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your word, and your friend.

— John Boyle O'Reilly

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For years the Wendella Sightseeing Co. has been battling with City Hall over their refusal to collect an amusement tax on its tour ticket sale.

Wendella again beats back City Hall's attempts to levy amusement tax on sightseeing tours

BY SCOTT HOLLAND
Cook County Record

A popular Chicago River boat tour operator has again won reprieve from the city's effort to collect millions of dollars in amusement taxes on its excursions.

Wendella Sightseeing Co. has been battling with City Hall for years over the vendor's refusal to collect an amusement tax on its tour ticket sales from 2006 to 2012.

In 2019 an Illinois First District Appellate Court panel agreed with the Chicago Dept. of Administrative Hearings that the federal Maritime Transportation Security Act preempted the tax. In response, the city amended

its ordinance to specifically list "tour boat operators," but Wendella challenged that language in state court.

On cross-motions for summary judgment, Cook County Judge John Curry Jr. sided with Wendella. The city challenged that ruling, also before the First District Appellate Court, which issued a ruling March 14. Justice Cyntia Cobbs wrote the opinion; Justices James Fitzgerald Smith and David Ellis concurred.

The 2002 Maritime Transportation Security Act amended the 1884 Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act, which Cobbs explained "provides a comprehensive

WENDELLA *see p. 16*

Old Town home nears landmark status

The Commission on Chicago Landmarks last week approved a final landmark recommendation for the Netsch House in Old Town. The home, located at 1700 N. Hudson, was built by Walter Netsch in 1974 for he and his wife Dawn Clark Netsch. It sits within the Old Town Triangle Historic District although it is currently not listed as a contributing building, being that it's quite contemporary and modernistic in design, but sitting in an area filled with century-old homes.

The Netsch House was part of a collection of houses built by architects in the 1970s, attracted by the area's rich cultural context.

With the final landmark recommendation approved, the next step for the designation will head to City Hall to get approvals from the Committee on Zoning and full Chicago City Council.

A design partner and architect at Skidmore Owings Merrill [SOM], Walter employed the same level of design in his own home as he did his some of his major projects. His fractal-like designs relied on geometry and

program, intricately fitting form to function.

Netsch House's original design is a deceptively simple box from the outside, but features many interior levels and platforms, connected by open-riser stairs. The interior is essentially a 30'-tall cube with living spaces arranged as platforms that radiate and spiral up from a center core.

Walter and Dawn lived in the home their entire lives and was only passed to new owners after Dawn Clark Netsch died in 2013. After Dawn passed away in 2013, the new owners brought in the SOM design team to return the house, in spirit, to its original beauty.

The SOM team worked with the owners to adapt or renew selective elements of the structure. New appliances and cabinetry were added to a well-worn kitchen. A continuous 40-foot walnut counter and shelf were installed to recall the long linear service bar. The half bath was renewed with new counters, lighting and a cleverly concealed water closet.

Johnson proposes 'mansion tax' on North Siders

Mayoral hopeful said new tax dollars would be used on homelessness

The North Side can expect higher taxes if candidate Brandon Johnson wins the mayoral race. Johnson said he would actively pursue a "mansion tax" if elected, generating a new stream of tax revenue to try and curb homelessness in Chicago.

Illinois and Chicago have never been shy about imposing taxes, and the regressive real estate transfer tax is just a different mechanism for creating more taxation. Johnson's "Bring Chicago Home" proposal calls for an additional 2.65% transfer tax on homes selling for \$1 million or

higher.

The policy would clearly place an unfair burden on home-buyers and sellers on the Near North and North Sides, as the majority of these \$1 million transfers occurs mostly downtown, on Chicago's North Lakefront and on the far Northwest Side.

Chicago residents are often surprised to learn that they have to pay a tax to sell their house. Homeowners correctly assume that they will not owe any federal tax based on the income they receive from the sale of their property. But they tend to forget that federal income tax is only one tax among many. So homeowners

MANSION TAX *see p. 6*

Not every \$1M property is a mansion

BY JUSTIN CARLSON
Illinois Policy Institute

Not every building worth \$1 million is a mansion. Some are apartment or multifamily complexes where working-class families live. They too will be the people paying Brandon Johnson's "mansion tax" through higher rents.

Johnson argues the "mansion tax" is necessary to promote "safe and affordable housing" in Chicago. But

\$1M *see p. 6*

High-density Halsted St. development plan meets opposition

"Inadequate" response to the concerns laid out by neighbors

BY MATT MEDINA

Inside Steppenwolf Theatre in Lincoln Park, the typical drama took a new turn last week in hosting a Town Hall meeting. The meeting was hosted by developer Draper and Kramer [DK], who is seeking community feedback - and ultimately approval - for a revised proposal for 1633-41 N. Halsted St., formerly Royal George Theatre.

For DK, this day's drama was a tragedy, as they did not find the support they were seeking.

A group of roughly 50 people attended in person and another 50 people virtually via Zoom, and all were eager to voice their opinions and concerns on DK's plans to turn the vacant theater into a 131-unit mixed-use condominium building.

Some notable names at the meeting included Gordon Ziegenhagen, Senior Vice President

of DK, Executive Director of Steppenwolf Theater Company, Brooke Flanagan, and Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd].

DK worked with SGV Architecture to create the ripple glassed 90-foot-tall high density building, which would be rezoned to be seven stories, with an additional Penthouse and partial 8th floor.

The ground level floor creates a street frontage space, which DK hopes to fill with restaurants. DK bought the 26,000 square foot lot after the Royal George Theatre closed during the government-imposed economic shutdown for the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Of the roughly 131 units, 15% of them would be Affordable Housing units, with preference for these units going to Steppenwolf staffers through a partnership between the two potential neighbors.

But DK would provide only 35 off-street parking spaces for resi-

dents and commercial tenants, which is about one spot per four units in this highly congested area. And that seems to be a problem for many neighbors.

Before the onslaught of high density transit-oriented housing like this, the city's former zoning code would have required a one-for-one ratio of off-street parking spaces per residential unit.

Like many developers these days, DK is touting its proximity to public transit for potential tenants, specifically the CTA's Red and Brown lines, as the reason why they wish to provide inadequate parking. Ziegenhagen also pointed to the need to make "active use for a rotting theater building."

Some of the main selling points made by DK include bringing a diverse range of tenants into a declining population of Lincoln

HALSTED ST. *see p. 16*

Downtown dope-free-zone signature drive this weekend

The Streeterville Organization of Active Residents [SOAR] are undertaking a Cannabis Exemption Zone Petition drive and are hosting several events this weekend.

The zone in question is south of Huron, west of Fairbanks, north of Illinois, and east of St. Clair. If the petition is successful in gathering 400 signatures from registered voters, this could stop the proposed new dispensary at 620 N. Fairbanks.

G.P. Green House LLC has filed a Special Use application to operate an Adult Use Cannabis Dispensary at 620 N. Fairbanks

Ct. and SOAR has raised concerns about this proposal due to heavy existing traffic, emergency vehicle routes, and potential safety concerns for pedestrians and residents.

Neighbors in that area already have access to recreational weed at four dispensaries within walking distance so they think this campaign would have no real impact on access to cannabis.

"Given the ongoing interest by cannabis operators to establish a dispensary in the area, [we are] circulating a petition to establish a Restricted Cannabis Zone for Precinct 4 in Streeterville," they

said in a released statement.

Petition volunteers will be out gathering signatures this weekend 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday in the 200 block of E. Ohio and on upper E. Illinois between 200 - 240 E. Illinois, and on Sunday in the 200 block of E. Ohio and upper E. Illinois between 200 - 240 E. Illinois.

For information on how to join as a petition circulator contact restrictedzone4@gmail.com or email the SOAR office at office@soarchicago.org.

The petitions must have 400 signatures by April 21 to meet the petition deadline.

Who's walking whom? Let go of the leash



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

My sister, Mary Regina, and I grew up without any pets. No dogs, cats, chipmunks, birds, bats, rats or bunnies among us. We always longed for a dog. A sweet puppy.

Our grandmother, Rebecca O'Gorman, three houses down the block, was the keeper of nasty dogs. Mean dogs. Growlers. Snappers. Nippers and biters. Not pleasant to Baby Boomer children in the 1950s. We wanted no part of her canines.

We wanted the sweet breeds of our cousins. Play pal companions. Our cousins were doggy. We longed to be doggy.

But for all the affection we carried for those sweet puppies of love, our mother reminded us that if we had a dog, no one would be there to care for it when we went out for dinner. Or when we traveled across the USA. Being doggy was a full-time responsibility. We never really were able to get around that.

In the same way, here in Chicago, the run-off election is in full gear. And if we fail to vote, no one is going to be there to care for our vote.

Emotions run high now, like dancing at an ex-spouse's wedding. I wouldn't want to try to explain our need for a run-off to former Mayor Richard J. Daley. I'd be too embarrassed.

I'm not sure he'd buy all the squirming and weak-kneed liberalism that gave birth to this electoral process more worthy of places like Kalamazoo, Los Angeles or Kansas City.

But anything to get a new player on City Hall's 5th floor, and the

chance to actually start making criminals pay for the crimes they commit.

I'm also not sure that Old Mayor Daley could even fathom Chicago's current runaway-crime wave. He'd refuse to believe that woke culture could so engage the budding Marxists in everyone from the Art Institute of Chicago to the Univ. of Chicago, classical radio station WFMT, the unions and the minions of former mayoral candidate Chuy Garcia.

The grand old man and I always had a sympathetic connection. We were both born on May 15, something I took great pride in growing up in Daley's Chicago.

You know, the one in which gangsters and gangbangers were slow to test the waters of the legal system. Before trying to make Cook County Jail a retreat center and putting the entire Art Institute volunteer staff on a slow boat to Dublin to hide their excellent educations, generous artistic spirits and swanky but old money zip codes. All under suspicion today by the judgment of the woke Jacobins. That is, until Mr. Griffin began removing his paintings and doubloons from the Art Institute's grasp.

These dynamic urban fiascos are just the tip of the race car iceberg for the dreamy summer ahead. When whoever we elect can put together some more gift baskets for departing corporations who found that the old Chicago "stink," once the product of the Stockyards, was back again in amplified aroma.

I'm amused that American Indian politico, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren has endorsed Brandon Johnson. Does that mean all woke women will be riding the Johnson express?

I was delighted to see that former Secretary of State Jesse White is standing tall for Paul Vallas and has given a Chicago endorsement to his veteran instincts.

We don't have much time left before the ballots need to be in.

Chicago is an "oar in the water" kind of metropolis. By which

I mean that at all costs every group, every team, every brand does backflips attempting to get one of their own elected. Of course we'd like to see someone like ourselves in charge. Leading us from behind the big desk. Up on the throne. But what that tells me is that for all our sophistication, we really aren't very cosmopolitan. That's not good.

It means we'd rather perish getting one of our own into office than actually giving the job to someone who knows what they're actually doing. And has the know-how for leadership.

That can be very dangerous. I refer you to the disastrous outgoing mayor.

Electing someone without the skills to begin rebuilding Chicago's anti-crime needs places every Chicagoan in danger. That will really fill up the morgues.

Lori Lightfoot had no skills whatsoever in developing serious strategies to eliminate crime. Just look at the outrageous rise in shootings and violent deaths, should you need convincing.

Or the life-threatening episodes of grizzly violence on the CTA. A terrible stabbing of a young female passenger just last week.

The sheer expansion of commercial robberies, domestic felonies, carjackings, lootings and riots all demonstrate that crime is a very potent enterprise here in Chicago.

When all is said and done, crime and commercial collapse are the super engines driving this run-off election.

The decision of the voter must be centered on these dynamics.

There will be no social programs rising from our urban government if crime drives residents and business from our 606-zip code.

There will be no more city sponsorship for important educational endeavors if the financial base of our great American city is shattered and left to flounder because of the incompetence of new leadership.

We've tried the risky. She didn't work. Anyone who wants to blame others is a fool, she took every ward... we did that. The Light-



My mother reminded us that if we had a dog, no one would be there to care for it when we went out for dinner. Being doggy was a full-time responsibility. We never really were able to get around that.

foot resumé was imbalanced for urban executive leadership. When that occurs, race, sexual preference, gender, extreme political philosophies cannot make up for what is missing. Namely reason, intelligence, experience and the ability to work well with others.

In the first Lightfoot election, the City of Chicago lost. The criminals, looters, car-jackers, hoodlums and thieves won. As if the city was embracing lawlessness as a way of life.

We have a chance to redeem the damage done by that election by establishing a competent, workable, political leadership that doesn't seek to divide the city by an inability to speak truth. Speak law. Speak finance. Speak the rights of Chicago citizens.

We broke it, we need to fix it.

Brandon Johnson can assume the swagger of a competent leader, but we all know from past experience that wishing won't make it so. He lacks the truth of effective leadership. You don't learn that on the County Board. Or under Toni Preckwinkle's thumb.

Paul Vallas assumes no boastful posture. What you see is what you get. He is who he says he is.

A man of intelligence and competence. Powerful strengths out of which he has always worked. He brokered that miraculously in his reform of Chicago's public schools. And he demonstrates that with a consistent ethic of public service. His success is not measured by cheesy boasts but effective institutional success.

The worst failure of the Lightfoot administration was its inability to responsibly make Chicago politics effective. From day one she shot herself in both feet rampaging the members of the Chicago City Council. Displaying a shabby sense of mayoral entitlement, moral superiority, and a nasty intolerance toward those with conflicting opinions and legislative differences.

We need to rid Chicago government of this broken model of self-serving self-righteousness, and refine and reform the strengths for which Chicago was once admired across the country.

It's like wanting to be doggy. Today when I see herds of Millennials out walking their doggies day and night, all these former suburbanite children, now trendy residents of hip Chicago neighborhoods, I wonder who's walking whom.

The same can be said of the coming run-off election.

We need a mayor free of the failed political strategies that turned us into the crime capital of America.

We need to be free once and for all from an administration who believes that NASCAR racing through our parklands in summer is an adequate replacement for wise government. And the bread and circuses of failure and incompetence.

After all, there's just so much self-created disaster of which one failed government can boast.

LET GO see p. 12

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Readin' 'riting 'rithmetic and rollin' fatties

CPS has no problem with their Chief Operating Officer selling dope

BY PETER VON BUOL

According to a spokesperson for the Chicago Public Schools [CPS], the school system's Chief Operating Officer, Charles Mayfield, has not broken any rules by becoming a significant local dealer in marijuana.

"Employees of the CPS have the right to own legal businesses as long as they comply with the District's ethics policies and procedures," according to a written response provided by the CPS office of communications on March 17.

Mayfield is the primary owner of a business which engages in the sales of an illegal substance on the federal and international level. His latest venture is a proposed new weed dispensary on the border of Evanston and Rogers Park.

Ominously, the site location

Mayfield and his partners have chosen sits between three known gang turf areas: LOC City (a faction of the Gangster Disciples) to the east, a competing faction of the Gangster Disciples to the south and the 4 Corner Hustler to the west.

The federal Drug Enforcement Agency [DEA] continues to list marijuana as a Schedule I substance under the federally-controlled substances act and adds this rating is due to its high potential for abuse. Despite claims made about its medical benefits (sales in Illinois began under the guise of medical use), marijuana has no approved medical use.

"The FDA and DEA have concluded that marijuana has no federally approved medical use for treatment in the U.S. and thus it remains as a Schedule I controlled substance under federal law," according to DEA spokesperson.

Beginning with the 2020 fiscal year, federal aid packages allocated a total of \$2.8 billion to CPS over the course of five fiscal years. This money was budgeted to counter the effects of the pandemic on student achievement and their well-being and to compensate for lost revenue and the increased costs resulting from the pandemic.

If Mayfield happens to engage in any drug dealing business while on CPS property, he could jeopardize future federal funding for Chicago public schools. Mayfield has informed the CPS administration he is participating in selling marijuana. It is not inconceivable the school system would have to repay the federal funding it has already received.

In a response to questions from this newspaper, a CPS spokesperson said Mayfield is in compliance with CPS rules and said

Mayfield had informed Pedro Martinez, CPS Chief Executive Officer, about his growing marijuana business which has opened its first location in the suburb of Wheeling and is planning to open a second location in Evanston, on the northwestern corner of Chicago Ave. (i.e., Clark St.) and Howard St. A third location is planned for Chicago's West Town neighborhood.

"District leadership was informed of Interim COO Mayfield's ownership stake in a cannabis dispensary business, which reflects the state's effort to promote social equity among such license holders. Upon becoming aware of Mr. Mayfield's ownership in the business, the District conducted an initial review, and upon preliminary review, it is not a violation of CPS' ethics policy. However, we will continue to diligently review his participa-

tion in the business to ensure current and future compliance with our policies," responded the CPS spokesperson.

Mayfield is described in legal documents as the primary owner and his business partners include Ameya Pawar, former alderman of the 47th Ward, and restaurateurs Scott Weiner and Greg Mohr.

The CPS spokesperson said being the primary owner of a business which sells recreational marijuana is not the same thing as secondary employment. Therefore, Mayfield is not subject to an ethics review for CPS employees who work another job.

"Mr. Mayfield owns part of a business but does not hold secondary employment as defined by the CPS Code of Ethics," said the CPS spokesperson.

ROLLIN' see p. 6

You're being watched

City Council passes plan for expanded camera ticketing

City Council passed the the Orwellian sounding Smart Streets Pilots ordinance on March 15, a new measure establishing two downtown pilot programs that aim to expand the issuance of vehicle tickets by use of spy cameras.

The new photo ticketing scheme will make being a delivery driver for UberEats, DoorDash, Amazon or FedEx a lot worse, as the city has put a bounty on their heads for double parking in bike lanes.

The plan would expand the use of cameras to spy on motorists, with cameras added on CTA buses and light poles to catch drivers passing through or parked in bike lanes, bus lanes and loading zones — for which they would then be mailed tickets.

Over 400 miles of roadway will soon be under the ever-vigilant eye of these cameras that

will issue tickets without any city official, or peace officer, even witnessing the crime. The general boundaries for this new spy camera ticketing zone are Roosevelt Rd. north to North Ave. and from Ashland east to the lakefront.

The new ordinance allows for the ticketing of vehicles that park in bike lanes, bus lanes and loading zones, and mail the offenders a ticket. This comes at the same time that the city is aggressively removing commercial street parking in favor of lightly used bike paths. It was introduced in January by lame duck Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and aldermen Brian Hopkins [2nd], Daniel La Spata [1st], Brendan Reilly [42nd], Matt Martin [47th] and Andre Vasquez [40th].

The Smart Streets Pilots will penalize vehicle drivers while issuing no tickets, penalties or fines for scofflaw bikers who run

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stop signs and stop lights, weave through traffic, or ride on sidewalks. Similar camera ticketing programs exist in New York, San Francisco, and Seattle — and are coming soon to Los Angeles and Washington D.C.

The ordinance also calls for the city to add concrete barriers to city streets, where only those on a bike would be allowed to pass; all other users would be ticketed. Offenders would get one warning letter before being issued a ticket

by camera and US Mail.

In 2022, the city installed vehicle obstacles hoping for gains in pedestrian safety at approximately 400 intersections, using bump outs, curb extensions, and refuge islands to help block traffic movement. The city also added to its bikeway network, adding nearly 40 miles in 2022. Last year, the city began a new program expanding the use of concrete divider-protected bike lanes to provide increased exclusive use of streets by privileged bikers.

Yet to be announced is whether tickets will also be issued to US Postal Service Vehicles, and other government officials who may also be caught and photographed as habitual parking offenders.

Four arrested on Mag Mile, may be linked to robbery sprees

BY CWBCHICAGO

Four people, including two juveniles, who were arrested March 19 on the Magnificent Mile may be responsible for a series of robberies, including three at Rivers Casino earlier this month, according to a law enforcement source.

With the help of a CPD helicopter, Chicago police and other law enforcement agencies followed a white Jeep Compass that was involved in a robbery in Park Ridge on Sunday night. Officers eventually stopped the car in the 700 block of N. Michigan around 10:20 p.m., and they arrested four people who allegedly ran from it, according to police.

The Jeep was used in an armed robbery about 20 minutes earlier in the parking lot of Mariano's, 1900 S. Cumberland Ave., in Park Ridge, according to a law enforcement source. Two masked men displayed guns and robbed the victim before escaping in

the SUV, Arlington Cardinal reported.

Chicago police recovered at least one handgun and two phones, possibly ditched by the suspects, were found in Lake Shore Park after the foot pursuits ended.

On March 10, Des Plaines police said armed men robbed four people in three separate holdups in the Rivers Casino parking lot just before 8 p.m. Two of the victims were pistol-whipped during the crimes.

Ten minutes later, the same group robbed another victim on the same Mariano's parking lot where last night's holdup occurred, officials said.

About 30 minutes after the March 10 robberies ended in the suburbs, eight men were robbed during two holdups in the West Loop by a group of armed men who escaped in a red SUV similar to the one used in the Des Plaines and Park Ridge crimes.

Charges against the four people are still pending.

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Mayoral election winds blow in strange directions



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

The winds of Chicago's mayoral-election politics blow in strange directions.

Let's look back on how this writer remembers Jane Byrne, Chicago's first female mayor, who was elected in 1979. When Byrne challenged then Mayor Michael Bilandic in the Democratic primary, experts said she would have little chance in winning, even after she hired famed Chicago journalist and political consultant Don Rose as her campaign manager.

A Bilandic campaign memorandum described Byrne as "a shrill, charging, vindictive person—and nothing makes a woman look worse." However, an act of God—the Chicago Blizzard in January and February of 1979—paralyzed the city and caused Bilandic to be seen as an ineffective snow-removal leader.

Then, Jesse Jackson endorsed Byrne boosting the Black vote, and thousands of snowed-in North and Northwest Side Republican voters cast ballots in the Democratic primary to beat Bilandic with a victory tally of 51% (412,909 votes) to 49% (396,194 votes).

That's a much better tally than Mayor Lori Lightfoot's weak 17% primary total this year ver-

sus Paul Vallas (34%) and Brandon Johnson (20%), who are headed for a runoff on April 4.

In 1979, Byrne won the general election with a whopping 700,874 votes (82.1%)—the largest margin ever tallied in a mayoral election. Like Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Byrne only served one four-year term. However, "Calamity Jane" did much good for the city of Chicago.

Because there were rampant and unregulated consumer abuses by real estate developers and condo converters, one of Mayor Byrne's most important contributions was enactment of a tough Chicago Condominium Ordinance in March 1979. Some 50,000 rental units had been converted to condominium ownership over the previous four years during the "Mondo Condo Era."

Byrne introduced two wide-ranging ordinances designed to provide new consumer protection and restrain the condo-conversion stampede. As an award-winning real estate editor of the Chicago Sun-Times, this writer was asked by Mayor Byrne to contribute ideas to the proposed ordinances.

"The changes in the condominium ordinance that I am proposing today have been drafted to protect all Chicagoans from being cheated out of having a voice in where they wish to live," Mayor Byrne said in 1979. Byrne, a political disciple of Mayor Richard J. Daley, was the city's former Commissioner of Consumer Sales from 1969 to 1977.

"Escaping Condo Jail," a 600-page book authored by Realtor Sara Benson and this writer in 2014, reported that the mayor's strengthened Chicago Condominium Ordinance required the following:

- Tenants are given the right of first refusal and the opportunity to buy a building slated for conversion by matching the purchase price of a condo developer.
- The developer must provide prospective buyers detailed reports of any planned improvements to be made by the developer by the time tenants are notified



(L) Mayor Jane Byrne with Dan Akroyd and John Belushi. Courtesy Paul Nakin/Getty Images (R) Mayor Lori Lightfoot.



of an impending conversion.

- Tenants must receive six-month notice—instead of the then current four months—before they are forced to buy or move out. The grace period for senior citizens and handicapped people was extended to seven months from the current six months.

- Developers must provide warranties for repair or rehabilitation

er, moved into the crime-ridden Cabrini-Green public housing project on the Near North Side after 37 shootings and 11 murders occurred during a three-month period. Byrne ordered the Chicago Housing Authority to evict 800 tenants who were harboring gang members in their apartments.

(Unfortunately, many of those gang members were moved to the

Because there were rampant and unregulated consumer abuses by real estate developers and condo converters, one of Mayor Byrne's most important contributions was enactment of a tough Chicago Condominium Ordinance in March 1979. Some 50,000 rental units had been converted to condominium ownership over the previous four years during the "Mondo Condo Era."

work on common areas of a building for the first two years after a conversion, and for the first year on individual units.

Experts say the key part of the toughened Chicago Condominium Ordinance was the requirement that developers provide an engineering report detailing the mechanical condition of the property and a list of proposed repairs. The consumer protection outlined in the statute continues to rank Chicago's ordinance as one of the best condo laws in the nation.

In 1981, Byrne and her husband, Jay McMullen, the former City Hall reporter for the Chicago Daily News until 1978, and a former Sun-Times real estate report-

er, moved into the crime-ridden Cabrini-Green public housing project on the Near North Side after 37 shootings and 11 murders occurred during a three-month period. Byrne ordered the Chicago Housing Authority to evict 800 tenants who were harboring gang members in their apartments.

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Brothers" in the Windy City. It remains one of the greatest movies ever made about Chicago.

However, Byrne was edged out of office in the 1983 Democratic primary by Harold Washington, who grabbed 36% of the vote. Byrne tallied 33%, and rising star Richard M. Daley posted 29%. Byrne was beaten again by Washington in the 1987 primary, when he tallied 53% of the vote to her 46%.

Byrne passed away on Nov. 14, 2014. Her contributions to Chicago were recognized in 2014 by the naming of the Jane Byrne Interchange at the junction of the Kennedy and Eisenhower expressways, and the naming of the Jane M. Byrne Plaza surrounding the historic Water Tower on N. Michigan Ave.

Now, let's review Mayor Lightfoot's dismal track record which got worse in her last year in office. The "Invest South/West" plan to rebuild neighborhood retail corridors likely will be her legacy. And there is no doubt that those communities desperately needed attention and investments.

But what about her failing to deal with under-funded police and firefighter pensions, rampant crime, street riots and looting, car-jacking and all those gang murders across the entire city?

Ironically, Byrne wrestled with many of the same problems 40 years ago. Here are two of Lightfoot's biggest mistakes, in the opinion of her critics:

The wrong casino site

Despite approval of the \$1.7-billion Bally River West casino proposal by the City Council, there is continued skepticism about the deal. Questions still linger about the largely secretive selection process, lack of review, quick passage of the deal with Bally paying a \$40-million 'deal-closing fee' (wink-wink).

Our skyrocketing interest rates alone may yet kill this plan.

Ald. Brendan Reilly [42nd] said Lightfoot's attempt to rush the casino deal through the City Council raised the specter of former Mayor Richard M. Daley's infamous parking-meter deal, which also was rammed through with little transparency and even less debate.

The casino complex at Chicago Ave. and Halsted St. is "huge, loud and yet architecturally anonymous," noted Lee Bey, Chicago Sun-Times architecture critic. "The casino will turn the area's already nightmarish rush-hour conditions into full-blown night terrors, with drivers and bus passengers frozen in traffic."

Much better choices for the casino site would have been at "The 78," a swath of vacant land at Roosevelt Rd. and the Chicago River, or the East Building at McCormick Place.

The NASCAR Plan

Giving the green light to the NASCAR racing event that kicked "Chicago's Game"—16-inch softball—out of Grant Park is a disaster felt by thousands of Chicagoans who value access to

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Has Polio returned to Chicago?

BY PETER VON BUOL

Chicago's Dept. of Public Health [CDPH] has begun testing area wastewater samples for the presence of the poliovirus.

Poliomyelitis (polio), which was last detected in the United States in 1979, is a highly infectious disease which mostly affects small children. Spread from person to person, the disease often attacks a person's nervous system. It may lead to spinal and respiratory paralysis.

"In July 2022, a case of paralytic polio was identified in a New York State resident, and further wastewater testing in New York detected poliovirus in water samples collected across multiple counties with low polio vaccination rates, suggesting likely local circulation of the virus in those community areas," according to a written statement issued by the CDPH.

"Polio has been eradicated in the U.S. since 1979; however, a recent case in 2022 in New York State highlights the importance

of rapid detection to interrupt any new outbreaks and strengthen routine immunization, which is the best national defense against polio," said Massimo Pacilli, deputy commissioner of the CDPH.

According to the Associated Press, the government of Burundi has declared a national public health emergency due to an outbreak of live vaccine strain poliovirus infections. A mutated strain of the vaccine strain poliovirus, which originally came from the type 2 monovalent oral polio vaccine (mOPV2), was identified in a four-year-old boy in western Burundi and in two other children who came in contact with the boy. Health officials also found traces of type 2 circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPV2s) in five samples taken of sewage water.

Adults who received any childhood vaccines in the U.S. almost certainly were vaccinated for polio.

Ironically, the primary culprit for the reemergence of this current strain of polio is the Oral Po-

lio Vaccine [OPV] given to people in developing nations as part of a global campaign to completely eradicate polio. That vaccine was last given in the United States in 2000. It was replaced throughout the developed world by one known as the Inactivated Polio Vaccine [IPV].

In July, 2021, there had only been two cases of "wild" polio—one each in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

According to officials from the World Health Organization [WHO], the continued reliance on OPV for people in developing nations has been cause for alarm.

Cases caused by OPV now account for far more cases than those caused by the wild virus. Since 2017, there have been 396 known cases caused by the wild virus. Within that same time period, there have been 2,600 cases reported to have been caused by OPV, according to data posted by WHO.

In a scientific journal article by Columbia Univ. Professor Scott Barrett published in 2013, he de-

scribed the motivation behind today's eradication efforts.

"IPV is costlier than OPV, and few poor countries will want to pay the difference. For rich countries, the calculation is different; they intend to

continue to vaccinate with IPV in the post-eradication era. As a consequence, all the risk from stopping OPV will fall on the poor countries."

"This outcome may be compatible with self-interest, but it seems unjust, particularly as the rich countries may possibly gain by stopping vaccination at a later date, once the risk of circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPVs) has fallen over time," he said.

"Rough calculations show that rich countries could subsidize IPV use by poor countries for a few years, until the risk from cVDPVs has shrunk, and still gain from eradication provided they subsequently stop vaccinating," wrote Barrett in the journal *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*.

Polio has existed since prehistoric times – ancient Egyptian images show children walking with canes, with misshapen limbs displaying the characteristic symptoms of the disease.

Wastewater testing began last week to analyze water samples collected from area water reclamation plants that serve Chicago and the surrounding Cook County suburbs.

While it affected children around the world for millennia, the first known clinical description of polio was in 1789 by Dr. Michael Underwood, a British physician. The disease was formally recognized in 1840 by Dr. Jakob Heine, a German physician.

According to the CDPH, local wastewater samples will be routinely collected and processed for laboratory testing for poliovirus to see if poliovirus is present and understand if the type of poliovirus found is of concern.

"While no case of paralytic po-

POLIO see p. 13

Lawmakers advance measure to regulate ride-shares as 'common carriers'

2014 regulation subjected them to lower level of scrutiny for passenger safety

BY NIKA SCHOONOVER
Capitol News Illinois

Lawmakers are considering a bill that would treat ride-share companies such as Uber and Lyft as "common carriers," opening them up to the same level of liability as other forms of public transportation.

House Bill 2231 passed on the House floor last week with a 73-36 vote. The bill now awaits consideration in the Senate.

The common carrier status is defined as a "standard of care" under which passengers surrender their safety to certain modes of transportation. Currently in Illinois, this includes taxicabs, railways and elevators, among others.

"The reason for treating common carriers and holding common carriers to a higher standard of care is the lack of control that the rider has," Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz, the bill's lead sponsor, said in an interview. "There is no difference between the lack of control that a rider has the moment they step into an Uber or a Lyft and the lack of control that a rider has

when they step into a taxicab or a train or an elevator."

The push for the bill is spurred by concerns for rider safety, particularly after an Illinois Supreme Court case that was settled out of court in Jan. 2022. The case's prior appellate court opinion affirmed

ride-share companies' exemption from the common carrier status after a Lyft driver allegedly raped a passenger in 2017.

The alleged rape occurred in Chicago, when a woman identified as Jane Doe hailed a Lyft after a night out with her friends. The Lyft driver picked her up and, at some point during the ride, Doe fell asleep. The driver then drove to a secluded alley where he brandished a knife, zip-tied her hands and repeatedly sexually assaulted her, according to court filing in the case that was settled in 2022.

Despite Doe's argument that ride-share companies such as Lyft should be held to

the same liability standard as established common carriers, the appellate court upheld the exemption because of the specificity of the statute. The case was settled out of court before the Supreme Court could rule on it.

The statute in question, part of the 2014 Transportation Network Providers Act, states Transportation Network Companies and their drivers "are not common carriers, contract carriers or motor carriers, as defined by applicable State law, nor do they provide taxicab or for-hire vehicle service."

"Were we to hold that TNCs are subject to the same liability standards as common carriers, it would strip the relevant language of (the section of the statute) of all meaning," said Illinois First District Justice Bertina Lampkin wrote in the decision.

Gong-Gershowitz argued that, if not for the law, Lyft may have been liable in this

instance.

"This exemption from the common carrier doctrine insulates TNC's liability from the acts of their drivers when injuries to their consumers occur," Gong-Gershowitz said in a committee hearing. "Other common carriers...do not enjoy this exemption and it has been used by ride-share companies to shield themselves from liability and auto crashes and cases where drivers have sexually assaulted their passengers."

Opposition to the legislation centered on a concern that the common carrier classification may negatively impact business for ride-share companies.

"One of the reasons these entities have been so successful has been costs aren't as great as they are with other entities," Rep. Patrick Windhorst, said on the House floor. "So by increasing regulations or burdens on business then we may drive them out or make them less successful."

In an interview, Gong-Gershowitz refuted that claim, asserting ride-share companies are not a cheaper option anymore.

"When you look at surge pricing, when you look now at what riders pay to take an Uber or Lyft from one place or another, I

REGULATE see p. 13



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State of river infrastructure virtual presentation on March 30

The North Branch Works, an advocacy group for the North Branch of the Chicago River, will host a state of riverfront infrastructure virtual presentation at 10 a.m. March 30.

The group plans to review and discuss updates on the major public and private sector projects along the North Branch of the Chicago River.

To attend the 75-minute presentation, guests must make a reservation by visiting https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XFbyAerGQ_We674Ygyivbw.

Topics are likely to include:

- The replacement of the Division Street, Chicago and Halsted, and the Cortland Street bridges.

- The implementation of Complete Streets, including the construction of protected bike lanes on Belmont Ave.

- The second phase of Lincoln Yards on the Chicago River that includes Bucktown and Lincoln Park.

- Halsted Pointe, a five-tower mega-development coming to the former Greyhound bus maintenance facility on the southern tip of Goose Island.

- Bally's Casino, a \$1.74 billion investment in the North Branch at Chicago and Halsted that includes a 3,000-seat theater and a 500-room hotel.

Following their presentations, North Branch Works will have time for questions and answers.

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INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

MANSION TAX from p. 1

tend to be startled to find themselves liable for a tax on the transfer of their residence.

Unlike property taxes, the transfer tax would be a one-time payment made at the time of the sale. The transfer tax is, in effect, a sales tax. For the most part, sales tax is regressive: it applies equally to all demographics and affects mostly those who have the least.

The current transfer rate is 10.5% per \$1000 in sales price, or \$10,500 per \$1 million. Johnson claims that the additional \$19,000 per million difference in his proposal would be funneled directly towards affordable housing and homelessness initiatives.

In general, the buyer is responsible for \$3.75 and the seller is responsible for \$1.50 of the \$5.25 per \$500 of the transfer price, or fraction thereof, of the real property or the beneficial interest in real property.

Under Johnson's plan, that rate

\$1M from p. 1

other cities have tried it and found the mansion tax hurt more than it helped.

One major problem is multifamily projects would be affected by the large tax increase, stifling new housing projects and jacking up rent costs. Such adverse consequences directly contradict Johnson's aim of providing "safe and affordable" housing.

In Los Angeles, a recent and similar "mansion tax" has seen that result. Lenders have halted making loans to new multifamily construction projects because of the cost of real estate transfer taxes. Developers have described the situation as "extremely difficult."

Los Angeles property records indicate numerous institutional lenders have not issued a single construction loan for a multifamily or commercial project since voters approved of the new tax in No. 2022. A smaller number of available lenders means it is more difficult for potential borrowers to get favorable terms to proceed with projects, placing further

ROLLIN' from p. 3

Among those concerned about the effects of marijuana on school-age youth is the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board [INCB].

UN officials express concerns about the effect of cannabis legalization, particularly among the young. In the United States, they add, adolescents and young adults consume significantly more cannabis in states where cannabis has been legalized compared to other states where recreational use remains illegal. Data indicates the availability of legalized cannabis products lowers the perception of risk and negative consequences associated with their use.

"The expanding cannabis industry is marketing cannabis-related products to appeal to young people and this is a major cause for concern, as it is the way the harms associated with using high-potency cannabis products are being played down," said Jagjit Padvadia, president of the INCB.

would rise to nearly 13% per \$1000 of sales price.

According to Crain's Chicago, if this policy existed 12 months prior to April 2022, it would have generated \$158.5 million in additional taxes from the city's home buyers and sellers.

The transfer tax is, in effect, a sales tax. For the most part, sales tax is regressive: it applies equally to all demographics and affects mostly those who have the least.

Unlike sales tax, a transfer tax often comes with legal and administrative strings beyond simple payment. More problematically, though, the selective nature of transfer tax amplifies its regressive effect. Many communities with the highest rates of transfer tax have residents who are least likely to be able to af-

ford the extra expense.

According to a 2020 study from the Univ. of Illinois, Chicago is the leading taxing municipality in the state, where the transfer tax as a percentage of median household income in Chicago is 6.033%. (Median household income in Chicago is \$50,434 and the median home sales price is \$289,800.)

The conclusion to the Univ. of Illinois study states that "The most valued asset of most [local] residents is their home. In a State with perpetually rising property taxes, policy-makers should train a skeptical eye on additional real-estate related taxes, particularly when they harm the State's most vulnerable residents. Given that Illinois comprises over 100 counties and over 1,000 municipalities—the overwhelming majority of which do not impose transfer taxes—we should closely scrutinize how, when, and for what purpose(s) municipalities impose them."

strain on the supply of housing and driving up rent prices.

Johnson's proposal to triple Chicago's real estate transfer tax will only serve to make housing more expensive and line the pockets of established developers whose competition will largely

But data also shows sales of high-end homes that would be subjected to the higher transfer tax are declining as well. During the past year, 2,391 Chicago homes sold for \$1 million or more, down 14.5% from the previous 12 months, according to Midwest Real Estate Data.

The effects of the tax on multifamily housing would have the opposite of their intended effects, making housing more expensive for Chicagoans and exacerbating homelessness. Recent data showed Chicago's homelessness declined by 28% from 2020-2022, although the percentage of those homeless who were unsheltered and living outside increased. Johnson's real estate transfer tax threatens to reverse this progress and make housing even more unaffordable in Chicago.

Johnson's plans to hit Chicagoans with higher taxes is likely to speed up the Chicago exodus. Recent polling shows more than one-third of city residents would leave if they could. They cited taxes and affordability among their top concerns.

According to information posted on the CPS website, "No Employee may engage in any Secondary Employment that is in conflict with the duties or demands of his or her Board employment."

According to the CPS, as interim chief operating officer, "Mayfield is responsible for working closely with the CEO and other district leaders to ensure that the district's priorities and core values are reflected through the resources and services CPS provides to students, staff, and families."

Prior to his current position, Mayfield had worked as the Chief Procurement Officer for CPS, a position which paid him \$180,000 a year, according to public records. While Mayfield's current salary is not available, the previous COO earned about \$230,000 a year.

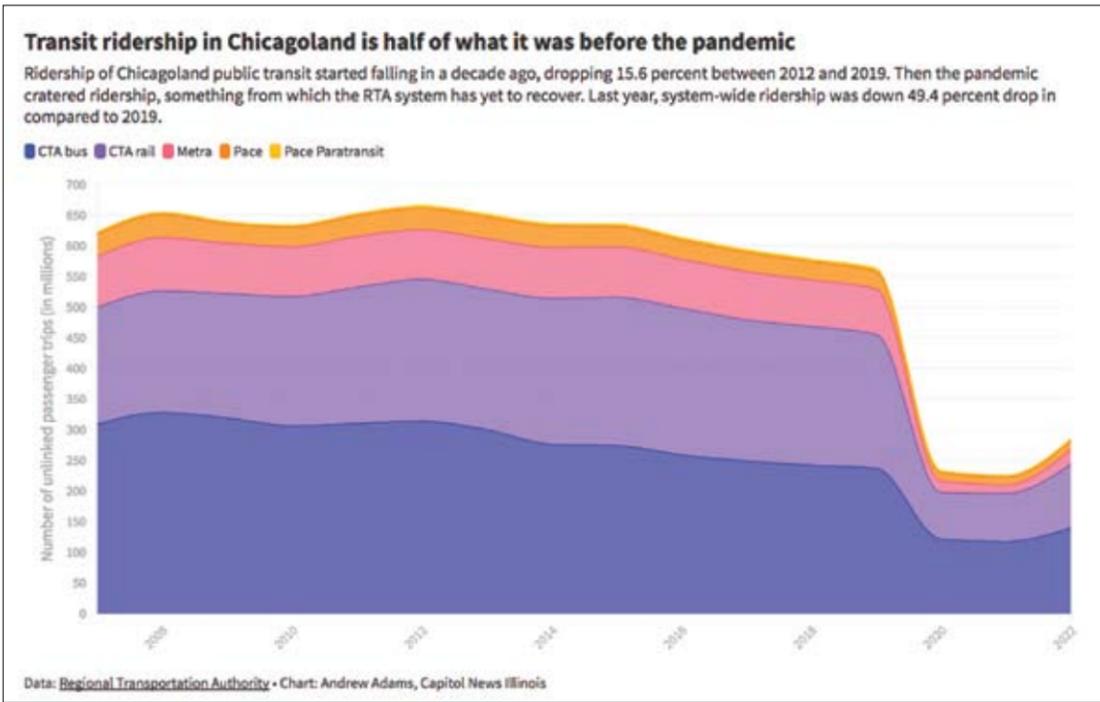
As alderman, Pawar openly supported the opening of the city's first cannabis shop. The original owners of that marijuana shop had been generous donors to Pawar's political campaign.

After Pawar's term ended in 2019, he formed a legal partnership with Mayfield and incorporated as CESAM LLC. A military veteran, Mayfield may have been inspired by the acronym for the [Army] Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Mobile division.

Weiner and Mohr own the Fifty/50 Restaurant Group, which operates 14 restaurants and bars across Chicago. These include Roots Homemade Pizza, 2200 W. Lawrence Ave, located in the 47th Ward.

According to officials at the UN, many major corporations have been investigating the possibility of adding marijuana sales to their portfolios. These companies have been vocal in lobbying government officials around the world to lift tight controls on cannabis sales.

In the U.S., the legal sale of cannabis products has been one of the fastest growing businesses, generating \$25 billion in sales in 2021 – a 43% increase from the previous year.



Line, bar and pie charts by Flourish team

Transit agencies look to the state to help make up projected \$730 million budget gap

Lawmakers met with Chicagoland transit agencies

BY ANDREW ADAMS
Capitol News Illinois

On March 14, officials with the state’s largest transit agencies met with lawmakers to sound the alarm for what Regional Transportation Authority Executive Director Leanne Redden called a “looming operational crisis.”

“By 2026, the region will face an annual budget deficit of nearly \$730 million per year,” Redden told lawmakers. “That’s nearly 20% of our operating revenue.”

The Regional Transportation Authority, or RTA, is the oversight organization for the Chicago Transit Authority, the Metra commuter rail system and the Pace suburban bus system.

The projected budget shortfall comes primarily from changes in the way people use public transit since the pandemic began. Or more accurately, ‘do not’ use it.

The number of passenger trips on the three Chicagoland transit systems was down last year to 50.5% of what it was in 2019, according to data from RTA.

State law requires that approximately half of the RTA’s revenues come from rider fares, but in recent years the agency has gotten statutory exemptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Redden told lawmakers that since 2020, fares have only made up “about 20%” of the needed revenue to operate the system.

“The RTA eventually will need a change in state law that stops the requirement that 50% of revenues come from fares,” RTA Board Chair Kirk Dillard said. “It’s an unsustainable funding model post-COVID.”

In 2022, the agency’s budget included \$443 million from the state’s Public Transportation Fund along with \$130 million from the state to service the RTA’s debts and \$8.4 million to fund paratransit services. Combined, this accounts for roughly 17 percent of the system’s \$3.4 billion budget. It also receives public funding from the federal government, through

local sales taxes and a real estate transfer tax.

Last month, RTA’s board approved a strategic plan that includes seeking increased funding overall to the system and developing a new model that is less reliant on fares.

Senate Transportation Committee Chair Ram Villivalam, indicated that the committee will likely support helping the beleaguered transit agencies, although he suggested lawmakers will use this as an opportunity to exert some oversight on the transit boards.

“We are more than willing to engage in a process that leads the state to assisting the transit agency,” Villivalam said. “That said there are certain reforms and issues, like safety and accessibility, that need to be addressed.”

Some members of the committee laid out the issues they hope to see addressed by the agencies.

“I have a lot of bones to pick with a lot of you,” Sen. Celina Villanueva, told representatives of the RTA, CTA, Metra and

Pace.

Villanueva cited both personal experience and concerns voiced by constituents as evidence of CTA failing to offer adequate service to underserved and low-income communities.

“These are the same communities, and again pardon my French, that saved your asses during the pandemic because they were the ones who were using public transit,” Villanueva said.

Beyond the long-term inequities in access, the CTA has also faced criticism from lawmakers and advocates about increased wait times for services and “ghost busses,” a term to describe when a bus is scheduled to come but never does.

Nora Leerhsen, the chief of staff for CTA’s president, cited an “unprecedented” workforce shortage when asked about these issues at the hearing.

Commuters Take Action, a campaign calling for increased transparency from the CTA, said

TRANSIT see p. 8

Free Loyola Spring music programming

Loyola Univ. Chicago will offer free musical presentations.

Connor Karwowski will be hosting a senior recital 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at Piano Forte, 1335 S. Michigan Ave., featuring works for the oboe by Mozart, Albinoni, and Poulenc. On the piano, he will play contrasting pieces by Chopin and Tcherpnin to round out the performance.

The Annual Vocal Performance Major Recital will be 7

p.m. Friday, March 31, at Piano Forte. This is the annual recital for the Music Program’s Vocal Performance majors.

Loyola Jazz will play at Ireland’s Pub 10, 6511 N. Sheridan Rd., 7 p.m. Monday, April 3, located in the basement of Damen Student Center.

Those who would like tickets may call the Box Office at 773-508-8400.

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More than 2,500 seasonal employees join the Park District team every summer.

Chicago Park Dist. is now hiring

The Chicago Park District [CPD] has summer employment opportunities as part of a new marketing campaign featuring the Lifeguard, Recreation Leader and Junior Laborer job openings available for qualified candidates, ages 16 and older.

Those interested may apply now at www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/summer-jobs.

The campaign targets students on spring break, and encourages them to learn about the summer jobs that they can secure today. The CPD's summer jobs offer competitive wages, life-skill building opportunities, flexible work schedules and pathways to careers and full-time employment. This is an opportunity to work indoors and outdoors, depending on the position, and to have summer nights off.

The campaign shines a light on the jobs that "make a difference in people's lives in the summer, and reminds all Chicagoans that Lifeguards, Recreation Leaders and Junior Laborers are interesting, unique and fun, and deliver critical services that make our city a better place to live," said Supt. Rosa Escareño, CEO of the CPD.

By making the job opportunities available now, earlier than ever before, and starting to actively recruit vital summer employees, the District will reach a wider audience, including students on spring break. Starting now will help the CPD better assess recruitment strategies, and address workforce needs prior to pivotal summer dates.

More than 2,500 seasonal employees from all walks of life join the District team every summer.

Lifeguards

The CPD operates one of the largest aquatics programs in the country, and they are now seeking lifeguards. The summer lifeguard season starts as early as May, and runs through early September. Being a lifeguard along the lakefront or at neighborhood pool is an opportunity to

gain life-saving skills and to be part of the best trained lifeguard corps in the country, undergoing nearly 100 hours of life safety training each year. New this year, the District is covering the \$85 cost for the required American Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguard Certification training. Registration for the free training courses is open at www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/lifeguards.

Recreation Leaders

Many of Chicago's families look forward to the start of summer Day Camp at their local park. In 2022, more than 25,000 campers enrolled in 230 park locations for six-week day camp. This is made possible with support from CPD summer Recreation Leaders that are at the helm, guiding enriching activities and fun games with children and teens. Recreation Leaders develop valuable management skills while working with kids, and can count on a flexible schedule, which allows them to enjoy evenings and weekends off. The commitment for this position is for six-weeks, from mid-June to early August. Candidates must be 16 and older.

Junior Laborers

When Chicago residents are not at the beach or in the park fieldhouses, they spend their summers enjoying leisure activities in parks and green spaces, which are maintained with help from the Junior Laborer team. As the city's lead green agency, Junior Laborers gain entry-level experience in landscape maintenance to help sustain flourishing green landscapes of nearly 9,000 acres, while building skills in trade jobs and working outdoors in nature. To become a Junior Laborer this summer, candidates must be 16 years and older. These positions start as early as April and run through June.

For more information visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/summer-jobs.

Letters to the Editor

Johnson not beholden to Lightfoot

In the March 15 newspapers, Thomas J. O.Gorman writes that Mayor Lightfoot "has the perfect plan. Just help Brandon Johnson get elected mayor, and she can continue to disfigure Chicago."

This implies that if elected mayor in April, Johnson will be instructed by Lightfoot on policy making. This does not make much sense.

The Chicago Teachers Union grew to be very angry with Lightfoot over several issues. They endorsed Johnson as a way to get rid of Lightfoot. In his speeches and debates, Johnson attacked Lightfoot on numerous issues every time he spoke. The

CTU began giving money to Johnson very early in the primary season, starting with a \$300,000 donation, followed by quite larger donations. Lightfoot might consider Johnson to be a better choice than Vallas but clearly Johnson, if elected mayor, would not be under Lightfoot's thumb. He has been attacking her for over two years. Johnson would not be beholden to Lightfoot anymore than he would be by national figures who have endorsed him, including Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren.

Fred Case
Lakeview

Enjoy Clark St. by foot

In his letter praising Clark Street Crossroads [March 15], Alec Schwengler said "drivers [in this stretch of Clark St.] do not stop at stop signs, or yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, even those pushing strollers."

That's rich! Many bicyclists ignore stop signs and red lights, treating all intersections as "uncontrolled," as well as demand-

ing pedestrians yield to them, including on sidewalks.

Best to bike on less-busy side streets and enjoy Clark St. on foot.

JeanSmilingCoyote
West Ridge

The bright side of early retirement

It was sad watching our outgoing mayor looking so glum and disinterested during her last City Council meeting that she presided over last week. And skipping the traditional post-meeting press conference? We feel your pain... The pain of rejection is real. In a town accustomed to keeping a mayor in office until they die or get chased away by the FBI, it is quite a burden to bear. And what to do with all the spare time she suddenly has?

But take it from me, there are benefits to an early retirement from the city for Mayor Lightfoot.

1. Free Chicago Library card and free CTA bus rides.
2. Monthly Lovable Re-election Losers Breakfasts at Lou Mitchell's with Todd Stroger, Rod Blagojevich and Bruce Rauner.
3. A poorly maintained, underperforming, high truancy Chicago Public School in a high crime neighborhood will be named in her honor.
4. Free admission to a lakefront beach. (Well unless there is another

pandemic lockdown.)

5. Her face will be painted on one of our Streets and Sans Rodent Patrol vans.
6. Kasia's will rename their sauerkraut and pickle pierogi, "The Lori."
7. Two complimentary tickets to the Young Irish Fellowship's "Forever Green" party.
8. Free admission to Taste of Chicago, ... wait, what's that? She tried to cancel it?
9. Priority snow plowing for her block (but only if she moves to Ald. Ed Burke's block).
10. Gets to march alongside all the other has-beens in the fourth row at future St. Patrick's Day Parades.
11. Receive Happy Birthday wishes from Larry Potash, Robin Baumgarten and Paul Konrad on the WGN's Morning News.
12. Gets her own personal booster seat at Manny's Restaurant, just like Richie and Rahm.

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

MAYORAL from p. 4

the Windy City's green front yard. This bad idea likely will shut down the Museum Campus and Grant Park during key summer weeks, and totally juggled dates for the Taste of Chicago, and the city's Blues and Jazz festivals.

If Paul Vallas wins the election, kicking NASCAR off of Chicago's front yard should be at the top of his action list following crime control and schools.

So, where do we go from here? Anyone with half a brain realizes we need a new, visionary mayor to lead Chicago into the future. Mayor Lightfoot was not the answer because she failed to compromise and get

along with her adversaries to move the city forward. She was just a very poor manager.

Whoever is elected the next mayor of Chicago must work to compromise with all the various interest groups and find a common ground to dig the city out of its monumental problems of decades of racial divisions, public school failures, massive unfunded pension debt, corruption and unbelievable gruesome gang crime.

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.

TRANSIT from p. 7

the agency continues to provide unreliable information about train and bus arrivals and inadequate updates on schedule changes.

"We are sympathetic to CTA's struggles to find bus and train operators, but the agency needs to inform their riders better about how much their essential transportation has been affected," Morgan Madderom, an organizer with Commuters Take Action, said in a statement about the hearing.

Transit planners in the region say it will take time and collaboration to find answers to the problems facing transit in Illinois.

"There's no silver bullet funding source for us to solve this problem," said Erin Aleman, the executive director for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. "It is

going to take a number of different strategies."

Although lawmakers only discussed Chicagoland transit on March 14, the problems caused by the government-imposed pandemic economic lockdown, fears of crimes and security, and the longer-term changes to how people travel have interrupted transit services in the rest of Illinois as well. Transit systems in Bloomington-Normal, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield, Champaign-Urbana, Decatur, Kankakee and DeKalb have all faced decreased ridership since the pandemic began.

As of December, the combined number of trips being taken on these systems is down to 69% of what it was at the same time in 2019.

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Unable to keep up with attrition, Chicago Police Department may roll out the red carpet for cops who quit

BY CWBCHICAGO

Some former Chicago police officers who are regretting their decision to quit the force may soon have an opportunity to return to the Chicago Police Dept. at their old pay grade, but without seniority. And cops from other departments who are interested in joining CPD for the first time may be offered an expedited process and a more generous starting salary.

That's all according to documents shared on March 17 by Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #7, the union representing frontline Chicago cops.

Since March 2020, the CPD has suffered a net loss of 1,408 officers—about 11%—according to Office of Inspector General data. During those years, CPD's force of frontline "blue shirt" cops has shrunk from 9,779 officers to 8,455.

While city officials have frequently boasted about their efforts to recruit new cops, CPD is still failing to keep up with

attrition. Now, the city may be ready to make its job easier by putting out a welcome mat for experienced officers.

The FOP document, titled "Chicago Police Department Lateral and Rehire Agreement," dated Feb. 27, said ex-CPD officers under the age of 50 would be eligible for rehire within 36 months of their separation date.

According to the document, former CPD officers may be welcomed back if they left on good terms and meet basic requirements like not having any debt to the city and holding a current Illinois law enforcement license. Routine steps like a drug test, background check, residency verification, and physical and psychological exams will still apply.

Rehires will go to the city's police academy for an "individualized training plan," according to the FOP.

The document did not provide extensive detail about the city's process for onboarding "lateral hires," cops who want to join

CPD from other agencies. But the document said those candidates must be under 40 years old, and if hired, they will start on probationary status for "at least" one year.

The city is launching a separate program for retired Chicago police officers who want to work for the department in civilian positions.

Why would an officer who bailed out of CPD want to return to a job they didn't like?

"It's the same department they hated before," noted one current officer when discussing cops who want to return to CPD.

One ex-cop told us he could "write a book on my complaints with suburban policing," citing a lack of "discretion" as one of his major grievances with his new department.

"Better the devil you know," said another departed Chicago cop who's eyeing a return to the force.

Trilogy Behavioral Health to review first year's efforts during March 30 event

One year ago, Trilogy Behavioral Health launched their First-Response Alternative Crisis team, a mobile crisis response unit, to address the local need for mental health crisis intervention.

For over 50 years, Trilogy has provided people with support to recover from mental illness and move toward stability with an array of services and ongoing support so that they can live independently and thrive in society.

At 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Trilogy will host a community meeting and panel discussion as they discuss key findings from the first year of this community program on the North Side. The event will take place at Trilogy, Inc., 1400 W. Greenleaf. The event is free to attend but does require pre-registration. RSVP by emailing info@trilogyinc.org.

Guests may review their efforts and learn what's in store next. Learn more about Tril-

ogy's array of integrated programs that enable people in mental health recovery to try to build meaningful and independent lives.

Trilogy Behavioral Health operates from 3737 W. Lawrence Ave., 5519 N. Broadway, and 1400 W. Greenleaf Ave.

Trilogy partners with 39 nursing facilities across the region, working directly with residents hoping to create customized transition plans that includes a needs assessment, support finding their new home, and ongoing wrap-around supports to try and make the transition a success. They provide support and interventions so that people experiencing a mental health crisis can maintain their independence in the community as opposed to being admitted to a nursing home or care facility.

Downtown restaurants targets of commercial burglaries

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police are warning downtown area businesses of recently reported restaurant burglaries. In each incident, the offender forcibly enters into businesses by pushing through doors or breaking glass doors. Once inside, the offender takes property from within and flees the scene on foot.

Incidents include one on the 500 block of N. Wells St., Saturday Feb. 18; 300 block of W. Grand Ave, Tuesday Feb. 21; 200 block of W. Institute Pl., Wednesday Feb. 22; 300 block of W. Grand Ave., Sunday Feb. 26; 100 block of W. Grand Ave., Sunday Feb. 26; 600 block of N. State St.,

Sunday Feb. 26; 500 block of N. State St., Sunday Feb. 26; 600 block of N. State St., Sunday Feb. 26; 700 block of N. Wells St., Sunday Feb. 26; 400 block of N. Clark St., Sunday Feb. 26; 0-100 block of W. Illinois St., Monday Feb. 27; 0-100 block of W. Erie St., Monday Feb. 27; 700 block of N. State St., Wednesday March 16; 0-100 block of W. Huron St., Wednesday March 16, and on the 0-100 block of W. Erie St., Wednesday March 16.

The offenders are described as male, 5'-8" to 6'-tall, 165-180 lbs., 25-40 years of age

Those who may have any information, should contact the Bureau of Detectives - Area 3 at 312-744-8263.

Bourbon and networking March 30

The Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce is hosting for an after-work networking experience and bourbon tasting 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at Centre Physical Therapy, 2116 N. Halsted.

This event provides a chance to network while sampling some unique Illinois bourbons. Tickets are between \$25 and \$40. Call 773-880-5200.

Sound meditation event at zoo March 26

Lie back, breathe, and allow the powerful frequencies of crystal singing bowls and percussive instruments to support you in reaching deep states of relaxation during a sound meditation at the Lincoln Park Zoo 9 a.m. Sunday, March 26.

This hour-long offering in the Pepper Family Wildlife Center will begin with a brief introduction to meditation intended to support you in getting the most out of the experience.

The cost is \$40 per person, for more information call 312-742-2000.

Shamrock Shuffle March 26

The Shamrock Shuffle returns this year to officially kick off the running season and continue the City's St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

The event will begin with a one-mile run on Saturday, March 25 in Grant Park.

On Sunday, March 26 the larger 8K run begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by the two-mile walk at 9:30 a.m., which will take participants through the heart of downtown. Following the race, runners can enjoy live music at the post-race party in Grant Park. For more information, visit shamrockshuffle.com.

Street closures will impact the Downtown and Grant Park area. No parking will be allowed along the course between 8 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. There will be rolling street closures within Grant Park beginning Thursday, March 24, through Monday, March 27.



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Police Beat...

Driver carjacked after minor traffic crash near Wrigley Field

Chicago police are investigating a March 15 armed carjacking in the Lakeview neighborhood. The latest hijacking occurred about a block from Wrigley Field shortly after 5 a.m.

A CPD spokesperson said a 44-year-old man was driving in the 1100 block of W. Grace when a gray Kia sedan rear-ended his Dodge Challenger. Two men with handguns exited the Kia and confronted him as he got out to exchange information with the other driver.

The men took control of the victim's Challenger and drove away, followed by the Kia and a Dodge Durango, the police spokesperson said.

Almost exactly 24 hours earlier and about a half-mile south, a man was carjacked at gunpoint at the BP service station, 1200 W. Belmont.

Teen charged with carjacking man in Lakeview, robbing and kidnapping others

A 17-year-old boy has been charged with carjacking, robbery, kidnapping, and crashing into a Chicago police vehicle after cops allegedly caught him driving a BMW that was hijacked at a Lakeview gas station on March 14.

CPD did not identify the boy by name because he is a juvenile, but he racked up a serious list of charges after police linked him to the Lakeview carjacking and a November crime in which he allegedly kidnapped one of the victims.

Most recently, the boy allegedly carjacked a 35-year-old man at the BP service station, 1200 W. Belmont, around 4:49 a.m. CPD said a white car, possibly a Hyundai Sonata, pulled up next to the victim, and a gunman got out to rob and carjack him. A nearby Chicago police surveillance camera recorded the hijacking.

CPD officers began tracking GPS data from the victim's BMW as it drove around Lakeview and Lincoln Park shortly after 6 a.m. However, they were unable to locate the vehicle right away.

They had better luck around 1 p.m. That's when cops spotted the teenager driving the BMW in the 5700 block of S. Morgan, according to CPD. The teen drove into a police car as he tried to get away, but the officers managed to take him into custody.

Investigators later determined that he was also responsible for robbing an 18-year-old woman and a 19-year-old man at gunpoint in the 7400 block of S. Morgan on Nov. 1, police said. During that crime, the teen allegedly forced the man to go to a second location, but CPD did not elaborate on the specifics of that incident.

The boy is charged with two counts of robbery while armed with a firearm, vehicular hijacking while armed with a firearm, aggravated armed kidnapping, aggravated fleeing, and criminal damage to government property.

Man robbed Lakeview smoke shop, then robbed it again minutes later

Nearly two years after he allegedly robbed a Lakeview smoke shop, then went back and robbed it again minutes later, a Chicago man has been charged with the crime.

Chicago police identified Christopher Savage, 20, as the robber within five days of the April 24, 2021,

heist at American Vapor Shop, 917 W. Belmont, prosecutors said. But Savage spent much of the intervening time in custody for a robbery he committed as a juvenile.

During a bail hearing on March 14, prosecutor Sarah Dale-Schmidt asserted that Savage entered the store around 11:45 p.m. and began discussing products with an employee. When the worker stepped away to assist other customers, Savage accessed the register and fled with approximately \$600 in cash, according to Dale-Schmidt.



Christopher Savage

The employee chased Savage to the Belmont CTA station and recovered the store's money after a "scuffle."

Savage wasn't done, said Dale-Schmidt. He marched back into the store, grabbed his waistband, and demanded, "Where's the sh*t?" He reached into the register, took the money, and walked away. According to Dale-Schmidt, the employee did not chase Savage the second time because he thought he had a gun.

Chicago police transit officers who saw CTA video of the initial "scuffle" recognized Savage, so detectives included his picture in a photo line-up, and the employee picked him out five days later, Dale-Schmidt said.

At the time of the robbery, Savage was on juvenile probation for robbery, aggravated battery, and violating probation, Dale-Schmidt said. Four months after the smoke shop robbery, he was adjudicated delinquent for yet another robbery and received a sentence of 31 months in juvenile detention. He is still on juvenile parole for that case, she said.

According to his public defender, he has one child and recently began working as a custodian at Wrigley Field.

Judge Ahmad ordered him to pay a \$5,000 bail deposit to go home on electronic monitoring.

Executive used HIV-AIDS charity's money to pay for divorce, 'lavish' shopping sprees

Andrea Peoples, 44, received current four-year sentences from Judge Michael Clancy after she pleaded guilty to two counts of theft of \$350,142.45 of Chicago House funds, according to court records. Prosecutors dropped 17 other felonies in their deal with Peoples. Peoples is the former CFO of Chicago House, a charity that provides housing and other support to persons living with HIV and AIDS. She has been sentenced to prison for stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from the organization, allegedly to pay for her divorce, buy an Audi, and go shopping at high-end retailers.

The charity was temporarily unable to make payroll or pay rent, and they were on the cusp of losing federal grants that fund some of its operations when the theft was discovered.

Another woman, Tijana Timatyos, 56, pleaded guilty to continuing financial crime enterprise in exchange for two years probation from Clancy. She paid full restitution of \$15,980.14 to the charity at her sentencing hearing, court records show.

In March 2021, prosecutors said Chicago House, which was founded in the early days of the AIDS epidemic, was three days away from shuttering due to a lack of funds when the alleged thefts were discovered.

The embezzlement came to light after Chicago House launched an investigation upon learning that Peoples was charged in 2020 with stealing money from her previous employer, Planned Parenthood. The Planned Parenthood case accounts for the second prison sentence she received.

Records from the Illinois Dept. of

Corrections show Peoples is already free. She reported to prison on Jan. 25 and was released on Feb. 24, after her sentence was cut in half for good behavior and offset by credits earned while the case was pending.

Man charged with groping woman on the Mag Mile

Prosecutors have filed felony charges against a man who allegedly sexually abused a woman as she walked on the Magnificent Mile.

Daniel Juarez, 31, was held in lieu of a \$1,000 bail payment by Judge David Kelly during a bond hearing on March 15.

Officials said Juarez confronted the 26-year-old woman in the 600 block of N. Michigan Ave. around 6 p.m. March 13. After mumbling something she couldn't understand, Juarez allegedly grabbed and squeezed her breast. He then locked arms with the woman and pulled her closer to try to kiss her, according to prosecutors.



Daniel Juarez

The woman broke free and called the police. Officers arrested Juarez about a block away five minutes later. Prosecutors said the woman had never met Juarez before.

An assistant state's attorney told Judge Kelly that Juarez admitted to being sexually aroused and grabbing the woman and trying to kiss her.

Prosecutors charged Juarez with aggravated criminal sexual abuse, aggravated battery in a public place, felony resisting police, and three counts of misdemeanor resisting.

His public defender said he is homeless and has lived in Chicago for about 10 years. The lawyer said Juarez is not able to pay anything toward bail. Should that change, Kelly said, Juarez must go on electronic monitoring.

Two men burglarized eight North Side bars and restaurants

Chicago police say two men broke into eight bars and restaurants from Lincoln Park to Lincoln Square during back-to-back crime sprees on March 15 and 16. So far, though, the offenders remain on the loose.

CPD said the men used a pry tool to break the businesses' locks, then raided the cash registers and file cabinets. The pair fled each scene on foot, according to police.

Area Three detectives issued a community alert that linked the men to burglaries at bars and restaurants in the following locations: the 1000 block of W. Wrightwood at 12:48 a.m. March 15; the 2400 block of N. Halsted between 12:04 a.m. and 5:15 a.m. March 15; the 1800 block of W. Irving Park at 3:15 a.m. March 16; the 1900 block of W. Byron at 3:48 a.m. March 16; the 3900 block of N. Lincoln sometime late Wednesday or early Thursday, March 16; the 4300 block of N. Lincoln between 1 a.m. and 8 a.m. March 16; the 4300 block of N. Lincoln between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. March 16, and on the 4600 block of N. Lincoln at 5:27 a.m. March 16.

The alert said the suspects were two Black males, each wearing a light-colored hoodie with black pants and carrying a light-colored backpack.

Information about the crimes can be shared with CPD investigators at 312-744-8263 regarding crime pattern P23-3-022.

Man gets 16 years for carjacking woman, escaping electronic monitoring to Nebraska

A Chicago man has been sentenced to 16 years for carjacking a woman at gunpoint in Old Town nearly four years ago, then running away to Nebraska about a month after being released on electronic monitoring.

Camron King, 21, pleaded guilty to aggravated vehicular hijacking with



Camron King is seen in mugshots from before and after his excursion to Nebraska. Courtesy Chicago Police Dept.; Cook County Sheriff's Office

a weapon and escaping from electronic monitoring before Judge Lorraine Murphy. She sentenced him to 14 years on the carjacking count plus two consecutive years for escape.

King and his alleged accomplice, Isaiah Jackson, 22, were accused of confronting a woman as she loaded groceries into her car at Jewel Osco, 424 W. Division, on July 23, 2019. Police said King pulled out a handgun and demanded her keys. She complied, and the two men got into her Audi. But the pair ran away when a security guard intervened.

Chicago police released surveillance images of two suspects shortly after the carjacking. King quickly turned himself in to Matteson police, and CPD officers arrested Jackson in Avondale.

About two months later, King posted a \$3,000 bail deposit and went home on electronic monitoring.

"He lasted about a month," Assistant State's Attorney James Murphy said during a court hearing for King last year. Upon receiving an alert that King's ankle monitor was being tampered with in October 2019, investigators tracked the unit's GPS to the 6000 block of S. Worcester.

"They were hoping to find the defendant there," said Murphy. "They were half correct. They found the GPS bracelet on the ground ... [it] appeared to have been sawed off with a metal cutting tool."

Within weeks of escaping, King was arrested in Nebraska for felony assault by strangulation and misdemeanor domestic battery. Nebraska authorities released him to await trial, and he picked up another misdemeanor assault case, Murphy said.

Nebraska authorities turned King over to Cook County officials after he completed his sentences in their state. King also outfitted his face with new tattoos in the Cornhusker State.

King's 16-year sentence will be reduced by 50% for good behavior. The judge also gave him 998 days of credit toward his prison time. The Illinois Department of Corrections estimates that he will be paroled on April 21, 2028.

His plea deal allowed him to avoid an even longer prison sentence. Prosecutors originally charged him with aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm, which carries an additional 15-year prison stint on top of any other sentence received. But that sentencing enhancement does not apply to aggravated vehicular hijacking with a weapon, which is what he pleaded to.

King's co-defendant, Jackson, continues to fight the hijacking allegations. He is due back in court on April 11.

Man robbed North Side gas station while armed with garden hose nozzle

A Chicago man remains jailed today after prosecutors accused him of robbing a Goose Island gas station while armed with a garden hose nozzle. Now, Chicago cops are trying to determine if Trequan Sparks, 25, is also responsible for robbing a 15-year-old boy while brandishing an object earlier in the day.

Sparks, on bail for a pending charge of manufacture-delivery of crack cocaine, walked into the service station at 1234 N. Halsted shortly before 6 p.m. March 15 and started banging a yellow and black object on the counter while threatening the clerk, pros-

ecutors said. The cashier thought the object was a Taser.

After gathering a Red Bull and a candy bar, Sparks walked out, only to be stopped by Chicago police about 30 minutes later in the 700 block of W. Schiller. Officers said they recovered the nozzle, the candy bar, and the Red Bull from Sparks.

Minutes before the holdup, a woman called 911 after a man pointed something that she believed to be a gun at her car as she traveled near Division and Halsted, not far from the gas station.



Trequan Sparks

And three hours before the gas station holdup, a 15-year-old boy flagged down police and reported that a man who displayed a garden hose nozzle robbed him of his orange Calvin Klein coat in the 1300 block of N. Clybourn.

As of March 17, Sparks has not been charged with either of those incidents.

Judge Maryam Ahmad ordered him to pay a \$4,000 bail deposit to get out of jail, but he is not eligible for immediate release because she also held him without bail for violating bond in the pending narcotics case. That charge stems from allegations that police recovered six baggies of suspected crack cocaine from Sparks after they saw him conduct a hand-to-hand drug transaction in the Gold Coast on Nov. 12.

Hit-and-run driver got out to look at victim before driving away

A hit-and-run driver slammed into a pedestrian in Lakeview, got out to look at the injured victim, and then drove away from the scene, a Chicago police report said. Now, CPD's major accidents unit is asking for help with the case.

According to a CPD report that we reviewed, the accident happened around 10:44 p.m. March 9 on the east side of the three-way intersection at Lincoln, Belmont, and Ashland avenues.

In the report, police said a 39-year-old woman was crossing Belmont against the light when the driver, turning east from southbound Lincoln Avenue, hit her. The driver "had the green light but wasn't paying attention," according to the report.

The driver got out of the car, looked at the woman, then drove away, the report said.

EMS transported the woman to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center with injuries to her head, back, pelvis, calf, and thumb.

On Saturday afternoon, CPD released stock photographs of a gray Nissan Maxima, saying it may be the kind of car that struck the woman. The police report filed after the crash said the vehicle was a Hyundai Sonata, but police may have developed new information since then.

Information about the case, CPD #JG-180091, can be shared with investigators at 312-745-4521.

Cops find dead body while chasing suspect, who later escapes through the ceiling of police holding cell at Belmont/Western

The arrests of two men who were allegedly inside a car that intentionally struck a Chicago police officer near the Field Museum on March 17 have taken some unexpected turns, according to law enforcement sources.

Burglary crew stole \$18,700 worth of booze from Binny's in Lincoln Park, part of a citywide crime wave

BY CWBCHICAGO

Prosecutors have charged a man with burglarizing Binny's Beverage Depot in Lincoln Park twice last month, crimes that Chicago police linked to dozens of similar break-ins at liquor stores and other businesses across the North Side.

George Stanton, 50, has been in custody since March 2, when prosecutors charged him with breaking into a liquor store in the 2500 block of W. Lawrence on Feb. 22.

On March 16, prosecutors told Judge Maryam Ahmad that Stanton and two unidentified men burglarized the Binny's at 1720 N. Marcey during the early morning hours on Feb. 3 and again on Feb. 16.

The crew got away with \$9,700 worth of merchandise the first time and \$9,000 worth of goods

the second time, prosecutor Sarah Dale-Schmidt said.

Surveillance video recorded both break-ins.

About an hour after the second burglary, the same crew allegedly broke into Enterprise Rental Car, 930 W. Division. Video footage shows the offenders arriving in a Dodge Durango, breaking a chain to open the business' gate, and punching out a door lock. But they weren't able to steal any cars. Instead, Dale-Schmidt said, they took a portable car jumper and six basketballs.

A Chicago police officer identified Stanton from the Enterprise burglary, and that helped investigators link him to the Binny's



George Stanton

incidents, according to Dale-Schmidt.

Stanton, who is married with "several children," holds a bachelor's degree and has worked for ten years at childcare facilities, his defense attorney said.

Ahmad, the judge who heard his case Thursday, ordered him to pay a \$10,000 bail deposit on the new burglary charges. He must also pay another \$25,000 to get out of jail on the previously filed case.

Chicago police last month released a series of community alerts about liquor store burglaries stretching from Hyde Park to Rogers Park to Wicker Park. The crew of between three and five men traveled in a gray Dodge Durango equipped with stolen license plates as they traveled around town, according to Chicago police documents.

Walgreens robber busted after leaving his wallet at the crime scene

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police officers caught a big break as they investigated the robbery of a Walgreens in the Gold Coast—the robber left his wallet behind.



Earis McGee

Prosecutors filed robbery charges March 17 against Earis McGee, 24, almost two months after he allegedly robbed the store at 1200 N. Dearborn.

McGee waited in line as if he was going to make a purchase but suddenly jumped the counter and started collecting packs of cigarettes around 2:03 p.m. Jan. 25, Assistant State's Attorney Victor Aberdeen said during McGee's bond hearing.

He allegedly grabbed about \$240 worth of smokes from the shelves and from an employee's hand, then ran out the door. Unfortunately for him, though, he

left his wallet behind, according to Aberdeen.

A Walgreens employee who opened the wallet saw McGee's state ID and recognized him from "previous interactions," Aberdeen said.

CPD officers caught up with McGee on March 15. Aberdeen said he has a pending retail theft case and two misdemeanor convictions in his background.

An assistant public defender told Judge Maryam Ahmad that McGee is a pharmacy technician at a local hospital and also works for the CTA's cleaning contractor.

Ahmad decided that McGee could go home on electronic monitoring upon posting a \$5,000 bail deposit.

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Bank robber who fired shots in the Loop also robbed River North bank branch

BY CWBCHICAGO

The FBI now confirms that the bank robber who shot at a security guard during a holdup in the Loop last week is the same man who robbed a River North bank at gunpoint earlier this month.

In a new bulletin, the federal agency said it is offering a \$1,000 reward for "information leading directly to the arrest and conviction" of the robber.

Chicago police responded to shots fired and a bank robbery in progress at Fifth Third Bank, 1 S. Wacker, just after 3 p.m. March 9. CPD said the robber shot at a bank security guard, and the guard fired back.

Video recorded from a nearby high-rise showed the robber gathering loose cash from the ground near the bank's shattered revolving door. A large pane of glass in the bank's storefront was also shot out.

The guard suffered a minor graze wound to his hand but declined medical attention, the police said.

Coincidentally, the shooting occurred just a few hours after the FBI issued a bulletin about the River North bank holdup that the agency has now linked to the same offender.

Around 2:51 p.m. March 3, a man entered Chase Bank, 401 N. State, displayed a handgun, and announced a robbery.

Officers arrived quickly and pursued the robber eastbound through an alley between Hubbard and Kinzie streets, but they lost him, according to CPD radio transmissions.

The FBI released photos of a man holding a gun and standing at a bank counter, but the images are blurry and do not clearly show his face.

The agency said he is a Black male between 35 and 40 years old who stands between 5'8" and 6 feet tall and weighs 160 to 180 lbs.



The FBI released these bank surveillance images of the suspect from March 3 (left) and March 9 (center, right).

During the first robbery, he carried a backpack and dressed in a black hoodie with a black surgical mask, blue surgical gloves, black pants, and dark shoes, according to the FBI.

Last Thursday, he wore a black hooded jacket, a red hat, white

face mask, black winter gloves, blue jeans, and black and white shoes.

Information can be shared with the FBI Chicago field office at 312-421-6700 or tips.fbi.gov.

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(L) Petros and Contessa Bottega. (R) Tracey DiBuono, Julie Barrish, Dr. Sandy Goldberg and Kathy O'Malley Piccone.



Mamie Walton with Heather Farley.



Ald. Ed Burke, retired justice Anne M. Burke with Diane O'Malley.



Rich Daniels, wife Kathy and Paul Vallas.



Steven Spielberg and Joey Majumdar.



Candace Jordan honored by David Yurman and friends.

LET GO from p. 2

Don't even bring up the epidemic of urban graffiti that is the icing on the city's cake.

Chicago politicians should treat their voters like they were the best of show. But, too often, they treat their voters like they just were a pack of mutts. Let go of the leash. Let's have an end of the mean dogs. Growlers. Snappers. Nippers. And biters. Let's elect a champ. Early Voting in all 50 Wards of Chicago and two Downtown sites started Monday, so don't sit this one out.

SPRING CLEAN UP: Graffiti is vandalism. It scars our communities, hurts property values and diminishes our quality of life. Graffiti removal is a free taxpayer-provided service for private property owners and businesses and is one of the most popular services offered by the City. It's very simple to get graffiti cleaned up within 3-5 days, just call 311. Do it now.

SOUTH SIDE IRISH: The South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade up Western Ave. by all accounts was a grand tribute to the Saint, especially buoyed by the army of loved ones marching with Maestro **Rich** and **Kathy Daniels**. All enhanced by the presence of Mayoral candidate **Paul Vallas** who was a definite crowd pleaser.

IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB: One thousand dinner guests gathered at the Chicago Hilton Hotel to celebrate the official 2023 St. Patrick's Day Season. The Official Representatives of the Irish Republic, Cork County Mayor **Danny Collins** and guests were treated to Chicago's famed display to honor the Irish Saint. The gathering was delighted to have Chicago's Irish Consul General, **Kevin Byrne**, and delightful husband, **Aristotle**, to kick off the busy week of festivities. Diners welcomed Sen. **Dick Durbin**. And to everyone's delight **Patrick Daley Thompson**, a former IFC past president, as well

as seeing **Ginny Kinsella** looking well. **Rose Marie O'Neill** hosted a grand table shared by newlyweds **Mark O'Malley** and **Patricia Treacey** plus cousin **Dr. John Ross**, and German Consul General **Wolfgang Mössinger** and his Irish wife, **Mairead**, nearby was **Father Clete Kiley** with cousin **Tom Kiley**, rubbing elbows and mutual hilarity with retiring Illinois Appellate Court Justice **Maureen Connors**, **Kathy Taylor**, dinner planner **Mark MacNabola**, former Chicago aviation **Czarina Margaret Houlihan Smith** and Family and at a nearby front table was retiring Ald. **Edward M. Burke** and his wife, retired Illinois Supreme Court Justice **Anne M. Burke**, their daughter, attorney **Jennifer Burke Murphy** and husband, Judge **James Murphy**... **Maria Pappas** on hand to chit-chat with the Parade Queen **Casey Doherty**... word is that Mayor **Lori Lightfoot** showed up for cocktails and walked around... and **Father Tom Hurley** gave the prayer.

IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP: The Union League Club was the scene of the annual early morning kickoff of St. Patrick's season when Chicago's commercial angels gathered to support the significant work of the Irish American Partnership that funds so many creative and significant cultural and educational endeavors. The partnership's **Mary Sugrue** acknowledged Chicago's special generosity to their efforts in Ireland. On hand were Maestro **Rich Daniels**, **Eamonn Cummins**, **Penne Taylor**, **Edward Galvin**, **William Kreese** and **John Wrenn** just for starters.

PARTY WITH MARTY: The Sheridan Rd. condo beautification crew are holding a fundraiser 2 p.m. March 26 at Marty's Martini Bar, 1611 W. Balmoral, go for drinks and make new friends.

SILVER LINING: Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of A

Silver Lining Foundation. The 2023 Glitz & Glamour fashion event was a great success. **Dr. Sandy Goldberg** you are a treasure. Mazel tov.

PARTY WITH TOM: An evening with **Tom Hanks** in conversation with **Peter Sagal** 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 10, at the Auditorium Theater. Tickets to the event include a copy of *The Making of Another Major Motion Picture Masterpiece*, Hank's new novel. You won't want to miss this.

WHO'S WHERE: A birthday salute to the esteemed Chicago attorney **Thomas Murphy**, a mighty player behind the scenes... **Chris Grimshaw** and **Lalo** at Camelback Ranch for White Sox/Dodgers Spring training... **Reena Levin** with **Trish Kost**, **Steve Schwartz**, **Madeleine Naylor Pember**, **Matt Bender**, **Christina Dunne Anderson** and **Elissa Pappas** at Bar Roma in Andersonville... **Sue Hibbs**, **Karen Zupko** and Mr. **Mike** at Epcot... The **Corcoran** siblings, **Maureen**, **Margaret**, Fr. **Billy**, **Kathleen**, and **Noreen** at the annual Irish Fellowship Dinner... **Joey Majumdar** sparkled at the Oscars, especially running into his old pal **Steven Spielberg**... **Mark Olley** and **Jim Ellsworth** at Chicago Waffles... **Jennifer Sutton Brieva** doing a Happy

Birthday to her beautiful sister-in-law **Andrea Leigh**... Former Cook County Assessor **Jim Houlihan** having photos taken with his handsome family at Old St. Patrick's Church... **Bobbi Panter** and **Matt Arnoux** at Swan Miami in Miami at the grand birthday bash for **Phillip Emigh**... **John** and **Nora Lucas Klein** with son **Lucas** and their latest addition, **Sean**, getting toasty in Bocca Raton... Hostess **Sherry Lea Fox** with birthday girl **Kathleen Haines-Finley** dining at Le Select with **Mark Olley**, **Paul A Iacono** and **Kathy O'Malley Piccone**... Special welcome to Chicago's St Patrick's Day celebrations to visiting friends of **Ken Norgan** from Germany, **Dirk** and **Miriam Mathes** and **Monika**, proud grandma of the three young folk... **Peggy Snorf** with **Beverley Gilmore** in Naples, FL with a classic French feast at Escargot 41... **Mamie Walton** spotted at Erie Cafe with **Heather Farley**... **Paula Borg** and **Sherrill Bodine** hosting a fab Oscar party... And Happy Birthday to the **Contessa Bottega**.

YURMAN DESIGN: Popular American Jewel designer **David Yurman** delighted the many fans of Chicago columnist **Candace Jordan** at a lovely soiree at his Michigan Ave. salon, saluting her on International Women's

Day. Among those celebrating the social media star were husband, **Chuck Jordan**, **Frank N. Jeffrey**, **Todd Hatoff**, **Chilli Pepper**, **Kathy O'Malley Piccone**, **Sherill Bodine**, **Elizabeth A. Bertucci**, **Kathy Wolter Mondelli**, **James Place**, **Susie** and **Chris Mayolan**, **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh**, **Bethany Florek**, **Sheree Schwimmer**, **Paula Borg**, **Lucien Lagrange**, **Maria Pappas**, **David Olley**, **Ed Howlett**, **Rhonda Sanderson**, **Bonnie Spurlock**, **Julia Jacobs** and **Felicia Ferguson Winiecki**.

SCHWIMMER SOIRÉE: It was no holds barred for fabulous party giver **Sheree Schwimmer** who hosted a grand gathering for St. Patrick's Day at **Butch McGuire's** where **Sherrill Bodine** led the way to the jigs and reels with **Diva Denise Tomasello**, **Julia Jacobs**, **Kathy O'Malley Piccone**, **Paula Borg**, **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh**, **Kathy Wolter Mondelli**, all sparkled like shamrocks in the sun.

Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. -- C.S. Lewis

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Uptown youth circus program to get \$5M in TIF funds



CircEsteem expects to receive \$5 million in Tax Increment Financing [TIF] funds to convert Uptown's former Lakeside Theater into its permanent headquarters.

The youth development circus arts organization CircEsteem would receive \$5 million in Tax Increment Financing [TIF] funds to convert Uptown's former Lakeside Theater into its permanent headquarters under a March 14 proposal introduced to City Council.

Located in a number of Chicago Public Schools, and at their Uptown Headquarters, their HomeWork and CircusWork are free after school programs for

youth.

CircEsteem's plans for the 14,000-square-foot building at 4730 N. Sheridan Rd. include restoration of its historic terracotta facade, reconfiguration of the lobby, and the build-out of office, training, and performance spaces.

Founded in 2001, CircEsteem helps youth build self-esteem and create safe and diverse communities through the learning of circus arts.

The methodology used by CircEsteem uses circus arts to impact social change through instilling confidence and leadership in youth. The primary goal is not just to learn circus arts, but also to assist participants' personal and social development by nurturing their self-esteem and trust in others as well as by helping them to acquire social skills, become active citizens, express their creativity, and realize their potential in a safe environment.

CircEsteem works with youth from 21 Chicago neighborhoods through academic enrichment, mentoring, and in-school arts enrichment programming. Youth are supported to build personal development and leadership skills such as self-esteem and teamwork through the training of circus arts utilizing social circus methodology.

The project may create 20 permanent full-time jobs and 15 part-time positions. It will enable the organization to increase its programming from 18 hours a week to a minimum of 40 hours a week.

CircEsteem was selected to receive the taxpayer support through the city's Community Development Grant program.

REGULATE from p. 5

would argue that the price comparison to other forms of transportation... being a less expensive option no longer is what's born out in the market," Gong-Gershowitz said.

The average fare for Ubers in Chicago increased by 80%, and by 73% for Lyft since 2019, while the average fare for taxis increased by 50%.

Gong-Gershowitz added the cultural landscape around ride-share companies has shifted since their inception, eliminating the need to treat them differently

"Other common carriers...do not enjoy this exemption and it has been used by ride-share companies to shield themselves from liability and auto crashes and cases where drivers have sexually assaulted their passengers," said Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz.

from alternative modes of transportation.

"I think almost everybody now, at all ages, has an app on their phone and knows how to use both ride-share apps for Uber and Lyft, as well as other things," Gong-Gershowitz said. "So the domi-

nance of technology in terms of the way we handle transportation, and many other things, has transformed the world that we live in over the last 10 years. And so the rationale that existed in 2015 just doesn't hold up in today's market."

POLIO from p. 5

lio has been identified in Chicago or Illinois at this time, CDPH is proactively building its local capacity to detect and respond to any potential case of polio. The best way to protect everyone from polio is to maintain high immunity against poliovirus in the population through vaccination," according to a statement from a CDPH spokesperson.

The testing of local wastewater is a collaborative effort between the CDPH and scientists from the Univ. of Illinois Chicago, the Regional Innovative Public Health Laboratory at Rush Univ. Medical Center, the Univ. of Illinois System's Discovery Partner Institute, the Illinois Dept. of Public Health, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC].

"Finding poliovirus in wastewater indicates that someone in the community is shedding poliovirus," the CDPH said in a statement last week. "Wastewater data cannot be used to determine or identify who is infected or

how many people or households are affected, but it can enhance other data and surveillance methods used to prevent polio. Not all potential detections will be cause for concern. However, if specific strains of poliovirus are found in communities that have low vaccination rates, it can spread among unvaccinated individuals, putting them at risk for becoming infected and developing polio. Anyone who is unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated is at risk for developing paralysis if infected with poliovirus."

Most people infected with the virus do not have any symptoms, though some will have flu-like symptoms, like sore throat, fever, tiredness, nausea, and stomach

pain. One in 25 people with poliovirus infection will get meningitis and about one in 200 will become paralyzed.

According to health officials at the CDC, most adults in the United States were vaccinated as children and are therefore likely to be protected from getting polio.

Unless there are specific reasons to believe they were not vaccinated, most adults who were born and raised in the U.S. can assume they were vaccinated for polio as children. Polio vaccination has been part of the routine childhood immunization schedule in the U.S. for decades and is still part of the routine childhood immunization schedule.



Irish violinist, Patricia Treacey, (Mrs. Mark O'Malley), was present for the White House celebration of St. Patrick's Day performing for President and Mrs. Biden, echoing a sweet and melancholic sound for the holiday.

By Thomas O'Gorman

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POLICE BEAT from p. 10

First, Chicago cops who chased after the men on the South Side found a dead body inside a building. Then, one of the suspects tried to escape from Area Three police headquarters by busting through the ceiling tile of a Roscoe Village holding cell.

It all started when cops pulled over a car in the 1100 block of S. Lake Shore Dr. at 8:12 p.m. because it may have been involved in an aggravated battery to a police officer incident earlier this month, CPD said. After pulling over, the driver reversed into an officer who was walking toward their car. CPD said one officer then fired at the car. The bullet struck another car in the area, but no injuries were reported from the gun-



Tajze Mullins

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS

The driver fled the scene, but police pursued the vehicle to the 7200 block of S. Vincennes and apprehended two people who fled the vehicle. Attempted murder and escape charges have been filed against Tajze Mullins, 23, who appeared in court for a bond hearing March 19. Officers were looking for the two men when they entered a home in the 7100 block of S. Lafayette and discovered a dead man sitting in a chair. On March 18, the medical examiner's office performed an autopsy on the man, but the results were inconclusive, and an official ruling on the cause and manner of his death is pending. A

source familiar with the investigation said the man appeared to have been dead for quite a while. While the investigation into the Lake Shore Dr. incident was ongoing, police transported the two suspects to Area Three headquarters at 2452 W. Belmont. But one of the men didn't want to stay, and he busted through the ceiling of a holding cell, according to a source. Ceiling tile and ductwork rained down on the detective division as the escapee moved through the overhead crawlspace and cops tore down the ceiling to find him. Officers caught him before he left the building. A video of the damage done to the

holding cell and surrounding office area was tweeted on Saturday afternoon by filmmaker Neal Edelstein. A CPD spokesperson said that no information about the escape attempt was available because the police report documenting the incident had not been completed.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

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 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF AND WITH RESPECT TO AJAX MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2020-A, MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES, SERIES 2020-A Plaintiff,
 -v- EDMUND C. MEADOWS, III, WENDY S. MEADOWS, 937 W. GEORGE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, STATE OF ILLINOIS, BMO HARRIS BANK, N.A. Defendants
 2022 CH 03401
 937 WEST GEORGE STREET, UNIT 1W 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 January 4, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 10, 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 937 WEST GEORGE STREET, UNIT 1W, CHICAGO, IL 60657
 Property Index No. 14-29-225-034-1004 (Vol. 488)
 The real estate is improved with a condominium.
 The judgment amount was \$506,821.54.
 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 ac-

Real Estate For Sale

cepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
 Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
 The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
 IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF

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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 21 9111.
 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
 JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC
 30 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 3650
 Chicago IL, 60602
 E-Mail: pleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
 Attorney File No. 21 9111
 Attorney Code. 40342
 Case Number: 2022 CH 03401
 TJS#C#: 43-317
 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 03401
13214622
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Real Estate For Sale

COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR WAMU MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2004-PR2 TRUST Plaintiff,
 -v- IGOR PRESMAN, G. JACQUELINE NEVID PRESMAN AKA JACQUELINE NEVID PRESMAN, TIARA HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION Defendants
 19 CH 07827 consolidated with 17 D 4477
 6145 N. SHERIDAN RD., UNIT 20C 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 January 10, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 12, 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 6145 N. SHERIDAN RD., UNIT 20C, CHICAGO, IL 60660
 Property Index No. 14-05-211-016-1059
 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.
 The judgment amount was \$151,887.42.
 Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential

Real Estate For Sale

real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
 Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
 The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
 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

Real Estate For Sale

where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
 For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 384240.
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 217-422-1719
 Fax #: 217-422-1754
 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com
 Attorney File No. 384240
 Attorney Code. 40387
 Case Number: 19 CH 07827 consolidated with 17 D 4477
 TJS#C#: 43-138
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 Case # 19 CH 07827 consolidated with 17 D 4477
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK Plaintiff,
 -v- RUTA GAIZUTIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, GOLD COAST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants
 2022 CH 09980
 71 EAST DIVISION STREET, UNIT 502 CHICAGO, IL 60610
 NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 31, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 1, 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:
 Unit Numbers 502 and East 56, in the Gold Coast Condominium, as delineated on a survey of the following described real estate:
 Commonly known as 71 EAST DIVISION STREET, UNIT 502, CHICAGO, IL 60610
 Property Index No. 17-03-200-080-1008
 The real estate is improved with a condominium residence.
 The judgment amount was \$45,721.80.
 Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
 Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
 The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
 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 MANLEY DEAS KOCHAL-

Real Estate For Sale

SKI LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 651-6700. Please refer to file number 22-010749.
 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
 MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
 ONE EAST WACKER, SUITE 1250
 Chicago IL, 60601
 312-651-6700
 E-Mail: AMPS@manleydeas.com
 Attorney File No. 22-010749
 Attorney Code. 48928
 Case Number: 2022 CH 09980
 TJS#C#: 43-679
 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 09980
13216186
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FIFTH THIRD BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff,
 -v- OXFORD BANK & TRUST AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED THE 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2019, KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 1927; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF TRUST AGREEMENT DATED THE 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2019 KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 1927; 111 EAST CHESTNUT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; JULIE LEOPOLD; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,
 21 CH 5553
 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, April 25, 2023 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
 P.I.N. 17-03-225-078-1283.
 Commonly known as 111 East Chestnut Street Unit 40C, Chicago, IL 60611.
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
 For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925, 6722-188447
 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13215745
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, (FORMERLY KNOWN AS FIRST UNION NATIONAL BANK) AS TRUSTEE FOR LONG BEACH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2001-4 Plaintiff,
 -v- JACQUELINE SMITH, YVONNE FINCH FKA

Real Estate For Sale

YVONNE SMITH, AMERIQUEST MORTGAGE COMPANY, THE CITY OF CHICAGO, CAPITAL ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CAPITAL ONE, FSB, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA-DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, CAPITAL ONE BANK (N.A.), N.A. FKA CAPITAL ONE BANK, 111 EAST CHESTNUT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, DISCOVER BANK Defendants
 10 CH 0492
 111 E. CHESTNUT, UNIT 45G CHICAGO, IL 60611
 NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 7, 2017, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 21, 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:
 Unit 4500-G in the 111 East Chestnut Condominium, as delineated on a survey of the following described real estate:
 Commonly known as 111 E. CHESTNUT, UNIT 45G, CHICAGO, IL 60611
 Property Index No. 17-03-225-078-1333
 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.
 The judgment amount was \$526,328.43.
 Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
 Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
 Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.
 The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

Real Estate For Sale

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 HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 126642.
 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
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 601 E. William St.
 DECATUR IL, 62523
 217-422-1719
 Fax #: 217-422-1754
 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com
 Attorney File No. 126642
 Attorney Code. 40387
 Case Number: 10 CH 00492
 TJS#C#: 43-932
 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 # 10 CH 00492
13215778
 222222 -----
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; Plaintiff,
 -v- JOSEPH ROHNER, AS PLEINARY GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE AND PERSON OF WILLIAM F. MCDERMOTT, A DISABLED PERSON; 2500 LAKEVIEW ASSOCIATION; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,
 19 CH 9893
 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, April 18, 2023 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. 14-28-320-030-1074.
 Commonly known as 2500 North Lakeview Avenue, Unit 903, Chicago, IL 60614.
 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 Law Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W19-0726
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intercountyjudicialsales.com
13215222

Real Estate For Sale

151515 -----
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION KIAVI FUNDING, INC. F/K/A LENDINGHOME FUNDING CORPORATION Plaintiff,
 -v- NATIONAL HOMEBUYERS LLC, JOSHUA W. GREEN, AMBASSADOR HOUSE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, EQUITY TRUST COMPANY, CUSTODIAN FBO, ERIN L. MCELLELLAN, SADIE L. DAWE, AVERY L. DAWE, THOMAS HILGARDNER Defendants
 2022 CH 09713
 1325 NORTH STATE PARKWAY #18D CHICAGO, IL 60610
 NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on February 24, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 12, 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 1325 NORTH STATE PARKWAY #18D, CHICAGO, IL 60610
 Property Index No. 17-03-106-027-1086
 The real estate is improved with a condominium.
 The judgment amount was \$256,161.43.
 Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
 Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
 The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
 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

Real Estate For Sale

foreclosure sales.
 For information, contact Noah Weininger, THE WEININGER LAW FIRM LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 161 North Clark St., Suite 1600, Chicago, IL, 60601 (312) 796-8850.
 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
 Noah Weininger
 THE WEININGER LAW FIRM LLC
 161 North Clark St., Suite 1600
 Chicago IL, 60601
 312-796-8850
 Fax #: 312-248-2550
 E-Mail: nweininger@weiningerlawfirm.com
 Attorney Code. 63307
 Case Number: 2022 CH 09713
 TJS#C#: 43-824
 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 09713
13214975
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR JP MORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST 2007-CH1, ASSET BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-CH1; Plaintiff,
 -v- LAURA ROBINSON AKA LAURA C. ROBINSON; 345 FULLERTON PARKWAY CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,
 22 CH 2735
 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, April 11, 2023 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. 14-33-200-016-1006.
 Commonly known as 345 West Fullerton, Unit 406, Chicago, IL 60614.
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
 For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Kluever Law Group, 225 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 236-0077. SPS000427-22FC2
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Miscellaneous, cont.

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Notice of Public Sale

THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE at 1930 N Clybourn Ave, Chicago, IL 60614 will sell the contents of the following units to satisfy a lien to the highest bidder on 03-28-23 by 11:00 AM at WWW.STORAGETREASURES.COM. All goods must be removed from the unit within 48 hours. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account. Unit #133 Barton Faist

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v- SHANNON M. FASSETT, BRIAN A. FASSETT, US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Defendants 19 CH 12687 CONSOLIDATED WITH 11 CH 003638 2951 W. JARLATH ST. CHICAGO, IL 60645 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 23, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 25, 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 2951 W. JARLATH ST., CHICAGO, IL 60645 Property Index No. 10-25-332-019-0000 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$650,702.60. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential

Real Estate For Sale

real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). 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

Real Estate For Sale

foreclosure sales. For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 372345. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 372345 Attorney Code. 40387 Case Number: 19 CH 12687 CONSOLIDATED WITH 11 CH 003638 TJS#F: 43-300 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 19 CH 12687 CONSOLIDATED WITH 11 CH 003638 **13215859** 222222 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR RMTP TRUST, SERIES 2021 COTTAGE-TT-V Plaintiff,

Real Estate For Sale

-v- SCOTT FINCHER Defendants 2022 CH 07898 6634 N BOSWORTH AVE CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on January 18, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on April 19, 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 6634 N BOSWORTH AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-32-308-025 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$446,104.57. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity

Real Estate For Sale

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 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 22-022868. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL

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60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jscc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASL.G.COM Attorney File No. 22-022868 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Attorney Code. 65582 Case Number: 2022 CH 07898 TJS#F: 43-503 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 07898 **13215510** 151515 ----- 080808 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

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New mixed-use proposal for 330 N. Clark St.

In 2016, the City Council approved a Waterway Business Planned Development [PD] to construct a hotel at 330 N. Clark St. Yet the property owner, 322 North Clark, LLC and Friedman Properties, has not moved forward with the approved 500-room hotel due to the negative economic impact caused by the government-imposed economic lockdown and Coronavirus pandemic.

Located almost right on Chicago River, the new building would rise in the small parking lot at the northeast corner of the existing Reid Murdoch Center

The property owner is now seeking a technical amendment to PD to allow for a residential use. No other change is reportedly being proposed.

Any future residential development at the site would require additional review and a secondary PD Amendment in order to set the number of residential units and parking spaces allowed on the site.

Without this amendment, the PD would expire in Sept. 2023. This technical amendment would keep in place all of the other facets negotiated in the original PD of Sept. 2016. This rezoning change application by Friedman Properties looks to pivot the program due to the current problems with low hotel occupancy downtown. If built, the 275-foot by 80-foot site would potentially rise 33-stories in a 369-foot-tall tower.

This proposed change will be reviewed at an upcoming Chicago Plan Commission meeting with subsequent approval required by City Council.

HALSTED ST. from p. 1

Park; repairing the degrading brick alley in the back of the building all the way north to Willow St.; the use of traditional materials, specifically, brick instead of the original metal design; a low density scale and more affordable housing compared to other recently approved condominium buildings nearby; replacing a vacant structure, giving it a new active use with new restaurant and outdoor dining; providing jobs through construction and maintenance of the building; nearly \$400 million in economic impact over a 20-year period, and their partnership with Steppenwolf Theater for staff housing.

But the development proposal met with criticism and concern for what this project would mean for Lincoln Park, with many, if not most, of the Town Hall members asking questions to the presenting development team. Some of the concerns included and are not limited to the proposed “rezoning” or “up-zoning” of the DK project, which they fear could create a precedent of rampant high density construction in the neighborhood; and the parking and traffic increases that would create unwanted congestion into an already highly congested part of Lincoln Park.

That section of Halsted St. in Lincoln Park is mere steps from one of the most congested intersections on the North Side: Clybourn, North and Halsted.

At that location, Halsted St. has only one lane of traffic in each direction (with bike lanes), and a high density building like this that offers little off-street parking, would tend to draw a great deal of traffic.

In discouraging car ownership by not providing adequate off-street parking, the new building will create all new demand for some of Chicago’s most frequent park-

ing scofflaws: the shared car services, and delivery vehicles [think DoorDash, UberEats, Amazon, UPS, FedEx and U.S. Postal] it would draw in, who are some of the most frequent double-parkers on Chicago’s main streets. A mere two delivery vehicles double-parked in each direction at the same moment at this site could gridlock traffic for blocks around.

Other concerns included privacy for neighbors, potential construction halting businesses and residents during times of

ciation Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee said that the “in-person community meeting was fruitful, but I wish the developer would stop gaslighting the community... zoning is not fluid.”

Ald. Hopkins was adamant that “no decision has been made,” making sure to calm constituents of Lincoln Park. He also furthered the conversation by asking the audience “what do you want,” in terms of talks with DK. For now, Hopkins won’t support the development until DK addresses neigh-

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economic uncertainty and high interest rates, and the aesthetics of the building in this historic residential area rich in fine design. Some neighbors said the new building wouldn’t fit the character of the neighborhood and would not provide the community much benefit. In fact the community is now passing around a petition opposing the project.

While citizens at the meeting were grateful for the opportunity to have an in-person meeting with the developers and a way to voice their opinions in front of Ald. Hopkins, there was still an overwhelming amount of concern regarding how this new addition to the neighborhood would “fit” into the community that residents care for.

Anne Moore, Lincoln Central Asso-

ighbors’ concerns about its design, size, congestion and lack of parking.

Hopkins pointed out at the end of the forum that he believed that DK gave an “inadequate” response to the concerns laid out by constituents. Continuing to welcome the idea of a development, while also making sure that developers hear and improvise according to the needs expressed at the meeting.

With continued negotiations and community engagement ahead of them, DK are still in the process of gaining any real support for their project. The developers will have to go back to the drawing table, with a potential resolution seemingly still months away, as they have yet to get the alderman’s or community support.

WENDELLA from p. 1

sive scheme defining impermissible and permissible uses and activities related to the federal waterway system.” Since a 2013 audit, Wendella has insisted its tickets are exempt from the city tax because its boats operate exclusively on federal waterways, the river and Lake Michigan.

When the city first tried to collect, in Oct. 2014, it said Wendella owed \$3.2 million for tickets sold from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2013. In Nov. 2016 the City Council amended its amusement tax ordinance to target tour boat operators, not patrons or vessels. When Wendella told the city it wanted to improve its Chicago River dock and also obtain a 10-year lease extension, the Chicago Dept. of Transportation in Feb. 2019 said it could not approve either request while Wendella owed amusement taxes dating from Jan. 1, 2017.

In arguing for summary judgment, in addition to restating its logic concerning RHA pre-emption, Cobbs wrote: “Wendel-

Although Chicago insisted “the tour boat operator tax is not actually a tax on the vessel, but on the business revenue or income of the company” and that the federal law is intended to allow such assessments, “the legislative history only bolsters the conclusion that it does not.”

la reasoned that a tax on the vessel’s owner was ‘inseparable’ from a tax on the vessel itself, because, practically speaking, a vessel could not pay its own taxes. Wendella further contended that the tour boat operator tax was not comparable to permissible taxes such as sales taxes or taxes on goods sold on boats or vessels.”

The city said the 2002 amendments represented Congress’ attempt to bypass tolls and fees for boats “passing through”

a jurisdiction without explicit exemption for “local commercial sales transactions,” Cobbs wrote. The panel said Judge Curry, while stipulating courts’ general preference to avoid invoking pre-emption, said the federal law in question was a “patently clear” example of Congress intending to suppress local or state tax law, specifically prohibiting “taxation of vessels, passengers, and crews on navigable waters.”

Cobbs explained no appellate court beside itself has addressed this question under the 2002 Maritime Transportation Security Act. The panel pointed to the U.S. Constitution’s tonnage clause, through which Congress intended to prevent states from taxing imports and exports. The panel said “the U.S. Supreme Court has interpreted the tonnage clause to prohibit more than just ‘classic’ tonnage duties, such as taxes on a ship based on its capacity. Examples of prohibited taxes include taxes on the number of masts, mariners, or passengers, as well as taxes ‘imposed not just on the vessel itself but also on the ship captain,

owner, supercargo (the person in charge of the cargo on the ship), and passengers.’ ”

However, Cobbs continued, states or municipalities are allowed to charge for certain things, such as “services rendered or conveniences provided” a given boat. But she explained a city can’t just label an assessment a service tax, but can only escape preemption by demonstrating a beneficial service for the taxed boat.

Although Chicago insisted “the tour boat operator tax is not actually a tax on the vessel, but on the business revenue or income of the company” and that the federal law is intended to allow such assessments, “the legislative history only bolsters the conclusion that it does not.”

While sympathetic to the city’s intent to equitably tax all amusement businesses, the panel surmised it could only reach agreement with Wendella’s position on the federal exemption and affirmed Judge Curry’s ruling.



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