

What I have in my heart and soul -
must find a way out.
That's the reason for music.

— Ludwig van Beethoven



Revival of Chicago's Game applauded
at the Hall of Fame, page 5

Payton College Prep, coached by Matt Murphy, won the 2024 championship by a score of 7-6 over Taft High School at Hamlin Park in Roscoe Village on Oct. 5.

Downtown migrant shelter has closed

The Standard Club migrant shelter had been the center of concern for downtown residents most of the last year, and now the site has finally been shut down.

The Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Ct., a shuttered Jewish social club near the Dirksen Federal Building serving as a migrant shelter closed on Oct. 17. People staying at the shelter were offered shelter placement at another location where they will continue to receive the same taxpayer-funded services.

City officials say that lowered demand allowed for the closure, as an anticipated increase in new arrivals this summer prior to the Democrat National Convention never materialized.

The Standard Club opened on April 5, 1869 when 69 leaders of the Chicago Jewish community founded the club. The club was once the home of Chicago Jewish

business titans who were banned from joining the Union League and University clubs.

But times changed, and the club closed in March of 2020 over financial struggles, including declining membership, revenue loss, and mounting repair bills.

The club's 13-story high-rise was then sold to hotel investor Remo Polselli for \$9 million. In May of 2023 it started to house illegal migrants who showed up in Chicago. At its peak, it grew overcrowded and housed over 1,200 migrants.

At the time of the conversion to a shelter, Polselli owed more than \$1 million in back taxes and was behind on payments for an \$11.5 million mortgage. Polselli also went to prison for cheating on his federal taxes. Despite the financial troubles, City Hall spent \$28 million last year to shelter migrants at two buildings he owns.

Residential conversion approved for 500 N. Michigan Ave.

Last week, the Chicago Plan Commission voted to approve the amendment to Planned Development 487, allowing the conversion of the office building at 500 N. Michigan Ave. into a primarily residential structure.

The project will transform the existing 24-story commercial building into 320 residential units on floors 6-23, while retaining retail and commercial uses on the first two floors and office spaces on floors 3 to 5.

The top floor will feature amenity spaces and a terrace, raising the building's height to 321 feet and 11.25 inches.

The developer has committed to enhancing the pedestrian experience and improving public access around the site. Planned upgrades include new landscaping, lighting, and a mural to beautify the walkway just south of the building as well as the lower level.

Additionally, the developer will provide 68 valet-only parking spaces and a loading berth, with access from the lower level, minimizing disruption along N.



500 N. Michigan Ave.

Michigan Ave.

Next, this proposal will advance to the Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards and City Council for further consideration at an upcoming meeting.

Assessor releases North Chicago Township property reassessments, total assessed value increased 30%

Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi released the initial assessments of residential and commercial properties in North Chicago Township on Oct. 15. The Assessor's Office reassesses one-third of Cook County every year. Chicago was last reassessed in 2021.

The total assessed value in North Chicago Township grew by 30%, which reflects three years of real estate market changes.

North Township is roughly bounded by the Main Branch of the Chicago River on the south, Armitage on the north, and from the North Branch of the Chicago River east to the lakefront.

"I strongly encourage property owners to review their reassessment notice to ensure their property characteristics and market value reflect their home," said

Assessor Fritz Kaegi. "It is important to understand that assessments in Cook County reflect market value over the last three years. My office will be hosting a virtual workshop to assist property owners and explain reassessments in their community."

Appeals for North Chicago Township must be submitted by Nov. 27.

Property owners are given an opportunity to appeal their assessment if the property characteristics listed on an assessment notice are incorrect, or if the estimated market value of a property is significantly more than what it could sell for in the current real estate market.

To learn more about property assessments and appeals, watch our upcoming virtual workshop

live on Facebook or YouTube scheduled for 6 p.m. Oct. 28 in English, and 6 p.m. Oct. 29 in Spanish.

The workshop will include information about the reassessment notice and how property owners can file appeals with the Assessor's office. View all our upcoming events at www.cook-countyassessor.com/event-list.

After a township undergoes reassessment, a valuation report is released that provides details on residential, commercial, and multi-family reassessments. Property owners can use these reports to gain insight on how property assessments work, learn about the real estate market in their specific neighborhood, and compare the

ASSESSOR see p. 12

Gold Coast tower handed back to lender

Partners refinanced tower on Delaware for \$130M in 2020

In another example of the state of downtown real estate, the 185-unit apartment tower at 2 W. Delaware Place was just handed back to its lender.

The owners of a 31-story Gold Coast apartment tower have handed it back to the lender that provided a more than \$130 million refinance in late 2020, about a year into the government-imposed COVID-19 economic lockdown.

New York-based TPG Angelo Gordon agreed to a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure last month, forfeiting the building to lender ACORE

Capital, an affiliate of which had issued the building's \$130 million loan in 2020 (at about \$687,000 per unit).

The transfer to satisfy the debt extends a troubled financial history of ownership for the building, which was originally developed as condos and opened in 2010.

An investment group converted it into a rental asset in recent years, following the condo deconversion trend. But that was bad as The Great Recession drained Chicago's condo market of demand.

Chicago-based JDL Development, with financial backing from Gordon and Harlem Irving, arranged a bulk purchase of 153 condo units in the building in 2016, with plans to renovate and

resell them, while also gradually acquiring other individually owned units for the same purpose. At first the developers had planned to renovate and sell the unsold units at prices ranging from \$715,000 to \$4.4 million. But they sold just nine of the units.

Then they abandoned those plans in 2017 and decided to rent the units instead, after trying to restart sales.

According to various media reports, Jim Letchinger, president of JDL Development, hoped that collecting rent on the unsold units was a solution. He and his investors had bought 150 units in the

TOWER see p. 12

Man who intentionally ran over, killed woman in front of her daughter in River North gets 24 years

BY CWBCHICAGO

On Oct. 18, a judge sentenced a man to 24 years in prison for intentionally running over and killing a woman in front of her daughter in River North four years ago.

Edgar Roman, 29, pleaded guilty to murder with intent in connection with the crime, which occurred at State and Hubbard streets in Aug. 2020. Judge Diana Kenworth ordered Roman to serve 100% of his sentence.

Prosecutors said Zoraleigh Ryan, 55, and her daughter, who was 20 at the time, were visiting Chicago when they took an Uber from their hotel to have dinner at

Chicago Cut steakhouse, 300 N. LaSalle.

They decided to walk back to the hotel and stop at a convenience store on the way, but the 7-Eleven at State and Hubbard was closed due to damage from looting the night before. At that point, the elder Ryan didn't want to walk, and the women decided to get an Uber to take them back to their hotel.

As they crossed Hubbard on the east side of State St., the younger Ryan saw Roman's SUV coming toward them at a high rate of speed. Officials said he made a wide right turn onto Hubbard, swinging into the oncoming traffic lane with his tires screeching. The front of his SUV struck both

women in the crosswalk.

The force of the collision threw the Ryanses to the northeast corner of the intersection. While the 20-year-old climbed to her feet, Zoraleigh remained tucked up against the curb.

A bystander began tending to Zoraleigh, who was alive and able to talk about the pain she felt. Meanwhile, Roman allegedly parked his SUV nearby, walked to within 10 feet of where Zoraleigh was lying, and looked at her.

Ryan's daughter, who suffered a broken wrist and abrasions, yelled for the good Samaritan to take a picture of Roman and the SUV's

KILLED see p. 12

Autumn menu is as much for the heart, as it is for the belly



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Someone asked me if the change of seasons altered anything in my kitchen?

I hardly had to think about it. What I shop for and what I cook are always renewed in Autumn. Menu items are more robust, necessitating a wider larder and pantry.

I don't buy things to freeze, so I live like its 1950 with more grocery shopping, poking around the markets several times a week.

My favorite ingredient to use now in a wide variety of dishes is vermouth. It's strong, deeply flavorful, adding a significant edge to everything it splashes into. Soups, sauces, marinades and personal thirst.

Beats white wine in the pot every time. Add it to chicken preps, it's outstanding. Especially when used with fresh rosemary, garlic, olive oil, a pinch of red pepper flakes and some bay leaves. Use

that with veal as well. Pound out thin slices of either meat. Roast some potatoes in olive oil, garlic and sea salt. Perfect Autumnal repast.

My new favorite addition to almost anything is roasted purple grapes. Not much to instruct here. Wash the grapes. Dry them. Lay them in a metal sheet pan. Drizzle a little tiny bit of olive oil across them, and put in a hot oven for 10 to 15 minutes. Let them cool. Then toss in salads or into some chicken dishes. Superb.

Chef Tony Priolo at Piccolo Sogno taught me that.

I've also been experimenting with arancini. Basically that's a ball of rice covered in bread crumb. The inside of the rice ball is filled with anything from simple cheese to leftover Sunday dinners. It's a typical Sunday supper staple in present day Roman households. Saffron is a wondrous ingredient added to rice that yellows its color. Love them with cocktails.

I like simple arancini with fabulous cheeses in them. Some families create large-style rice balls. But I prefer the three-bite size, served with a tangy tomato sauce as the perfect accompaniment.

Creating Italian lamb dishes really demonstrates what is possible. Try a leg of lamb. Place it in a roaster on a bed of aromatics. Celery stalks and leaves. Some carrot peels. They're loaded with flavor. Also lots of sliced onion. Some rosemary, thyme, lots of bay leaves and pour olive oil all

over. Pour a good amount of white vermouth into the pan.

Start out the oven at 450 degrees for 15 minutes, lowering the heat then to 375 degrees for 90 minutes.

At the 45 minute mark arrange potato spears in the roasting pan. Oil them up. Brown them up.

Check the meat often. The house will be filled with the pungent aroma of lamb. Cook up some baby rapini for a vegetable. Or Brussel sprouts done in a skillet with olive oil, lots of garlic and some vermouth. It's great to blacken some of the sprouts.

Try a good Italian red wine. Super Tuscan. A Barolo. Or a Primitivo from Puglia.

Feast on the leftover lamb later. Chop some up for the arancini you should make.

Sometimes you have to give yourself a break. Create some great food. Drink some fabulous wine. The mayor will still be mayoring after you wash up the dishes, so you might as well

drink some special red vermouth that's aged and rare. It's better than port.

I'm for the season change that recreates good kitchens. There's more to come.

ETHEL KENNEDY CARRIES AMERICA WITH HER: I always love meeting the parents of friends, my track record is usually good. Try to be polite and well mannered, some-

thing we all learned in first grade, it's a sure thing. Avoid the June Cleaver episodes of the phony and the baloney, be authentic. That was especially true when I first met **Ethel Kennedy**. I knew from the start she was a real mom, surrounded as she was by too many grandchildren too numerous to count.

We were sailing on Nantucket Sound off Hyannis Port, and Ethel wanted to come out for the day.

Now, I'm a pretty stable historian, but realizing what was about to unfold had me somewhat up for grabs.

Ethel showed up at the pier greeting me like I had known her all my life. I guess in many ways I had. As a campaigner for her martyred husband, especially. Someone who knocked on doors in Milwaukee for her husband's presidential campaign.

And then as a grieving Ameri-

can crippled with sadness during those days of mourning in early summer 1968.

But Ethel taught me and America how to mourn and grieve back then when she was a new widow, and pregnant, with 10 children to care for awaiting her 11th. The sturdy, prayerful, believer she was, kneeling beside her slain husband, Sen. **Robert F. Kennedy** in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Fifth Ave., New York. She carried us into the rites and sacraments which we knew inside and out and taught us how to mourn. Even for an 18 year old.

These images flooded my mind as we boarded our sailboat with the cargo of fried chicken and crisp Chardonnay she had carried aboard. She was once again feeding her brood and became my friend in two minutes.

We had an easy sail on that perfect day aboard **Max Kennedy's** boat under a brilliant summer sky. The great thing about Kennedys is they are talkers. Non-stop storytellers. Truth tellers. Serious people of words and descriptions. At home with the ironies of life. Ethel told me there was only one rule aboard this sailboat, "Don't step on grandma's toes."

What a vision of life to hold. I believe it is the stepping stone to heaven. Wise observation and practical history. It made sense of my fresh day at sea. She certainly had my heart and my interest. And went far helping rearrange some great moments in my past.

Ethel Kennedy's return to the gentle hands of God are no surprise to me. She just taught me to be more intense about wanting to follow. Rest in peace, dear friend. I can still taste that crunchy fried chicken and cold Chardonnay.

KENNEDY FUNERAL: Delighted to see that Chicago's favorite priest, **Monsignor Ken Velo**, offered dear Ethel Kennedy's funeral Mass at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Centerville, MA. That was Ethel's daily Mass Parish just next door to Hyannis Port. Monsignor Velo is a star,



Ethel Kennedy

funny, a charmer, wise, and erudite. Twenty-five years ago he was **Cardinal Bernadin's** secretary and he gave the homily at that grand obsequies. He would certainly delight Ethel on her way to heaven, I'm sure. I'm glad he was there for the family.

HOFFMAN GALLERY TO

SHUTTER: Chicago gallerist **Rhona Hoffman**, who headed up the eponymous gallery for nearly five decades, is closing the space in the city's West Town area, reports ARTnews Editor-in-Chief **Sarah Douglas**. Though she will continue to do exhibitions in some



Rhona Hoffman

form, such as pop-ups, Hoffman said she will no longer operate a traditional gallery with rotating shows by May 2025.

REFLECTION: Archdiocese of Chicago Priests' Day Oct.

29, has former Massachusetts Congressman **Patrick Kennedy** as speaker, with discussions focusing on the importance of and practical ways to care for our mental health, as well as how we can lead our people, who are so often hurting, with compassion and courage.

RUNWAY SHOW: Bravo to designer **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh** for all the work and design she readied for the fabulous fashions she showed at the runway show at Union Station on Oct. 17. Our hats are off to you.

AUTUMN see p. 8

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Third-party notices tell you if a relative or anyone you know misses a tax payment

BY MARIA PAPPAS

My office lets you sign up a relative or anyone you know receive copies of certified notices that are mailed a month before the Annual Tax Sale if your property taxes become delinquent.

You can also register to receive copies of notices sent to a relative or other person. The Third-Party Notification program allows any homeowner in Cook County to identify someone to receive delinquency notices by mail from my office. After I introduced this program in Cook County, it was enacted as law for the entire state.

The program is designed for all homeowners and may be particularly helpful for:

- Relatives
- Senior citizens

- People with disabilities, special needs, or long-term, serious health issues

- People who are away from their homes for extended periods of time

You can enroll in the program by downloading a form at cook-countytreasurer.com. Simply print the form, fill it out and mail it to my office.

When you enroll, you designate someone to receive notices of tax delinquency in addition to yourself. The program serves as a safety net and is designed for family members and other trusted individuals or organizations; a house of worship can receive the notices. The program is not intended for use by mortgage companies or banks.

You can enroll at any time. However, applications received within two weeks prior to the mailing of certified notices of delinquent taxes may not be processed before third-party notifications are mailed. Third-Party Notifications can help homeowners avoid the Annual Tax Sale, an auction of unpaid taxes.

The Annual Tax Sale occurs about 13 months after your Second Installment taxes were due. My office will hold a four-day Annual Tax Sale beginning Dec. 10 for 2022 taxes that were due Dec. 1, 2023. My office will send certified notices in early November to property owners with delinquent taxes that will be auctioned unless paid in full before the sale.

The third party you designate to receive duplicate copies of delinquency notices assumes no liability for paying your taxes. You, as property owner, are still responsible for that. The intent is that the third party will follow up with you to find out if you received your delinquency notice,



The Annual Tax Sale beginning Dec. 10 for 2022 taxes that were due Dec. 1, 2023.

that your understood its importance and are making arrangements to pay your taxes before they are offered at the tax sale.

The program is offered for free to all residential property owners. Under state law, there is a \$5 registration fee for nonresidential properties. Once enrolled you do not have to renew your participation on an annual basis.

You may designate only one person or entity to receive third-party notices at any time. If you decide that you no longer want a copy of delinquency notices mailed to a third party you may cancel at any time. If you sell the property, you must cancel the request on file or advise the new owner to change the party designation to receive notifications.

Spooktacular returns to Lincoln Park

They're planning a hauntingly good time in Lincoln Park during their annual trick-or-treat celebration – Spooktacular.

Tricks and treats for those who head to Lincoln Ave. on Saturday, Oct. 26, and then to Clark St. on Sunday, Oct. 27, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for a fun-filled afternoon in Lincoln Park.



Maria Pappas

North Chicago Township is now open for appeals, Lake View Township workshop Oct. 25

The North Chicago Township is now open for appeals and will close on Nov. 27. North Township is roughly bounded by the Chicago River on the south and west, and Armitage Ave. on the north.

The Cook County Assessor's Office will be having a virtual appeal workshop on starting at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, in English and in Spanish at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, where property owners will have an opportunity to learn about reassessments and ask questions.

Visit <https://www.cook-countyassessor.com/online-appeals> for more information.

Lakeview Township

There will be a Lakeview Township appeals workshop 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, at the Inter-American Magnet School, 851 W. Waveband Ave.

The township opened for appeals on Oct. 10 and is scheduled to close on Nov. 8. The hosts will be providing a brief presentation about the Board of Review, how to file a property tax appeal, and answer questions. Staff will be on-site to register attendees, assist with creating online accounts, and help residents file their property tax appeals.

For more information visit <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=r1VNi7RtBU6oXFwWolbNbnadLi-KTJJ-gY7sGVOYyhhUNTmZUjk2N11BN0VNRktYSzZHTUg5Mkw2Uy4u&origin=QRCode&route=shorturl>.

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Red Line costs spike higher, while CTA budget crashes

Last week the Chicago Transit Authority [CTA] unveiled its fiscal year 2025 budget and it's a frightening mix of dropping revenue and spiked spending. The CTA has operating expenses projected at \$2.16 billion and a Capital Improvement Program that calls for \$6.96 billion in infrastructure spending, a larger number than usual because of costs associated with the Red Line Extension Project.

Indeed the Red Line Extension costs have ballooned dramatically before the project has even begun. Costs were set earlier this year at \$642 million per mile, then grew higher to \$946 million, and then

again to an unprecedented \$1.026 billion per mile.

All totaled, the Red Line Extension Project's projected cost has increased by more than \$1 billion this year alone, before construction has even begun.

Additionally, the CTA is facing a \$538 million budget gap for next year that City Hall hopes will lead to a bailout from Springfield.

"I urge [CTA] President Carter and Mayor Johnson to articulate their vision for the CTA going forward and advocate for additional funding, along with reforms to guarantee taxpayers that their money is being spent effectively," said Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd] in his last newsletter. "I also remain frustrated with the ongoing safety issues on CTA trains and buses and the continued lack of reliable service."

The CTA is holding their annual public budget hearing 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, at their headquarters at 567 W. Lake St.

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New plans disclosed for BET expansion in Uptown

Black Ensemble Theater [BET] is ready to expand and appears close to building a new mixed-use complex at 4427-59 N. Clark St., which is the site of the recently vacated Japanese American Service Committee.

Updated plans for two new buildings were released for public view on Oct. 8 by theater founder Jackie Taylor. The new buildings will be located across from their existing theater, and will include educational facilities, retail/restaurant space, green space, and affordable housing, called the Free To Be Village.

BET is requesting rezoning from C1-2 to a Planned Development designation with a base zoning of B3-3; the complex has recently been reduced in height, with the entertainment component rising 45-foot tall, and residential side 59-feet. It was originally slated to top out at 70-feet.

The complex's residential component would include 53 affordable apartments.

The commercial and cultural component would include a 7,000 square foot Media and Technology Center, a 14,000 square foot Performing Arts Education Center, and 13,000 square foot of commercial/retail space, which could be subdivided by between three to six tenants.



The complex would also include 89 off-street parking spaces, 21 of which would be accessed through the alley-facing garages, and 68 of which would be underground and accessed through a separate ramp through the alley.

The complex would also include 89 off-street parking spaces, 21 of which would be accessed at-grade through the alley-facing garages, and 68 of which would be underground and accessed through a separate ramp through the alley.

The project construction is slated to get underway late this year and be completed by late 2027.

In 2010, BET broke ground on the new Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, a 57,800 square foot property located at 4450 N. Clark St. that has become one of the most popular theaters on the North Side.

In 2010, BET broke ground on the new Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, a 57,800 square foot property located at 4450 N. Clark St. that has become one of the most popular theaters on the North Side.

Letters to the Editor

Make Chicago safe again

This is our last chance to save Chicago. No one else is going to do it. Step up or step aside.

Whether you vote early, vote often, vote by mail or vote on election day, this is your chance. Your only chance.

Vote for the States Attorney candidate who promises to prosecute violent criminals again. Kim Foxx sure didn't.

And vote NO on all the judges

up for retention. Never have I seen such a collection of inept, incompetent, do-nothing, knuckle-dragging, mouthbreathing payrollers sitting. And I was a city worker for three and a half decades!

These are the clowns who let each and every robber, rapist, gunman and pedophile back out on street again and again and again.

Vote NO on the retention. This

is the easy part. They have to get 60% to be retained. We only need 40% + one vote to put them on the unemployment line.

Vote NO in order to make Chicago safe again.

Do it for your City. Do it for your children. Do it for yourselves.

Mike Sullivan
 Avondale

Help Leroy, he's actually a brilliant artist

Homeless tent dwellers in Uptown are kind of annoying. But I know one by the bee pollinator structure. That is Leroy Trinidad Pinto. Leroy is the mayor of tent city.

Leroy was a student with my brother at Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary, 103 E. Chestnut, in the 1980s. Leroy was supposed to become a Catholic priest. It's really interesting that he ends up living in a tent. He is an economics student from Univ. of Chicago.

Why am I telling [this newspaper]? This is a person I took to Tucson, AZ, to have an art show. He showed at my friend's BnB by Tucson Museum of Art. He was a

hit. They loved Leroy Pinto. But he did not put his name on anything and refused to put on price tags.

In Uptown I got a space for him and brought his preferred art supplies, it was all set up. He refused to do art in Uptown because he was having a psychotic break, so he said. I do not believe it. I sat there and did art and tried to save face with the general public the best I could with my beautiful daughter.

Why the tent city never seems to lose its allure for Leroy is a mystery.

Leroy could have stayed with us in Lincoln Park but decided to get 86'd. This has been going on

for about seven years that I know of. This is a guy who could have a brilliant career doing anything he puts his mind to, but he prefers to freeze in the tent even in winter.

Ald. Angela Clay says tent cities have been decriminalized so she can't evict tent people.

I know how frustrating it is to try to get him to be re-housed. He tried living in Northmere SRO. 86'd. He was in the low barrier majestic hotel the Tremont and 86'd. The tent seems to be the only place he can't get kicked out of.

I am out of options. He prefers this lifestyle. And when there was a shooting and someone was hurt in the tent he started to get a little PTSD.

I do not know how to help him.

Please try to help those people in the tents by publishing this. Leroy is actually a brilliant artist. He needs help getting a grant from the Illinois Arts council. I am trying my best.

Juliet Calabrese
 Lincoln Park

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Revival of Chicago's Game applauded at the Hall of Fame

Payton College Prep tops Taft High at Hamlin Park, wins 2024 championship



The Home Front
by Don DeBat

“Chicago’s Game”—16-inch slow-pitch softball—an iconic, but aging, sport born in 1887 at the Farragut Boat House on the South Side—was struggling for existence only a decade ago.

After the NASCAR road races shut down summer softball leagues at Grant Park for the past two years, this writer, a Hall-of-Fame [HOF] inductee in 1999, wondered if the sport would survive without a much-needed injection of youth, enthusiasm, and organization.

In 2020 and 2021, the government-imposed COVID lockdown forced Chicago Joe’s Sports Bar, and many other neighborhood softball saloon sponsors, out of business. Chicago neighborhood parks—once meccas for the game—leagues at Trebes Park, Mather Park, Lincoln Park, Grant Park, Horner Park and other North Side venues cut back or ceased league play all together.

However, today a 16-inch softball revival apparently is underway, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the Chicago 16-inch Softball Hall of Fame, which is celebrating its 28th annual induction dinner on Oct. 26.

The HOF includes some of the best male, female and co-ed team athletes in the sport

since the 1920s, when it became popular in parks and gravel school yards.

This year’s annual induction event, held at Drury Lane in Oak Brook Terrace, will be attended by more than 500 softball players, enthusiasts, and lovers of the game. The HOF will induct 19 individuals, nine historic teams and one charity tournament.

“The Hall of Fame is the most prestigious honor among the 16-inch softball community,” said Paul Rowan president of the HOF. “We are excited to honor and highlight those who have performed or supported the game at the highest levels.”

“The greatest game on dirt continues to grow,” said Al Maag, co-founder of the HOF. “More individuals and teams are seeing its beauty. The game is simple. A ball and a bat are all that is required to have fun or be as competitive as you wish.”

More than 125 tournaments were played in the Chicagoland area in 2024, up 20% over 2023. Tournaments also were held in Wisconsin, Iowa, Arizona, California, and Oregon. “More leagues are forming in the traditional summer, and during the fall and winter inside domes, where passionate teams continue to play,” said Rowan.

“The game is more diverse than ever—involving non-profits, women, co-eds, over-50 and over-60 teams, plus more Hispanics and outstanding Afro-American teams are playing,” Rowan said. “One example is the annual ‘Y-Me’ charity tournament supported by more than 70 women’s teams to raise funds for breast cancer research.”

In addition, the Chicago Sports and Social Club has 400 teams with young adults playing in the city, and the Amateur Softball Assoc. is running more events for all levels of the sport. SSA Broadcasts and Forest Park also is streaming top-flight teams and games.



2024 Payton College Prep championship team photo.

Richard J. Daley Award

The HOF induction Class of 2024 is headed by Richard J. Daley Award winner—Eddie Curry, Chicago Public Schools Athletic Program Administrator, for his dedicated service financially backing and promoting high-school 16-inch softball as a varsity sport.

“For the last 24 years, Curry has put together a 16-inch softball league with a year-end tournament for Chicago Public Schools. Each year teams are in playoff competition for the City of Chicago Championship game,” Maag said.

Payton College Prep, coached by Matt Murphy, won the 2024 championship by a score of 7-6 over Taft High School at Hamlin Park in Roscoe Village on Oct. 5.

“Eddie Curry paid for all the umpires for more than 40 high school teams, created trophies for the champions and the co-champions, selected the locations for

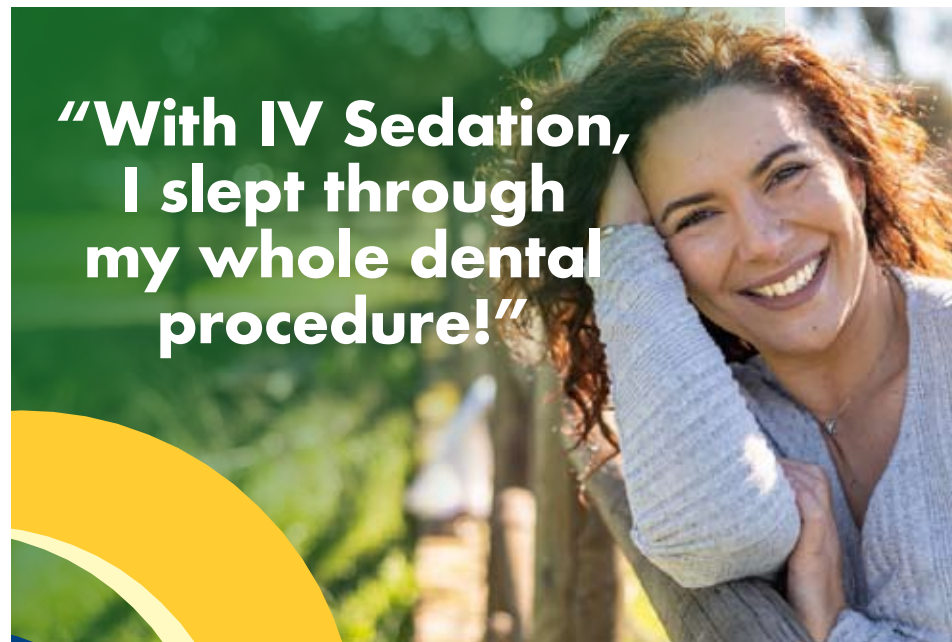
the final games, and made playoff brackets,” Maag said.

As a prep, Curry attended Englewood High School. His commitment to academics and athletic excellence earned him a scholarship to Jackson State Univ. as a baseball pitcher and four-year letterman.

In 1977, Curry was a 12th-round selection of the Houston Astros in the Major League Baseball Amateur Draft. Assigned to the Gulf Coast League, Eddie’s professional career unfortunately was cut short due to injury after pitching 72 innings and posting a 3.00 ERA.

“It’s always been in me to take pride in what I do to work and outwork the competition,” Curry said. “I can say that my love for education and athletics has provided a fire inside of me to help young people of all backgrounds, and help them reach their

HALL OF FAME see p. 10



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Police Beat...

Three gunmen open fire near Uptown park, injuring two

Three gunmen fired more than 20 rounds near an Uptown park on Oct. 13, leaving two men injured.

Chicago police said a 30-year-old man was sitting inside an apartment building lobby and a 39-year-old man was walking when the gunmen opened fire in the 4900 block of N. Sheridan around 6:14 p.m.

Officers working near the lakefront raced to the area upon hearing the gunfire. They found rifle casings littering the street in front of Buttercup Park. Bullets shattered the windows of a nearby apartment building, striking the younger victim in the foot.

The older man sustained a gunshot wound to his left arm. CPD said they were both taken to Weiss Hospital in fair condition.

Police did not release descriptions of the suspects, and it was unclear whether the victims were the intended targets.

The victims are the 12th and 13th people shot in Uptown this year. One of those this year's earlier victims died.

Man stabbed, critically injured at Gold Coast bar

A man was in critical condition after being stabbed in the neck at a Gold Coast bar Oct. 20. Police are questioning a second man.

Just after midnight Sunday, officers responded to calls of a person stabbed at a bar in the first block of W. Division St., according to CPD dispatch records. Officers found a man whose neck had been cut with a broken bottle and a second man whose hand was cut, an officer at the scene said.

The more seriously injured man was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition. Detectives took the man with the injured hand to Area Three headquarters for an interview.

Police were working to determine what preceded the stabbing and what criminal charges, if any, were appropriate.

One in custody after cop shoots at fleeing suspect's vehicle in Old Town

Officers investigating a woman's 911 call, claiming she was unsafe in a vehicle with people who had four guns, fired shots at a suspect's car and later arrested a person in Old Town on Oct. 13. No injuries from gunfire were reported.

According to initial information, the woman called 911 around 6:36 p.m., reporting that she was not safe in a silver car northbound on Lake Shore Dr. near Ontario St. She told a 911 operator that the people in the car had four guns.

After receiving additional information about the car's location, police stopped a vehicle matching its description in the 300 block of W.

Division around 6:50 p.m.

According to a CPD statement, the car's occupants refused to follow the officers' commands and the driver struck one of the police vehicles. An officer fired toward the vehicle, which fled the scene, according to the statement. Police did not say why the officer fired on the vehicle.

Cops found the car and arrested a suspect in the 100 block of W. North Ave. a short time later.

CPD said one officer was taken to a hospital for observation.

The Civilian Office of Police Accountability is investigating the shots fired incident. CPD said the officer who fired their weapon will be placed on administrative duties for at least 30 days, per policy.

Man shot dead in Uptown McDonald's parking

A man shot while sitting in a McDonald's parking lot in Uptown on Oct. 18 has died.

Randy Joiner, 45, of the first block of E. 57th St., died at 5:15 p.m. Friday, about 90 minutes after the shooting, according to the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office.

Joiner was inside a car on the restaurant lot at 1004 W. Wilson when two men walked up, and one started shooting around 3:45 p.m., police said. He was taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center with a gunshot wound to his head.

Officers at the scene described the two suspects as Black men in their late teens. One was about 6 feet tall, wearing a black baseball hat, a dark hoodie over an orange or red t-shirt, and black pants. The other was about 5'-7" tall and wore a white hoodie, black pants, and white shoes. Both were seen heading south on Sheridan after the shooting.

On Oct. 13, two men were shot in the 4900 block of N. Sheridan when three gunmen opened fire near Buttercup Park. CPD said a 30-year-old man was sitting inside an apartment building lobby and a 39-year-old man was walking when the gunmen opened fire at around 6:14 p.m.

Police did not release descriptions of the suspects on Sunday, and it was unclear whether the victims were the intended targets.

Friday's victim is the 14th person shot in Uptown this year.

Man teamed up with armed 13-year-old to carjack driver near Goose Island

A man with two carjacking cases pending in juvenile court teamed up with a 13-year-old to carjack a man at gunpoint near Goose Island, officials say.

Prosecutors said the 13-year-old displayed a gun as he and Keondre Pitts, 18, robbed a man in the 700 block of W. Division around 2:45 a.m. Oct. 9. They proceeded to drive away with the victim's 2024 Honda Civic, an Illinois State Police report said.

About 30 minutes later, the Chicago Police Dept.'s hijacking task force broadcast the Civic's license plate and location. It wasn't long before two state troopers spotted the hijacked vehicle at a red light near Lafayette and 95th St.

According to the report, the troopers followed the car, which sped away and entered the wrong lane of traffic

on 95th St. Moments later, Pitts and the 13-year-old bailed out of the car and tried to run away, officials said.



Keondre Pitts

The state police report said the 13-year-old threw a loaded 9-mm handgun as he ran from the troopers. It was recovered.

Judge David Kelly granted a state petition to keep Pitts in custody pending trial. The judge cited video evidence and the fact that Pitts already had two active vehicular hijacking cases in juvenile court form before he turned 18.

Smash-and-grab crew hits Canada Goose on the Mag Mile

In a definite sign that winter is on the way, a smash-and-grab burglary crew broke into the Canada Goose store on the Magnificent Mile on Oct. 14.

Chicago police said four men entered a store in the 800 block of N. Michigan after shattering its window around 2:19 a.m. The crew collected merchandise and fled in a black Kia SUV.

A witness described the suspects only as people wearing black hoodies.

The Canada Goose store has been targeted by thieves many times, including a crash-and-grab in Jan. 2023. A few years ago, as the brand's winterwear gained popularity, armed men frequently robbed people of Canada Goose coats on the city's streets. The thieves typically sell the stolen coats online or on the street at a discount.

Cops finally warn public about month-old wave of jewelry snatchings downtown

It's been a month since we started reporting on a string of jewelry snatchings and robberies that had popped up, mainly in the downtown area. On Oct. 16, after at least 13 incidents, Chicago police finally issued a community alert about the crimes.

As we reported, one or two men are snatching property from victims on the street, usually targeting gold chains or phones and escaping on a motorized bike or scooter.

CPD's alert said two Hispanic men between 18 and 35 are responsible for committing the following robberies: the first block of N. Michigan at 12:15 p.m. on Sept. 16; the first block of E. Jackson at 3:22 p.m. on Sept. 16; the 300 block of W. Wacker at 3:45 p.m. on Sept. 18; the 300 block of S. Financial at 10:40 a.m. on Sept. 19; the 500 block of S. Columbus at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 28; the first block of W. Ida B. Wells at 7:15 p.m. on Sept. 29; the 200 block of S. Dearborn at 12:30 a.m. on Sept. 30; the 500 block of S. Lake Shore Dr. at 3:02 p.m. on Oct. 1; the 300 block of S. Dearborn at 4:20 p.m. on Oct. 3; the 1400 block of S. Lake Shore Dr. at 7:30 p.m. on October 3, and the 800 block of S. Lake Shore Dr. at 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 6

CPD issued a separate alert on Wednesday about another robbery pattern in the Loop. In those cases, "approximately three" offenders robbed victims in the 800 block of S. Plymouth Ct. at 7:20 p.m. and 7:23 p.m. on Sept. 22. Police did not release any other information except to say the suspects were Black juvenile males.

Area Three detectives are handling

Man tried to rob two Mag Mile banks in 15 minutes

An Uptown man who unsuccessfully tried to rob a bank on the Magnificent Mile walked across the street and unsuccessfully tried to rob another bank minutes later, prosecutors say.

Herman Johnson, 50, allegedly walked into Citibank, 539 N. Michigan, around 4:40 p.m. Oct. 4 and handed the teller a note.

"This is a bank hold up! I want the bank's money," the note read. "Don't be a hero! No one will be harmed!!!"

As intimidating as that note may seem, the teller handed it back to Johnson, who walked out with no money, a Chicago police report said.

About 15 minutes later, Johnson allegedly tried the same thing at Bank of America, 500 N. Michigan. He handed over the same note and once again left without getting any cash, according to the report.

Cops arrested Johnson in the 600



Inset: mugshot of bank robber Herman Johnson.

block of N. Michigan a short time later.

Prosecutors charged him with two counts of attempted robbery, but they did not ask a judge to keep him in custody. Records show Johnson failed to show up for his first court date on Oct. 10. He got arrested on a failure to appear warrant two days later. He remains in the county jail.

both crime patterns. They can be reached at 312-744-8263.

On Saturday morning, Sept. 21, police arrested Anthony Lay-Alvarado, a Venezuelan migrant, after a woman's necklace was snatched in the 900 block of W. Weed. Prosecutors said Laya-Alvarado and an accomplice escaped on a motorized bike and ran away when police moved in. Cops caught Laya-Alvarado, but the other guy got away.

On Oct. 2, 18-year-old Alex Latacunga of Ecuador was arrested near Navy Pier and charged with misdemeanor theft after he allegedly stole a woman's purse. Two chain snatchings were also reported in the area, but he is not charged with those.

Jewelry snatchings were widely reported in the Loop after Lollapalooza this year and two migrants have been charged in connection with some of those robberies. Two more migrants were arrested and charged for similar crimes at the ARC Music Festival in September.

Gunmen abduct and rob two men within minutes in Old Town; suspects detained

Armed men abducted and robbed two people in separate incidents in Old Town on Oct. 16, according to Chicago police reports. Two suspects are in custody.

The crimes are similar but unrelated to an abduction and robbery that occurred in Little Village on Oct. 17.

Wednesday's robberies occurred about 10 minutes apart, just a couple of blocks from each other.

At about 4:40 p.m., a 28-year-old man was walking in an alley behind the 100 block of W. Division when a blue sedan, possibly a Chevy, pulled up. Two of the three men inside the car got out, displayed guns, and forced the man into their vehicle, a CPD spokesperson said.

The crew forced the man to electronically transfer money as they drove him around and robbed him of other valuables before releasing him without injury, according to CPD.

A similar scenario unfolded around 4:50 p.m. in the 1200 block of N. Wells. This time, two armed men approached a 26-year-old man and forced him into the back seat of a nearby sedan, possibly an Impala, the spokesperson said. They demanded his property as they drove him around, but he managed to escape in the 1000 block of N. Wells, according to police. He suffered a mi-

nor leg injury but declined medical attention.

The police spokesperson said officers located and arrested two suspects shortly after the second incident. Charges were pending.

On Oct. 17, armed robbers abducted a couple as they entered a Little Village restaurant, according to CPD. A dark SUV pulled up to the couple in the 3400 block of W. 26th St. and five men got out, three armed with pistols and a rifle.

The crew forced the couple into the restaurant, robbed the business, and then ordered the couple to get into a waiting SUV. The crew proceeded to rob the victims, driving them to several ATMs and forcing them to withdraw cash, according to police. The man, 48, and the woman, 39, were eventually released. They declined offers of medical service.

Police were looking for five Hispanic men in a dark blue Infiniti SUV.

Man sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for trafficking fentanyl and attempting to support ISIS

A Chicago man has been sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for trafficking fentanyl and attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham, also known as ISIS.

On three occasions in 2019, Jason Brown provided \$500 in cash to an individual with the understanding that the money would be wired to an ISIS soldier engaged in terrorist activity in Syria.

Unbeknownst to Brown, the individual to whom he provided the money was confidentially working with law enforcement, and the purported ISIS fighter was actually an undercover law enforcement officer.

Also in 2019, Brown trafficked fentanyl and other drugs from California to the Chicago suburbs and illegally possessed several loaded handguns in furtherance of his drug trafficking activities.

Brown, 42, pleaded guilty last year to one count of attempting to provide material support to ISIS, one count of distributing fentanyl, and one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. U.S. District Judge Mary M. Rowland imposed the sentence on Oct. 16, during a hearing in federal court in Chicago.

Brown has been in law enforcement custody since his arrest in 2019.

—Compiled by CWBChicago.com

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Expanding gang problems focus of Hamlin Park meeting

BY ALD. SCOTT WAGUESPACK

A community meeting was held last week over community concerns over increased gang activity at Hamlin Park. Attending the meeting were Cmdr. Amin Jessani, Capt. Terry Forbes, and Sgt. Dean Angelo from the Town Hall 19th District police, Grace Moody from Alcott College Prep, Claudia Ovalle, the Network Safety Manager with CPS, and State Rep. Jamie Andrade [40th].

The police believe that the Oct. 4 shooting at Hamlin Park was an isolated incident. Camera footage and other information has been helpful to the police in their work to make an arrest of the people involved.

At the meeting, Chicago police provided information on the history of this neighborhood prior to some gang members being sent to jail or moving out of the area.

A gang called the Insane Deuces has been trying to reestablish themselves in the area. Police believe that the student who was shot is possibly associated with members of the rival Maniac Latin Disciples gang. Residents have seen an increase in graffiti in the area, and bent street signs. This is the gangs trying to mark their territory. We try to get this graffiti off as soon as it is reported to us.

Police need the cooperation of any victim in such cases, and most importantly, the community's eyes and ears to fight back against criminal activity.

As a temporary measure, the city has installed a police pod camera at Hoyne and Barry. CPD will have extra patrols at arrival and dismissal and have a dedicated park car. The 1931 beat car, has been dedicated to the beat only. Any available overtime police cars have also been put by Hamlin Park.

CPD also has Area 3 detectives and a tactical unit working on this case.

The Chicago Park District has



Community residents are concerned over increased gang activity at Hamlin Park, 3035 N. Hoyne Ave.

also directed park security to focus on Hamlin Park and CPS has additional safety officers doing patrols both inside and outside the school. Alcott College Prep, 2957 N. Hoyne Ave., also has these safety officers screening for any weapons. They also take part in

District to review camera needs at all of our parks.

The police also encouraged residents to attend the next Community Conversation, which helps them plan out the strategy for next year. The 19th Community Conversation will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In the Hamlin Park area, gang tags usually consist of the ace of spades (representing the Insane Deuces, the main gang that has historically been in the area) or a heart with devil horns or a swastika inside of it representing the Maniac Latin Disciples, a rival of the Insane Deuces.

the safe passage program during arrivals and dismissals at Hoyne and Wellington.

Residents report not seeing enough police officers in the neighborhood. There is a police allocation study being done to see how many police are needed in each area. This is one reason why it's important to call 911 whenever you see anything suspicious. Calling lets downtown know that officers are needed in your area. The police stressed calling 911, even if something just looks suspicious in the neighborhood.

We are working with the City to install six additional police cameras for the ward, and are coordinating with OEMC and the Park

Wednesday, Oct. 30, at Truman College, 1145 W. Wilson.

It is important that we have a full justice system working again in the future. That system requires enforcement by police, prosecution by the State's Attorney, and adjudication by the circuit court or higher. Without the latter two, the system is broken.

Graffiti Identification

One question is how to tell gang graffiti from regular but just as damaging tags (generally done by kids/young adults). The great majority of graffiti is regular tagging. We realize it has been on the increase in Hamlin Park and encourage anyone that can to call

it in or help remove graffiti.

In the Hamlin Park area, gang tags usually consist of the ace of spades (representing the Insane Deuces, the main gang that has historically been in the area) or a heart with devil horns or a swastika inside of it representing the Maniac Latin Disciples, a rival of the Insane Deuces.

You may also see these tags upside down as a diss to the other gang. You may also see the letters ID or MLD representing the gang name, or IDK or MLDK as a diss (K standing for killer). Other common gang tags you might see here are pitchforks or crowns. Outside of these, almost all other graffiti in the area is garbage tagging. All graffiti should be removed quickly.

Sending pictures to city and police with the exact address is the fastest way to do this. Graffiti-blasters has been very helpful in removing graffiti. Their work is limited in scope, and we encourage all building owners with graffiti shadows to take immediate additional steps to get rid of graffiti. If it is gang graffiti, we share the info and pictures with the police.

Speed networking at DePaul

DePaul Univ. will be hosting a speed networking event and Coffee Connection, 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, at F45 DePaul, 1730 W. Fullerton.

Guests will start the day with coffee, light bites, and conversations during a networking session, where you'll meet fellow professionals in quick, timed rounds.

Complimentary event tickets can be obtained by writing to ellie@lincolnpark-chamber.com.

Boo-tanical Bash

A Spooktacular family friendly Halloween evening is being held at the Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton Dr., starting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24.

The Bash is a family-friendly after-hours Halloween event for all ages. It includes an after-hours visit to their global plant collection, circus performers and haunted Chicago history stories told by a storyteller. Guests will learn about the Conservatory's creepy plants, and work on a spider scavenger hunt. Painted and carved pumpkins will be on display - made by the students of the Latin School of Chicago.

Tickets range from free to \$15, and can be reserved online at www.lincolnparkconservancy.org/plan-a-visit/.



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AUTUMN from p. 2

VANDALIZED CULTURE: The Augustus Saint-Gaudens statue of President Abraham Lincoln behind the Chicago History Museum was shamefully vandalized in Lincoln Park. The words “Lincoln was an executioner” sprayed in red. Who’s doing this? Why? Did they think it was a statue of **Christopher Columbus**? Our history is under siege. Perps in the wind, of course. This is an assault on our culture by people of low hijacked learning. Disabled minds much like the vanquishers of paintings at the Louvre. Assaults on **Leonardo’s** Mona Lisa. The demagogues need to be taught a real lesson. Their reason and sense of moral values are crippled and out of whack.

COLUMBUS: **Christopher Clinton Conway** at LACMA [Los Angeles County Museum of Art] sharing a recent historical finding about new discoveries that identify Christopher Columbus remains and identity as Sephardic Jew, sharing a painting at the museum from the collection of Christopher Columbus before the Council of Salamanca, **William Merritt Chase**, 1876. This wasn’t unknown in his times, just unspoken. Cristoforo Colombo, was born in 1451 in the Republic of Genoa.

BIENVENUE ET BONJOUR: Chicago’s newest French bistro, Petit Pomeroy, across the street from Holy Name Cathedral.

HOW OLD?: Fireside Restaurant, located across the street from the front gate of Rosehill Cemetery, is celebrating their 120th year in business. They’ve brought in

FIRESIDE 120 West Coast IPA, brewed by Brewer’s Kitchen, to celebrate the milestone.

WATCHFUL EYE: Block Club’s senior editor of Investigations, **Curtis Lawrence**, has retired after 44 years in journalism. Wishing him well.

NEW WINDOW DRESSING: We like the new RL awning on Chicago Ave., it’s most becoming and fits in well for Ralph Lauren. But we miss the newspaper box rack that City Hall removed, the one that used to be right out front of RL, where I would pick up my copy of Skyline.

NOT FORGOTTEN: **Eamonn Cummins** reports, “Excellent time with our Italian friends at The Columbus Day Parade in downtown Chicago as they allow me to march with them as a Token Irishman.” Front and center was Norridge Trustee, **Frank Avino**, a fine Italian, and Norridge President **Daniel Tannhauser**, along with “The Turk,” **Alan Erdemir**.

RUN MATT RUN: **Matt Brusich** ran 26.2 miles in a U.S. Track and Field-sanctioned event, all while raising money for Lincoln Park Community Services and the neighborhood’s homeless community. The Lincoln Park resident skipped The Chicago Marathon to run around his block 79 times



Kelli O'Hara

instead.

ARTISTS: In honor of International Artist Day on October 25, USA Art News highlighted the remarkable talent of **Adam Umbach**, an innovative artist whose work transcends traditional boundaries and engages audiences on multiple levels.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Chicago’s offi-



The Augustus Saint-Gaudens statue of President Abraham Lincoln behind the Chicago History Museum was shamefully vandalized in Lincoln Park. The words “Lincoln was an executioner” was sprayed in red paint across the pedestal.

cial Senior Services Co-ordinator, **Joyce Liput Gallagher**, says she was so blessed to attend the 103rd birthday of **Mrs. Lillian Drummond**, a stalwart advocate leading to the low income utility program and the creation of the Austin Senior Satellite Center.

WHO'SWHERE? Tony Award-winning actress **Kelli O'Hara** to receive the Sarah Siddons Award Nov. 9 at annual benefit... **Patty Bidwill** in Paris finding her favorite hangouts... **Ken Moll** back from Sardinia in time to run the Marathon with daughter **Keeley** and son **Kenny**, a veteran of past runs... **Kim Duda** at the Des Plaines Theater for the **Paul Anka Show**, with **Carrie, Shirley**, and **Bob Duda**... **Ed Lester** having a relaxing Napa weekend in Calistoga, CA, with **Jennifer Lester** and **Andrew Lester** at the Frank Family Vineyard... **Eamonn Cummins** at Mt. Carmel H.S. football with Friday Night Lights with the one and only **Michael Pinelli** as his beloved Mount Carmel soundly defeated Joliet Catholic to reorder the Carmelite Bragging Rights... **Stephanie Leese Emrich** with mom and number one Cub fan **Georgia Leese** on the town where every outing is a marquee moment, even a super-casual Friday afternoon where Wrigleyville always brings on the smiles... Glenview’s **Father Jerry Boland** on retreat in St. Francis’ town, Assisi, Italy... Former Assessor **Jim**

Houlihan out with family members supporting **Dayne** and the home team... **Joaquin** and **Jennifer Sutton Brievea** celebrating **Bunny Frum’s** birthday in style... **Irene Michaels** and **Ireen Mojica** walking amid the fallen leaves, probably singing a duet... **Dr. Adam Del Conte** made a great finish for the Chicago Marathon that brought his mom, **Catherine Collins**, up from Memphis cheering... **Kristin** and **Grantland Drutchas** doing a London/Oxford wrap up, saying goodbye to **Gabs**, a second year Oxford Univ. student, not easy, but hearts swell with pride.

SURVEY SAYS: A recent survey asks Illinoisans which cause they would support if they became wealthy? Turns out the top choice is supporting Chicago’s Architectural Legacy. Seems right. We are famous for our architecture, and supporting it emerged as Illinoisans’ number one cause. They would invest in preserving historic buildings, supporting architectural tours, and funding educational programs that celebrate the city’s unique architectural heritage. Get Preservation Chicago’s **Ward Miller** on the horn, ASAP.

Dining with one’s friends and beloved family is certainly one of life’s primal and most innocent delights, one that is both soul-satisfying and eternal.

-- Julia Child

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Award-winning designer dead at 65

John Robert Wiltgen, 65, an award-winning international residential interior designer and author whose clients and friends included Hollywood stars, passed away peacefully Oct. 5, at Northwestern Memorial Hospital after a long battle with diabetes.

Wiltgen recently authored a memoir: "The Candy in My Pocket." In this book he welcomes readers to join him on the roller-coaster ride of his life.

"John lived a full life, gathering and embracing many fabulous, famous and adventurous friends," said Steven Oster, his husband and partner for more than 15 years. "John never looked back. He always looked forward, choosing to be happy and fully engaged regardless of his health issues. He was a very special and talented person."

John battled many debilitating complications of Type 1 diabetes (T1D) while creating a highly sought after design firm with projects across America, Canada, Mexico-even Africa. "When his internist diagnosed a malady requiring a kidney transplant in 1987, I was the kidney donor," said Jean Lillian Wiltgen Kaprelian, his mother. His chances of the surgery being a success were 60%. "We were told it should be expected to last 12-15 years-but it lasted 37 years."

His memoir includes larger-than-life tales. Though his life involved many tragedies, it also was spiced with exciting personal and professional adventures and celebrity cameos with stars such as Jane Seymour, Timothy Hutton, Angelina Jolie, Sean and Robyn Wright Penn, Steve Harvey, John Cusack, and the President of Nigeria-the Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.



John Robert Wiltgen

His career also included television appearances on his architectural and interior design projects that have been featured in more than 200 newspapers and magazines and published in hardcover coffee-table books.

In 1991 he was the youngest designer to receive the Chicago Merchandise Mart's "Outstanding Achievement in the Design Profession" award. In total, his completed projects have earned him 45 industry awards.

An active supporter of the Chicago Academy for the Arts, he was presented with the Irv and Essee Kupcinet Leadership Award.

He also was honored by the Better Boys Foundation, Landmark Preservation Council of Illinois, American Diabetes Association and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Wiltgen was born Aug. 21, 1959 at Resurrection Hospital in Chicago to Jean

Lillian and Raymond Thomas Wiltgen, Sr.

He studied at Ray Vogue School of Design from 1977 to 1979. At the age of 22, he founded John Robert Wiltgen Design, Inc. and was the CEO of this very successful design firm for more than 43 years.

"When his internist diagnosed a malady requiring a kidney transplant in 1987, I was the kidney donor," said Jean Lillian Wiltgen Kaprelian, his mother. His chances of the surgery being a success were 60%. "We were told it should be expected to last 12-15 years-but it lasted 37 years."

Critics describe "The Candy in My Pocket" as an inspirational, but irreverent story about living your best life despite horrifying circumstances of his debilitating battle with diabetes.

Wiltgen is survived by his husband Steven Oster, stepdaughter Jenna Oster-Kreis (Dean Kreis), stepson Chad Oster, step-grandson Carter Oster; mother Jean Lillian Wiltgen Kaprelian (Martin Kaprelian), and sister Cynthia Wilkin (Tom Wilkin).

A private memorial service is planned for some time in the future.

Open House at Lincoln Park High

Lincoln Park High School, 2001 N. Orchard, will be holding an Open House noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26. Visitors will explore the campus, meet the faculty, and discover all that Lincoln Park High School has to offer.

Why did Beethoven write only nine symphonies?

What causes any composer to write the number of symphonies they did? Haydn made it to 104, Mozart to 41, and Tchaikovsky only six.

By looking at Beethoven's life circumstances, the publishing industry, political landscape, work style, and a host of other factors, we'll learn the reasons why Beethoven only wrote nine symphonies, and the consequences those works had for future symphonists.

Your chance to find out why comes 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25 when Madison Vienna will explain during a presentation by Fine Arts Music — Performance and Scholarship [FAM] at Notre École de Musique music school, 2232 W. Irving Park Rd.

Vienna is an active chamber musician, freelancer, and librarian in the greater Chicago area. Prior to her current position as the Chicago Sinfonietta's Orchestra Librarian and Northbrook Public Library's classical music specialist, she was an intern in the music library at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. She holds degrees in clarinet performance from DePaul Univ. and the Indiana Univ. Jacobs School of Music with extensive studies in historical performance.

FAM believes in the transformative gift of western classical music. Their non-profit organization makes this gift available to a great number of students, hoping to encourage and inspiring young musicians to flourish.

For more information visit <https://www.fineartsmusic-performanceandscholarship.org/>.

Ultra Marathon Nov. 2 on North Lakefront

The Chicago Lakefront 50/50 Ultramarathon is planned for Saturday, Nov 2. The 50 mile race starts at 7 a.m. and the 50K race starts at 8 a.m. The race time limit is nine hours.

The Ultramarathon race is a multi-decades held race run semiannually every Spring and Fall along Chicago's Lakefront.

The race course begins and ends at Foster Beach, 5200 N. Lake Shore Dr. and runs loops along the Lakefront.

The 50K Course consists of three, 10.3 mile, out-and-back "loops" on the Lakefront Trail. The South "turnaround" is located just west of the North Ave. Beach House. The North turnaround is located just south of the Foster Ave. Beach House.

The 50-Mile Course consists of four, 12.5 mile, out-and-back "loops" on the Lakefront Trail.

The South turnaround is located at approximately Walton Plc. (about 950 North) on the Lakefront Trail. The North turnaround is located just south of the Foster

Ave. Beach House.

Crews and spectators on bikes should be careful of pedestrians, runners, and other bikers as the lakefront path will be open to the general public during the race. The aid stations are 5.2 miles apart, at the turnaround locations for the 50k race. The 50 milers will have access to the North Ave Beach aid station twice each loop, going outbound and inbound (this distance is a 2.2 mile loop). The aid stations serving both the 50-Mile and the 50K are located on the Lakefront Trail. There is also an aid station and drop bag at the start/finish area, at the north turnaround spot at Foster Ave Beach.

Those who would like to start early for either race may contact info@ChicagoUltra.org to let organizers know.

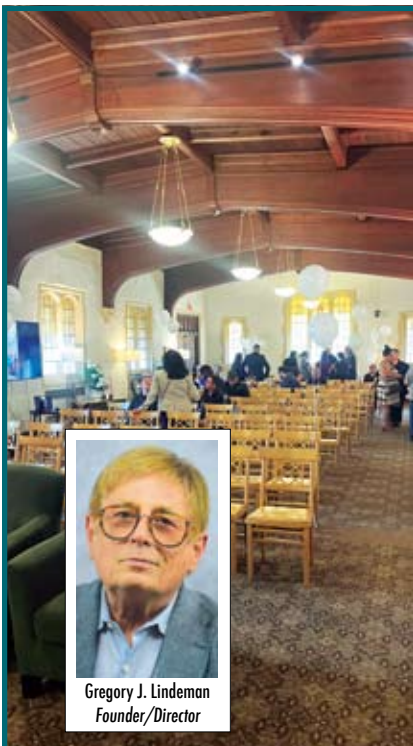
There is parking at the Foster Ave. Beach House location, and additional parking east of the soccer fields south of the beach house. There is free parking along the soccer fields south of the beach house along N. Simonds Dr.

Howler at Bauler Oct. 26

The Lincoln Central Assoc. is hosting their Halloween party 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 26 at Bauler Park.

Known as "The Haunt of the Neighborhood," Howler at Bauler is held each year during Halloween weekend.

Howler at Bauler includes a bouncy house, costume parade, games, candy, and a DJ to dance to.



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North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BYLINE BANK Plaintiff, -v- KB VI, LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, DAVID P. KAMINSKI, INDIVIDUALLY, RONALD R. CAIN, INDIVIDUALLY, RONALD R. CAIN LIVING TRUST UAD MARCH 6, 2006, ARCEIN GROUP LTD, AN ILLINOIS CORPORATION, KB VII, LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, ARCEIN GROUP II, LLC, AN ILLINOIS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS; AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2023 CH 09703 20 E. GOETHE STREET, UNIT 602 CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 13, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on November 22, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35F, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 20 E. GOETHE STREET, UNIT 602, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-03-106-032-1032 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$3,123,684.77. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact MARTIN J. CROWLEY, CHUHAK & TECSON, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 120 SOUTH RIVERSIDE PLACE, SUITE 1700, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 855-4604. Please refer to file number 29187.79001 MJC. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

Real Estate For Sale

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MARTIN J. CROWLEY CHUHAK & TECSON, P.C. 120 SOUTH RIVERSIDE PLACE, SUITE 1700 CHICAGO IL, 60606 312-855-4604 E-Mail: mcrowley@chuhak.com Attorney File No. 29187.79001 MJC Attorney Code. 70693 Case Number: 2023 CH 09703 T.J.S.C#: 44-2746 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 09703 **13254251**

232323 -----

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of the LB-Igloo Series IV Trust Plaintiff vs. Romarez D. Moody NKA Romarez Moody; Kathleen Momo Moody; Illinois Department of Revenue; The United States of America for the Benefit of the Internal Revenue Service; Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.; Darius Hennington; Yomaira Verdín; Plaza 440 Private Residences Condominium Association; First American Title Insurance Company; Triad Consulting Group, LLC; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants Defendant 21 CH 2809 CALENDAR 57 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on November 18, 2024, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17-10-127-019-1030 and 17-10-127-019-1752. Commonly known as 440 North Wabash Avenue, Unit 4710 and P-M45 Chicago, IL 60611. The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Sottile & Barile, LLC, 7530 Lucerne Drive, Suite 210, Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130. (440) 572-1511. ILF2111013 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Intercountyjudicialsales.com **13253462**

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(Left) Tom Horn (right), who coached Lane Tech College Prep team to the CPS championship in 2000. Also in the photo is Bob Egan, who managed the Chicago Sun-Times team to many championships in the Mike Royko Tournament at Grant Park. (Right) Eddie Curry, CPS high school league organizer, and 2024 winner of the HOF's Richard J. Daley Award.

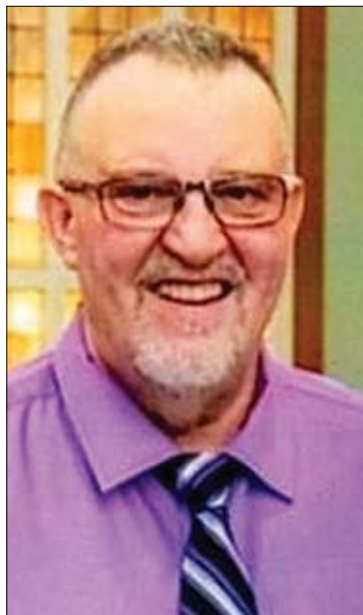
HALL OF FAME from p. 5

full potential and dreams."

Softball now a varsity sport

Back in 1999, softball was a fading Windy City sport, especially among high-school teenagers, who started to prefer soccer.

That's when Mike North, a Chicago sports radio talk-show host, pitcher and HOF inductee, along with South Side softball organizer Calvin Davis, and Dr. J.W. Smith, executive director of sports administration for CPS, pitched Paul Vallas, CEO of CPS, to elevate 16-inch softball as a high school varsity sport.



The late Jim Bailey, who also coached Lane Tech's team, and later launched Under Age, with graduated Lane players.

"It was a super idea," said former Lane Tech College Prep softball coach Tom (Bomber) Horn, a star pitcher for Lettuce and HOF inductee. "Softball keeps kids in the parks and off the streets. It is inexpensive, and it's a sport unique to Chicago."

In 2000, coach Horn's Lane Tech team finished 14-0 and won the high school varsity 16-inch softball championship. "In the championship game, Lane Tech first baseman George Stavarakas hit a grand slam home run," recalled Horn.

In 1999 and 2000, Horn and co-coaches—HOF inductee Dave Ruehl, star shortstop for Lettuce, and the late Jim Bailey—compiled a 27-1 record at Lane Tech.

Later, coach Bailey launched "Under Age," a great young North Side team, seeded with several former Lane Tech players.

Stavarakas, an Under Age star player, earned a teaching degree and coached Lane Tech's 16-inch

2024 Softball Hall of Fame Inductees

Men's Players:

- Tom Neputy, SC and power hitter, Rebels, Gamblers, Crush, Jynx, Roadhouse, 1993 and 1999 ASA champ, MVP in 1994 ASA National, 1994 & 2001 USSSA state champ.
- Anthony Tyler, Brands Park Pokers, Red Dog, Bucks, Flashback, won five Forest Park No-Glove Nationals, 2010 MVP.

Women's Players:

- Laura O'Gwean Wilson, "Queen of the unlimited arc," Misfits, Foxes, Brat Pack.

Historic Men's Teams: Braeside Boys, Highland Park, Glenview, Northbrook, Winnetka 1983-2023.

Gators: 1983-2024, winners of numerous major South Side tournaments, record 327 wins, 223 losses.

Patio Players: 1979-2000, Washington Park, and major tournaments, won Black American Tournament in St. Louis in 2000.

Scorpions: 1979-1987, 400-plus wins, 12 league championships, 10 tournament wins, Hamlin Park, Portage Park and Mt. Prospect leagues.

Six Pack: 30 years of competition—1969-1999, won championships at LaFollette, Sayre, Portage, Oriole, Indian Road, and Niles parks.

Unknown Wild Bunch: 1980-1991, won 1983 Black World Series at Comiskey Park.

Historic Women's Teams: Chaos, 25-year run starting in 1990, Oriole Park, Mt. Prospect champs and many tournaments, including Grant Park's Mike Royko and Y-Me.

Lushes: 1990-2000s, Northwest Side, Chopin, Riis and Oriole parks.

Historic Co-Ed Team: Juicers, 1988-2004, won the co-ed Old Style/Miller Grant Park tournament 10 times—1992-2004.

Wall of Fame: William Coleman, 1990-2014, La Posse.

Anthony Jackson: SS, MVP ASA National, Unknown Wild Bunch, La Posse, Pharaohs.

Gary Klow: (RIP) Dragons, Highland Park.

Kevin Lund: Won Comiskey Park HR Derby three times, 1988, 1989, 1990. Takers, Bud 45s, Ice.

Mark Madigan: 30-year career at SS with Freeloaders.

Pete Raines: Eastsiders, Licorice, Ringers.

Ron Ridsen: 40-year career, 30 league and tournament championships, Jynx, Crush, Magic, Rebels.

Managers: Bob Glosa of Jynx; Mike Paulo of Saints, 1989-1995, ASA and USSSA state champs 1991-1992.

Umpire: Maurice (Mo) Miller, Washington Park, Garfield Park, Mt. Prospect & major tournaments.

Veterans Committee: Kurt Kiesel, SS, 1978-1999, MVP Forest Park No-Gloves National 1996, J-Birds, Bud 45s.

Organizer: Kathy O'Shea, St. Christina Woman's Solidarity Softball League.

Y-Me Tournament: Fund-raiser for breast cancer research, tournament attracted 73 teams in 2024.

Richard J. Daley Award: Eddie Curry: Major organizer and developer of the CPS 16-inch varsity softball program, now in its 25th year.

Joseph Pulido: HOF's "biggest fan," who has traveled to 45 national tournaments in St. Louis, Indiana and Iowa. He played nine years with A.G. Becker after starting his career at age 17 at Harrison Park in Pilsen.

Media Award: George Vournazos, innovative social media and softball game streamer with 36,000 Face Book followers.

Frank Holan Award: Matt Dosen, 40 years in softball with Traffic and Ice, and for "giving back to the game." Ice won 1992 ASA National Tournament.

The Chicago 16-Inch Softball Museum at 7501 W. Harrison St. in Forest Park, IL, pays homage to the Forest Park No-Gloves National, one of softball's premier tournaments. Visit www.16inchsoftballhof.com.

team to seven more city public league softball championships between 2003 and 2012, putting together a string of 52 consecutive wins.

Go Lane, go!

Don DeBat, a 1961 Lane Tech

graduate, is a 1999 softball HOF inductee. For more housing and softball news, visit www.donbat.biz. DeBat is co-author of "Escaping Condo Jail," the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com.

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Notice of Public Sale

East Bank Storage at 1200 W. 35th St., 773-247-3000, is opening lockers:
1D1377 (Caira Cortez), 1D1382 (Caira Cortez), 3F3588 (Michael Drayton), 4C4257 (Ramona Hernandez), 4C4183 (Lilia Hristeva), 3F3662 (Brett Lewandowski), 3D3346 (Jesse Reed), 4C4191 (Carl Smith), 3F3641 (Michael Ticer), 1D1366 (James King), and 4C4269 (Agnes Tropp) for public sale of miscellaneous items. This sale is to be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 2:00 pm. Cash only.

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Community conversation at the Walnut Room

Macy's famous Walnut Room will be the location of an upcoming public meeting between the Chicago Police, city officials and citizens, over issues impacting the quality of life downtown.

The leadership of police 1st District are inviting all residents and local businesses to meet them at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, at 111 N. State St., to voice matters of concerns.

Ohio Place Small Dog Park to close for three weeks

Starting Friday, Oct. 25, the Chicago Dept. of Transportation will close the small dog park within the Ohio Place Dog Park to conduct seeding. The park will be closed for three weeks to allow the new grass to grow uninterrupted.

The larger portion of the Ohio Place Dog Park will remain open.

New park coming to Near North Side

Groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the beginning of a \$4.7 million investment in new park

Last Friday the Chicago Park District broke ground on improvements at Park No. 598, 1514 N. Larrabee.

Park No. 598 will receive multiple upgrades including a new walking path, a playground with engineered surfacing, an adult fitness area, new pathways, seating, and lighting. There will also be a new dog-friendly area that will have both concrete and artificial turf surfaces with spaces for both small and large dogs.

The dog-friendly area will also feature a drinking fountain.

"The groundbreaking of this new park stands as a testament to what's possible

when the city and community residents work together," said 27th Ward Ald. Walter Burnett, Jr. [27th]. "It will be a place where residents can enjoy the outdoors, meet with neighbors and exercise their dogs in the dog park."

Park 598 is the site of the former Near North High School outdoor recreation area. Before Near North High School opened in fall 1979, the site was home to Cooley High, where residents of the Cabrini-Green housing projects attended school. The school was officially closed in 2001 and the land became property of the Chicago Housing Authority. In 2019, CHA transferred this 3.8-acre site to the Park District for improvements to be used as a new park to serve the Near North Community.

The budget was over \$4.7 million and went toward the design and construction of the new park. The construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2025.



One of a Kind show coming back to The Mart

One of Chicago's favorite four-day shopping extravaganza is back again with the One of a Kind Holiday Show which will return to the 7th Floor of The Mart, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Thursday, Dec. 5 through 8. Event tickets went on sale Monday (\$15).

The holiday season fan-favorite will feature a selection of original handmade work from over 600 talented artists and makers. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet and shop directly from the show's acclaimed artists and emerging talent to discover behind-the-scenes insights and inspirations.

TOWER from p. 1

building, but the project stalled during the pandemic lockdown.

During the condo boom more than a decade ago, developers would buy apartment buildings and convert them into condos, selling off the units individually.

With people now preferring to pay rent, Letchinger then hoped to rent out the remaining 144 unsold units, some costing over \$10,000 a month in rent.

Now the market has reversed, leaving developers of big downtown condo towers with unsold units. The move to rent out apartments allowed building owners to buy more time with their lenders, until they gave up and turned the property back over to the lender.



The Valuation Reports [above] for North Chicago Township can be found at: cookcountyassessor.com/valuation-reports.

ASSESSOR from p. 1

median to their property value.

The Valuation Reports for North Chicago Township can be found at: cookcountyassessor.com/valuation-reports.

Property values certified in 2024 will affect second installment tax bills issued in 2025.

Residential Properties

Residential assessments are based on recent sale prices of similar properties. To get a better picture of the real estate market in North Chicago Township, the chart here demonstrates median sale prices over the last several years for different property types. For example, the median sale price for single-family homes in 2023 was \$1,355,000, while the Assessor's median market value estimate for the same property class is \$1,483,000.

Commercial Properties

Commercial property assessments are calculated by determining a property's use, estimated income, market-level vacancy, collections loss, and expenses. Commercial and multifamily property owners can

locate their property on a methodology worksheet that contains the data used to assess their property.

The Assessor's Office looks at the commercial property the way a buyer would approach a market transaction: by examining its highest and best use through the three approaches to value: Income, sales comparison and cost.

For income-producing properties, the income approach is the preferred valuation approach for Cook County.

The income approach begins with analyzing income and expense data to determine typical gross incomes, vacancy rates, net incomes, and expense ratios for comparable types of properties. Income estimates can be transformed (capitalized) into estimates of building value in various ways.

KILLED from p. 1

license plate. While the man took photos, Roman reportedly backed his SUV toward him and sped away.

Less than a minute later, the SUV returned at a high rate of speed and accelerated down Hubbard St. with its engine revving, prosecutors said. Roman allegedly took direct aim at Zoraleigh Ryan, who was still lying next to the curb, her daughter, and the man who stopped to help.

According to officials, the man moved the younger woman out of the SUV's path, and the passing vehicle "brushed" both of them.

But Roman ran directly over Zoraleigh and her body became trapped under the SUV, which traveled for a half-block before she fell free, prosecutors alleged. Zoraleigh's daughter and the witness ran to her side and held her head, but she was no longer breathing.

As they waited for police, the man and the 20-year-old saw Roman return to the scene in his SUV a second time before driving away. Then, he returned a third time as police arrived, sparking a pursuit. After crashing through barricades near the Merchandise Mart, the SUV sped from the area, and police lost sight of it.

About an hour later, CPD license plate reading technology detected the SUV on the Northwest Side, and cops began scouring that area for Roman's car. As police searched for the truck, Roman walked into the local police district to file a police report, claiming that he had been carjacked at gunpoint in River North.

While police spoke with him about his carjacking claim, officers located his SUV on a side street near the Kennedy Expy. and Montrose. Roman was detained for questioning.

During interviews with detectives, Roman initially stuck with his carjacking story, but he later admitted to driving and striking the victims, prosecutors said. Zoraleigh's daughter and the man who helped her identified Roman in photo line-ups.

Roman will receive credit for his time in jail, so he will likely be eligible for parole in Aug. 2044.

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