

Every day begins with an act of courage and hope: getting out of bed.

— Mason Cooley

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A step in the right direction, covering its tracks, or both?

Hard to know Park District's motives for crass move

BY FELICIA DECHTER
Heart of the 'Hood

While the Chicago Park District hustled to re-paint the completely faded no swimming warning signs on the pier at Pratt Ave., the mother of Miguel Cisneros Jr. -- the 19-year-old who drowned there on Aug. 22 -- called on Mayor Lori Lightfoot to instruct the CPD to install life rings, signage and safety equipment at all of the city's beaches.

Maria Diaz wants to insure that the unimaginable tragedy that happened to her beloved son does not happen to another family. I truly hope the mayor and CPD listen.

This isn't just a Rogers Park issue, although for a couple of years now the alderman, activists and residents of my neighborhood have been begging to see this happen. This is for people -- citywide -- who swim in the lake or have lost a person they care about to drowning. Each and every neighborhood in Chicago with a beach or a pier or a break-



Nearly two dozen painted warnings went up on Sept. 2 on the pier at Pratt Avenue and the lake. They were painted over existing warnings that had been faded for years and were no longer visible. When the much-needed no swimming deterrents were last refreshed or re-painted is one question the Chicago Park District has yet to answer.

water structure needs to properly warn its residents, in every way possible, not to swim there.

Residents and community activists have tried for years to plead with the CPD for signage and life-saving equipment, including Rogers Park's new alderman Maria Hadden [49th].

Last week, exasperated Rogers

Park neighbors, fed up with CPD ignoring the problem, put up a total of four life rings, all of which were confiscated by the CPD for not being authorized.

How crass that the CPD pulled this Big Brother power play on the very day of Miguel's funeral.

But the good news is, nearly two dozen painted sidewalk signs were painted -- or should I say re-painted -- up and down the pier.

New signage was installed. And that's all great. It's a step in the right direction.

But what I'm wondering is, who was responsible for the upkeep of the faded painted sidewalk warnings not to swim off the pier that were already in place but were not properly maintained so they became invisible? They haven't been visible for ages. Had they been, perhaps Miguel would have seen them and thought twice about going for a swim off the pier, which was an unfamiliar place to the South Sider.

And who was responsible to make sure the lone sign at the start of the pier was not covered in graffiti? Was anybody minding the fort on this pier?

BOTH see p. 9

Help is NOT on the way for State St.

Ald. Reilly calls out police: 'get this sh*t under control'

BY CWBCHICAGO

The two-block stretch of State St. between Kinzie and Illinois is unlike any other in River North. The sidewalk, probably older than any living Chicagoan, is cracked, patched, potholed, and inexplicably dives at a sharp angle toward the street.

A liquor store sign, still offering booze and lottery tickets, hangs over a storefront that was long ago boarded up and closed off by a metal gate. But, this being River North, there's a cherry red Jaguar convertible parked in front of it. With a parking ticket.

Poorly lighted at night, this 700-foot stretch of bar hoppers, drug dealers, and random hustlers will leave even veteran city

dwellers with the unmistakable feeling that they're being sized up.

And it's been like that for years. Local Ald. Brendan Reilly [42nd] calls it "The Lawless Zone."

He says he's been writing to mayors about the problem -- Daley, Rahm, and, now, Lightfoot -- for 14 years.

"The recent shooting incidents, fighting and robberies that have occurred this week are extremely concerning; the violence in the Central Business District has gotten out of hand," Reilly warned his constituents in his weekly newsletter.

"CPD still won't dedicate foot patrols there. Sadly, aldermen can only offer advice and request resources," he said on Twitter Thursday. "The mayor runs CPD."

The alderman called the area

"drug and gang hotspots," noting that the stretch of State St. north of the Chicago River continues to go unprotected. The daily vio-

"CPD still won't dedicate foot patrols there. Sadly, aldermen can only offer advice and request resources," said Ald. Brendan Reilly on Twitter Thursday. "The mayor runs CPD."

lence in Chicago is now part of news reporting in cities across the globe, and is suffocating what little remains of the once booming meeting, convention and tourism businesses Chicago enjoyed only a few years ago.

HELP see p. 12



The last march for Lincoln Square?

Lincoln Square German-America Fest kicks off Sept. 10, see page 3



In 2017, three bright red baseball scoreboards suddenly appeared in Welles Park at the beginning of the baseball season, without the knowledge of the local Welles Park Advisory Council.

Did Welles Park scoreboards pave the way for future installation of lights?

PHOTOS AND STORY BY PETER VON BUOL

In 2017, three bright red baseball scoreboards suddenly appeared in Welles Park at the beginning of the baseball season. Residents who live near the park later contacted this newspaper to express concerns that the installation had not been a part of the usual community process. These new scoreboards had not been discussed at earlier meetings of the Welles Park Advisory Council; the neighborhood group sanctioned by the Chicago Park District [CPD].

Funding for these scoreboards had not come from the CPD. These scoreboards are installed near the junior, minor, major, and senior baseball diamonds and had been a gift from the Welles Park Parents' Assoc. [WPPA], the nonprofit organization which operates the baseball and softball programs at the park. The WPPA had earlier received a grant from the Chicago Cubs Charities Diamond

Grant program which enabled them to acquire the scoreboards. At the time of their installation, these scoreboards were dedicated to the memory of the late Brad Balson (1965-2013), a longtime WPPA coach.

The CPD is responsible for more than 8,000 acres of open space. This includes 570 parks, 31 beaches and two conservatories, both of which are historical landmarks.

While it is able to levy taxes and is able to charge fees for its programming, in recent years, CPD officials have sought additional sources of revenue to supplement their budget. These include giant multi-million-dollar deals like Lollapalooza or a small \$137,000 contract with Amazon in which parcel boxes were installed in neighborhood parks.

A spokesperson for the CPD told this newspaper they did not consider the installation of the scoreboards to be controversial

SCOREBOARDS see p. 12



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A farewell to berries and foreign tourists



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

September's arrival means farewell to fresh farmstand blueberries.

Can I be that addicted?

No other fruit leaves me with such lasting pleasure. All the pies, turnovers, compotes and morning cereal topping.

The farmers market version has been consistently sweet and juicy. Robust in its singular blueberry character. Just the thing to get through this emotional Chicago summer. The rise in looting, felony crime and ineffective courts raise a dangerous flag for the future. Just as we all return to facemarks.

It will be harder without the pride of Michigan and Maine.

So I look ahead to the Autumn with some anxiety, COVID peeking from behind the bushes again. And without my weekly delivery. They say blueberries are filled with antioxidants. Could such antioxidants be a calming influence on me? Could these be what makes me feel at peace with the present disintegration of Chicago political leadership?

You know, the Chicago shenanigans of Mayor Lightfoot, President Preckwinkle and States Attorney Foxx?

Now that they have cleared out the jails, and made the streets safe for looting and pillaging, while removing the stern, rational judgments of the courts.

The real disaster of COVID's surge is that it provides an easy opportunity to shelter these culprits from public scrutiny. They can dismantle Chicago's effectiveness and commitment to safer neighborhoods without the

public snooping into their reasons or half-brained abilities.

There's nobody physically around City Hall asking the right questions probing why the true statistics on crime are going unreported. Sequestered, you could have held soccer matches on the first floor of City Hall and the County Building.

No one seems to be asking why so much detail about Chicago's crime rise goes unreported. Someone better wake up the Police Superintendent. And Col. McCormick.

We all hear those questions asked by regular Chicagoans everywhere. Sipping beers at local taverns, they're asking why so many felons never have to go to jail.

We hear it in restaurants across the city where workers and patrons alike want to figure out why those who commit violent crime are always bailed out of their crime. Set free for more mayhem.

We heard the ushers talking about just such fears at the back of our churches, mosques or synagogues.

Such questions are being asked in Sox Park and Wrigley Field, while people were passing beers down to one another.

It was also the only topic of conversation at a funeral I attended before the deceased arrived. Animated church chatter. Words loaded with fear and exasperation.

We hear such fear crystal clear in phone calls from our friends and family whose raised phone voices tell us how seriously they took the city's spiraled decline into violence and murder.

I also could hear it in the unusual questions visitors were seriously pondering as they ate their lunch on the patio at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill. They were trying to wrap their minds around our heartbreaking tragedy of leader-



The farmers market blueberries have been consistently sweet and juicy this year.

ship here. Hard for them to reconcile with conditions in their native Belgium. I pointed them in the direction of Gucci and Dior, stores heavily hit in the Mag Mile's latest looting escapade. I told them to take a cab there. But warned them to stay away. For their own well-being.

I'm not sure there's enough fresh blueberries left to keep me sane and calm. Just witnessing the mayhem of the moment is difficult to watch. My antioxidant level may be high still, but it can't last. Maybe I just need a beer, some Tufano's clams or some RL crab cake.

Or maybe just the hope that one day foreign tourists will once again return.

And when some new faces will be at work in Chicago's political leadership offices currently held by "Double-Double. Toil. And Trouble." Shakespeare knew of what he wrote.

CEASE AND DESIST: Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley said it best back in 1968 when American cities were burning during

the aftermath of Dr. King's death. Back then the mayor was committed to keeping Chicago's citizens safe. He issued his famous clarification of police standard policy. Arsonists attempting to set fire to any building will be shot and killed. Those attempting to loot Chicago businesses will be shot and maimed. That's when Chi-

cago's mayors believed all citizens had a right to be safe and free from fear of murder.

Can someone explain that to the current mayor who feels compelled to defend and protect the perpetrators of serious crime? Murder and looting are not civil rights, Ms. Mayor.

FOREARMED:

IKRAM, Gold Coast's Huron St. fashion center, namesake of famed Chicago legend Ikram Goldman, is said to have been under attack from looters twice last week but thieves were thwarted by the armed guards employed on the premises. Effective.

LOYOLA:

Jo Ann Rooney, the 24th president of Loyola Univ. of Chicago and the first lay president in the University's history is leaving her post. She will be missed.

SUNNY DAYS ANDY:

NBC 5 Meteorologist **Andy Avalos** gave his final forecast, retiring after 33 years. You too, will be missed.

WGN NEWS: News anchor **Robin Baumgarten** and me-

teorologist **Paul Konrad** are celebrating 25 years with the WGN Morning News.

NOT FORGOTTEN: Friends in Edgewater held a remembrance and memorial for **Chelsea Rectanus** with her family on Saturday, with live music, a slide presentation and a virtual hookup for those who could not attend. Chelsea was the founder and owner of Heirloom Books, which friends



President Jo Ann Rooney.

continue to operate in her memory. Her store is all passion with little profits. Stop in sometime.

STEPPE N-WOLF:

Steppenwolf Theatre Co. is excited to announce the final artists selected for its Loft Teen Art Project. The commission winners include five individuals and two groups: **Elisabeth**

Cervantes, 18, from Mount Greenwood with an oil painting project. **Alyha Khalil**, 16, of Irving Park with an oil painting project. **Liz Olivarez Lyles**, 21, from Lakeview with a mixed media project. **Kaleia Maxey**, 17, from Beverlyly with a photography/collage project. **Stevia Ndoe**, 18, from West Ridge/North Park with a photography project. **Tia and Tyra Smith**, 20, from Chatham with a textile project. And BUILD, a violence prevention and youth development organization based on the West Side, with a group artwork, medium TBA.

CSO: The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, **Riccardo Muti** and a

BLUEBERRIES see p. 8

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Once you're here, you won't want to leave.

The last march for Lincoln Square?

German-America Fest celebrating its centennial year, kick off Sept. 10

One of Chicago's oldest cultural festivals, now threatened by rigged real estate deal

BY RONALD ROENIGK

The Lincoln Square German-American Day festivities run Sept. 10 through 12 centered in Lincoln Square, at the corner of Lincoln, Leland and Western avenues.

The festival will offer German hospitality in two large tents every day with three bands playing traditional Oktoberfest music.

Now celebrating its 100th year, the Germanfest is one of Chicago's most popular, and long-lasting cultural festivals, annually drawing large crowds to the community that was founded by European settlers and immigrants.

But the fest's future fate now faces the most dire challenge to its survival since World War II, due to a rigged real estate deal being fronted by Ald. Matt Martin [47th].

One of the highlights of Germanfest is the annual Von Steuben Parade that steps off on Lincoln Ave. 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, marching from Irving Park Rd. north to Eastwood Ave. That Parade may step off in Niles in 2022.

Authentic German food and traditional drinks will be served and visitors can expect much dancing to the lively European folk music from German bands, making for what Germans call "Gemütlichkeit." For youths, there will also be an amusement section of the fest with carnival games.

But for those who have never enjoyed the local Gemütlichkeit, you might want to put this year's festivities on the calendar as Ald. Martin has threatened its viability by offering to give away for free a section of the festival grounds it operates on... six city-owned lots centered at 4715 N. Western Ave.

The alderman is fronting for the secretive insider real estate deal, and now taking heat from his own constituents for offering to give it away for free to a Boston-based real estate developer - The Community Builders [TCB] - so they can build a 51-unit apartment building on the site.

The deal was negotiated in secret during the summer of 2019, and was leaked to this newspaper by a City Hall staffer in Nov. 2019. In those two years this newspaper has identified only a couple dozen people who openly support the deal, many whom don't even live in the 47th Ward.

The property was originally taken by the city in an eminent domain action in 1975. It has been used for nearly 50 years as a critical piece of commercial infrastructure, as a public parking lot that serves the entire Lincoln Square commercial district. The lot is a key component of operating the German-American Festival, Maifest and Applefest, serving as defacto festival grounds. The lot also serves as primary customer parking supporting the popular Lincoln Square Farmer's Market.

The transaction appears to be connected to City Hall insiders as one of TCB Board members - Patrick Nash - is the scion of some of the oldest clout in Chicago. And now Ald. Martin is providing cover to TCB by helping them to gain millions of dollars in new wealth courtesy of the taxpayer, and by putting at risk a big part of the cultural heritage that made the neighborhood so desirable today.

But perhaps more importantly for Ald. Martin's political future, Nash is the grandson of the late Patrick A. Nash, co-founder of Chicago's Kelly-Nash Democratic Machine. That machine dominated Chicago politics and government from 1933-1947

and became the basis for the political machine operated by the late Mayor Richard J. Daley.

Nash, who lives on the North Side, served on the city of Chicago's Dept. of Housing Advisory Committee, and as a member of the board of commissioners of the Chicago Housing Authority. He is also a past president and Chairman of the Affordable Housing Investor's Council.

Nash once worked for Chase Bank, and may now be serving as the syndicator for several of TCB's development projects in Chicago, including the Lincoln Square deal. Syndicators peddle secretive Section 42 Affordable Housing tax credits to wealthy investors. Nash is a very influential part of the financial network that utilizes Low Income Housing Tax Credits [LIHTC] to build housing projects, over the years working with some of the largest investors in the field.

City Hall never posted a Request for Proposals for the property in question, has never put the site up for sale, and no



For those who have never enjoyed the local Gemütlichkeit, you might want to put this year's festivities on the calendar as Ald. Martin has threatened its viability.

other developers were ever considered for the multi-million-dollar gift. The alderman refuses to say publicly why an out-of-state developer was chosen, and public documents released by City Hall after Freedom Of Information requests came blacked out. The alderman and his staff stopped talking to this newspaper shortly after we started reporting on the plan.

Perhaps fearing the loss of the German-American festival, in August, Ald. Martin held a private - off the record - meet-

ing with festival organizers, where he asked if they could make special considerations and perhaps shift the festival footprint to make way for TCB's apartment building.

But the prominent German clubs behind the event recently purchased a new clubhouse in suburban Niles, and could easily relocate the festival out of the Lincoln Square neighborhood, and out of the city, should they choose.

Everyone concerned may find out soon if the city will end up giving the lot away for free to TCB, as the Dept. of Housing is expected to issue the final round of LIHTC at the end of September. Those tax credits, and the potential millions that may come from additional Tax Increment Financing funds would make the deal incredibly lucrative for TCB. A back of the envelope ciphering shows that TCB could expect perhaps a \$10 million or more payday courtesy of the city, local taxpayers and nearby commercial businesses in the wealth transfer.



Oktoberfest

by German-American Fest

September 10-11-12, 2021

100TH
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Friday: 5:00pm to 11:00pm
8:00pm Official Opening Ceremony
Saturday: Noon to 11:00pm
Sunday: Noon to 10:00pm
11:00am German Mass & Service

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Saturday, Sept. 11th, 2021

2:00pm Lincoln & Irving Park Road

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GERMAN COMMEMORATION DAY

Sunday, Oct. 3rd at 2:30pm
St. Benedict's Church
2215 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago
ADMISSION IS FREE
For Info: www.GermanDay.com




Argyle St. to be shut down for cultural events

Starting Thursday Sept. 9, Uptown United is bringing weekly live outdoor entertainment to Argyle St. featuring musical, cultural, and youth performances, that will shut down the street to automobile traffic.

The street will be shut down from Kenmore to Sheridan to allow for outdoor dining (and dancing if the mood strikes you) while enjoying live music.

Guests will be encouraged to support Uptown's local restaurants by either dining alfresco at the restaurants along Argyle, or by ordering take-out from nearby restaurants to bring with them to the event.

Guests are being welcomed in bringing their own portable chairs and tables to set up in the street, or take advantage of a limited number of seats set-up for the event.

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Centennial event looks at Mayor Washington's LGBTQ+ legacy



Mayor Harold Washington spoke to approximately 6,000 people who attended the 18th Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade held in Lincoln Park on June 28, 1987. *Courtesy Chicago Public Library*

The LGBTQ legacy of late Chicago Mayor Harold Washington (1922-1987) will be discussed as part of a series of events marking his 100th birthday in 2022. This free event will be 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

The program will include LGBTQ+ advocates who worked for Washington, served on his Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues [COGLI], and those who fought for the city's gay-rights law in the 1980s.

Special guest will be state Sen. Mike Simmons [7th], discussing how Washington's legacy as mayor from 1983-87 impacted his own trajectory as the first openly gay Black man elected to a state senate post in U.S. history.

Tracy Baim, the organizer for this event, will speak about covering Washington for the local LGBTQ press. Baim today is president and co-publisher of the Chicago Reader newspaper; co-founder and former publisher of Windy City Times. She received

the 2013 Chicago Headline Club Lifetime Achievement Award, and was inducted into the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association Hall of Fame. She was inducted into the Association for Women Journalists-Chicago Chapter Hall of Fame in 2018. She is also in the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame. She is the author or co-author of 13 books, and producer of three films.

There will be two panel discussions. The first will feature Washington's gay and lesbian liaison, Peggy Baker, and Ann Christophersen, co-founder of Women and Children First Books in Andersonville, who served on COGLI. Human-rights advocate Mona Noriega will moderate the panel.

The second panel will feature three of the four surviving members of what was known as the "Gang of Four"—activists who were among those advocating for the city's gay-rights bill during Washington's administration: Laurie Dittman, Rick Garcia and Art Johnston.

The event will be videotaped for later airing, in case COVID-19 restrictions limit audience capacity.

For tickets visit <https://bit.ly/Harold-Washington-Legacy>.

Letters to the Editor

Drownings, in their own words

The most effective warning signs would be about the lives and deaths of actual people who died/drowned in Lake Michigan after entering at specific sites, posted at those sites.

These signs would include a photo of the person, and the text would be in the first person. (People are advised to read Edgar Lee Masters' "Spoon River Anthology", which uses the same literary

device to have people speak to us from beyond the grave.)

They would tell readers a little bit about the life and likes of the victim, so that the readers might think, "That could have been me." They would include whether the person could swim or not, and exactly how and when he entered the water and what caused his death.

Such signs would be created in cooperation with the victims'

loved ones. I think most people are more likely to accept life-saving warnings from people they can identify with, than from authority figures, even though the warning from authorities is based on the tragic experiences of many people.

Jean SmilingCoyote
West Ridge

Where's mine?

"Ubi est mea?" That's Latin for "Where's mine?"

It was nominated for the Unofficial City Slogan by the late, great newspaper columnist Mike Royko.

For those of you who did not grow up here, Royko was proof that one could be independent and progressive and not suck up to politicians.

Ubi est mea is what I think about when I think about marshmallow aldermen. Those who suck up and carry water for the South Side Irish.

The South Side Irish have been losing political power for a while now to the Black, Latino, Lesbian and Gay communities who have been electing their own champions as Mayor, County Board President, States Attorney, Attorney General, Speaker of the House and City Council Finance Committee.

But as long as the South Side Irish can still feed at the public trough of contracts and services they're OK, you know what I mean.

City bonds, contracts for public school milk and lunches, asphalt paving, streetlights and public housing. The South Side Irish still want the public money. And some aldermen will give it to them.

They will tell you in a sing song voice that they have no control over City contracts.

What about the city parking lot at 4715 N. Western Ave.? They have control over that. Ald. Matt Martin [47th] can't give that parking lot away fast enough, and for free!

And who is he giving it to? The Community Builders, an out-of-state developer who cheers on the Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox, and has Chicagoan Patrick Nash on their Board of Directors.

Nash is the grandson of the Kelly-Nash Machine. The corrupt machine before the corrupt Daley I Machine.

Besides a \$6 million parking lot for free, what else will the South Side Irish get for free? Oh ya, they also got a 20-story down-

town high-rise for free at Van Buren St. and Plymouth Ct. How could we forget?

Toss in some Tax Increment Financing funds, Federal tax credits, Cook County Housing funds, Chicago Dept. of Housing grants and step up to the feeding trough for taxpayer money. They'll make millions.

And what are the South Side Irish promising Ald. Martin for all this government largesse?

Well, we don't know, do we? Ald. Martin blocked out and redacted everything in the FOIA response from the media. No open bidding, no requests for proposals, no cash down, take it away today for free.

Like Kelly-Nash, Daley I, Daley II, Rahmmy 1%, Rosty, Blago, Keane, Burke, and Madigan, maybe Martin has been listening and learning, "Cut me in or cut it out."

Michael Sullivan
Avondale

Metra to hold virtual meeting Sept. 9 on UP North \$262M bridge project

Rehab of 11 bridges planned

BY SHEILA SWANN

Metra bridges on the North Side are about to get a major \$262 million overhaul.

Metra will hold a virtual public meeting on Sept. 9 to introduce the next phase of its project to replace 120-year-old bridges along the Union Pacific North Line on the North Side of Chicago. This phase includes the replacement of 11 bridges and retaining walls as required between Fullerton and Addison.

The Metra UP North Rebuild: Fullerton to Addison Project is currently in the design and planning stage with construction expected to begin in 2023 and completion expected in 2027.

The bridges being targeted are 120 years old. Along with the adjacent retaining walls, these bridges have surpassed their functional lifespan and can no longer be economically repaired and maintained.

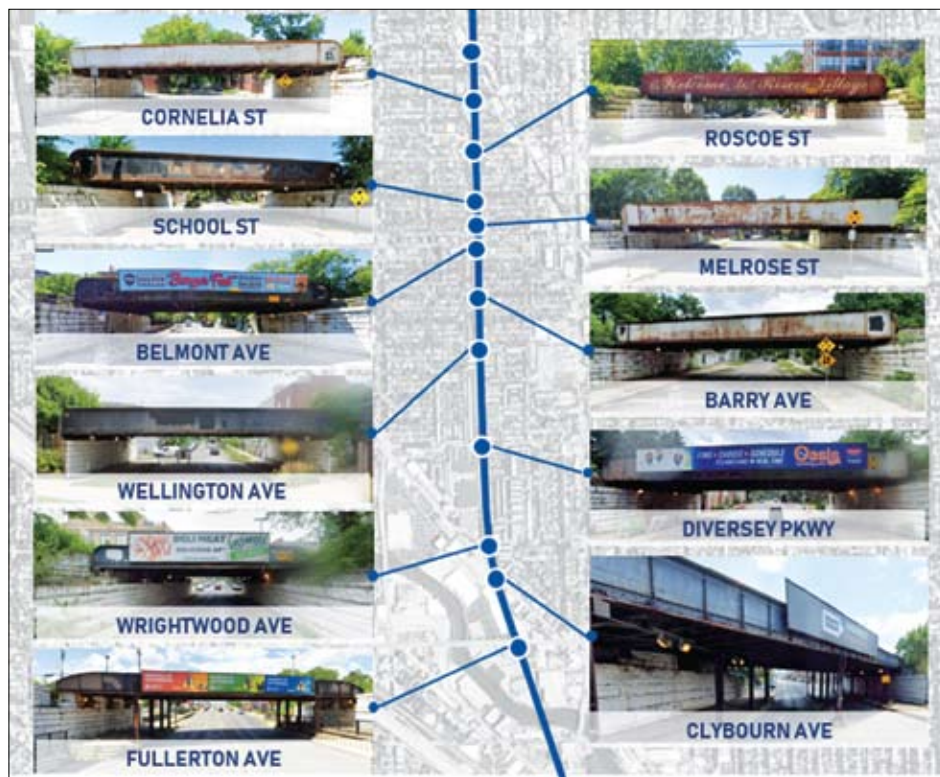
Metra operated 70 revenue trains each

weekday on the UP-N Line with average weekday ridership of 34,600 passengers. The line runs all the way north to Kenosha, WI.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$262.3 million and has been included in Metra's Capital Program for the past three years. Funds totaling \$161.2 million are currently allocated, including \$6 million from federal sources and \$156.1 million from Rebuild Illinois bond funds. Metra continues to pursue additional project funding.

"These bridges have surpassed their functional lifespan and can no longer be economically repaired and maintained," said Metra CEO/Executive Director Jim Derwinski. "The Metra UP North Rebuild Project will modernize the existing infrastructure, reduce maintenance needs and operating costs, and improve the customer experience with increased reliability and resiliency. This project will benefit Metra

BRIDGE see p. 7



Giant gantry to be used in RPM track reconstruction

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Reportedly for the first time by the Chicago Transit Authority, the construction teams working along the Red and Purple Line rebuild will be using a giant gantry during the major reconstruction along the North-South lakefront train lines scheduled to begin this month.

The gantry moves large sections of new track, rails and materials along a giant rail into position for placement. It is expected to be able to do the work more quickly and efficiently, "with less impact on the community," according to the CTA.

The renovation program will



A gantry, like the one pictured above, is a movable construction platform, boom and crane that moves heavy sections of new track, rails and materials along a giant rail into position for assembly.

completely rebuild the line between the Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, and Bryn Mawr stations,

and the tracks between them. The CTA plans to move the stations slightly from their current sites.

CTA officials closed the stations this spring and hope to reopen the renovated stations by the end of 2024.

They added, however, that some future property acquisition will undoubtedly involve some nearby sites.

"Following construction, we will solicit properties for new retail and residential developments," a CTA official said, adding the sites would be for meeting a hoped-for growing demand for Transit Oriented Developments near the Red Line. City planners hope the now mostly empty CTA buses and trains will have a rebirth, undergoing greater popularity than they have had since the

pandemic and growing criminal activity chased away many public transportation users in the past two years.

So will the CTA help support nearby businesses? So far the CTA has done very little promotion and advertising for the beleaguered businesses. Officials have already done a few small things like start online newsletters and hang "open for business" banners at several locations along the line. But it may take more effort, money and marketing to try and attract customers back to the restaurants, entertainment, and businesses still operating nearby during the work.

GANTRY see p. 7





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Police Beat...

Man drives into CPD station parking lot to escape a running gun battle, gets ticketed

A shoot-out between the occupants of two vehicles directly in front of a North Side police station ended badly for a third driver who tried to escape the gunfire by pulling into the 18th District station's parking lot. Not only did his car get shot, but cops gave him four tickets after he ran into their paddy wagon.

Officers working at the Near North District station, 1160 N. Larrabee, reported hearing shots fired around 12:44 a.m. Sept. 1. They quickly located a 27-year-old Old Town man who was in the station parking lot with his conversion van.

The man told police he pulled into their parking lot to get away from the gunfire that was being exchanged between a green Dodge Charger and a black Dodge Durango as they drove in front of the station. As he entered the police station lot, he collided with a parked CPD prisoner transport truck, according to a CPD report. His van was also struck by gunfire, the report said.

Police surveillance cameras showed the Durango and Charger were actually chasing after the conversion van, according to the report. Neither the van's driver nor his 34-year-old female passenger was injured.

According to police records, officers ticketed the man for driving at an unsafe speed, failure to have a driver's license, failure to have insurance, and failure to have a valid registration.

No one is in custody for firing the guns.

Lyft driver who sexually assaulted woman gets 66-month sentence

A Chicago man has been sentenced to 66 months for sexually assaulting a woman who fell asleep in the back seat of his car while he worked as a Lyft driver in Dec. 2018, according to court records.

Rimon Kazzoo, 38, pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated criminal sexual assault by force in exchange for the sentence. Judge Thomas Hennelly handed down the sentence and gave him 387 days credit for time spent in jail before trial.

The alleged attack occurred after the 26-year-old victim and a friend left a bar on the 1500 block of N. Wells in Old Town on Dec. 5, 2018. The friend summoned separate Lyft rides for herself and her friend, who was picked up by Kazzoo, Assistant State's Attorney James Murphy said during a bond court hearing last year.

The victim told police that she fell asleep in the back seat as the car neared 31st Street and Went-

worth. Her next memory is waking up while Kazzoo sexually assaulted her in the back seat of his car around 11:05 p.m., according to Murphy and CPD records.

She escaped from the car after striking Kazzoo and scratching his neck, Murphy said. Outside the vehicle, the woman realized that she was across the street from her home, and her pants had been pulled down around her ankles.

Murphy said the woman took swabs of her own fingernails because she knew she scratched the offender. Kazzoo reportedly dropped off the woman's phone, which she left in his car, at a Lyft operations office.



Rimon Kazzoo

His DNA was found in the victim's private areas and on the clothing she wore on the night of the alleged attack, according to Murphy. When police arrested

Kazzoo on Wednesday, he denied ever touching the victim sexually.

"Safety is fundamental to Lyft, and what the rider described is unacceptable," a spokesperson for the company said Sept. 2. "We responded immediately, banning this driver from the Lyft community and working with law enforcement. We have also been in contact with the rider to offer support."

Kazzoo is scheduled to be paroled on Jan. 17, 2025.

Paroled home invader is accused of committing murder while authorities let his gun and drug case drift

The Lakeview man who allegedly ran over three people Aug. 29 with his SUV while on probation for killing a 93-year-old Edgewater woman with the same vehicle in 2018 was released from police custody on a recognizance bond and told to show up in court in October.

Rayon Allen was charged with three counts of leaving the scene of an accident, driving under the influence of alcohol, and driving under the influence of an intoxicating compound, which are all misdemeanors, in connection with the crash, a CPD spokesperson said. He was also cited for failure to reduce speed and failure to stay in his lane.

Allen left the police station on his own recognizance even though allegedly running over three people would seem to violate the probation he received on a reckless homicide charge for killing Lorraine Campione with the same BMW X5.

Over the last year we've done some coverage of people charged with committing serious crimes in Chicago while on bail for other serious crimes.

Now a different situation has been popping up more often than we remember: a seeming lack of urgency on the part of judges and prosecutors to address serious allegations against people like Allen, still endangering innocent people's lives after he was given probation for killing Campione with the same car.

The judge in the 2018 reckless homicide case should be reconsidering Allen's probation in light of the new and remarkably similar allegations. But, instead, Allen was slapped with misdemeanor charges and sent home on a recognizance bond. His next court date is set for October.

Campione was walking in the 5500 block of N. Sheridan Rd. around 11:20 a.m. Sept. 24, 2018, when two drivers yielded to allow her to cross a driveway. But Allen made an improper left turn in his SUV, overtook a vehicle on the left, and hit Campione.

Allen continued to drive forward



Brandon Jefferson participated in the Aug. 28 State St. attack and stole one of the victim's cars.

Prosecutors charge man in brutal State St. attack

A 33-year-old Wheeling man is the first person to be charged with the brutal beating and robbery of two men in the middle of State St. Aug. 28, police said. Investigators continue to search for at least two more suspects, according to a source.

The beating and robbery on the 400 block of N. State was captured on video as it unfolded around 1:31 a.m.

Police said Brandon Jefferson participated in the attack and stole one of the victim's cars. He's charged with two felony counts of robbery, two felony counts of aggravated battery causing great bodily harm, and receiving-possessing a stolen motor vehicle.

Officers arrested Jefferson on Aug. 30 in the Robert Taylor Homes neighborhood.

after striking her, which caused Campione's body to become wedged under the front driver's side tire. According to witnesses, Allen got out of his SUV and tried to remove Campione by pulling on her leg. When that failed, he allegedly tried to take other motorists' cars. That also failed.

Then there's Emonte Morgan. He was on probation for robbery when he allegedly struck a pedestrian downtown and fled the scene in April. He was arrested and, like Allen, was



Justin Cortes

sent home on a recognizance bond for misdemeanor charges.

Four months later, a judge still hadn't reviewed his probation status and, on Aug. 7, Morgan shot and killed Chicago Police Officer Ella French, according to prosecutors. He also allegedly shot French's partner, who suffered life-altering injuries.

But the most inexplicable case may involve 25-year-old Justin Cortes, a three-time convicted felon and admitted Latin King gang member who is on parole for home invasion, according to police and court records.

A grand jury indicted Cortes on multiple felonies in June, including Class X armed violence, Class X armed habitual criminal, and multiple gun felonies, but authorities never tried to arrest him. When the case first came up in court during a Zoom hearing in July, the judge continued the matter until August, court records show.

Cortes allegedly decided to pass the time by killing a man.

So, how did this seemingly avoidable cluster unfold? It all started in June of last year. An Illinois Dept. of Corrections officer and Chicago police went to his home for a parole check. They found \$1,800 worth of pot, six individually-packaged ecstasy pills, a loaded and defaced handgun, ammunition, and \$900 cash, according to an arrest report filed by CPD.

Prosecutors charged him with unlawful use of a weapon by a felon and possession of a defaced serial number, among other things. State authorities sent him back to prison for violating his parole by having pro-

A shirtless man in a baseball hat who resembles Jefferson is seen throughout the four-minute video. That person batters the two victims and goes through their pockets as they lie in the street. At one point, the individual double-teams one of the victims, repeatedly punching the victim in the head with both fists as an accomplice holds the victim in place on the pavement.

The allegedly stolen car apparently belongs to a 40-year-old man who slammed to the pavement after another attacker sucker-punched him in the head.

Court records show Jefferson received a seven-year sentence for committing an armed robbery with a handgun on the CTA Red Line at Argyle in April 2012.

hibited items in his home. And in Aug. 2020, prosecutors dropped all of the charges stemming from the parole check, court records show.

On Oct. 22, authorities released him from prison again. Not much happened until June 21 of this year when prosecutors asked a grand jury to approve charges for the gun and drugs that were allegedly found in Cortes' home nearly a year prior — the charges that prosecutors dropped when Cortes went back to prison.

The grand jury obliged, returning a true bill for Class X armed habitual criminal and Class X armed violence — two of the state's most serious criminal violations other than murder. They also charged him with being a felon in possession of a firearm while on parole, possession of a defaced firearm, and other counts.

The new case was assigned to Judge Thomas Byrne. He held a hearing via Zoom on July 8, during which he scheduled another hearing for Aug. 18.

Cortes didn't show up for that court date because he was busy being arrested for murder instead.

A killing

Around 9 p.m. on Aug. 6, Angel Figueroa was riding in the front passenger seat of a van with his girlfriend in the driver's seat and his daughter in the back seat. As they headed down the 3400 block of W. Division, Cortes pulled up next to them in a silver Santa Fe and fired one shot, Assistant State's Attorney James Murphy said.

Figueroa's girlfriend heard the shot, saw the Santa Fe speed away, and then realized Figueroa was slumped over in his seat. He died from a single gunshot wound to his face.

Investigators used a series of private and public surveillance cameras to track the Santa Fe and identify Cortes as the driver based on, among other things, his face tattoos and jewelry, Murphy said.

Police arrested Cortes on Aug. 18 — the same day he was supposed to appear in court on the grand jury's charges. The next day, Judge Susana Ortiz ordered him held without bail for first-degree murder.

Cortes doesn't qualify for our growing list of people who've been accused of committing heinous crimes in Chicago while on bail for a felony because the judge never got around

to actually setting bail. So, he'll have to settle for a dishonorable mention.

Four teens charged with attempted robbery near Loyola's Water Tower campus

Four juveniles face felony charges after they tried to rob an 18-year-old man near Loyola University's Water Tower campus Aug. 31, according to Chicago police.

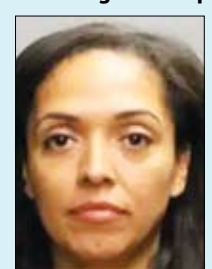
The boys, ages 14, 15, 16, and 17, tried to rob the victim at State and Pearson shortly before 9 a.m., police said.

A Loyola Univ. police officer apparently came upon the robbery and arrested one of the offenders on the first block of E. Pearson. Chicago police officers who responded to an "officer in distress" call arrested three more, according to initial information.

It is not clear if the victim is affiliated with Loyola. However, the area is home to the school's downtown campus, and the teens were arrested outside a building that houses the Loyola student newspaper, among other offices.

Loyola's campus safety office had not posted any information about the incident to its information page as of Tuesday evening. No further information was available about the teens because they are juveniles. They are each charged with one count of attempted robbery.

Woman shot man outside River North bar following intense provocation



Maria Gomez

A woman shot a man on a River North street corner, then followed him for two blocks and shot him again at point-blank range as bystanders tried to help him outside a bustling tavern, prosecutors said Aug. 31.

Judge John Lyke ordered Maria Gomez held without bail after her defense attorney said she acted out of "intense provocation."

CPD surveillance video shows a woman wearing a leopard print dress firing a gun at 455 N. LaSalle 10:21 p.m. Aug. 29, shortly before the 32-year-old victim walked up to a group of people outside Boss Bar, 420 N. Clark, and said he'd been shot in the neck, Assistant State's Attorney Darryl Auguste said.

As three bystanders treated the bleeding man's injury, a woman in a leopard print dress walked up and shot the victim again at point-blank range in his back. Once again, the shooting was captured by surveillance cameras.

Police responded to the sound of gunfire, and witnesses directed them to Gomez, who was wearing a leopard print dress and flip-flops about a block away on Kinzie St., Auguste said. Cops allegedly found a loaded handgun in her purse. One shell casing was found outside the bar, and five more were found on LaSalle St.

Auguste said the second bullet entered the victim's back, lacerated his liver, and exited through his abdomen. The man underwent surgery.

Gomez is charged with attempted first-degree murder and aggravated battery by discharging a firearm.

Auguste said she was convicted of misdemeanor battery in 2015 af-

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Chicago speed traps near quiet parks, not the Dan Ryan

It was a beautiful, warm May night, perfect to be a spectator at the over-60-year-old 16-inch softball league under the lights at the community park in northwest suburban Elk Grove Village.



The Home Front

By Don DeBat

Keith Dickens, 67, one of this writer's softball buddies—a future Hall-of-Fame player who once starred on “Vintage Risk”—got three hits and his team

won big.

After the game, two other Vintage Risk old timers, John Clausen, 77, and Dean Karouzos, 74, masked-up and joined me at the nearby Coach's Corner saloon for pizza and a few libations to celebrate the victory.

Passing through a “Park Safety Zone” near Merrimac Park at 6226 W. Irving Park Rd. at 9:54 p.m. on the way back to Old Town, this senior-citizen driver was corralled by Mayor Lori Lightfoot's “Automated Speed Enforcement” network.

On July 18, a \$35 speeding ticket for going a mere six miles over the 30-miles-per-hour limit arrived in the mail. The ticket, supported by three, dark and out-of-focus speed camera photos, issued the following terse announcement:

“These recorded images are evidence of a violation of a speed restriction. The vehicle identified above bears a license plate registered or leased in your name. You must pay or contest by Aug. 15, 2021.”

An automated-money grab?

In the first two months of Mayor Lightfoot's automated-money grab, some 162 speed cameras, including 69 in “safety zones” within an eighth of a mile of a Chi-



The city and state police are ignoring drivers on the Dan Ryan and Eisenhower expressways who exceed the 55-mph speed limit by more than 50 mph.

cago school or park, issued 322,447 of the \$35 tickets, which will bring in \$11.3 million to city coffers if the violators pay all the fines, reported the Chicago Tribune.

That's nearly a whopping 17-fold increase over tickets issued in those same months in 2019, when the city was issuing \$35 citations for going exactly 10 mph over the limit, and 19,480 such tickets were issued. Drivers caught on camera at higher speeds receive \$100 tickets.

If the mayor keeps issuing speed camera tickets at the same rate, up to 1.6 million citations will be issued in 2021, pumping \$56.4 million into city coffers.

If the mayor keeps issuing speed camera tickets at the same rate, up to 1.6 million citations will be issued in 2021, pumping \$56.4 million into city coffers. That dough will fill a nice hole in the city's \$733 million budget shortfall, even though they're really supposed to be splitting the fee with

reconstructing underpasses with increased lighting and ADA accessible travel paths; lowering of Roscoe and Cornelia streets to maintain current clearance under the UP North Line and the CTA Brown Line; refurbishing and painting of the existing Lincoln/Addison bridge; and some utility work along the project corridor.

The project will be constructed in two phases to maintain all rail operations and reduce impacts to pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile traffic. There will be some street and sidewalk closures throughout the project and the community will be notified beforehand. Additionally, property owners with backyards, gardens, or other property adjacent to the railroad may be impacted by the construction. Metra will be conducting outreach and coordination with these property owners.

In the first phase of the project, bridges over 11 streets from Grace to Balmoral were replaced. The reconstruction of the Ravenswood Station, which should be complete next year, was also part of that phase which cost \$166 million.

promised for down the road, will include eliminating the columns under the streets, a longtime annoyance to many motorists and even pedestrians.

Neighbors will be able to conclude for themselves at a virtual public meeting 6 p.m. Sept. 22. For details, write to RPM@transitchicago.com.

Cook County. (When you agree to pay up early to a city “administrator,” with no ‘official’ court hearing, you have essentially agreed to bribe the city to not inform Cook County Courts about your law-breaking.)

On the positive side, the money may eventually benefit thousands of tax-weary Chicago homeowners who expect to be slapped with huge real estate tax increases next summer.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel created the speed camera program in 2013, after the Illinois Legislature gave him power to install up to 300 of them. The over \$2 million in bribes City Hall staffers accepted helped move the installation along quickly. However, Emanuel ordered the city to set the cameras to cite cars speeding exactly at 10 mph over the limit—not six miles.

Senior citizens on a fixed income and young people who are scratching to pay apartment rents say the mayor is trying to balance her broken budget on the backs of struggling Chicagoans.

Dan Ryan Speedway?

While the city of Chicago is cracking down on law-abiding drivers who happen to go six miles over the speed limit, apparently the city and state police are ignoring drivers on the Dan Ryan and Eisenhower expressways who exceed the 55-mph speed limit by more than 50 mph.

Based on the \$35 fine for speeding six miles over the limit, 50 mph over the limit should net these speeders a fine of \$300—not to mention the fines for reckless driving.

While returning from out of town one night around 8 p.m., this writer witnessed speeding on the Dan Ryan resembling the Indianapolis 500 race. Dozens of souped-up “muscle cars” with tinted windows were drag racing by at 100-plus miles per hour, while normal drivers were barely doing 50 mph and nervously clutching their steering wheels with white knuckles. Motorcyclists



On July 18, a \$35 speeding ticket for going a mere six miles over the 30-miles-per-hour limit arrived in the mail.

are famous for this behavior too.

Apparently, the city and state police are so under-manned they can't deal with the rogue gang-banger speeders. Assuming there are a cluster of five gang-banger cars - or 30 bikes - each occupied by four gang members speeding at 100 mph, it would take a large posse of police cars occupied by two officers each to pull over and stop the reckless offenders. And then hope and pray to not get shot.

Conclusion: There simply is no speed limit on Chicago's expressways because they are ruled by armed gang bangers and the police are afraid to confront them because they deal in hot lead.

Fact: There have been 159 expressway shootings in the first eight months of 2021, more than double the same period in 2019.

Finally, the state of Illinois recently allocated \$12.5 million for installation of 300 high-resolution speed cameras on expressways across Chicago and Cook County to provide “crystal clear” license-plate photos. The camera installation started in late August.

Two problems with this unfocused plan. The \$12.5 million budget is a drop in the bucket to stop rampant speeding and gun play. And, many of the speeding shooters are driving stolen cars, so what crimes are we solving?

Apparently, there's a new sheriff in town: the gangs.

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.

BRIDGE from p. 5

riders for decades.”

To introduce the project to adjacent communities, Metra will be holding a virtual public meeting 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9. Meeting attendees will hear about Metra plans to modernize the bridges and track structures and learn additional details about the project's timeline and benefits.

To register for the meeting visit https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xCr3UK-P5QnO6ATigkFUuNA.

For more information about Metra UP North Rebuild, visit <https://metra.com/UP-Nrebuild>.

The project will improve energy efficiency, reducing oil and diesel fuel dependence and improving air quality, because it will result in fewer service delays and a greater ability to maintain consistent locomotive speeds.

Additional project elements include shifting the tracks west within the existing railroad right-of-way to align with the tracks north and south of the project area;

GANTRY from p. 5

Agreeing that the big construction project has become a major inhibitor to conducting business, and something of an inconvenience, the work is needed to be done – and soon. Both the Red and Purple lines were built nearly a century ago, the CTA said.

The “dramatic improvements,” the CTA

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Walk the pond Sept. 18

The Lincoln Park Conservancy will host their annual Walk the Pond Festive Parade and Family Event at North Pond 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18.

The day begins with a bike and stroller 'parade' from the Pond overlook at the North Pond Restaurant south towards the Nature Museum with entertainment provided by a singalong performance, parade, bubble artists and face painters.

After the parade, explore activity stations along the eastern shore of the North Pond where families can learn more about the Pond and the plants and animals that call it home.

Kids will earn a small prize for visiting at least three activity stations, including Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, live animal interactions; Chicago Ornithological Society interactive bird walks; Casting Club of Chicago casting lessons for all ages, and Chicago Children's Theatre/Walkie Talkie Green Heron radio play.

Conservancy staff will be on-hand to share news about North Pond's restoration, breaking ground this Fall.

Secrets of the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool

An open house for the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool will be held Oct. 16 - 17, to celebrate the Conservancy's 20th anniversary of the restoration of the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool, a project that earned the site Chicago and National Historic Landmark status.

The Lily Pool began 1,000 years ago when the glaciers retreated from Chicago and left behind miles of beaches and sand dunes, not unlike what visitors see at the Indiana Dunes State Park. In Lincoln Park, the sandy dunes alternated with wet lowland swales where poison ivy thrived, but little else did well. In one of these lowlands, the City built the first lily pool in 1889. This was an artificially heated, brick-lined pool where exotic lilies grew in abundance, producing "gorgeous blossoms of many hues."

Over time, though, the tropical lilies proved hard to cultivate and the Victorian lily pool fell into disrepair.

In 1936, the Works Progress Admin. funded improvements to Lincoln Park, including a plan to redesign the Lily Pool. A young landscape draftsman for the Chicago Park District, Alfred Caldwell, re-conceptualized the lily pool as "a sanctuary of the native landscape." His vision for the Lily Pool is even more relevant now than it was when he created it 85 years ago.

BLUEBERRIES from p. 2

thrilling array of musical artists make a soul-stirring return to the Symphony Center stage for the Fall season. Come celebrate the sound of our city and feel the exhilaration of live music again.

HOLY TRINITY: Architect **Louis Sullivan's** famed Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cathedral with ruby chandelier, a gift from young **Tzar Nicholas II**, is a fabulous white stucco prairie style building with onion domes. Near Division and Hoyne Sts. in Ukrainian Village. It just received its biggest face lift and rehab and is nearing its restoration. A secret gem.

FAREWELL: Disney is closing its location on Michigan Ave., while expanding its presence at Target.

FOODIE ALERT: The word is sad. Longtime favorite WTTW production, "Check Please," the pride of local PBS initiatives, will soon leave the air after almost 20 years. Great concept getting three diners to visit three local restaurants and share their evaluation of cuisine and service. It was the brainchild of the very creative **David Manilow** who really put a magnifying glass to local eating out. Is this a bad decision on WTTW's part? Sometimes they're not so bright.

THE BOSS: Chicago writer **Joe Mallon** was in the audience in New York for "Springsteen On Broadway," the solo acoustic performance written and performed by **Bruce Springsteen** under the lights of Broadway. An intimate night with Bruce, his guitar, a piano, and his stories. Joe went wild at the performance. Just Bruce. He lays it out there.

LUNCHING: Seen at Gibson's, **Linda Heister**, a summer delight in shapely orange linen... **Steve Lombardo** and **Johnny Colletta** conferring with popular comedian **Tom Dreesen**... Writer/Poet **Jack Shea** and wife, **Anne Shea**, of the Friends of the Vatican Art Museum, with **Father Jack Wall**... Bondgirl **Diane O'Connell** noshing with **Ingrid LoGiudice**... Gibson's **Voila Tsakalis** working hard making sure everything hums... **Father Clete Kiley** bumping into old pals **Arthur** and **Audrey Murphy**.

PARIS2NICE: From Sept. 10 - 16, Chicago real estate broker **Ken Dooley** will ride just over 700km over six days. Paris2Nice is a unique, non-competitive charity cycle that raises much needed funds for charities throughout Ireland. Paris2Nice is designed to be unlike any other charity



David Manilow



Christopher Clinton Conway



Peggy Snorf and Brian White.



Shelley Howard and Tom Dreesen.



Sherry Lea Fox, April Schwartz, Sheree Schimmer Valukas, Bobbi Panter, Sherrill Bodine.

event. With close to 2,000 training miles logged over the past 6 months, he's ready for this 700km challenge. Help him reach this goal: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ken-dooley-p2n>

CONDOLENCES: Sympathies to Christie's **Steve Zick** on the death of his lovely mother,

Rita Marie Keleher Zick, a woman of charm and grace and wit, after a long illness. Came to know her in Dublin on an Irish Georgian outing with Desmond Guinness. She was great fun. Prayers and love to Steve and his sister, **Diane**, brother **Robert**, **Uncle Jim Keleher**, her brother, a

dear man, the retired Archbishop of Kansas City.

BALANOFF FOR JUDGE: The **Dan Balanoff** for judge campaign invites people to join their upcoming Trivia Night on 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at Joe's on Weed Street, 940 W. Weed St., presented by **Kevin Waco**, **Clem Balanoff** and **Ed Warm**.

COLLEGIATE: **Ken** and **Mary Claire Scorsone Moll** at Loyola Marymount Univ. in Los Angeles, CA, dropping son **Charlie** off at his new digs... **Ben** and **Stacey Mednick** getting freshman daughter, **Anna**, up to Colgate University in Hamilton, NY... **Mark** and **Mary Beth Bowman** depositing son, **Duffy**, now a Hawkeye, at the University of Iowa... **Thad** and **Emily Sachs Wong** setting up daughter **Ella's** dorm room in Washington DC... **Ken** and **Dana Librot Dooley** carted their freshman,

Badger Boy Ethan, up to the stately precincts of the Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison... **Maura Farrell**, former honcho at CBS2, and freshman son, **Paddy Devine**, up in Milwaukee at Marquette Univ., savoring the joys of moving in with all the ageless Jesuit trimmings, mom's an alum.

WHO'S WHERE: Honorary Old Town Mayor **Shelley Howard** center stage for comic routine from comedian **Tom Dreesen** who wasn't really strangling his honor... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** (where you been?) and **Marius Morkvenus** dining at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill... **Marc Joseph Sievers** is with **Caitlyn Berube** and **Julie Berube** in Wells Beach, Maine, for some cousin time... **Buddy Guy**



Buddy Guy

Julia Jacobs with **Jennifer Sutton Brieva** in Old Town at Topo Gigio... **Christopher Clinton Conway** out for an evening stroll in Dublin, Ireland, before the pubs close, looking forward to the great Paris Exhibition, "ParisArt," Sept. 9-12... **Honey Jacobs Skinner** and the **Skinner Family** at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis, IN... **Jennifer Rieger Lane** lunching at the Peninsula... **Richard Robin** and son, **Jason Robin**, pondering the golf wisdom of **Shirley Spork** from "Tee to Green"... **Annie Lawlor** celebrating 12 years as right hand to Blues legend **Buddy Guy**, her first job out of college... **Peggy Snorf** hosted **Brian White**, **Jim Kin-**

ney and tony friends to a wonderful lobster party at the Fortnightly Club of which she was the chair... **Michael Harring**, a 1972 Univ. of Illinois grad is Chair of the Univ. of Illinois Alumni Assoc. and a Chicagoan with a distinguished law career... Lunching at Le Colonial were **Sherry Lea Fox**, **April Schwartz**, **Sheree Schimmer Valukas**, **Bobbi Panter**, **Sherrill Bodine**... **Jeff** and **Stephanie Leese Emrich** getting rejuvenated at the Bears' Training Camp... **Susan Mongerson Wunderlich** having such a good time at The Festival of the Arts in Laguna Beach, CA... and dearest **Cynthia Olson** off to the magic city on the Lido, Venice, for a month of art and music and lingua Italiano... Ciao bella, Signora.

LOVE: @properties' **Thad Wong** notes six years ago they finished their first Love mural feeling that Love needed to be shared the most. After all that's been accomplished, Love is what they are most proud of. He's thrilled **Matthew Hoffman** has agreed to now partner on Love with them.

IN CONCERT: LePiano proved to be a magical place for the song stylings of Chicago chanteuse, **Barb Bailey**. Bossman **Chad Willets** was a lucky man to have such elegance unfolding in his Rogers Park establishment.

Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent.

— Isaac Asimov

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Art on theMART offering live entertainment this weekend

A live show is coming to Art on theMART on Sept. 10. A one-night-only live event on the Riverwalk Friday in conjunction with the Art on theMART series, according to an announcement by the Dept. of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

Titled "Dance Down by The River," the show features four youth dance groups and a jazz band before the nightly program of projections takes over the south side of the Merchandise Mart.

The show is part of the city's Chicago In Tune series. The night begins with a live performance

of jazz music by clarinetist and composer Angel Bat Dawid, followed by a dance performance by Era.

Both Bat Dawid and Era are part of the current projection series "Footnotes," a work produced by artists and filmmakers Wills Glasspiegel and Brandon K. Calhoun for Art on theMART.

Next up will be four Chicago youth dance groups in a final round of performances, and a surprise performance on the water before the nightly showing of "Footnotes" at 9 p.m. "Footnotes" and the summer projection series also plays at 9:30 p.m.

"Dance Down by The River" starts at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in the Confluence area of the Riverwalk, between Franklin and Wells streets. "Footnotes" and Art on theMART play nightly at 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. through Sept. 16 and are best viewed from the Riverwalk on Wacker D. between Wells and Franklin streets. For more information visit artonthemart.com.

Art on theMart's fall season, premiering Sept. 17, will feature the work of concept artist Barbara Kruger in the venue's first solo show.



"Footnotes" and Art on theMART play nightly at 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. through Sept. 16

BOTH from p. 1



A new, bi-lingual no swimming or diving warning sign sits at the mouth of the pier in addition to the newly-re-painted warnings on the pier's sidewalk.

At 12:15 p.m., on Sept. 2, I emailed a few questions to the CPD and by Tuesday morning I'd still not heard back from them. Besides asking the question of when the last time the pier's signage had been refreshed or re-painted, I asked the following. Question #1 is based on a generic statement that the CPD released saying they were exploring options for "supplemental equipment."

1. When do you think the park district will be making a decision on the supplemental equipment? And what equipment is it supplementing? Are there any lakefront beaches or piers that have safety equipment already in place?

2. There was a park district employee on the pier painting 2x2 white squares with red Do Not Swim figures on Sept. 2. A neighbor asked if that was glow in the dark paint because if not, the paint won't be visible once the sun goes down and many people swim at night. Am I accurate to say it's not glow-in-the-dark?

Still hoping to get the answers. Just an FYI, nine people have died in Lake Michigan in Chicago in a one year period. With the exception of one female, the rest were young men spanning in age from teens to mid-30s.

On Tuesday evening, a candlelight vigil was scheduled to be held on the pier with several speakers, including Miguel's mother (And Miguel's cousin met with the CPD last week to discuss signage). Be sure to read next week.

Miguel was not the first person to lose his life in Lake Michigan and sadly, he will not be the last. But you can rest assured that Rogers Parkers are doing our very best to make sure his death was



This photo of the World Trade Center was taken from the Staten Island Ferry in the late afternoon of Sept. 10, 2001 by a former editor of this newspaper, Beth Burmahl. It is one of the last pictures shot of the iconic towers.

not in vain.

Remembering 9/11... Twenty years ago, a former editor of this newspaper, Beth Burmahl, took one of the last photos of the World Trade Center intact. It has become an iconic remembrance of the Twin Towers. I caught up with Beth to ask how she felt about it two decades later.

"It truly doesn't feel like any time has passed and I think that's because the whole country carries that day with us all the time," said Burmahl, who was my Lerner Newspaper editor at the time. "Even 20 years later I don't have distance from it... I think that black, choppy water and dark sky on the 10th perfectly foreshadowed the entire next day, I don't think that was an accident..."

I'm going a little out of the 'hood here this week, as some well-known city folk are involved in some suburban happenings, including the following 9/11 event.

Free and open to the public, "Eleven," a concert for remembrance and reflection, will be held at 3 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Shrine of All Saints at Sts. Martha and Isaac Jogues Parish, 8523 Georgian Ave. in Morton Grove.

The show has an amazing lineup of some of our finest cabaret and concert artists, including: Cathy Glickman, Carla Gordon of Buena Park, David Edelfelt, Beckie Menzie of Edgewater (also musical director), Gold Coaster Tom Michael, Uptown resident Kevin Wood, and 3-4 The Road & Friends.

The group will reflect through music, stories, and personal memories of the 9/11 events on its 20th Anniversary. "We will honor those we lost and explore how America and our community moved on but never forgot," said Gordon, who conceived the show, which was first performed 10 years ago at the Illinois Holo-

caust Museum in Skokie.

Hair's to you... After a 2020 hiatus due to COVID, America's Beauty Show 2021 takes place Sept. 11 to 13 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.



Karen Gordon

Karen Gordon, owner of J. Gordon Designs in Lincoln Park, is president of Cosmetologists Chicago, the nonprofit association which represents 18,000 salon professionals and which owns and produces the show.

Interesting is that Gordon -- a licensed cosmetologist -- is also a Certified Trichologist, specializing in thinning hair, hair loss and scalp disorders with her company, Karen Gordon Hair Loss Solutions. She also is on the board of directors of Intercoiffure America/Canada and is a member of the World Trichology association advisory board. Gordon is a sought-after guest speaker and teacher and practices trichology in Chicago and New York, servicing a global clientele.

Below, Gordon tells us what's new and also what salon professionals will be bringing to a salon near you. She also discusses Beauty is Love, a charitable endeavor that we thank her and others involved for taking on.

Q: What can people expect this

year? Anything new and exciting?

A: There is SO MUCH happening at this year's America's Beauty Show. Attendees should especially be sure to check out the Barber and Grooming pavilion with techniques, education and competitions; incredible runway presentations; tons of shopping; and more continuing education. And, when the show floor shuts down - ABS 2021 heads outdoors. We invite our attendees to join us Saturday and Sunday nights after the show for live outdoor entertainment and events -including fireworks. A great way to reconnect and relax with friends - old and new - in a safe and fun, outdoor environment.

Q: What sort of COVID-19 precautions will be taken?

A: We will be in compliance with the CDC guidelines and the State of Illinois indoor mask mandate, in requiring that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, mask while indoors. Additionally, this year's show will feature contactless registration, wider aisles, physically-distanced classrooms, and increased cleaning protocols. We're encouraging all [guests] to take advantage of the numerous hand-sanitizing stations throughout the facility.

Q: What will you be doing?

A: One of the initiatives I'm most excited about, and a part of my legacy as Cosmetologists Chicago board president that I hope lives on, is the "Beauty is Love"

initiative, which is just one of the ways that the beauty industry gives back. This year, we are partnering with Chicago's Holsten Human Capital Development, a nonprofit organization that provides a variety of social services in its mission to strengthen at-risk populations by expanding their access to viable resources that promote self-sufficiency, wellness and stability through service provision, developing low-income and affordable housing, and fostering economic development. At the end of trade shows, exhibitors usually ship product that wasn't sold back to the warehouses. But America's Beauty Show is inviting our exhibitors to join our Beauty is Love initiative, by making it easy for them to instead donate those un-sold products directly to this worthwhile nonprofit which will distribute it to the many that it serves across Chicagoland.



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POLICE BEAT from p. 6

ter biting someone's finger off during an argument. The case was originally charged as felony aggravated battery causing great bodily harm, but prosecutors agreed to downgrade the offense in a plea deal.

Gomez was reportedly acting under intense provocation when she shot the man. The State claimed the victim approached Gomez and her girlfriends outside a bar, struck Gomez's shoulder and chest, and followed the women before he was shot.

Two shot in River North — directly under the CPD camera

Two men were shot in River North Sept. 2, directly underneath the CPD surveillance camera that recorded a viral video of two men being beaten and robbed last week in the middle of State St.

Thursday's shooting occurred under that police camera, perhaps 50 yards from where the two men were attacked on Aug. 28.

Unfortunately, the camera's lens was pointing away from the shooting, so it didn't record the latest crime.

The victims were shot after they got into an argument with a man who was in a gray Pontiac Bonneville at 5 E. Illinois, according to an initial CPD report.

Police said a 33-year-old man was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in good condition with a gunshot wound to his thigh. He has been arrested 10 times in Chicago since 2014, mostly for narcotics and domestic violence, according to CPD records. None of those arrests were in the downtown area.

The other victim, a 30-year-old man who suffered a gunshot wound to his back, was taken to Northwestern in a car. He was in serious condition. CPD records show he has been arrested in Chicago five times since 2015, including once for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Those arrests include one on the 400 block of N. State for disorderly conduct, narcotics, and resisting police in 2016; narcotics at Chicago and Dearborn in 2017; and resisting police at LaSalle and Grand in 2017.

According to court records, his gun arrest stemmed from a "shots fired" incident in the Cabrini Green neighborhood during the summer

of 2018. In that case, he allegedly fought with a housing authority security guard who saw him leaving the area of the gunfire. The guard took him into custody and recovered a firearm.

Police said the gunman who shot the victims is a Black male who has dreadlocks.

Knife attack leaves River North bank worker critically wounded

A River North bank employee is in critical condition after a man stabbed her in the neck Sept. 1. Police arrested a suspect and recovered a knife in the Loop later in the day.

The assailant entered Chase bank, 600 N. Dearborn, and had a "brief conversation" with the 24-year-old woman before suddenly stabbing her in the neck around 11:12 a.m., police said. Paramedics took the victim to Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Several witnesses reported seeing a man wielding a large knife as he walked through River North after the attack. They said he appeared to be mentally disturbed and possibly homeless as he ranted and threatened to stab people on the street. A surveillance image from one such assault on the 400 block of N. Dearborn was shared with this reporter by a source. "There has been an incident at one of our branches near downtown Chicago today. Our thoughts right now are with our employee and their family," Chase said in a statement.

Around 3:45 p.m., a CPD unit spotted a man who matched the offender's description and took him into custody at 3 N. State St. Officers also seized a knife.

Carjacking victim refuses to press charges against teen (who already has four armed robbery cases pending)

A driver who had a gun pressed to his forehead by a carjacker outside a North Side grocery store Sept. 1 refused to press charges against the man who apparently took the car because the vehicle was still in good condition when police recovered it for him. That's according to a source with knowledge of the case.

The 18-year-old that he refused to pursue charges against has four armed robbery cases pending in juvenile court and had a loaded handgun in his waistband when cops found him next to the stolen car downtown, according to prosecutors.

Around 7 p.m., the 44-year-old victim was sitting inside his parked, running car on the parking lot of Cermak Fresh Market, 6623 N. Damen, according to a CPD report. Suddenly, a man opened his passenger door and got inside. The intruder pressed a handgun to his forehead, demanded his valuables, and then told him to get out, the report said.

He complied, and the offender drove away with his silver Toyota Camry, according to CPD spokesperson Kellie Bartoli. While officers were speaking with the victim, cops in the 1st (Central) Police District spotted the man's stolen car at a BP gas station, 50 W. Ida B. Wells.

Traigan Martin, 18, was standing outside the car and moved inside the gas station when he saw police arriving, prosecutors said Sept. 2. Cops followed him inside, ordered him to raise his hands, and recovered a loaded handgun with an extended ammunition magazine and a laser sight from his waistband.

But when the victim realized that his car was still in good condition, he declined to pursue charges, according to a source. Bartoli confirmed that the victim refused to prosecute, but she did not give a reason for his decision.

Cops arrested Martin anyway for the gun he allegedly had in his waistband. He's charged with aggravated unlawful use of a weapon.

Prosecutors said during his bond court hearing that he has four pending armed robbery cases from before his 18th birthday. They did not provide details of those allegations. An assistant public defender said Martin has a two-year-old child and attended Legal Prep Career Academy.

Judge Arthur Willis ordered Martin held on a juvenile warrant and set bail for the gun charge at \$25,000. Willis said Martin would need to post a \$2,500 deposit to get out of jail on electronic monitoring after the warrant is resolved.

Wednesday's victim is not the first person to forgive an armed carjacker this year.

On Feb. 3, a 28-year-old man was carjacked at gunpoint while shoveling out a parking space in West Town. Police arrested John Daniels, 19, as he drove the stolen car a short time later, according to a CPD report.

While police were processing Daniels at the station, the victim's driver's license, debit card, and medical marijuana card fell out of his pants, the report said. But the victim decided not to

pursue charges because he "felt sorry for" the people who took his Lexus because "they probably need a car."

Less than four months later, Daniels took an 11-year-old boy to Uptown, where they violently carjacked another man.

That victim, a 59-year-old man, was viciously beaten and suffered a broken orbital bone, prosecutors said. Video allegedly shows Daniels standing over the fallen man and taking keys from his hand. The Uptown victim pressed charges.

Two shootings in Old Town leave four injured, one dead

Police are investigating two shootings Sept. 2 that left four people injured and a fifth dead in Old Town. No arrests have been made.

Around 10:45 p.m., a man and woman were walking toward a home in the 1300 block of N. Cleveland when about three people chased them onto the porch, and at least one of the offenders began shooting.

The man, identified as Mohammad Habib, 24, suffered gunshot wounds to his torso and was pronounced dead at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. The woman, believed to be about 23-years-old, was taken to Stroger Hospital in serious condition with a gunshot wound to her shoulder.

Then, around 2:23 a.m. Sept. 3, three people were shot outside on the 1300 block of N. Hudson. Police said the victims were uncooperative, and CPD had little information about what happened.

According to a media statement from police, a 41-year-old man was taken to Stroger Hospital in critical condition with gunshot wounds to his hip, lower back, and leg.

The second victim, a 40-year-old man who was shot one time in each shin, is believed to be the first victim's brother. He was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in fair condition.

Police said the third victim walked away from the scene with a graze wound to his leg.

Area Three detectives are investigating both shootings.

Less than a month ago, four people were shot on Hudson directly across the street from the same site.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NORTH CENTER LOAN ACQUISITIONS, LLC Plaintiff, -v- 1952 LAWRENCE AVENUE, LLC, KENNETH SCHIFFMAN, JONATHAN SPLITT ARCHITECTS, INC., UNKNOWN TENANTS UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 19 CH 5904 1952 W. LAWRENCE AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 29, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on October 5, 2021, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1952 W. LAWRENCE AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-07-419-028-0000 The real estate is improved with a one story commercial store. The judgment amount was \$1,226,034.96.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are 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).

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Real Estate For Sale

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, GREIMAN, ROME & GRIESMEYER, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 West Randolph Street, Suite 2300, Chicago, IL, 60606 (312) 428-2750. Please refer to file number 10448-1377. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. GREIMAN, ROME & GRIESMEYER, LLC 205 West Randolph Street, Suite 2300 Chicago IL, 60606 312-428-2750 Fax #: 312-332-2781 E-Mail: rodriquez@grglegal.com Attorney File No. 10448-1377 Access Code: 47890 Case Number: 19 CH 5904 TJSC#: 41-1370 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 # 19 CH 5904

080808 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, -v- ROBERT ROONEY, AKA ROBERT R. ROONEY; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY; PARK TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants, 19 CH 10237

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, October 4, 2021 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-08-203-017-1255. Commonly known as 5415 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 2203, CHICAGO, IL 60640. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

Real Estate For Sale

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 19-028970 F2 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3174882

010101

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-BC2 Plaintiff, -v- MARGARET GARNER, AKA MARGARET D. GARNER; WATERFORD CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION; HSBC MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants, 17 CH 10885

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, September 27, 2021 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-16-304-039-1250. Commonly known as 4170 NORTH MARINE DRIVE APARTMENT 24K, CHICAGO, IL 60613. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 17-026123 F2 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3174357

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North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

080808 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF CSMC 2018-SP2 TRUST Plaintiff, -v- KELLY MAIER A/K/A KELLY D. MAIER, 222 EAST PEARSON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants, 21 CH 878

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, October 4, 2021 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17-03-227-024-1002 (17-03-227-019-0000 UNDERLYING PIN). Commonly known as 222 EAST PEARSON STREET, UNIT 202, CHICAGO, IL 60611. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Mr. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. 21-00117 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com I3174884

010101 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION 2 EAST ERIE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

Real Estate For Sale

Plaintiff, -v- GREGORY MERDINGER Defendants 20 CH 01974 2 EAST ERIE STREET, GARAGE UNIT G-416 CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 31, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on September 21, 2021, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 2 EAST ERIE STREET, GARAGE UNIT G-416, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-107-018-1349 The real estate is improved with a parking space. The judgment amount was \$15,850.38.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are 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

Real Estate For Sale

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).

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For information, Thomas M. Olson, KOVITZ SHIFRIN NESBIT Plaintiff's Attorneys, 175 N. Archer Avenue, Mundelein, IL, 60060 (847) 537-0500. Please refer to file number CTW0037-39010. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. Thomas M. Olson KOVITZ SHIFRIN NESBIT 175 N. Archer Avenue Mundelein IL, 60060 847-537-0500 E-Mail: tolson@ksnlaw.com Attorney File No. CTW0037-39010 Attorney Code: 38862 Case Number: 20 CH 01974 TJSC#: 41-1191 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 # 20 CH 01974

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East Bank Storage located at 730 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers:
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for public sale.
This sale is to be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago, IL (312-644-2000), is opening lockers:
3613X (Natalia Barrera)
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Donation drive for Afghani refugees

Hundreds expected to arrive in need of everything we take for granted

As part of the Edgewater Community Religious Assoc., the Ismaili Jamatkhana will be partnering with Focus Humanitarian Assistance and World Relief Chicagoland to welcome new families who had to flee America's sudden and chaotic retreat from Afghanistan.

The White House says more than 116,000 people have so far been evacuated since the draw-down of American forces in Afghanistan. Sadly, the majority of those refugees coming to Chicago will arrive empty handed, having left most everything they owned behind when they were forced to flee.

The donation drive for Afghan resettlement is underway now in the Ismaili Jamatkhana parking lot, 6259 N. Broadway.

Here are some of the items that they are looking for: Standard food items like new sugar, flour, rice, lentils, chickpeas, black tea bags, black pepper and salt, and instant coffee. Cleaning items like all purpose cleaning spray, liquid laundry detergent, brooms and dustpans, and

vacuum push sweepers.

New kitchen items like mixing bowls, baking pans/dishes, sauce pots, frying pans, cooking utensils, knives, measuring cups, cutting boards, manual can openers, silverware, dishes / plates and bowls, drinking glasses, aluminum foil, plastic wrap, and paper towels.

New bathroom items like towel sets, shower curtains and hooks, bottles of shampoo, bars of soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, spray deodorant, feminine supplies (no tampons), disposable razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, tissues, small trash baskets and liners, diapers and wipes for children ages 0-3.

New or gently used bedroom items like full/twin blankets and sheets, standard size pillows, alarm clock, and hangers. And miscellaneous items like plastic laundry baskets, paper pads, pens, pencils, envelopes, "forever" stamps, electric fans, light bulbs, small toolkits, sewing kits, and flashlights with batteries.

For more information call 773-262-1616.

HELP from p. 1

Reilly was responding to comments that followed a double shooting earlier in the day at Illinois and State — steps from where two men were savagely beaten and robbed in the middle of the street on Aug. 29. "I'm not a cop, but this ain't rocket science: put foot patrols back in River North to get this sh*t under control," Reilly said.

The block where the men were beaten has been the scene of two murders since 2016.

Marques Gaines, a 32-year-old River North bartender, was knocked out, robbed, and left lying in the middle of State St. on Feb. 7, 2016. Passersby ignored him, and a taxi ran over his body. Long-time felon Marcus Moore pleaded guilty to the attack. He went to prison and got out within five months.

Two years later, seasoned criminal Gino Bassett followed 55-year-old software executive Miguel "Mike" Beedle into an alley on the 400 block of N. State. Moments later, Beedle stumbled back out, clutching his neck, which Bassett had just sliced with a knife. He collapsed and died on the corner of State and Hubbard, perhaps 100 feet from where Gaines was killed.

Bassett recently received a 22-year sentence.

Less than a week before last weekend's

attacks, a River North business owner contacted this reporter, asking us to publish a story about the area's nighttime problems. We didn't.

"The madness on the street and open liquor is out of control. The party on the street has scared away customers," he wrote. "They have taken the street every weekend and turn the street to a block party, drinking in the public way, blocking traffic. We need law and order."

It's not clear what, if anything, Chicago police plan to do about the years-long problem zone. The fact that two men were shot on the street days after a viral video exposed the area's troubles suggests the answer may be, "not much."

Last week, some media reports have indicated that the Cook County Sheriff's Office would be sending its officers to the area to beef up police presence in response to the latest high-profile incidents.

But on Sept. 2 the sheriff's chief of public safety, Leo Schmitz, told us there's nothing new happening. His personnel have been working downtown about three days a week for months.

"There's a high volume of people, and we try to help," Schmitz said. "The reason this is happening is the sheriff lets us help. He says support [Chicago police] where you can, when you can."

Apology offered before West Rogers Park donut shop robbed

BY CWBCHICAGO

At least he apologized.

Prosecutors say a North Side man apologized to a Dunkin' donut shop employee before he hopped the counter and robbed the place at knifepoint.

Victor Ramirez smoked a cigarette outside the shop at 6254 N. Western before putting on his COVID mask and walking in around 9 p.m. on Aug. 14, prosecutors said.

He allegedly struck up a conversation with the cashier, asked for bus money, and something to drink. The cashier obliged on both points by giving him change from the register and a decaf.

"I'm sorry I have to do this," Ramirez allegedly told the clerk as he hopped the counter and announced he was robbing the joint.

While Ramirez brandished a knife, the

clerk grabbed a donut bag and filled it with cash from the register. According to the allegations, the store's security cameras recorded everything and clearly show Ramirez's face and tattoos.

Cops arrested Ramirez a couple of weeks later after they pulled him over for driving an allegedly stolen van. Prosecutors said he ran into traffic, got hit by a car, got up, and kept running. The police caught him and recognized him as the Dunkin' bandit.

He's charged with armed robbery, resisting police, reckless conduct, and driving on a revoked license.

Judge Mary Marubio set his bail at \$200,000 and ordered him to go onto electronic monitoring if he can post a 10% deposit. The judge said he'll need to post an additional \$2,500 deposit for violating the terms of probation in a domestic battery case.

SCOREBOARDS from p. 1

and said their installation supported park programming.

"Scoreboards were installed in 2017 as part of a Cubs Charities Diamond Grant award through the [national non-profit] Local Initiatives Support Corporation. The CPD supported the installation of the scoreboards, which support the very active baseball and softball programming at Welles Park," said Michele Lemons, the CPD's director of communications.

When this newspaper asked Lemons if the installation of the scoreboards demonstrated a way for privately-funded baseball lights to be installed at Welles Park, she said the process will be far different from the scoreboards.

"The CPD is working closely with Ald. Matt Martin [47th], the WPPA, the Welles Park Advisory Council and the community on plans to install lights on [the] Welles Park ballfields. The community process is ongoing. Based on a survey of more than 1000 [people], support for the project is divided. For this reason, the WPPA has proposed a plan to install lights on two of the park's five ballfields. It is important to note, no final plan has been approved. The CPD will continue to work with the WPPA on this proposal and engage the community to ensure that all interests are heard and considered before moving forward," added Lemons.

The proposed lights were a topic of discussion of the July meeting of the Welles Park Advisory Council. At the meeting, which was held in-person outside of the Welles Park swimming pool, park supervisor Becky Kliber told those in attendance



The Park District says it is working closely with Ald. Matt Martin, the WPPA, the Welles Park Advisory Council and the community on plans to install lights on [the] Welles Park ballfields. Above are Aaron Durnbaugh, President of WPAC and Becky Kilber.

the park currently lacks the electrical capacity to power the proposed baseball lights. It would actually be impossible to add lights without an electrical upgrade.

According to Lemons, the CPD is currently awaiting the results of a report from Com Ed about what electrical upgrades would have to be done to increase the park's electrical capacity.

Despite reassurances from Kliber and Lemons, neighborhood residents have told this newspaper they continue to be concerned about the possibility of baseball lights (projected to be in place for decades) being added without much neighborhood discussion.



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