

I just like a good, sad song.
The sadder, the better. It moves me.
— John Prine

Pedestrian traffic in Loop down 80% from year ago

BY STEVEN DAHLMAN
Loop North News

If you ever dreamed of holding a soccer match on State St. in the Loop then now is your chance... just watch out for Mayor Lightfoot driving by and telling you to 'get in your home.'

As Chicagoans stay home to curb transmission of COVID-19, the Loop - and many other major commercial corridors across the city - are feeling the impact in a way that can be measured.

Chicago Loop Alliance [CLA], which has been counting pedestrians since 2016, said on April 8 that foot traffic in the Loop on Tuesday, April 7, was 81% less than it was on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

"There's no doubt that activity across the city is declining, but when you have a neighborhood like the Loop, with 370,000 workers and tens of millions of annual visitors but only 20,000 residents, a stay-at-home order hits hard," said Michael Edwards, President/CEO of Chicago Loop Alliance.

Indeed the Loop has not been this quiet and void of people since those downtown fled the area after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001.

"While we are certainly very concerned about the impacts COVID-19 is having on the Loop, we understand the most important thing right now is staying home and saving lives. We are eager to welcome our workers and visitors back to downtown Chicago, and the more we cooperate and come together as a city, the sooner that will be," he said.

A trip downtown reveals a few joggers passing by but few else, and the joggers are all looking over their shoulders in fear of Mayor Lightfoot gaining on them. Police officers are the only people seen at popular tourist destinations like the Water Tower, the Bean, Museum Campus, Millennium and Grant Parks, the lakefront, and Chicago Theater. The formerly bustling Metra and CTA stations are now mostly empty since most Loop workers now telecommute and work from home. One wonders if the majority will find it a permanent solution to their former experience with \$30 parking fees, \$8 an hour parking meters, \$16 salads for lunch and commuter trains that now serve as virus vectors?

According to CLA, there were 42% fewer pedestrians in the Loop on March 14, when the St.



Vehicles and pedestrians pass in front of Macy's on State St. during better times.

Patrick's Day Parade and greening of the Chicago River were cancelled, compared with the day in 2019 on which the events occurred.

The counting is done automatically by equipment made by Springboard, a company based in the United Kingdom. Eighteen counters are installed on both sides of State St. from Wacker Dr. south to Ida B. Wells Dr. Additional counters are at Michigan Ave. and Wacker Dr., Michigan Ave. and Washington St., and in the Pedway.

With fewer pedestrians in the Loop, the organization Streetplus recently took the opportunity to clean and disinfect all furniture, fixtures, and equipment on State Street, including newspaper racks, trash cans, and benches. A long-time vendor of CLA, Streetplus has shifted its focus from helping people with directions, sidewalk sweeping, and graffiti removal, to more thorough cleaning and disinfecting.

Libertarian, Green parties sue over election rules

Petitioning 'practically impossible' during stay-at-home orders

BY REBECCA ANZEL
Capitol News Illinois

Social distancing and stay-at-home orders, instituted to combat the novel coronavirus pandemic, are in direct conflict with Illinois' ballot eligibility requirements, the Libertarian and Green parties of Illinois allege in a lawsuit filed April 2.

Both are considered "new" parties under state election rules, meaning a candidate running for office under those banners must receive a greater number of in-person petition signatures than those with "established" parties — typically, the Democrats and Republicans.

Libertarians and Greens have from March 24 until June 22 to gather enough signatures — in person with a canvasser watching — to qualify for inclusion on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

But party officials allege meeting that threshold will be "practically impossible" given Gov. JB Pritzker's social distancing and stay-at-home orders.

"Even assuming that the governor's emergency orders were lifted on May 1, (the Libertarian and Green parties) and their candidates will have lost over five weeks of petitioning time, or more than one-third of the time allotted to them to collect signatures in person by Illinois law," according to the lawsuit.

The parties are asking that Illinois' signature collection mandates be waived or suspended this general election cycle so their candidates may be on the ballot, and also that the state reimburse their attorney's fees.

Pritzker's office did not respond to separate letters sent from the two parties in mid-March, nor did a spokesperson return a request for comment from this reporter.

The Illinois State Board of Elections, in a letter, said it is unable to assist.

"We appreciate the unique dilemma you present in your letter and understand that you are tasked with the difficult and unprecedented duty of balancing obligations under the Elections Code with safety concerns for candidates, circulators and petition signers alike," the elections board said in court documents. "However, the State Board of Elections does not have the au-

The first time Chicago battled a pandemic we kept the schools open but closed the bordellos

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Don't feel awkward about wearing that mask when you go into a bank. It's quite 'in' now to look like a bank robber these days.

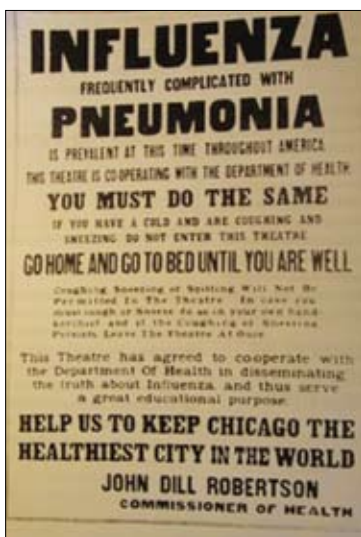
And don't feel deprived about not being able to visit your favorite hangout, by police order.

Our grandparents and great grandparents went through the same thing, for pretty much the same reason. Only they didn't have the Internet, social media and a 24/7 news cycle to frighten the bejeezus out of them.

From Sept. 21 to Nov. 16, 1918, Chicago was on a "lockdown" of its own as doctors wrestled with 38,000 cases of influenza and more than 13,000 pneumonia cases.

Chicago grew to a bustling metropolis of 2.7 million by the time influenza arrived on Sept. 8, 1918, when a few sailors at the nearby Great Lakes Naval Training Station fell ill with the disease. A week later, seven army cadets from Northwestern Univ. came down with influenza. The epidemic had begun.

And although it was called the "Spanish" flu, doctors at the time suspected it probably came from Chinese laborers from Vietnam who had been brought along



Just as our current mayor has done, in 1918 theaters, bars and most other public places and "nonessential" businesses were promptly shut down until further notice.

by the French Army to help dig trenches on the Western Front.

And just to show that neither power nor wealth was spared then or now, the German Kaiser Wilhelm himself came down with a case of the flu, just as England's Prince Charles and Prime Minister Boris Johnson are each recovering at the moment from their own royal bouts of COVID-19.

And don't be annoyed by reminders to stay home if possible

(or at least avoid crowded places) and remember to use the face masks.

Today at least, the worst you'll get is a reminder. But back in 1918, not wearing a mask was illegal, punishable by a fine or worse if you mouthed off to the officer. In other cities like San Francisco, the penalty for being maskless would range from \$5 to \$100 or 10 days jail time — or both, depending on your general attitude.

Here in Chicago, you could also get fined for spitting on the sidewalk or sneezing without covering your face with a handkerchief. Violators who promised to mend their ways would usually be told to go and sin no more. While the unrepentant often went straight to a judge and jail.

Today we're being encouraged to engage in at least six feet of "social distancing," while our grandsires worked at keeping their friends while keeping their distance, preferring to nod, bow or salute neighbors as they passed on the street.

Just as our current mayor, "Auntie" Lightfoot has done, the theaters, bars and most other public places and "nonessential" businesses were promptly shut down until further notice, after

consulting with Health Cmsr Dr. John Dill Robertson and Police Cmsr. John Alcock who initially allowed saloons, theaters, restaurants, streetcars, along with schools and churches to stay open

Today at least, the worst you'll get is a reminder. But back in 1918, not wearing a mask was illegal, punishable by a fine or worse if you mouthed off to the officer. In other cities like San Francisco, the penalty for being maskless would range from \$5 to \$100 or 10 days jail time — or both, depending on your general attitude.

as long as they maintained "proper ventilation." Like today, it was announced that City officials had "the Spanish influenza situation well in hand now." To monitor the situation, Robertson made influenza a reportable disease on Sept. 16, but took no further action until cases jumped later in the month. By Sept. 30, there

PANDEMIC *see p. 8*

ELECTION *see p. 8*

The Skrebneski Chicago eye, he knew when to snap

Victor Skrebneski
1929-2020



By Thomas J. O’Gorman

Some years ago I was having dinner at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill with Rose Marie O’Neill and the Hon. Desmond Guinness. He had travelled here from Dublin for an Irish Georgian Society event at the Casino, and the night was a rare one free in his schedule.

Dinner was crowded for a weekday evening and we were seated further back in the dining room than normal. As we sipped our cocktails and began to talk at length of dear old Dublin a larger group were being seated in the banquet section at Peter Axelsen’s station.

A lovely, swanky array of diners came in from an event in the Polo Store. When I spotted Victor Skrebneski, I recalled there was an event for him there that night. Desmond Guinness asked what all the hoopla was. I said a local celebrity photographer, well esteemed, was arriving with his friends for dinner.

Told the man was the celebrated Victor Skrebneski, without missing a beat, the genteel Desmond said, “Oh my. Victor Skrebneski. I haven’t seen I’m him in 30 years. Since he took some photos of me. What a lovely man. I’d love to say hello.”

I caught Peter Axelsen’s eye and asked him to tell Skrebneski that Desmond Guinness was nearby and would love to come say hello.

Well, within minutes Skrebneski, himself, came over to our table and sat for a few moments



Victor Skrebneski

with easy talk and charm. It perked Desmond up. It delighted Rose and I. Laughs and memories abounded in that surprised, unplanned encounter.

Skrebneski returned to his guests with us wishing we could have had the whole evening together. The presence of two of the world’s most erudite and exotic grandees at the same Chicago dinner table was a stunning moment of kismet. One treasured now even more.

Skrebneski moved through life with the celebrity of an old friend from school, never wishing to cause embarrassment by vulgar measurements of loyalty or false praise.

He counted real friendship like the exposure of a lens. One perfect moment. For one perfect shot.

Life’s sweetness unfolded in freeze frames of truth that contorted the eye, revealing great goodness in nature. Stunning glory when you least expect.

Skrebneski knew just what Chicagoans needed. We want to know who we are. We want to know what we look like. And though he could easily airbrush away unwanted pounds with the ease of erasing an ex-husband or creepy spouse, Skrebneski had little time for doctoring up the x-rays. When he looked through the camera’s lens he did not see a chubby housewife or a glamor

gal. A cheating lover. Or a runaway stunner. He saw a friend. And he knew he was getting an insider’s look at history. Social. Cultural. Political. Financial. Like a Harvard sociologist in the Amazon jungle dodging poison darts.

Skrebneski added truth and glamor to every event for which he was present. A long list of mavens and matrons pruned and preened as he went by, like they were the star of a Marx Brothers’ movie, knowing their application of glamor ripened their chances of being noticed. But Skrebneski’s being there was always important. He was, of course, Chicago’s true “Recorder of Deeds.”

His presence added a certain reality quotient to the unfolding of events. An opera opening. A fashion show. A standing ovation performance on the shoulders of the hog butcher to the world. The Zoo soiree. The Chicago Film Festival, the debutant’s ball. A coming out party. An heiress’s wedding. A charity auction at the Casino. New Year’s Eve at the Racquet Club. Every high-end social soiree. Every charity fundraiser for every cause raised their nose to Skrebneski’s lens. And in an instant every gigolo looked like he came over on the Mayflower. And all the sweet folk from the Gold Coast to Lake Forest shimmered in the flash of Skrebneski’s bulb.

How did he do it? Maintaining his A+ Chicago pedigree from



Desmond Guinness by Skrebneski

birth. His Waller High alumni credentials. His School of the Art Institute degree. His genuine Chicago neighborhood sense of belonging and the affection of generations of Chicago friends.

I suspect there must be some clues embedded in his understanding of just what a celebrity is. His own impeccable self understanding, and his respectful conception that everyone has some glamor to display. And everyone has some talent to capture for all time. He knew just when to snap that photo of Bill and Shelly MacArthur Farley. He found the perfect light and brightness to shoot Dori Wilson. He measured the perfect scale of modernity with which to make Ikram Goldman dazzle. Like a Merlin in the darkroom Skrebneski had his formulas. Artistic visions. Iconic expressions. And timeless sense of form that was unlike any other.

That’s how Skrebneski put Chicago on the map. The photography map. And the humanity map.

Of course Chicago is not New York, Paris, Milan, or Los Angeles. Fortunes are made here in their own way. But since he had Chicago in his blood, he let Chicago shine, shine, shine. And he helped us all understand better who we are. And what we look like. What a gift he has left us. What treasures he has left behind. Stunning glory when you least expect.



Dori Wilson by Skrebneski

NOSHING: Suffering from too much home cooking is optional friends. Look for **Phil Stefani** and his food van with vittles available traveling the city in his psychedelic transport while his 10 restaurants are shuttered... Club Lucky has all the Italian trimmings delivered to your door from their fabulous Bucktown restaurant... Via Carducci on Division near Damen has a top class Italian menu, even gelato and \$2 bottles of wine, a great Chianti delivered... Gibson’s continues with curbside pick up service. Every restaurant you know and love needs you now more than ever.

DR. SANDY: A Silver Lining Foundation benefit, raising funds for breast cancer screenings – always important, but especially now, with many losing their jobs – and thus also their insurance – due to COVID-19. WGN’s **Micah Materre** served as the event’s MC and ASLF Co-Founders **Dr. Sandy Goldberg** and husband,

SKREBNESKI see p. 6

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Here, there, and everywhere

Acts of kindness abound



Heart of the 'Hood

by Felicia Dechter

If there's one silver lining in this big black COVID-19 cloud, it's the generous spirit and acts of kindness - big and small - coming from around our resilient, big-shouldered city.

Here are a few of the many stories out there, of caring, lending a helping hand, and showing how when the going gets tough, the tough get going... to work on making this world a better place.

River North resident Brian Galati is one of those people. As co-owner of the Machine Hospitality Group, which in turn owns Machine Engineered Dining & Drink, 1846 W. Division St., Galati and his business partner, Chirreal Jordan, have kept their employees working by holding meal giveaways and feeding their fellow hospitality workers. They've also been dropping off food at area hospitals for health care providers and have held food drives for the Lakeview Pantry. And on a table outside of their business, they give away flowers and mini-bouquets, "to put a smile on people's faces," said Galati.

"[We] feel it's important to give back," said Galati. "It's important to inspire other people to also contribute by initiating their own acts of kindness."

So far, the pair has given out about 200 meals to hospitality workers. "A lot of people are without jobs," said Galati. "This is just our way of getting together and making sure our own are taken care of."

Besides feeding their comrades, approximately 5,000 cans of food they collected was donated to the Lakeview Pantry, along with about 1,000 hygiene products. "It's just awesome," Galati said of the bighearted donations of others. "Especially at a time when everybody is stressed out."

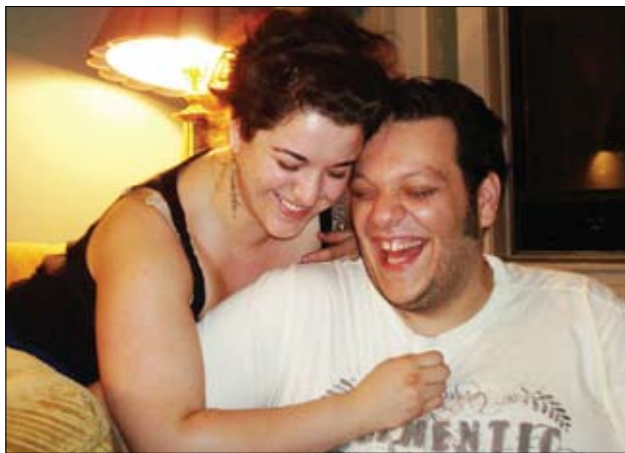
Then there are the floral giveaways, which happen randomly. Using discounted flowers from Kennicott Chicago, (which already provides the products for their in-restaurant florist shop), Galati and Jordan attach positive notes and put the blossoms out in front on a table, where they're there for the taking. One woman told Galati that she was having the worst week and had asked God for a sign that things would be OK. The flowers were just that.

"People need food, but they also need a smile," said Galati. "At least we can create a smile and warm their heart a little bit. There's a lot that can be done with one simple gesture."

Galati stressed that he's not the only one in the business taking up donations. Chicago has a very giving and kind hospitality scene. For him however, it's more than



Much appreciated meals are delivered to health care workers at St. Mary Hospital on West Division Street.



Local performers Sophie Grimm and Vasily Deris are making beautiful music and entertaining folks from home on Facebook Live at 6 p.m. on Saturday nights.

just paying it forward. It's "contagious giving."

"Hopefully I'm setting a tone," said Galati. "One thing we could do could inspire a hundred others."

"Popularizing kindness is the most important take away for us," added Galati. "If we are noticed for being a giving company, we hope that inspires a contagious outpouring of other businesses and people doing the same. When they are noticed, perhaps that starts a chain that affects millions of people."

Galati realizes that right now it's hard to give, as we're all struggling to make ends meet.

"That's what makes the giving that much more powerful," he said. "Giving when you don't have much is a true sacrifice for the betterment of others, giving when you have a lot is great but it's a lot easier to do. During this crisis we are seeing people with very little giving back and that to me is the blessing amidst all this chaos," he said. "It's a beautiful thing to see humanity stepping up and sacrificing for each other."

"My business partner has a quote he always says and it fits this movement, 'Make love cool again.' So be kind, open up your heart, give and continue to sacrifice for the greater good, and most importantly, 'Make love cool again.'"

Two furloughed singing servers/bartenders from Davenport's Piano & Cabaret Bar in Wicker Park are belting out tunes from home and sharing it live through their Facebook pages at 6 p.m. on Saturday nights.

Calling it '6 AT 6', Sophie Grimm and Vasily Deris come on at 6 p.m. and sing six songs. I caught them last week and loved seeing Deris sing Tom Jones' "It's Not Unusual," and Grimm performing "The Girl From Ipanema."

For years, the couple have both been professional actors and singers, working on stages from the Broadway-caliber, Paramount Theatre in Aurora to music venues including City Winery and the Auditorium Theatre.

"Being an artist who performs live for amazing audience members on a regular basis, whether singing jazz, pop or cabaret, right now that is something that seems impossible to do - until we decided to start doing these Facebook Live '6 at 6' shows," said Grimm.

The dynamic duo met seven years ago this week (Happy anniversary!), when Deris was performing in the Theo Ubiq production of "Smokey Joe's Café," at The Royal George Theatre. As fate would have it, Grimm was sitting in the front row VIP caba-

ret table that she and her friend had been put in last-minute to fill in for a VIP who couldn't make the show. Deris approached her afterward, and they hit it off from there.

A few years later, after they'd had been dating a while, Deris joined the Davenport's team -- where Grimm had already been working -- as a singing server and bartender. Soon enough, they were doing their own cabaret, featuring songs and stories they wanted to share.

Now, every Saturday, they decide on a theme to play from and choose six songs that mean something to them, for whatever reason.

"This connects us to the people we have met -- or not met -- over the years, now, through performances directly to their living room, speaking to them as though we are in together as we curate bits of performance and song that we may not have had before the COVID-19 pandemic," said Grimm. "And, as both of us have made our money entirely from the performance and service industry before all of this quarantine life, virtual tips through Venmo, PayPal, Zelle or even through the mail can help us pay the bills that are landing in our laps right now and beyond while we have no regular form of income."

During the quarantine, Grimm

has still been able to coach, give lessons, assist and produce art. For that, she said, she is thankful.

"The people we do this for are grateful right back and I must say, as strange and hard as this time in history is, without art I know it would be so much harder and as artists, this is our job, our livelihood and passion," Grimm said. "So doing '6 AT 6' will continue until we are back doing what we do most Saturday nights, which is performing live at different venues, private parties, churches and theaters."

"But in the meantime it's a wonderful thing to keep us remembering that we all want to connect and we all can through art -- and will again."

Sometimes, even a small gesture can be very significant. Such is the case with the generosity of Edgewater resident Kristina Griswold.

Griswold was at her local Aldi, on Broadway in Edgewater,

HERE see p. 6

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Police Beat...

North Side man charged with pushing ex-Marine to his death at Loop Red Line station

A North Center man was charged Saturday with murder for allegedly pushing a former Marine into the path of a Red Line CTA train in the Loop this week.

Ryan Munn, 18, was arrested at his home on the 2100 block of W. Bradley on April 11. Police said he was identified as the person who punched and pushed 29-year-old Mamadou Balde from the Jackson station platform around 5:13 p.m. April 7.

A CTA worker said Balde, age 29, was dragged to his death after being pushed between two cars of a southbound train.

Police officers who work near the Magnificent Mile reviewed video of the attack and immediately identified two suspects by name because the cops had previous encounters with the pair.

Munn, a former Lakeview High School student, was due in bond court on Sunday.

Among other run-ins with police, Munn was captured on video as he and six others raided a Gold Coast convenience store last September. More than \$2,265 worth of merchandise was taken, but Munn was never charged in the case.

Footage documents fatal police-involved shooting in Lakeview

Investigators who are exploring the fatal shooting of a man by police in Lakeview two months ago have just released 23 audio and video files as well as CPD reports that document the case. This reporter has screened hours of the newly-released footage and is sharing key parts of the video in this report.

The files, posted by the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, include footage from two officers' body-worn cameras, squad car dashcam video, private security camera images, and audio files.

Officers responded to the 3600 block of N. Ashland around 5:15 a.m. on Feb. 9 after the owner of late-night bar Tai's Til 4 called 911 to report a disturbance, according to an earlier statement by Ald. Tom Tunney [44th].

Police convinced two quarreling men to

separate and walk away, but one of them — identified as 31-year-old Jeremy Grayson — opened fire on the other moments later as police stood nearby.

Video released by COPA shows Grayson telling officers that the other man threatened to kill him inside the bar, but other footage shows a witness telling officers that Grayson was the one who threatened violence.

Cops spent several minutes trying to convince Grayson to call it a night: "You're an older man. I can tell you're mature," one officer tells him.

The second man walks away, but Grayson continues talking with officers as a third man approaches while carrying a small bag. The two then turn and head north on Ashland Ave., in the same direction as the other man.

"The other guy's across the street," one cop says, adding he thought either Grayson or the third man "did gang signs on me."

The officers shout out to Grayson and the third man as they apparently approach the second man down the street. As the cops prepare to move down the street in their squad cars, gunfire is heard.

A surveillance camera captured images of Grayson firing his gun.

Grayson shot the man he allegedly threatened to kill earlier, according to police.

Both officers sped after Grayson as he ran from the shooting scene and into an alley.

Grayson then opens fire on officers as they peek out of an alley on the 1600 block of W. Waveland. The cops return fire. Grayson is soon found lying motionless between two cars on the street. A gun is found under his body.

One video tracks the incident from the final moments of Grayson's engagement with police outside Tai's through the officers' exchange of gunfire with Grayson, the discovery of Grayson lying on the pavement, and some following activity. CPD dashcam footage records the sound of Grayson's gunfire as officers return to their vehicles. At least 17 shots are heard. The video ends as officers search for Grayson near Ashland and Waveland. Officer bodycam footage recorded the moment as Grayson shoots at police. At least one officer fires back, then moves in to find Grayson unresponsive on the pavement.

Woman accused of stealing COVID-fighting materials from hospital complains about lack of COVID-fighting materials in county jail

Jessica Huff allegedly stole piles of hand sanitizer, high-grade face masks, gloves, and disinfectant wipes from storage areas and patient rooms at the Univ. of Chicago Hospital last month as the COVID-19 outbreak surged.

Huff was a patient at U of C at the time. Police allegedly found the hoard of life-saving materials in her room, ostensibly where she could have access to it while others could not.

She's been held in the county jail since then on a burglary charge as well as on an outstanding warrant from DuPage County.

On April 10 CBS2 News aired a sob story piece from Jessica, who took to the airwaves to complain about an alleged lack of face masks, gloves, and other protective equipment in the jail hospital.

Isn't that ironic? Reporter Brad Edwards called 38-year-old Huff "a woman who likely shouldn't be" in jail.

"I fear for my life," Huff said in a jailhouse phone call that Edwards recorded.

"I have a heart condition," she said. And asthma, Edwards adds.

For some reason, Channel 2 didn't tell viewers that Huff is accused of stealing loads of the exact

same protective products that were supposed to be helping healthcare workers and patients stay safe inside a major hospital. Prosecutors say she also stole personal property from patients and nurses at U of C. Credit cards, cellphones, and other items that belonged to fellow patients were allegedly found in Huff's hospital room.

The hammer came down after a 90-year-old woman told hospital workers that Huff had just stolen from her. Of course, elderly people have an especially high risk of dying from COVID-19. Ironic, again.

"I was just in isolation for 24 hours for COVID because my roommate had severe symptoms of it," Huff whimpered to Edwards. "She's still in isolation."

DuPage County quashed its warrant for Huff's arrest around the time of Edwards' report and Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart "brought her case to the state's attorney and public defenders' offices," Edwards said.

As of April 11, Huff is not listed as an inmate at Cook County Jail.

There's no word on where she has gone so soon after allegedly being "in isolation for 24 hours for COVID." Quarantining for the disease typically runs for 14 days.

Huff has six felony convictions. She's also on bond for separate felonies in DuPage, Williamson, and Grundy counties. Those details were also not included in the TV report.

Rogers Park child sex offender is 2nd jail inmate to die from COVID-19

A registered sex offender who was awaiting trial for sexually assaulting a boy in Rogers Park is the second detainee to die at Cook County Jail from COVID-19 complications, according to court records and the Cook County Medical Examiner.

Leslie S. Pieroni, 51, was pronounced dead at 5:51 p.m. April 9 at St. Anthony's Hospital.

We reported the latest allegations against Pieroni in Dec. 2018. Pieroni was already in the state's sex offender registry for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old in 2003 when prosecutors accused him of repeatedly sexually assaulting another 12-year-old boy in the apartment complex where Pieroni worked as a janitor.

Pieroni threatened to kill the boy if he told anyone about the series of assaults, according to court records.

The attacks allegedly began around Nov. 15, 2018, on the 1700 block of W. Estes. Pieroni touched the boy's private areas on "numerous occasions," police said. When the victim backed away from one encounter, Pieroni allegedly said, "Come here! Come here. If you tell any one I'll kill your family."

Pieroni also sent text messages to the boy and ordered him to delete the messages after receiving them, police said.

State records show Pieroni was convicted in 2003 of two counts of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child under 13-years-old. He was sentenced to eight years in prison on one count and seven years on the second count. Records show Pieroni was discharged from parole on Dec. 3, 2016.

CTA security guard ran from Red Line shooting, hid gun, claimed girl shot him

New details have emerged in the April 9 accidental shooting aboard the CTA Red Line near Belmont.

Eric Camp, a 38-year-old guard who was working for a CTA security contractor, was shot in the leg and a 16-year-old girl suffered a graze wound after a gun in Camp's jacket pocket fired during a physical altercation on a southbound train around 4 a.m., police said. Camp and his partner were asking the girl to stop panhandling on the train, according to a CPD report.

Prosecutors charged Camp with felony aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, misdemeanor possession of a firearm, and an unspecified municipal violation.

Police spotted Camp and his security partner as they ran away from the CTA station on the 3100 block of N. Sheffield moments after the incident. Camp and the other guard allegedly told officers that they were chasing the girl because she shot Camp.

In fact, the girl remained on the train platform. And Camp didn't tell officers that she was injured, according to cops.

Camp came clean about what really happened after officers found his gun in a nearby trash can, according to police.

The security contractor, Digby's Detective & Security Agency, said that Camp and his partner "have been removed from their positions during an investigation."

Camp was released from custody on his own recognizance during a bond hearing April 10.

The girl is charged with two felony counts of aggravated battery of a transit employee in connection with the incident. Prosecutors also charged her with felony robbery and felony aggravated battery in a public place in connection with an earlier robbery at the Roosevelt Red Line station.

Teens attack, rob man on Red Line train in Loop; third violent attack on downtown train in April

A group of teenagers attacked and robbed a man as they rode a CTA Red Line train in the Loop April 9, police said. No arrests have been made.

The victim, age 25, was on a northbound train between the Roosevelt and Jackson stations when one of the teens pushed him into the wall of the train and took valuables from his pockets around 12:15 a.m., according to CPD spokesperson Karie James.

Another teen then struck the victim and the primary offender punched the victim in the face, James said.

According to the victim, the robber is a white male with blond hair and cuts on his arms who stands about 5'-10" tall and wore a gray hoodie. He fled from the train at Jackson. Area Central detectives are investigating.

Thursday's robbery is the latest in a string of violent incidents on the Red Line downtown. And the suspect descriptions are similar in each of the attacks.

On April 7, former Marine Mamadou Balde of Rogers Park died after being pushed from behind on the Jackson Red Line Platform as a train passed by.

On April 2, three people attacked a 59-year-old man and pushed him onto the Red Line tracks at Roosevelt. The offenders were described as a white man in his 20's who stands 5'-9" tall and wore a white hoodie with a design on the front; a 6'-tall black male who wore a black hoodie; and a black female in her 20's who weighs about 300 pounds and wore a camouflage hoodie.

No arrests have been announced in connection with any of the incidents.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

We don't seem to be able to check crime, so why not legalize it and then tax it out of business?

— Will Rogers

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Virus sparks real estate innovations like digital closings



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Back in the day, long before the virus plagued Chicago's once-thriving real estate market, the closing of property sales transactions often was filled with high finance, drama and sometimes comedy.

The late Marshall J. Moltz, one of the top residential real estate attorneys in the Windy City, was so talented and honest even famed newspaper columnist Mike Royko hired Moltz to represent his buying a \$1-million property.

Moltz, who often talked about writing a book titled: "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Closing," told this yarn back in the 1980s:

The deal involved a suspicious Eastern European buyer who was convinced the fast-talking seller's attorney was about to cheat him

over real estate tax prorations and various other confusing financials outlined in the fine print of the closing statement.

"When the seller's attorney pushed the closing papers across the desk and urged the buyer to sign without questioning the bottom line, the potential purchaser leaped up from his chair and pulled a .45-caliber automatic from his overcoat," Moltz recalled.

"No one move until Marshall J. Moltz goes over the numbers," said the wooly-mustached buyer while politely tipping his fedora.

Unfortunately, because of restrictions caused by the coronavirus, open houses and the once essential—and often colorful—face-to-face real estate closing may soon be a forgotten memory.

Some brokers are already utilizing "curbside closings" which are held at satellite offices and in parking lots of title companies. The home buyer or seller (or both) stays in his or her automobile and a title company messenger delivers the closing papers from the office to the car. The party has about 10 minutes to sign the papers and the messenger returns to

pick them up and deliver them to the closer.

The virus economy also sparked the introduction an innovation called the "human-free" real estate closing and the concept is being pitched to Chicago's residential brokers and home buyers.

"We have a new human-free, entirely digital mortgage experience all the way through closing," noted Victor Ciardelli, President & CEO, Guaranteed Rate Companies.

"Our concern is the safety and well-being of our employees, customers, and broker partners," Ciardelli said. "Real estate agents now must be concerned about how to accommodate customers safely through the home-buying process."

Guaranteed Rate is offering an entirely digital mortgage application process buyers can utilize to purchase a home that requires "absolutely no human interaction" even through closing. No N-95 masks, latex gloves or hand sanitizer is needed. The process uses a suite of digital tools that can not only enable social distancing, but are also efficient. Prospective buyers fill out a digital mortgage

application using their computerized income and asset verification tools to simplify the documentation required for their loan.

Some brokers are already utilizing "curbside closings" which are held at satellite offices and in parking lots of title companies. The home buyer or seller (or both) stays in his or her automobile and a title company messenger delivers the closing papers from the office to the car.

The process also includes a digital e-closing innovation called "FlashClose" that lets the buyer close their loan from the comfort and safety of their own home without a mortgage broker's participation. FlashClose, a 2020 Housing Wire Tech100 award winner, helped Guaranteed Rate close 23,000 loans in 2019, said Ciardelli.

They also offer a digital appraisal system that doesn't re-

quire an appraiser to enter the home and is 100% free from human interaction.

"Technology allows us to seamlessly keep our workflow moving at full force, with large numbers of folks working remotely without missing a beat," said Ciardelli. "We have separated purchase teams from refinance teams in order to prioritize purchases and maintain quick turn-times."

2020 market recovery stalls

The virus caused a number of homes under contract in nine key North Side neighborhoods to drop 31% during March compared with March 2019 according to Baird & Warner's April 2020 North Side Market Analysis.

When looking at market activity by price point, luxury homes took the biggest hit with a 52.7% drop in pending contracts, Baird & Warner reported.

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.

Yes, you can go out and use some parks

BY CWBCHICAGO

The city's leading pro-parks organization says Chicago police are promising to not run people out of open neighborhood parklands after widespread complaints of uneven and confusing enforcement of Mayor Lori Lightfoot's COVID-19 orders.

And, Friends of the Parks went a step further by issuing a list of 10 parks that it says are the best for maintaining physical distancing while enjoying some outdoor exercise.

"We received numerous complaints of police shutting down parks at will, even when they weren't particularly busy," the group said in a press release April 7. "This is contributing to confusion that already exists."

The group contacted the Chicago Park District, which in turn received a "commitment from the Chicago Police Department to communicate across its system that it is not ok to say that parks had been closed when they are not among those covered by the mayor's order."

Chicago police have been flooded with complaints from 911 callers who seemingly don't realize that most city parks are open for the public to safely enjoy during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Many people have complained that cops are chasing them out of parks when they are properly distanced. One North Side man told this reporter that officers forced him and his daughter out of Welles Park on Sunday. They were playing catch and, even better, they were the only two people in the entire park, the man said.

With springtime weather slowly returning and no end in sight for the state's stay-at-home order, FOTP recommended ten parks

that are underutilized, accessible from many directions and "might not be too crowded."

Chicago police have been flooded with complaints from 911 callers who seemingly don't realize that most city parks are open for the public to safely enjoy during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Here are a few of their recommended spots for grabbing fresh air, clearing your mind, and maybe even catching a little sunshine:

- West Ridge Natural Area, 5601 N. Western, boasts trails, boardwalks, and a fishing area,

the group says. The 21-acre spread is a fairly recent park conversion. It used to be part of Rosehill Cemetery.

- Dunning Read Conservation Area, 4200 N. Oak Park, features 25 acres of wetlands and woodlands that are in the process of being turned over to the park district after FOTP saved it from a developer. "It's hard to find, so it doesn't get a lot of use, which makes it the perfect place to visit now," the group says. Wear hiking boots and be prepared for lots of plant growth, some coyotes, and friendly bird watchers.

- Garfield Park, 300 N. Central, is well-known for its conservatory, but local advocates say "most visitors never venture south of

Lake St. to take in other parts of the beautiful park." There is one warning: "Lots of geese that are not good at social distancing."

Rounding out the group's Top 10 list:

- Schafer Park/Urban Growers Collective, 9000 S. Green Bay
- Big Marsh Park, 11555 S. Stony Island
- Douglas Park, 1401 S. Sacramento
- Marquette Park, 6700 S. Kedzie
- Sherman Park, 1301 W. 52nd
- Riis Park, 6100 W. Fullerton
- Dan Ryan Woods, 83rd St. at S. Western Ave.

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2800 N Lake Shore Drive, Unit 308
Immaculate modern one bedroom with walk-in closet, hardwood floors throughout, walk-in closet, master bedroom, and fantastic storage space. Building features 24-hour door staff, fitness center, outdoor pool, rooftop deck and party room.

3550 N Lake Shore Drive, Unit 2211
This condo features beautiful gray wood floors throughout, a cook's kitchen with white shaker soft-close cabinets, white & gray subway tile backsplash, LED under-cabinet lighting, undermount sink & a full range of stainless steel appliances, along with a breakfast bar. Gorgeous bathroom with new floor & wall tile & vanity.

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SKREBNESKI from p. 2

Greg Hines, were on hand for a most successful evening.

PAX TIBI: Whitey Pearson was a total Chicago legend. Like **Orestes “Minnie” Miñoso**, **Jim Moran**, **Studs Lonergan**, **Dan Rostenkowski**, or **George Dunne**. He died last week and broke a lot of hearts. Have you ever been to Gene and Georgetti’s or Gibson’s? Or roamed Wells St., Division? Or made a visit to Butch McGuire’s over the last 50 years? Then you saw Whitey even if you did not know him. He was generous. Probably bought you a drink, or flirted with your girlfriend, or presided over the conversation with humor and a wry wit. You never had to ask why he was given the ubiquitous nickname. But you knew this much, everyone in the room took unique delight in



Whitey Pearson

Whitey. He roamed the watering holes of Rush St. and the restaurants of Old Town with a posse of Chicago grandees whose lives, like his, ranged from commerce, industry, entertainment and comedy. He acted with wide wisdom for a cut-up in his 80s and gave others with less verve something to aspire to. Whitey was one of a kind. The old-fashioned kind. A friend for life, loyal forever, with a wide eye for the ladies. And never slow to reach for the check. He was Chicago through and through. A life filled with the sagas of his Division St. adventures and a thousand kindnesses to those in need. I think he was so well liked because in many ways he was our image of what a real Chicagoan is. Wirey and tough on the outside; soft as marshmallow on the inside. Mr. Hospitality always ready to make you feel at home. Whitey had little time for the sluggos and nay-sayers who scoffed at Chicago’s style of goodness. Always surrounded by a bevy of handsome maids, Whitey was a bright beam of Chicago charm. Rest easy, Sir. Your goodness goes before you.

HOLLYWOOD BEAT: Shirley Douglas, the impassioned Canadian activist and veteran actress who was mother to actor **Kiefer Sutherland** and daughter of Canada medicare founder **Tommy Douglas**, died last week at 86.

WHO’S LOCKED DOWN: Chaz Ebert reflecting and missing dear **Roger Ebert** seven years now since his death... **Shaun Rajah** startling everyone with his radical transformation with way less hair, a great look for the Drake Hotel’s main man... Maestro **Rich Daniels** joining wife **Kathie** in a home birthday celebration... Supporting Chicago restaurants 20 lbs. at a time, columnist **Candace Jordan** has dinner in the bag, with love and thank you for Gene & Georgetti’s Chicago re-opening... Attorney **Dan Balanoff** home isolating like we must, but still making a fabulous Sunday brunch, please pass the French Toast... **Matt Thompson** sending a snap of the three Thompson lads wearing the facemasks that **Grandma Thompson** made for them... **Greyson Olley**, the wonder dog, relaxing and social distancing at Olley Manor, quite nice... Yes, that was writer **Sherrill** and **John Bodine** caught red-handed eating Pete’s stuffed pizza in the screened-in porch... **Sophia du Brul** serving up rare Prime Rib of Beef in their home quarantine, majestic... **Stephanie Leese Emrich** celebrating her Month-a-Versary with **Jeffrey Emrich**, 164 Months. Sequestered yet not without adventure. They celebrate and acknowledge every month since their first date... **Jim Kinney** and **Brian White**



The late Roger Ebert and wife, Chaz.

are now officially the Zoom kings of the Gold Coast, as they trend set Chicago-style with “keeping up appearances” by dressing for “candlelight suppers” and cocktails and maintaining the social order under the most adverse of circumstances and encouraging others to follow.

THIS IN FROM NEWSY ANNE KAVANAGH: “God Bless the **Queen**. Ninety-four-years-young. Reassuring Britons in this time of trouble in such a calm and compassionate way. We Americans need to hear words like this too... So we will adopt the Queen as our own for the moment, after all we once were a colony. She is amazing.”

TIDBIT: Joe O’Hare was an erudite Jesuit priest, a consummate New Yorker, a son of the Bronx (his father was a patrolman in the N.Y.P.D. Mounted Unit). His



Shaun Rajah

Chicago alumni can tell you, he was President of Fordham Univ. I knew him well when I was an editor at The World of Hibernia. He came to all our grand events, proud that his protege, **Tom Farley**, then a 24-year-old Fordham alum, who ran the show at our magazine. We remember being in his company years ago while meeting the Trumps. We both had to high-tail it over to historian **Arthur Schlesinger** and Mayor **Ed Koch** after that. Joe died last week and went to God. “See you on the other side,” he loved to say. I’m planning on it.

PPE: My pandemic mask arrived, hanging from a tree branch in my garden, thanks to **Lauren Lein**. She has been busy recalibrating her fashion enterprise into a much needed fashion factory making face masks for health care personnel. She has been dis-

Rogers Park Township
Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR JPMORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST 2006-CH1; ASSET BACKED PASS-
SCRIBED MORTGAGED REAL ESTATE:
Plaintiff,
vs.
SONIA E. AGUILAR AKA SONIA E. GONZALEZ AKA SONIA E. GONZALEZ AGUILAR; JOSE V. AGUILAR;
Defendants,
19 CH 2689
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 Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 11-31-414-004-0000.
Commonly known as 1759 West Albion Ave., Chicago, IL 60626.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 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. Anthony Porto at Plaintiff’s Attorney, Kluever & Platt, L.L.C., 150 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SPS000053-19FC1
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13150057

151515

080808

010101

tributing them at local Chicago hospitals and triage locales, but they’re not available in stores. I’ll also wear it watching “Outlander.” Looks Royal Stuart tartan, so it’s appropriate. (Though the plaid police tell me its actually the Wallace tartan). You get the drift. I’m not taking it off.

BARB BAILEY WRITES: “Le Piano!” The Jazz club where I performed Tally Jo Baby on Feb 26, was converted into a disposable mask factory, producing 1000’s of masks, installing them, free of charge, in racks at multiple neighborhood

HERE from p. 3

where, by the way, “They are doing everything right,” she said. They’re sanitizing every cart, wearing protective gear, and only allowing 50 people in at a time.

Anyway, a gentleman in front of Griswold in the checkout line was \$10 short and none of his credit cards were working. “I asked him to step back for a minute and put my card in,” said Griswold. “He thanked me over and over again.”

The cashier told Griswold that this sort of thing has been happening a lot lately. Nothing on a grand scale but worth a thank you nonetheless.

“I’m glad we can take care of each other,” said Griswold. “I have been blessed in life. I’ve gone through really rough times -- to the point of a son almost dying. I have gotten through those times because of other’s kindness.

“I will always step up if I can to help another person,” she added. “I looked at the man’s cart it was essential stuff. I had no problem helping.”



Kristina Griswold

grocery stores in Rogers Park. “Le Piano” is now desperately seeking funding and/or underwriting to support their roster of artists. Please consider a donation to this worthwhile endeavor. <https://rogerspark.com/community/457-chicago-jazz-club-converts-to-disposable-mask-factory>.

Portraits are the most intimate photographs. The image will survive the subject.

-- Victor Skrebneski

tog515@gmail.com

Keep off the grass... Last week on Tuesday was a beautiful day, so much in fact that enthusiastic walkers, careless joggers, too close bike riders, and everyone else came out to play in closed Loyola Park.

(Not all parks are closed, but Loyola is one that is.)

The following day, big blue saw horses were erected on the sidewalks and yellow caution tape was wrapped around the park’s exercise equipment. The message was clear: Keep out!

But that didn’t stop some people. By Saturday, some of the yellow tape had been ripped down and by Sunday, a few undaunted exercisers were back, touching

the metal equipment that had been used by countless others.

Please stay healthy by listening to our governor and mayor. We appreciate that the Chicago Park District took swift action, even though folks are still using what must be majorly germ-infested exercise equipment. (Think Mr. T, “I pity the fool.”) Yellow tape means caution, and closed means closed.

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

151515

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC;
Plaintiff,
vs.
CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK & TRUST COMPANY OF CHICAGO AS TRUSTEE UNDER A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 16, 1984 AND KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 60669; STREETERVILLE CENTER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; BANKFINANCIAL, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS S/I/I TO SUCCESS NATIONAL BANK; JOHN MARKAY; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF CHICAGO LAND TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK & TRUST COMPANY OF CHICAGO, AS TRUSTEE UNDER A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 16, 1984

Real Estate For Sale

AND KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 60669; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A CERTAIN TRUST AGREEMENT DATED JANUARY 26, 2011 AND KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 8002356492; CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A CERTAIN TRUST AGREEMENT DATED JANUARY 26, 2011 AND KNOWN AS TRUST NUMBER 8002356492; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
19 CH 11378
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, May 19, 2020 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 17-10-203-027-1009 and 17-10-203-027-

Real Estate For Sale

1010.
Commonly known as 233 East Erie Street, Units 909 & 910, 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 Law Clerk at Plaintiff’s Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W19-0527
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13149851

080808

010101

Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

080808

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
ABS LOAN TRUST V
Plaintiff,
-v.-
IRENE D. PIETRUCZYK AKA IRENE PIETRUCZYK, NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, HOLLYWOOD TOWERS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION
Defendants,
18 CH 07521
5701 N. SHERIDAN RD., UNIT 6K
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 December 9, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on May 13, 2020, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 5701 N. SHERIDAN RD., UNIT 6K, CHICAGO, IL 60660
Property Index No. 14-05-407-017-1248
The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.
The judgment amount was \$37,814.56.
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.
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Real Estate For Sale

foreclosure sales.
For information, HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 111 East Main Street, DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 323467.
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.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
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111 East Main Street
DECATUR, IL, 62523
217-422-1719
Fax #: 217-422-1754
E-Mail: CookPleadings@hsbattys.com
Attorney File No. 323467
Attorney Code. 40387
Case Number: 18 CH 07521
TJSC#: 39-7790
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 # 18 CH 07521
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Hot meals from Friendship Center

Hot meals are now available 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays at the Lincoln Square Friendship Center, located at 2711 W. Lawrence Ave.

They also are open every third Sat. of the month from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. for their Pet Pantry services - the next distribution is April 18.

All of their services are pre-packaged, grab and go style, in order to practice social distancing.

They are now seeking donations

of clean, virus-free grocery bags, liquid hand soap, toiletries of all kinds, bread and jelly, and fresh produce of any type.

They say that they have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of volunteer support from the community, but in order to practice safe social distancing, they are keeping volunteer groups small, and do not want people to just show up to volunteer. Contact alex@friendshipcenterchicago.org if you are interested in

signing up for a volunteer shift.

They have started doing delivery to some clients who are homebound or self-quarantined, and are making these deliveries on Friday afternoons. Those with a vehicle interested in helping with this can volunteer on Friday afternoons, contact ross@friendshipcenterchicago.org. All drop-offs are curbside, no-one is permitted to go inside a client's home.

Transforming your business from analog to online

Those who may have seen their personal business destroyed by the COVID-19 virus forced shut down, and are now considering moving their business online, can sign up for a free online business seminar 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 17, to learn about Google My Business, a free tool for local businesses who want to connect with customers.

Moderated by JinJa Birkenbeuel, CEO Birk Creative, viewers will get hands-on help creating or updating a business profile or a simple website, and learn how to edit your profile, temporarily close your business, continue to share information and content to build, sustain or keep your brand vibrant.

The seminar is free and produced by the Chicago Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection. They hope to show people how to create or claim a Business Profile on Google; manage your business info across Google Search and Maps, and use Google My Business to connect with potential customers. There is a chance you will be shown how to create a free website using the info from your business profile.

For more information visit www.chicago.gov/businessworkshops.

PANDEMIC from p. 1

were 260 cases in the city. By Oct. 15, all theaters, movie houses, and night schools were to close immediately for an indefinite period, and all lodge meetings and other similar gatherings were prohibited. Theatergoers, however, were promptly asked to leave if they kept coughing and sneezing – as were transit users who repeatedly spit on the streetcar and “L” floors. As the epidemic continued, the theaters were closed, along with skating rinks, nickelodeons, night schools and lodge halls.

According to a Chicago Tribune reporter of the day, an “Emergency Commission” created to deal with the crisis promptly shut down all the dance halls “because of the close contact between dancers... and the frequent chilling of the body that was to follow” if... ahem, clothes were later removed.

And like the present day, nurses were in high demand. On Oct. 11, the Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross issued an urgent call for volunteer nurses.

The death toll from the Spanish Flu actually appeared to hit the white community harder than the black community. The white population of the city experienced an increase in deaths of 2,610% over the previous year, while the African American population experienced an increase of only 1,400%.

Roberston attributed the difference to the intrinsic immunity to influenza and pneumonia among the city’s African American population, but in reality, the discrepancy was likely due to racial disparities in Chicago’s health care and access: African

We didn’t learn

After suffering a severe nursing shortage during the Spanish Flu, on Feb. 18, 1919, a new nursing bill was introduced in the Illinois General Assembly that provided for a one-year course of training for practical nurses. It granted authority to the State Board of Registration to license those who passed the training, and made it illegal to pose as a registered nurse unless entitled to do so.

On July 21, 1919, Chicago’s Training School for Home and Public Health Nursing opened its doors. Nearly 800 women completed the inaugural class,

and within two years some 3,000 women had passed the course. When influenza returned in 1920, 600 of these graduates answered the call for volunteers, exactly as Health Commissioner Robertson had hoped they would. The program worked so well that Robertson instituted a second similar program in connection with the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium in 1920.

Never again would Chicago be faced with a critical shortage of nurses during a time of need. Well, until 2020 that is.

American Chicagoans were already much more likely to die of disease than their white counterparts. Epidemic influenza, a disease that did not respect color or socioeconomic lines, therefore only appeared to attack whites with more virulence. A clear case of deception by data.

The rationale for keeping the public schools open, curiously, was that the children were better off where they could be watched for symptoms by teachers and promptly sent home. In fact, the children eventually started dying at a higher rate than their parents.

According to some reports, two young

ELECTION from p. 1

thority to grant you the relief you request.”

It would take a court order or the General Assembly amending current law to address this concern, an elections board spokesperson said.

Rich Whitney and Bennett Morris, chairs of the Green and Libertarian parties, respectively, each said this lawsuit is a matter of upholding democracy.

Candidates running as Democrats or Republicans already have a guaranteed spot on the general election ballot. Under statute, the parties were allowed to petition in autumn and candidates were chosen in the March primary election. Those running under the banner of a “new” party or independent must collect petition signatures in the spring.

“It’s normal for us to be on the ballot — we’re good at it despite the obstacles that are put in place,” Morris said. “I think if there aren’t Libertarians, Greens or any independents allowed on the ballot in November, we do not have a democratic process and we do not have a legitimate election.”

An “established” party candidate for president, for example, needs at least 3,000 signatures or more if someone challenges their validity. That same person would need

5,000 signatures to run for U.S. Senate.

Independents or those in a “new” party, including Libertarians and Greens, need at least 25,000 signatures for both positions. Whitney said candidates in his party often collect at least 40,000 signatures.

He added it is “ridiculous” that in both cases, candidates have 90 days to gather the required number.

“What this means is that the minority parties — the new parties trying to break through and become established — are unfairly burdened and their campaigns are unfairly burdened. They have fewer resources because of all the time spent petitioning,” Whitney said.

Illinois’ signature requirements were established in 1891 and were not, according to the lawsuit, “substantially updated or improved ... despite the availability of less burdensome alternatives enabled by modern technology.”

Voters in Arizona and New Jersey can sign candidates’ petitions electronically and those in Denver, and the District of Columbia can use an application called E-Sign, which validates signatures against voter rolls. Those initiatives would be in line with executive orders issued by Pritzker, allowing public notaries to work through a two-way video, according to the lawsuit.

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