, the city Abraham Lincoln was familiar with, was largely a wooden creation. Timbered, but filled with modernity. On Oct. 8-10, 1871, three-fifths of the city burnt to the ground. Once again, our flag reminds us. But before the ashes cooled members of the Chicago commercial community were on a train for New York where they presented plans to rebuild as they secured financial investment to proceed.

What unfolded on the Prairie was the nation’s grandest reconstruction thanks to architects of skill and imagination. Soon to construct the Home Insurance Building, the world’s first skyscraper.

Chicago relied on the heroic ideals of its growing population that doubled in number every 10 years. From nearly 200,000 at the time of the Great Fire, to more than 1,500,000 by 1910.

Life in Chicago was about modernity and invention. A period that saw the expansive development of the nation’s railroads, all leading to and from Chicago, the nation’s rail hub. And the development of creative enterprises like the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the Union Stockyards, and control of the area’s waterways linking Chicago commerce and travel to the world.

By the grand opening of the 1893 World’s Fair, it really had been a Century of Progress.

Chicago became a powerful political landscape as it grew into the nation’s heartland capital, and our municipal government exercised enormous political potential. It’s geography became a testing ground for effective government. It became the home of the nation’s critical presidential nominating conventions. Boasting more than 25 conventions among both political parties. Lincoln owed his nomination for president to Chicago convention politicians whose support led him

to election. Giving his genius the opportunity to literally save the Union during the Civil War.

We can expect little defense from our inept and weak mayor and dilettante billionaire governor whose failures in office gives the president reason for the invasion of Chicago.

The mayor’s overpaid staff of low grade factotums and fellow incompetents doesn’t help matters. We’re our own worst example of leadership.

The activities of Trump followers began long ago in the backrooms of MAGA exponents. They have been lading their American doctrine of cruel prejudice aided by President Trump from sea to shining sea. And they won their elections.

Trump’s strategy for ruling America is beyond the realm of dystopian fiction. As we suffer daily from our homemade mayhem, we are poised for more mayhem in the streets, as our local leaders pander to the politics and

CLEAN UP see p. 8

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DePaul U. study explores rationale for allowing bicycles to speed through stop signs, red lights

BY PETER VON BUOL

In February, State Sen. Mike Simmons [7th] introduced SB2111, a bill which would grant those riding what the state of Illinois considers to be a “bicycle” the privilege to not have to stop at a stop sign or stop light, as everyone else must.

Popularly known as the Idaho Stop, after the state which first legalized the practice, if adopted, Illinois bicyclists would suddenly be granted the special privilege of riding through intersections, despite a stop or yield sign. Motor vehicles, pedestrians and wheelchairs will still be required to stop at an intersection, even if no other traffic is present.

Simmons’ bill, supported by powerful bicycle special interest groups, including Chicago-based SRAM, a billion dollar a year manufacturer of bicycle components, was referred to the House Rules Committee in June.

Supporters claim the adoption of an Idaho Stop would contribute to a safer riding environment because bike riders will not lose their momentum while riding through intersections. If passed, those crossing roadways with a green light may find that effort more dangerous.

In Dec. 2016, researchers at DePaul Univ. published a preliminary study which looked at data which could support the adoption of the Idaho Stop in Illinois.

“Considering permitting Idaho Stops at four-way stop intersections, which would enable cyclists to determine whether to stop or yield based on traffic conditions in order to maintain their momentum. The study shows that [on average] only about one cyclist in 25 presently complies with the law to come to a complete stop. A pilot program to allow Idaho Stops at certain traffic signal intersections when traffic volumes are relatively low may also be considered,” wrote study authors Jenna Caldwell, Riley O’Neil, Joseph P. Schweiterman and Dana Yanocha of DePaul’s Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development.

The team of researchers published their findings in Policies for Pedaling: Managing the Tradeoff between Speed and Safety for Biking in Chicago. To collect their data, the study’s co-authors reviewed municipal ordinances throughout the state and made field observations of 875 cyclists at six intersections in Chicago to study their behavior.

The DePaul researchers noted the primary reason to adopt the Idaho Stop would be to legalize the presently illegal behavior committed by the vast majority of bicyclists.

“The details of the Idaho Stop Law suggest that it was written to align policy with the fact that many cyclists seek to maintain their energy and momentum at intersections, without compromising safety,” wrote Caldwell, O’Neil, Schweiterman and Yanocha.

Data collected shortly after Idaho legalized the ability of bicyclists to ride through intersections suggested safety had somewhat improved.

“A year after the law was implemented, cyclist injuries in Idaho declined by 14.5 % and fatalities remained constant. No studies were found that concluded the Idaho Stop Law was unsafe,” wrote the DePaul researchers.

One of the greatest dangers for bike riders in Chicago is not riding through intersections but rather the presence of large commercial vehicles.

“Between June and Sept. 2016, six cycling deaths occurred in Chicago (the average for a full

year), half of which were women struck by commercial-sized trucks making turns,” wrote Caldwell, O’Neil, Schweiterman and Yanocha.

Before legalizing the Idaho Stop, the DePaul researchers recommended the city of Chicago should first “evaluate the potential for legally permitting Idaho Stops at four-way stops, and to assess incremental strategies for allowing Idaho Stops at signaled intersections.”

The DePaul researchers added

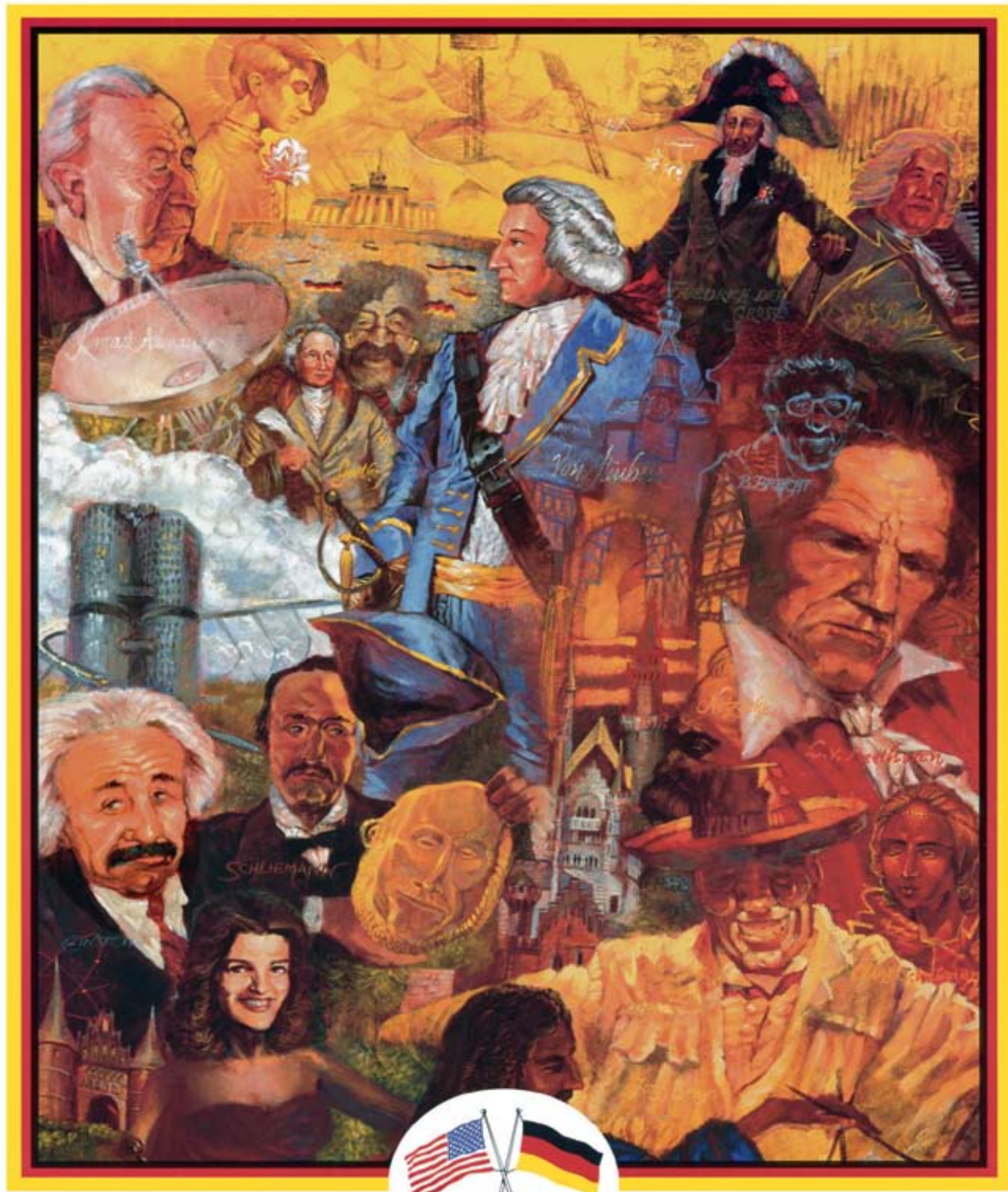
they would not support the sudden enforcement of existing traffic ordinances.

“Enforcing existing rules at these intersections would be arbitrary and [capricious], with only one bicyclist in 50 complying with the law when cross traffic is not present. Stop-sign intersections, especially four way stops, tend to be less risky for cyclists practicing the Idaho Stop even if cross-traffic is present [because] motorists are required to stop.”

“Stop sign intersections also

tend to be in lower-traffic areas, such as residential areas, where traffic, overall, moves at lower speeds. Permitting Idaho Stops at stop sign intersections would also help bikers feel more confident that law enforcement efforts are being directed at cyclists who pose legitimate safety risks, and may help bolster confidence that the law enforcement community is more wisely allocating its limited resources,” wrote Caldwell,

BICYCLES see p. 10



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Drop in new apartments could spark a rent hikes



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Chicago's downtown apartment hunters may face sharply higher rents next spring as a result of a plummet in new rental-unit construction starts.

Chicago posted the sharpest drop in new apartment construction in the past year, disclosed a new national analysis by Rent Café.

A closer look at the data reveals a group of metros with significantly fewer apartments estimated to open this year compared with 2024.

"In many cases, this pullback is tied to a mix of higher construction costs, tighter lending standards, or the cooling of post-pandemic building booms," according to the Rent Café analysis based on data gathered by Yardi, a real estate software company.

Chicagoland—where experts say it is already is incredibly tough to secure an affordable apartment—tops the national list with the largest drop in new construction, falling by a staggering 60.4% to 3,756 units compared with 2024.

In 2025, Chicagoland is expected to build 3,756 new rental apartment units. One-third (36% or 1,371 units) are expected to be developed within the boundaries of the Windy City, with the balance in the suburbs.

Many new apartments on track to open across the Chicago Metro area were permitted in 2021–2022 with far fewer projects breaking ground in 2023–2024.

At the same time, local developers are navigating a mix of high labor and material costs, as well as rising insurance premiums—seriously dampening new construction, Rent Café predicted.

Chicagoland doesn't even rank in the top 30 biggest new rental apartment markets this year. Chicago has slipped to 33rd place nationwide.

One positive trend of a companion Rent Café survey lists the top two amenities renters



A Rent Café study shows that the pullback in apartment building construction is tied to a mix of higher costs, tighter lending standards, and the cooling of the post-pandemic building boom.

are searching for—reserved or covered parking (40%), and fitness centers (32%).

The rationale is if the property has a fitness center, renters do not have to pay extra for a gym membership and if you get free parking, tenants don't have to pay monthly parking garage rent.

The top two amenities renters are searching for—reserved or covered parking (40%), and fitness centers (32%).

Another sought after amenity is coworking and communal space. Rent Café says renters are attracted by club rooms, spa features, rooftop swimming pools.

Hot apartments markets

After a strong run of apartments added in recent years, new construction in Madison, WI, also is expected to plummet by a whopping 59.3%, with just 1,664 units expected to open in 2025.

The Madison Metro area remains popular with college students and young professionals, but higher interest rates and a wave of high-end apartments appear to be slowing new projects, Rent Café reported. Here are the facts reported by the analysis:

- Chicagoland ranks fifth regionally in the Midwest, trailing top builder Columbus, OH, by 3,000 units. Minneapolis, Indianapolis, and Kansas City, MO, complete

the top five, with 4,000 to 5,600 units expected to be started in 2025.

- The Midwest is estimated to deliver just 12% of the 500,000 units projected nationwide, while the South claims 52% of all apartment construction this year.

- Twelve of the top 20 biggest apartment builders of 2025 are Southern hubs, led by Austin, TX, and Dallas with 56,000 units between them, followed by Atlanta, Miami, and Washington, D.C.

- For the fourth year in a row, the New York Metro area is the top market for new rental apartments, with around 30,000 units scheduled to open in 2025.

Two research facilities choose Michigan Ave.

Finally some good news for the Michigan Ave. real estate scene. A ribbon cutting was held last week for the National Institute for Theory and Mathematics in Biology and the SkAI Institute, two new Centers funded by the National Science Foundation and the Simons Foundation.

The Centers are collaborative research ventures bringing together scientists from Northwestern Univ., Univ. of Chicago, and Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to examine some of the most pressing problems facing the universe, all in one of Chicago's most iconic buildings, the former John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Ave.

The Institute will serve as a national resource that integrates mathematics and biology, creating a place that is a "must-work" destination for mathematical and biological researchers from around the world.

The SkAI Institute will seek to overcome critical challenges in astrophysics and artificial intelligence research. Teams will engage in cross-disciplinary work that bridges data, modeling, and experiments, and spans astrophysics. The two Centers will be located in the same building and include an auditorium for future community engagement and outreach initiatives.

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.

New School of Engineering at Truman, Washington City colleges

City Colleges of Chicago [CCC] has launched its new School of Engineering, marking an expansion of its commitment to STEM education and naming Doris Espiritu as the inaugural Districtwide Dean – Head of the School of Engineering.

This program hopes to build on the success of the engineering program at Wilbur Wright College, by now extending it to Harold Washington College, 30 E. Lake St., and Harry S Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson Ave.

Tailored for those interested in engineering and computer sci-

ence, the launch of the School of Engineering at CCC provides increased access to education and transfer pathways, including the enhanced guaranteed admissions-Engineering Access Alliance into the Grainger College of Engineering at Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

"[We] offer Chicagoans a high-quality, affordable, and accessible engineering education with a pathway to Illinois' top-ranked engineering bachelor's degree program," said CCC Chancellor Juan Salgado. "With this expansion, now even more Chicagoans

can pursue sought-after engineering careers that can transform their lives and our communities."

It all started in 2015 at Wright College with a handful of students. Today the program has grown to more than 650, with graduates having gone on to top 4-year engineering schools across the state and country with many graduating and finding great careers in this field of study.

For more information on the engineering program, email engineering@ccc.edu.

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Former Uptown Alderman may lead City's Zoning Board

BY RONALD ROENIGK

For decades the act of failing upwards has been called the "Peter principle." The Peter principle is a concept in management developed by Laurence J. Peter which observes that people in a hierarchy tend to rise to "a level of respective incompetence."

Here in Chicago, we have a different principle we'll call the "Helen Hellscape," where people in a party-affiliated government hierarchy rise despite their outward corruption due primarily to their loyalty to a political party and its leadership.

Last year Mayor Brandon Johnson appointed former-46th Ward Ald. Helen Shiller to the Zoning Board of Appeals [ZBA], and now he apparently wants her to take the lead seat as ZBA Chairman.

By tradition, the ZBA chair has been an attorney, but that is not a requirement. Which is good for Shiller since she is not an attorney.

According to reporting by Justin Laurence in Crain's Chicago, in an attempt to assert more control over the city's boards and commissions, the Mayor plans to elevate Shiller to chairman of the quasi-judicial ZBA.

The ZBA chair presides over meetings and according to the bylaws is responsible for deciding all points of order and procedure, administering oaths and compelling the attendance of witnesses.

But according to Crain's, the

decision has rankled other members of the ZBA, including its current Chairman, Brian Sanchez. The appointment risks the board's independence. "The current chair, Brian Sanchez, a partner at San-



Former alderman Helen Shiller.

chez Daniels & Hoffman, was expecting to be renominated by Johnson, but is instead being pushed out altogether. He was informed he would not be reappointed by Shiller in a [recent] phone call."

Sanchez told Crain's the news during a break in their August monthly meeting, saying he was surprised by the move and had made clear to the Mayor's office he wanted to stay in the role.

Ald. Timmy Knudsen [43rd], who previously served as chair of the ZBA under former Mayor Lori Lightfoot, told Laurence that he's considering introducing an ordinance barring former council members from serving on the body, arguing it undermines the board's independence from the City Council.

The ZBA's rules prohibit commissioners from interacting with applicants outside of their hearing, and any attempts to broker a compromise on a zoning matter

17-14-0301 ZBA Creation and Membership

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of five members and up to two alternate members, all appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council. At least a majority of members at the time of appointment must either belong to specific professional organizations (e.g., Western Society of Engineers, Chicago Real Estate Board, Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, etc.), or be an incumbent officer (e.g., Commissioner of Planning and Development, City Architect, Superintendent of Police, Corporation Counsel), or be a City resident with outstanding experience in zoning administration.

between parties, or with the local council members, is an ethical violation and could lead to a court challenge of a ZBA ruling.

Shiller, like other former mem-

bers, retains floor privileges in the council chamber, allowing her easy access to the City Council, said Knudsen. "I know that Helen uses those floor privileges from time to time. As ZBA chair, you should be separate from alderpeople," he told Crain's. "I do know that there is a lot of talk of other movement on the board, potentially people resigning, leaving based off of this."

Shiller represented Uptown in the City Council from 1987 to 2011. Her time in office could be described as jarring to many in Uptown due to the radical hard left nature of her politics, and the people she surrounded herself with.

Starting last December, this newspaper did a series of articles exposing how Shiller may have used her City Hall influence to taint a ZBA vote that benefitted her son Brendan Shiller. A clear ethics violations, she was the deciding vote on a proposed license

to open up a pot dispensary in Streeterville at a location too close to a school.

The proposed location for G.P. Greenhouse LLC's Guaranteed Dispensary at 620 Fairbanks Ct., was within the 500-foot proximity of Guidepost Montessori School at Magnificent Mile, 226 E. Illinois St.

Only the pot shop operators - through their lawyer - argued that Guidepost Montessori School at Magnificent Mile was not really a school, but a day care center, and therefore not protected by the rules prohibiting legal, licensed pot sales within 500-feet of a school.

Current City of Chicago regulations provide special limitations on school proximity, and there is no avenue for relief from the dis-

ZONING see p. 11

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Police Beat...

Teen charged after brutal River North attack is caught on video



A video frame shows one of the assailants, wearing a black jacket, grappling with a man who confronted him for going through an unconscious man's pants pocket.

A 17-year-old boy has been charged with viciously attacking three people in River North early on Aug. 24, just hours before video of the assaults spread widely across social media.

According to a Chicago police spokesperson, the victims—a 30-year-old man, a 31-year-old man, and a 35-year-old woman—told officers they were walking in the 700 block of N. LaSalle around 3:54 a.m. when a group of strangers came up from behind. The offenders began punching and kicking the victims, then ran away, according to CPD.

All three victims were transported to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in fair condition, police said.

The attacks gained wide attention Aug. 25 after video surfaced online showing one of the victims lying unconscious on the sidewalk as two passersby rummaged through his pockets. One of the pocket-pickers appeared to be a security guard.

Another man reached into the unconscious victim's pocket and was confronted by someone who appeared to be the victim's friend. The two began fighting in the street as a third victim, face covered in blood, struggled to get to his feet.

Officers responding to the scene searched for the primary suspect, described as a Black male carrying a bookbag and wearing a ski mask, a black shirt, and jeans. He was reportedly walking with three other people.

Police said they located one of the offenders in the 700 block of N. Clark a short time later. He was taken into

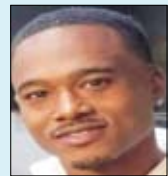
custody and subsequently charged with three counts of aggravated battery in a public place. Authorities identified him only as a 17-year-old boy because juvenile arrest records and court proceedings are shielded by state law.

\$100K shoplifting raid at Mag Mile store

It may still be September, but businesspeople across Chicago are already planning for the Christmas shopping season. Those businesspeople include the city's ever-present shoplifting mobs, who need to stock up on high-end merchandise that will later be sold at a discount online.

One such team went on an inventory supply run Aug. 24 on the Magnificent Mile, hauling away up to \$100,000 in designer handbags that will almost certainly appear on apps and Facebook Marketplace within days.

At about 6:55 p.m., around 10 people raided the Louis Vuitton store inside Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand, according to witnesses and Chicago police.



Kendall Tyler

After scooping up the store's handbag collection, the crew fled in two or three vehicles that were waiting outside. A couple of bystanders recorded the getaway.

An officer who responded to the scene reported a preliminary loss estimate of \$100,000.

Just last month, a man received a five-year prison sentence for participating in a similar raid at the same store in Nov. 2023. Prosecutors said that crime resulted in a loss of \$210,380.

\$10K reward for information about murder near future Bally's casino site

Cook County Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information that solves the murder of a man near the future site of Bally's casino on the Chicago River.

Around 12:46 a.m. Sept. 8, 2024, Chicago police responded to reports of gunfire in the 700 block of N. Halsted St., just a few yards from the casino construction site.

As officers approached, a passerby found Kendall Tyler, 33, lying unresponsive in the street. He had been shot multiple times in the head and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police recovered more than 30 shell casings near Tyler's body. Officers also said they found a firearm and an extended magazine on him.

For the next 60 days, Crime Stoppers is offering up to \$10,000 in cash for information leading to the indictment or arrest of those responsible for Tyler's killing.

The organization's anonymous tip system allows tipsters to report information and remain eligible for rewards without revealing their identities. Tips can be submitted by calling 800-535-7867 or emailing TIPS@CookCountyCrimeStoppers.org.

\$5K reward for serial bank robber who has struck five times

The FBI is hunting for a serial bank robber who has struck at least five times across Chicago since May, hitting banks in Edgewater, Lincoln Park, and Logan Square. A reward of up to \$5,000 is offered for information that leads to his arrest and conviction.

According to a new bulletin from the agency, the man's crime spree began around 9:52 a.m. on May 9 when he tried to rob the Fifth Third Bank at 5918 N. Broadway. Surveillance images showed him wearing a black knit hat with the word "Nike" stitched on the cuff, a black hoodie over a light-colored shirt, light-colored sweatpants, and dark shoes.

Five days later, at about 9:28 a.m. May 14, the same man targeted the



Surveillance images of a serial bank robber who is being sought by the FBI.

U.S. Bank at 5340 N. Clark St. Dressed almost identically to the first incident, he again attempted to rob the bank but fled empty-handed.

The next morning, at 9:29 a.m. May 15, he successfully robbed the Fifth Third Bank at 2973 N. Milwaukee Ave. This time, he wore a dark baseball cap, a black zip-up sweatshirt, dark shorts, and dark shoes.

On June 2, investigators say the robber hit two banks within three hours. At 9:32 a.m., he robbed the Huntington Bank at 1400 W. Fullerton Ave. Just after noon, he returned to rob the same Fifth Third branch on N. Broadway that he tried to rob in May. Surveillance images show him dressed in all black with a face covering and carrying a red drawstring bag.

His most recent heist came on Aug. 27 at the same Huntington Bank on W. Fullerton. At 9:09 a.m., he entered wearing a black cap, light-colored hoodie, black pants, and black shoes.

The FBI's Chicago Field Office released several surveillance images of the man on Aug. 27 and asked anyone with information about him to call 312-421-6700 or submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov.

Man shot during armed robbery in West Ridge

A 32-year-old man was shot during an armed robbery in a West Ridge alley Sept. 1, police said.

The victim was in the 6100 block of N. Kedzie Ave. around 1 a.m. when two men approached and demanded his belongings, according to a Chicago police statement. After taking his property, the offenders opened fire, striking him in the thigh and foot.

Instead of waiting for paramedics, the wounded man drove himself to Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where he was listed in good condition.

CPD did not release descriptions of the robbers.

DuSable Harbor drowning ruled homicide, only third such case in Lake Michigan since 2015

A 63-year-old man from Plainfield died after going into the water at DuSable Harbor Aug. 30, and the Cook County Medical Examiner has now ruled his death a homicide.

Police and firefighters responded to multiple 911 calls just after 3 a.m. reporting that a man had fallen from the harbor's "C" Dock at 200 N. Lake Shore Dr., according to dispatch records. Multiple witnesses told 911 operators they saw the man fall into the water and Chicago Fire Dept. divers pulled him out about 15 minutes later. He was pronounced dead at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

On Sunday, the medical examiner's office determined he died from drowning, but the key finding came in the manner of death: homicide.

That designation means the office concluded that another person caused the man's death. It does not automatically mean that a criminal act occurred. "Homicide" for the medical examiner means that another person caused the man's death. "Murder," however, is a legal term that considers the totality of the circumstances and the intent of the person who caused the death.

Authorities have not said what information led the medical examiner to conclude that the drowning was the result of another person's actions. The Chicago Police Dept. has not announced any arrests or suspects, and investigators have not shared further details about what witnesses saw before or after the man entered the water.

Since 2015, the medical examiner's office has ruled only two other drowning deaths in Lake Michigan to be homicides. Prosecutors determined that both of those homicides were also murders:

- In July, a 31-year-old woman was charged with murdering her 14-month-old son by drowning him in the lake near the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Dr.

- In Oct. 2022, a 34-year-old woman was charged with murdering her 3-year-old nephew by throwing him into the lake from Navy Pier.

Both of those murder cases are still pending in court.

Former Chicago Attorney sentenced to 30 months for tax fraud, witness tampering with lover

A former Chicago attorney has been sentenced to two and a half years in federal prison for committing tax fraud, attempting to tamper with a witness, and violating a court order.

Michael Abramson provided more than \$1 million in personal expenses to a woman with whom he was romantically involved and then deducted the payments on his individual taxes by falsely characterizing them as commissions or loans.

He also listed the fraudulent loans as an asset in corporate tax returns that he caused to be filed for a company in which he held an ownership interest. The payments related to a condo in the Gold Coast neighborhood, several luxury automobiles, and travel, shopping, and restaurant expenses.

Following the indictment in this case, the Court ordered Abramson not to have any contact with witnesses, including Abramson's bookkeeper, whom Abramson knew would be an important government witness at trial.

Weeks before trial was initially set to begin, Abramson gave the bookkeeper a copy of her previous court testimony, on which he had made handwritten notes changing, supplementing, or otherwise scripting her answers, and told her to review it before trial.

Although Abramson told the bookkeeper not to bring the notes to a meeting with law enforcement, the bookkeeper nonetheless turned the scripted transcript over to law enforcement.

A jury in U.S. District Court in Chicago last year convicted Abramson, 76, on all 15 tax fraud, witness tampering, and violation of court order charges against him. On Aug. 25, U.S. District Judge Manish S. Shah sentenced Abramson to 30 months in federal prison and fined him \$25,000.

Fraud, tax charges for defrauding individuals out of \$2.6M

A man has been indicted on federal fraud and tax charges for allegedly defrauding numerous individuals out of at least \$2.6 million and willfully evading income taxes.

An indictment returned Aug. 26 in U.S. District Court in Chicago charges Jawad Fakroune, (also known as Angelino Escobar, Anjelino Escobar, Angelo Escobar, Giovanni Escobar, and Angelo Baldini) 45, with seven counts of wire fraud, four counts of tax evasion, and four counts of failing to file income taxes.

Arraignment in federal court has not yet been scheduled.

According to the indictment, Fakroune is a foreign national who recently resided in Chicago. In 2022, Fakroune fraudulently obtained approximately \$2.45 million from an individual by falsely representing that Fakroune would invest the money in a shipping container business and a marijuana growing operation, the indictment states.

Instead of investing the money, Fakroune used nearly all of it for his personal purposes, including purchasing a residence in Lemont, pay-

ing rent for a residence in New York, funding restaurant and shopping trips in New York City, purchasing a 2022 Cadillac Escalade, and buying multiple high-end watches, the indictment states.

The indictment alleges that Fakroune engaged in similar fraud schemes between 2023 and 2025. One scheme involved Fakroune obtaining \$150,000 from a victim by falsely representing that Fakroune would invest the money in a coffee shop or Mexican restaurant. Fakroune allegedly caused this victim to sign a lease on Fakroune's behalf for a residence in Michigan City, IN, based upon Fakroune's false representations that, in exchange for signing the lease, Fakroune would repay the victim \$300,000 in connection with the purported coffee shop or Mexican restaurant investment. Fakroune did not repay any of the victim's money, the indictment states.

The tax charges accuse Fakroune of attempting to evade income taxes and willfully failing to file income taxes for the calendar years 2020 through 2023.

Teen charged with shooting robbery victim on North Side soccer field

A 17-year-old boy has been charged with shooting another teenager during a robbery attempt in West Ridge last month.

Just before 5 p.m. on July 13, a 17-year-old victim was critically injured when a robber on an electric scooter opened fire during a daylight holdup on the soccer field at Stone Scholastic Academy, 6239 N. Leavitt St.

According to officials, the teen was on the field when a gunman rode up on a scooter, pulled out a firearm, and demanded his belongings.

After taking the victim's phone and backpack, the gunman fired, striking him in the forearm. The bullet passed through his arm, entered his chest, and exited from the other side. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital in critical condition. The robber fled on the scooter.

Police said they arrested the accused teen on Tuesday in the 5900 block of N. Glenwood Ave. He is charged with attempted murder, aggravated battery by discharging a firearm, and discharging a firearm during an armed robbery.

CPD did not release the boy's name because he is a juvenile. It will be revealed soon if prosecutors charge him as an adult.

Authorities noted that the holdup was one of several similar robberies in the area involving a scooter-riding gunman. No charges have been filed in the other cases, which did not involve anyone being shot.

Man injured in Lakeview carjacking

Two men were robbed and carjacked during an early morning struggle in Lakeview East on Aug. 25.

Chicago police said the incident unfolded around 1:49 a.m. in the 500 block of W. Surf St., where a 2022 Toyota Corolla belonging to one of the men was parked unattended.

According to police, the 28-year-old and 35-year-old victims saw two strangers get inside the vehicle. When the victims confronted them, a physical fight broke out on the street. Despite the struggle, the offenders managed to speed off in the car.

The younger man suffered minor injuries during the scuffle and was taken to Illinois Masonic Medical Center, according to CPD.

An officer at the scene said both robbers were Black males wearing masks. They remain at large.

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Boom go the windows, time to pay up

This year's Air and Water Show created several sonic booms as jets passed through the sound barrier during Thursday and Friday's practice runs [Aug. 14 and 15], causing damage to several buildings on the North Lakefront.

This includes reports of broken windows, mirrors and cracked walls, even golf balls knocked off tees at the Waveland Golf Course, courtesy of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds.

The U.S. Air Force has denied that any plane went supersonic.

In response, the city is requesting answers on how this occurred and what future safeguards can be put in place.

A sonic boom occurs when a jet passes through the speed of sound, or the "sound barrier." That speed is not a fixed number as it varies depending on air temperature and density, but it is typically about 767 to 780 mph at sea level under normal conditions. An object breaks the sound barrier when it travels faster than this speed, a concept measured as Mach 1. This phenomenon occurred at least three times during the last Air and Water Show practice days.

The boom is caused by adverse aerodynamic effects like increased drag and shock waves, which were once thought to prevent flight at these speeds. As any high-rise dweller on the lakefront now knows, that science has been disproven.

The list of buildings that suffered some level of damage include: 638 W. Grace St., 800 W. Hutchinson St., 4200 N. Marine Dr., 655 W. Irving Park Rd., 3180 N. Lake Shore Dr., 3550 N. Lake Shore Dr., 3600 N. Lake Shore Dr., 3800 N. Lakeshore Dr., 3950 N. Lake Shore Dr., 4200 N. Marine Dr., 60 N. Michigan Ave. and 640 W. Sheridan Rd.

Many of these buildings say they have never before experienced property damage relating to the event such as this.

City officials are now requesting changes to the program from the show producers including aerial protocols and altitude guidelines, coordination with oversight agencies such as the FAA, U.S. Air Force, and City of Chicago over what role it plays in overseeing flight protocols such as regulation of speed and altitude.

Building management and city officials are seeking accident accountability and preventive measures put in place for future shows.

They are also asking for formal communications with residents and condo associations regarding repairs or safety improvements, and asking if residents are entitled to financial compensation from either the City or federal government for the damages.

Commercial supersonic flight has been prohibited in the U.S. for over five decades, after a ban was put in place in 1972 amid fears of property damage. While military jets are permitted to fly faster than the speed of sound in the U.S., this is generally allowed only in restricted high-altitude corridors.

City's budget problems mean more taxes, but no spending cuts

The City of Chicago mid-year City Budget projections were released Aug. 29 and the outlook is not good. The City will hit a \$1.15 billion budget gap, according to a report by Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd].

Mayor Brandon Johnson has stated he will start to close the gap with new tax revenue and no spending cuts.

Enterprise funds like the water, sewer and Midway and O'Hare airport funds have increased and are remaining stable. These are enterprise funds and kept as separate as possible from corporate fund expenditures in order to maintain long-term financial sustainability for water, sewer and airport functions. They cannot be raided by the Mayor to make up budget gaps in the corporate fund and have separate accounting and financial reporting. Each of these maintain solid credit ratings for now.

But the City's budget gap of

\$1.15 billion increases the risk of another ratings downgrade due to this budget deficit, the \$175 million Chicago Public School pension payment and a new unfunded pension mandate (about \$3 Billion by 2055) from the state General Assembly, among other concerns.

Debt service payments will increase 11% this year and the city will have another 34% increase in 2027.

Debt service payments will increase 11% this year and the city will have another 34% increase in 2027. Many debt payments for the \$3.5 billion in borrowing over the last two years has been pushed back by a couple decades, which as some Aldermen have warned about before, will significantly increase payments for future taxpayers and mayors.

The City also faces a \$146 million deficit for the 2025 budget and this deficit must be closed as well. Revenues for many of the funds in the corporate fund are declining at a time when expenditures are constantly increasing.

Additional budget problems include healthcare mandates at the state level that have added to costs on the city budget. The City Council will be looking at the details on this new mandate and what the specific costs are in the budget.

The Mayor's subcommittee of revenue has come up with several ideas to trim the budget including advertising on lightpoles, a bottled water tax, increasing garbage fees, higher restaurant taxes, liquor taxes, an employment head tax, property tax, and real estate property transfer tax. Additional ideas at the state level did not make it into the state budget discussions.

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CLEAN UP from p. 2

call for resistance over the psychologically imbalanced revenge of a president.

Chicagoans must bond together. We must not fear to take to the streets. Look to the Chicago flag that flies high above our fears. We are the the descendants of American adventurers. We are the children of wide American courage. Don't let the president's deranged "America-First" cause fragment what blesses our sense of unity and purpose.

We also must open a second front dealing with the reason's President Trump thinks he needs to intervene. We do have major crime and violence problems here. Who hasn't heard our out-of-town friends say "Well, at least we're not as bad as Chicago."

We need to clean up our own front yard, face our own reality, and not provide reasons for the president to place U.S. troops here. We can fix our mess ourselves. We've done that many times before.

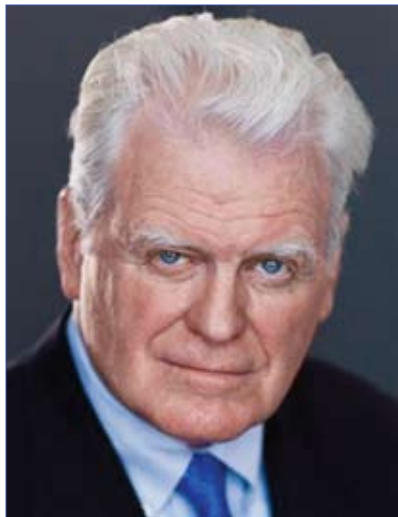
Let the hope that has been so visible in our history carry us through the dark days ahead. We got this, Mr. President.

Ring the Church bells from our lakefront borders. Let it assemble us to quench the cruel attack on honest American life.

BIRTHDAY: Happy 96th Birthday to Chicago's First Lady of Baseball, our beloved **Dutchie Caray**, grateful for your incredible life and the joy you bring to everyone around you, wishing you many more happy years to come.

SHAME: Shame on the city of Chicago for abusing their contracted vendors in Grant Park. The Chicago Classic Dog is always a big seller at Pie Life. Owner **Bill Prahof** has operated his business out of a Park District building in Grant Park for 13 years. Same for **Jessica Korbe**, the owner of Chicago Bike Boutique.

Prahof is calling it quits because the park continues to close down for extended



Rob Riley



Ryne Sandberg and Dutchie Caray.

periods for big special events like NA-SCAR Street Race, and Lollapalooza. He loses money not only during the event, but every time there is a set up and tear down. This used to be a good town to do business in... Korbe said her business is down 60% this year.

PRINTERS ROW FEST: **Susie F. Kealy** will be exhibiting her first children's book, "Miss Woollie's Wardrobe," at the Printers Row Lit Fest on Sept. 6 and 7. This free event will take place on the streets of South Dearborn, from Ida B. Wells to Polk Street. Come rain or shine. Everyone is so proud.

BEER: After a day with books in Printers Row, head to Lincoln Square for a tasty German beer and giant pretzel at the German-American Fest, Chicago's longest running cultural festival. Look for our old friend **George Rieg** and try to talk him into buying you a beer.

PEACE & PRAYERS: Sympathy to Illinois Lt. Gov. **Juliana Stratton** on the death of her mother, beloved matriarch of the Stratton family, **Gwendolyn Stratton**.

AIR CANDACE: **Candid Candace Jordan** with Music of the Baroque, the

Podcast: Where the Wooftop meets the Wizarding World - her 54th episode. Her podcast turned up the volume on Chicago's hottest summer and early fall happenings. Candace and producer/co-host **John St. Augustine** dished on everything from the sizzling debut of Pizza City Fest to the magical Midnight Circus in the Parks, and that's just the beginning.

We bet this newspaper's former columnist **Ann Gerber** would have been a Candid Candace podcast listener.

RADIO: **John Hansen** celebrating National Radio Day and about to celebrate 10 years hosting on WGN where he spent a few years doing traffic and news. He has officially been employed by only two radio stations — WGN, and his college radio station, WPGU in Champaign-Urbana.

CHICAGO STAR: **Rob Riley**, Chicago actor, Second City alum, 'Saturday Night Live' writer, has died at 80. He always had the sort of steady and wide-ranging acting career that colleagues say is emblematic of Chicago theater, studying under famed Second City improv guru **Del Close** in the 1970s. He performed at college auditoriums and makeshift barroom stages with the Reification Company improvisational group before being hired in 1980 as a main stage cast member for Second City, where he worked with **Tim Kazurinsky**, **Jim Belushi**, **George Wendt** and **Danny Breen**. He died Aug. 8 at his home in Los Angeles from complications from a stroke he had in 2018.

'TASTE' THIS WEEKEND: Taste of Chicago returns to Grant Park for the grand finale of the city's food and music festival, Sept. 5-7, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day. Free and open to the public, attendees are invited to "taste" samplings from more than 50 food vendors and food trucks representing Chicago's diverse culinary scene, as well as enjoy world-class musical performances.

This year's festival will also feature an assortment of activations and experiences throughout the weekend. From musical acts, the return of the Ferris wheel, karaoke competitions and even a drone and fireworks show.

DUBLIN: We can confirm the "Cyclones" touched down on the Emerald Isle and were given a very warm welcome to Dublin. Iowa State defeated Kansas State 24-21 in the Aer Lingus College Football Classic Aug. 23. Hope the pubs stayed open late.

WHO'S WHERE: Broadcaster **Bob Costas** was in town to eulogize late Cubs Hall of Fame second baseman **Ryne Sandberg**. "(Ryne was) the kind of player any dad or youth coach could point to and say, 'That's the way you play the game.'" Tears filled the church. **Eamonn Cummins** dined at La Grande Boucheerie Chicago... Don't miss hilarious **Fran Lebowitz** live at Northwestern's Cahn Auditorium on Oct. 23... **Terry Moylan** in Madrid, Spain lapping up the tasty vitles... **Jonathon G. Wells** is feeling loved with **Monette White** in town for a visit, seeing the one and only **Julie Harron** and later a gaggle with **Todd Davis**... **Martine Auger** had a relaxing picnic by the beautiful Lac des Deux-Montagnes in Quebec... **Kim Duda** at the Taylor St. Italian feast listening to the great **Josie Falbo**... **Eileen Murphy Donnersberger** so happy to have daughter, **Mary Eileen**, visiting for a few days... **Sen. Dick Durbin** wished a very happy 106th birthday to the one and only, **Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM**, Loyola U. basketball team chaplain, with **Fr. Jerry Boland** joining in... **Julia Jacobs** with son, **Draedyn**, in Los Angeles for orientation at Loyola Marymount Univ... **Maria Pappas** joined the Veliika Gospa Procession and Celebration at Bridgeport's St. Jerome Croatian Catholic Church... Happy Birthday to **Sarah Lamb Rouse** from your crew of sisters and pals... Jewelry designer **Takara Beathe-Gudell** grateful to everyone who braved the showers and storms to shop at Essential Elements... **Desirée Glapion Rogers** had a wonderful trip to southern Italy, a time to recharge... Saturday night dinner provided a happy reunion with **Carol Gipson**, long a figure in top Chicago restaurants, at L'Escarole on Grand Ave. where restaurateur, **Joey Mondelli**, presides over a magic staff of servers and top Italian cuisine with the best baked clams in town... Happy 177th Birthday to **Gustave Caillebotte**, French Impressionist, whose stunning works currently are beleaguery on exhibit at the AIC... **Fr. Bill Corcoran** in Dublin while studying at Oxford, met up with his nephew, **Pat Williams**, and his girlfriend, **Kemi Han**, who flew in from Chicago for a bit of a pub crawl... **Bonnie Spurlock** and **Felicia Ferguson Winiecki** volunteering at "Angels With Tails" in Winnetka, representing PAWS Chicago... After 25 years at NPR what can we say to **Ari Shapiro** who now says "Adios."

In football, everything is complicated by the presence of the opposite team.

- Jean-Paul Sartre

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Eli's Cheesecake birthday celebration, free cake for all

On Saturday, Sept. 6, at 12:30 p.m., original Taste of Chicago vendor Eli's Cheesecake will celebrate their 45th birthday at Buckingham Fountain, 301 S. Columbus Dr., with a special cake cutting of a 1,000 lb. birthday cheesecake. This year's ceremonial cake-cutters include Lupe Fiasco, Chicago-born, Grammy-winning rapper, record producer who will also host a Friday-night mainstage headline performance; Sarah Ramos, multi-hyphenate writer, director, producer and actress in Chicago's biggest shows

like THE BEAR and Chicago Med, and Karen Rodriguez, star of Netflix's hit series, The Hunting Wives, and long-time Chicago mainstay at the Steppenwolf theater.

The giant cheesecake will feature Eli's 45th Birthday flavor, Cheesecake Sundae, along with layers of Original Plain and Chocolate Chip varieties. After singing "Happy Birthday" with the crowd and celebrity cake-cutters, free slices of the super-sized treat will be served to the public, while supplies last.

Lakeview East Festival of the Arts Sept. 13 - 14

Chamber of Commerce celebrates 20 years of art

On the weekend of Sept. 13 and 14, Lakeview will have a celebration of the arts which will include 150 juried artists, family attractions, food, music and fun during the Lakeview East Festival of the Arts

The Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce [LECC] will host and produce the 20th Annual Lakeview East Festival of the Arts, along Broadway, from Belmont Ave. to Hawthorne Place, in the heart of Lakeview, with juried artists and family attractions, along a friendly stretch of Broadway from Belmont to Hawthorne that will be turned into a garden oasis.

The official hours for the Festival of the Arts are Saturday, Sept. 13 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. with additional hours for live music, food and drink tents until 10 p.m. and

Sunday, Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Lakeview East Festival of the Arts asks for a \$5 donation upon entrance, this fee goes to supporting additional Lakeview East events and offerings.

For more information visit LakeviewEastFestivalOfTheArts.com.

Lakeview East is a dynamic and diversified neighborhood community rich in culture, history and the arts. The LECC collaborates closely with its local residents and business owners to offer its neighbors and the Chicago area one of the premier fine art outdoor festivals.

LECC has presented one of the most unique and popular art festivals in Chicago, and every aspect, from artists to musicians to vendors and everything in between, is specifically selected by the LECC to bring the best to the heart of Lakeview and to all who visit during the Festival.

Letter to the Editor

A warning indicator of intimidation, voter fraud and kickbacks

Regarding Thomas O'Gorman's Aug. 27 column on our former mayors, being a six-term mayor is not a sign of political strength in Chicago. It's a warning indicator that the political machine can consistently override the will of Chicagoans through intimidation, voter fraud and kickbacks, and I'm glad those days are over.

Daley Sr. was a corrupt blowhard who solidified city dysfunction through patronage and closed-door sweetheart deals to win votes, and his son did the same. Remember the Hired Truck Scandal, where Chicago taxpayers shelled out \$40 million to pay drivers of privately owned dump

trucks to sit on the job or not show up for work at all? Was little Richie living up to his "values and sense of personal efficiency" when he accepted \$108,575 in campaign donations from these companies and allowed that waste and fraud to happen?

This type of behavior is not something future mayors should aspire to, and I'm frankly flabbergasted you are putting these two individuals on a pedestal when they are responsible for the very debilitated and opaque nature of our city government today.

Noah Ayoub
Uptown

Mpox cases increase locally, say Chicago Health officials

BY PETER VON BUOL

Mpox (also known as Monkeypox) has been on the rise locally, with 40 new infections reported since June, according to officials at Chicago's Dept. of Public Health [CDPH].

"While these numbers are nothing like the 2022 outbreak, the summer increase is a reminder that vigilance remains key to fighting Mpox," according to a spokesperson for the CDPH.

During Pride Month, public health organizations renewed their focus on mpox awareness, as large social gatherings and increased intimate contact can facilitate its spread.

Spread through prolonged skin contact, symptoms include a painful and uncomfortable rash or sores, often accompanied by flu-like symptoms. Symptoms of Mpox infection typically appear 7-14 days after exposure but can range from 3-17 days. Left untreated, the condition of those suffering from Mpox can worsen and require hospitalization, especially among those who are immunocompromised.

While not categorized as a sexually transmitted disease, most locally diagnosed cases continue to be diagnosed among men who have sexual intercourse with men. The Center for Disease Control runs its "Summer of Pride" initiative to promote awareness of Mpox prevention, especially since the virus spread predominantly within sexual networks of gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men since the 2022 outbreak.

"Anyone can contract the virus,

but it has primarily affected gay, bisexual, and same-gender-loving men, particularly those with multiple or anonymous partners," according to a spokesperson for the CDPH.

Each year, the CDPH designates September as Sexual Health Awareness Month and its goal is to raise awareness about available vaccinations and treatments for sexually transmitted diseases and Mpox.

During Sexual Health Awareness Month "the CDPH encourages residents, especially those at higher risk, to use this opportunity to learn more, get vaccinated, and protect their health," says the CDPH.

CDPH says vaccination continues to be the best protection against Mpox. Those vaccinated are administered a smallpox vaccine found to be about 66% effective against Mpox. The vaccine has been approved for use in adults 18 years of age and older and who are determined to be at high risk for smallpox and monkeypox infections.

CDPH Sexual Health Clinics in Lakeview, Austin, and Roseland offer the Mpox vaccine. Many providers across the city also offer vaccination and treatment. Howard Brown Health, a local non-profit healthcare and social services provider, also offers vaccinations and treatment.

"Anyone at risk for Mpox can call 773-388-1600 to schedule a vaccination appointment as soon as possible at any one of Howard Brown's medical clinics. Patients can also seek care at Howard Brown's walk-in clinics at its 1525 E. 55th St (Hyde Park),

641 W. 63rd St (Englewood), and 4025 N. Sheridan Rd. (Uptown) locations," said Wren O'Kelley, associate director of marketing and communications for Howard Brown Health.

Residents can find detailed information about symptoms, testing, and prevention, as well as a citywide vaccination dashboard, at chicago.gov/mpox Those without a doctor or insurance can call the HIV/STI Resource Hub at 844-482-4040 or visit hivhub.org for help finding care.

First known as Monkeypox, the virus was discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research. The actual source of the disease remains unknown.

African rodents and non-human primates (including monkeys and apes) might harbor the virus and infect people. The first human case of Mpox was recorded in 1970. Prior to the 2022, Mpox had been reported in people in several central and western African countries, but the current outbreak is not linked to a current African outbreak.



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BICYCLES from p. 3

O’Neil, Schweiterman and Yanocha.

Because their study was published in 2016, the study authors made no mention of electric bikes and scooters (e-bikes), which have since proliferated. Many are able to attain speeds greater than 35 mph.

Legally, these motor vehicles have been designated as bicycles by the state of Illinois.

Ironically, a similar vehicle, the moped, must follow the same rules of the road as an automobile. Although they are legally limited to a top speed of less than 35 mph, mopeds (which often have pedals) are legally categorized as motorcycles. As a motorcycle, mopeds

must have a headlight and tail-light and must follow all traffic signs and traffic signals. They also must carry vehicle insurance, have a license plate and in Chicago, a city sticker. The only real difference between an e-bike and a moped is that one has an electric motor and the other has an internal combustion engine. It is a contradiction that is sure to create conflict.

In their 2016 study, the DePaul researchers reviewed ordinances in all the municipalities throughout the state with a population of more than 50,000. All 29 of these municipalities required bicyclists to follow the same rules of the road as other vehicles.

“The fines charged for bicyclists breaking traffic laws gen-

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

erally ranged from \$10 to \$50. Chicago’s traffic fines are at the higher end of that range (between \$50 to \$200). Chicago is the only municipality evaluated, however, that outlines fines for motorists endangering cyclists (parking in bike lanes, doorings, etc.), with fines ranging between \$150 to \$1,000. Enforcement of these types of fines are strongly endorsed by many bicycle advocates,” wrote Caldwell, O’Neil, Schweiterman and Yanocha.

Interestingly, despite having city ordinances meant to discourage unsafe bicycle riding, the study’s authors found traffic enforcement throughout the state’s 29 municipalities was extremely rare against bicycle riders.

The issues with the Idaho Stop

relate to potential confusion for other road users, safety concerns for pedestrians and drivers, inconsistent rules between different modes of transport, and questions about effectiveness in different environments. Opponents worry about the potential for increased conflict, confusion due to unfamiliar rules, and the risk of pedestrians or motorists being surprised by bikers racing through intersections.

“Chicago shares with nearly all the municipalities evaluated a general leniency toward bicyclists who violate [traffic] regulations. In Chicago, 13,150 traffic-related tickets were issued to cyclists from 2006 and 2015. The vast majority were for sidewalk violations. Other analysis indicates

the city issued an average of nine tickets per day in 2015. Recent media reports indicate that ticketing may be on the rise. Nevertheless, the rate of citations appears to be well below that of New York City,” according to the team of DePaul researchers.

Lack of enforcement of existing traffic ordinances and failure to adopt bike-specific ones has been the Achilles heel of safe bicycling in Chicago, and a sign of enhanced privilege being bestowed on bikers.

“Chicago has not placed a great deal of emphasis on creating bike-specific traffic laws or adopting effective enforcement methods to deal with concerns over safety,” wrote Caldwell, O’Neil, Schweiterman and Yanocha.

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

030303 -----
272727 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION GREENSPRING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF RMH 2023-4 TRUST Plaintiff, -v.- UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ESTHER H. COHEN (DECEASED), KENNETH H. COHEN, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF ESHTER H. COHEN (DECEASED), ROY COHEN OWNER, EDWARD B. COHEN KNOWN HEIR OF ESTHER H. COHEN (DECEASED), WINSTON TOWERS NO. 2 ASSOCIATION, RESURGENCE FINANCIAL LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS-TENANTS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2025 CH 02820 6833 N. KEDZIE AVENUE #1516 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 August 5, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 19, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6833 N. KEDZIE AVENUE #1516, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 10-36-120-003-1218 The real estate is improved with a vacant single family condominium. The judgment amount was \$597,817.71. 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/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

Real Estate For Sale

purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact NOONAN & LIEBERMAN Plaintiff's Attorneys, 33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 431-1455. Please refer to file number 1889-474.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

NOONAN & LIEBERMAN 33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150 Chicago, IL, 60602 312-431-1455

E-Mail: intake@noonanandlieberman.com Attorney File No. 1889-474 Attorney Code. 38245 Case Number: 2025 CH 02820 TJS#C: 45-2034

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.

Real Estate For Sale

Case # 2025 CH 02820 8231-957174

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. Plaintiff, -v.-

JIMMY TORMON, 6951-57 NORTH WESTERN TOWN HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2024 CH 06838 6957 N. WESTERN AVENUE, UNIT A 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 20, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 23, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 6957 N. WESTERN AVENUE, UNIT A, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 11-31-113-037-0000 The real estate is improved with a townhouse. The judgment amount was \$162,931.77.

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/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Chris Iaria, QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 141 WEST JACKSON BLVD, SUITE 1575, Chicago, IL, 60604 (312) 566-0040. Please refer to file number IL-002688.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

Real Estate For Sale

mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, CHICAGO, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 24 0888.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650 CHICAGO, IL, 60602 312-541-9710

E-Mail: lpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com Attorney File No. 24 0888 Attorney Code. 40342 Case Number: 2024 CH 06838 TJS#C: 45-1748

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 # 2024 CH 06838 **13271555**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIZENS BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, -v.-

HAARVEY KAHLER, JR., 2041 W. BIRCHWOOD AVENUE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 24 CH 07658 2041 WEST BIRCHWOOD AVENUE, UNIT #2 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 25, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 26, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

ED TO THE DECLARATION AFORESAID RECORDED AS DOCUMENT 0531410084. Commonly known as 2041 WEST BIRCHWOOD AVENUE, UNIT #2, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 11-30-312-030-1002 The real estate is improved with a three unit apartment building. 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/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.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff, -v.-

MICHAEL DE STEFANO, THE HARBOR HOUSE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2023 CH 06068 3200 N LAKE SHORE DR 14 CHICAGO, IL 60657 NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 30, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 29, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 3200 N LAKE SHORE DR 14, CHICAGO, IL 60657 Property Index No. 14-21-314-048-1113 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$137,150.13.

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/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Chris Iaria, QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 141 WEST JACKSON BLVD, SUITE 1575, Chicago, IL, 60604 (312) 566-0040. Please refer to file number IL-002688.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

Chris Iaria QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. 141 WEST JACKSON BLVD, SUITE 1575 CHICAGO, IL, 60604 312-566-0040

E-Mail: il foreclosure@qpwbaw.com Attorney File No. IL-002688 Attorney ARDC No. 6301746 Attorney Code. 48947 Case Number: 2023 CH 06068 TJS#C: 45-2130

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 06068 **8277-957515**

Real Estate For Sale

government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Chris Iaria, QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 141 WEST JACKSON BLVD, SUITE 1575, Chicago, IL, 60604 (312) 566-0040. Please refer to file number IL-002688.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

Chris Iaria QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. 141 WEST JACKSON BLVD, SUITE 1575 CHICAGO, IL, 60604 312-566-0040

E-Mail: il foreclosure@qpwbaw.com Attorney File No. IL-002688 Attorney ARDC No. 6301746 Attorney Code. 48947 Case Number: 2023 CH 06068 TJS#C: 45-2130

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 06068 **8277-957515**

Real Estate For Sale

030303 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff, -v.-

NILA GUTIERREZ, 3600 CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 24 CH 08834 3600 N LAKE SHORE DR. UNIT 203 CHICAGO, IL 60613

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 18, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 25, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 3600 N LAKE SHORE DR. UNIT 203, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-21-110-020-1616 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$90,548.80.

Real Estate For Sale

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/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 2032312.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR, IL, 62523 217-422-1719

Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 2032312 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 24 CH 08834 TJS#C: 45-1625

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is

Real Estate For Sale

deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 24 CH 08834 **13272214**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BLUEBIRD CRE CREDIT I, LLC Plaintiff, -v.-

AZAS, LLC, CITY OF CHICAGO Defendants 2025 CH 05442 5806-10 N. RIDGE AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60660

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 11, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 22, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 5806-10 N. RIDGE AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-311-046-0000 The real estate is improved with a multi-family residence.

The judgment amount was \$359,435.84. 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/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Noah Weininger, THE WEININGER LAW FIRM LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 11757 SOUTHWEST HIGHWAY, PALOS HEIGHTS, IL, 60463 (312) 796-8850.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

Noah Weininger THE WEININGER LAW FIRM LLC 11757 SOUTHWEST HIGHWAY PALOS HEIGHTS, IL, 60463 Fax #: 312-248-2550 E-Mail: weininger@weiningerlawfirm.com Attorney Code. 63307 Case Number: 2025 CH 05442 TJS#C: 45-2087

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 # 2025 CH 05442 **13271985**

Real Estate For Sale

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

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East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL (312-644-2000), is opening lockers: 6918X (Spencer Kain), 5556X (Lamonte Poole), 3523X and 6619X (Edward Lahood), for public sale on September 30, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

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THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE at 1930 N. Clybourn Ave., Chicago IL 60614 Will sell the contents of the following units to satisfy a lien to the highest bidder on 9-23-25 by 11:00 AM at WWW.STORAGETREASURES.COM All goods must be removed from the unit within 48 hours. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
Unit 2047 Midwest Auto Collision / Oscar Alvarez

Notice of Public Sale

Pro Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self service Storage Spaces in default listed below on the 18th. of September, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at 2724 W. 21st St, Chicago, IL 60608 at www.storage-treasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 12:00 p.m. B052 Benito Ortiz 3070 Cierra Thompson
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North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION ASSOCIATED BANK, NA Plaintiff, -v- ALEXANDER DOROSHKO, ELENA DOROSHKO, THE ELENA DOROSHKO LIVING TRUST, INTERNATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELENA DOROSHKO, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ELENA DOROSHKO LIVING TRUST DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2016. UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2022CH00297 consolidated with 2020D006503 2054 N MOHAWK ST 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 June 25, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 29, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35F, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 2054 N MOHAWK ST, CHICAGO, IL 60614
Property Index No. 14-33-129-085-0000, 14-33-129-080-0000
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/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

Real Estate For Sale

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Attorney File No. 14-21-01062
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21782
Case Number: 2022CH00297 consolidated with 2020D006503
TJSC#: 45-1913
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Case # 2022CH00297 consolidated with 2020D006503
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ZONING from p. 5

tance proximity requirements.
This newspaper obtained emails showing that Shiller's vote in favor of the pot shop was cast against the recommendation of the Chicago Dept. of Law [DOL] whose written opinion was that the school really was a school. So the ZBA appears to have simply ignored their own regulations, and the DOL's opinion, in voting to approve the license. That vote has since resulted in the city's legal counsel having to defend, at taxpayer expense, the decision in court. The lawsuit was filed in February, and is still being litigated.
This inexplicable decision allowed a subsequent ZBA hearing on Sept. 20, 2024, where Shiller cast the deciding vote to allow a cannabis dispensary to operate at what the city defines as an illegal location.
That location employed the services of Shiller's son, Brendan Shiller. Brendan's mother insists that her son's financial interests had nothing to do with her decision to cast a vote in favor of the pot shop.
The deciding vote allowed her son to move forward in working to establish a legally-licensed pot-selling retailer near an existing school.

This inexplicable decision allowed a subsequent ZBA hearing on Sept. 20, 2024, where Shiller cast the deciding vote to allow a cannabis dispensary to operate at what the city defines as an illegal location.

Unlike Shiller, current ZBA Chairman Sanchez is an attorney, and he did vote against allowing legal dope dealing near a grade school.
Mayor Brandon Johnson is expected to decide on a new ZBA chairman by the end of August, following the Chicago City Council's August session. His appointment for the position will require City Council approval, with a possible vote in September.
Frankly, a quick read of the code for being a ZBA Board member shows that Shiller does not seem to be qualified (see sidebar), making one wonder why she was ever added to the board, none-the-less be named its Chairman. Appeals for an ethics investigation have gone unanswered.

SETTLEMENT from p. 1

they conducted a “secret off-the-books investigation” related to Pratt’s complaints involving her own daughter.

Earlier this year, Chicago law firm Ginsberg Jacobs LLC, led by Bill Choslovsky, successfully petitioned for Thuet and Brumfield to be removed from CPS’ “Do Not Hire” list, which departing CPS CEO Pedro Martinez granted. And last week the CPS Board approved \$350,000 payouts to each of them.

It is perhaps a bittersweet end to a long and painful saga for Thuet and Brumfield, who were abruptly fired without even being told what they had done wrong.

“The choice for CPS should not be either protecting students or treating their teachers, coaches, and principals with dignity and some due process. It needs to do both. That’s the ultimate lesson of this five-year saga,” said Choslovsky.

Back in 2020, the claimed “scandal” generated city-wide publicity as the principals were fired and four coaches and deans suspended. It took five years to uncover the truth, and in the end the only real “scandal” was within CPS’s top administrative suite, as its own Office of Inspector General uncovered in its 90-page bombshell

report that in turn led to CPS settling all the cases.

The OIG report stated that “Pratt’s and Spraggins’s conduct in this matter fundamentally undermined OSP’s integrity and fairness and jeopardized public trust in CPS. Moreover, by investigating [her own daughter’s] playing time under the cover of the LPHS boys’ team investigation, Pratt and Spraggins abused their positions.”

The OIG Report can be found at https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25182133-oig-investigation_20-001178_pratt_and_spraggins_sri-final/?responsive=1&title=1.

In March 2020, Dean John Johnson was reinstated. In May, CPS’s OIG completed their investigation of Washington, fully clearing him of the false allegation of “adult on student sexual misconduct.” In June, Washington and Dean Donovan Robinson were reinstated. In July of 2020, the CPS fired Coach Gordon. Then in Jan, 2021, Johnson, Washington, Gordon, and Johnson filed suit against CPS.

In March 2023, an independent arbitrator issued a 66-page opinion admonishing CPS, saying “As an opening observation, the undersigned notes that CPS’s entire course of conduct in this case . . . was rath-

Back in 2020, the claimed “scandal” generated city-wide publicity as the principals were fired and four coaches and deans suspended. It took five years to uncover the truth, and in the end the only real “scandal” was within CPS’s top administrative suite, as its own Office of Inspector General uncovered in its 90-page bombshell report that in turn led to CPS settling all the cases.

er astounding.”

The independent arbitrator determined that the community notices [CPS issued at the time] were “overtly false.”

In Aug. 2023, CPS settles their cases with Dean Donovan Robinson’s and Dean John Johnson for \$1 million and also issues written statements to each.

Then on June 28, 2024, the OIG issued a 90-page report chastising CPS for its mishandling of all matters at LPHS, including the terminations of Thuet and Brumfield,

which they called “very alarming,” noting that some of their written findings include that “OSP’s off-the-books investigation regarding allegations pertaining to CPS and the girls’ team influenced the terminations of Thuet and Brumfield. Those terminations have been understood to be related to OSP’s misconduct investigation involving the boys’ team. . . [that] Brumfield was fired (along with Thuet) before the SAU could interview her.”

When the OIG eventually interviewed Thuet and Brumfield “for this investigation, however, they each told the OIG that they never received any explanation for their termination.”

At a Feb. 2020 meeting with the LPHS School Council, when tensions were boiling, “OSP bootstrapped the justification of Thuet and Brumfield’s terminations on supposedly ‘fully substantiated’ misconduct related to CP’s allegations. The OIG’s investigations of these allegations weren’t even close to being completed.”

Last January, Thuet and Brumfield filed a petition seeking removal from the DNH list. CPS CEO Pedro Martinez granted their petition, removing them from the DNH list in May. Then last week, the CPS Board agreed to pay Thuet and Brumfield \$700,000.

HIRE from p. 1

city’s murder rate was 32.9 per 100,000 residents. By 2019, after decades of what Bedi calls “over-policing” and a “carceral state,” it had dropped to 18.6. Even during the COVID-era crime spike, the rate topped out at 29.7—still lower than 1990. Last year’s figure: 21.4.

Yet Bedi continues to argue that policing hasn’t reduced violence. In her view, police pose a “significant risk of harm” to community members and “harm Black and brown communities with impunity.” Her solution: strip resources from departments

and funnel the money into neighborhoods “to create safety and wellness.”

She won’t be the only City Hall insider with a history of hostility toward police. Johnson’s head of external affairs, Kennedy Bartley, once described officers as “f**king pigs” while pushing for abolition. When those comments resurfaced after her appointment, Bartley said her feelings had changed.

With Bedi now in the fold, Johnson has doubled down, staffing his inner circle with activists who see policing not as a tool but as a problem.

topped Mt. Zion 40-6 to win 4A state championship game last November. The Rams victory was not without complaints by detractors who argued that DePaul Prep was actually a school that should have been in 6A based on its enrollment. There is some truth in that, but the Rams didn’t make the rules and played and won the games on the schedule.

It’s a whole new world now. The IHSA changed the rules and school enrollments and classification will change every year now, not every two years as it was in 2024. Based on the enrollment and the success factor DePaul Prep’s enrollment for classification purposes is 2,214. That probably puts them in the 7A classification. That’s a move up three spots.

Adding to this change, is the significantly harder schedule. Gone are Deerfield and Amundsen. In addition to Fenwick the Rams add St. Ignatius, and two more Chicago Catholic League teams for an entirely CCL/ESCC Super-conference schedule.

The Rams graduated an experienced

senior class which included the talented Fernando “Juu” Rodriguez, who was a three year starter, and a group of talented wide receivers.

Passarella expressed guarded optimism after the game.

“We had to practice this week and last week. Kids were competing. There’s talent. It’s just one of those things where the ball wasn’t really bouncing our way, missing wide open shots and not doing things. I want to say it was nerves, just truly a lack of execution. Defensively the communication wasn’t there. We gave up a touchdown where kids were still talking and not be locked in. I think it’s just a matter of trying to fix the small things. And that’s what we talk about right now is just taking care of details. We just need to take care of details today and it showed.”

It gets no easier from here. The Rams will face St. Ignatius this Friday at Ignatius. The Wolfpack moved up to the CCL/ESCC Blue Division, its top division.

OPENER from p. 1

hampered the Rams offense. The Rams had as many turnovers as first downs in the first half.

“You take a look at what transpired in the first half... our offense had two first downs to two turnovers. You’re not going to succeed with that,” said Rams head coach Mike Passarella. “Defensively, we gave up

a touchdown because there was miscommunication, we played with 10 guys on one of the first-time passes, we had missed tackles. It was just bad football. I expected a lot more than what transpired out there tonight. Our kids are young. They played young tonight and it showed.”

It was a festive atmosphere at DePaul Prep last Friday night. The Rams were coming off a championship season. They



Celebrating 20 years

ALONG BROADWAY FROM BELMONT TO HAWTHORNE

LAKEVIEW EAST FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Saturday, Sept. 13th Sunday, Sept. 14th

<p>Main Stage</p> <p>12p Dana Maragos</p> <p>1p Steve Dawson & Diane Christiansen</p> <p>2:30p Gerald Dowd</p> <p>4p Gerald McClendon</p> <p>5:30p Nelson Street Revival</p> <p>7:30p Simple Remedy</p> <p>9:00p charlie otto + his gear</p> <p>Roscoe Stage</p> <p>12p John Huss</p> <p>1:30p Anxiety Patrol</p> <p>3p Back Alley</p> <p>4:30p Todd Allison & The Kind Force</p> <p>6p Shadowfields</p>	<p>Main Stage</p> <p>11:45a Gerry Hundt Trio</p> <p>1p The Band Calderisi</p> <p>2:30p Miss Barbara Clifford & The Shakin’ Tailfeathers</p> <p>4p Fox Crossing Stringband</p> <p>5:30p Mr. Blotto</p> <p>Roscoe Stage</p> <p>12p Steve Hashimoto Duo</p> <p>1:30p VRTUE</p> <p>3p Kent Rose & The Remedies</p> <p>4:30p Redbud Park</p> <p>6p Robert Rolfe Feddersen</p>
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