

The best vision
is insight.
— Malcolm Forbes

INSIDE-BOOSTER

AN INSIDE PUBLICATIONS NEWSPAPER

FREE

VOL. 120, NO. 48

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

insideonline.com

Chicago Transit Authority is city's third budget crisis



CTA's budget shortfall is projected to be \$577 million. As of 2023, CTA ridership remained at 60% of the pre-pandemic 2019 levels. Rail ridership is down 46%.

City still facing loss of ridership

BY PAUL VALLAS
Illinois Policy Institute

Besides the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools, the city is facing a third major financial crisis: the Chicago Transit Authority.

By 2026, when COVID-19 federal bailout money runs out, the CTA's budget shortfall is projected to be \$577 million. That deficit dwarfs the city and schools' budget deficits: it will be almost 26.7% of the current \$2.16 billion budget. Neither the CTA nor City Hall offer any evidence they can address the crisis and avoid major fare increases or service cuts.

The severity of the current crisis is rooted in the dramatic drop in ridership combined with the

transit system's apparent inability or unwillingness to rein-in costs despite this drop.

As of 2023, CTA ridership remained at 60% of the pre-pandemic, 2019 levels. Rail ridership is down 46%. The fare box currently recovers barely one-fifth of the operating costs. It all leads to a high likelihood of a major fare increase and service cuts once pandemic money is spent.

Short of a massive federal bailout and state subsidies, there's no financial solution to the present budget crisis without restoring ridership. Transit agencies have threatened to cut services by 40%, but draconian fare increases and service cuts will only decrease ridership and hurt finances further. The key to restoring ridership is in the CTA prioritizing public safety and providing consumers with confidence that

public transportation is safe and reliable.

A WBEZ survey of CTA riders last year concluded there is a real perception the CTA is unsafe. Almost half (45%) said they felt "somewhat unsafe" or "very unsafe" riding a bus or train, while a similar percentage (47%) said they felt "fairly safe." Only 7% of respondents said they felt "very safe" riding a bus or train in the past 30 days.

The CTA has boosted spending on security services in recent years, nearly tripling its security services budget from \$23.9 million in 2022 to \$65.2 million for 2024.

The CTA awarded a contract worth up to \$30.5 million in 2022 to politically connected security firm Monterrey and one worth up to \$40.5 million to Inter-Con Security, documents show, and now has more than 400 unarmed guards patrolling the system.

There is also a direct link between public safety and reliable service. The general perception about safety is shared by CTA transit operators. This has a direct impact on transit operators' work — creating morale issues, impacting their productivity and contributing to absenteeism. It also undermines the transit system's ability to retain and recruit transit operators, which in turn

CRISIS see p. 12

Four more plead guilty in \$6 million North Side Home Depot gift card scam

BY CWBCHICAGO

Four more people have pleaded guilty to participating in a massive, years-long gift card scam that caused Chicago-area Home Depot stores to lose more than \$6 million. All four received probation, but one also received a jail sentence that was satisfied by time considered served.

We told you about the racket when it surfaced in the spring of 2023. Officials said Home Depot stores in the city were defrauded by scammers who collected \$900 credits more than 6,000 times for a single purchase made three years ago.

Officials said the scam began in March 2020 when someone purchased over \$6,000 from the company's 2570 N. Elston location. Days later, someone returned to the store, claimed the purchase was for a tax-exempt church, and received a \$900 gift card for the tax amount. (Oddly, the taxes for the purchase only totaled \$555, according to a Chicago police report.)

Then the scam grew and grew, slowly at first.

Unknown persons used the

same receipt to get \$900 gift cards 15 times in 2020. In 2021, the receipt was used to generate gift cards 33 times. But the ruse grew substantially in 2022, with

Participants became so bold in the scheme's waning days, some cashiers issued multiple gift cards for the same purchase in one sitting. And some of them even had a copy of the receipt stored on their personal phones so they could issue gift cards to themselves, officials said.

1,372 gift cards issued for \$900 in "tax credits" on the same purchase. Last year, Home Depot issued \$900 gift cards for the exact same receipt 3,200 times between Jan. 1 and mid-May, which is when the arrests began.

Participants became so bold in the scheme's waning days, some cashiers issued multiple gift cards for the same purchase in one sit-

ting. And some of them even had a copy of the receipt stored on their personal phones so they could issue gift cards to themselves, officials said.

Christiana Westbrooks, 39, pleaded guilty to theft of \$100,000 to \$500,000 in exchange for a two-year probation sentence from Judge Thomas Byrne. Prosecutors said she used her unique teller code to issue \$900 gift cards on the same receipt more than 1,000 times last year. She was carrying \$2,980 in cash when police arrested her and she allegedly admitted to receiving \$100 for every gift card she issued.

Sharon Dwyer, 47, pleaded guilty to the same charge in exchange for a two year probation sentence plus 206 days from Judge Byrne. Prosecutors claimed she issued more than 1,500 gift cards worth a total of \$1.3 million last year. She allegedly received \$30 for every gift card she issued during the scam. In addition to giving cards to scammers who posed as customers, Dwyer was accused of scanning an image of the 2020 receipt from her phone and issu-

GUILTY see p. 12



After defeating Coal City, DePaul Prep is going to play in the state championship football game on Nov. 29.

DePaul Prep in championship game, defeats Coal City in 4A semi-final

DePaul vs. Mt. Zion at Normal (Hancock Stadium), Fri., Nov. 29

BY JACK LYDON

DePaul Prep is in the state championship game. No, not basketball. Football.

That's right. The DePaul Prep Rams football team went to Coal City, IL, and defeated the historically good Coalers football team 21-14 on Nov. 23. The Rams will face Mt. Zion 7 p.m. Friday in the IHSA State Championship at Illinois State University's Hancock Field.

The Rams finished second in the CCL/ESCC Purple Division this year with a 6-3 record. They only elevated out of the CCL/ESCC's lowest division last year with a record 4-6 last year. DePaul Prep has had exactly one playoff appearance in 10 years of existence. They were pasted 40-0 in 2015 by Elmwood-Brumfield.

Not anymore. No hiding it. No denying it. No avoiding it. Believe it. These Rams are legit.

They have very good players and excellent coaches. The team can run and pass. They can run up the middle. They can run wide. They can pass deep. They can pass short. They come back when they are behind. They can play defense. They stop the run. They stop the pass. They sack the quarterback. They bend but not break. They hold a lead.

The Rams had a few miscues

in the first half that kept the game within reach for the Coalers. Rams highly regarded senior quarterback, Fernando "Juu" Rodriguez, scrambled out of trouble for a nice gain only to turn the ball over while going down. A little while later, after an amazing run through the Coal City defense, Rams' senior running back Nick Martinez fumbled the ball just outside the endzone only to have it recovered by Coal City for a touchback.

The Rams defense handled the Coalers in the first half. The Coalers never threatened.

But there was plenty of fight left in them. The Coalers took the second half kickoff and drove down the field, six and seven yards at a time, to tie the game 7-7.

The Rams answered in three plays. A 39-yard touchdown pass from Rodriguez to senior wide receiver Matthew Osterman gave the Rams the lead 14-7.

One never felt like the Rams would lose the game. It just took too much for Coal City to score. The Coalers put up another touchdown. The Rams answered again.

"Juu is the best quarterback in the state," said a fan in the celebration after the game.

"I am just focused on us winning. Just getting to this moment and winning next week," said Rodriguez. He's probably not the best quarterback in the state. He's probably not the best quarterback

DEPAUL see p. 12

Seminary from Cornelia to Eddy will be converted to a two-way street

Starting Dec. 2, Seminary from Cornelia to Eddy streets in Lake View will be permanently converted to a two-way street. This change aims to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety.

Currently, vehicles heading north often create backups and reduced visibility by making left

turns onto Clark from Eddy. This stretch of Seminary is regularly converted to a two-way during public events at Wrigley Field to help manage congestion, and foster a more consistent traffic pattern.

Signage will be posted several days ahead of the change.

What are the deonyms for bringing comfort to others?



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Do you ever use “deonyms” in your speech? Not sure?

You have if you've ever vacuumed with a Hoover, cried into a Kleenex, tinkled tunes on the Steinway, or measured how often you Google, Taser or Xerox?

In each case, the brand name became synonymous with the product itself. Others like Dumpster, Thermos, Chapstick, Frisbee and Escalator all get added to the list of a deonym.

Band-Aid is also a most prominent example. So are Jet Ski, Rollerblades, Pogo Stick, Scotch tape, Ziplock bags, Dustbuster, AstroTurf, Crock-Pot, and Hula Hoop.

Such syntax producing “wordology” for famous products brings a certain historic realism with them to the cultural assemblage, product and invention nomenclature. The deonyms are

a handy element of speech that focuses on form as well as the function, as well as utility, and the name of the inventor.

Our American language is rich and thick with the vibrant use of deonyms. Less complicated than the meandering phonetics of British purists and polished aristocratic English youth shaped in prep schools of trustfund-ese. A favorite linguistic application of the rich and powerful.

Remarkably, the very use of certain words are class borders never to be crossed for some. So in good old England if you use “toilet,” instead of “lavatory” that's seemingly a class betrayal. But dinner is now a preferred term for evening dining rather than supper. Napkin far out-polls serviette for use at the table now. Toilet, however, has no social redemption to it.

What do the words say about an individual's vocabulary, about our socio-economic place on the planet? About our blood, how blue and all that? What does our vocabulary say about our psychological profile?

There's another critical dimension to such vocabulary analysis. Do people understand us when we speak or give directions, instructions or warnings?

Does our English carry the power of engaging speech? Are

they words of common sense and intelligence?

Our vocabulary is also an immediate reference to the world we live in. The daily enterprise of engaging the world around us. A vital dimension of the rational world that surrounds everything. Seen through the focused sight of our own eyes that identify the curiosity of every scene. Finding shared purpose.

That's all good at the top of the season, the Advent season, the four weeks of readying for Christmas. Darker days. Dimmer moments when the sunlight is more scarce. The winds more turbulent for looking inside the drama and mystery of love. Overturning the predictable living of life on the dry desert floors of our heart.

Advent's four weeks are the perfect time to measure our cares and concerns for others. For their quality of life and their affirmed living.

Perhaps discovering the nearby who are homeless might be an incentive for us to visit the toy store or designer salon one less time preparing for Christmas. Embracing the neediness of another before gifting ourselves. Perhaps one less night going out for dinner each week might open us to the struggle of hunger among the thrown away.

Maybe the purchase would introduce our preparations for Christmas to the hardships and limits of people not far from us. In turn a donation to a local soup kitchen or food pantry may be a good idea.

Isn't Christmas, after all, synonymous with goodwill toward others?

Donating warm clothes, gloves, scarves, jackets and boots for children and adults in a local shelter can help grow our sensitivities to the neediness of others who struggle every day. What's more filled with love than strengthening the comfort of others at one of the most personally focused times of the year?

Adding balance to the hardship of others not only changes their lives, but ours as well. Great things unfold when we reach out to the hungers of others.

Christmas miracles are as close

as the heartache of others. It patterns and shapes the roadway to an eternal Bethlehem. Days that can reshape the quality of living and the hospitality of the place we love. It will make all our nights holy.

Perhaps the most important words, as we embark on this holiday season are, “How can I help you?”

NO ENTRY: How quickly Mayor **Brandon Johnson** has become persona non-grata. How many more funerals will he be disinvented from?

MAYOR VISITS: The Lord Mayor of Galway, Chicago's Sister City, **Peter Keane** and champion Irish fiddler **Patricia Treacy** with **Eamonn Cummins** were at the University Club luncheon following Funeral Rites for Chicago restaurateur **Billy Lawless**.

METRO CHICAGO: **Joe Shanahan** honored working with Front 242 for the past 40 years. “**Richard, Patrick, Jean Luc** we appreciate this special weekend, as the thunderous soundcheck rumbles through the Metro Chicago it still creates a great atmosphere and feeling of celebration. Thank you **Jason Novak** and **Julie Nash** and **Mark Skillicorn** for making this such a great community event for us all.”

NOW OPEN: Let's go ice skating at Maggie Daley Park this holiday season, 337 E. Randolph.

ARTS: The arts service organization 3Arts has announced that **Cat Tager**, the current Director of Development and Partnerships, has been promoted to Executive Director, effective Jan. 1, 2025. Tager, a professional musician herself and longtime former Board member and veteran arts administrator, succeeds 3Arts Founding Executive Director **Esther Grimm** who has helmed the vital arts funding organization for 23 years. Grimm will serve as Executive Advisor in 2025.

MONEY: the Chicago Public Library Foundation raised \$1.2 million at literary awards gala recently.

CRASH: Avondale's Our Lady Of Fatima Church to be demolished for 3 single-family homes.

GOODMAN: Goodman The-

atre's new Scrooge knows a thing or two about bah-humbugging. “I'm piecing it together in a room full of people who know the show very, very well and have their own histories with the show. I feel like I'm in good hands,” actor **Christopher Donahue** says.

BOOKS: Chicago Review of Books has announced that **Parneshia Jones**, acclaimed poet and director of Northwestern University Press, will receive the Adam Morgan Literary Leadership Award at the 2024 CHIRBy Awards. In the era of growing censorship, Parneshia and her team are leading the way in publishing work that redefines the possibilities for political literature.

BIRTHDAY SHOW: **Barb Bailey's** birthday show is at Daventport's Piano Bar and Cabaret, Thurs., Dec. 12 (**Sinatra's** b-day too) doors open at 7:30 p.m., showtime 8 p.m. with fabulous special guest singers **Ireen Moji-ca** and **Tim Borden**. Hosted by **Barry Edwards** - Dick Clark's American Bandstand's only DJ and Entertainment Director.

PITCHFORK: Local club owners lament the loss of Pitchfork after-shows. “Their absence will be felt,” Lincoln Hall booker says after Chicago music festival announces it's taking 2025 off.

MURDER AT BALLYFIN: The elegantly refined Ballyfin, an 18th century country house and estate in Co. Laois, Ireland, was the tragic scene of a murder when the body of New York financier, **John McGowan**, 66, was discovered. His son, **Henry McGowan**, 30, of Brooklyn, was charged with beating his father to death. The younger McGowan has a history of psychiatric problems and had fled the U.S. Ballyfin, a five-star lodging, is owned by the Krehbiel Corporation of Chicago.

NOTRE DAME: Former Univ. of Notre Dame football coach

COMFORT see p. 8

- Ronald Roenigk *Publisher & Editor*
- Sheila Swann *Art Director & Production Mgr*
- Jeff Zimmerman *Account Executive*
- Cindy Amadio *Account Executive*
- Kathleen Guy *Account Executive*

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



Your friendly neighborhood newspaper brought to you free by our advertisers. We encourage our readers to share their ideas and concerns with the community through this publication. All letters must include name, address and phone number. Names will be withheld upon request. We reserve the right to edit letters to fit our space.

All material in this publication copyright ©2024 Inside Publications and can only be reprinted with permission of the publisher.

Where can you find a copy of INSIDE-BOOSTER, NEWS-STAR AND SKYLINE?
Inside has numerous “drop spots” on the North Side of Chicago, between the Loop and Howard Street, and between the lake and west to Kedzie. To find out which spots are most convenient for you, call (773) 465-9700 and give the zip code where you live or work. Or visit insideonline.com and click on “Paper Pickup Locations.” The best time to pick up our paper is on Thursday mornings. If your business would like to become a regular drop spot, please call and let us know!

insideonline.com




TEA ROSE FLOWER SHOP

SHOP HOURS:
WED/TH/FR/SAT 10-6
SUN 10-3

773-654-3040
tskorey2468@gmail.com
3314 W. BRYN MAWR
CHICAGO, IL

Deliveries to Chicagoland Area / Sympathy / Prom / Weddings
Classes / Holiday Decor / Gifts / Plants / Jewelry / Quinceañera
Reception Desk Weeklies / Corporate Events / Monthly Subscriptions
Gift Baskets / Anniversaries / Mitzvah / Graduation

:tearoseflowershop : Tea Rose Flower Shop



DUBLIN'S
BAR AND GRILL

A touch of Ireland at the corner of State and Rush.
A place to see and be seen.

1050 N. State St.
Open 10 a.m. to 4 a.m. 365 days a year
312-266-6340 dublinschicago.com

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB
1-855-417-1306

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

CityHome
Vacuums & More

We feature Miele and ORECK and service all makes & models

2 Locations!

2646 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
773-348-4500

148 N. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
708-660-9800

Open 7 Days All Major Credit Cards Accepted

www.cityhomevacuum.com

MENTION THIS AD
to receive 10% OFF on your order

Builders seek enhanced affordable-housing tax incentives, claim Chicago rent growth highest in nation



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

“Let us build!” Those pro-development words were printed on panel-moderator Frank Campise’s name tag at the heavily attended Lincoln Park Builders of Chicago’s 35th annual Real Estate Forum held at the Theater on the Lake on Nov. 21.

Campise, principal and head of acquisitions for JAB Real Estate, seemed to sum up the mood of more than 1,000 forum attendees. Founded in 1968, the Lincoln Park Builders [LPB] is an honorary society of influential real estate builders, developers, managers and principals.

“Chicago’s tiered tax structure on affordable housing is not good enough,” said panelist Adam Friedberg, CEO of Mavrek Development. “Other cities better appreciate builders with greater tax incentives.”

Panelist Ciere Boatright, Commissioner of the Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development, seemed to be on the defensive, as

builder panelists and forum attendees championed their cause.

“Some things don’t pencil-in for the city,” Boatright repeatedly told builders at the forum.

“Let us build and we will help reduce the city’s budget deficit,” summarized one North Side housing advocate. “Boatright hit some key talking points—including \$6-billion in development that was recently approved—but everyone in the jam-packed room knew how tough the city is making things for development-investment in Chicago.”

“Chicago’s tiered tax structure on affordable housing is not good enough,” said panelist Adam Friedberg, CEO of Mavrek Development. “Other cities better appreciate builders with greater tax incentives.”

It is noteworthy that President-elect Donald Trump was not a topic of discussion at the LPB forum, analysts said. Not surprisingly, with a powerful Democratic Socialist on the panel, why rock Boatright’s boat?

Nationwide, the counties where it’s most difficult to buy a home



Over 1,000 people attended the Lincoln Park Builders Club forum last Thursday at Theater on the Lake. Founded in 1968, the Lincoln Park Builders is an honorary society of influential people in the local real estate industry.

saw the biggest voter shifts toward Trump in the election, according to an NBC News analysis of housing and voting data. That widespread rightward shift underscored the severity of America’s affordable housing shortage—and among many other issues, may have helped Trump reclaim the presidency.

However, Trump’s imminent return to the White House poses “serious challenges” for people seeking affordable housing, warned the National Low Income Housing Coalition [NLIHC].

During Trump’s previous term,

his administration tried to slash federal investments in affordable housing, sought to raise rents for Section 8 tenants and attempted to impose more stringent work requirements for renters who rely on governmental subsidies, according to the NLIHC.

According to Campise, Chicago is tops in the nation for rent growth over the past 18 months. He claims that is the result of a lack of investor interest in Chicago that then led to slowed development. While some large cities are

BUILDERS see p. 4



THE
AHERN GROUP
CHICAGOLAND REAL ESTATE EXPERT



MAGGIE AHERN

Over 18 Years in Business
Marketing, Negotiating & Staging

(312) 545-2199
MaggieAhern@AtProperties.com

@properties

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



Kane County Antique & Flea Mkt

Antiques, Collectibles, etc.

First Sunday of each month and preceding afternoon

NOV. 30TH & DEC. 1ST

Saturday: 12 pm to 5 pm

Sunday: 7 am to 4 pm

Kane County Fairgrounds

Located on Randall Rd. between

Rt. 38 and Rt. 64 St. Charles, IL

Admission \$6.00 each day (Children under 12 free)

FREE PARKING

Visit our website for info on pandemic protocols

www.kanecountyfleamarket.com

630-377-2252

SOMETHING
BIG
IS COMING!

JURASSIC QUEST

ROSEMONT, IL
NOV. 29 - DEC. 1

Use code **ROSEMONT30** to save 30%!
Get your tickets before they go extinct at
www.jurassicquest.com!

City to the left.
Lake to the right.

This is how to live in Chicago!
Retire with confidence in the city and a location you love – just steps from Lake Michigan’s Foster Beach.

The Admiral at the Lake is a not-for-profit Life Plan Community that offers the carefree, vibrant and active lifestyle you want today with the peace of mind of on-site care should your needs change tomorrow.

If you need a bit of support to continue living a life of fulfillment and joy, we have immediate availability in Assisted Living and Memory Support.

Contact us today.
773-433-1801 | admiral.kendal.org

THE
ADMIRAL
AT THE LAKE

929 W. Foster Avenue | Chicago, IL 60640

Cookie Crawl Dec. 8

Kick off the holidays at the Clark Street Cookie Crawl in Lincoln Park, starting at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8.

Put on your favorite holiday sweater and visit businesses along Clark St. to collect a variety of holiday cookies. Events take place on Clark St. between Fullerton and Diversey. Check-in is at Sushi Hall, 2630 N. Clark. Tickets range from \$25 to \$45.

BUILDERS from p. 3

seeing rent rates slip, Chicago's restrictive zoning policies, overly burdensome building codes and high property taxes may be holding developers back. Friedberg concurred, saying many won't invest in Cook County because of high taxes.

Sadly, after the rash of higher reassessments this year, renters should expect even more rent hikes in the next 18 months to cover skyrocketing property taxes.

Several panelists also bemoaned the high cost to build affordable housing in Chicago. Costs can run as high as \$500,000 to \$600,000 per unit. The cost to build affordable housing in Chicago "is the complete antithesis of what affordable housing should be," said panelist Jean Dufresne of Moth Architects. "We're not talking granite countertops and beautiful bathrooms, we're talking laminate and vinyl."

Rates headed toward 7%?

On Nov. 21, benchmark 30-year-fixed home-loan interest rates inched up to an average of 6.84% from 6.78% a week earlier, according to the Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey. A year ago, 30-year-fixed loans averaged an unaffordable

7.29%.

"Mortgage rates ticked back up last week, continuing to approach 7%," said Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist. "Heading into the holidays, purchase demand remains in the doldrums. While for-sale inventory is increasing modestly, the elevated interest rate environment has caused new construction to soften."

Baird & Warner November Report

While the Federal Reserve Board recently cut interest rates, home-loan rates have risen for the past four weeks. However, another 25 basis-point reduction in the federal funds rate is expected in early December.

Despite increasing mortgage rates and local and national political turmoil, the real estate market gained momentum in October in Near North, Lincoln Park, Lakeview and North Center.

"The six comparatives in this report show many areas of positive growth, however, inventory fatigue continues to be a

While some large cities are seeing rent rates slip, Chicago's restrictive zoning policies, overly burdensome building codes and high property taxes may be holding developers back. Adam Friedberg concurred, saying many won't invest in Cook County because of high taxes.

serious problem," noted John Irwin, co-author of the North Side Market Analysis, with Jackie Lafferty of Baird & Warner.

For the first time since April, home sales had a strong increase. In October of 2024, home sales were up 9.9% vs 2023. Three of the four neighborhoods reported increases and North Center reported the only decrease.

Three of the four neighborhood price points have increases over 2023. Homes priced from \$1 million to \$2 million re-



Adam Friedberg



Ciere Boatright



Frank Campise

ported flat sales compared to last year.

Home sales are now up 1.4% year to date versus 2023.

Homes that went under contract in Octo-

year-to-date median prices are up 6.5% compared with Oct. 2023.

With record low inventories, home prices are expected to spike. However, Chicago home prices have remained relatively low for the past few years.

"As the market begins to improve, we will continue to see multiple offers and rising home prices until inventory levels can begin to catch up to demand," Irwin predicted.

"During the holidays, the market traditionally begins to slow down," Irwin said. "However, 2024 has been anything but a traditional year. There are still a lot of variables that will come into play, so fasten your seat belt and let's see where the market takes us."

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

Gregory J. Lindeman
Founder/Director

MIDTOWN

Funeral Home & Cremation Options
A Home to Mourn, Gather and Remember

3918 W. Irving Park Road Chicago, IL 60618
River North Office
405 W. Superior Street Chicago, IL 60654

773-654-3744
greg@midtownfunerals.com
WWW.MIDTOWNFUNERALS.COM

Foreign & Domestic Light Trucks

Complete Body Shop Service
Brakes • Tires
Emissions Repairs
Tune-Ups
Transmission Repairs

ONE-YEAR OR 12,000 MILE GUARANTEE ON ALL WORK

Fall Discounts

OIL CHANGE SPECIAL
\$39⁹⁹ Synthetic Blend
\$69⁹⁹ Full Synthetic

FREE BRAKE CHECK

23-Point Inspection and Air Pressure Check
Exp. Dec. 31, 2024

AUTO REPAIRS 4 LESS
WE TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF AUTO REPAIR

4418 N. Kedzie Ave.
Closed Sundays
www.autorepair-4less.com
773-880-0144

\$25 OFF	\$50 OFF	\$75 OFF
ANY SERVICE \$200	ANY SERVICE \$300	ANY SERVICE \$750

Check Brake Pads, Rotor Surface, Brake Fluid and Brake Components
Exp. Dec. 31, 2024

"With IV Sedation, I slept through my whole dental procedure!"

Let us introduce you to the most comfortable dental care. IV sedation is ideal for:

- Dental anxiety and fear
- Aversion to needles and the sound of the drill
- Inability to get numb
- Hypertensive gag reflex
- Special needs (physical, behavioral, cognitive)
- Improved treatment efficiency

LINCOLN PARK CENTER for DENTAL ANESTHESIA

Dr. Robert L Tentler, DDS
Diplomate of American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologist

With 35 years of experience in Chicagoland, we're ready to work with you in optimizing your care and comfort.

Call or visit us today! 312-596-2200
lincolnparkcda.com 2551 N. Clark Ste. 502 • Chicago, IL 60614

Another unforced error may cost Chicago \$40M

The city is already wrestling with a giant budget deficit, that just last week grew \$40 million worse.

A proposed tax increase on prepaid phones and calling cards by the city could have raised an additional \$40 million. But the plan was shot down in Springfield, when it seems nobody was paying attention.

City officials had assumed the tax increase of 9%, up from 3%, would take effect Jan. 1. But they never checked it out with the retailers who would be collecting those taxes. And the Illinois Retail Merchant's Association [RMA] now says rolling out the tax increase by Jan. 1, 2025, is an impossible deadline to keep for retailers.

RMA President Rob Karr said there are technical problems that must be fixed in the legal language the city drafted. That fix could have been negotiated in Springfield, but it wasn't.

The RMA says that the Mayor's office is not meaningfully nor consistently engaged in Springfield.

"This is a complete system change. And you're asking retailers to re-write their points-of-sale systems ... in less than 45 days in the middle of the biggest part of the selling season. We can't do

that," Karr told WBEZ on Nov. 21. While the higher tax rate would have applied to all pre-paid phone products, the now-failed legislation would have "treated those similarly-situated phone products differently," Karr said.

"This is a complete system change. And you're asking retailers to re-write their points-of-sale systems ... in less than 45 days in the middle of the biggest part of the selling season. We can't do that," Rob Karr told WBEZ on Nov. 21.

"They drew this weird dividing line between these two sets of properties," he said, without ever checking to see if it could be done.

One category was "tangible personal property" with a sales tax. The other was not tangible and fell under an excise tax. State officials encouraged the Mayor's office to come to Springfield to get it done correctly. "They didn't get it done correctly," Karr told WBEZ.

"There was a fix that was avail-

able, but we couldn't implement it by Jan. 1," said Karr. "So we had suggested July 1. The governor's office and others told the city, 'No, we're gonna take it back and you can ... get it done correctly in the spring.'"

That missed opportunity will now increase the city's 2025 budget deficit by an estimated \$40 million.

Critics of the Johnson administration say this latest screw up exemplifies the administration's dismal track record in Springfield at a time when the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is shorthanded.

Now the City Council has to fill a \$340 million gap by Dec. 31 or risk the first shutdown of city government in anyone's memory, due to a series of unforced errors by the Mayor office.

"The mayor must come to the realization that he must do more than the bare minimum cuts and efficiencies in his budget if we are to pass this budget by Dec. 31," warn Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd]. If City Hall does not pass a budget by Dec. 31, Chicago's credit rating may be downgraded. "A credit downgrade is very serious and could cost us hundreds of millions over the next several years," Waguespack said.

Shipping containers offer stylish affordable housing options

BY JANE LAWICKI

As the City is expanding its Accessory Dwelling Unit [ADU] plan this year, Ald. Maria Hadden [49th] has identified a sustainable solution for smaller-footprint, affordable housing.

During an Oct. 15 visit to Buffalo Grove-based S.I. Container Builds, Inc. [SICBS], the alder and her team explored how repurposed single-use shipping containers can create a path to home ownership.

ADUs are secondary housing units that share a single-family lot with a primary residence. Common names for such housing include coach houses, backyard houses, tiny homes and in-law apartments.

While the average cost to build a traditional house is about \$329,000, not including the land, the cost to build a single or multi-container home runs from \$80,000 to \$250,000, also not including the land.

With the construction of new 'affordable' housing in Chicago costing upwards of \$550,000 to \$650,000 per unit these days, the advantage of container housing is easy to justify financially.

And they're not bad looking.

"It doesn't have to look like a container ship. There are facades available," explained Leslie Perkins, Ald. Hadden's chief of staff, who joined the visit. "They showed [us] an example of one in Palatine. It looks like another house, blends in with the community - it's cohesive."

"There's great misunderstand-



With the construction of new 'affordable' housing in Chicago costing upwards of \$550,000 to \$650,000 per unit these days, the advantage of container housing is easy to justify financially in that they can be created at between \$80,000 and \$250,000 per unit.

ing about these shipping containers," said Rory Rubin, SICBS' co-founder and CEO. "I spend 80% of my time around education, quelling misperceptions that it's a rusty old box. The shipping containers we use are one-use, one-

trip high quality steel frames."

"We build to International Building Codes for residential and communities," Rubin explained. "We use licensed professionals to build [to housing standards] with

CONTAINERS see p. 9

INSURANCE DESIGNED WITH YOU AND YOUR DREAMS IN MIND



Mike Donaldson, Agent
3046 W. Irving Park Rd.
Chicago, IL 60618
mdonalds@amfam.com
Certified Agency
in Customer Excellence

CALL (773) 472-3400 TODAY FOR YOUR FREE PERSONAL INSURANCE REVIEW



Pleasant Travel

For Best Airline Tickets and Packages Around the World

www.PleasantTravel.com



Call 773-508-1927

or visit 6257 N. Clark St.
email: pleasanttravel@hotmail.com



from your friends at

J.B. ALBERTO'S
PIZZA ... AND MORE!

Established 1965



1324 W. Morse Ave. 773.973.1700

ORDER ONLINE at jbalbertos.com

ARTHUR J. MURPHY

- Real Estate Attorney
- 40 Years Experience
- Personalized Attention
- Reasonable Rates

Retain an experienced property law attorney to represent you in the purchase or sale of residential or light commercial real estate.



MURPHY & SMITH, LTD.

— Serving Chicagoland for 40 Years! —

312-427-3650

arthurmurphy@murphyandsmith.net

News tips? Call 773-465-9700

Police Beat...

Retired cop, 74, critically wounded in North Center shooting

Police took one suspect into custody this afternoon at the apartment building where a man saw people run after the shooting.

A 74-year-old retired police sergeant was shot and badly injured after stepping out of his car in North Center on Nov. 18, officials said. Police took one suspect into custody this afternoon at the apartment building where a man saw people run after the shooting.

The retiree stepped out of his maroon Jeep in the 2000 block of W. Berteau, at the intersection with Lincoln Ave., around 8:58 a.m., police said.

Two people began shooting. One bullet struck the victim's left arm and the other grazed his neck. Police said he was in critical condition.

CPD did not release any motive for the shooting nor did the department release any suspect descriptions.

A witness said they saw a gunman firing from the southeast corner of the intersection, just a few feet from the victim's SUV. Police were keeping an eye on a nearby apartment after a witness reported seeing people run into the building after the shooting. So far, though, police say no arrests have been made.

The retired officer is the second person shot in North Center this year, compared to one last year and three as of this date in 2022.

Man get 4½ years for knocking a man unconscious on CTA Red Line train

A man with a violent criminal history has been sentenced to 4½ years for knocking a man unconscious on a CTA Red Line train in the Loop.

Joshua Savado, 34, pleaded guilty to aggravated battery causing great bodily harm in exchange for the sentence from Judge Shelley Sutker-Dermer, court records show.

Late on Oct. 11 last year, Savado and the 53-year-old victim were on the same Red Line train car when Savado screamed for the victim to "get the f**k away" from his bike, prosecutors alleged. A few minutes later, Savado "screamed that he had told [the victim] to get the f**k away from his bike and that this was his f**king train."

Camera footage from the train car showed Savado striking the victim in the face without provocation, knocking him unconscious, prosecutors said. Savado continued to attack the victim as he lay "defenseless" on the floor of the train, prosecutors said.

When the train arrived at Lake St., Savado allegedly dragged the victim's body onto the platform and then returned to the train car and continued his journey.

The victim suffered four facial fractures and had to undergo surgery to repair his eye, prosecutors said.

Savado's sentence will be reduced by 50% for good behavior. With credit for the time he spent in jail pending trial, he is expected to be paroled on Jan. 12, 2026.

Savado's previous arrests include a misdemeanor battery charge after he allegedly punched a 56-year-old Jewel employee in the nose at the company's 550 N. State location on May 13, 2023. He received a sentence of 15 days time served on May 30; A charge of misdemeanor battery was filed after a 36-year-old man accused him of grabbing him by the shirt, pushing him away, and stating, "What you gonna do? What's up?" at Chick-fil-A, 177 N. State, on Sept. 11 last year. Prosecutors dropped the case a month later.

On Sept. 22, 2015, he was accused of slapping a 66-year-old man in a wheelchair in Rogers Park, hurling a vase at the victim and his caretaker, and engaging in a physical altercation with the arresting officers. He pleaded guilty to a single count of misdemeanor battery a year later in exchange for a two-day jail sentence, according to court records.

Four people robbed, carjacked at gunpoint in the Loop

Police are investigating after four people were robbed and carjacked in the Loop on Nov. 17.

The victims, a 31-year-old woman and men ages 40, 41, and 44, were targeted moments after they parked and exited their car in the first block of S. LaSalle around 6:46 p.m., a Chicago police spokesperson said.

Three men pulled up in a blue Kia and displayed guns while demanding the victims' property, police said. One of the robbers struck the female victim in the chest with a firearm, and then took her valuables.

Police said two robbers got into the victims' red Porsche 911 and headed north on LaSalle. The third offender followed them in the blue Kia Soul.

Cops found the hijacked Porsche abandoned a short time later. No arrests have been made.

Parolee had a machine gun while trying to burglarize Lincoln Park liquor store

A man on parole for his fourth felony firearms conviction had a machine gun as he tried to burglarize a Lincoln Park liquor store, prosecutors say.

Police responded to Lakeside Food Wine Spirits, 2601 N. Halsted, to handle a "burglary in progress" call 3:35 a.m. Friday, Nov. 15.



Narveal Raggs

As officers arrived, they saw several people outside the store and two vehicles parked on the street: a white SUV and a gray Infiniti. Everyone fled, some in the cars, others on foot, as the cops arrived.

The driver of the Infiniti intentionally rammed an occupied squad car before driving away, a Chicago police report said.

Cops searched an adjacent alley, hoping to find a man they saw run from the scene. They found Narveal Raggs, 25, hiding in the alley, "sweating profusely and not wearing shoes." They recovered one shoe nearby.

Judge Caroline Glennon-Goodman detained Raggs, noting that he's accused of throwing a firearm while trying to escape. The weapon was equipped with an extended magazine and an illegal switch to create automatic gunfire, like a machine gun, according to the judge's order.

Raggs is charged with Class X armed habitual criminal, unlawful use of a machine gun, and attempted burglary.

According to Illinois Department of Corrections records, he was paroled in January after serving time for two 2018 cases: armed habitual criminal and reckless discharge of a firearm endangering others. He was also convicted in two additional gun possession cases from 2017.

Two scammers sentenced for conducting online inheritance, romance scams

An undercover law enforcement investigation has resulted in federal prison sentences for two Nigerian nationals residing who conducted local online inheritance scams and other fraud schemes.

Using aliases, Anthony Emeka Ibekie and Samuel Aniuokuw communicated with victims throughout the United States, convincing them they had received substantial inheritances and needed to send money to individuals associated with the defendants in order to claim it.

In addition to the inheritance scam, the pair carried out an online romance scam that involved communicating with victims via social media and dating websites, building trust with victims through a purported online romance, and convincing them to send money to a predetermined recipient. They also orchestrated a "business email compromise" scam that targeted corporate email accounts.

The fraud schemes were uncovered by a covert law enforcement investigation. The scams resulted in losses to victims of at least \$3.5 million.

A federal jury earlier this year convicted Ibekie, 59, on all 14 counts of wire fraud, mail fraud, money laundering, making false statements to a bank, and passport fraud. On Nov. 21, U.S. District Judge Steven C. Seeger sentenced Ibekie to 20 years in federal prison.

Aniuokuw, 50, pleaded guilty last year to wire fraud and money laundering charges. Judge Seeger on Nov. 8, sentenced Aniuokuw to 10 years in prison.

A third defendant, Jennifer Gosha, 52, a U.S. citizen, pleaded guilty earlier this year to charges of wire fraud and making false statements to a federal agent. Gosha is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Seeger on Dec. 18.

Man charged with robbing off-duty cop at gunpoint in Rogers Park

Prosecutors have charged a man with robbing two people, including an off-duty Chicago police officer, in Rogers Park Nov. 17.

The 28-year-old cop and a 26-year-old man were targeted on the 6400 block of N. Lakewood as they left a nearby business around 2 a.m., officials said.

Two men displayed a semi-automatic AK47-style pistol and demanded property from the victims, according to prosecutors. The off-duty officer handed over his wallet and two phones while the other victim surrendered cash, a necklace, and a phone.

Cops at the scene said the robbers fled the area in a silver Ford Fusion that was driven by a woman.

More than 12 hours later, a CPD surveillance camera operator spotted the robbers' Ford Fusion as it traveled on 71st St. near Cottage Grove, a police report said.



Vincent Parks, inset, and some of the 211 catalytic converters that officials found.

Busted with 211 catalytic converters in storage unit, man gets probation

When Chicago police arrested two men and seized 211 catalytic converters last year, prosecutors said it was the culmination of a nearly year-long investigation. Now, one of those men has pleaded guilty to playing a role in the crime. His sentence? Probation.

Cops had a search warrant in hand for a storage unit in the 4500 block of W. North Ave. when Marzel Woodard, called the "ringleader" of the operation, arrived at the storage facility with Vincent Parks on June 30, 2023, officials said.

The undercover officers watched as Woodard and Parks started to unload catalytic converters from a vehicle into the unit, prosecutors said. They tried to run away when the cops moved in but didn't get far.

Police allegedly found five severed catalytic converters inside Woodard's vehicle. Officials claimed that another 206 converters were found in Woo-

Woodard's storage unit as they executed the warrant.

Woodard had been under investigation since Aug. 2022. Police have seen him handling, possessing, storing, and selling "large numbers" of catalytic converters since then, prosecutors said. Parks, they claimed, had been handling and transporting converters with Woodard for about a week.

On Nov. 20, Parks pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of three or more stolen auto parts in exchange for two years of probation from Judge Tyria Walton, court records show.

Woodard, who faces a similar charge plus a more serious count of organizing an aggravated vehicular theft conspiracy, continues to fight the allegations. He's due in court again on Dec. 18.

Migrant arrested thrice in a month, charged with mugging a woman in Loop

A Venezuelan migrant is charged with mugging a 50-year-old woman in the Loop last week. It's his third arrest in a month and his sixth arrest in the past year.

The victim told police that a man confronted her as she got into her car in the 500 block of S. Wabash on Nov. 20. She said he hit her in the head with an aerosol can and wrestled away her Coach purse, a Chicago police report said.

Cops pinged the woman's phone, which was inside the stolen purse, and tracked its signal to the first block of E. Lake St. When they got there, they saw Yeison Becerra-Colmenares, 26, standing outside a 7-Eleven with the woman's Coach purse, according to the report.

The victim confirmed that Becerra-Colmenares was the man who robbed her, officials said. She also received a bank alert that someone tried to use her credit card to make a \$485 purchase at the nearby 7-Eleven, but it failed.

Judge Shauna Boliker detained Becerra-Colmenares on one count of aggravated robbery.

He has two other cases pending, according to court records, and three

other cases that have been dropped in the past year: On Nov. 24, 2023, he was charged with driving without a license and vehicle infractions in the 6300 block of S. University. After he failed to appear in February and again in April, officials dropped the charges. They did, however, notify the Secretary of State to suspend the driver's license, which he doesn't have.

According to a CPD report, store employees accused him of shoplifting \$69 worth of turkey breast, ham, fried chicken, and tater tots, leading to his arrest at Jewel-Osco, 6014 S. Cottage Grove, on Dec. 5, 2023. He failed to appear in January, February, and June to October. The case is still pending.

On May 25, he was arrested at Macy's in the Loop after they accused him of stealing jewelry, a watch, a shirt, and a fragrance gift set worth \$354. Prosecutors dropped the case when Macy's failed to appear in court the next month.

He has a pending case in which he's accused of shoplifting \$345 worth of merchandise from a Walmart in Bedford Park, and on Oct. 28, he got arrested for shoplifting at Macy's again. Once again, the prosecutors dropped the case after the store failed to appear a week later.

Two men are recovering after being stabbed in River North on Nov. 22. Their attacker remains at large.

According to a witness, the incident began when a man emerged from a white sedan and engaged the two victims in an argument in the 400 block of N. State St. around 10:15 p.m.

The assailant pulled out a knife during the argument and stabbed both men, ages 41 and 43, multiple times, a Chicago police spokesperson said. Their conditions stabilized at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

After the stabbings, the offender returned to the white car and headed south on State Street. Police did not release a description of the attacker.

Assailant stabs two men in River North

Two men are recovering after being stabbed in River North on Nov. 22. Their attacker remains at large.

According to a witness, the incident began when a man emerged from a white sedan and engaged the two victims in an argument in the 400 block of N. State St. around 10:15 p.m.

The assailant pulled out a knife during the argument and stabbed both men, ages 41 and 43, multiple times, a Chicago police spokesperson said. Their conditions stabilized at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

After the stabbings, the offender returned to the white car and headed south on State Street. Police did not release a description of the attacker.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

BEST KEPT SECRET
SUPER CAR WASH
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK / 24 HOURS A DAY
 8 BAY SELF-SERVICE
 2 TOUCHLESS AUTOMATIC
5450 N. DAMEN (at Rascher)
 Veteran Owned & Operated for 50 Years

PAWS Fur Ball raises critical funds for homeless pets

Hundreds of sharply dressed canines and their humans on the red carpet

Pets Are Worth Saving [PAWS Chicago], the city's largest no kill humane organization, hosted its 23rd Annual Fur Ball, at The Drake Hotel Friday, Nov. 15.

The Fur Ball is a perennial event where more than 550 guests and about 100 canine companions – many dressed in gowns and tuxes like their guardians – participated in the festivities, from walking the red carpet to an elaborate dinner buffet.

The evening raised crucial funds for PAWS Chicago's lifesaving programs, which have played a role in reducing the euthanasia of homeless pets in the city by more than 90% since the organization's founding in 1997.

The funds support the medical care of more than 22,000 at-risk cats and dogs at the PAWS Chicago, the nation's largest and most advanced hospital for homeless pets.

Laura Sachs and Jordan Fisher co-chaired the event alongside Lindsay and Carter Hawkins, with Nancy and Michael Timmers serving as Honorary Co-Chairs. FOX 32 Chicago's Sylvia Perez, Jake Hamilton, and Natalie Bomke hosted the evening as emcees.

The Fur Ball filled two ballrooms, and the charity's mission took center stage throughout the evening, as volunteers showcased adoptable cats and dogs rescued by PAWS in the wake of Hurricane Helene, or saved from Chicago Animal Care & Control, the city's impoundment facility.

Guests bid on an exclusive opportunity to serve as the Chicago Cubs' General Manager for a day courtesy of Carter Hawkins, the actual General Manager of the Chicago Cubs. There were also Super Bowl tickets and a private murder mystery dinner with Smashing Pumpkins front-man Billy Corgan and his wife, Chloe Mendel Corgan, at their home.

Canine guests were also treated to indulgences with boiled chicken with rice or pureed carrot, and green bean dinner served in goblets. Many stopped by the Walton Room to indulge in relaxing pet massages and capture fun moments in the photo booth.

PAWS Chicago is best known for healing and rehabilitating around 5,000 homeless cats and dogs each year. PAWS Chicago also operates the city's largest high-volume spay/neuter clinic.



Taneisha Louie and pal. Photo by Syd and the City Photography



Presenting Sponsors Nan and Wayne Kocourek with PAWS Chicago Founder and Chairman, Paula Fasseas.



Fur Ball Gold Coast Emcees Sylvia Perez and Jake Hamilton of FOX 32 Chicago



Amy and George Burin with dogs Margot and Georgina.



Wayne Gailis



Melissa Canning with newly adopted Lassie..



Honorary Co-Chairs Nancy and Michael Timmers.



Fur Ball Co-Chairs Lindsay Hawkins and Laura Sachs with Paula Fasseas (middle). Photos by Evan Cobb Photography

Nueva *graffy*
Pizzeria
 7109 N. Clark St.
 773-681-0689
 Pick-Up and Delivery
Try our Thin, Deep, Butter or Whole Wheat Crust
Monday-Thursday Large Thin Crust 1 Topping \$14.99 each
 OPEN 7 DAYS
 Se Habla Español
 VISA MasterCard

Pastas • Salads • Burgers • Sandwiches • Desserts

BARRY • REGENT
 The Quality Cleaners
 Perfecting "The Art of Clean" since 1950
 Optimized cleaning for each garment. We have a complete arsenal of three cleaning methods; two types of dry-cleaning PLUS aqua-cleaning.
 3000 N. Broadway
 Call 773-348-5510 to arrange curbside pick-up or delivery
 www.barryregentcleaners.com

COMFORT from p. 2

Gerry Faust has died at 89. Faust succeeded Dan Devine as coach of Notre Dame and preceded Lou Holtz.

WHO'S WHERE: Sean Eshaghy at the former Main Post Office for a great night supporting the USO... Brian Comer with Marty at his first Notre Dame game at South Bend... Takara Beathea-Gudell elegantly adorned with her creation of "Joy" jewelry for the coming season, stunning... Sherry Lea Fox at Las Ventanas al Paraíso, San José del Cabo, Mexico... Tim Egan was hungry and went looking for a Taco Bell in Dublin with Enrique Lopez... Jennifer Sutton Brievea with Denise Tomasello, Kathy O'Malley Piccone, Sherree Schimmer, Paula Borg and Sherrill Bodine had a delightful evening with friends at "A Beautiful Noise," the inspiring life story of Neil Diamond... Publisher David Caldwell off to adventures in Killarney... Mary Pat Flanagan traveling to Palm Springs... Candace and Chuck Jordan attended a record-breaker at True Blue, a fundraiser for the Chicago Police Foundation... Eamonn Cummins and Jonathan Egan with young Harry Egan at his first Chicago Bears tailgate... Shelly Zucher adjusted her cheese for

the big Packers and Bears day... Bobby Tarantino at Tavern on Rush with friends Taylor and Nicole. Great place...

Sheila Swann and Maureen Kelly at the Auditorium Theater two nights for Bobby Weir and The Wolf Bros. with the Wolfpack, backing them up was the pitch-perfect Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Maestro John Morris Russell... Daniil Trifonov has been named Chicago Symphony Orchestra Artist-in-Residence 2024-2025... Fr. Bill Corcoran at Mundelein Retreat



Takara Beathea-Gudell

House at free time afternoons walking around the beautiful lake, and "feeding the deer herd." **STUDIO SALE:** Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, at this writer's studio, with big savings for all paintings for Christmas. Many Irish themed, rich botanicals and horses. Studio at 1059 N. Winchester St., 312-735-8101 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., enter through the garden gate off Thomas St., park on garage apron.

GALA FASHION: Al Menotti at Service Club with Sheree Schimmer and Veronica Fukgenzi Seigel.

YOU'RE OUT: Smithsonian American Art Museum Director removed from top post after staff complaints. Stephanie Stebich, the director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum since 2017, was reassigned to a senior advisory role within the Smithsonian Institute in September after staff complaints about her management style.



John Morris Russell

DAME: Bravo to actress Imelda Staunton who was created a Dame Commander of the British Empire last week for her work in theater, such as the Crown, Downton Abbey and Harry Potter.

PLANETS: Pluto entered Aquarius on the 19th...for 20 years...revolutions, disruptions, transformation... buckle up.

A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year. For a journey, and such a long journey: The ways deep and the weather sharp, the very dead of winter.' And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory, lying down in the melting snow.

— T.S. Eliot, "The Journey of the Magi"

tog515@gmail.com

The Inside Publications staff wishes all of our readers a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Virtual tour, a look back at Chicago and the World in 1924

A time machine of sorts will be offered virtually during 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, during an online presentation given by the Glessner House.

On Dec. 1, 1924 - exactly 100 years ago - John and Frances Glessner deeded their Prairie Ave. home to the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, retaining a life tenancy. The gift came with a stipulation that the AIA purchase the Kimball house across the street, resulting in the creation of The Architects' Club of Chicago.

It was one of the first acts of preservation in the city, and was

especially important on a street whose character was rapidly transforming from residential to light industrial.

This program will explore the Glessners' donation within the context of the year 1924.

In Chicago, it was the year that saw the dedication of the Municipal Grant Park Stadium (now Soldier Field), the completion of KAM Isaiah Israel, and the construction of the Tribune Tower. But it was also the year that saw residents, and the nation, captivated by the "trial of the century" - the conviction of Leopold and Loeb for the murder of Bobby

Franks.

National events included the first radio broadcast from the White House (by President Coolidge), the appointment of J. Edgar Hoover as head of the FBI, the election of the first female governor, and the formation of companies such as IBM and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM Studios).

George Gershwin was at his peak, releasing Fascinating Rhythm and The Man I Love, as well as premiering his iconic Rhapsody in Blue, which helped to define the era.

The world stage witnessed the

first Winter Olympics, the death of Vladimir Lenin and renaming of St. Petersburg as Leningrad, and the revelation of King Tut's extraordinary golden mask.

It truly was a year to remember. The richly illustrated talk will be presented by William Tyre, Executive Director and Curator.

This program will be recorded and a link will be sent to all registrants. The link will remain live for seven days following the program.

Tickets will range from \$12 to \$15 per person. For reservations, visit <https://www.glessnerhouse.org/events/a-look-back-1924>.



"It doesn't have to look like a container ship. There are facades available," explained Leslie Perkins, Ald. Hadden's chief of staff, who joined the visit.

CONTAINERS from p. 5

the HVAC, electric, etc. - all the same as a brick or stick home." She added, "It's the same building code. When complete, you walk into a home, just like anyone else."

Shipping container homes have gained popularity as they are not only modern in design and eco-friendly but offer remarkable durability. Homes are built out of 8-foot-wide, 40-foot long shipping containers that have 10-foot ceilings, and can be stacked or welded together.

Made of non-corrosive Corten steel, container homes are extremely strong and durable, sound and pest resistant, and able to withstand earthquakes, fire, and hurricane winds up to 175 mph - making them stronger than most traditional homes. Container homes also contribute significantly to environmental sustainability.

"There are currently 26 mil-

lion one-time, one-use containers waiting to be repurposed," Rubin said. Adding that anyone can view them from Interstate 294 south of O'Hare airport, where there is a giant rail yard holding these shipping containers stacked, empty, and waiting to be repurposed. "It's a container graveyard and ecological disaster. It's cheaper for China to make new [shipping containers] rather than send the empty ones back to be filled and re-shipped," she explained.

How shipping containers might help the 49th Ward and the City is still unknown. The City Council reversed in 2020 its longstanding ban on ADUs in five pilot zones across the City with the intent to enable more affordable housing. However, according to a study conducted by the Univ. of Chicago, only a fraction of permitted units are legally restricted affordable at 60% area median income [AMI] while an estimated 120,000 AMI units are needed.

In April, the City Council

agreed to a \$1.25 billion, five-year Housing and Economic Development bond to expand affordable housing and other initiatives in areas that have been stagnant or declining for years. The funding approach also proposes phasing out Tax Increment Financing districts to realign the way Chicago uses its financial resources, allowing for the creation of safe, stable housing options across all neighborhoods.

Noting that any new building must meet all standard building codes, Perkins said ADUs are the most obvious use for shipping containers but larger uses for individuals or multi-family uses are also possible.

"It's something that could [also] be explored," Perkins said. "A lot of municipalities have used tiny homes as shelters." Adding that the departments of Family Services, Housing and Planning would need to weigh in, Perkins confirmed that Ald. Hadden hopes to continue exploring shipping containers as a viable, affordable building option. "We're hoping that following the budget [season], to pick up these conversations in greater stead in 2025."

Acknowledging that many unknowns and possibilities are still up in the air, Ald. Hadden concluded, "I look forward to continued conversations with City departments about innovative and sustainable solutions to affordable housing across our neighborhoods."

Winter Flower Shows at conservatories

The Chicago Park District's Winter Flower Shows will be open from Nov. 27 through Jan. 5, 2025.

Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N Central Park Ave., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday-Sunday, and on Wednesdays, and Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton Dr., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., daily.

At the Garfield Park Conservatory, guests can enjoy "Snowflakes," lush poinsettias, and photographs of magnified snow crystals. The Lincoln Park Conservatory will present "Champagne Toast," a festive display of poinsettias in shades of apricot, gold, and pink, complemented by fresh-cut fir trees.

Both shows require free reservations. Visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/conservatory-flower-shows to pre-register.

Open Arms United Worship Church

"Building Generations of Disciples"

OPEN ARMS UNITED WORSHIP CENTER

Dr. Kim C. Hill Senior Pastor

Sunday: 9:30 am Prayer 10 am Worship

10 am Kingdom Kids Place

(Nursery through 5th Grade)

Wednesday: 7 pm Prayer

7:30 pm Bible Study

817 Grace St. 773-525-8480

FREE INDOOR PARKING

OAUWCChicago.org

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Skate in the Parks

Ice skating season is now open!

Letter to the Editor

We will miss Billy

Read with appreciation Thomas O'Gorman's nostalgic [Nov. 20] tribute to legacy Thanksgiving days in the kitchen with family and friends. So fitting his fine recollections ran side-by-side with his wonderful tribute to renown Irishman and restaurateur Billy Lawless who graced many tables too. I will always remember Billy's gracious hospitality, broad grin and reach, and his magical appearance at your table at The Gage when we asked if Billy was in.

He was always there for his people which included just about everybody.

As they say at an Irish wake, when great stories and memories flow, did it make you cry? Sure did. What a guy and a great ambassador. We will miss Billy Lawless. And so glad we got to know him.

Tim Carew
Old Town

Choice JANITORIAL

BBB A+ Rating

SNOW REMOVAL

COMMON AREAS CLEANING

OFFICE CLEANING • CARPET CLEANING

POWER WASHING

773-292-6015

www.callchoicejanitorial.com

\$5 FREE VACUUMING

EXPRESS CAR WASH

AUTOMATIC CAR WASH

3218 W. Irving

4550 W. Addison

4820 W. Lawrence

Veteran Owned & Operated for 50 Years

ROBERTS CYCLE

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
FREE ESTIMATES

HOLIDAY SALES
BIKES & VARIETY OF ACCESSORIES
NOW REDUCED

BIKES
STARTING AT **\$475⁰⁰**

BICYCLE SALES, PARTS & ACCESSORIES

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS (ELECTRIC SCOOTERS & BICYCLES)

7054 N. CLARK ST.
773-274-9281
www.robertscycle.com

News tips?

Call 773-465-9700

Confidentiality guaranteed.

Hunters should be mindful of technology use in the field

Know the drone, artificial intelligence and e-bikes rules

As the Illinois Firearm Deer Season got underway last week, hunters need to be aware when using technological innovation

while hunting. The Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources [IDNR] cautions hunters to be mindful of rules and best practices surrounding the use of technology in the field. This includes the use of drones for recovering wildlife, artificial intelligence for review-

ing hunting laws, and e-bikes to access hunting sites.

The use of drones for any aspect of hunting or recovery of wildlife is unlawful in Illinois. The use of drones for hunting could result in enforcement action, including but not limited to the seizure and forfeiture of unlawfully used equipment.

“Not only is drone use for hunting unlawful in Illinois, it goes against the spirit of fair chase and widely accepted hunting ethics,” said Jed Whitchurch, director of the IDNR Law Enforcement. “Conservation Police officers are monitoring for drone use during the fall and winter hunting seasons. We encourage all hunters to familiarize themselves with the

Wildlife Code and abide by the law.”

Artificial intelligence [AI] is gaining popularity as a resource for answers about hunting regulations. But a review of AI-generated answers to common hunting questions in Illinois shows this underdeveloped tool frequently provides flawed, conflicting, or incorrect answers.

AI-generated information can pose a problem when it comes to hunting laws, which can be very specific and nuanced based on the season, site, or situation.

Electric bikes [e-bikes] have become more popular, some hunters have found them to be convenient, affordable vehicles for reaching remote hunting sites. However,

these bikes are prohibited on IDNR-owned and operated lands for any reason, including hunting and trapping access, except on public access roads or designated bike trails.

Hunters can contact park site offices for more information about bike trail accessibility.

As recently as last week, Illinois Conservation Police received a complaint about a hunter using an e-bike in the woods at the Peabody-River King State Fish and Wildlife Area in St. Clair County. Upon further investigation, the hunter was cited for having an expired e-bike permit, and other offenses.

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!
1-855-595-2102

20% OFF
Your Entire Purchase*

10% OFF
Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget!

*See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 36692923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC0671520, FL CB066678, IA C127230, ID REC-51604, MA 559544, MI 176447, MN MHC111225, MO 262300318, 262300328, 262300330, 262300331, MN 0731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13M0995900, NM 408863, NV 089990, NY 19-11114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 0693883, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 1078658-5501, WA 2705169445, WA LEAFNRW2302, WW W056912.

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v- CHARLES C. FRAZIER, PARK TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION Defendants 2024 CH 03640 5415 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD, APT 1401 CHICAGO, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 6, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 3, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5415 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD, APT 1401, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-08-203-017-1141 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$318,025.26. 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

Real Estate For Sale

checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE

Real Estate For Sale

WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250, Chicago, IL, 60601 (312) 651-6700. Please refer to file number 24-005199. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250 CHICAGO, IL 60601 312-651-6700 E-Mail: AMPSP@manleydeas.com Attorney File No. 24-005199 Attorney Code. 48928 Case Number: 2024 CH 03640 TJS#C#: 44-2979 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

Real Estate For Sale

for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 03640 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION EVERBANK, N.A. Plaintiff, -v- DONALD W SLACK; SHORELINE TOWERS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. 24 CH 00491 6301 North Sheridan Road, #18a, Chicago, IL 60660 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 7/22/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 1/8/2025 located at 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 6301 North Sheridan Road, #18a, Chicago, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-203-011-1242 The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$39,255.76 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC, No third party checks will be

Real Estate For Sale

accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) 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

Real Estate For Sale

WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: McCalla Rayment Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 23-172191L. Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 23-172191L Case Number: 24 CH 00491 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. 272727 ----- 202020 ----- 131313 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR INDIAMAC IMSC MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-HOA1, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-HOA1 Plaintiff, -v- KRISTI BROWN, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF MORRIS LANDA, KATIE LANDA, MIRELLA DEMMA, DAMON RITENHOUSE, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MORRIS LANDA (DECEASED) Defendants 2017 CH 14739 6725 N ROCKWELL ST CHICAGO, IL 60645 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on March 27, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 3, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6725 N ROCKWELL ST, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 10-36-404-008-0000 The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

Real Estate For Sale

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/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

Real Estate For Sale

SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W300 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W300 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-17-14813 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2017 CH 14739 TJS#C#: 44-3057 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Real Estate For Sale

Case # 2017 CH 14739 13256271 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION Santander Bank, N.A. Plaintiff, -v- Emmanuel Brown; Farwell Avenue Condominium Association; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants Defendants. 2024CH02435 1652 WEST FARWELL AVENUE UNIT GL, CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 8/21/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 1/8/2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St. Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 1652 WEST FARWELL AVENUE UNIT GL, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-31-222-041-1039, (11-31-222-022 underlying) The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$112,243.97 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to

Real Estate For Sale

Auction.com LLC, No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) 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

Real Estate For Sale

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-24-01814. Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 14-24-01814 Case Number: 2024CH02435 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. 272727 ----- 202020 ----- 131313 ----- Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2019-A Plaintiff, -v- MIKE TEOFILOVICH A/K/A MILAN TEOFILOVICH A/K/A MICHAEL TEOFILOVICH, DNA FINANCE CORPORATION, GOLD COAST GALLERIA GARAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, GOLD COAST GALLERIA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 19 CH 10674 111 WEST MAPLE STREET UNIT 1401 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 November 21, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 6, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 111 WEST MAPLE STREET UNIT 1401, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-04-422-039-1252 The real estate is improved with a white stone, high rise unit condominium with an attached multi car garage. 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

Real Estate For Sale

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. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Chicago IL 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 20-057301L_616171 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 19 CH 10674 TJS#C#: 44-3001 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. 272727 ----- 202020 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, -v- SANDRA B. TOBACK A/K/A SANDRA TOBACK, ROBERT H. ROSENFELD & ASSOCIATES, LLC,

Real Estate For Sale

Illinois Department of Revenue, 1242 W. DICKENS, LLC, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Defendants 2023 CH 08730 1242 WEST DICKENS AVENUE CHICAGO, IL 60614 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 13, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 16, 2024, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1242 WEST DICKENS AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60614 Property Index No. 14-32-126-051-0000 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$2,180,296.65. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States

Real Estate For Sale

shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact Alexander Potestivo, POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's At-

Real Estate For Sale

torneys, 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to file number 315085. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610 CHICAGO, IL 60606 312-263-0003 E-Mail: ilpleadings@potestivolaw.com Attorney File No. 315085 Attorney Code. 49392 Case Number: 2023 CH 08730 TJS#C#: 44-2681 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 08730 13255265 131313 -----

Real Estate For Sale

Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700

Themes sought for next Artists on the Wall fest

The well-attended Artists of the Wall Festival in Rogers Park is seeking theme suggestions from the public for the 2025 event. Theme suggestions are being taken through Dec. 3.

Mark your calendars for Father's Day Weekend 2025—Saturday, June 14, and Sunday, June 15, 2025.

The selected theme will be used by artists and guide

the judges in choosing a winning piece. Visit https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nm0cTiGDI_5cU3H_g8c65Hme7tM-kO51_ujvIBWILag/viewform?edit_requested=true to offer a suggestion.

The festival sees artists be given sections of the breakwall in Loyola Park to paint artworks on. The 2024 theme was "community dreams."

Wrigley Field 2025 concerts

Tickets are now on sale for the first Wrigley Field concerts of 2025.

Post Malone will perform on May 22, 2025, with special guests Jelly Roll and Sierra Ferrell. Tickets will be available at noon CT on Nov. 26.

Stray Kids will perform on June 26, 2025, and tickets will be available at 3 p.m. CT on Nov. 22.

Tickets are available at <https://www.mlb.com/cubs/tickets/concerts>.

PLUMBING STORE CLOSING

A-A SALVAGE

Radiators, Boilers and Heating

CALL 773-818-0808

1871 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Service Directory/Classifieds

To place an ad, call 773-465-9700 or email: insidepublicationschicago@gmail.com
Deadline: 5pm Mondays

Autos Wanted

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

Autos Wanted To Buy

IMMEDIATE CASH
WE BUY ANY VEHICLE
DAMAGED/NON-RUNNING
CARS OR TRUCKS
FAST REMOVAL
WE TOW IT
WE PAY MORE THAN
AN INSURANCE COMPANY
CALL 773-576-4530

Coins

OAKTON COINS

-- BUYING --
GOLD SILVER COINS

4547 OAKTON
SKOKIE, 60076
224-563-5684
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

OAKTONCOINS.COM

Commercial Space for Rent

Commercial storefronts on hot hot hot prime Bucktown main street near 606. First floor with 800 to 1000 square feet, \$15 per foot / UP. Three-year lease @ \$15 sq. ft. to developer/builder with proven funds. 773-772-0808 please leave message.

For Sale

Trailer for sale, for boat or jet ski. Rims, jacks, spare wheels included. \$457. Call 773-818-0808

Furniture Removal/Junk Removal

A Red's Hauling Service
Removal of unwanted items
from Basements, Garages, Attics,
Businesses, Estate Clearance
Senior Citizen Discount
FREE ESTIMATES
773-616-0979
redshauling.com

Garages/Garage Doors

FAMILY KASTANOVA INC.
GARAGE DOOR SERVICES
Overhead Garage Doors
Electric Openers
Installation and Repairs
(773) 744-6101 (cell)
(630) 717-5329
www.familykastanovainc.com

Health & Fitness

Attention oxygen therapy users! Discover oxygen therapy that moves with you with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. Free information kit. 1-866-477-9045

Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free information kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental5oplus.com/ads #6258

VIEW ILLINOIS
PUBLIC NOTICES
FREE ONLINE!

assessments | budgets | schools | taxes
foreclosures | hearings | subpoenas | notices

www.PUBLICNOTICESILLINOIS.COM
An online portal provided by members of the Illinois Press Association

Help Wanted

General office/accounting clerk
Skokie accounting firm needs a permanent part-time administrative assistant/accounting clerk. The position has room for advancement. Great working environment in a friendly office. Flexible schedule.
Email your resume to: jim@jamesdades.com or call Jim Dades at 847-675-4000

Home Services

Aging Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091

Water damage cleanup: A small amount of water can cause major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out wet areas & repair to protect your family & your home value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809. Have zip code!

Janitorial

Choice JANITORIAL BBB A+ Rating COMMON AREAS CLEANING - OFFICE CLEANING - CARPET CLEANING - POWER WASHING - SNOW REMOVAL 773-292-6015 www.callchoicejanitorial.com



Miscellaneous

American Log Homes DEVELOPER LIQUIDATION SALE! Log Home kits selling for Balance Owed. Up to 50% off. Design plans can be modified! No time limit on delivery. Call 1-866-307-5491, M-F 9am-5pm ET.

Bath & shower updates in as little as 1 day! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & military discounts available. 1-877-543-9189

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher). No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-833-399-3595

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

Home break-ins take less than 60 seconds. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets now for as little as 70¢/day! 1-844-591-7951

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/29/24.) Call 1-844-501-3208

MobileHelp America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call 1-888-489-3936

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-948-6176 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306

We buy houses for cash as is! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer & get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-877-5833

We Buy Vintage Guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-866-307-5404

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

BATH REMODEL

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

1-855-417-1306

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-in Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB:1082165 NSCB:0082999 0083445

CONSTRUCTION

D E M O WORKERS

FREE Estimates
Call Today
312-714-5694

Full Service General Contractor

- Bath Remodeling, Kitchen Remodeling, and Full House Remodels
- Design Build Contractor
- Complimentary Design on Every Project!

www.demoworkers.com

EYE CARE

SUPERIOR EYECARE

SINCE 1987

Making Eyeglasses in 1 Hour

Broken Frame?
We can put your lenses into new frame

Exam FREE with purchase of pair of eyeglasses, exam, fitting, PLUS 3 month supply of Oasys (sph) only \$120

773-525-1601
2947 N. Broadway
WWW.SUPERIOREYECARECHICAGO.COM

To Advertise
Call 773-465-9700

LEAF FILTER

20% OFF + 10% OFF

Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget!*

*See Representative for full warranty details. **One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366829023, AZ 803 34807, CA 1035795, CT 0627530, FL 026566736, HI 0272230, IL 0272230, IN 525544, LA 525544, MA 176407, MD 068111225, MI 262300773, MN 262300773, MO 262300773, NC 262300773, ND 262300773, NY 0771884, OH 228192, OK 47284, RI 50145-22, SC 20149-23, VA 13489952800, WA 488802, WI 98190, WY 98190-1114, WY 52225, OR 212024, PA 179402, 093930, 916-02-4154, TN 10981, UT 107030353501, VA 27019445, WA 0474798232, WI 9805872.

Sleeping Rooms

Cook County - Chicago

Nice room w/ stove, fridge & bath. Near ALDI, Walgreens, beach, Red Line & buses. Elevator & Laundry. \$149/wk and up. 773-275-4442

Cook County - Chicago

BIG ROOM with stove, fridge, bath & nice wood floors. Near Red Line & Buses. Elevator & Laundry, Shopping. \$139/wk. 773-561-4970

Cook County - Chicago

Clean room, refrigerator, microwave, near Oak Park, Food-For-Less, Walmart, Walgreens, Laundry, Buses and Metra. \$140.00 a week and up. \$595.00 a month and up. 773-637-5957

Call
773.465.9700
to Advertise

HOME IMPROVEMENT

P & L

Construction Services, Inc.

Home Remodeling:
Kitchens, Bathrooms,
Basements & Exteriors

Commercial Services:
Office Remodeling, Tenant Improvements,
Commercial Doors & more

847-361-6306

www.plconstructionservicesinc.com

PAINTING

Low Cost Painting

Interior & Exterior

312-834-3444

Low.cost591@gmail.com

For all your painting needs

DADRASS PAINTING

KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING

DRYWALL - WALLPAPERING
PLASTERING - TILE - CARPENTRY

• FREE ESTIMATES •

847-749-8227
847-291-9091

DADRASSPAINTING@YAHOO.COM

WINDOWS

THE WARMEST WINDOWS IN TOWN

4935 W. Le Moyne St,
Chicago, IL 60651
773-379-3500
advancedwindow.com
cs@advancedwindow.com

Showroom Hours
Monday thru Friday 7:00 to 4:00
Saturday 7:00 to 12:00

TOOL LIQUIDATION

TOOL LIQUIDATION

- Welder Generator
- Drain Rodder
- Ridgid Threading Machine
- Tank Torch Set
- Ridgid Plumbing Tools

773-818-0808

101supplyok@gmail.com
RECYCLED • CHEAP

TUCKPOINTING

ACCURATE EXTERIOR & MASONRY

Specializing in Tuckpointing
Chimneys, Brick Work, Lintel,
Parapet Walls, Parging,
City Violations & Roofing.
Rated "A" on Angie's List
Licensed and Insured
Free Estimate

773-592-4535

(10S14A)

Mark's Tuckpointing & Remodeling Co., Inc.

- TUCKPOINTING • BRICKWORK
- MASONRY • CHIMNEY
- MASONRY VIOLATIONS CORRECTED
- LINTEL REPLACEMENT
- ROOFING • PARAPET WALLS
- GUTTERS • SOFFIT/FASCIA

10% DISCOUNT
FREE ESTIMATES - INSURED
(773) 774-0444
www.MarksTuckpointing.com

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

Chicago Poetry Regionals coming Feb. 2

Since 2017, the Chicago Poetry Center Chicago Poetry Center has partnered with the Illinois Arts Council as the Chicagoland Regional host for Poetry Out Loud [POL], where students and school partners are offered the opportunity to perform on a stage shared by every modern US Poet Laureate, and likely their favorite poet too

The Chicagoland Regionals two-day competition will be held at the Poetry Foundation, 61 W. Superior St. City School Regionals will take place on Feb. 5, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Two-time Illinois POL champion, Yohanna Endashaw, won the Regionals in 2023 and again in 2024. "For me, Poetry Out Loud was about more than reciting lines. Standing on

stage, I felt the connection between myself, the poet, and the audience," said Yohanna. "The energy in the room when the audience silences to listen is both exciting and intimidating. Most of all, it is meaningful to be heard, and have a space to voice issues important to me." For more information contact info@poetrycenter.org.

GUILTY from p. 1

ing \$900 gift cards to herself. She was carrying \$4,420 in cash when cops arrested her.

Byrne also gave two years probation to Rosa Reynoso-Rodriguez, 35, after she pleaded guilty to theft of \$10,000 to \$100,000. Like most of the other participants, Reynoso-Rodriguez worked at the 2570 North Elston location. Prosecutors said she issued \$900 gift cards 313 times, for a total of \$281,700, with nearly \$50,000 worth of cards being issued during a single week.

Lamont Thompson, 50, was accused of being one of the “customers” who presented the receipt to receive gift cards. Last year, prosecutors said he received ten gift cards worth \$9,000 on May 10, another 39 cards worth \$35,100 during two sessions on May 12, and three cards worth \$2,700 on

May 15.

When police arrested Thompson, he had 33 Home Depot gift cards worth \$29,700 on him, prosecutors said.

He pleaded guilty to theft of \$10,000 to \$100,000 in exchange for a two-year probation sentence from Byrne. Thompson faced a more serious charge of operating a continuing financial crime enterprise, but prosecutors dropped that with his guilty plea.

Two men, Tyler Clark, 26, and Thomas McNeal, 64, pleaded guilty earlier this year and also received two-year probation sentences from Byrne.

Officials never explained publicly how the fraudulently issued gift cards were converted to cash, nor did they reveal how the scheme was able to operate for three years, generating thousands of \$900 gift cards from a single \$6,000 receipt.

DEPAUL from p. 1

in the Catholic League. It’s probably Mount Carmel’s Jack Elliott and Loyola’s Ryan Fitzgerald.

But maybe Rodriguez is, if taking an underdog, overachieving 6-3 team to the state championship game counts? That’s a lot more than leading a perennial powerhouse program. Rodriguez just might be the best.

It wasn’t just Rodriguez this time. One cannot overstate the work of the defense, especially the stellar play of senior defensive lineman Michael Casper and linebacker Jett Reese. When Coal City was forced to throw in the closing minutes, the Rams’ defensive backfield, led by senior

cornerback Shae Griffith, turned them away.

The 4A state championship game is 7 p.m. Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, at Illinois State University’s Hancock Stadium. The Rams will face the Mt. Zion Braves. The Braves (10-3) from the Apollo Conference defeated University High from Normal in the days other 4A semi-final.

“It hasn’t sunk in. I talked to the boys. I talked to the coaches. I’ve got people coming up to me. I am trying to embrace the moment but I am starting to think about getting back to work,” Rams head coach Mike Passarella said.

DePaul Prep is unique. It is a new school but has, or shares, an old tradition. The tradition of Gor-

don Tech. One of Gordon Tech’s legacies, maybe its most well-known, is a state championship in 1980. Gordon was a big school then. It had 2,000 boys and was in class 6A, the largest class. DePaul Prep’s head football coach before Passarella was Bill Jeske, a member or that 1980 state champion Gordon Tech team.

“It was 44 years ago yesterday,” Jeske said after the game. “Even though the name [of the school] has changed, the Rams’ traditions continue. I spent last night with my friends. I said this team is just like us. They are a team of destiny.”

CRISIS from p. 1

leads to schedule delays, gaps and inconsistencies.

Presently there are only 130 police officers assigned full time to transit duty, according to the Chicago Police Dept. They are occasionally supplemented by other officers. These officers must cover 79 stations, 146 platforms and 335 trains. This is pitifully low when one considers the mayor’s security detail has almost as many officers.

Making public transportation safe may require the creation of a special transportation police unit under its own commander. The unit could be staffed with Chicago Police officers specifically selected and trained for the job. At least 400 additional officers could be added to the police already assigned, using money spent on the unarmed, poorly trained private security. The transit police could be supplemented with part-time police retirees and other officers.

The transit police would have “manned posts” on all major CTA stations and bus terminals, with patrols walking the train platforms and riding the trains both in uniform and undercover. Panic buttons installed and maintained would ensure transit officers are alerted not only by the Office of Emergency Management but directly by the manned security booths. This ensures a constant police presence and immediate response to incidents.

Making public transportation safe may require the creation of a special transportation police unit under its own commander. The unit could be staffed with Chicago Police officers specifically selected and trained for the job. At least 400 additional officers could be added to the police already assigned, using money spent on the unarmed, poorly trained private security.

The CTA’s public transit unit would coordinate with METRA Police, Amtrak Police, Illinois State Police and university police departments. This would add more law enforcement personnel to public transportation in Chicago. Officers from other departments and agencies would be provided a “police transit pass” to encourage a larger law enforcement presence among riders.

Enhanced police presence should also be supported by the passage of a city nuisance ordinance that ensures there are serious consequences for those who damage public or private property, disrupt the public way, interfere in commerce or harass city residents and travelers.

The city needs to exhibit the same vigor in punishing these individuals as it does in going after residents and visitors for driving their cars past the city’s red-light and speed cameras or for violating parking rules.

As of 2023, ridership was at a mere 60% of pre-pandemic levels yet the CTA budget grew by

30%. Unfortunately, much of that growth went towards sustaining the CTA’s bureaucracy and not towards improving service. Nearly half of all CTA employees – or 5,154 of 10,588 – work in administration, management and support roles. The CTU can improve its circumstances by both reducing overall personnel costs and increasing the number of transit operators to improve service.

Another solution to save significant money in the long run involves consolidating regional transit agencies. Several polls show a substantial majority of Illinois residents favor combining Metra, Pace, the CTA and the Regional Transit Authority. Earlier this year, state legislators proposed the Metropolitan Mobility Act, which would create a single transit system out of the agencies. There are real savings to be had, operational efficiencies to be gained and public safety to be improved by such consolidations.

Restoring and maintaining ridership requires the CTA to create a commercial environment that draws more people to public transportation. Chicago’s downtown office vacancy rate stands at over 25%, well above the national rate of 19%. The most straightforward way to ensure heightened demand for public transit is by bringing workers and residents back to the city.

Chicago should push development along transportation corridors. Housing can be promoted through looser zoning restrictions, restoration of thousands of vacant residential properties and the use of property tax abatements to spur initial investment plus tax caps on individual properties.

High rents and taxes as well as the deterioration of public safety have also pushed out residents from transit-heavy areas.

EDGEWATER ARTISTS IN MOTION HOLIDAY SALE SHOW

COLVIN HOUSE 5940 N. SHERIDAN

SAT- DEC 07 3:00-7:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE

30 ARTISTS LAST MINUTE GIFTS FOR ALL

SPECIAL THANKS TO S&C Electric Company Green Element Resale Shop Edgewater Dental Group



30 Years EST. 1994 CHC CUSTOM HOME CARE

FAMILY OWNED NURSE MANAGED 4.9 STARS ON GOOGLE

In-home care to help seniors stay independent and safe at home.

- Assistance with Activities of Daily Living such as bathing, dressing and grooming
- Laundry and light housekeeping
- Medication reminders
- Companionship and personal-assistant services such as chaperones to doctor visits

Schedule a Consultation | 312.508.3570 | customhomecare.net



Subscribe online for only \$20 per year

inside online.com