

To pay attention,  
this is our endless  
and proper work.  
— Mary Oliver

# INSIDE-BOOSTER

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

FREE

VOL. 118, NO. 44

NEWS OF LINCOLN PARK, LAKE VIEW, NORTH CENTER & LINCOLN SQUARE

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## Meeting to gauge possibility of Trader Joe's coming to Andersonville



The potential site of Trader Joe's at 5340 N. Clark St.

BY PETER VON BUOL

More than 200 Andersonville residents attended a virtual zoning meeting hosted by Ald. Andre Vasquez [40th] on Oct. 26 to hear a presentation from developers Steven and Alan Schwartz about the possibility of the city granting its approval to allow California-based grocer Trader Joe's to open a new store at 5340 N. Clark St.

Originally built as a bank headquarters, the site today is the location of a U.S. Bank branch with a drive-thru. Banking has changed significantly since it was first built, and the Schwartz family wants to replace the existing building with a dual-purpose one.

The Schwartz family is seeking to rezone their property so it can be combined with adjacent properties at 5333-5337 N. Clark St. to be developed as a parking lot with a drive-through Automatic Teller Machine and to construct a new building at 5322-5444 N. Clark St. which would include a Trader Joe's and a U.S. Bank Branch.

The bank will use the parking lot along Ashland Ave. to serve its customers, while the grocery store would use a parking lot on top of its 15,000 sq. ft. store. Access to the grocery store's parking lot will be via a parking ramp on Summerdale Ave.

The plan and process requires changing the zoning from RS-3 (Residential Single Use) to B1-2

(Neighborhood Shopping District).

"The only zoning relief we're required to get here is when you do any type of a drive-thru, for a bank facility, you're required to get a special use zoning, or we have to file a special use with the Zoning Board of Appeals," said John George, who represents the Schwartz family and who is considered one of the city's most successful zoning attorneys.

A former home on the north side of the site, which has now been removed, was an RS-3 three zoning. So "that [property] has to be transferred to a different category of B1-2, so we do have to have a zoning change for that. So those are the two types of zoning entitlements that we will be required to obtain, but nothing for the Trader Joe's building itself," said George.

Speaking to those in attendance, the Schwartzs said they hope to start quickly.

"I don't have the specific timetable. We'd like to do it as quickly as possible. But the construction itself is probably going to take a year," said Steven Schwartz.

While many welcomed the possibility of the German-owned specialty grocer opening a new location in the neighborhood, quite a few others expressed displeasure over a national chain grocer opening in their neighbor-

**TRADER JOE'S** see p. 12



Hyatt Centric Chicago Mag Mile, 675 N. St. Clair St.



## Northwestern converting nearby Hyatt Hotel into medical offices

It seems the only industry presently taking on more commercial and retail space are medical clinics. Apparently medicine is very profitable these days.

Even space once set to be used for hotel rooms is now being converted into medical offices. Lodging is out and the doctor will see you now...

In Streeterville, Northwestern Medicine is converting downtown hotel rooms at 633 N. St. Clair St. for expanded healthcare space. (Could the Water Tower Mall be the next commercial space to fall?)

Northwestern submitted a proposal to convert the fifth and sixth floors of the Hyatt Centric

apparently endless demand for outpatient medical clinics downtown.

**The proposed project would create about 41,000 square feet of medical offices to meet the apparently endless demand for outpatient medical clinics downtown.**

Chicago Magnificent Mile hotel into medical offices and connect the space to the existing hospital next door via a skybridge, says Crain's Chicago.

The proposed project would create about 41,000 square feet of medical offices to meet the

Earlier this year Northwestern bought the 17-story hotel for \$67.5 million. They now plan to eliminate 74 rooms from the hotel to add the medical space and build a pedestrian bridge over Erie St. that connects the second floor of the hotel to the hospital's Galter Pavilion outpatient care center at 675 N. St. Clair St.

When Northwestern bought the hotel, it indicated the ultimate

**HYATT** see p. 12

## \$121M gift means Northwestern will add 19-stories to Streeterville biomedical building



Northwestern Univ. is using \$64 million from a donor gift it received last month to erect a 19-story addition to its Streeterville lab building.

An official expansion construction timeline has not been announced, and building permits have not yet been filed.

In October, Kimberly K. Querrey, a trustee for the university, and the Louis Simpson Trust granted \$121 million for multiple projects at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine.

More than half will go toward Phase 2 of Northwestern's biomedical research center at 303 E. Superior St. that's named after the trustee and her late husband Simpson, a Warren Buffet stock

picker who died in Jan. 2022.

Designed by Perkins & Will, the facility originally opened on the Chicago campus in June 2019, bringing physicians together to solve complex biomedical challenges. With funding now secured, Phase 2 will build a new 19-story addition that will see the buildout of 15 new lab floors.

Once completed, the full buildout will make the building the largest academic biomedical research facility in the world, rising an extra 340' over the 258'-tall podium.

Back when Phase 1 was proposed, the project drew criticism from preservationists for de-

**GIFT** see p. 12



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# It's more like the Howard Stern Show every day



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Well, it's been awhile since we've reported on the quality of programming that comes across the airwaves of WFMT (98.7 FM).

You see, we've listened to the station practically since its beginnings. So we carry a coveted sense of entitlement with our tuning in.

In our life, listening has gone from background fugues of Bach as the soundtrack of our childhood, to ever more expanding modern confections from Copeland, Bernstein, Stravinsky and Grieg.

Listening and watching from high school, all the way to graduate school. And as the world turns we still have found no sound like Bach's sound. Although Ralph

Vaughan Williams also has ownership of our senses. And maybe Hildegard von Bingen. All other composers are on lower musical shelves.

WFMT plays in our house non-stop. It's never not playing. Months at a time. Years at a time. While painting, writing and cooking. There's just one, all-encompassing aesthetic.

Which leads me to my continuing on-going criticisms of WFMT. Never about what music is playing on air. But rather the damaging evolving verbiage and babel around which the station management surround the music.

Remember I am not just a lifetime WFMT fan, but rather a guy who once bought an Alfa Romeo because it had the finest quality radio reproduction of WFMT's music I ever heard. I'm invested and angry.

Essentially I have two observations. Bernard and Rita Jacobs were geniuses back in 1948 when they created the station. Back in the heyday of WFMT programming, the 1960s through the 1990s, there always seemed to be a presumption that listeners devoted to classical music programming were sophisticated enough to financially support the station. Good taste forbade cheap talk. Good taste made financial allegiance unspoken. Taken for granted.

No need to clutter air time with anything but classical music. Or to ceaselessly reduce the airwaves to cheap and cheesy monologues about sponsorship. Or panicked pleas to keep economic doom from the station's doors.

They didn't need to hire annoying hucksters to present mindless banter over the details of financial support. Or breathless enticements to be a station member. Or make cheap and silly gift items available to sweeten the economic packages meant to lure people into becoming a station member. All favorite devices of WFMT General Manager George Preston, the worse offender on every count.

Fast forward to present conditions of heavy annoying non-stop bluster. It's hard to imagine what the station's refined program announcers of the past would make of Preston's ridiculous on-air announcements and adverts.

Norman Pellegrini, who began long ago in 1952, became the sophisticated heart of the station, and he must be spinning.

Ray Norstrand, Carl Grapentine and station manager Steve Robinson were all elegant voices of a refined snobbery. They fit the physique of the classical programming. In the same way that the erudite Lisa Flynn does today. Kerry Frumpkin, Henry Fogel, Dennis Moore, Jan Weller and



Norman Pellegrini

Peter Van de Graffee appear the last torchbearers of old elegance. Although new announcer, LaRob K. Rafeal, possesses a thoroughly elegant voice for listening.

Now, our second volley of criticism. About the absurd level of annoying words unleashed on listeners each day. Verbal avalanche is the approach that the station utilizes in broadcasting their banal announcements. Station hosts inflict cruel word-assaults upon listeners. Empty, mindless verbiage. Silly limping commentaries from personal experience, for instance, about a composer or a piece of classical music. Or worse, some absurd ill-fitting low anecdote that totally misses the mark.

Much of what's said is purely vapid. Uneducated. With scant refinement to be found in the newer batch of announcers who keep up

## Last night at Tavern on Rush

*A treasure gone*

BY  
THOMAS J. O'GORMAN

A great Chicago moment. Acknowledging Phil Stefani's creation of a magic setting for food, drink and shenanigans. Tavern on Rush served their last dinners and drinks on Oct. 26. Guests witnesses the last stolen kiss, final wink, nod and knowing glance, and that just-a-bit too-long-held hug. And this humble writer was there with pen in hand.

Twenty-five years of unbeatable hospitality speaking affirmatively to Chicago's most cantankerous crowd. The difficult to please urbanites. The well-heeled Gold Coast elite who know what they like.

Stefani fashioned them a

home on iconic Rush St. A place to return to again and again. The place where Chicago's patio life was invented.

But Wednesday night was Tavern on Rush's absolute grand finale. A night to say good-bye.

We joined everyone's buddy Shelley Howard and his crew at a coveted table outside under the heaters, as a line of about 400 people was pushing inside the first and second floors, out the door and around the block.

Our table was the product of undue Chicago influence. There was no hiding, you saw us, and we saw you.

Shelley and the boys, Fernando Asturrizaga, Larry Wright, Jay Barksdale, Dennis Donne and Jim Costos achieved per-

**GONE** see p. 8

the steady staccato of emotional, pleading nonsense.

No one takes a breath when unleashing the bombardment of impassioned word assaults. All done, I imagine, because they think they are broadening the public's understanding of classical music. How ridiculous. It's more like the Howard Stern Show every day.

Who do they think is listening? Many listeners have a wider musical aesthetic than the shabby announcers. Many faithful listeners have copious lifelong associations with classical music. The gratuitous verbiage is not only unwelcome by refined listeners, but appears insulting. Newer WFMT announcers are just not fine-tuned enough in the way they carry themselves on the air. And their shock radio tempo of speech is itself offensive.

Where can listeners go to become free of this fake, effete anti-intellectual garbage? We fear management would be a waste of time. George Preston rules that chicken coop.

But there is a Board of Trustees that Norm Bobbins sits on, along with Bob Clifford and Renee Crown. They could change the flow of the Chicago River if they chose to. I have confidence in their power and intelligence. Graham Grady is also a trustee, and Sandy Guthman. Both refined people of the arts. I'm sure they have voice and vote.

Dan Levine is also a board celebrity, as is Shirley Welsh Ryan, Gordon Segal and Tilden Cummings, Jr. It's a huge board. Look it up. There's also a WFMT Radio Network Committee filled with A-listers who know how to resolve dilemmas. Call Bridget Dehl at 773-509-5426 if you'd

**MORE LIKE** see p. 8

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INSIDE  
is published every Wednesday  
by Inside Publications  
6221 N. Clark St., rear  
Chicago, IL 60660  
(773) 465-9700  
E: [insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com](mailto:insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com)



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(L) Aaron Reese Boseman and the cast of "Blue Heaven" at the Black Ensemble Theater. (R) Billy Rude as Stevie Ray Vaughn.

Photos by Alan Davis

# Antisemitism, racism, just ain't kosher

**Weiner's Circle, Spertus, BET, striving for change**



**Heart of the 'Hood**  
by Felicia Dechter

For the last seven years, Ari Levy, owner of the iconic Weiner's Circle, 2622 N. Clark St., has continued the tradition of using his establishment's highly-visible marquee to speak out against -- and poke fun at -- bias, injustice, and controversial people and/or current events.

His signs have used humorous potshots to make funny yet powerful statements. Since Levy is a lover of food and comedy, he combines the two to get his point across. And although Levy and the rest of us realize that the situation is no laughing matter, he has surely had North Siders chuckling with his latest message: "Kanye Can Suck Our Kosher Dogs."

Of course "Kanye," is referring to Chicago native Ye, the artist formerly known as Kanye West. The controversial hip-hop artist, who is also highly-influential, has been spewing out hateful antisemitic comments lately. This is not only downright dangerous but it has also cost him a big, er rather huge, wad of money. (He swears it's about \$2 billion).

"We've had plenty of signs go viral over the years," said Levy. "One reason I love it is because we have a license to say anything we want. Sometimes it's risqué, sometimes the language has struck a nerve. We pride ourselves on being the voice of the community."

"We had a lot of love for Kanye early on," he added. "A lot of people love his music. But when people start talking racist and antisemitic... we wanted to make a se-

rious statement. That is the main purpose, to be a voice in the community and make a strong statement and add in the humor using hot dogs and buns," said Levy. "We like to defend any marginalized community that's being attacked."

There are three Weiner's Circle partners: Levy is white and Jewish, another partner is Black, while the third is Asian. And their longtime cooks are Hispanic. "So we're a pretty good representation of Chicago, and the country," said Levy. "We're a melting pot."

We really relish the fact that Levy is taking a firm stance against antisemitism. Unfortunately, Ye is not alone in his distaste for the Jewish religion. The rise of antisemitism in this country and worldwide, and the increase in hatred to the Jewish population is "real," said Dean Bell, president and CEO of the Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership, 610 S. Michigan Ave.

Bell provided scary and disheartening facts and stats. According to a recent Pew study on American Jews, a majority of Jewish Americans feel that people who hold antisemitic views now feel more free to express them. About six-in-10 Jews report having had a direct, personal experience with antisemitism in the past 12 months, ranging from seeing antisemitic graffiti or vandalism to directly experiencing harassment.

"These trends are clear in the numerous recent physical attacks, along with a range of dangerous antisemitic and anti-Jewish expressions and defacement of Jewish buildings and spaces," said Bell.

He said that in its Audit of Antisemitic Incidents for 2021, the Anti-Defamation League noted: "In 2021, ADL tabulated 2,717 antisemitic incidents across the U.S. This represents a 34% increase from the 2,026 incidents recorded in 2020 and is the highest number on record since ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979."



The Weiner's Circle in Lincoln Park made its feelings toward Kanye West's antisemitism very clear.

Kanye West's anti-Semitic remarks have revealed just how "pervasive and pernicious" antisemitism can be in contemporary society, said Bell. "The responses to his remarks have also pointed to the need for greater education and the importance of collective action to respond to such polarizing and harmful comments," he said. "The episode has highlighted just how complex and deeply embedded antisemitism is, across society. It also points to the need for the kind of training that the LCCA will provide."

The LCAA that Bell is referring to is the Leadership Certificate in Combating Antisemitism, a new program being launched by Spertus in January. It aims to equip Jewish leaders with the tools and expertise necessary to combat antisemitism's rise.

In addition to knowledge and skills, program participants will engage with a wide range of case studies to explore difficult conversations and the gray zones between

types of speech and criticism that could be or actually are antisemitic, said Bell. They'll also explore hatred and bias on social media and learn about advocacy and alliance building, he said.

Spertus Institute is an institution of higher Jewish education founded in 1924, and as a non-denominational convener, it brings people of all backgrounds together to study the Jewish experience and for professional training that serves Jewish communities worldwide. "Among our core goals is to apply Jewish learning, thought, and experiences to address pressing issues within and beyond the Jewish communities," said Bell. "Antisemitism—and hatred more generally—are among those pressing issues."

Those completing the new program will gain a network of institutional leaders who can leverage each other's talents, resources, relationships, and support and come away with skill in community engagement, risk assessment, and strategic philanthropy, Bell said.

"With the Leadership Certificate in Combating Antisemitism we bring our expertise in these areas together to address a critical need for executive directors of Jewish organizations, who are increasingly called on to address antisemitism in many different forms," said Bell. "No other program was serving this need in this holistic way."

While Spertus and people like Levy remain committed to fighting antisemitism, over at Black Ensemble Theatre [BET], founder Jackie Taylor has strived to maintain her mission of eradicating racism since founding the theater in 1976. BET's latest production, "Blue Heaven," runs through Nov. 27 and concludes its 2022 "Season of Healing and Joy."

We admire and respect Taylor, who for decades now has worked unbelievably hard to be able to uphold the dream with which

**ANTISEMITISM** see p. 9



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# New taxing district to renovate landmark Uptown building

The city is proposing to create a new Tax Increment Financing District [TIF] in Uptown's to help rehab a century-old building at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd.

The classical revival style Institute of Cultural Affairs Building, known as the ICA-GreenRise Building, is a strikingly beautiful structure, designed by the noted architectural firm of Fugard & Knapp in 1921 as the headquarters of the Mutual Insurance Co. In 1926-27, it was expanded with four additional stories, by architect Benjamin (B.) Leo Steif.

It is today the largest nonprofit social service center in the Midwest, home to multiple nonprofit organizations serving more than 1,000 clients weekly.

The building would undergo a \$20.7 million renovation through

\$2 million in TIF taxpayer assistance proposed to City Council Oct. 27.

Designated a City landmark in 2013, the eight-story 130,000-square-foot complex would receive HVAC and mechanical system replacements, terra cotta and masonry repairs, lobby improvements, and ground floor tenant upgrades.

"The structure is a tremendous asset to the community, and was gifted by the Kemper Insurance Co. in 1972 and reopened as the ICA," said Ward Miller, Executive Director of Preservation Chicago. "Much like the nearby 12-story, Sheridan Trust & Savings Bank Building [Bridgeview Bank], the large and vast white terra cotta-clad commercial structure, is a building type and size more typi-

cally found in Downtown Chicago. However, this fine-quality structure indicates the commitment of the company that commissioned the building to the Uptown Community."

Since 2017, ICA Building has been part of a designated Chicago Landmark District, extending along portions of Broadway, Lawrence, Sheridan and Racine, called the "Uptown Square Commercial District," comprising about 57 properties and sites, and is a visual and community anchor to Uptown's commercial district. The ICA structure is also part of a larger National Register Historic District since 2000.

"Also of great interest is the reuse of the historic building over time, from insurance offices in its earliest years, to a multitude



A century-old landmark building at 4750 N. Sheridan Rd. in Uptown is getting its own Tax Increment Financing District to help pay for its rehab.

of programs and uses since 1972, which continue to evolve and change," said Ward. "This really indicates and further proves the flexibility and versatility of these

historic structures in our city, and we should always be considering a reuse of these fine buildings as a priority and alternative to demolition."

## Housing turkey fleeing axe as rates hit 7%



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

The pumpkin has been smashed, and the turkeys are fleeing the farmer as he sharpens his axe, as fast as thousands of Chicago-area house hunters are fleeing the market.

Homeownership continues to drift further and further away as average long-term mortgage rates topped 7% nationwide for the first time in more than two decades.

The action—a direct result of the Federal Reserve Board's aggressive rate hikes intended to tame soaring inflation numbers not seen in 40 years—is throwing a frosty, wet blanket over Chicago's once-hot home market.

On Oct. 27, Freddie Mac's Pri-

mary Mortgage Market Survey, reported that average benchmark 30-year fixed-rate home-loan rates hit 7.08%, up from 6.94% a week earlier. A year ago, 30-year fixed mortgage rates averaged an affordable 3.14%.

"The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage broke 7% for the first time since April of 2002, leading to greater stagnation in the housing market," said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist.

"As inflation endures, consumers are seeing higher costs at every turn, causing further declines in consumer confidence," Khater noted. "In fact, many potential home buyers are choosing to wait and see where the housing market will end up, pushing demand and home prices further downward."

The Fed has raised its key benchmark-lending rate five times this year, including three consecutive 0.75 percentage-point increases that have hiked its short-term borrowing charges to a range of 3% to 3.25%, the highest level since 2008.

Forecasters predict that the Fed will boost its key funds rate to 4.4% by year's end, and up to 4.6% in early 2023. That would be the highest level since 2007. Based on these moves by the Fed, mortgage analysts say 30-year fixed home loans easily could reach—or surpass—the 8% level by the end of 2022 or early 2023.

On Oct. 27, Freddie Mac also reported that 15-year fixed mortgages averaged 6.36%, up from 6.23% a week earlier. A year ago, the 15-year fixed loans averaged 2.37%.

Searching for a better deal, borrowers are beginning to flock to more risky adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs), lenders say.

On Oct. 27, Freddie Mac reported that rates averaged 5.96% on 5-year Treasury-indexed hybrid ARMs, up from 5.71% a week earlier. A year ago, the 5-year ARM averaged 2.56%.

The Freddie Mac survey is focused on conventional, conforming, fully amortizing home purchase loans for borrowers who place 20% percent down and have an excellent credit score of 740 or higher.

### Bargains still available

Chicago-area borrowers who move quickly still have a faint chance to lock in the following bargain rates as of Oct. 27, reports RateSeeker.com.

- First Savings Bank of Hegewisch was quoting 5.611% on 30-year loans and 4.950% on 15-year mortgages with 20% down payment and a \$615 loan fee.

- Mutual of Omaha was quoting 5.934% on 30-year loans with a 20% down payment and 5.625% on 15-year mortgages with a 20% down payment. Borrowers also will pay a \$850 loan fee, plus points, or 0.25% of the loan amount.

### Mortgage-rate history

Thirty-year fixed-mortgage interest rates ended 2020 at a rock-bottom 2.65%—the lowest level in the Freddie Mac survey history, which began in 1971.

Home-loan rates set new record lows an amazing 16 times in 2020, and tens of thousands of homeowners refinanced.

Archives of the now-defunct Federal Housing Finance Board

show long-term mortgage rates in the 1960s were not much higher than the Great Depression, when lenders were charging 5% on five-year balloon loans.

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

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

Rates finally fell below 10% in April of 1986, and then bounced in the 9%-to-10% range during the balance of the 1980s. Twenty-three years ago—in Aug. 1999—when some of today's Millennial borrowers were still in diapers, lenders were quoting 8.15%.

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

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# Former Ald. Smith targets chief judge citing lack of transparency, 'misleading' analysis of bail reform

BY CWBCHICAGO

Former Ald. Michele Smith [43rd] is encouraging residents to vote against the retention of Cook County's top judge in the upcoming election. Smith, who retired on Aug. 12 after representing her ward since 2011, pulled no punches in her email, which also included her recommendations for other offices on the ballot.

Smith began her argument against Chief Judge Timothy Evans by pointing to his 2017 order that changed how county judges set bail for people accused of crimes. She went on to call Evans' defense of his order "misleading."

"We are all aware of the controversy over pre-trial detention," Smith wrote. "However, underlying all of this controversy is a lack of transparent and accurate data."

"Cook County has no easily publicly accessible, searchable



Cook County Chief Judge Timothy Evans and former Ald. Michele Smith.

database for its criminal justice system. It's almost impossible for the media (much less the public) to actually track the progress of criminal cases through the system," Smith said.

"The decision to NOT have this data for criminal cases falls squarely on the Chief Judge and the County Clerk."

She went on to say that the

lack of transparency and easy-to-access data throws Evans' claims about the success of his 2017 order into question.

"The impact of this lack of data is significant because the Court's data has been found unreliable.

In May 2019 the Circuit Court published a study of the first 18 months of implementation of the new bail bond rules. The county

claimed that rates of re-offending (meaning an arrest) were the same 18 months after implementation of the new rules. No underlying data was made available," Smith wrote.

"The [Tribune] published a report in 2020 after a hand analysis of case files of all murders committed after the report was issued. That analysis found that instead of three murders committed by offenders who were out on bail there were 21."

"The Court's analysis of its data is also misleading. In its report, the court stated that after being released on bond, the same percentage of people were not re-arrested, 82.2% before and 83.1% after – and claimed that crime by people out on bond had not increased," Smith said.

"However, straightforward math shows that the number of crimes increased after the bail bond rules changed. In the first 18 months of the new system, 4,164 new crimes were committed by felony defendants out on bond compared to 3,712 in the 18 months before the new system, a total of 452 new crimes – eight more a week of the most violent crimes in our city."

"More shocking is that the court's calculations on violent crimes committed by released defendants do not include crimes

**"More shocking is that the court's calculations on violent crimes committed by released defendants do not include crimes such as domestic battery, assault, assault with a deadly weapon, battery, armed violence and reckless homicide," Michele Smith wrote.**

such as domestic battery, assault, assault with a deadly weapon, battery, armed violence and reckless homicide," Smith wrote.

"The person responsible for the issuance of Order 18.8 and the person responsible for the courts, Chief Judge Evans, has not made the data available for unbiased study," Smith asserted. "I therefore recommend a no vote to retain Chief Judge Evans (#218) despite his other accomplishments."

## Here's a look at how much prison time people get for carjacking in Chicago

BY CWBCHICAGO

Carjackings have been making headlines in Chicago for nearly two years. But what is the punishment for a carjacker convicted of hijacking someone's vehicle in Cook County?

According to sentencing data from the Cook County State's Attorney's office, defendants convicted of hijacking charges between Jan. 2017 and the end of 2021 received an average sentence of 9.4 years. Kim Foxx assumed leadership of the office in Dec. 2016.

In the seven years before Foxx was sworn in, hijacking convictions carried an average sentence of 12.4 years.

We pulled some court records to find the outcomes of some carjacking cases we reported on. Here's what we found.

### Fifteen years

Veronica Harden, a six-time convicted felon accused of committing two carjackings in Feb. 2021, was found guilty in one case during a bench trial this month.

On Feb. 24, Harden pulled a 64-year-old woman from her car in the Walgreen's parking lot, 4343 N. Kedzie, after the woman returned from picking up a prescription, prosecutors alleged. She then drove away with the vehicle.

Judge Ursula Walowski found her guilty after a bench trial on Oct. 4. Walowski sentenced Harden to 15 years on a charge of aggravated vehicular hijacking of a person over the age of 60.

The second case, which also involves attempted murder charges, is still pending.

In that matter, Harden is ac-

cused of running over a woman while carjacking a vehicle with an eight-year-old boy inside from outside a grocery store in the 3300 block of W. Belmont. The boy's mother was dragged for about 20 feet and was then run over by the vehicle. Prosecutors said she suffered a broken foot, broken ribs, and a punctured lung.

The boy jumped from the moving vehicle nearby, suffering minor injuries.

### Seven years for Loop carjacking

Treyvon Marks, 27, has pleaded guilty to carjacking a man at gunpoint in the Loop in June 2021.

Judge Neera Walsh sentenced him to seven years.

Prosecutors said the victim pulled up to an apartment building in the 200 block of W. Harrison to drop off his passengers when Marks walked up and pulled a gun from a bag. Marks drove away with the man's Volkswagen, which he promptly crashed nearby. Chicago police arrested him as he tried to climb out of the wreckage.

### Six years (plus two more)

A man who carjacked a woman in January 2021 while on bail for

PRISON see p. 7

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# Police Beat...

**North Center man who was shot - twice - had a gun inside house where he was on electronic monitoring**

A Chicago man who was shot in January, shot again a few weeks later, and then charged with illegally possessing a handgun in a stolen car days after getting out of the hospital, is back in custody. Prosecutors say authorities found a gun near his bedroom after someone shot up the North Center home where he was staying on electronic monitoring last week.

Back on March 10, Alex Hernandez, 23, allegedly crashed a stolen Toyota Camry into another vehicle in the Irving Park neighborhood and then ran from the scene. Prosecutors said he tossed a handgun onto a garage roof and then hid in the yard next door. Citizens directed police to the gun and Hernandez.



Alex Hernandez

Investigators determined that a spent shell casing they found inside the stolen car was ejected by the gun Hernandez threw onto the garage roof, prosecutors said.

During his March 12 bail hearing, a private defense attorney said Hernandez was shot during a drive-by on Jan. 17 and spent a week in the hospital. "Several weeks later," the attorney said, Hernandez was shot in the head and stomach.

He rode around incapacitated on a CTA or Metra train "for over three hours" after the shooting until a passenger realized he "was not doing OK," the lawyer said.

Hernandez got out of the hospital on March 6, just four days before he is said to have crashed the stolen car and thrown the gun onto the garage roof.

His lawyer said he was enrolled in a GED program and had a daughter who was six months old.

Judge Kelly McCarthy ordered him to pay a \$5,000 bail deposit to

go home on electronic monitoring. Prosecutors said he paid the money that same day.

Then, on Oct. 19, someone shot up a house in the 1900 block of W. Cuyler where Hernandez was staying on electronic monitoring.

The homeowner was sitting in the living room when someone fired several rounds through the front window. Chicago police found 11 shell casings outside the home.

Prosecutors said Hernandez told police he was on house arrest for drug charges, but he refused to provide identification, which made the cops suspicious. They notified the sheriff's office, and electronic monitoring agents conducted a home safety check.

The investigators allegedly found a 9-mm handgun in a filing cabinet outside the basement bedroom where Hernandez slept. The homeowner told police that neither she nor the other resident of the home owned firearms.

During a recorded jailhouse phone call, Hernandez allegedly told his mother about the gun.

"Well, yes, it's mine," he allegedly said, "but they didn't find it by me or by my stuff."

He is now charged with a new count of unlawful use of a weapon by a felon.

Judge Maryam Ahmad ordered him to pay a \$25,000 deposit toward bail to be released from custody on the new charge. Separately, he is being held on \$200,000 bail for violating bond in the March gun and stolen motor vehicle case. He must post 10% of that amount to get out of jail.

**Eight-time felon who shot and robbed man on CTA Red Line, also robbed a Loop sporting goods store**

On Oct. 26, prosecutors said an eight-time felon who shot and robbed a CTA passenger during a robbery on a Red Line train in July also robbed a sporting goods store in downtown Chicago less than three weeks earlier.

Pierre Garrett, 34, was already being held without bail for the CTA robbery and shooting when police connected him to the Loop hold-up this week.

Shortly before noon on June 21, a man entered Lids, 125 S. State, and went to the check-out counter with six jerseys — two each for Anthony Davis, Dennis Rodman, and Shaquille O'Neal, prosecutors said.

When the manager asked how

the customer wanted to pay, he said, "We're going to make this easy," then stuffed the jerseys into a bag and started to walk out.



Pierre Garrett

the robber brandishing the knife and escaping on the Red Line at State Street. CTA video showed the same man showing the newly-stolen jerseys to another passenger as they rode the train, according to prosecutors.

Police recently identified the robber as Garrett, and the store manager identified him on Tuesday, prosecutors said. He is charged with armed robbery.

On the evening of July 8, less than three weeks after the robbery, Garrett allegedly shot a man on the Red Line near 69th Street.

During a bail hearing this summer, prosecutors said Garrett pointed a gun at the victim on the train and said something to the effect of, "Give it all up."

Among the items the victim removed from his pockets was a knife, which he used to slash Garrett's face, prosecutors said. Garrett allegedly shot the man twice in the shoulder, then took his phone and backpack.

Another passenger who allegedly heard and saw the incident followed Garrett from the train station at 69th Street and directed police toward him, prosecutors said. Cops found Garrett lying in a gangway, bleeding from a slash wound to his face.

Prosecutors charged him with attempted first-degree murder, aggravated battery by discharging a firearm, and armed robbery with a firearm. Judge Mary Marubio held him without bail on July 10.

On Oct. 26, Judge Maryam Ahmad set bail at \$250,000 for the Loop robbery allegations.

**Masked burglar tried to steal ATM by tying it to a vehicle**

Prosecutors say a Chicago man tried to steal a high-rise apartment building's ATM by tying it to a vehicle with straps, but he gave up after the straps broke. He allegedly returned to the same building a few weeks later and tore a hole in the wall to steal packages from a mailroom closet.

But, while he was careful to wear a mask, he failed to cover up distinctive tattoos on his hands, which cops recognized as they reviewed surveillance video.



Arvin Basilio

On Sept. 1, Basilio and three other men broke through the back door of an apartment complex in the 7000 block of N. Kedzie and attempted to wrestle the ATM off its mounting, according to prosecutors.

But when the machine refused to budge, the men allegedly tied straps around it and attempted to pull it off its mountings with a vehicle. They gave up when the straps broke.

Three weeks later, Basilio and another man returned to the building and tried to pry open the package room door, prosecutors said. But they couldn't get it open.

So, the duo allegedly kicked and

The manager followed him until the thief pulled out a knife and threatened to stab him if he didn't back up.

Video showed the robber brandishing the

**Former controller of East Bank Club admits embezzling over \$4M**

The former controller of Chicago's East Bank Club has pleaded guilty to a federal fraud charge for embezzling more than \$4 million. Peter Craig Savely, 58, of Lake View, pleaded guilty Oct. 27 to one count of bank fraud.

The conviction is punishable by a maximum sentence of 30 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$1 million, and restitution is mandatory. U.S. District Judge Ronald A. Guzman set sentencing for Feb. 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Savely admitted in a plea agreement that from 2013 to 2020 he issued purported payroll checks on the club's bank account to four employees. Savely signed the checks as the club's controller and, since the checks also required the signature of

the club's Chief Financial Officer, forged the CFO's signature without the CFO's knowledge, the plea agreement states.

Savely then forged the payees' signatures to fraudulently endorse the checks and deposited them into bank accounts that he controlled, the plea agreement states. Savely converted more than \$4.1 million for his own personal use.

Savely admitted that he attempted to conceal the embezzlement by regularly making false entries in the club's financial ledgers and causing the losses associated with the checks to be spread across multiple departments, thereby making the losses harder to detect.

punched a hole in a wall next to the door and climbed through the hole to access the room and steal packages.

Surveillance cameras recorded both incidents, and Basilio's hand tattoos were visible in the footage, prosecutors said. He also lowered his mask during the second break-in.

Things got worse for Basilio when police arrested him outside his home on Oct. 24.

Officers who staked out the house saw him get into the driver's seat of a gold 2002 Toyota that had been reported stolen in August, prosecutors said. The cops arrested him before he drove away. Investigators say they found two stolen license plates from two different cars inside the stolen car.

Prosecutors said Basilio told police that a mechanic had given him the car three days earlier and showed him how to start it by touching wires together under the steering column. He also allegedly identified himself in surveillance images from the two break-ins.

He was convicted of two burglaries in 2019 and of possessing meth in 2017, officials said.

Judge Maryam Ahmad ordered him to pay \$20,000 toward bail to go home on electronic monitoring.

**Six days after getting out of prison for punching woman, kicking cop in the groin, man allegedly punched another woman, kicked another cop**

Six days after getting out of prison for punching a woman in the face during a robbery attempt downtown — and kicking a Chicago cop in the groin — on Oct. 25 James Killingsworth allegedly punched a woman in the face on the CTA and kicked another Chicago cop in the groin. But the Illinois Dept. of Corrections is not revoking his parole.

You may remember Killingsworth from two stories we published about him a couple of years ago.

Chicago police arrested him a few days before Christmas 2020 after he stole a woman's phone from her hand as she walked in the 1000 block of N. State. A witness tripped Killingsworth as he ran from the scene, and a police sergeant who happened to be in the area took him into custody.

"When I get out of these handcuffs," Killingsworth allegedly told an officer at the scene, "I'm going to beat your b\*tch ass."

Killingsworth then kicked the cop in the groin, prosecutors said.

Investigators later linked Killingsworth to another attack that occurred in Streeterville two days earlier.

In that case, a woman was walking in the 400 block of E. Ontario when Killingsworth ran up, punched her in the face, and tried to take her phone around 3:15 p.m. Dec. 17, 2020.

Last month, a judge sentenced

Killingsworth to four concurrent three-year prison sentences for aggravated battery of a peace officer, theft, attempted robbery, and aggravated battery in a public place.

He arrived at Stateville Correctional Center last Wednesday, Oct. 19. After receiving credits for time spent in jail and the state's standard 50% sentence reduction, he went home the same day, according to IDOC records.

Six days later, Killingsworth punched a woman in the face at the 87th Street CTA station, prosecutors said. The woman was taken to a hospital for treatment but did not have visible injuries.

Killingsworth threatened to beat up Chicago police officers who took him to the station and then kicked one of them in the groin, prosecutors alleged.

He is charged with felony aggravated battery of a peace officer and misdemeanor battery.

Judge Maryam Ahmad sighed when the prosecutor told her that IDOC was not lodging a parole hold against Killingsworth. The judge then ordered him to pay a \$12,000 bail deposit to go home on electronic monitoring.

**Car passenger dead after Rogers Park shooting**

A 25-year-old man was shot and killed while riding in a car in Rogers Park on Oct. 26, Chicago police said. Investigators found more than 25 shell casings from two weapons at the scene.

He was riding in the back seat of a car when the gunman opened fire on him from a Jeep in the 7000 block of N. Greenview around 7:51 p.m., according to a CPD statement. The victim was shot in the back and died.

Witnesses said the black Jeep fled east on Greenleaf Ave. after the shooting.

An officer said police found .40 caliber and 9-millimeter shell casings at the crime scene, which suggests more than one person may have been firing shots.

The victim is the 25th person shot in Rogers Park this year. That's up from 19 shooting victims at this point last year.

**Four hospitalized after overdosing at River North nightclub**

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**POLICE BEAT** see p. 10

# Hate crime charges filed against man who allegedly attacked gay couple in Ravenswood

BY CWBCHICAGO

A man who allegedly attacked a gay couple as they walked home from a night out in Ravenswood last month has been charged with committing a felony hate crime.

James Murray, 31, repeatedly hurled anti-gay slurs during the incident, which unfolded in the 1800 block of W. Leland around 11 p.m. on Sept. 17. He was initially charged with misdemeanor battery, but prosecutors upgraded the case to a hate crime on Oct. 28.

The 57-year-old victim, his husband, and another gay couple were saying their goodbyes outside Redline VR, 4702 N. Ravenswood, when they noticed Murray and another man approaching them, apparently



James Murray

once thought about buying. Mack said they were either holding hands or had their arms around each other as they talked about the property.

They then heard someone yell and turned around to see Murray running across the street toward them, Mack said. Murray "made a windmill motion" and hit one man

intoxicated, according to prosecutor Robert Mack.

After the couples hugged and kissed goodbye, they split up to head home. The victim and his husband walked a short distance, then stopped in front of a house they

in the head.

"What are you doing?" the man asked.

"You guys are gay as hell," Murray allegedly replied.

According to Mack, a woman walking home from work witnessed the attack and called 911.

Meanwhile, the man who had been walking with Murray earlier arrived on the scene, pushed the victim's husband in the chest, then ran back across the street yelling "f\*ggots" as the attack continued.

The victim and his husband grappled with Murray, who continued to yell "f\*ggot" and tell the men they were "gay as hell" and "gay as f\*ck" while punching the 57-year-old in the chest and breaking one of his ribs, Mack continued. And, although the couple is White, Murray referred to

them as "n\*ggers," Mack said.

They pinned Murray, who allegedly told the men to "get your d\*cks off of me," until police arrived.

When the victims told police that they believed a hate crime had occurred, Murray allegedly said he didn't know that they were gay and he "just likes hitting people," Mack said.

Police did not arrest the man who was allegedly with Murray before and during the incident, Mack said.

According to his defense attorney, Murray, who has no previous felony convictions, works full-time at a car wash.

Judge Susana Ortiz ordered Murray to post a \$3,000 deposit toward bail to get out of jail.

## PRISON from p. 5

an armed robbery case has been sentenced to six years in prison for the hijacking. And two more years for the robbery.

The victim was backing into a parking space when Demetrius Brown stuck a gun through her open driver's side window and placed the firearm barrel to her forehead, prosecutors alleged. The carjacking victim told police that her wallet, which contained a couple of \$2 bills, was inside the vehicle.

Brown and two juveniles drove away with her Nissan Maxima, which police found about 45 minutes later with the two juveniles inside and Brown standing near the trunk. Brown allegedly had a \$2 bill in his pocket when police arrested him.

Six months before the hijacking, prosecutors charged Brown with three counts of armed robbery with a firearm, according to CPD records. In that case, he was accused of pointing a loaded handgun at a victim and robbing them on the West Side. Brown went home after posting a \$500 deposit bond in that case, records show.

Judge Kenneth Wadas sentenced Brown. The prison terms will be served consecutively.

## Four years

Less than four months after a West Town man refused to pursue charges against John Daniels for carjacking him at gunpoint while he shoveled snow out of a parking spot, Daniels took an 11-year-old boy to Uptown, where they violently carjacked another man, prosecutors alleged in May 2021.

Daniels has pleaded guilty to vehicular hijacking and aggravated battery causing

great bodily harm in connection with the Uptown case. Judge Tyria Walton sentenced him to a pair of concurrent four-year prison sentences, according to court records.

The 59-year-old alleged victim was taking items out of his trunk in the 600 block of W. Buena when someone repeatedly punched him in the face while demanding the keys to his car.

As the victim fell to the ground with a broken orbital bone, a nearby resident began recording the attack on their phone, according to prosecutors. The video shows Daniels standing over the fallen man and taking keys from his hand, prosecutors said.

All of the offenders piled into the victim's car, and Daniels allegedly drove it away. About two hours later, a police squad car's license plate reader recorded a hit on the stolen car's license plate. The stolen car sped away from the CPD unit and crashed nearby. Officers saw Daniels bail out of the driver's seat and run away, prosecutors said. Police arrested him and the 11-year-old moments later.

During Daniels' initial bail hearing, a defense attorney said he had "a lot of mental health issues" and "needs help. He doesn't need to be thrown in jail and throw away the key."

In Feb. 2021, two hijackers took a 28-year-old man's Lexus at gunpoint as he tried to shovel a snowy parking spot in the 1400 block of N. Cuyler. Less than two hours later, police found the stolen car and pulled it over. Officers detained the four occupants, including the driver — John Daniels.

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, according to a CPD arrest report. But the victim reportedly told police that he "felt sorry for" the people who took his Lexus and said, "they probably need a car."

He refused to file any complaints.

## Other cases

Here are a few more outcomes of carjacking cases we reported on.

- Deonta Sanchez, 26, received two consecutive 7½-year sentences from Judge William Hooks after pleading guilty to a pair of carjackings from 2021.

- Chauncey Jordan, accused of carjacking two drivers in Bucktown while on bail for a pending gun case in Jan. 2021, pleaded guilty to armed robbery and unlawful use of a weapon. Jordan, 21, received consecu-

tive sentences of eight years and one year, respectively. Judge Maria Kuriakos-Ciesil handled the case. Prosecutors dropped 16 felony charges, including vehicular hijacking, in their deal with Jordan.

- Allen Brown, 20, lost a chunk of his eyebrow when an Uber driver bit him during a carjacking attempt in Feb. 2021. According to court records, Judge Walowski sentenced him to three years when he pleaded guilty to attempted vehicular hijacking.

- Cedrick White, a four-time felon, received a six-year sentence for hijacking an Amazon delivery truck near the Gold Coast in Dec. 2020 while on parole for Class X armed habitual criminal.



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**MORE LIKE** from p. 2

like to see this mess cleaned up.

Can't we get back to a more elegant form of programming? Don't change the music. Change the people introducing it in overdrive. Can't we purge the low-class sense of emotional neediness from the musical programming?

Have you ever listened to "The Un-Rush Hour" at 4 p.m. each afternoon? That's when a female host goes on and on about how great it is to have an hour free from commercials. She spends the length of four commercials explaining the concept of the "Un-Rush Hour" to listeners every day. They're serious. Every day. Ludicrous. As if the commercials on WFMT were the culprit in making people's commute back to Lake Forest so abysmal each day. Utter nonsense. Who does the station think it's talking to?

Classical music devotees need to be rescued from the clutches of these overzealous, under-refined jamokes.

My friend, the imperious Claudia Cassidy, was a woman of mighty words. Not unlike Studs Terkel in some odd ways. She sat behind me at the Symphony for years. The Tribune's Arts critic was always bazooing over some artistic endeavor. For weal or woe. But she was usually right in her list of complaints. She seemed ill-humored when not at the Spoleto Festival. She would not abide this latest WFMT silliness. Even Studs would recognize the inherent class-struggle at the heart of all the embarrassing antics from ridiculous hosts and management. He'd recognize the abuse of the English language and musical culture in an instant.

Or as WFMT's George Preston likes to say, "Your donation is not the icing on the cake. It's the cake."

**HOTEL SALE:** Word is that the former historic Ambassador East Hotel on Goethe and State, once the home of the Pump Room and the Buttery downstairs, and Halston's original hat shop, is coming up for sale aimed at future apartments or senior citizen housing.

**TEN-HUT:** David Harris, director of the Illinois Dept. of Revenue and a retired Major General in the U.S. Army and Illinois National Guard, has been named one of Crain's 2022 Notable Military Veteran Executives. Harris is among those being honored for being an accomplished Chicagoland veteran executive who continues to make an impact and go out of his way to help those who have served in the military. In addition to wearing a military uniform for a total of 33 years, he served as an Illinois state legisla-

tor for 18 years and was awarded the "Golden Horseshoe Award" as the most effective Republican legislator in 2011. He and his wife Michelle have two grown sons, one of whom is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

**AVIATION:** People want to know what was behind the 56-hour shut down of runway 10L/28R at O'Hare recently? Alternate runways were utilized for landings on 10C/28C, but how dangerous did things get? Does Mayor Lightfingers even have a clue?

**THE MILLIE:** Have you glimpsed a view of Michigan Avenue's new "Millie" at 300 N. Michigan Ave.? I think it's a robust handsome structure that places fresh elegance in a tired spot. There are 289 apartments and a citizenM hotel with 280 rooms, and 25,000 sq. ft. of ground level retail space. Sterling Bay and Magellan are behind this latest venture. Architect bKL.

**CHICAGO DANCE:** Congratulations to Mark Howard, founder and genius of the Trinity School of Dance, and co-choreographer and skilled dance associate Chelsea Hoy, on the world premier production of their latest work last weekend. It's a creation of many inspired artists.

**HOF:** Congrats to Ron Julian, Larry Hicks, Frank Crescenzi, Kathy Kennedy-Kartheiser, Erving Huber and Mike and Darcia Brundidge who were all named to the 2022 Hall of Fame class of the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Clubs in North Center.

**SNO BIRD:** Maestro Stanley Paul, the celebrated Pump Room favorite, sent word that he would "return in the spring," making his way to winter in the warmer temps of the desert in Palm Springs, CA. I'm sad when Stanley leaves us as he always adds a note of civility to Chicago life when he's amongst us.

**DEI SUB NUMINE VIGET:** The patrician Harold Byron Smith, Jr., 89, of Palm Beach, Florida, died at his home in Lake Geneva, WI, recently. Eldest son of Harold Byron Smith, he grew up in Barrington, attending The Choate School, Princeton and Northwestern universities. He devoted his business career to working at Illinois Tool Works Inc., a company founded by his great grandfather, Byron L. Smith, as well as serving as Director of The Northern Trust Company for 36 years, another company founded by Byron L. Smith. Harold had an active and impactful philanthropic life, serving on the Boards of The Newberry Library, Northwestern Univ., Adler Planetarium and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. The orange and black of Old Nassau is at half staff today.

## INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

**WHO'S WHERE:** Sherry Lea Fox with Paul R Iacono at Tavern on Rush, as were Eamonn Cummins and Penny Taylor, out for one last Saturday night with their posse; while Shelley Howard, Cheryl Larsen, Robert Murphy and Steve Traxler took a walk down Memory Lane at the Tavern... Janet and Rodger Owen in San Diego at Torrey Pines Golf Club... Dan Balanoff at the United Center for the opening night Blackhawks and Red Wings game... Hector Gustavo Cardenas and Marius Morkvenas in Paris at Art Basel art... Frank N. Jeffrey had a sumptuous 50th birthday bash tossed by his love Todd Hatoff... Amy Hawks and Jody MacDonald traveled down to Brooklyn, NY, from Portland Maine... Courtney Thompson dining with a great mix of family and friends including her wonderful mom, Pat Daley Martino... Steve Dahl's granddaughter, Margaret, is pre-schooling and already a star, an artist in residence... Desiree Glapion Rogers in New Orleans at the Academy of the Sacred Heart School reunion... Steven Zick at Christie's in New York for the evening sale session of the Ann and Gordon Getty Collection... Barb Bailey and Ed Howlett at BJ Murray's Libra Party at Marchesa... Bill McCready and Linda Sitka in Seville, Spain, eating up the flamenco and street dancing... Judy Bross overjoyed to be back in her cozy Canadian retreat in Murray Bay... Edward Galvin in fabulous Alfama, Lisboa, Portugal... Maria Pappas dining with supporters at Himmel's on Lawrence Ave., all remembering dear departed Erich Himmel... Lucia Adams watching the Eiffel Tower sparkle in the Parisian moonlight... Realtors Dan and Laurie Baker Lawlor sailing the Washington and Oregon coasts and glamping in wine country along far western rivers... Tom Hackett and Tom McGovern in sunny Lisboa, Portugal with the next stop Africa... Chilli Pepper with Chuck Jordan at the fabulous birthday bash for Frank N. Jeffrey... Jeff and Stephanie Leese Emrich weekending in a Frank Lloyd Wright "Usonian House" in Twin Rivers, WI... Irene Michaels in Nashville at the Grand Ole Opry in Minnie Pearl land... Barb Bailey at Suzette's Creperie in Wheaton to see Judy Roberts and Greg Fishman... WGN on-air attorney Karen Conti dining with a colorful crew at La Scandola. Around the table Alex Pissios, who just sold Cinespace, Chicago's great 1.5 million square foot film studio, and the full-haired former Governor of Illinois Rod Blagojevich.

**SHOPPING CENTER:** The Morgan Park Shopping Center on Chicago's South Side just sold for \$30 million.

**BIG EASY:** Thad Wong, Emily Sachs Wong and daughter, Hattie Wong, at Hansen's Sno-Bliz, in New Orleans, celebrating the parents of Tulane Univ., discovering a good Vietnamese restaurant, two good coffee shops, and another shop for snowcones... and bravo to Thad, named 2022 HousingWire Van-



The Tavern on Rush has its well-earned reputation for judgment-free dining for clients of curious unpredictability.

**GONE** from p. 2

fect attendance status by their longstanding presence every Thursday for Italian feasts. We were joined for this last hurrah by Brian Wright, Larry's son, a well-known Chicago Rap artist.

There was a thunderous vibe sitting outside on a moonlit night requiring non-stop greetings to everyone congregating on Rush St., as if lighting had struck the entire block all at once. Many stopping to chat with me or my table partners by name.

A wondrous Chicago moment. One of 'those' nights, even met Bill Zwecker.

Over the course of the past 25 years it's a fact that Tavern served 8 million diners. Perhaps that's why both the interior floors were so jammed packed.

Old romantics consumed by nostalgia lined up for the chance to relive the past one last time. We were all witnesses.

You could not see this remarkable collection of people and not understand how lucky Chicago is. No other American city could create such an expansive streetscape of rarified patio dining among so many top restaurants. Tavern, Carmine's, LuxBar, Gibson's and Hugos form an outdoor dining space that is the envy of every restaurateur, foodie, socialite, player, partier and raconteur.

I did spot (and won't name) a well-known Lake Shore Dr. socialite looking for a table with a much younger gentlemen in tow. Slipping a big tip to a host. I recognized her handsome companion as the much younger parking garage attendant from a lakefront vintage building. I was told they often

went to Tavern to grab dinner, unabashedly. She likes to entertain when her husband is out of town and takes the lad with her to Palm Beach during the winters.

Restaurant staff was really working overtime. I was glad we were outside in the much cooler temperatures. Stefani was making the rounds of tables sharing familiar stories and quirky anecdotes. With more than his fair share of selfies taken. There were no strangers there, just friends sharing a final moment for a concluding legendary meal. We did catch a glimpse of a Chicago attorney with a busboy from another well-known fancy restaurant. This couple has been an item of mutual affection ever since the lawyer gave the busboy a car two years ago, creating no end of gossip.

But the restaurant has its well-earned reputation for judgment-free dining for clients of curious unpredictability.

Sadly for our readers, the best stories told this night are never going to see a printed page.

Serious drinks and authentic Italian cuisine, wedded to prime Chicago steaks was the timeless standard for the hungry Rush St. crowd. The plan that jump-started the magic formula that so endeared Tavern on Rush to Chicago palates and hearts. A place to be at home. Where everyone knows all the secrets, and nobody tattles. The stories that tantalize and titillate like a favorite Sinatra tune. Or a homemade cannoli to savor for its sweetness and its crunch. The reminder of how very lucky we are when everything fits. Arrivederci.

senting a series of new paintings and works on paper including rarely shown Skull, Bat, and Pajama Girl paper works.

**This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.**

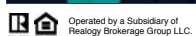
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**COLDWELL BANKER REALTY**



The cover of Edgewater resident Paul Marinaro's latest album, "Not Quite Yet."

**ANTISEMITISM** from p. 3

she opened BET, 4450 N. Clark St. When you're seeing a production there, it just seems like people are colorblind because they're spellbound by the amazing music, high energy, fabulous talent and a whole lotta love. For 90 minutes, there is no black or white. Anyone who can maintain a hate-filled heart while at that theater is the true definition of a hater. (But even The Grinch changed. So can antisemites and racists.)

In "Blue Heaven," we're taken to a performance venue in Heaven, God's blues club, "Pearly's." We meet four late great blues legends -- Big Momma Thornton, Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters and Stevie Ray Vaughn--who reminisce about their lives, and the ups and downs of their careers. They're there waiting for the new guy, B.B. King, eager to give him some advice about meeting "The Boss."

Each and every one of the five performers took me back in time, and I felt as if I was seeing the real thing on stage. (The band is fantastic too!)

As Big Momma Thornton, Micah Lathan blew me away with

her soulful voice; Lyle Miller as Howlin' Wolf made me want to start howling with approval at his splendid performance; Dwight Neal as Muddy Waters reminded me why we in Chicago loved the influential bluesman so; Aaron Reese Boseman as B.B. King made me want to get up and start shaking it; and Billy Rude as Stevie Ray Vaughn, well, as someone who saw Stevie Ray and his band open for Eric Clapton at Alpine Valley the night before Vaughn died, I could not believe how spot on Rude's swagger, attire, and mannerisms were to Vaughn's. Not to mention the guy totally rocks out with his guitar playing, just like Stevie Ray did.

Once B.B. King arrives, what ensues is a blues concert that truly is made in Heaven. I've been going to BET for many years and I never cease to be amazed at the power of both its talent and its message.

Kudos to "Blue Heaven," writer and director Daryl D. Brooks (who brought his totally-adorable daughter on stage after the show) on a lively musical that definitely provided a heavenly afternoon for the audience. I think that "The Boss," upstairs would be mighty impressed.

**Smooth-as-silk...** is the voice of crooner Paul Marinaro, an Edgewater resident who just released his latest album, "Not Quite Yet," a pandemic/post pandemic look at life, love, and the search for meaning. The album "is an honest and personal collection of songs which address themes and reflect moods that are characteristic of me at this stage," Marinaro said. He'll hold an Album Release Concert at 8 p.m. Friday night at the Studebaker Theater, 410 S. Michigan Ave. (Tix: www.fineartsbuilding.com).

**Correction on bylines**

In the Oct. 26 issue of this newspaper, bylines were wrongly placed on a story detailing the latest property tax study from the Cook County Treasurer's Office, "How Wealthy Investors Are Making Millions Exploiting Illinois Property Tax Law." Neither Todd Lighty, the study's author, nor Hal Dardick the study's editor, wrote the article that appeared in this paper and carried their bylines. We regret the error.



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**Letters to the Editor**

**A mistake to do nothing  
 because you can only do little**

In his letter of Oct. 26, Mr. Derek Davis expresses appeasement of the rule-breakers camped in Touhy Park, and confused the question of how many tents are there. The number of tents varies depending on which day they are counted. I counted 13 early in the invasion. There are many more now.

Yes, poverty and homelessness have been in Rogers Park for a long time - longer than any tents have been in a city park there.

Since these people are breaking the closing-time rule, one is too many. I don't have to go there after closing time to verify this - just look at the dead grass underneath the tents.

Let's not be mistaken about how much of the park's open space is still available for permitted uses. The space occupied by the tents is bigger than all the rest of the unassigned space in this park. The tennis courts, softball fields, and playground equipment are all explicitly reserved for those uses, unless they're vacant at a given time.

But an essential part of parks is that a lot of their open spaces are not designed for single uses; they're "reserved" for the public to do whatever they want there that's not against the rules, and only during their open hours.

The homeless campers are hogging most of the unassigned open space there.

Sydney Smith once said: "It is the greatest of all mistakes, to do

nothing because you can only do little." Davis apparently wants the public to wait "until more is done to achieve social and economic justice" for the illegally placed tents to be removed from Touhy Park. Until then, "the open green spaces in Rogers Park ... will always be at risk...".

The only green spaces in dispute here are in Touhy Park. The only reason they're being used illegally is that police refuse to enforce the closing time. Removal of this particular green space from its established unassigned day-use-only status in fact violates the social and economic justice that the nearby residents deserve from this park. Most of them can't afford the huge back yards which could substitute for this green space. And they certainly can't afford to build a private field house where local families can enjoy the programs which have been moved to Pottawatomie Park.

Restoring social and economic justice for the law-abiding neighbors of Touhy Park has to start with full enforcement of Park District rules for it. That's to be done by Chicago Police.

Many Chicago residents are suffering from various kinds of social and economic injustice; all want relief. The abuse of Touhy Park is something requiring police action to begin to solve.

*Jean SmilingCoyote  
 West Ridge*

**It's not 'sweet' -  
 it's 'smelly'**

The "Sweetheart real estate deal" at 4715 N. Lincoln Ave. did not "just get even sweeter," to me it got a bit smellier (Inside-Booster, Oct. 19-25).

Every week it seems to get smellier still. One of the developers is vice chair of the City of Chicago's Commission on City Landmarks. If there was ever an insider-clouted deal, this would be it. He has inside information on the workings of City Hall and knows the people who make the decisions, and probably works with them. He is not a low level employee on the city payroll but is in the upper echelons.

On the surface it seems that the city is going out of its way to make a number of exceptions and concessions in this deal. I don't know if it's a conflict of interest in that some commissioners seem to be lending an overly friendly hand in getting special permits and zoning changes, but this whole deal sure stinks, in my opinion.

*Mario Caruso  
 Lincoln Square*

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## Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

### Real Estate For Sale

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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.

### Real Estate For Sale

For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to the notice number 149855.  
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales.  
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: [CookPleadings@hsbattys.com](mailto:CookPleadings@hsbattys.com) Attorney File No. 149855 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 12 CH 22935 TJSOC#: 42-3104  
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 # 12 CH 22935 **13204980**  
262626 .....  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v- TIBERIU KVASZNICZA; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; 7306 NORTH WINCHESTER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants, 22 CH 1696  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

### Real Estate For 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, November 21, 2022 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. 11-30-408-076-1026.  
Commonly known as 7320 North Rogers Ave., Chicago, IL 60626.  
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. 22-003482 ADC F2 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION [intercountyjudicialsales.com](http://intercountyjudicialsales.com) **13204923**  
191919 .....  
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### Real Estate For Sale

020202 .....  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WINTRUST MORTGAGE, a division of Barrington Bank & Trust Co., N.A., Plaintiff, vs. GERALD NORDGREN as Special Representative for Kevin Falsey; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF Kevin Falsey; JULIE FALSEY; JERRY FALSEY; MICHAEAL FALSEY; MICHAEL FALSEY; TIMOTHY FALSEY; COLETTE FALSEY; MEGHAN FALSEY; ERIN FALSEY; 30 EAST HURON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION UNKNOWN OWNERS; and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants, 19 CH 14067  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 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. 17-10-104-037-1239 and 17-10-104-037-1475.

### Real Estate For Sale

Commonly known as 30 E. Huron Street, #3209, 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. Stephen G. Daday at Plaintiff's Attorney, Klein, Daday, Aretos & O'Donoghue, LLC, 1051 Perimeter Drive, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173. (847) 590-8700. Falsey INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION [intercountyjudicialsales.com](http://intercountyjudicialsales.com) **13205344**  
262626 .....  
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Paula Fasseas [left], founder of PAWS Chicago.

## Fur Ball is Nov. 11

What other formal black tie event can you bring your date and a pet to, other than the Fur Ball, hosted by PAWS Chicago?

The 21st annual Chicago Fur Ball will be held at The Drake Hotel on Friday, Nov. 11. This pet-friendly event is one of the top social events every fall. The crew and supporters will return to raise funds for this No Kill rescue, one of the largest in the Midwest. On the North Side they're headquartered along the Clybourn Corridor at the Phippen Fasseas Adoption Center, 1997 N. Clybourn Ave.

Guests are encouraged to dress their pets in formal wear and walk the red carpet for an exciting celebration that will include silent and live auctions, one-of-a-kind raffle, dancing and dinner buffets.

Lucky dogs in attendance will enjoy a divine dinner served in crystal goblets at a special doggie buffet as well as pawdicures, massages and spritzes in the Dog Spa.

PAWS Chicago began their journey in 1997, with a goal that PAWS would work to end the unnecessary killing each year of tens of thousands of helpless cats and dogs.

Today, as they enter their 25th anniversary year, their solutions-based approach has led the way to a 91% drop in euthanasia citywide since their founding. They have performed more than 280,000 free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries, found homes for more than 70,000 pets, and consistently saved 98% of the pets who come through their doors.

This year's event will be co-chaired by Nancy Timmers and Jon Harris with honorary chairs Melissa and Michael Canning. For tickets visit [www.pawschicago.org/furball](http://www.pawschicago.org/furball).

## TRADER JOE'S from p. 1

hood. Those in opposition said they believe the store will ruin Andersonville's unique identity.

Due to the inherent limitations of a virtual meeting, where attendees are mostly muted, it was difficult to know exactly where the majority opinion is.

One of those in attendance asked the Schwartzs to confirm or deny that they had already signed a Letter of Intent with them.

"Yes. The Letter of Intent has been negotiated," said Alan Schwartz.

Responding to another attendee's question about Trader Joe's commitment to the neighborhood, George provided a lengthy response.

"They have a National Hunger program that they support nationwide, and they try to do it locally, too. They try to support local community. They have a regular donor coordinating person in each store that works with the community to try to fund different community organization requests. It's something that they already do," said George.

"I know the aldermen asked me to find out what they do around the country. And I did. They have this National Hunger pro-

gram that they endorse and support. They have these local organizations that they support. And so that's really their position. They're very much involved in the communities in which they are located. They do get involved. They join the local chamber

## Those in opposition said they believe the store will ruin Andersonville's unique identity.

of commerce. They do all the other things that any good business would do to try to be engaged. They try to make sure that the communities that they're going into are supported," George said.

Another person asked George if the project would be receiving any government funding.

"We're not receiving any Tax-Increment Financing money or any other financial entitlement as part of this project," he said.

George was also asked if the size of the development would make it a Planned Development [PD] by City Hall. Developments designated as PDs receive more oversight.

"This is not a PD, so we don't have to appear before the city's Plan Commission or zoning [in the Dept. of Planning and De-

velopment]," George added.

Towards the end of the meeting, Morgan Madderom, Vasquez's director of infrastructure and community engagement, urged participants to submit their comments to the 40th Ward office via an online feedback form at 40th Ward Zoning Change Feedback Form ([airtable.com](https://airtable.com)).

"If the general neighbors aren't supportive of the development, our office will take that consideration making our decision. But if there's a lot of feedback and concerns that we can bring those to the developer and work on coming up with a new plan, there'll be a second public meeting for that. It's important for you to fill out that form sometime within the next two weeks," said Madderom.

While Vasquez said it was too early to know if he will schedule a second meeting, he urged his constituents to comment about it.

"I appreciate the thoughtfulness and the questions, as well as the concerns. I think we'll be looking at the impact of anything coming into the neighborhood. And obviously, when it's a larger development, we want to take all those questions [and concerns] into consideration. So, we'll be looking through all the comments," said Vasquez.



Nineteen stories will be added to a Northwestern Hosp. building at 303 E. Superior St., with more than half that space toward a biomedical research center.

## GIFT from p. 1

molishing Bertrand Goldberg's Prentice Women's hospital. After a public fight that included a failed landmark bid and letters of objection from architects including Frank Gehry and Jeanne Gang, Northwestern proceeded with demolition and the building came down in 2013. The 12-story Phase 1 was completed in 2019.

Directly across the street, Northwestern has plans to build a skybridge and expand into an existing hotel, converting the fifth and sixth floors of the Hyatt Centric Chicago Magnificent Mile hotel into medical offices. The proposed project would create

## After a public fight that included a failed landmark bid and letters of objection from architects including Frank Gehry and Jeanne Gang, Northwestern proceeded with demolition and the building came down in 2013.

about 41,000 square feet of medical offices to meet a growing demand for outpatient medical services.

## HYATT from p. 1

plan was to expand the hospital. The hotel serves as a place for patients and their families to stay on campus while receiving care, and also hosts conferences and events.

It's a bad time right now for hotels post-pandemic, with Chicago's meeting and convention business in shambles and tourism struggling to fill the current glut of available rooms. Hotels in Chicago have struggled more than those in warm-weather states for a variety of reasons, including concerns over safety.

Additionally, Chicago's additions to medical office supply outpaced the average expansion in major markets across the rest of the nation by about 5% over the last decade, according to Crain's.

The Chicago metropolitan area added more than 4 million square feet in the sector during that time, an 18% increase.

The City Council will need to sign off on the plan since it requires a rezoning to allow for medical services. In addition, Northwestern's plans for a diagonal crossing pedestrian bridge will require a zoning change.

Northwestern paid a relatively low amount for the leasehold interest in the hotel property — the first hotel purchase for the 11-hospital healthcare system — because the sellers were in the process of leaving the Chicago market entirely.

THE

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