

Two hour response time for robbery? No cops available for man shot on the street? Detectives pulled from cases to patrol Lollapalooza?

Welcome to Chicago 2021

BY CWBCHICAGO

After armed robbery crews swept across the downtown in July, striking five times on July 27, then robbing 14 more people two days later, Chicago police leaders did the unthinkable: They took most of the city's robbery detectives away from their investigations to patrol Lollapalooza.

For more than three straight minutes on Aug. 1, a Chicago police dispatcher read out dozens of 911 calls waiting to be assigned to police officers in their

district — but no officers were available. A “shots fired” call was 178 minutes old. A robbery was waiting for more than two hours. A domestic waiting for more than three hours. A 115-minute wait for a burglary.

After a series of bump-n-run carjackings broke out last week, one of the victims' automakers contacted CPD to help them locate the stolen car. CPD told the car company that the assigned investigators don't work on Sundays and Monday.

On Aug. 15, a man fell to the ground, critically wounded with multiple gunshot wounds on the 5100 block of W. Fullerton. For six minutes, not a single cop was

available to respond, even though an officer who monitors CPD's surveillance cameras confirmed that there was a shooting victim on the ground.

Welcome to Chicago 2021, where police leaders have pulled several hundred cops from local districts to form a “Community Safety Team” that's supposed to build relationships with citizens. But the move has left local districts grossly understaffed, driving up response times when people are in their greatest need.

“It would be better to re-staff the districts so beats are patrolled and calls are answered instead of

NO COPS see p. 12



Ever since the 2020 downtown riots and looting, Chicago's nightlife areas have been riddled with crime and violence problems.

State St., that not so great street

*People indifferent
as two men are beaten on State St.*

BY CWBCHICAGO

It's hard to decide which part of the scene is most revolting.

Is it the sucker punch that sends a man slamming to the pavement? Maybe it's the vultures who rob two men — even taking their shoes — as they lie injured in the middle of State St.? Perhaps it's the group of women who start twerking in the traffic lanes while the men are being victimized steps away?

It happened at 1:31 a.m. Aug. 28 on the 400 block of N. State St. And it's all on video.

A police spokesperson said the man in the green shirt, the victim who is seen throughout the video, suffered abrasions to his face and refused medical attention.

The man who was sucker-punched is 40-years-old and was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital. His condition is not known. Both men were robbed, the spokesperson said, and no arrests have been made.

Who knows? Maybe the most revolting part of the video is the fact that something like that could happen in one of the city's busiest nightlife districts for over five minutes before a police offi-

cer was able to make their way to the scene.

CPD radio traffic shows officers who were monitoring the local police district's surveillance cameras told dispatchers about the “battery in progress” on State St. around 1:33 a.m. Officers requested an ambulance upon arrival six minutes later.

But slow responses are the new normal under strategies deployed by CPD Supt. David Brown, whose master plan has stripped local police districts of officers. The 18th District, which includes River North, currently has just 351 cops assigned to work its streets, according to Chicago's Office of the Inspector General. That's the fewest number of officers since Nov. 2017, and it's 15% lower than the 416 cops who worked there when Brown took command of the department in April 2020.

The downtown nightlife areas have been riddled with problems over the past year. Reports of gunfire, supported by the discovery of shell casings, are frequent on weekends. Shootings, once rare, are not so uncommon anymore.

“We need help,” a River North bar owner told this reporter in a message last weekend.



(L) Halsted Pointe, 901 N. Halsted. (R) The site plan for Halsted Pointe.



Images courtesy Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture

Greyhound on the way out, new Goose Island development closer to reality

An eight-acre Greyhound Bus service facility at 901 N. Halsted St. may soon sprout some giant new high-rises after the Chicago Plan Commission approved a plan by Halsted Pointe to put a high density development on the south end of Goose Island.

And with this plan, Goose Island starts its transition from being an ugly industrial duckling to a big, fat golden goose.

The project is bounded by Halsted St. to the west, Hooker St. on the north and the Chicago River to the east and south. It should come to command the skyline after being completed in four

phases, creating as many as 2,650 residential units - but only 1470 parking spaces, retail space, and a hotel.

Developers Onni Group's proposal represents a major shift for Goose Island, which from its founding has served as a home to heavy industry, not people. This project ushers in sweeping rezoning changes of the North Branch Corridor of the Chicago River, opening the formerly industrial-only adjacent lands to new mixed-use developments like The River District to Halsted Pointe's south, and the Lincoln Yards project further north.

With approval from the Chicago Plan Commission, the project will now seek approval from the zoning committee and full City Council.

The plan will include five towers of 65, 46, 45, 30 and 28 stories. The signature building on site will be located on the southern point of the island. It will be erected in Phase 3, is also supposed to create the majority of the development's open space. The 65-story, mixed-use tower will rise 691' with 1,015 residential units. Retail space on the ground floor will encompass

GOOSE see p. 12

Two Loop projects OK'd by Plan Commission

Last week the Chicago Plan Commission [CPC] approved two high density projects in the Loop, one at 601 W. Monroe and a second at 525 S. Wabash.

The Wabash project is for 24 and 36-story towers connected by a commercial and parking base, totaling 777 residential units, 405 hotel rooms, 41,000 square feet of commercial space, amenity space, but only 151 parking spaces.

The Monroe project is for a mixed-use development, consisting of two towers with 1,053 residential units, but only 430 parking spaces, and ground floor commercial space.

These two proposals now advance to be reviewed by the Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards and for full City Council for approval.



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God save the Queen and remember the Everly Brothers



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Before the Beatles or the Rolling Stones, in the unfolding of 1950s America, there were the Everly Brothers. A twangy, harmonious duo whose tunes reflected the angst and innocence of being an American teen.

Though I was just a child, I knew that they must have their fingers on the pulse of the pimply crowd of blue-jeaned adolescents.

Remember some of their hits? "Cathy's Clown," a Rockabilly tune that let boys know that love might make them act foolish.

Or "All I have to do is Dream," a little hymn to the unpredictability of teen-age love.

And of course their show stopper, "Wake Up Little Susie." That's the teenage nightmare about a couple of kids in love who fall asleep on a date and wake up at four in the morning when the movie they watched is long over.

Unfolding here is the terror of scandal, being out all night. The horror of having to explain how they innocently fell sound asleep for hours with the fear they will not be believed.

*Wake up, little Susie, wake up
Wake up, little Susie, wake up*

*We've both been sound asleep
Wake up little Susie and weep
The movie's over, it's four o'clock
And we're in trouble deep.*

In the world of the 1950s the tune must have been a shocker. Every parent's nightmare. Every teenage couple's paralyzing fear. The Everly Brothers harmonized, country-style, while telling the excruciating agony of being in love and mis-understood.

Perhaps they rocked the comfortable sensibilities of American parents, especially in small town USA. I'm not sure this was as dangerous in the world of urban teenagers. Especially in places like Chicago where the firm hold of parochial control wrought by clergy and high school nuns already instituted strategies to disable such accidental teenage mischief.

I started pondering the stories of the Everly tunes because Don Everly, the last surviving brother died last week at 84. Brother Phil left us seven years ago. They certainly captured a powerful moment of adolescent life before the British invasions and the Summer of Love changed things forever.

Falling asleep in a movie theater is almost a comic relief by comparison today.

The brothers trudged along as time changed music. Splitting up in 1973, though they held remarkable popularity in Britain.

That's what I was ruminating about as I read a British tabloid. The Daily Mail had fresh ammunition for the warfare in the House of Windsor. Their report-



The Everly Brothers

ing is always very anti-Prince Harry and Meghan, they are no friend of the Sussex Royals. So they gleefully reported that the Queen was going on the offensive with the Duke and Duchess. She's going after them with an army of fact-checkers and lawyers. She'll sue them as often as it takes to keep them from reporting falsehoods.

Then another article about how step-mum, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, was never going to forgive them for making hubby Charles so sad over Megxit and their withdrawal from royal life.

Wait. She won't forgive them? Didn't she break up Charles and Diana's marriage?

Then there was a story that the Queen did not want Prince Andrew, Duke of York, to lose his senior honorary status in a Royal Brigade. Despite all the damaging publicity he is receiving for his sexcapade with teenagers with his buddy Jeff Epstein.

That's when I thought, if only the Everly Brothers had written a musical version of these stories. All the intrigues of royal family squabbles. The naughtiness of Charles and Camilla. The way it so devastated Diana, the Princess of Wales.

The way it did damage to budding teens, Will and Harry, when they realized their papa was an adulterous scoundrel.

When they discovered papa wanted to marry his girlfriend,

writing her poetry that sounded just like an American teen might.

Then there's the angry Queen, 95-years-old, still treating her children like they are teens. She probably blames Mick Jagger and Paul McCartney for the rock-and-roll way they turned out. Perhaps the Everlys could have rewritten some of their hits to fit the Royal House of Windsor.

Maybe Charles and Camilla know the heartbreak of waking up in a movie theater at 4 a.m.

There's just so much room to evaluate the actions of "cheating hearts," and that doesn't cover the rumors that future King William was cheating big time with their friend the Marchioness of Cholmondeley. Maybe they just went to the movies.

*The movie's over,
it's four o'clock
And we're in trouble deep.*

Of course, it's all terribly sad that so much drama at the palace is unfolding as the government of Great Britain is botching the capitulation of Afghanistan and losing face with their handling of the COVID crisis, Brexit and Northern Ireland.

Perhaps the Royal House of Windsor is finally being seen for what it really is, an anachronism and drain on the culture of a traumatized nation. Her Majesty the Queen has ruled with polished excellence for 70 years. But she is surrounded by a family of moral failure and limited abilities, of serious ineptitude and low values.

Britain is no longer the nation of Rule Britannia. It's much more a land of "Wake Up Little Susie." Led by a Prime Minister of questionable character, himself. I believe America has been hoodwinked by television productions like The Crown.

There are few options remaining as the Queen comes to the end of her days. What will follow is already here. A cast of wasters. Poorly educated social misfits. The ultimate dysfunctional family. Not the children of Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Barbara

Pym or Agatha Christie. *Well, what are we gonna tell your Mama
What are we gonna tell your Pa?
What are we gonna tell our friends
When they say, "Ooh la la!"*



Josephine Baker

MADAME BAKER: The black American beauty, **Josephine Baker** (1906-1975), jazz entertainer who took Paris by storm in the 1920s and 1930s electrifying the elite by her risqué dance and deeply romantic singing style, becoming a French hero for all practical purposes, is to be honored with the French nation's highest accolade.

The President of France, **Emmanuel Macron**, is honoring her with burial in the Pantheon, the national temple of heroes, on Nov. 30. She will rest there with the famed scientist **Marie Curie**, the philosopher **Voltaire** and scores of other champions of the French nation.

The St. Louis native also gave leadership to the movement for civil rights in France and served as an agent of the Resistance during World War II.

MAG MILE CRIME: The danger continues downtown,

EVERLY see p. 6

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Park District removes ring/signage from recent drowning site



Why was this life ring and signage removed?

New signage and a life safety ring were installed, and removed, at Pratt Pier last week after the drowning of a 19-year-old man on Aug. 22. It was the second drowning on the pier in the last two years.



Nineteen-year-old Miguel Angel Cisneros Jr. died after jumping off Pratt Pier on Aug. 22. More warning signage is desperately needed all along the entire structure, neighbors have said.

Double losses hit hard this week



Heart of the 'Hood
by Felicia Dechter

Despite yet another recent drowning, the Chicago Park District removed life-saving equipment and signage that neighbors had installed on Pratt Pier.

Read on, please.

Last week, I wrote about a young man who died after drowning at Pratt Pier in Rogers Park. At that time, I knew nothing about him, other than information that had been released by the Chicago Police Dept. and what I had heard down at the lakefront shortly after he went missing in the water.

Well, now I do know about him, thanks to his first cousin, Estefania Diaz. Through her own heartbreak, Estefania took the time to talk about her beloved family member. I felt that you too should know about this incredibly bright and much-loved fellow.

Miguel Angel Cisneros Jr., fondly referred to as “Maicky,” was just 19-years-old when he drowned on Aug. 22, after jumping off the pier into the water. Apparently, Miguel was flailing and begging for help before drowning, witnesses said.

The thing is, his death was completely avoidable. Miguel was just six feet from the pier while in distress. Yet there was not one single piece of life-saving equipment nearby. Had there been, there’s a good chance that Miguel might still be alive today.

Before I tell you more about this promising young man though, I have to tell you what happened last week. On Friday night—prompted by what happened to Miguel—longtime Rogers Park resident Jim Ginderske did a great deed and went and installed what residents of this neighborhood have long asked for—a life ring on the pier. On Monday morning, the Chicago Park District stunned neighbors when they removed the life-saving device.

It was a move Ginderske called, “abso-

lutely despicable.”

“Miguel was six-feet from the pier and nobody had anything to throw in,” said Ginderske. “These things are scientifically proven to save lives if people are in the water and need help. It’s so obvious and so basic.”

Lake Michigan is “completely unpredictable,” and we need a way to keep people alive until the fire department gets there, said Ginderske.

“They’re gone before the first responders arrive,” he said. “We absolutely must have something that’s readily available. This was completely avoidable.”

The park district removed the safety device at Pratt Beach because it was not authorized by the District, “however we are currently exploring supplemental safety equipment for sanctioned swim locations,” said its director of communications, Michele Lemons. The park district urges the public to enjoy our beaches safely by entering the water only when lifeguards are on duty (beaches officially close at 7 p.m. Labor Day for the season) and respecting the flag system that notifies beach goers of current water conditions, said Lemons.

Ald. Maria Hadden (49th) has been vocal regarding the life ring need. After the one on the pier was removed Monday morning, she went on social media and asked that people please call the park district at (312) 742-7529 (menu option 1, menu option 3) and leave a message with its board in support of the safety devices.

“We’ve been demanding life rings for a couple of years and they keep telling us their lawyers say they’re concerned with liability,” Hadden said in a post. “We’re concerned with saving lives. Rogers Park residents installed a life ring last week since the park district wouldn’t.”

Since we’re talking about water here, dare I say that the park district is all wet?

A “vibrant spirit” with a solid future

Miguel—the eldest of three boys—lived on the South Side, and it’s still unclear what brought him all the way to the Rogers Park lakefront early that morning. What is clear though is how utterly devastated his family

is. He leaves behind his parents, Maria and Miguel and two younger brothers, Joel and Samuel, as well as grandparents and a loving high school sweetheart.

After receiving a scholarship, Miguel had been scheduled to leave this week for an Ivy League school, to the prestigious Columbia University, in New York. He’d arduously waited out the pandemic and was ready “to take the streets of Manhattan by storm,” his mother wrote on a gofundme page that was set up to cover funeral expenses. (The funeral was Monday. As of Tuesday morning, more than \$66,000 had been raised). Miguel was going to major in Economics and minor in Political Science, with hopes of attending law school afterwards, said Estefania.

He’d attended high school at St. Ignatius College Prep, where he learned to love rowing and became a dedicated member of the rowing team.

“Miguel was the boy who made it despite the odds,” said Estefania. “He was a great success story of hard work and a love for education.”

“He grew up and lived on the South Side of Chicago,” Estefania continued. “He had hopes of making it out of the neighborhood and into New York City. He was overjoyed when he was accepted. He spent every summer in high school as a caddy in Nantucket in a program that allowed him a college scholarship.”

“He could talk to anyone,” Estefania added. “He was extremely personable. He was also very goal-oriented. He had wanted to go to an Ivy League since elementary school.”

The life ring installation was a tiny little silver lining to this dark, dark cloud. But the park district blew that when they took it down. There was also new signage, which when I walked down Tuesday morning was also gone. But we thank whoever put it up.

There were finally clear and visible warnings not to swim off of that pier. But now they’re gone. Yet they were and are desperately needed. Two people have already drowned there in as many years.

LOSSES see p. 10





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6:30 PM Expo '76
9:00 PM Hoyle Brothers

Garden Stage
11:00 AM..... Barry Winograd Trio
12:00 PM..... Arcadia
1:15 PM Gerry Hundt
2:30 PM Kerosene Stars
4:00 PM Andrew Fraker
5:30 PM Quarantinis

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Main Stage
11:30 AM..... Spare Parts
1:00 PM Naomi Ashley
2:30 PM Nelson Street Revival
4:00 PM Hemispheres
6:00 PM Amanda Coppetelli

Garden Stage
11:00 AM..... Steve Hashimoto Duo
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Tax-weary Chicago homeowners review 2020 exemptions

Second of two articles on property taxes.

Tax-weary Chicago homeowners—especially seniors—are strongly advised to put on their bifocals and carefully read the 2020 second-installment tax bill that arrived in their mailbox last week.

The Home Front

By Don DeBat

In an effort to pump up tax collections, Fritz Kaegi, reform-minded Assessor of Cook County, is cracking down on those who took legal tax breaks - called “exemptions” - illegally.

Under law, every property owner who resides in his or her home is entitled to a Homestead Exemption. Owners over 65 years of age are entitled to a Senior Exemption. If a senior’s annual income is less than \$65,000, he or she also may qualify for a Senior Freeze.

Reportedly, the Assessor’s staff have removed tens of thousands of Chicago Homeowners and Senior Exemptions, and the Senior Freeze. The Senior Freeze is especially cherished by elderly retirees surviving on a fixed income because they know that their tax bill will not go up every year.

Last week’s Home Front column shirttail previewing this column said: Two Chicago homeowners’ tax exemptions mysteriously disappear and their bills skyrocket.

On Aug. 24, a day after the first article of this two-part series was published, the Assessor issued a two-page press release asking: “Homeowners: Are you missing exemptions on your property tax bill?”

The press release said: “If a homeowner believes they are entitled to an exemption that is not reflected on their tax bill, they can apply for what is called a Certificate of Error. The Certificate of Error process provides homeowners an opportunity to obtain missing exemptions for up to three prior years, in addition to the current tax year. Homeowners can now apply for the 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017 tax years.”

The Assessor’s release was accompanied by an elaborate graphic of a typical 2020 tax bill showcasing a “Tax Calculator” and breakdown of how the three exemptions reduced the sample tax bill by \$1,598—from \$2,372 to \$774.

Certificate of Error applications with copies of supporting documentation can be filed online, by mail or in person. Visit: www.cookcountyassessor.com/exemptions.

On the Assessor’s website, click on the “Exemptions” icon, scroll down to “Certificates of Error” and follow the prompts. For the standard Homeowner Exemption and the Senior Exemption property owners will be asked to upload a scanned copy of their driver’s license, and Docu-sign an Occupancy Affidavit.

Warning: for the “Senior Freeze” you may need help from your accountant to verify net income and other financial numbers from your 2019 federal income tax return. In addition to verifying that your net income is under \$65,000, there also will be an Occupancy Affidavit to sign.

“Homeowners are strongly encouraged to apply online as representatives of the Assessor’s Office can easily provide updates on the status of applications,” the release said.

This year, many exemptions were “auto-renewed” to make the process more convenient for homeowners, the Assessor said. Apparently, in many cases exemptions were mysteriously “auto-removed,” causing a spike in taxes and an uprising by many irate taxpayers.

So, always remember to double check your property’s exemptions, especially if your taxes are escrowed and paid by your mortgage lender.

Here are two examples of how missing exemptions impacted the final tax bills:

• **North Park:** The owner of a two-story frame home near Legion Park received a 2020 bill of \$11,833, up a whopping 33% from the \$8,890 paid in 2019 when three exemptions were in place. Close analysis showed the \$2,943 tax increase was directly due to “lost” Homeowner and Senior Exemptions, plus a deletion of the homeowner’s qualified Senior Freeze.

• **Irving Park:** The owner of a stucco bungalow in the Villa Historic District received a 2020 bill of \$10,145, up a hefty 7.3% from \$9,447 in 2019. Analysis showed the increase was directly due to “lost” Homeowner and Senior Exemptions.

The Homeowner’s exemption recently was increased to \$10,000 from \$7,000, and the Senior Exemption was hiked to \$8,000 from \$5,000. Those amounts are deducted from the equalized assessed value of a home to which tax rates are applied in order to determine the individual tax bill.

Also, more seniors can qualify for the Senior Freeze because the Illinois Legislature recently increased the maximum annual income to receive the freeze to less than \$65,000 from less than \$55,000.

“The property-tax bill is determined by four factors: the assessment, the equaliza-

tion factor, or ‘multiplier,’ the tax rate and the exemptions,” said Michael Griffin, a Chicago real estate tax appeal attorney.

However, predicting a hefty property tax increase when the 2021 bill arrives in 2022 really centers on two wild cards—the tax rate and the state equalization factor, which can’t be challenged by taxpayers.

The equalization factor, or “multiplier,” is established each year for Cook County to bring property tax assessments in line with other parts of Illinois. The factor is determined by the Illinois Dept. of Revenue.

The main engine that drives up property-tax bills is the amount of money spent by local government. For example, homeowners who read their 2020 tax bills will see the continued increased spending for schools and police, firefighter and teacher pensions.



Property owners who think they are over assessed should appeal now, Griffin advises.

Visit the assessor’s website: www.cookcountyassessor.com, or call 312-443-7550 to find comparable properties or start the appeal process.

The Assessor is now working through the appeals process for 2020. For 2020, all of Chicago is being reassessed.

A taxpayer can file with the Cook County Board of Review 312-603-5542 or www.cookcountyboardofreview.com and later with the Illinois Property Tax Appeals Board 217-785-6076, or www.ptab.illinois.gov. Or, call Michael Griffin, an expert tax-assessment lawyer, at 312-943-1789.

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.



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Check your mailbox for Second Installment property tax bills, nearly 1.8 million bills in the mail

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas has mailed out nearly 1.8 million Second Installment property tax bills. Payments are due Oct. 1.

The new bills will bring the total amount billed countywide for 2020 to more than \$16.1 billion, an increase of more than 3.4% from last year. A recent analysis by the Treasurer's Office found the tax increase is hitting commercial property owners and Black and Latino suburban property owners the hardest.

Taxpayers also may use the website to search for \$72 million in available refunds going back 20 years and to verify property tax exemptions, which can lower the tax bill. Homeowners may be missing out on \$43 million in exemptions.

To search for refunds or missing exemptions, visit cookcountytreasurer.com and select the purple box labeled "Your Property Tax Overview." Search by property address or enter your Property Index Number (PIN), or the results under "Have You Received Your Exemptions in These Tax Years?"

Late payments are charged 1.5% per

month, as required by Illinois law.

According to data produced by Cook County Treasurer Pappas, businesses in Cook County and Black and Latino suburban property owners are bearing the brunt of 2020's property tax increases, according to a first-of-its-kind analysis of tax bills by her office.

The county will collect more than \$16.1 billion in property taxes this year. That's an increase of \$534 million, or more than 3.4%, from last year. Second Installment bills were posted online August 12 and will be mailed to taxpayers later this month.

The analysis, along with more than 100 pages of detailed tables on suburbs, townships and Chicago, is available at cook-countytreasurer.com.

Key findings include:

- Commercial and industrial property owners in Cook County – in its suburbs and in Chicago – are carrying a heavier share of the increased tax burden. Businesses are being billed more than \$7 billion, an increase of \$410 million, or 6.2%. Homeowners are being billed \$8.9 billion,

an increase of \$114 million, or 1.3%.

- Property tax increases are hitting majority Black and Latino communities – both their homeowners and businesses – the hardest. These communities make up six of the top 10 areas with the largest tax increases for homeowners and seven of the top 10 increase for commercial properties.

- In the south suburbs, where taxes are already greater than in other parts of Cook County, some property owners are paying three to five times as much in taxes as the owner of an equally valued property in Chicago.

"Our research shows that inequities in the property tax system persist, particularly for businesses and Black and Latino property owners, and especially in the south suburbs. The 2020 property tax increases are exacerbating financial stresses in these communities and thwarting economic progress and generational wealth-building," Pappas said.

Not all property owners will see their bills increase because a number of factors determine property taxes. For 2020,

the Assessor's Office lowered the assessed values of many properties elsewhere in Cook County, citing the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The value of all residential properties was reduced by about 10%. Not all commercial properties received COVID reductions.

Elected leaders in several suburbs increased the overall amount taxed, meaning property owners in those communities will see much higher bills.

The analysis found commercial and industrial property owners generally will see bigger increases in their bills than homeowners, as the overall tax burden continues to shift to them. The higher taxes come as many businesses continue to struggle with a loss of revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020, business properties in the south and southwest suburbs took on another 1.5% of the tax burden, compared with a 1.1% shift from residential to commercial in the north and northwest suburbs and a 1.3% shift from residential to commercial in Chicago.

Four Montrose Harbor bridges to be rebuilt

Last week the City of Chicago Plan Commission voted to approve a \$20 million rebuilding of four pedestrian bridges in Lincoln Park at Montrose Harbor that separate pedestrians from truck and car traffic.

Those bridges include the Montrose Ave. bridge over the pedestrian path south of the Cricket Hill; the Wilson Dr. bridge over the pedestrian path north of the football/soccer field; the Simonds Dr. bridge over the pedestrian path just west of Montrose People Beach, and the Simonds Dr. bridge over the pedestrian path just west of Montrose Dog Beach.

The four were originally constructed in 1936 and Chicago Park Dist. officials claim that their concrete support structures have deteriorated to the point that they need to be shored up.

The City says that the bridges' original limestone facades and other ornamental flourishes will be recycled and re-installed on the new structures. New lighting will also be added, and the pedestrian underpasses below the bridge will receive new curbs and pavement.

The Chicago Dept. of Transportation [CDOT] says construction is expected to start in the spring of 2022. Work should be completed by 2023.

Residents who live near Montrose Harbor may wonder why they've heard nothing from the city about the coming bridge work. According to Chicago Architecture, that may be because of an interesting technicality in the city's ordinances.

Generally speaking, anyone embarking on projects in Chicago that are large or special is required to send a letter to the neighbors letting them know about the plans well ahead of time. In this case, CDOT is required to tell anyone within 400 feet of the bridges. Since the bridges are deep inside Lincoln Park, the only entities that had to be notified were the Chicago Park District, and the Dept. of Asset and Information Services.



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ADMISSION IS FREE

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Lakeview East Chamber announces return of Festival of the Arts Sept. 11-12

The 16th Lakeview East Festival of the Arts partners with artists for a celebration of arts, culture, family activities, food and music

The Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce is bringing back art and culture to their community by hosting and producing the 16th Annual Lakeview East Festival of the Arts, after a year off due to the pandemic lockdown.

Taking place along Broadway from Belmont to Hawthorne on Saturday, Sept. 11 and Sunday, Sept. 12 from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. with additional hours for live music, food and drink tents until 10 p.m. on Saturday.

For decades, Lakeview East has been a dynamic and diversified neighborhood community rich in culture, history and the arts. The Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce works hand in hand with its local residents and business owners and is now once again offering its neighbors one of the premier fine art outdoor festivals.

The Festival of the Arts will

showcase more than 150 juried artists featuring world-class original paintings, sculpture, photography, furniture, jewelry and more. These original pieces are for sale in a wide range of prices.

In addition to the diverse artists' booths, the Festival also includes live music on multiple stages, an interactive children's area, wine, beer and food booths, and an in-

teractive garden oasis. This year's signature image is "Hydrangea" from artist Kelsey Merkle.

Lakeview East Festival of the Arts asks for a \$5 donation upon entrance. For more information visit www.lakevieweastfestivalofthearts.com.



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EVERLY from p. 2

even though the truth of what's happening is hidden from public knowledge, (unless you read our own crime blotter). Teams of looters have once again returned to the N. Michigan Ave. scene. Shoplifters have been ransacking the high-end shopping area. Gucci and Dior have been heavy hit. Shops are raided in broad daylight by gangs of thieves who grab high-end merchandise, smashing glass cases to the trauma of other shoppers and employees.

Security guards prove little use. One group of looters grabbed more than \$43,000 worth of merchandise. One 73-year-old worker was hospitalized after being knocked to the ground by looters.

Rush St. is another area heavy hit by thieves who are targeting purses and cell phones. In nearby Old Town mass shootings are on the dangerous rise. Carjackings in Old Town and on Michigan Ave. are out of control. Uber drivers have been heavy hit.

The whole world has noticed. We all get the same calls from our out-of-town friends and families: "What's going on, is it safe to visit?"

The crime here is now aggressive. City officials more secretive. Some shops are closing. Just look around. Last week, half of all Bond Court defendants before the bench were already out on bond from other crimes.

This is all we can expect from the violent criminals' best friends,



Libby Lamb Lucas and Rache Lamb Scheferman.



State's Attorney Kim Foxx and **County President Toni Preckwinkle**. And police disabler **Mayor Lori Lightfoot**. It's no wonder Chicago is a violent criminals' paradise.

Contact your aldermen. Contact the Gold Coast Neighbors Assoc.

GREEK CUISINE: It's Greek to U Grill, 5449 N. Clark. Ask for **Vicky**. Tell her **Maria Pappas** sent you for great food. Superb patio.

BIG SCREEN: "Live at Mister Kelly's" is opening to the public Sept. 17. The iconic Mister Kelly's bedazzled the country by launching superstars like **Barbra Streisand**, **Richard Pryor**, **Bette Midler**, **Steve Martin**. It smashed color and gender barriers to put controversial voices on stage and transformed entertainment in America in the '50s, '60s, and '70s. The film was directed and produced by **Theodore Bogosian**, **Scott Dummler** and **David Marienthal**. Celebrity interviews include **Bob Newhart**, the **Smothers Brothers**, **Dick Gregory**, **Lainie Kazan**, **Herbie Hancock**, **Dick Cavett**, **Tim Reid**, **Fred Willard** and **Ramsey Lewis**. DVDs and streaming available in October.

TAKE THE CANNOLI:

Francis Ford Coppola's film, "The Godfather," just turned 50. A classic. One of the all time greatest. Everything you need to know about life is in this film.

WEDDING BELLS: Old St. Patrick's was the venue for the nuptials of **Shanan Avery McKeaney** and **Parone Mulrain**, with former pastor, **Fr. Jack Wall** presiding. And brides mom, **Lyn McKeaney**, boss of the Lodge on Rush St. and the Redhead, on Ontario St., beaming. **David Geren** and **Caitie Taylor Gorecki**, niece of Irish Fellowship honcho, **Kathy Taylor**, danced 'til dawn. Parents **Dr. David** and **Joanne Gorecki** are wedding pros. This was their third offspring in a short time.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY: Live music with **Riccardo Muti** at Symphony Center once again. Create your own three-concert series today to save 10% on concerts for the Fall 2021.

WHO'S WHERE: RL'S **Molly Ranger Castellanos** and hubby, **George**, after two years of planning, have finally made it to the Bahamas and it is fabulous... **Thomas Cooney** and **Edmund Lester** at the Cubs game at Wrigley... **Chadwick Godfrey** and **Robert Dobnick** sipping summer cocktails at the Ritz Carlton... **William Krees** on the air at

WGN celebrating National Radio Day... **Dan Kirk** and **Brian Wolff** singing along on stage with **Carrie Underwood** as part of Dan's 50th birthday celebration... **Jim Kinney** got his third dose of Moderna. Bet we will need another in 6-8 months... **Sherry Lea Fox** and **Tom Kehoe** of Kehoe Designs transforming Maple & Ash with garlands and bouquets... Our hearts break for **Bobbi Panter** and **Matt Arnoux** on the death of their beloved pooch **Cecce**, never to be forgotten... **Ken Norgan** enjoying a beautiful summer evening on Maestro **Stanley Paul's** gorgeous city terrace with **Jim Dennen**, **Linda Heister**, and a lady friend in the garden... **Janet Owen** at Grant Park Music Fest, a fabulous end of season concert, grateful to **Karen** and **Mike** for hosting a post concert dinner on the Terrace at the University Club under a full moon... **Dan Gibbons** with **Pat McGann** and **Kate Donovan Gibbons** at the Wynn in Las Vegas, a whole lot of laughing out loud... Happy birthday **Libby Lamb Lucas**... **Jack Goggin**, Chicago attorney, enjoying a day on Wisconsin's Lake Minocqua with **Carol Binkley**, **Kim Beattie** and the lovely **Sandy Post Goggin**... **Julie Barrish** marks another birthday... Boston's **Anne Larkin Tuomey** in Grand Beach, MI, celebrating mom, **Karen Larkin Johnson's**, birthday... Chicago actor **John T. O'Brien** back from Los Angeles.

COUSINFEST: Thanks to my cousins **Dan Lawlor** and wife, **Laurie**, for organizing dinner and treating our **25 Curran cousins**, in-laws, out-laws and pals to dinner at Tufano's, family style, with too many bottles of wine to count, they're my **Aunt Mary Curran's** descendants, raised like our siblings, I've got lots more.

LYRIC LANDSCAPES: Two recently discovered works said to be by Irish artist **Paul Henry** (of high value) will go under the hammer at Caza Sike auction in Cincinnati on Sept. 8.

May God keep you away from the venom of the cobra, the teeth of the tiger, and the revenge of the Afghans.

- *Alexander the Great*

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Margaret Baczkowski & Curt Rose



The Clare residents continue summer of city exploration



(Left) Residents Larry Pirovano, Dorothy Pirovano and Rich Kaczmarek take a quadcycle ride along Lake Michigan. (Center) Residents enjoy a tour of the rooftop farm at Uncommon Ground in Edgewater. (Right) Residents Jo-Ann Michalak and Roberta Weisberg stand outside of The Art of Banksy exhibit.

Summer 2021 has been one of exploration throughout Chicago for residents of The Clare.

Each month, The Clare's life enrichment calendar includes a number of outings for which residents can sign up to participate. The trips vary from market trips and restaurant reservations to art exhibits and garden tours. No matter where they're headed, residents' energy and excitement to discover different corners of the city is at an all-time high, especially after a year in which options and activities in Chicago were limited.

In an effort to explore Chicago's diversity, residents select a new market or bakery in the city to visit. In June, they ventured to the Avondale neighborhood for Joong Boo Market, an Asian grocery store offering Korean and Pan-Asian products. Residents then visited Middle East Bakery & Grocery in Andersonville in July, followed by La Casa del

Pueblo in Pilsen in August. Come September, they'll head to Chinatown to browse around 88 Marketplace, which is Chicago's largest Chinese supermarket with fresh produce, a food court and pop-up shops from small businesses and local vendors.

Gardens and garden centers have also been popular outings for residents this summer. Trips were planned for both the Garfield Park Conservatory and the Chicago Botanic Garden, and a visit to the Morton Arboretum is scheduled, as well. In August, residents spent a Friday afternoon in Edgewater touring Uncommon Ground, home of the first certified organic rooftop farm in the United States. Afterward, they enjoyed a farm-to-table lunch that featured ingredients grown in the rooftop farm.

As summer winds down and colder weather moves in, The Clare residents will again have the opportunity to attend regular performances by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Lyric Opera after a

yearlong hiatus. These performances come after those residents attended the Grant Park Music Festival and Rush Hour Concerts at St. James Cathedral.

In addition to all performances and outings, there are also lectures, art classes,

recitals and gatherings that take place within The Clare community each week. This leaves residents with no shortage of opportunities for entertainment and enrichment.

Bike the Drive Sept. 5



Bikers will block all lanes of traffic on Lake Shore Dr. 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 5, as the Active Transportation Alliance hosts its biggest fundraiser, with Bike the Drive.

Bike the Drive is one of the nation's largest bike rides and will kick off the celebration of bicycling and blocking traffic for the 20th year in a row.

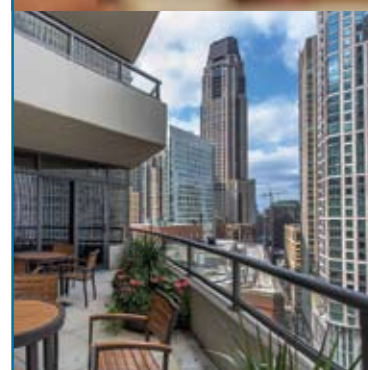
All participants should start at one of these locations: at the main festival grounds in Grant Park, at Bryn Mawr Ave., Fullerton Ave., Oakwood Blvd., or

at the Museum of Science & Industry.

With four lanes of Lake Shore Dr. closed to car traffic in both directions, there is plenty of space for bikers to spread out during the ride.

The main festival and starting location is at Butler Field in Grant Park, 235 S. Columbus Dr.

This annual fundraiser supports the bike people's year-round advocacy for less driving and parking spaces for cars and trucks in favor of walking, biking and public transit in Chicago.



Whether you're retired or still working, The Clare offers a lifestyle that is second to none. Enjoy a luxury apartment, gourmet cuisine, a remarkable staff and the financial security of LifeCare. It's never too early to start planning your future.

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Police Beat...

Investigation launched after cop attacks woman walking her dog at beach

Chicago's police oversight agency is investigating after a Chicago police officer physically struggled with a Black woman who was walking her dog at North Avenue Beach Aug. 28. The incident was captured on at least three different phone videos, including one made by the woman herself — before the cop knocked the device from her hand, according to her lawyer.

A number on top of the officer's squad car indicates that he was assigned to CPD's traffic enforcement unit, which patrols Lake Shore Dr., and would not typically be assigned to a beach security assignment, according to a person familiar with the department's operations.

Nikkita Brown went to the beach with her dog around 12:12 a.m. and was approached by the officer because the park was closed, according to a statement from her attorney, Keenan Saulter.

Brown asked the cop to stay six feet away due to her concerns about COVID. Saulter said she told the officer during the initial interaction that she and the dog were leaving the park.

Another video, filmed by someone inside a vehicle shows the cop "shooing" Brown away from the beach before he appears to grab for her phone and then grapples with her for more than a minute as she screams.

Saulter said the videos show the officer "violently attacks her for absolutely no reason. He attempts to tackle her, all while groping her body as she screams for help. This unprovoked attack lasts for approximately two minutes, during this time Ms. Brown's phone is knocked from her hands and she is knocked out of her shoes.

"Ms. Brown saw a group of approximately four White people walking some distance behind her, but in view of this officer just prior to the beginning of their engagement," Saulter's statement said. "This was an obvious case of racial profiling."

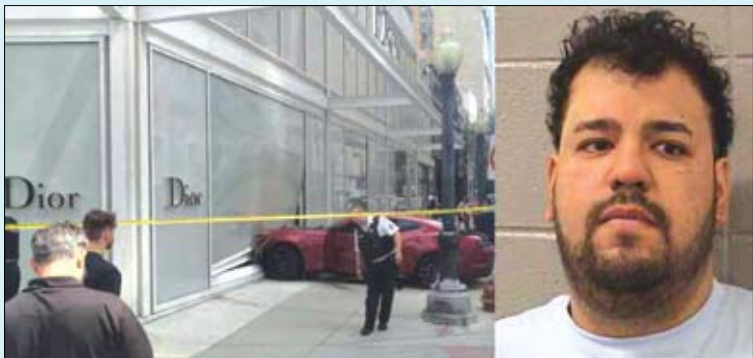
Brown went home and called 911. A sergeant from the 18th (Near North) District responded and took her report, according to Saulter.

The CPD said in an Aug. 29 tweet that it "is aware of a video circulating on social media regarding an incident involving a Chicago Police officer and a woman walking her dog at North Avenue Beach. CPD promptly referred the matter to @ChicagoCOPA when we became aware of the incident."

One critical, another injured in separate shootings downtown

A man is in critical condition after a woman shot him on a street corner in the heart of River North Aug. 29, police said. Earlier, another man was shot multiple times as he drove with family members on Wacker Dr. in the Loop.

In the most recent case, a 32-year-old man was shot by a woman during an argument on the 400 block of N. Clark around 10:21 p.m. Aug. 29, police said. Witnesses told police the altercation began at Illinois and LaSalle, where the woman pulled out a gun and fired shots. She then followed the man to the corner of Clark and Hubbard where



Adrian Gutierrez in a 2019 mugshot and the DIOR store crash scene. *Courtesy Chicago Fire Department*

High on drugs, man drove wildly through Mag Mile before crashing into DIOR's 3,000-pound security window

The man who allegedly drove recklessly through the Mag Mile neighborhood before crashing into the DIOR store, 931 N. Rush St., on Aug. 26 received probation last month for a case that started as a home invasion in which he held a knife to a 77-year-old woman's throat after he drove recklessly through Logan Square, according to court records.

"He grabbed the knife, and he ran towards me, and he grabbed me by the neck right here, and pulled me to the floor," the woman told CBS2 news after the Dec. 2019 incident.

Regarding Friday's episode, prosecutors said Adrien Gutierrez, 35, was high on cocaine and benzodiazepines when he began driving erratically through the downtown area around 11:30 a.m.

He drove his red Camaro the wrong way down several streets, jumped a curb while doing a U-turn, narrowly missed several pedestrians as he drove down a sidewalk, struck an occupied car, and then plowed into the DIOR store's 3,000-pound reinforced display window.

After causing \$250,000 to \$300,000 worth of damage to the boutique, he ran into the store and pulled the fire alarm before he tried to disarm one of the Chicago police officers who rushed in to arrest him, according to the allegations.

Police and witnesses allegedly saw a "white powdery crust" on Gutierrez's face.

Prosecutors charged him with felony counts of attempting to disarm a peace officer and criminal damage over \$100,000. He is also charged with

several misdemeanors, including resisting, reckless driving, leaving the scene of a property crime accident, and driving under the influence of drugs.

According to a Chicago police officer who spoke at his bond court hearing, Gutierrez remained hospitalized Sunday for a heart condition and blood on the brain.

Judge Charles Beach said state law prohibited him from holding Gutierrez without bail. Instead, Beach ordered him held in lieu of \$350,000. Gutierrez would need to post \$35,000 to get out of jail.

Beach also ordered Gutierrez held without bail for violating the probation he received for the Logan Square incident on July 7.

In that case, Gutierrez was accused of crashing his pickup truck into several parked cars and then forcing his way into a senior citizen's apartment after he ran from the scene.

Once inside the woman's home, he grabbed a knife, held her by the neck, and forced her to the floor. He then allegedly ran from the home and began taking off his clothes.

Prosecutors originally charged him with home invasion with a dangerous weapon, aggravated battery of a senior citizen, aggravated assault of a senior citizen, resisting, leaving the scene, criminal damage, and criminal trespassing, according to CPD records.

On July 7, he pleaded guilty to a single count of aggravated battery of a senior citizen in exchange for the probation sentence, prosecutors said Sunday.

wounds to both arms.

Area Three detectives are investigating the case.

In addition to Sunday's shootings, police have confirmed several cases of shots fired without injuries in the downtown area over the past two weekends. At 2:55 a.m. Aug. 28, shots were fired between cars near Lake Shore Dr. and the Chicago River, according to witnesses. Police found an SUV abandoned on the drive near Ontario with several people running away from it minutes later. Shell casings were found inside the truck, which was riddled with bullet holes, and a gun was found at the scene, according to a CPD report. Cops found even more shell casings on the roadway.

About an hour later, just after 4 a.m., police officers reported hearing about 18 shots fired in River North. Cops found shell casings from two weapons, including a rifle, near the intersection of Orleans and Hubbard.

Shots were fired in River North several times between 3 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. last Sunday, Aug. 22, according to police records. One bullet went through the window of a hotel guest room on the 500 block of N. State, according to one report. Another bullet went through the window of a 10th-floor apartment on the 300 block of W. Superior. In another case, a man reported that someone began shooting at him on the 300 block of W. Chicago.

Other people reportedly saw a man walking around that area shooting at people without provocation. And a driver called police after someone shot the windows out of his SUV on the 300 block of W. Chicago, too. No arrests were made.

Driver who struck three Lakeview pedestrians, on probation for killing 93-year-old woman

The driver of a BMW SUV that struck two pedestrians, then circled back and struck a third person before crashing into a fence in Lakeview Aug. 29 is identified in CPD reports as the same man who recently received probation for striking and killing a 93-year-old woman with a BMW SUV in Edgewater.

Two crash reports filed after Sunday's incidents identify the driver as Rayon Allen, 32. One report lists his home address on the 5500 block of N. Kenmore in Edgewater while the other says he lives on the 3800 block of N. Broadway. And, according to CPD records, the SUV involved in Sunday's crashes is the same car that fatally struck the woman in 2018.

Without identifying the driver by name, Chicago police said in a media statement that a man and woman, both 39, were crossing the street at Irving Park and Broadway when they were struck by a BMW around 12:49 a.m. The driver made a U-turn and headed south on Broadway, where he struck a 55-year-old bicyclist who was trying to help the first two victims.

The BMW then crashed into a fence on the 3800 block of N. Broadway, and officers arrested the driver at the scene, police said. A CPD crash report said the BMW ran into a fence at Gill Park and also crashed into a fence at a BP station while making the U-turn.

Police said the 39-year-old woman and the 55-year-old man were taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in critical condition with head trauma. The 39-year-old man was taken to St. Francis Hospital with leg pain while the driver was treated for bruises to his face at Masonic. The crash investigation is still underway, and no criminal charges have been filed as of 11 a.m., according to Officer Roberto Garduno, a CPD spokesperson.

Two traffic crash reports secured by this reporter list the driver as Allen and say the BMW X5 involved in the incident was uninsured. According to the reports, the 39-year-old pedestrians live at separate addresses in Lakeview, while the bicyclist lives less than two blocks north of the crash scene in Uptown.

Allen recently received 30-months probation after pleading guilty to reckless homicide for striking and killing 93-year-old Lorraine Campione as she walked in the 5500 block of N. Sheridan on Sept. 24, 2018.

Police said two other drivers yielded to allow Campione to cross a driveway around 11:20 that morning, but Allen made an improper left turn in his SUV, overtook a vehicle on the left, and hit Campione.

Police said that Allen continued to drive forward after striking the elderly woman, which caused her body to become wedged under the front left driver's side tire. Allen got out of his SUV and tried to remove Campione by pulling on her leg, according to witnesses. When that failed, he allegedly tried to take other motorists' cars. That also failed.

The BMW involved in Sunday's crash is the same BMW that killed Campione, according to vehicle identification numbers shown in CPD reports from the two cases.

Just a few months ago, Judge James Obbish sentenced Allen to probation and ordered him to participate in a "victim impact panel" after Allen pleaded guilty to reckless homicide with a motor vehicle. Obbish also or-

dered Allen to submit to random drug tests, provide a DNA sample for indexing, and get permission from authorities before leaving the state.

One of Sunday's crash reports said the "driver [was] arrested on suspect DUI," but finalized blood alcohol testing results were unavailable.

Warning issued after intruders claiming to be cops knock down doors on North Side

Twice in the past week, residents on the city's North Side have been startled by the sounds of strangers trying to knock down their doors while claiming to be police officers, according to a community alert from Area Five detectives. No injuries have been reported in the two cases, which occurred miles apart.

According to the alert, the first incident unfolded around 9:46 p.m. Aug. 21, at a home in the 3300 block of W. Grace. The victim heard knocking on their apartment door and voices outside saying they were police officers, the alert said. Police found the apartment's back door pried open.

Some may say the victim was victimized twice because it took more than 45 minutes for a police officer to become available to respond to their 911 call for help, according to CPD dispatch records. Understaffing and "backlogs" of calls for emergency responses are plaguing the city's neighborhoods, which have been stripped of patrol officers by CPD's current leadership.

Then, a similar incident was reported more than five miles west around 5:51 p.m. Aug. 25 in the 3800 block of N. Oketo. A man called 911 after voices outside yelled, "Police! Police!" while trying to knock down his door, according to the alert. The victim found his door open and the hinges broken, but the men were gone.

Police did not provide descriptions of the suspects or a motive for the crime. If you have information about the incidents, you can contact detectives at 312-746-7394 about crime pattern #P21-5-064.

"Bump-n-run" auto theft crew strikes again in Lakeview

A bump-n-run auto theft crew struck again in Lakeview Aug. 27, according to a CPD report, but they weren't able to drive the victim's car away.

It's the latest in a series of similar auto thefts and attempts last week. One of the earlier thefts took place just a block away from the scene of Friday's incident.

A 34-year-old woman told police she was driving south on the 3100 block of Inner Lake Shore Dr. when a black BMW tapped the rear bumper of her white Jaguar around 11:30 a.m. Aug. 27. When she got out to check for damage, two young men jumped into her car and tried to drive away with it. But, for some reason, they couldn't get the car to move. So, they bailed out and fled in the BMW.

The woman was not injured. Witnesses told police they saw a couple of women recording the attempted auto theft as it happened, but the ladies were gone when officers arrived.

According to a CPD report, the people who tried to take the woman's Jaguar were two Black males between 16- and 23-years-old. One had short braids. The other had an Afro hairstyle and wore navy pants with a bright red stripe on the side.

Police issued a warning about bump-n-run auto thefts on the

Pulp fiction convention rockets into Chicago

Convention celebrates 20 years of early adventure stories

BY JOHN PORUBSKY

You may have certainly heard of Spider-Man, Batman, and Luke Skywalker but much of their inspirations go back to the days of “pulp” which included characters like Doc Savage, The Shadow, and Flash Gordon, respectively.

These earlier icons will be honored along with all the other larger than life heroes of the pulps at the 20th Windy City Pulp and Paper Convention which will be held Sept. 10-12, in Lombard’s Yorktown Center.

The three-day event draws hundreds of aficionados from all across the country to celebrate this uniquely American form of popular literature. Attendees hear from pulp-fiction historians, see original vintage pulp art displays, watch films adapted from the great pulp stories, bid on rare pulps and pop culture artifacts

and peruse over 150 tables of hard-to-find collectibles including rare issues of such seminal publications as Adventure, Astounding, Black Mask, Doc Savage, The Shadow, Spicy Detective, Weird Tales, and thousands more. In addition, pulps, paperbacks, and other vintage material will be for sale in the dealer’s room.

Friday night’s auction contains 200 lots from the estate of Robert Weinberg, including many Weird Tales issues. Saturday night’s auction contains material from the estates of Glenn Lord (for many decades the literary executor for Robert E. Howard’s estate) and August Derleth.

Among the rare Robert E. Howard material Saturday night is a copy of his first book, “A Gent From Bear Creek” (1937 by Herbert Jenkins), as well as a copy of Clark Ashton Smith’s “Ebony and Crystal” (1922 in an edition of 500, with this copy being inscribed by Smith to Robert



E. Howard). Perhaps even scarcer than “A Gent From Bear Creek” are approximately 210 issues of “The Summit County Journal” from June 23, 1967 to Dec. 31, 1971. This newspaper serialized many of the Breckinridge Elkins stories in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s.

Pulp magazines are inexpen-

sive fiction magazines that were published from 1896 through the 1950s, which thrived in the years between the two World Wars, vied with radio and the movies as the era’s most popular form of mass entertainment. These periodicals, printed on coarse pulpwood paper and boasting eye-grabbing, often lurid cover paintings, introduced to the American reading public such immortal writers as Dashiell Hammett, Zane Grey, Raymond Chandler, Ray Bradbury, L. Ron Hubbard, Robert E. Howard, H. P. Lovecraft, and Robert Heinlein.

The term “pulp” derives from the cheap wood pulp paper on which the magazines were printed; in contrast, magazines printed on higher quality paper were called “glossies” or “slicks.”

In their first decades, pulps were most often priced at 10¢ per magazine, while competing slicks cost 25¢ a piece. Pulps were the

successors to the penny dreadfuls, dime-novels and short fiction magazines of the 19th century.

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Modern superhero comic books are sometimes considered descendants of “hero pulps” and widely recognized as the inspirations for such pop-culture mainstays as Star Trek, Star Wars, and virtually every comic-book hero from Batman to Spider-Man to Zorro (who originated in the pulps).

Admission is \$35 for all three days; \$25 on Friday and Saturday; \$10 on Sunday. Fee includes access to all convention events and souvenir program book containing pulp articles and reprints. The event will be at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, 70 Yorktown Center. For more information visit www.windycitypulpandpaper.com or call 847-217-4241.

Dance and Music in Chicago

Music in the Key of Chicago “**Sounds of the Riverwalk**” is a new eight-week music series featuring Chicago musicians. These free, public performances are underway now and will continue every Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Confluence, located between Lake St. and Franklin St. on the Chicago Riverwalk, visit ChicagoRiverwalk.us.

Also on the Chicago Riverwalk, **Art on theMART** (see ArtontheMART.com) continues to project its summer program nightly at 9:00 and 9:30 p.m. including three new commissions in alignment with the Year of Chicago Music (through Sept. 16): Footnotes, Wills Glasspiegel and Brandon K. Calhoun; the light of the dark, Eighth Blackbird and Xuan; and Woven, Spectralina.

Special music events throughout Millennium Park include a free, outdoor event presented by the Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance (visit harristheaterchicago.org). Next up is the “**Sonic Pavilion Festival**” (Sept. 7 and 14). This is a series of 30-channel sound installations commissioned by Experimental Sound Studio for the overhead trellis loudspeaker array at Jay Pritzker Pavilion. The result is an immersive canopy of sound.

The Millennium Park Summer Music Series is underway now through Sept. 16 at 6–8:30 p.m., visit MillenniumPark.org). This year’s nearly all-Chicago lineup is filled with debuts, new works, commissions and special collaborations.

The series is also created with a diverse group of Chicago venues, organizations and artists, including Chicago Sinfonietta, Sonos de México Ensemble; Contemporary Indigenous Voices featuring Leonard Sumner, Lyla June and Tall Paul (Sept. 6); CIVL Summer Concert featuring Neal Francis and band with special guest

headliner TBA (Sept. 9); Angel Meléndez & the 911 Mambo Orchestra — Homenaje a la Salsa Boricua de Chicago (Sept. 13); and GRAMMY Legacies and Looking Ahead starring Eighth Blackbird with special guests (Sept. 16).

Other upcoming highlights during Chicago In Tune include:

- **Feeling Groovy: A Celebration of Independent Record Labels in Chicago** presented by The Hideout (Sept. 15 and 22, hideoutchicago.com)
- **Rockwell Blues & Jazz Street Stroll** presented by Delmark Records & Rockwell Business & Residents Association (Sept. 4, delmark.com)
- **Argyle Night Music** presented by Uptown United (Sept. 9, 16, 23 and 30, exploreuptown.org)
- **Dance Down** by the Chicago Riverwalk presented by Open the Circle (Sept. 10, otcprojects.org)
- **100 Years of Chicago Cabaret** presented by Chicago Cabaret Professionals (Sept. 19 and Oct. 3, chicagocabaret.org)

DANCE

M.A.D.D. Rhythms, Chicago’s premier tap collective, continues its 20th Anniversary Season with the return of the annual Chicago Tap Summit, Friday, Oct. 1 - Sunday, Oct. 3, at the Harold Washington Cultural Center, 4701 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.

The 2021 festivities, designed to celebrate the tap dance community, feature a hybrid format

of classes, panels, performances, world premieres and more with M.A.D.D. Rhythms faculty, Chicago tap pioneers and dance boundary breakers among many others.

The summit is open to the public with options for beginner, intermediate and advanced dancers. Tickets for the Summit are various prices and go on sale Wednesday, Sept. 1. Information on all of the special 20th Anniversary events and the 2021 Chicago Tap Summit may be found at MADDRhythms.com.

“Following last year’s fully virtual format, we are introducing a new hybrid structure to allow our fellow dance lovers the ability to join us in Chicago or virtually from around the world,” said M.A.D.D. Rhythms Founder Bril Barrett. “From in-person classes taught by our excellent M.A.D.D. Rhythms faculty to online workshops, panel discussions, tap jams and cutting contests, we cannot wait to celebrate and ‘Respect the Dance’ with the Tap community.”

WORLD PREMIERE

“**Hoofin’ It: The Untold Story of the Founders of Tap**” presented by Chicago Dancemakers Forum Project

Saturday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m., at the Harold Washington Cultural Center. This is a trans-media experience encompassing dance pieces interspersed with historical footage and interview clips. Each piece will tell a specific

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Fifield Co. withdraws plan for 125 W. Maple

After two years of debating with neighbors and City Hall, Fifield Companies decided to withdraw their high-rise proposal for 125 W. Maple St. from the last week's Chicago Plan Commission agenda. It is their second proposal that failed before community opposition.

The proposed development would have replaced a vintage four-story residential building at the corner of Maple and LaSalle.

The Planned Development application included a 39-story, 303-unit building with 124 parking spaces and 3,400 square feet of retail space, but the proposal drew opposition from the next door neighbors who felt the building was too close to theirs.

Unit owners in the Gold Coast Galleria building next door rejected a cash offer from Fifield for an undisclosed amount. That building would have share an alley with the new building. "The cash payment was unacceptable because they haven't addressed the primary issues," Galleria board member Rick Miller told Block Club. "Our primary issues are the effects this development will have on the community and on the quality of life of this community."

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these useless [community] interactions," one frustrated CPD insider said last week. "Cops are planting flowers and cleaning alleys. People are calling 911 for help and waiting over an hour. That's not a very positive experience for them."

Audio clips of pending 911 calls are available for citizens to hear by the widely-followed @Chicago_Scanner Twitter account. When one listens, most ask themselves if any of those citizens are likely to have a positive impression of the CPD after waiting hours to get some help.

When a reporter recently asked CPD Supt. David Brown about the department's slow response times earlier this summer, he said it's "normal."

At 5:53 a.m. Aug. 15, a ShotSpotter gunfire detection system alerted an officer in a CPD nerve center on the West Side to 14 rounds fired at 5156 W. Fullerton. The cop notified the dispatcher, who repeated it. "Fourteen rounds fired. 5156 W. Fullerton on the corner." A minute later, "shots fired" calls started coming in from citizens. Thirty seconds later, a "person shot" call at the same location.

But the dispatcher never assigned the call to anyone. She didn't have anyone to give it to.

"Fire's on scene at that shooting," an officer assigned to the local district's front desk said four minutes after the ShotSpotter alert. "We got a car available or no?"

"Negative, sir," the dispatcher said. "We don't have any... Are they out of roll call yet?"

"They haven't even started roll call yet."

At 5:59 a.m., a sergeant tells the dispatcher he'll head over to the shooting from the station. Five minutes after that, another officer heads that way.

The victim, a 38-year-old man, was critically wounded, police would later say.

Every single police district, even the city's most violent, has lost significant numbers of officers since Brown took over as superintendent in April 2020.

Sometimes entire shifts are being handled by fewer than 20 cops. After we reported last month that the Central District, which includes the Loop and South Loop, was being patrolled by just 18 cops on a recent shift, we received a copy of the next night's schedule for the district. There were only 13 cops working the streets that night.

The city's second-worst police district for murders and shootings, Englewood, has recently operated with a third of its beat cars idle due to lack of staffing, according to schedules reviewed by this reporter.

While Brown's decision to move beat cops to citywide units is a big part of the department's problems, CPD's overall workforce is falling sharply, too — from 13,011 cops when he started to about 12,200 cops this month, according to the city's inspector general.

To help fill the gap, Brown is pulling detectives away from their cases at least two days a week to babysit high-crime corners and, yes, walk around the Lollapalooza festival.

"This has been happening for months with no end in sight," an officer said. "Each of the five areas is being forced to do this."

"Detectives are falling behind on investigations," the source continued. "It might not seem like a big deal, but some detectives are deployed out three or four days of the week. Cases aren't given the proper attention needed." Photo line-ups and searches for video evidence are critically

delayed, the cop said.

That officer's claims are supported by stories this reporter has received from violent crime victims directly.

One victim of the July robbery spree couldn't believe his ears when — several days after he was held up at gunpoint — a detective finally got in touch with him and offered an apology for the delayed follow-up.

"He was assigned to other duties and was not serving as a detective for the entire week," the victim told us. "Lollapalooza? I didn't ask."

No one has been charged with any of the robberies.


A recent carjacking victim asked a news staffer this week if he should expect to hear back from detectives quickly. Our guy told him not to get his hopes up.

"You weren't kidding," the man wrote back a few hours later. "[His auto maker] called us to say they're tracking the vehicle, but beyond verifying the car is stolen, nobody at CPD will assist or even take location data. They were told 'the guys handling carjacking don't work Sunday or Monday, call back tomorrow.'"

GOOSE from p. 1


18,800 square feet, with parking including 600 spaces for this phase. Open space plans for this phase include 853 linear feet of riverwalk and 109,400 square feet of open area for the planned market plaza.

Approximately half of the entire site will reportedly be retained as public open space, with parking and loading located below ground level. Greyhound will still lease the site through Jan. 2022, with demolition beginning directly afterwards. The first phase may take between 24 and 30 months to complete.




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