

You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality.

—Ayn Rand

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The \$30M Western Ave. gap

Construction of \$59M Lincoln Square building tops \$27M project right across the street

BY PETER VON BUOL

Prefabricated concrete elevator shafts have just been installed at the \$59 million development going up at 4715 N. Western Ave. by Boston-based developer The Community Builders [TCB] and its local partner, Boar Development, which happens to be owned by Gabriel Ignacio Dziekiewicz, vice chair of Mayor Brandon Johnson's commission on Chicago landmarks.

Johnson re-appointed Dziekiewicz, and among those who voted for his re-appointment was Ald. Matt Martin [47th], in whose ward the project is being built.

Martin had also voted to approve his re-appointment during Mayor Lori Lightfoot's term as mayor.

In July, the city of Chicago had quickly approved Dziekiewicz's plans for the mixed-use building which includes 5,000 square feet of commercial space on the first floor, a second-floor parking deck and 65 residential units (earlier it had been reported as 63 units), on floors three to six, all

of which will require residents to use elevators.

According to information found in documents filed with the city of Chicago, the cost of the taxpayer-funded building is currently slated to be \$59 million, or about \$907,692 per unit. (The TCB project's total development costs had originally been reported as costing about \$48 million.)

There is a \$30 million gap in costs between the two projects, between the cost of building on the west side of Western Ave. as opposed to what TCB is reportedly spending on the east side of Western Ave.

This sum now includes the initial \$49 million that were provided through a variety of sources, including funds from the city's Western Ave. North Tax-Increment Financing [TIF] district and the sale of low-income housing tax credits [LIHTCs], as well as the fees the city was forced to pay to LAZ Parking, which operates the city's parking lots, because the building is being built on what until recently been a city-owned parking lot that had served the

customers of the Lincoln Square Mall and neighborhood cultural institutions such as the nearby DANK Haus German-American Cultural Center and the Davis Theater.

Projects funded through LIHTCs are often much more expensive than similar projects built by private developers.

For instance, right across Western Ave., a similar mixed-use development is being planned for 4640 N. Western Ave.

Lincoln Square residents will soon have a direct comparison as a private developer is planning to build a similar six-story building with 73 units just south of the CTA's Western Ave. Brown Line Station for \$27 million (about \$370,000 per unit).

Yes, there is a \$30 million gap in costs between the two projects, between the cost of building on the west side of Western Ave. as opposed to what TCB is reportedly spending on the east side of Western Ave.

At a public meeting held earlier this year, Joshua Mark, Ald. Martin's chief-of-staff, sheepishly admitted the city was being forced to pay LAZ an estimated \$19 to \$20 million for TCB to take over the building's parking lot. So that

WESTERN AVE see p. 12

New pot shop proposed for former Green Dolphin nightclub

Community meeting Dec. 20

Nothing says Christmas like going to a community meeting about a proposed marijuana dispensary coming to the community wanting to sell green leafs and red buds.

Ellen, LLC, is hosting that meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, at the Rebuilding Exchange, 1740 W. Webster, as they are seeking a Special Use Permit to allow for an adult use cannabis dispensary at 2200 N. Ashland Ave., the former site of Green Dolphin nightclub.

The proposed Special Use Applications would allow the applicant to operate an adult use cannabis dispensary within 3,502 square feet of the existing building. The site is zoned C1-1 Neighborhood Commercial District and is located in the 32nd Ward.

The Green Dolphin nightclub that formerly operated there was shut down in 2015 by the city after a shooting left two men dead and a third wounded. Prior to the shooting, local Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd] had called for the closure of the club.

There are reportedly no schools located within 500 feet of the site, although that has not been



The former nightclub at 2200 N. Ashland Ave.

confirmed. State of Illinois regulations demand no schools be located within 1,000-feet.

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a hearing to consider the Special Use Application, notice of which will be provided at a later date.

In advance of this hearing, applicants for adult use cannabis dispensaries are required to hold a community meeting for the purpose of explaining the proposal and answering questions on it.

This is that meeting, and holding it five days prior to Christmas may signal they hope few neighbors will attend the meeting.

Those who want to know more about pot sales at this location may contact Tyler Manic of Schain, Banks, Kenny & Schwartz, Attorney for Applicant, at 312-345-5706.

Peoples Gas pushes back against state oversight, asks for further rate increase

Local unions worried about safety, job implications

BY ANDREW ADAMS
Capitol News Illinois

Peoples Gas is requesting a multimillion-dollar bump to its already record-high rate increase approved by regulators last month.

In November, the Illinois Commerce Commission [ICC] forced a yearlong pause on the company's controversial pipeline replacement program while it investigates whether the program adequately prioritizes replacing high-risk natural gas pipes throughout Chicago, where the utility serves about 875,000 customers.

The company alleged in a filing with the ICC last week that a "misunderstanding" in last month's ruling will prevent the company from conducting emergency repairs and other "critical" work.

Consumer and environmen-

tal advocates have pushed back strongly against the request, saying that it is an attempt to overturn the ICC's decision without going through the proper appeals process.

The company is now seeking "expedited clarification" on what work it is allowed to continue doing and what work must be stopped. Peoples Gas claims that in pausing around \$265 million of work spread over several years, the ICC stopped the company from conducting critical infrastructure work that is beyond the scope of the program that is under investigation.

Peoples Gas is now seeking an additional \$9.1 million in annual revenue on top of the \$303 million increase that regulators approved in November.

Last month's ICC decision, which came in the form of a "final order," cut Peoples Gas' initial rate increase request by 25%. That, along with the decision to investigate the company's pipe replacement strategy, drew praise

from consumer and environmental advocates.

But the decision to pause some infrastructure spending while the state investigates the company's practices was met with strong

"It is outrageous for Peoples Gas, which has been rolling in six straight years of record profits and just received a record rate hike, to claim that it suddenly doesn't have the resources to conduct repairs to its system and pay its workers," Sarah Moskowitz said in a statement.

pushback from both the company and the unions that represent its workers. They cite both the possible economic and safety impact of the decision.

In a statement, Peoples Gas said that "several hundred jobs will likely be lost" because of the ICC's actions.

Ed Maher, a spokesperson for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, said the decision could affect up to 1,000 workers, including 200 members of his union.

"It leaves an entire workforce without a way to feed their families for 12 months," he said.

Maher also said the ICC "overstepped any kind of precedent" and the paused work could create

safety risks.

"The commissioners are playing politics with peoples' jobs, peoples' heat and peoples' safety," Maher said.

AFL-CIO President Tim Drea wrote a letter to the ICC commissioners on Monday in which he called their decision to pause the pipeline replacement program "troubling."

Consumer advocates, meanwhile, have pushed back against some of these claims.

Sarah Moskowitz, the head

of the Citizens Utilities Board, called Peoples Gas' request "irresponsible."

"It is outrageous for Peoples Gas, which has been rolling in six straight years of record profits and just received a record rate hike, to claim that it suddenly doesn't have the resources to conduct repairs to its system and pay its workers," she said in a statement.

CUB filed a formal response to Peoples Gas' request on Wednesday, along with several other entities that were involved in the case leading up to last month's decision. This includes groups like AARP Illinois and the Illinois Attorney General.

In a response filing to Peoples Gas' motion, the staff of the ICC criticized the utility on procedural issues as well as on its claims that it can't perform critical repairs without the additional rate hike.

"Not only is the company's interpretation of the final order incorrect, the company also fails

UTILITY see p. 12



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Survival is the ultimate surprise



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

I first met Peggy Guggenheim in Venice back in 1974. She had a doughy face and crazy nose. And she loved to be rowed over the canals by Beppo her oarsman. And slept in an Alexander Calder bed.

She was wealthy. Looney. Lonely. And her father went down on the Titanic. Victim of the berg.

Life often comes packaged in the unpredictable, unplanned for, and the shock of discovering it's all bigger than we think.

But there's always more than we think. Like a stack of Russian Matryoshka dolls that fit so easily inside one another, they are the perfect place to hide.

I suspect that's always been the deeper meaning that unfolds in the drama and turmoil of Advent. In the season of wild anticipation, "open your eyes and take a look around."

My father, Mossy O'Gorman, a talented man of Irish airs and dances, always lived on the edge of life. The result of too much time spent in the South Pacific with a helmet and a rifle.

Many 18-year-olds were forever altered with the prospect of Guadalcanal in your dashboard and Iwo Jima in your rearview mirror. Fol-

lowing such life-stretching teenage travels, there wasn't much left to rattle your expectations of what the planet had to offer.

However, I was always grateful that my father had the comfort of his Catholic faith that equipped him to embrace the world as he found it. Broken. Hurting. Angry and alone. A world deeply frayed at the edges. But hungry for hope. For that crust of bread. That sip of water. That endearing piece of piazza that signaled survival and rebirth.

A world he knew was in desperate need for a good surprise. An exploding cigar of faith. A sacred banana peel on a sidewalk. Surprises, he knew, come in many ways. Not necessarily in their guise of slapstick comedy.

In the weeks leading up to a full declaration of war between the United States and Germany during World War II, American philanthropist, Guggenheim, was determined to protect a wide tradition of French Modernism's Jewish painters from the slaughter of Nazi Germany.

She worked tirelessly to find ways to protect Europe's leading Jewish painters whose contribution to Modernist painterly style had no equal.

The Guggenheim fortune had long been at work collecting documents and travel visas on behalf of France's most dynamic artists. The large travel group relocated several times to accommodate their dangerous and highly political works. From Southern France they were forced to remain in fascist Spain until it was safe to proceed to Portugal, where the mostly French painters, boarded aircraft for travel to New York. Very Casablanca-like.

It is said that Guggenheim paid more than \$1200 a seat for travel to the States, making that expenditure exceed \$1 million.

Fourteen Modernist painters journeyed to New York where they transformed the artistic sidewalks of New York. Guggenheim was relentless in her efforts to organize efforts to display the revolutionary work of these painters. The sheer scale of her efforts altered the flora



Peggy Guggenheim in Venice.

and fauna of Modernist painting in America.

In March 1942, a special exhibit opened in New York City, European Art at Pierre Matisse. One piece each from the artists of who had come to New York with Guggenheim.

The exhibition was the first fruits of that undertaking of rescuing Europe's Jewish Modernist painters. They would survive.

Artists Matta Echaurren, Ossip Zadkine, Yves Tanguely, Max Ernst, Marc Chagall, Fernand Leger, Andre Breton, Piet Mondrian, André Masson, Amdeé Ozenfant, Jacques Lipchitz, Pavel Tchelitchew, Kurt Seligmann, and Eugene Bermann from nations across Europe, each working in contemporary modern styles. You know, Dada, Surrealism, Cubism, and De Stijl, all gathered in one great exhibit for the beginnings of a great moment in art.

The aesthetics of the event themselves were a shock that grounded the artists to the pavements of New York.

Against the horrors and the bloodshed of Nazi aggression, a whole new world of artistic enterprise began.

New York was reborn as an artistic world capital. And the terror of Nazi aggression was artistically rejected. They replaced the shocking values of nihilist nationalism with the flowering of modernism's humanist expression.

Guggenheim lifts herself high as a shocking expression of Advent humanism. Her surrender to the

landscape of the human heart and soul. Those edge places of human living where the dynamic passage of the Divine fills the humanity of those open to the familiar, but often unheard voice of God.

It is good to stand beside the artist and sculptor whose own hands calibrate the hidden face of God. Artist's themselves often feel the invitation to such intimacy, fearing too much life and too much living. An all too frequent response to discipleship.

The face of New York City must be reimaged following the crescendoed encounter with the Divine. A sight familiar to the artist of sepulcher, stable, madonnas and magi. Often the single spectacted sight of wonder and promise.

So we hover 'round the mystic noise of Divine invasion and constant interest in breaking in. Like monkeys in the treetops or leaf-eating giraffes. Remember, survival is the ultimate surprise.

PAY UP: The Sun-Times reports that new records show Chicago Teachers Union President **Stacy Davis Gates** was \$5,100 behind on her water, sewer and garbage services before starting a payment plan in July 2023. She almost immediately defaulted on that plan - in September - despite making more than \$289K a year. Really Stacy?

MOTHER JONES: The comments and commentary on **Mother Jones** and her Water Tower memorial are reaching new levels of concern which should also concern our mayor. Committees are forming to disestablish the questionable logic and Chicago loyalties involved in permitting Mother Jones to be the first Chicagoan to receive selective attention because she was a victim of the Great Fire of 1871.

Many people lost all they had when the fire raged through the city. Mother Jones's championing American labor deserves attention and a suitable space. Just not at the beloved spot where all the victims are honored.

MR. JONES: 50 years ago, on Dec. 21, 1973, a skinny, stage-frightened 13-year-old kid walked upon a makeshift stage in the gym at a now nonexistent West Side middle school, to play the role of Mr. Jones in that Chicago Public School's holiday play for students and staff. By the end of the second performance (after receiving ample laughs and applause), the kid knew he wanted to be a professional actor, and **Darryl Maximilian Robinson** has achieved that goal. Robinson was named a winner by Allevents of a 2022 Making The World Happening Award for his many theatre-related offerings.

HOLABIRD AND ROCHE: Plans to renovate the Holabird and

Roche State St. edifice known as the Waterman Building (1919) seem to have fallen through. Sad.

ALSO SAD: Security removed **George Blakemore** from City Council chambers last week as new rules limiting time for public speakers kicked in. There is no way Mayors Daley or **Emanuel** would have done that.

CHRISTMAS "L" TRAIN: The

CTA has let loose its most glorious locomotive carrying Santa and his friends around Chicago in holiday comfort and dramatic Chicago festive garb. The train runs regular routes and fans out across the skyline. Tie the child together and



George Blakemore. Photo by Isa Giallorenzo

SURVIVAL see p. 8

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Following murder, alderman puts mayor's office on blast: 'eminently foreseeable that someone was going to get killed'

BY CWBCHICAGO

"It shouldn't have come to this, but it was eminently foreseeable that someone was going to get killed," Ald. Bill Conway [34th] said Dec. 7, hours after a man was murdered beneath the Clinton 'L' station in the West Loop.

On Nov. 8, a 39-year-old man was shot at the same location. Two weeks before that, a man was shot about two blocks away in the 600 block of W. Fulton.

Conway has been working for months to get a nearby homeless camp cleaned up, saying it is fueling violent crime and narcotics activity in the neighborhood.

"Based on the clear trajectory of violent crime in the area, this tragic fatal shooting was inevitable and likely avoidable," lamented Ald. Conway.

"For months, I've been relentlessly trying to get the Mayor's Office to see that this site was no longer a peaceful encampment but rather a magnet for violent crime and drugs," the freshman alderman continued in an email sent to media outlets.

Conway recently accused Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration of withholding city services that could clean up a homeless camp under the Clinton train station on Lake St. A top Johnson aide said the city could do more but would only act if Conway agreed to vote in favor of two of the mayor's pet projects.

Last week, Chicago police arrested a 19-year-old man after he allegedly sold drugs to an undercover cop just a few yards from the homeless camp and murder scene. Prosecutors said police went into a tent Tailon Appleton sold drugs from and found nearly three-quarters of a pound of heroin worth \$52,875 and \$8,610 worth of crack. They also recov-

ered a loaded handgun with an extended ammunition magazine attached inside a backpack inside the tent, officials said. They also seized \$1,188 in cash from Appleton.

Prosecutors asked Judge Maryam Ahmad to keep Appleton in jail as a public safety threat, but she refused, deciding instead to put him on electronic monitoring. Ahmad supported her decision by saying the arrest was Appleton's first as an adult, that he cares for his mother, who has cancer, and that he was "very compliant [with] officers."

"Any number of recent events, including [Dec. 8's] major arrest, should have been sufficient to warrant their response. It is unfortunate that it has come to this, but I hope it finally results in action," Conway continued.

The alderman's media statement claimed Johnson's office

sent residents a "stock letter" after the Dec. 8 arrest that included a "misrepresentation" that the tent city was "merely a peaceful encampment" and noting that

Conway thanked the Chicago Police Dept. and other city agencies that have partnered with his office to address the camp's challenges.

Ald. Bill Conway recently accused Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration of withholding city services that could clean up a homeless camp under the Clinton train station on Lake St. A top Johnson aide said the city could do more but would only act if Conway agreed to vote in favor of two of the mayor's pet projects.

"homelessness is not illegal."

"The unfortunate response also disregarded the fact that for some time now, the Dept. of Family and Support Services hasn't been able to get [residents of the camp] to accept their offer for rapid rehousing and has been referring cases to CPD—because it isn't safe, for anyone," the statement said.

"I also want to assure my community that as Alderman and a father who walks his young daughters through these viaducts each day, I will continue to do everything possible to address this dangerous situation," Conway stated. "Everyone has the right to live in a safe community and deserves to have their concerns addressed by the Mayor's Office without condition."

CPS kicks off city planning meetings in January

The Chicago Public Schools will host 16 roundtables across the city from mid-December through February to discuss its Educational Master Facilities Plan [EMFP]. The EMFP Roundtables are a version of capital/ facilities engagement to improve the District's strategy for an optimal student experience.

Only three meetings are taking place on the North Lakefront, they include:

- Roberto Clemente Academy, 1147 N. Western Ave., Jan. 16, 2024, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Lincoln Park High School, 2001 N. Orchard St., Jan. 18, 2024, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Peirce Elementary School, 1423 W Bryn Mawr Ave., Jan. 23, 2024, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

While these are public meetings, and in-person attendance is available, registration is required. Visit cps.edu/fiveyearplan.

Edgewater Artists in Motion holiday sale and show Dec. 14

Edgewater Artists in Motion Holiday sale show pop-up will be at Whiskey Girl Tavern, 6318 N. Clark St., 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. tomorrow night. The event will include more than 20 local artists and music by Cassandra Kaczor. Stop in, no reservation is required.

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Home buyers looking forward to lower loan rates



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

It's time for home buyers to do some crystal-ball gazing on the outlook for where mortgage interest rates are headed in 2024.

"With interest rates on a downward slide for six consecutive weeks, there should be optimism entering 2024 for a better market," said Jessica Lautz, deputy chief economist for the National Assn. of Realtors [NAR].

On Dec. 7, Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported that benchmark 30-year fixed home loan rates averaged 7.03% nationwide, down from 7.22% a week earlier. A year ago, the rate was 6.33%.

Fifteen-year fixed mortgages averaged 6.29% on Dec. 7, down from 6.56% a week earlier. A year ago, 15-year loans averaged 5.67% nationwide.

Khater said although lower rates remain a welcome relief, "it is clear they will have to further drop to more consistently reinvigorate buyer demand."

The Freddie Mac survey is focused on conventional, conforming, fully amortizing home-purchase loans for borrowers who place 20% down and have excellent credit.

Mortgage-rate crystal-ball

Local crystal-ball gazers have optimistically predicted that interest rates could decline another 125 basis points in the next 12 months. That action would push benchmark 30-year fixed mortgages to 5.75% from the current 7%, and likely create a home-buying surge in early 2025.

A recent Mortgage Bankers Assoc. [MBA] forecast sees mort-

However, Fratantoni said a looming recession in early 2024, tighter credit, and dwindling pandemic-era savings could spell trouble and trigger an economic downturn.

NAR economists, forecasting for the Realtor group, see mortgage rates averaging 6.8% in 2024, then declining to 6.5% by year's end.

Both interest-rate creep, and a shortage of resale home listings have put upward pressure on home prices, NAR said. "In October of 2023, it required 39% of the average household paycheck to buy a typical for-sale home with a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage after placing a 20% down payment," NAR analysts reported. "This income figure has typically ranged around 21%, so it is well above historical average."

Moves of necessity—for job changes, family situation changes, and downsizing to a more affordable market—are likely to drive sales in 2024, NAR said.

"Although mortgage rates are expected to ease throughout 2024, the continuation of high costs will mean that existing homeowners will have a very high threshold for deciding to move," NAR predicted.

Many families likely will choose to stay in place, especially if they are lucky to have an existing 3% mortgage, experts say.

FHA Loan limits rise

As part of their annual requirement to keep pace with the change in housing prices, the Federal Housing Finance Agency [FHFA] and the Federal Housing Admin. have increased the amount buyers can borrow for loans backed by the federal government.

For FHFA, the single-family loan limit will increase to \$766,550, a \$40,350 jump over the 2023 threshold of \$726,200.

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.



"When rates began to rapidly drop, purchase applications for mortgages initially rebounded, but this improvement in loan demand diminished in the last week," Sam Khater said.

Just six weeks of rate decline eases the bite on prospective home buyer's wallets. For a buyer purchasing a \$400,000 home, the typical mortgage payment drops to \$2,135—a monthly savings of \$166, Lautz said.

"The average 30-year fixed-rate mortgage declined to nearly 7% last week, down from nearly 7.8% just six weeks ago," noted Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist.

"When rates began to rapidly drop, purchase applications for mortgages initially rebounded, but this improvement in loan demand diminished in the last week," Khater said.

gauge rates ending 2024 at 6.1%, then dropping to 5.5% at the end of 2025.

MBA chief economist Mike Fratantoni said the rate decline is expected as the economy slows, inflation lowers, and the spread between mortgage and Treasury rates narrows.

"The Fed's rate-hiking cycle is likely nearing an end, but while Fed officials have indicated that additional rate hikes might not be needed, interest cuts may not come as soon, or proceed as rapidly as previously expected," he said.

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Hire-A-Refugee job fair

Misericordia Home, 6300 N. Ridge Ave., will be hosting a Hire-A-Refugee job fair 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 25, 2024. Refugees are now legally authorized to work in the USA and do not require sponsorship. Employers may benefit from the skills and experiences refugees bring to the workplace, and refugees can gain valuable work experience to help rebuild their lives in the USA. For more information write to info@kaarpoh.com or visit the office of KaarPoh Employment Agency, 2709 W. Lawrence Ave.


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GENERAC



Teams may flee, but Illinois stadium authority bonds win an upgrade

BY CAITLIN DEVITT
Illinois Bond Buyer

Both the Chicago Bears and White Sox play in rented space, and you're the landlord. The Bears have made known their desire to vacate Soldier Field, while the Sox seem to be mulling over what life would be like for them in Nashville.

So what becomes of their former home fields if they leave? And just as important, what about all the money we borrowed to provide both of those homes?

The legal structure backing debt issued by the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority [ISFA] outranks risks posed by the possi-

bility of its two professional sports teams leaving town, persistent shortfalls in its primary bond payment source and an escalating debt service schedule, according to rating analysts and investors.

The ISFA, which issued bonds for the two Chicago stadiums where Major League Baseball's White Sox and National Football League's Chicago Bears play, won a two-notch upgrade Aug. 29 from S&P Global Ratings.

That's right, the two teams potential departure has oddly improved the financial outlook in the eyes of one Bond Ratings firm.

The move boosted the authority's out-

standing debt to BBB-plus from BBB-minus, lifting it higher into investment grade territory three years after the ratings agency knocked it to junk.

About \$416 million of debt is outstanding, nearly all of it for Soldier Field's 2003 renovation.

S&P's upgrade reflects the management's decision to request the full annual state hotel tax advance — the so-called "chairman's certificate" — to cover debt service and hotel taxes returning to an up-

ward trajectory following the pandemic-related decline, S&P said.

The ISFA owns, operates and issued \$150 million of bonds in 1989 for Guaranteed Rate Field where the White Sox play, and issued \$400 million of 2001 bonds that financed the renovation of the Chicago Park District-owned Soldier Field, home of the Bears.

About \$416 million of debt is outstanding, nearly all of it for Soldier Field's 2003 renovation.

The bonds enjoy a complex but strong legal structure that analysts and bondholders

TEAMS see p. 7



Wreaths Across America is again coming to Rosehill Cemetery to honor veterans this Christmas. The wreath-placing will take place at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 16, immediately following a ceremony at 5800 N. Ravenswood.

Wreaths Across America helps to remember and honor veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of America's fallen heroes, including one of the two Revolutionary War veterans buried in Cook County, hundreds of Civil War Union soldiers, and veterans of more recent conflicts.

Each veteran will receive a wreath during the ceremony. Community members are invited to join in the wreath-laying, and are encouraged to sponsor wreaths. Wreaths are \$17 each, and for every two sponsored, a third is given to Rosehill for free.

Police Beat...

Old Town man gets eleven years for firearm while dealing fentanyl

And Old Town A man has been sentenced to 11 years in federal prison for illegally possessing a loaded handgun while trafficking fentanyl and cocaine.

Thomas Gates illegally possessed the gun and drugs Nov. 16, 2021, in the Old Town neighborhood. Chicago police detained Gates in the 1500 block of N. Sedgwick Ave. after observing him display the firearm to another individual. The officers then discovered approximately 45 small, packaged baggies of fentanyl and cocaine in Gates' jacket pocket.

Gates had previously been convicted of multiple felonies and was not lawfully allowed to possess a firearm.

Gates, 43, pleaded guilty earlier this year to federal drug and firearm charges. U.S. District Judge Edmond E. Chang imposed the sentence Dec. 5 in Chicago.

"Possession with the intent to distribute controlled substances and possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking are extremely serious offenses," Assistant U.S. Attorney Beth E. Palmer said during sentencing. "[Thomas] posed a severe threat to the community, which is already plagued by gun violence, when he carried a loaded semi-automatic weapon on a public street to protect his drug distributions."

Woman stabbed cab driver on the Mag Mile

A woman remains at large after she stabbed a cab driver in the head on the Magnificent Mile Dec. 8.

The cabbie was giving the woman a ride when she became angry and physically attacked him in the 600 block of N. Michigan around 12:37 a.m., police said. He tried to push the woman away, but she pulled out a sharp object and "made contact with the victim's head," according to a CPD media statement.

She fled on foot and has not been located.

Police said the victim was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in good condition with a laceration on his head.

CPD did not release a description of the woman.

15-year-old stabbed a man on the Red Line

A 15-year-old boy has been charged with stabbing a man on a Red Line "L" train in Lincoln Park last month, according to Chicago police.

It occurred on a northbound train at the North-Clybourn station

around 7:45 p.m. Nov. 19. Witnesses reported that a group of about six teenagers had attacked and stabbed a man on the train, then fled into the North-Clybourn station.

The victim, 38, was seriously injured in the attack, according to CPD.

All of the teens slipped away, but Chicago police arrested the 15-year-old Dec. 6 in the 4800 block of N. Lincoln Ave. He is charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. No further information is available about him because he is a juvenile.

The Chicago Police Dept. claimed this week that violent crime is down 3% this year on the CTA.

Burglars hit three Lincoln Park businesses in 10 minutes

Three Lincoln Park businesses were targeted by burglars within about 10 minutes Dec. 5. No arrests have been announced.

Chicago police first responded to reports of two burglaries in progress in the 1100 block of W. Wrightwood around 12:56 a.m. Officers found rocks had been thrown through the windows at Starbucks, 1157 W. Wrightwood, and Ultimate Dry Cleaning at 1158 W. Wrightwood, according to CPD reports.

About 10 minutes later, five men broke the front glass door at Rowan Piercing Studio, 2007 N. Sheffield. Police said the thieves took a laptop and several other items before escaping in a red Hyundai sedan.

A red sedan was also seen leaving the Wrightwood break-ins.

Cops found cash register drawers and other possible burglary proceeds in an alley in the 1900 block of N. Sheffield. It was not clear if those items were taken during Tuesday's break-ins or from a different location.

Court upholds Smollett's conviction

The Illinois Appellate Court upheld Jussie Smollett's 2021 conviction and sentence to 150 days in Cook County Jail and 30 months of felony probation for reporting a fake hate crime to police.



Jussie Smollett

Smollett told police he was attacked by two men in ski masks who shouted homophobic slurs and say the openly gay actor was in "MAGA country," a reference to one of former President Donald Trump's campaign slogans. An investigation found that Smollett orchestrated the attack himself.

In Feb. 2019, Smollett was arrested and charged with felony disorderly conduct in connection to claims he filed a false police report about being the victim of a hate crime in downtown Chicago.

On March 26, 2019, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's office moved to dismiss the charges as part of a deal that included Smollett forfeiting his \$10,000 bond and completion of community service.

On June 21, 2019, a Cook County judge ordered a special prosecutor to investigate the case against Smollett. Ultimately, that investigation led to a grand jury's indictment of Smollett on six charges of felony disorderly conduct.

The three justice panel voted 2-1 to deny Smollett's appeal of "virtually every aspect" of his trial and con-

viction, upholding the trial court's decision. The ruling disagreed with Smollett's argument that he should not have been charged by the special prosecutor with the same crimes that had been dismissed by Foxx's office. The majority of the appellate court panel also ruled that Smollett's sentence was "within the statutory sentencing range and, thus, presumed to be proper."

Smollett's attorney's plan to appeal the decision to state Supreme Court.

Anti Cruelty Society sued over dog attack

A man and a child have sued the Anti Cruelty Society [ACS], claiming they were attacked by a Pit Bull, which allegedly was provided by the ACS to another man who allegedly failed to control the animal while taking it for a walk.

A volunteer for the Society was walking a Pit Bull named Boba in the Navy Pier when the dog attacked Paul Rossi and a minor, biting both in the leg, the lawsuit states. The man and child were on a public walkway at the time and allegedly did nothing to provoke the dog, according to the suit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court.

The ACS "knew or should have known that the dog was dangerous to humans," when it gave possession of the animal to the volunteer, the lawsuit states.

As a result of the attack, the victims "sustained severe and permanent injuries," the lawsuit states.

Under Illinois law, if a dog attacks a human without provocation, the owner can be held liable, the lawsuit says.

The lawsuit seeks damages of more than \$50,000, plus attorney fees.

Package thieves blasted victim with bear spray

Two North Siders blasted a woman in the face with bear spray while stealing packages from her apartment building vestibule, according to a Chicago police report.

The 29-year-old victim called police to her apartment building in the 2000 block of W. Fargo in Rogers Park around 2:30 a.m. Nov. 23. She showed officers surveillance video of the theft and then directed the cops to the man's nearby car, the report said.

When officers looked inside the car, they saw packages addressed to the woman and a can of UDAP bear spray, according to the report.

Officers arrested Brent Young, 21, and Yocoria Branch, 26, on misdemeanor charges of theft and battery. Young lives in the victim's building, while Branch lives in Uptown, their arrest reports said. They were released from the 24th District police station a few hours after being arrested.

The packages they are accused of stealing contained a keychain, a children's playset, and two paperback books.

The packages they are accused of stealing contained a keychain, a children's playset, and two paperback books.

Man who shot a CTA bus driver gets 30-years

A Chicago man was sentenced Dec. 8 to 30 years in prison for shooting an on-duty CTA bus driver during an altercation in the Loop two years ago.

The 34-year-old driver asked Dennis Green, 40, to exit the bus when they reached the end of the line on the first block of E. Washington around 8:58 p.m. Sept. 4, 2021, prosecutors said.

Green allegedly responded by yelling at the driver and spitting in his face.

Police arrived, but the situation escalated as the driver tried to escort Green to a squad car, prosecutors said in the days following the shooting. As the altercation turned physical, Green pulled out a gun and shot the driver in the left jaw.

A witness reportedly kept an eye on Green as he ran from the area and removed some of his outer clothing. The witness directed cops to his location, and they took him into custody minutes after the shooting. Prosecutors said a loaded 9-mm handgun fell from Green's jacket as police arrested him.

The bus driver suffered a fractured jaw and underwent surgery to repair his injuries.

On Aug. 23, a jury found Green guilty of aggravated battery by discharging a firearm and aggravated battery of a transit employee. Judge Timothy Joyce sentenced him to 27 years for the firearm discharge and three consecutive years for the second count, according to clerk of court records.

Prosecutors dropped eight felonies before trial. The jury acquitted Green of attempted murder, armed habitual criminal, and a second count of aggravated battery by discharging a firearm, the court records show.

Green is expected to appeal.

He has been sentenced to prison four other times, including eight years for aggravated robbery in 2001, five years for attempted burglary in 2005, and 42 months for unlawful use of a weapon by a felon in 2009, according to court records.

Suspect detained after 15-year-old boy is sexually assaulted inside Loop convenience store

A suspect is in custody after a 15-year-old boy was sexually assaulted inside a Loop convenience store on Dec. 7, Chicago police said.

The boy was inside the 7-Eleven at 4 W. Jackson when a man approached him and "began to physically grab" him around 9:30 p.m. Police said the assault moments later after crossing paths with CPD officers at Jackson and Plymouth.

CPD said a suspect was taken into custody, and charges are pending.

A police evidence technician was examining a restroom inside the convenience store overnight. The boy was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Man with 'extensive criminal history' knocked Red Line passenger unconscious for standing too close to his bike

Officials say a man with an extensive criminal history knocked a CTA passenger unconscious because the victim was standing near his bicycle on a Red Line train in the Loop.

Judge William Fahy ordered Joshua Savado, 33, detained to await trial during a court hearing last week.

Chicago police arrested Savado in the Loop on Dec. 1 to face charges in the attack, which occurred around 11:45 a.m. Oct. 11.

Savado and the 53-year-old victim were on the same train car when Savado screamed for the victim to "get the f**k away" from his bike,

prosecutors said in a detention petition. 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," the petition continued.

CTA camera footage shows 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, according to the petition.

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

Judge Fahy pointed to Savado's "extensive criminal history," which includes other violent crimes on the CTA, in his detention order.

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. 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. Prosecutors dropped the case on Oct. 6.

- Allegations that he slapped a 66-year-old man sitting in a wheelchair in Rogers Park, then threw a vase at the victim and the victim's caretaker on Sept. 22, 2015, and then fought with 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.

- A robbery on the Red Line at North-Clybourn on Sept. 16, 2015. Prosecutors said he battered the 23-year-old victim and took the man's wallet from his pocket. He pleaded guilty to robbery in 2016 and received a five-year prison sentence from Judge Charles Burns.

Wrigleyville robbery victim says armed men Zelled themselves \$1,000 from his phone

Police are investigating two robberies reported in Wrigleyville on Nov. 25.

The first victim told police he was robbed near the 3400 block of N. Clark around 1:15 a.m. by two men who approached him to solicit money for "the youth of Chicago."

When the man pulled out a cash donation, the men told him it wasn't enough, and one of the men lifted his shirt to display a firearm, according to a CPD report. They proceeded to take the victim's phone and Zelle themselves \$1,000 from his account before fleeing.

About 15 minutes later, another man reported that two offenders robbed him near Cornelia and Racine.

Descriptions of the suspects were not available.

Robbery reports in the Lakeview-based Town Hall 19th District are up 3% this year, which is well below the citywide increase of 25%. However, robberies in the district are up 53% compared to 2019.

About 15 minutes later, another man reported that two offenders robbed him near Cornelia and Racine.

Descriptions of the suspects were not available.

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Rogers Park mail thief targeted master key during robbery of a postal worker

BY CWBCHICAGO

A mail thief busted in Rogers Park last week was found standing about 15 feet away from a U.S. Postal Service master key that had been taken from a mail carrier in an aggravated robbery, according to a Chicago police report.

Officers responding to a burglary in progress in the 6700 block of N. Lakewood around 1 p.m. Dec. 6 saw a suspicious man walking out of an apartment complex, the report said.

He was wearing a City of Chicago baseball hat and an orange and yellow safety vest, but he didn't have municipal credentials, according to CPD. The man ran

when the cops got out of their car, but they arrested him nearby.

The officers allegedly found bulk mail inside his canvas bag, all addressed to different people. They found the postal service master key lying nearby and recovered a blade tool that could be used to break into buildings and vehicles, the arrest report said.

U.S. Postal Inspectors determined that the master key, also known as an "arrow key," was taken by robbers who targeted a mail carrier.

Prosecutors charged Michael Valentine, 37, with burglary and possession of burglary tools.



Michael Valentine

Judge Charles Beach released him on electronic monitoring. The report said an investigation into the robbery is ongoing but did not say when or where it occurred.

Organized mail theft has become part of the "new hustle in urban America," a law enforcement source told us in January.

One arm of the operation is responsible for stealing U.S. Postal Service master keys from mail carriers, often at gunpoint. Those keys are passed on to "jobbers," who use them to open banks of mailboxes in residential buildings and steal the contents. The stolen mail is passed on

to another arm of the organization specializing in financial crimes like identity theft and check washing.

Check fraud reports are up 104% since 2021 in Illinois, with mail theft being one of the contributing factors.

Since 2020, the U.S. Postal Service's police force has been limited to protecting the agency's physical assets rather than going on patrol to help protect the system as a whole and mail carriers in particular.

The change was a direct order from Postmaster General Louis DeJoy in 2020. Courts have upheld DeJoy's authority to limit the police force mission.

Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin is

Since 2020, the U.S. Postal Service's police force has been limited to protecting the agency's physical assets rather than going on patrol to help protect the system as a whole and mail carriers in particular.

introducing legislation that he hopes will put the postal police back on the street.

TEAMS from p. 5

said they believe will prevail despite headwinds facing the credit. Crucially, the bonds are not dependent on stadium activity for repayment.

Under the legal structure backing the bonds, the state of Illinois "advances" up to 60% of a 5% statewide hotel tax to the ISFA a few months ahead of the annual debt payment, an amount that's sized in the chairman's certificate. After making the debt payment, the agency must repay most of the state advance, using a local 2% tax on Chicago hotels as well as \$5 million annual subsidies from the state and from the city.

If Chicago's hotel tax revenue falls short — which it has the last two years — the state is allowed to automatically withdraw the amount needed from the city's share of income tax revenues that flow to cover the gap.

That means Chicago remains ultimately on the hook for the bond payments, a deal that former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley struck in 2001 to win support for the renovation of Soldier Field.

The city's hotel revenue proved sufficient in all years but 2011, until the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020 and drove a nearly 90% fall in local hotel revenue.

In 2020 and 2021, the authority dipped into its own \$39 million special reserve and pushed off debt service through a debt restructuring to spare Chicago from having to cover the gap.

In 2022 and 2023, local hotel revenue fell short again, but the ISFA declined to refinance, leaving Chicago to cover the shortfall, which totaled nearly \$30 million in 2022 and \$9 million in 2023.

The fiscal 2024 budget included a chairman's certificate advance request of \$76.5 million, which covers the full debt payment.

The debt is set to mature in 2032. A current refunding is expected next year using existing state authority to push out the final maturity by one year to 2033, but new authority is needed for a more comprehensive solution, said ISFA Chief Executive Officer Frank Bilecki.

"If you look at the payments going forward and how they ramp to just over \$90 million toward the end, versus where the hotel tax revenue estimates might be, we need to consider how we can solve for that issue so the (state income taxes) won't get hit each year," Bilecki said. "We have a number of bonds callable in 2024, so if there's an opportunity to work with the General Assembly through the city and our partners on some kind of restructuring,

If Chicago's hotel tax revenue falls short — which it has the last two years — the state is allowed to automatically withdraw the amount needed from the city's share of income tax revenues that flow to cover the gap.

That means Chicago remains ultimately on the hook for the bond payments, a deal that former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley struck in 2001 to win support for the renovation of Soldier Field.

that's something that we would consider."

Asking state lawmakers for the authority to stretch debt payments by five years or another type of restructuring would be a lobby-

ing effort led by the city, Bilecki added.

With interest, ISFA owes \$743 million of debt through 2032. Debt service this year totals \$53.5 million and rises to \$56.8 million

next year. It hits \$60 million in 2025 and \$64 million in 2026 before holding steady at \$67.5 million for three years.

It then ramps to \$78.6 million in 2030, \$86.5 million in 2031 and \$90.5 million in 2032.

The repayment schedule is tied to the 2033 expiration of the Bears' Soldier Field lease. The team in 2022 announced it would leave the venue, and reportedly can break its lease as early as 2026 for \$84 million.

Since the announcement, the team's talks with potential hosts, like the suburb of Arlington Heights, seem to have cooled, and its future home remains unknown.



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SURVIVAL from p. 2

head out on a journey that will delight you.

COUNTRY: And Western. **Mark Guarino** told the tale of the times before the Grand Ole Opry, when Chicago was a nexus of country music with its "National Barn Dance" program on WLS Radio, during a talk at the Edgewater Library. By the 1940s we had the largest concentration of country musicians in the entire US. His new book would be a great Christmas gift, look for it.

HELLO VALHALLA: There are cheers in our streets here, Mirai, theme of exquisite sushi closed, but we just discovered that Chef **Stephen Gillanders** is moving his fine dining restaurant, Valhalla, to Wicker Park (Mirai's former Division St. home). Goodbye old friend, Mirai.

THE IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB: A Christmas Lunch crowd of close to 1,300 set a new record of holiday feasts at the Hilton. It's a generational thing. With four generations of **Daley's** approaching historical proportions outlining the faith of generations as the club move towards the 125th anniversary of it founding.

AL MENOTTI & DON'S CHRISTMASSMASH: Nowhere is Christmas better celebrated than at Al and Don's. A fragrant delight for friends and neighbors. Holiday elegance every inch of the way with tables of exhaustive delights and vittles of unmatched refinement. A chic array of chatty Chicagoans blended voices on carols and holiday favorites with the lovely

Sherrill Bodine, Barb Bailey, Denise Tomasello, Jolanta Reuge, Irene Mojica, Kim Duda, Sharee Schwimmer, Debi Catenacci and Lauren Lein Cavanaugh.

WHO'S WHERE: **John and Myra Reilly** off to walk the boulevards of Paris hunting for great art and great food at Au Moulin à Vent... Sculptor **John David Mooney's** foundation reception for French Tourist Board, wine and cheese from the Loire Valley... oooh la-la... **The Mednicks, Ben, Stacey and Jacky** are off to



Jane LePauw

Paris to see **Anna** for Christmas... **Cynthia Olson** having a grand time at the Benjamin Marshall Society with Poland's Consul General **Patel Zyzak**, she says, praising **Jane LePauw** is a marvel as she made everyone aware of all the fabulous buildings Zyzak designed in Chicago, her passion is awesome... Concert violinist, **Patricia Anne Traacy** in her kelly green sari in Goa, Southern Goa, India with husband, **Mark O'Malley**... **Paul Hansen** and daughter **Holly O'Connell** at **Jay White's Neil Diamond** Tribute Concert... **Deborah McCabe** and **Lisa Mariano** at Butch McGuire's for the annual **Steve Kromie** bash... Cook County Judges **John Curry** and **Brendan O'Brien** also at McGuire's... WGN's **Pete McMurray** at the 23rd Annual Brothers' McMurray bash at House of Blues... **Julie Nye** with **Cheryl Keane** and friends welcoming them to a Christmas soiree at home... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus** say farewell to Asia, a journey from Hanoi to Bangkok altering the tilt of the world.

UND: The Univ. of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees has selected the **Rev. Robert Dowd** to serve as the school's 18th president, the university announced Monday. His term



Patel Zyzak



Darryl Maximilian Robinson



Debi Catenacci and Sherrill Bodine.



Julius DeBruhl Lewis



Patricia Treacy



Irish Fellowship Club

will begin July 1. **ELAINE SAYS:** I finally learned from **Elaine Fishbein** of the death last year of an amazing person, true original and dear friend for decade, was one of a kind; from his fabulous flamboyant style (oh, those amazing Deco pins, silk ascots, bow ties and signature cologne) to his unique artistic talent, panache and fortune telling skills. He was fiercely loyal to **Mark, Perry** and I. He was a force to be reckoned with and the epitome of class. **Julius DeBruhl Lewis**, you had a heart of gold and are dearly missed. Farewell my friend.

RIP FRIEND: This column also mourns the death of **Fr. Bernie Pieterzak**, pastor of St. Anne's in Barrington.

STUDIO SALE: Dec. 16 and 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. **O'Gorman** studio, 1059 N. Winchester. Enter

through garden. Paintings, botanicals, equine, sailing regattas, 18th century Irish architecture, rural Irish landscapes, Irish Christmas trees, Dublin cityscapes.

SOLO FEST: The annual Fillet of Solo Festival, Chicago's premiere storytelling and live lit festival will take place Jan. 12 to 21 at Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave. and South of The Border, 1416 W. Morse Ave., in Rogers Park. This year they're featuring a dozen storytelling collectives and numerous solo artists, including those by **Jonathan Pitts** and **Nestor Gomez**. A free kick-off event will take place on Jan. 10 at Rhapsody Theater where **Ilesa Duncan** and **Dorothy Milne** will guide an evening of performances and conversations with storytellers. Free parking is available at at Sullivan High School, 6631 N. Bosworth Ave.

GREEK HEAD: The National Hellenic Museum in Greektown is extending two vibrant exhibitions by Greek American artists through early next year. Exemplifying Greek history, art, culture and the Greek American story, the touring sculpture exhibition **Hellenic Heads** by **George Petrides**, features six larger-than-life busts inspired by key periods in Greek history spanning 2,500 years. Nearby **Diane Alexander White's** **Gather Together:** Chicago Street Photography shows off more than

80 historic photographs showcasing Chicago's Greek American celebrations alongside other ethnic and cultural festivals and parades.

DRUMS: Asian Improv Arts Midwest, directed by multi-instrumentalist and media artist **Tatsu Aoki**, presents its "Taiko Legacy 20th Anniversary" Concert at the Edlis Neeson Theater at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, 220 E. Chicago Ave., 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17.

This performance celebrates two decades of Asian Improv Arts Midwest's most anticipated event of the year, "Taiko Legacy," one of the largest taiko presentations in the Midwest. It is a conceptually diverse and dynamic musical performance full of original arrangements that pay homage to ozashiki (geisha chamber music), ohayashi (classical/folk/theater music), and matsuri taiko (festival taiko music).

"Taiko Legacy" is a perennial celebration of heritage forms by leading contemporary performers. Literally meaning "drum," taiko is known for its thunderous sound and stylized choreography.

My motto was 'Buy a picture a day' and I lived up to it.

- **Peggy Guggenheim**

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(L-R) Chef Sean Sherman, author of *The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen* and chef at Owami, a full-service indigenous restaurant in Minneapolis. Crystal Wahpepah, owner of Wahpepah's Kitchen in Oakland, California. The festival at the oceanfront setting overlooking the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel's Kauna'oa Bay, among the top beaches in the state of Hawai'i.

Bloomin' onions, were we wrong all along?!

Chicago's wild 'smelly' onions a 'gift' - a harbinger of spring, prized by Native Americans

BY PETER VON BUOL

It's one of Chicago's most venerable tales, surely told millions of time, on how Chicago got its name. You may have even been taught that in school.

And now this writer has discovered that that tale may have been misunderstood all along.

More than 340 years ago, the French explorer Robert de LaSalle recorded Checagou as his version for the indigenous place name for what today is the city of Chicago. Since then, the exact meaning of Chicago has been debated. Some believe the name meant wild onion/wild garlic and others thought it simply meant place of the bad smell.

Accompanying LaSalle had been Henri Joutel, who noted in his diary that "wild garlic" grew abundantly along the shores of the Chicago River. Interestingly, the indigenous Miami-Illinois word for this local member of the onion family is shikaakwa, which is known scientifically as *Allium tricoccum*.

Despite the similarity between the Miami-Illinois word and phonetic spelling by LaSalle, many scholars continued to debate if the name meant the plant or the area's distinct smell.

A definitive answer to the question was recently provided to this reporter by Chef Crystal Wahpepah, owner of Oakland's Wahpepah's Kitchen, and who was among those who had participated in a culinary event held Oct. 20-21 at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, as a part of the 13th Annual Hawai'i Food and Wine Festival.

What this reporter heard changed his perspective of the tale of the stinky onions.

Wahpepah grew up in California and is an enrolled member of the Kickapoo Nation. She is also Sauk/Sac and Fox (Meskwaki). All three are closely related nations which had originated in northern Illinois. For Wahpepah, going to Oklahoma in the



The Mauna Kea Beach Hotel in Hawai'i was the location of this year's Annual Hawai'i Food and Wine Festival.

springtime as a child remains one of her favorite childhood memories.

"That's one of my best memories from [when] I was a child. And I still keep those memories dear to me. For me, the smell is special. It is a sign of spring. It is a sign of what we have to look forward for the rest of the year," said Wahpepah.

During this time period, said Wahpepah, the wild onion can be found along the banks of a river but you really have to look. Recognizing its distinct aroma is one of the ways to locate it.

"It is almost like a wild garlic. But it is much more mild. It is not so much like a green onion or a chive. It is in between the garlic and the others," said Wahpepah.

According to Wahpepah, the plant has long been prized for its positive connotations.

"It is delicacy for Oklahoma native Americans. It's always something we are happy to share with the elders. When we go out to forage for them, we always make sure to gather some for the elders. It is a beautiful gift," said Wahpepah.

"Prized?" "Special?" A "gift?" Like not offensive or "stinky?" Are Chicagoans today filled with a misperceptions?

Today, many Sauk/Sac, Fox (Meskwaki) and Kickapoo live in Oklahoma. The three speak similar Algonquian languages and had lived together in northern Illinois, until 1830.

When collecting them, Wahpepah said special care has to be taken when pulling them out of the ground.

"You'll have to carefully pull on these little bulbs. You don't want to leave them behind. Afterwards, I will normally keep them in the refrigerator. They also can be turned into an onion powder," said Wahpepah.

Shortly after their harvest, Wahpepah enjoys making a soup from the fresh onions.

"Right when you harvest them, they make an excellent soup. If I am very fortunate to have a lot of it, then I will dry the rest. They make an excellent powder," said Wahpepah.

"I got started at a very young age. I was always cooking. My family has always been community-oriented. Cooking comes naturally to me. It's time for our foods to be recognized [as something special]. To be recognized on a plate. I want others to see the beauty as I see it. Here in Hawai'i, right

For me, the smell is special. It is a sign of spring. It is a sign of what we have to look forward for the rest of the year," said Chef Crystal Wahpepah.

now, we have this beautiful ocean. I want others to see the beauty of our traditional foods and to see the same things I do.

Wahpepah feels fortunate to have been raised in a traditional family and knows about hunting and harvesting. "I find it beautiful to be here at this event and to present our foods at events such as this," she said.

Fittingly, the Indigenous World Cuisine Festival was held at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, a masterpiece of Mid-Century Modern architecture that had been designed by

ONIONS see p. 11

Beloved classic Christmas movie reading fundraiser Dec. 17

Theatre Above the Law is doing a holiday reading of the classic Christmas movie "Die Hard" 5 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Jarvis Square Theater, 1439 W. Jarvis. Cookies, milk and hot cocoa will be provided.

Tickets are pay-what-you-can and every \$10 donation will be given a raffle ticket for a \$50 gift card to Lost Girls Vintage. Tickets are available at theatreatl.org.

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Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs. NAYELI ESPINOZA: FARWELL ESTATES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 5725 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 11-32-123-016-1014; 11-32-123-016-1030. Commonly known as 6836 N. Lakewood Avenue, Unit G and parking space G-4, Chicago, IL 60626. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6722-185633 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13234356**

Real Estate For Sale

chaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-22-04483 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2022 CH 06513 TJS# #: 43-3948 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 # 2022 CH 06513 **13234198**

Real Estate For Sale

Property Index No. 11-30-301-044-1005 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$115,177.23. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 22 9694. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650 Chicago IL, 60602 312-541-9710 E-Mail: lipleadings@johnsonblumberg.com Attorney File No. 22 9694 Attorney Code. 40342 Case Number: 2022 CH 08663 TJS# #: 43-4279 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 # 2022 CH 08663 **13233616**

131313 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE OF GREENE STREET FUNDING TRUST II Plaintiff, vs. BINYOMIN CHESNY, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2022 CH 06513 2547 W. FARWELL AVE 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 May 16, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 12, 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 2547 W. FARWELL AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 10-36-229-004-0000 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/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 pur-

060606 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. Plaintiff, vs. JANICE L. STEWARD A/K/A JANICE STEWARD, OAKLEY PLACE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2022 CH 08663 7542 N. OAKLEY AVENUE, APT. 2W 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 May 24, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 29, 2023, 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 7542 N. OAKLEY AVENUE, APT. 2W, CHICAGO, IL 60645

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

GUARDIAN CREDIT UNION
4501 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Milwaukee, WI 53214,
Plaintiff,
v.
TREVELLE H. DOUGLAS
10036 S. Morgan St.
Chicago, IL 60643,
Defendant.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS
Case No: 23CV008124

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 days after December 6, 2023, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is 901 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233, and to the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 735 N. Water Street, Suite 205, Milwau-

kee, Wisconsin 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

We are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2023.

DARNIEDER & SOSNAY

By: Electronically signed by Michael A. Sosnay
Michael A. Sosnay, Attorney for Plaintiff
State Bar No: 1059549
P.O. ADDRESS
735 N. Water Street, Suite 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 277-1400

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

131313 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JOHN J. MOORE; ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; CARL SANDBURG VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION NO.2; CRAIG MOORE; DAMON RITTENHOUSE AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR JOHN J. MOORE; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 10301 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, January 8, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17042070861216. Commonly known as 1460 NORTH SANDBURG TERRACE, UNIT 309, CHICAGO, IL 60610. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act

Real Estate For Sale

13233680 ----- Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6766-188153 ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13233680** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIMORTGAGE, INC.; Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ERIC MATHIASSEN; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; ELAINE MATHIASON; EVAN MATHIASSEN; MARK MATHIASSEN; ROBERT JOHN MATHIASSEN; WILLIAM BUTCHER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ERIC MATHIASSEN; HURON-WELLS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants, 22 CH 1127 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, January 8, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public

Real Estate For Sale

13233684 ----- auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 17-09-210-017-1004. Commonly known as 156 W. Huron, Unit 4D, Chicago, IL 60610. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6710-186021 ADC INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13233684** 060606 ----- 292929 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FOR PRETIUM MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, vs. MATTHEW D. EHRHART, WAVELAND COMMONS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE Defendants 2022 CH 08263 1648 W WAVELAND AVENUE, 3E CHICAGO, IL 60613 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 15, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 8, 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 1648 W WAVELAND AVENUE, 3E, CHICAGO, IL 60613 Property Index No. 14-19-223-055-1005 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$316,566.45. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the fore-

Real Estate For Sale

closure 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 CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 22-059115. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 22-059115 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code. 65582 Case Number: 2022 CH 08263 TJS# #: 43-4382 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 # 2022 CH 08263 **13234685** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC Plaintiff, vs. PATRICIA NAJDUK A/K/A PATTI NAJDUK, EL LAGO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF PATRICIA M BRUCE A/K/A PATRICIA MARGARET BRUCE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, PATRICIA NAJDUK, INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA MARGARET BRUCE, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF KATHERINE P SANTOS Defendants 2023 CH 00643 6157 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD #19A 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 November 13, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 18, 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 6157 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD #19A, CHICAGO, IL 60660 Property Index No. 14-05-211-024-1185 The real estate is improved with a high rise condominium. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The

Real Estate For Sale

Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. 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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 22-13491L Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 2023 CH 00643 TJS# #: 43-4170 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 00643 **13234464** 131313 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Real Estate For Sale

COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. ROBERT ROONEY, AKA ROBERT R. ROONEY; STATE OF ILLINOIS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY; PARK TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants, 19 CH 10237 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, January 8, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-08-203-017-1255. Commonly known as 5415 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD UNIT 2203, CHICAGO, IL 60640. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 23-001958 ADC F2 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13233676** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, vs. CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO NORTH STAR TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO PARK NATIONAL BANK & TRUST OF CHICAGO AS TRUSTEE U/T/AT DATED 3/5/1999 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 10238; BARBARA B. VON LANGE; MALIBU CONDOMINIUM; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO NORTH STAR TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO PARK NATIONAL BANK & TRUST OF CHICAGO AS TRUSTEE U/T/AT DATED 3/5/1999 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 10238; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANT Defendants, 22 CH 9504 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell

Real Estate For Sale

at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 14-05-215-015-1057. Commonly known as 6007 N. Sheridan Road, Unit 10A, Chicago, IL 60660. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act THE SALE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO GENERAL TAXES, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AND TO A PRIOR RECORDED FIRST MORTGAGE Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 6722-187667 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com **13233727** 060606 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CHASE FUNDING MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2003-C1 Plaintiff, vs. REBECCA KAY VAN AMAN, 2909 SHERIDAN ROAD CONDOMINIUM HOMES OWNERS ASSOCIATION, RANDY ROBBINS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 2019 CH 13014 2909 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, 402 CHICAGO, IL 60657 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on August 14, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 29, 2023, 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 2909 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, 402, CHICAGO, IL 60657 Property Index No. 14-28-204-010-1021 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$170,358.67. 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.

Real Estate For Sale

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 19 7610. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650 CHICAGO IL, 60602 312-541-9710 E-Mail: lipleadings@johnsonblumberg.com Attorney File No. 19 7610 Attorney Code. 40342 Case Number: 2019 CH 13014 TJS# #: 43-4281 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 # 2019 CH 13014 **13233603** 292929 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

ONIONS from p. 9

the Chicago-based architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. Its architect, the late Edward Charles Bassett, had been born and raised in Port Huron, MI.

This year's Hawai'i Food and Wine Festival was a multi-island event held on three islands from Oct. 13-Nov 5. Co-founded by Chefs Roy Yamaguchi and Alan Wong, both James Beard Award-winners, the festival originally was begun to put a spotlight on the state of Hawai'i as a culinary destination for all travelers during a quieter time-period for travel and also to showcase the state's rich agriculture diversity by requiring all participating



The Mauna Kea Beach Hotel hosted the festival, which was founded by James Beard Award-winning chefs Roy Yamaguchi and Alan Wong.

chefs to highlight locally-grown, raised or caught ingredients in their dishes.

Since its modest beginnings, it has become known as the premier food festival in the Pacific, this year featuring more than 150 master chefs, culinary personali-

ties, sommeliers, mixologists, and wine and spirit producers.

The hotel hosted two events, the first was a walk-around grand tasting food festival which featured 10 top chefs who have a goal of revitalizing and increasing awareness of indig-

enous food and food cultures. The second was a food panel discussion with the participants, including Wapehpa and Sherman.

Representative ethnic cuisines included Caribbean nations, Native American tribes, and Maori, Samoa, and Hawai'i in the Pacific.

Two of the chefs presented foods from the Great Lakes region, Chef Sean Sherman, of The Sioux Chef Company, Minneapolis, and Crystal Wahpepah, Wahpepah's Kitchen Oakland. Sherman is a member of the Oglala Lakota nation and has become well-known internationally through his efforts to raise awareness and accessibility to indigenous and pre-contact foods.

Church choral concert

The Chicago Pan-Orthodox Choir of the Holy Nativity Romanian Orthodox Church, 5825 N. Mozart Ave. is hosting a choral Christmas concert 6 p.m. Sunday Dec. 17, featuring Orthodox Nativity Music.

A few years ago the church started an ambitious project to build a new church adjacent to the existing church.

The new church will have a Byzantine style and a seating capacity of more than 600.

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Volunteer drivers needed for food delivery
The Nourishing Hope charity is seeking volunteer drivers for Saturday, Dec. 16, to help deliver food for their Home Delivery program. This program serves homebound folks like the elderly, disabled, chronically ill, and/or food insecure. This program allows clients to receive pantry food by delivering it directly to them at their homes. They are seeking drivers from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers will need to show up with their car at the pantry, 5151 N. Ravenswood, load up with their deliveries, and then be on their way to drop them off at each community members' house. For more information and to sign up, email Alyssa Lavroff from Nourishing Hope at alysa.lavroff@nourishinghopechi.org.

WESTERN AVE from p. 1

should not count against the extra \$30 million gap.

TCB and Boar Development were gifted the parking lot for the sum of just \$6, \$1 for each of the six contiguous parcels. So the project on the west side of Western Ave. also has to account for the cost of buying its own real estate.

Construction on the east side of Western is being funded primarily through the sale of LIHTCs, a federal program which enables states to grant tax subsidies to private developers. These tax subsidies are quickly sold as commodities on the private market through a process known as syndication. Purchasers buy these tax credits to lower their own tax liability.

Companies that specialize in the sale of tax credits are known as syndicators which coordinate the lucrative initial sale of these tax credits. The project's syndicator is Stratford Capital Group, a Massachusetts-based company.

TCB's Western Ave. development has a distinct New England flavor as the headquarters for TCB is located in Boston and Stratford is located nearby, in Peabody, Massachusetts. (LAZ Parking is also lo-

cated nearby, in Hartford, Connecticut.)

TCB does have a significant Chicago connection. Its board includes Patrick Nash, grandson of the founder of Chicago's Democratic Machine and a former official of the Chicago Housing Authority. Prior to joining TCB, Nash had worked for Chase Bank as a LIHTC syndicator.

According to a written statement from the administration of former Mayor Lori Lightfoot, the city authorized up to \$12 million in TIF funds and approximately \$12 million in multi-family loans and grant funds, including federal COVID-19 relief funds set aside for projects described as "affordable housing," a designation which includes 4715 N. Western Ave.

In addition, the city has designated \$1.56 million in 9% Low-Income Housing Tax-Credits (LIHTCs), which are supposed to generate roughly \$14.6 million in equity for the project, and \$2.46 million in Donation Tax Credits, which are expected to generate another roughly \$2.24 million in equity for the project.

The project also qualified for a \$4 million first mortgage, a \$142,415 ComEd grant, and was given \$356,392 in deferred developer fees.

UTILITY from p. 1

to acknowledge that it is, in fact, obligated pursuant to statute to ensure both public safety and reliability," ICC staff wrote Wednesday.

Another filing, submitted on behalf of several other advocacy groups, criticized Peoples Gas for withholding the evidence the company is now citing when it went through the formal rate case proceeding.

The groups, which include the Environmental Law and Policy Center and Illinois PIRG, further argue that last month's order does not prevent the utility from conducting safety-related work and that the

Abe Scarr, head of Illinois PIRG and a longtime critic of Peoples Gas' pipeline replacement program, echoed other advocates' critiques and called ICC's recent decisions a "rude awakening for the utilities."

company's motion is an "unprecedented attempt to coerce" the ICC into modifying its decision.

Abe Scarr, head of Illinois PIRG and a longtime critic of Peoples Gas' pipeline

Check the math -- call the FBI

Is somebody taking a bribe? Why isn't the FBI investigating this? Because they have a whopper of a case in the Ed Burke/Burger King trial? 'Hold the pickle, hold the lettuce, special deals sure upset us...'

Zoning variances were just granted by the City of Chicago for a new TOD at 4640 N. Western Ave. They revealed that the developer is spending about \$27 million for 74 residential units, retail, parking and a rooftop garden (about \$370K per unit).

But wait, look across the street, the developer of 4715 N. Western Ave., The Community Builders (friends of Ald. Matt Martin), is spending \$59 million of our tax money for 63 units, retail and parking (about \$907K per unit). And the alderman's friends were even gifted the real estate for free, not so with the guys across the street.

Are the units at 4715 gonna be thrice as nice, since they are thrice the price? Or will it be the ol' "Chicago Way"?

Every subcontractor: trucking, excavation, ironwork, concrete, plumbing, electrical will have extra, "no-show people," tied to connected people on the payroll to drive up costs. Isn't somebody from the Zoning Board of Appeals already getting a piece of the contract?

ALL ABOARD! The gravy train is leaving the station, jump on while the gettin' is still good.

Where is the FBI on this? And what is with all the new underground streetlight construction? Performed by private companies who hire suburbanites? North Side streets that had all new underground construction, bases, ballast housings and streetlight poles 15 years ago are getting it again? Why?

Can't they put replacement (if they really are needed) ballast housings up instead of changing out the streetlight poles, concrete reinforced bases and underground conduit? I replaced the roof and front porch on my three flat without digging a new foundation or running in new lines.

All this needless money paid out. Who is getting a piece of this?

It can't be the Daleys, Burkes or Madigans -- they're out of power and office.

It must be the new progressive Chicago Machine.

Is your alderman getting his or her taste?

Are any of you?

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

Letter to the Editor

replacement program, echoed other advocates' critiques and called ICC's recent decisions a "rude awakening for the utilities."

Last month, the ICC issued decisions in four gas rate cases, cutting each utility's requests by 25% to 50%.

"There has clearly been a major shift in how the ICC operates," Scarr said. "You

can tell in all of the rate cases."

In addition to potentially responding to Peoples Gas' latest motion, the ICC is expected to issue a decision in two ongoing electric rate cases next week. Those cases have the potential to increase bills for Ameren Illinois and Commonwealth Edison customers by hundreds of dollars per year over the next four years.



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