

Shenanigans, Sharpies and slow walking

How did voting go on the North Side?

Elections are a vital part of democratic processes, including political transitions, implementation of agreements and consolidation of democracy.

They are so important that the United Nations plays a major role in providing international assistance to voting processes in nations across the globe. As yet, nobody has invited the UN to come observe a vote in Chicago.

In Democrat-run Chicago, and Illinois, there were few surprises... our particular shade of blue just got a bit darker and perhaps richer.

In Chicago, the act of voting is a right of passage, and over the generations seen as a chance to add one more day onto our Halloween trick or treating.

Voting today is done using two distinctly different election systems. For a long time voting in Chicago was precinct-based, with voting primarily on one day, election day. After the government-imposed pandemic lockdown, more states started to move to expand mail-in ballots, drop boxes, vote harvesting and early voting in large, centralized voting centers.

Vote centers are an alternative to traditional, neighborhood-based precincts. When a jurisdiction opts to use vote centers, voters may cast their ballots on or before Election Day at any vote center in the jurisdiction, regardless of their residential address.

The new system provides for ballot distribution and collection over a period of weeks, making it far more susceptible to 'trick or treating' and manipulation than

the traditional system of votes cast in mass at local precincts on one election day.

Today, some areas - like Chicago - are moving to a smaller number of large voting centers, open to voting for up to two weeks prior to election day, and away from the traditional community-based single-day precinct-oriented voting.

The traditional precincts system has always provided a strong degree of voter confidence, and more immediately accountable, since voters almost daily faced off with their local election judges at church, school, local taverns and during social or professional functions.

At a large voting center, chances are you may not know - or ever see again - the person hand-

SHENANIGANS see p. 12

Hearing delayed to consider demolition of Century and Consumers Buildings

The Commission on Chicago Landmarks delayed a vote on the preliminary landmark designation of the Century and Consumers Buildings during its recent monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 10. The vote would've set up a battle between the city and the federally run General Services Administration [GSA], as they seek to spend \$52 million in federal funds to demolish the towers, citing security and safety reasons for the Dirksen Courthouse.

With an extremely thorough and detailed presentation, city historic preservation staff outlined how the two buildings each meet three landmark designation criteria, as well as the separate integrity criterion.

The GSA provided a statement to the commission that they will be impartially conducting the Section 106 process from the National Historic Preservation Act, which directs them to consider viable alternatives to the proposed demolition. They remain officially neutral on the proposed landmark designation.

Their claim is that the demolition is required because there is no plan for reuse and that the rear windows endanger the adjacent courthouse security. The GSA claims they will be setting up another public hearing in the next few weeks as part of that procedure.

Preservation Chicago along with other preservationists provided testimony at the Commission hearing in support of the Century and Consumers Build-



The Century Building, 202 S. State St.

Photo courtesy Chicago Architectural Photographing Company

ings. It was the culmination of an intensive PR campaign to save the buildings from demolition by securing the strong support of the public and City of Chicago. The campaign included a Chicago 7 Most Endangered designation, dozens of media stories detailing the history, circumstances, threat, and alternatives, discussion of the UNESCO World Heritage Site

nomination, the Chicago Collaborative Archive Center press conference, a Change.org petition with over 23,000 signatures, a BIM short film with over 900,000 views and extensive advocacy.

The ultimate outcome of these efforts remains uncertain, but the effort may be well positioned for the upcoming Section 106 hearings.



The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival will take place Saturday, Nov. 19, with the parade stepping off at 11 a.m.

Magnificent Mile Lights Festival Nov. 19

For 31 years, the Magnificent Mile Lights Festival has been a thrilling holiday celebration: A day-through-night, mile-long extravaganza drawing more than one million celebrants.

This year's festival falls on Saturday, Nov. 19, with the parade stepping off at 11 a.m.

Its centerpiece is one of the largest nighttime parades in the U.S. — a spectacular parade down Michigan Ave.

The parade, led by Mickey and

Minnie Mouse of Disney World, features floats, giant helium balloons, marching bands, celebrities, musical performances, Santa Claus, fireworks and more — illuminating one million lights on The Avenue's 200+ trees. The festival of lights traces its early beginnings in 1949 when members from The Greater North Michigan Ave. Assoc. put up a 50' tall Christmas tree in Water Tower Park.

More than 45,000 properties in County's Tax Sale; 18,000 owe under \$1,000

Treasurer Maria Pappas is urging 45,088 property owners to pay their delinquent bills immediately to prevent their unpaid taxes from being offered for auction at the Cook County Tax Sale that is underway now and runs through Nov. 18. Properties with unpaid 2020 property taxes (due in 2021) will be offered at the Sale.

More than \$169 million is due on delinquent homes, businesses and land in the county. The owners were sent notices via certified mail informing them that their unpaid taxes could be auctioned,

which would put a lien against their properties.

However, more than 14,136 bills were returned by the U.S. Postal Service. In addition to the mailings, the Treasurer's Office published delinquency property tax lists in area newspapers, including this one.

Less than \$1,000 is owed on 12,163 properties in Chicago and 6,100 properties in suburban Cook County.

"Homeowners should make

TAX SALE see p. 12

Community meeting Friday on General Iron demolition

In the coming weeks, GI Clifton Property, LLC, 1800 North Kingsbury, LLC, and Heneghan Wrecking Company, Inc. will be taking steps to demolish buildings located on the site of the former General Iron recycling facility along the east bank of the Chicago River between North Ave. and Armitage.

A community meeting will be held 6 to 8 p.m. Friday Nov. 18 at DePaul Student Center Room 120 AB on the ground floor, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave., to review

the plan.

This demolition is classified as a complex demolition, meaning the structure being removed meets one or more specific qualifications and must adhere to specific environment and public health safety controls set forth by the City of Chicago.

To learn more about complex demolitions and these safety controls, visit chicago.gov/complex-demolitions.

ASL interpreting will be provided.

Being famous and being interesting are two different things



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

Who's the most famous person you ever had dinner with?

Who's the most interesting person with whom you ever shared a meal?

They most likely aren't the same person. They seldom are. Being famous and being interesting are two different things.

One is a lot easier to achieve than the other.

One being totally focused on a certain level of world class achievement and celebrity. The other a more interior experience of personal attraction from emotion, shared experience or values.

Well, I've had a checkered career. And I've been a very lucky boy. So I learned that lesson early on. Famous doesn't always mean interesting.

Certainly I've enjoyed some interesting opportunities in my life, especially with all the writing over the years. Some remarkable doors have opened for me. This column being one of the best.

That was also true at City Hall writing speeches that spilled me over into many other political experiences. And most particularly true at the magazines I have worked for - "The World of Hibernia," and later "Town & Country."

Each had a particular readership. Both aimed at the Hamptons kind of crowd and the Washington D.C. high achieving elite. A curious crew. Both very socially self-conscious. Embracing glamour, fashion, political achievement and personal power.

Both very focused on what makes individuals stand out from each other. What makes them ap-

pealing. What makes their contribution to life so unique. That's the learning curve favored by many Americans still.

The most famous person I've ever eaten with was Pope John Paul II. In his pre-papal days when he lived and ministered in Cracow, Poland. I was attending the Catholic Univ. of Lublin. An important academic institution in that country.

Through contacts in the U.S. I met the future pope. He was young and energetic. Filled with intense interest in American culture. Without much fuss. Humor-filled and amused at a Chicago Irishman's interest in things Polish.

On a later visit to Chicago I lunched with him, renewing our friendship. We had meatloaf and mashed potatoes.

Karol Wojtyla, as he was known then, really embraced the boldness of Chicago culture. His fame would grow world-wide in its proportions. People captivated by his personal piety which to me seemed very similar to my Irish grandmother and her devotional life of being Catholic. It was familiar, and made friendship easy. Comfortable. But certainly making him larger than life. Particularly during his very long papacy later. I looked back on the meatloaf and mashed potatoes, they seemed oddly unreal.

The interesting people, many come to mind. Among the best for me was Ethel Kennedy. Widow of assassinated New York Sen. Robert Kennedy, who ran for president back in 1968. I realized she was a remarkable person the minute I met her. She was totally in charge of everything.

I had been invited by some of her sons to come sailing in Hyanis Port, MA, and had been told she would be in attendance for

our outing on a great sunny day.

She arrived, beloved, with grandchildren and baggage in tow, barefoot and comfortably at home on the sea.

She was conversational and epically upbeat, sharing the moment and the adventure bit by bit with all aboard.

Best yet, her luggage contained all the supplies we would need for sailing: A very large batch of the world's best homemade fried chicken, and a generous supply of good white wine. Her efforts guaranteed a great day on the water.

Mrs. Kennedy was easy to get to know, inquisitive and engaging. She told me there was but one rule aboard: "Don't step on grandma's toes."

We talked of Chicago, its state of affairs and the Cubs. She was generous with both the white wine and the

fried chicken. She explained that chicken bones are biodegradable, so we could just toss them into the sea.

We were surrounded in geographical beauty, serious American history, the details and inner dynamics of a large competitive family life and the brilliant feel of the sun. Sunscreens were a major topic of conversation.

There was a simple ease in all we spoke of and shared. No tedious protocols like I'd found in other far less celebrated American families. A really relaxing moment of friendship and engaging perspectives. Simple. Pleasant. Humor-filled.

Fried chicken will do that.

So much family kidding created an atmosphere of excellent environment on land or sea. A totally refreshing American moment, of course, for any student of history.

But also a profound experience of why Americans are so good at being real. I think of Mrs. Kennedy from time to time, especially when I eat fried chicken. That's the highest compliment.

I think often of the people I have been lucky enough to meet and lunch with. Many becoming true friends in spite of their pedi-



Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II.



Ethel Kennedy

grees or lineage. That's why I was so fond of Desmond Guinness. The sweetest of all that tribe. In his Irish castle.

I think of those souls, like the wonderful writer Thomas Flanagan who pushed my writing with a publisher who helped to give me work, position and fine meals in New York.

I think about embattled politicians whose hospitality was the making of me.

And charmers like Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, art critic Claudia Cassidy and painter Louis le Brocquy, who lunched so often at the Unicorn in Dublin.

And diplomats of profound civility who always seemed to find a space for me at dinner parties in Dublin, Paris and Rome. Great people not taken with their own achievement or blinded by the bravado of their position.

I posit such questions to myself in a moment when it often appears that civility and friendship

have become less and less probable in public life and public office. We are the product of our friendships and civilities. Of our soft words and deep affections that do not hold others hostage or blackmailed by greed.

It appears impossible at the moment of present discord

in American politics. Whether it's the right wing besieging our personal freedoms, or the left wing wokists besieging our standards of historical judgments and traditions.

America's contribution to the common good remains an excellent standard of judgment from art to cookery. From ocean sailings to papal elections.

We are cradled in the certainty of such knowledge that being famous and being interesting are two different things. I know which one I'd choose. Fried chicken every time.

CRITIQUING: Happy Birthday to Chicago's masterful and artistic critic **Hedy Weiss**, her journalistic quality and personal sense of artsy style is renaissance

in its character. We are lucky to have her lighting up things that delight and sometimes offend. And I'm with her on stepped up security at art museums and long prison terms for the vandals of art. Two more nutball climate activists vandalized a series of

Andy Warhol screen prints at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra, Australia, last week. Please just stop. Those who can, do; those who can't, apparently think it's OK to damage the works of others.

WAC: There's no place like the WAC, Chicago's own Women's Athletic Club, now observing its 125 Anniversary, and hosting a fabulous dinner atop its HQ.

The first women's athletic club in the United States. The **Philip Maher**, Beaux Arts inspired landmark is always the invitation to fine food and the best torte cakes in town. Plus membership is so refined and delightful.

Two of my favorite members were out in style for the gala with their usual coterie of the city's best social personalities. **Peggy Snorf** had **Jim Kinney** and **Brian White** in tow. **Janet Owen** had her wonderful husband, **Rodger Owen** with her. WAC can rightfully boast Chicago's most esteemed members list from **Leslie Hindman** to **Sugar Rautbord**, **Claudia Cassidy** and **Bertha Palmer**. Bravo on this historic anniversary that is a bridge to



Hedy Weiss

DIFFERENT see p. 8

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

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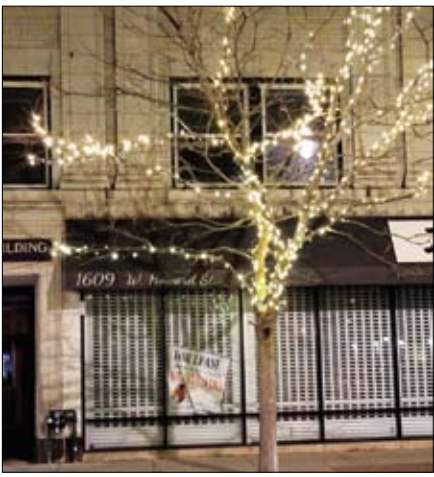
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(From L-R) Starting this week, the storefront at 1609 W. Howard St. will be open to host workshops, classes and events for the next four months. A former general manager of this newspaper, Ed Bannon, is running for alderman of the 38th Ward, holding a reprint of the first front page he did as editor of the Lerner Times. Ald. Tom Tunney, right, with his chief of staff Bennett Lawson. Urban Morning Cozy Cafe brother and sister owners Bridget Burns and Ricky Burns, with customer and coffee shop fan Felicia Sue Kaplan, of West Ridge.

Rogers Park Business Alliance receives some early holiday cheer

**Nonprofit organization
lands more than
\$240k in grants**



Heart of the 'Hood

By Felicia Dechter

Howard Street.

Its trees are all lit up for the holidays and the street looks so pretty that it's deceiving. You would think it's the perfect avenue to do some strolling. But unfortunately, it's not.

Yet thanks to the Rogers Park Business Alliance (RPBA), the Howard St. lights are strikingly stunning (they were installed through the street's Special Service Area). And wonderful is the news that some other community spaces and places are about to get some TLC.

That's because Christmas came early to RPBA, which recently received three grants totaling more than \$240,000. The grants will help to support economic recovery in Rogers Park, as well as equip Chicago's entrepreneurs of color with financial management training.

This week, we'll see the results of one of those grants in particular, the city-funded Storefront Activation Grant [SAG]. Being just under \$100k, the SAG grant is short term yet more immediate, said Sandi Price, RPBA's executive director.

It will serve a dual purpose.

The first purpose will be to beautify Howard Street's vacant storefronts with artwork, so there will be art in the windows to gussy up of some of the community's vacancies. The second purpose will be activated this week, as RPBA has rented a storefront at 1609 W. Howard St. and it will work with arts organizations to host workshops, classes, events, art therapy, yoga, dance -- for all and painting for anybody, Price said.

"That's something we can look forward to soon," said Price. (I'm definitely looking forward to it. Wish it would be permanent!).

The second grant, also for just under \$100k, was from the State

of Illinois, as part of its \$3.5 million Research in Illinois to Spur Economic Recovery [RISE] Program, which was provided to 42 communities and economic development organizations to accelerate long-term economic recovery.

Absolutely spectacular, is that RPBA is the only grantee in Chicago and it will use the taxpayer funds towards creating a commercial revitalization plan for a Howard St. commercial corridor, just as it did for Clark St. in 2016.

But here's an added bonus: First the first time, RPBA is collaborating with the city of Evanston, a "full collaboration" from Sheridan Rd. to Western Ave., Price said. The pair wrote up the RISE Grant proposal together. The Evanston side of Howard St. is thriving, and Price said Evanston has been, "very creative with TIF funds, doing things the city of Chicago doesn't allow."

"We know Howard St. is in need of some revitalization at this time," said Price. "Certain areas are better, others are being neglected."

Wouldn't it be great to have the Chicago side of Howard -- which does have Khmai Cambodian Fine Dining at 2043 W. Howard St. that everyone is raving about -- become as hopping as the Evanston side with places like Peckish Pig and Good To Go, the Jamaican restaurant? (I hear the Good To Go owner bought the property across the street on the 2000 block of Howard on the city side and is turning it into an event venue. Way to go, Good To Go.)

The RISE funds will be used to hire a consultant to do a plan for Howard St. Although Requests for Proposals were due Oct. 28, the planning process probably won't begin until early next year. Price said the RPBA will hold community meetings, and it wants to

hear from business owners and stakeholders in Evanston and Chicago. It will more than likely be a six month process, she said. Additionally, a steering committee will meet with CDOT and the CTA to "find out the realities of the plan," said Price.

"We want to make sure the plan can be implemented, that it's not pie in the sky," said Price.

The proposed plans for the 110-units of affordable housing at Howard and Paulina will be considered during discussions, Price said. "That could have an impact on what the plan looks like," she said.

The third grant, for \$44k, was granted to RBPA in August by the locally-based Fund for Equitable Business Growth, as part of \$2.5 million distributed to 14 organizations across Chicago dedi-

cated to supporting entrepreneurs of color.

The grant will be applied towards RPBA's successful bilingual entrepreneurial training program, GROW/PROGRESANDO. In partnership with Small Business Majority Foundation and New Covenant Community Development Center, GROW/PROGRESANDO will now enable entrepreneur participants from across Chicago to receive free training from the three organizations.

The Fund for Equitable Business Growth is the country's only collaborative dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs of color.

"The hope is that people who decide they want to start a business go through their training

CHEER see p. 9

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No holiday cheer for renters as landlords eye tax hikes

Reassessment increases of 38% to 55% expected



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

With Cook County property tax bills expected to be mailed by Dec. 1 and due Dec. 30, most Chicago apartment dwellers should expect rent increases in 2023.

Landlords should be able to view the long-delayed second installment of the 2021 tax bill online as early as Nov. 15 or 16 “assuming there are no glitches,” said Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas, who is responsible for sending out the bills and collecting payments.

Taxpayers—including homeowners and landlords—will be able to download their bill to print and mail in their payment, pay online at the treasurer’s website, at Chase Bank branches, or, in person, at Pappas’ office downtown.

North Side landlords—especially commercial property owners—are especially nervous because the second installment of the 2021 bill will reflect hefty reassessment numbers in the city of Chicago passed on by Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi.

Reassessment increases of 38% to 55% in Lincoln Park and Old Town are expected to send real estate tax bills soaring. Hefty rent hikes likely will follow in spring and summer of 2023 when new leases are drafted.

Rent growth in the Windy City soared in 2021 when the pandemic drove up prices rapidly, especially downtown, where rents rose more than 30%, reported Integra Realty Resources, a consulting and appraisal firm.

A 1,000-square-foot luxury (Class A) apartment in downtown Chicago rented for \$3,370 per month at the end of 2021, up from \$2,550 in 2020, when pandemic-battered landlords were offering huge incentives.

Integra reported that the net rent at high-end Class A buildings in such ritzy neighborhoods as the Gold Coast, Streeterville, the Loop, Near East Side, River North, Fulton Market and West Loop rose 32% in 2021, while net rent at less expensive Class B properties downtown skyrocketed 34%.

The downtown apartment occupancy rate slumped to 86.5% at the end of 2020 from 93.3% a year earlier, according to Integra. So, the 2021 rent hikes were mostly catch-up increases.

By the end of 2021, the downtown occupancy rate rebounded to 94.7%, reported Integra, which forecasted 5% rent hikes downtown in 2022.

For renters who can’t afford luxury apartments downtown, there are some nice units located in the first ring of neighborhoods outside downtown, noted Ron DeVries, senior managing director of Integra. In some cases, rents in outlying neighborhoods, such as West Town, Logan Square and Avondale, are 20% lower than downtown, he said.

However, apartment hunters searching for those bargain rents in such North Side neighborhoods as Old Town, Lincoln Park, Lakeview, Edgewater and Andersonville may see that dream evaporating next spring and summer.

“How apartment rents are determined is systemic in the sense that each piece in the process affects another piece in a ripple effect until you get to the eventual rents,” explained veteran Chicago landlord Stuart Handler, CEO of TLC Management Co.

“In the end, if real estate taxes go up, rents eventually go up. If utility bills and maintenance go up, rents eventually go up,”



Sono East in Old Town.

Handler said.

“Landlords are nimble, creative and risk-taking people,” Handler said. “If the demand is there, they will find a way to absorb the increased costs of operating their buildings by passing rising expenses along to their tenants in the form of higher rents.”

However, Handler noted that if landlords cannot pass along those increased costs, there likely will be an economic dark side.

“Landlords eventually will cut back on maintaining their buildings causing deterioration, followed by lower rents to fill vacancies and higher evictions for low-credit nonpaying tenants.”

According to Handler, higher rents ultimately are “the result of decisions made by county tax assessors, taxing bodies, utilities companies and legislators.”

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.

Man charged with \$2.7M COVID relief fraud

A federal grand jury returned an indictment in October, which was unsealed last week, charging a Chicago man with 12 counts of wire fraud for allegedly fraudulently obtaining at least \$2.7 million in small business loans and grants under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

According to the indictment, beginning around April 2020, and continuing until around Nov. 2020, Quamdeen Amuwo, 40, of Chicago, participated in a scheme to defraud the Small Business Admin. [SBA] Economic Injury Disaster Loan [EIDL] program.

The EIDL program provided loan assistance and grants to cover working capital and other operating expenses for businesses suf-

fering economic effects caused by the government-imposed COVID-19 economic lockdown.

The indictment alleges Amuwo submitted to the SBA numerous applications for loans on behalf of businesses and entities purportedly owned by Amuwo and others. The applications allegedly contained materially false statements and misrepresentations concerning the purported entities’ owners, employees, revenues, costs, and date of establishment.

As part of the scheme, Amuwo is alleged to have made false statements regarding the applying entities’ gross revenues, cost of goods sold, and number of employees for the 12 months prior to the onset of the pandemic, and provided false state registra-

tion and tax documents. Amuwo is also alleged to have submitted personal identifying information for purported business owners, including names, social security numbers, and fake state identification cards that he knew did not belong to a real person.

The indictment alleges that Amuwo caused the SBA to disburse at least \$2.7 million in EIDL loans and grants into bank accounts controlled by him and others. Amuwo allegedly used the money to make cash withdrawals, transfers, and purchases for his personal benefit.

Amuwo is set for arraignment in federal court in Chicago on Nov. 28, before Magistrate Judge Beth W. Jantz.

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An end to federal oversight at three county offices

BY JONATHAN BILYK
Cook County Record

Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi along with members of his executive staff had two wins last week.

Kaegi won re-election for another term on Tuesday, and they participated in a federal court hearing at the Dirksen Federal Building, where they hope the court will find their office in substantial compliance with a court order banning political influence in hiring decisions.

Both Kaegi and the appointed court monitor, Susan Feibus, argued the office has complied with hiring rules outlined in the Shakman Decrees and oversight should end. A judge heard Kaegi's case Nov. 1 at the Dirksen Federal Building and granted the motion to remove the decree. It brought an end to decades of hiring oversight in Cook County spurred by the Shakman Case.

"This is a great day for fairness and ethics in Cook County," said Assessor Kaegi. "The taxpayers of Cook County can have confidence that the corrupting influence

of politics will never again have a place in the Assessor's Office."

Monitoring hiring to prevent nepotism has come with a heavy \$4.7 million cost for taxpayers, according to a county report. Patronage hiring within the assessor's office prior to Kaegi led to decades of incorrect or unfair assessment practices, further hurting property owners in the city and county.

The hearing attested to a finding of substantial compliance by the Assessor's Office with a federal consent decree and dismissed the Assessor from the court order which governed its hiring practices since 2012.

Two more Cook County offices could also soon escape decades-long federal court oversight of their hiring and promotion actions and practices.

Attorneys for both the Cook County Treasurer and the Cook County Circuit Clerk's offices also filed motions in Chicago federal court, asserting the time had arrived to give back unsupervised hiring, promotion and firing authority to government offices that at one time had stood as

examples of politically motivated patronage hiring.

The motions from Treasurer Maria Pappas and Circuit Clerk Iris Martinez were joined by attorneys for reform advocates whose names are synonymous with the court orders that created the system of oversight and monitoring.

Fritz Kaegi and the appointed court monitor, Susan Feibus, argued the office has complied with hiring rules outlined in the Shakman Decrees and oversight should end.

In the motions, the offices and reform advocates Michael Shakman and Paul Lurie agree the two offices have achieved "substantial compliance" with federal court decrees requiring them to enact policies and procedures to guide their hiring and promotion decisions.

Beginning in the early 1970s, federal judges imposed court decrees on many Cook County and Illinois state government

offices, demanding hiring reforms.

Known collectively as the "Shakman Decrees," the orders forbid governments in Illinois from basing most hiring and promotion decisions on workers' political beliefs and preferences. Under those orders, the courts appointed so-called "special masters" and administrators to monitor government hiring decisions and policies and to ensure compliance with the decrees.

Courts and reformers said the decrees were needed to force reforms on politicians and government offices in Chicago and Springfield which would use government hiring to build political patronage fiefdoms, to then exert leverage over state and local government and increase their own power, prestige and personal wealth.

The strategy has a long history in Illinois, seen most recently in the cases of former Illinois House Speaker and Democratic Party Chairman Michael Madigan and Chicago Ald. Ed Burke, who have both been indicted on federal political corruption charges.

OVERSIGHT see p. 7

Uptown's Uplift HS mostly empty, CPS reading and math proficiency crashing

There is shocking news out about the lack of students at Uptown's Uplift High School, 900 W. Wilson Ave.

The Chicago Tribune reports that the school population has dropped to about 100 students.

The initial founding documents for the school show that it was hoped that the school would serve some 460 students in grades six through nine.

The vision for the school was for Uplift to foster relations, and draw students, from the Uptown community.

Perhaps even more troubling is that in August, when it was announced that Uplift High School had only 55 students, that only three percent of those students were reading proficient.

Chicago's latest scores on a test known as the "nation's report card" also showed steep declines in math.

Across CPS, reading proficient outcomes are quite bad. Only 27% of their students can read at grade level and just 24% are proficient in math.

The results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress — or NAEP — test released in late October add to a growing body of evidence quantifying the academic damage from government-imposed pandemic school shutdowns.

The declines show levels to what they

were about a decade ago — reversing years of progress for CPS. Across Illinois, scores exceeded the national average and mostly remained flat, but there was a marked decrease in eighth grade math.

Across CPS, reading proficient outcomes are quite bad. Only 27% of their students can read at grade level and just 24% are proficient in math.

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona called the national scores "appalling and unacceptable."

In Chicago, the test also offered fresh evidence that the academic fallout has been greatest for Latino and Black students. White students generally saw scores dip slightly, widening pre-pandemic disparities.

Back when Uplift was founded, it was expected that its student body would draw primarily from Uptown, despite it not being designated as a neighborhood school by Chicago Public Schools [CPS].

Without a consistent stream of incoming students, or draws like International Baccalaureate or performing arts programs, its

UPLIFT see p. 10

Lawsuit challenging SAFE-T Act won't be heard until next month

BY CWBCHICAGO

Lawsuits by 58 county state's attorneys challenging the constitutionality of Illinois' criminal justice reform legislation known as the SAFE-T Act were recently combined into one lawsuit in Kankakee County, but the case won't be argued until next month, and a decision is not expected until mid-December.

That's according to updated information from the Kankakee County Circuit Clerk.

The Illinois Supreme Court combined lawsuits filed by more than half of Illinois' state's attorneys on Oct. 31 into the suit filed by Kankakee County State's Attorney Jim Rowe, which was the first to be filed. The state's attorneys asked the supreme court to make the move.

Court clerk records show the case will be heard by Kankakee County Chief Judge Thomas Cunningham, a former prosecutor who spent three decades in private practice before being elected to the bench as a Republican.

On Nov. 7, Cunningham scheduled a hearing on the SAFE-T Act suit for the afternoon of Dec. 7, with a written decision to be issued on Dec. 15.

Parts of the SAFE-T Act, including the abolition of cash bail, are scheduled to take

effect on Jan. 1. Other parts of the 700-plus page legislation are already active.

While each of the lawsuits was different, three common themes are:

- The SAFE-T Act addresses a range of issues in violation of the state Constitution, which requires legislation to "be confined to one subject." In addition to bail reform, the SAFE-T Act requires police to wear cameras, allows for decertification of cops, revises electronic monitoring statutes, and amends the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

- The elimination of cash bail violates the Illinois Constitution, which says persons "shall be bailable by sufficient sureties."

- The SAFE-T Act should be blocked because it was passed in a matter of hours, whereas legislation is supposed to be before the General Assembly for at least three days.

Rowe, the Kankakee County State's Attorney, said state's attorneys from Will, Kendall, Vermilion, Sangamon, and McHenry counties were designated to assist his team with the litigation.

Court records show that Michael Kasper, a long-time leading attorney for the state's Democratic Party, is among the defense lawyers fighting for the law.



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Shootings leave 1 dead, 3 injured in Rogers Park

A pair of shootings left one man dead and three injured in Rogers Park on Nov. 9, Chicago police said. Authorities have not revealed if they believe the two cases are related.

The first shooting occurred in the 6600 block of N. Clark around 8:50 p.m.

Police said three men were standing on the sidewalk when shots were fired, killing a 29-year-old. The other victims, a 43-year-old with a gunshot wound to his abdomen and a 48-year-old with a gunshot wound to the face, were taken to hospitals in fair and critical condition, respectively.

A CPD camera recorded a tinted-out black SUV heading the wrong way on North Shore Ave. from Clark St. with men running after it and firing weapons, according to an officer who reviewed the footage.

Then, around 10:08 p.m., a 48-year-old man was shot in the foot as he stood in the 1600 block of W. Howard. Police said a gunman walked up to the victim, fired shots, and fled the scene. Initial indications from the scene were that the victim knew the gunman.

EMS took the Howard St. victim to St. Francis Hospital in fair condition.

So far this year, 29 people have been shot in Rogers Park. That's up from 21 at this point last year.

Man shot, suspect detained inside Lakeview apartment building

Chicago police have a suspect in custody after a man was shot during a possible domestic incident in Lakeview on Nov. 8.

Police responded to a call of shots fired inside an apartment building in the 700 block of W. Diversey around 3:05 p.m. They found a shell casing and blood near the seventh-floor lobby and located the victim, a 50-year-old man, a short time later, according to police.

EMS took the victim to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in good condition with a gunshot wound to his foot.

Later in the afternoon, police found a gun and arrested a suspect in a stairwell of the building.

The victim is the 15th person shot in Lakeview so far this year.

CPD shuts River North nightclub linked to weekend shooting

The Chicago Police Dept. has shuttered a River North nightclub that authorities say is linked to a shooting that left three people injured and one man dead Nov. 6. A bright orange "summary closure" notice was plastered on the front door of Hush, 311 W. Chicago Ave., on Nov. 8, barring the club from operating until it clears things up with the city.

Aldermen created Chicago's Summary Closure Ordinance to keep businesses deemed a "public safety threat" closed until the business owner takes "reasonable steps" to protect its employees, patrons, and members of the public from future harm, according to the city. Business owners have rights to a probable cause hearing and a hearing to resume operations under the ordinance.

Officials said Sunday's shooting occurred after Hush employees ejected a group from the nightclub around 2:10 a.m. The group began fighting in the street, and two people in the group started shooting. A security guard from the lounge also returned fire, police said.

Arsen Solaqa, 30, was killed, and three others were injured, including the security guard, who police said was shot in the arm.

According to prosecutors, a security guard dropped his gun during the incident, and Jimmy Silva, 19, exited a nearby vehicle and picked it up. Silva returned to the SUV, which was occupied by several other people, and then pointed the gun out the vehicle's window as it left the crime scene.

Chicago police surveillance camera operators allegedly secured video of Silva picking up the gun and waving it out of the car. He is not accused of firing the weapon. He is charged with unlawful use of a weapon but is not accused of firing the gun.

CPD has ordered other clubs and restaurants to close in the wake of shootings, but the enforcement measure is not evenly applied.

The Sun-Times reported in September that CPD had forced 58 businesses to close citywide since 2015 after shootings on or near their premises. But, as the paper found, businesses downtown and on the North Side were far less likely to be forced to

close than businesses in less affluent parts of town.

Last month, a man was shot and killed inside J. Parker, a rooftop lounge at the Hotel Lincoln, 1816 N. Clark, but the city did not order the club to close. In fact, the club continued to operate on the same evening that the local alderman said it "will remain closed for the time being."

Man forced his way into Streeterville hotel room, attacked stranger inside

A Chicago man was held without bail on Nov. 9 after prosecutors accused him of forcing his way into a Streeterville hotel room, attacking two men, and making statements about a "rape fantasy."



Pasquinel Taylor

Pasquinel Taylor, 43, was already on a recognizance bond for misdemeanor criminal trespass to a residence after allegedly being found sleeping in a stranger's Boystown home without permission on Oct. 28.

Two brothers and a woman were sharing a room at the Sheraton Grand Chicago, 301 E. North Water St., when one of the men heard a knock on the door and a male voice around check-out time on Nov. 8, officials said. Thinking that his brother was knocking, the man opened the door. But it wasn't his brother who was knocking.

It was Taylor, who asked to come inside for a drink of water, then touched the man's chest and offered to perform oral sex on the victim, prosecutor Sarah Dale-Schmidt said.

The man declined and tried to close the door, but Taylor allegedly forced his way into the room as the victim called his brother on the phone for help.

Taylor pushed the man onto the bed, held his wrists, stood over him, and punched him in the face and body, Dale-Schmidt said. The victim fought back and slipped away to allow his brother into the room.

A brawl broke out. Taylor hit the first man in the face with a glass, and the second brother hit Taylor with a bottle. The first brother managed to restrain Taylor while the other brother and one of their girlfriends went to get hotel security, Dale-Schmidt said. She said neither the brothers nor the girlfriend had seen Taylor before.

Later, with the security officers looking on, Taylor "made a statement about a rape fantasy," Dale-Schmidt said. Chicago police took him into custody.

The brother who answered the door suffered cuts to his hands and body and received stitches for a cut on his nose. The other brother had cuts, red marks, and bruising, according to Dale-Schmidt.

Dale-Schmidt said Taylor has several felony convictions, including forgery in 2000, manufacture-delivery of methamphetamine in 2017, possession of methamphetamine last year, and unspecified charges in California. He also received a four-year federal prison sentence for manufacturing and passing fraudulent checks in 2006.

His public defender described the victims' injuries as "relatively minor." The lawyer also told Judge Kelly McCarthy that Taylor "had plans to start in the general labor division of the CTA on Monday."

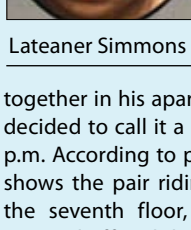
Taylor is charged with home invasion, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, and misdemeanor counts of battery and criminal trespassing.

Aside from holding Taylor without bail on the new charges, McCarthy set bail in his pending misdemeanor case at \$30,000.

Lakeview woman shot her neighbor after an afternoon of drinking

Prosecutors said a Chicago woman shot another resident of her Lakeview apartment building after they spent the afternoon drinking together, but her defense attorney said she denies the allegations and it "might be a one-off situation."

Lateaner Simmons, 39, was arrested by Chicago police on Nov. 8, shortly after a 50-year-old man was shot inside the building on the 700 block of W. Diversey.



Lateaner Simmons

Simmons and the man were drinking together in his apartment when they decided to call it a night around 4:15 p.m. According to prosecutors, video shows the pair riding an elevator to the seventh floor, where the man stepped off and then put his arm between the doors to continue a conversation with her.

There were no signs of yelling, argument, or confrontation, according to the allegations.

The man stepped away for a moment, and the video allegedly shows Simmons pulling a gun from her purse and looking around the corner. Prosecutors claim that when he returned, the man extended his arm to calm Simmons down, and she shot him in the foot.

After being shot, the victim walked to a neighbor's apartment to get help.

Police say they found a gun, about \$10 worth of heroin, and \$300 worth of cocaine in Simmons' purse.

Simmons told police that the man had been touching and flirting with her, and she "had a right to do it," an assistant state's attorney said during Simmons' bail hearing.

Assistant Public Defender Michael Grady pointed to Simmons' lack of criminal background and said that, while she denies the charges, the incident "might be a one-off situation."

She is charged with aggravated battery by discharging a firearm, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, and possession of a controlled substance.

Judge Kelly McCarthy ordered her to pay a \$4,000 bail deposit to be released.

Red Line passenger wielded box cutter, jumped from moving train to escape robbers



(L) Terrance Hardy, (R) Gavon Easter

A Red Line passenger pulled an emergency escape lever and jumped from a moving train to escape a group of robbers who attacked him in the Loop, prosecutors said Nov. 13.

Two men are charged with being part of the group, including one on bail for allegedly battering someone at the same station in July and on bail for allegedly driving a stolen car in September.

The victim was riding a northbound train when five men approached him and asked for cigarettes around 1:42 a.m. Nov. 12, officials said. When he said he didn't have any, the group closed in and started beating and robbing him.

Prosecutors said the victim, who lost \$30 and cigarettes to the offenders, pulled out a box cutter to stop the

attack. The group backed away, allowing him to pull the train's emergency lever and then jump from the moving rail car at Roosevelt.

The group also exited at Roosevelt and started kicking the victim again. Three offenders escaped. But two others stayed on the platform, and CTA surveillance camera operators sent Chicago police officers to arrest them.

While watching the feed, officers allegedly saw one of the men throw an ammunition magazine into a trash can on the platform.

Prosecutors said the victim identified Gavon Easter, 19, and Terrance Hardy, 21, as two of the men who attacked and robbed him.

Hardy, who has no criminal background, is a high school graduate and lives with his mother, according to his defense attorney. Judge Kelly McCarthy ordered him to pay a \$3,000 deposit toward bail to go home on electronic monitoring.

Easter is on bail for a misdemeanor or battery charge stemming from an incident at the Roosevelt station on July 14. Two months later, he was given a recognizance bond by Judge Mary Marubio after he was charged with felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle on Sept. 7.

He is charged with robbery, misdemeanor battery, and unlawful possession of ammunition. His defense attorney said he has two children and has worked at McDonald's for about six weeks. McCarthy ordered him to pay a \$6,000 bail deposit to get out on an ankle monitor.

Woman charged with carjacking driver in Roscoe Village nearly two years ago

On Nov. 10 prosecutors charged a Chicago woman with carjacking a driver in Roscoe Village nearly two years ago. The accused woman, Ariana Barrett-Washington, 22, was already facing charges for another hijacking in the suburbs nine days after the North Side incident.

At 4:45 p.m. Nov. 20, 2020, a



Ariana Barrett-Washington

25-year-old woman stopped at a stop sign in the 3300 block of N. Hoyne while driving to her boyfriend's house. A car that had been closely following her struck her rear bumper and then pulled in front of her.

The victim got out of her car, and another woman stepped out of the vehicle that hit her. After asking the victim if she was okay, the other woman jumped into the driver's seat of the victim's Hyundai Elantra and drove away.

Prosecutors said the victim held onto and ran alongside her car until she fell to the pavement. The car that initially collided with her vehicle, driven by an accomplice, also left the scene. Investigators found the hijacked Elantra a few days later. It was totaled.

Weeks later, the victim's father, who owned the Elantra, began receiving red light and speed camera tickets from the city. Prosecutors on Thursday said some of those tickets included clear images showing that Barrett-Washington was driving it.

On November 29, 2020, Barrett-Washington and her boyfriend allegedly hijacked an Uber driver in the suburbs.

Prosecutors said the two entered the car at 184th and Kedzie. Along the way, Barrett-Washington told

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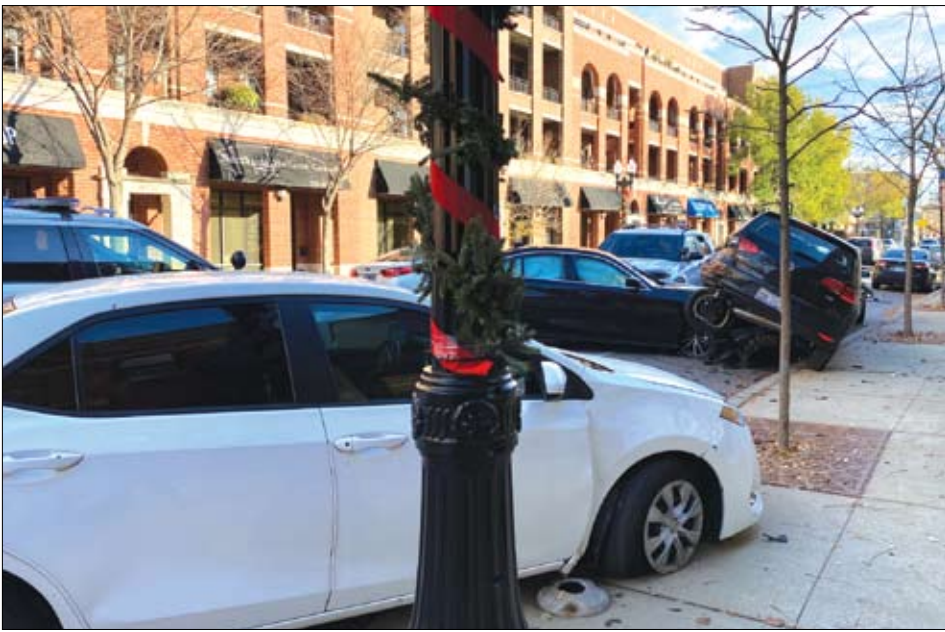
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A quiet Sunday morning in Uptown erupted into chaos when just before 11 a.m. a violent offender wanted by the police crashed into three other cars in the 4700 block of N. Clark St. He then fled the scene and carjacked another car on the 1500 block of W. Lawrence Ave., kidnapping a 2-month old baby who was strapped into a babyseat inside the car he took. The car and baby were rescued later in the Loop.

Photo by Sheila Swann

Wanted man crashes in Uptown, steals nearby car with baby inside; child OK, suspect in custody

BY CWBCHICAGO

Chicago police have a man in custody after he allegedly crashed a car in Uptown, then stole another vehicle nearby that had a 2-month-old baby boy in the back seat on Nov. 13. Police found the stolen car, arrested the suspect, and safely recovered the baby in the Loop a short time later.

The incident began shortly before 11 a.m. when a Chicago police detective began following the suspect for an unknown reason, according to initial information. He eventually crashed into three other cars in the 4700 block of N. Clark and ran from the scene.

The offender didn't go far. According to a CPD spokesperson, he saw a 41-year-old

man sitting in a Honda CR-V in a parking lot in the 1500 block of W. Lawrence and took control of the victim's vehicle, which had the baby boy secured in the back seat.

Chicago police tracked the stolen car to the 100 block of N. Wacker Dr., where they took the man into custody. The infant was still in the vehicle and appeared to be OK, but police took him to Lurie Children's Hospital as a precaution.

Meanwhile, an officer radioed that police had found a gun in one of the cars that the offender drove, but it was not clear if the weapon was found at the Clark St. crash scene or in the Loop.

A law enforcement source said the man police arrested is wanted for violent crimes in another state.

OVERSIGHT from p. 5

Cook County offices have been particularly notorious for such patronage.

However, according to the new motions in federal court, the reformers joined the Treasurer and Circuit Clerk in declaring they believed new policies and rules set in place in those offices mean the time had come to lift the decrees from those offices.

The Treasurer's motion also specifically references recent court wins by the Governor's Office and Illinois Attorney General, who fought for two years decrees in court

to end the anti-patronage oversight and return full power over hiring, firing and promotion in a host of state agencies to the governor and his appointees.

Motions to vacate the court decrees assert, in part, reformers can't provide any documented evidence of continued "unlawful political patronage hiring."

"In no way are we saying that the risk of unlawful political patronage no longer exists within Illinois. Of course it does: nobody is naive to the state's embarrassing history," U.S. Appellate Judge Michael Scudder wrote of the Pritzker decision.

But the court ruled reforms by Pritzker

Letters to the Editor

I like a good commentary

As a longtime supporter of WFMT, I would like to know more about Thomas O'Gorman's concerns regarding the station's announcers ("It's more like the Howard Stern show every day," Nov. 2).

I gather that you object to explication of the music. Are you referring to Bill McGlaughlin's Exploring Music? Elbio Barilari's Fiesta? Oliver Camacho? Announcers in general?

Personally I always enjoy good commentary and miss announcers such as Karl Haas, WQXR's Jacques Fray, and WFMT's Andrew Karzas.

Hallie Metzger
Gold Coast

No feral cats

Regarding Thomas O'Gorman's [Nov. 9] column about the Chicago Mob era in crime, and then a segue into feral cats and the four-legged rats.

O'Gorman's advocacy of feral cats is misinformed. The book "Cat Wars" by Peter P. Marra explains the facts. Feral cats might temporarily scare rats to other locations, but don't eat enough rats to end the scourge. Meanwhile, they do kill and eat many baby native birds; wishing won't make them quit. Feral cats must be removed from the free-range environment.

The main factor enabling rat proliferation is improper disposal of waste, including dog poop. I'm not aware of any studies, but think the switch from incineration to landfilling has exacerbated this problem, by there being more waste sitting in dumpsters and trash cans for more time waiting to be picked up, and available to rats. In my co-op, all our trash was promptly incinerated by the coal fire which heated our water. Nothing was recycled; but we had no rat problem. Now we have gas-fired boilers, pigeons - and rats.

Jean SmilingCoyote
West Ridge

and Gov. Bruce Rauner made federal court oversight unwarranted. The same was found for Kaegi's office.

While Shakman and his fellow reform advocates have joined with the other office holders in not opposing their requests to lift the decrees, they have to this point resisted efforts to lift a similar decree in place on the Cook County Clerk's office.

What can you do with a drunken sailor

Chicago's next Mayor and City Council will be inaugurated soon at Navy Pier.

So the drunken sailor reference is appropriate. Because the Mayor and City Council will spend like a bunch of drunken sailors for the next few months.

- \$7.6 Billion for the Chicago Public Schools. That comes out to \$28,000 per student! That is more spending per student than Immaculate Conception-Saint Joseph grade school (\$13,000) or St. Ignatius College Prep (\$24,000).

- \$3.6 Billion for the CTA's Red Line extension. To build four stations. To carry an extra 4,000 passengers everyday. That comes out to \$900,000 per passenger. For that amount, why don't we just buy each rider a Ford Explorer (\$60,000), an RV (\$115,000) or a SeaRay speedboat (\$140,000)?

- \$670 Million for Soldier Field. That's more than its original cost of \$640 Million. Did they sell bonds or just put it on a Mastercard?

- \$80 Million in unspent crime prevention monies. That would hire 1600 new police officers. But the North Side really hasn't seen any increase in crime, have they?

- \$36 Million for the Matt Martin/New Cabrini Green/Lincoln Square public housing for 63 small apartments. That comes out to about \$570,000 per unit. For that kind of money, Chicago could buy those tenants their own three flat and a vacation timeshare ownership to the Wisconsin Dells.

That comes out to almost \$12 billion! That is almost \$18,000 for every family of four.

Taxes will definitely go up.

Do you think that is why the property tax bills were held back until after the elections?

Are you safer than you were four years ago?

Are your taxes lower than they were four years ago?

Hahaha haha.

Mike Sullivan
Avondale

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Brian Haag with niece Violet Haag

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DIFFERENT from p. 2

Chicago's most refined eras and times.

MERCI: Special shout-out to loyal and generous **Barb Skwarski**, who's been reading this newspaper for more than 70 years.

CELEBRATE: Every year, Tributosaurus celebrates the night before Thanksgiving with one of their very favorite shows, *The Boss*. Yes, Tributosaurus becomes **Bruce Springsteen**, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, at Theater on the Lake, 2401 N. Lake Shore Dr. Springsteen is famous for his live shows, and this year they are visiting the raw early E Street jams, and the more thoughtful introspective Bruce of later years, and everything in between - and there will be some new wrinkles in there for all of his fans. Get tickets, dump the kids with mom, and go.

INTERNATIONAL: Thanks to the Internet, we've always had our share international readers and can proudly call the Irish **Guinnesses** and some Papal Curia curiosities weekly readers. This week we've added our first Swiss residents to our lists.

SERVICE CLUB: Our hat's off to the heavy lifters and elegant social potentates at Service Club following the magic pageantry at their recent gala honoring the Chicago Fire Department [CFD]. Their celebration of the remarkable CFD, with the department's Commissioner, **Annette Nance Holt** and top brass present, makes us all proud. It was a star-studded night at the Four Seasons Hotel thanks to event chairs **Lauren Lein Cavanaugh**, **Denise Tomasello** and **Sally Jo Morris Pfaff**. Aided by the brilliant membership, it was a Who's Who of social leadership from a very grateful city.

INVADERS: Costumed Vikings invade Andersonville 3 to 9 p.m. Saturday, for their annual Viking Pub Crawl, inspired by Swedish St. Morten's Gås Day (St. Martin's Day). Five years ago, the pub crawl replaced the neighborhood's annual goose pa-



Women's Athletic Club, 626 N. Michigan Ave.



Mary Claire Scasone Moll and son, Ken Jr.



Marcellas Reynolds



Janet Owen, Jim Kinney, Rodger Owen, Brian White and Peggy Snorf.



Bobbi Panter and Matt Arnoux.



Desiree Glapion Rogers

rade, and has grown in popularity ever since. Might be due to all the marauding... "Gås," meaning "goose" and the geese are at their fattest in early November. So they're easy to bag. Go get 'em Viks.

BANK HOLIDAY: Britons will be given an extra special bank holiday on May 8, 2023 for the coronation of **King Charles III** according to new PM **Rishi Sunk**.

DESIGN: Lincoln Park interior designer **Jasmin Reese** was recently featured in *Aspire Magazine* for her work on a 10,000-square-foot home of **Jimmy Chamberlin**, drummer for The Smashing Pumpkins.

VOGUE: **Desirée Glapion Rogers** thrilled to moderate a panel at the Chicago History Museum with the Costume Council to present a special screening of the Youtube Originals series *Supreme Models: The Documentary*, with **Marcellas Reynolds** and an array of A-list fashion industry panelists, inspired by his bestseller book celebrating what Black models have been through and accomplished. The six-part series is based on Reynolds' book featuring interviews with a host of fashion industry icons including **Anna Wintour**, **Iman**, **Sessilee Lopez**, **Zendaya**, **Precious Lee**,

Olivier Rousteing, **Joan Smalls**, **Jamal Williams** and others. Both the book and series explore the racial and political barriers for Black models, and how these models not only broke through but also reconfigured what being a Black model really means.

RIP: Deep condolences and prayers to **Susie Forstmann Kealy** on the recent death of her son, **Ryan**. His loss is shattering. Peace to your heart, dear lady.

WHO'S WHERE: **Mary Claire Scorsone Moll** off in Florence, Italy, visiting son, **Ken Moll, Jr.**, currently in residence there along the Arno... **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus** in New York dining with Shihoko Ui at their favorite, Fasano Restaurant... Chicago attorney **John Donbrowski** and banker **Victoria Dal Santo** in Madison, WI, visiting daughter, senior sailor **Cristina Donbrowski**, for a rain-soaked weekend... Illini Alumni President **Michael Harring** led the cheers at the Illini game with his granddaughter... Chicago artist **Adam Holzrichter** is expanding the art world on Milwaukee Ave. and gets out on the river with **Melissa Jensen** and the kinder... Tortoise Supper Club's **Megan Addington** at Broadway Armory Park wondering why she's wearing

her favorite **Kate Spade** earrings with the full hockey gear she's wearing for floor ball practice... **Brian Relph** still traveling in South America after three years... **Susan Towers** will always be a Dublin girl at heart, even in Portland, OR, baking her famous scones with tea-soaked raisins...



Jimmy Chamberlin

Dan Balanoff tailgating pregame with **Rocco Rinaldi**... **Julia Jacobs** and **Bethany Florek** at the Chicago International Gala at the Union League Club... **David** and **Caroline Richter** in Cincinnati, OH, for the Bengals game... **Myra Reilly**, nursing a dance injury to her arm, joined **Mamie Walton**, **Susan Regenstein**, **Linda Heitler**, **Beba Roch** and **Sean Eshaghy** for lunch at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill... nearby was **Lucia Adams**, **Cynthia Olson** and this writer...not too far away from Illinois Appellate Court Justice **Maureen Connors'** table...**Linda Robin** remembering her friend **Sally Berger**, memorialized in Palm Desert for her charity and social leadership.... **Irene Michaels** debuting new material in her live performance that all agree is hot... fabulous

dinner hosted by Kathy Wolter Mondelli at LaScarola grateful to her and husband, restaurateur, **Joey Mondelli**....**Dr. Rose Gomez** gathers with members of her investment club, among which are members from Lake Forest too apprehensive of Chicago crime to come to the city to meet....Architect **Lucien Lagrange**, and nearby neighbor **Rose O'Neill**, gathered at the Cardinal's residence to support Friends of the Vatican Art Museum's fundraiser and rub elbows with **Cardinal Cupich**.... **Candace Jordan** did a fine job interviewing author **Michael Kutza** on his new bestseller, *Starstruck*, at Marchesa....**Rev. Jesse Jackson** overjoyed that his son, **Jonathan**, did so well on Election Day and will now be heading to Congress....**Shelley Howard**, **Jay Barksdale**, **Larry Wright**, **Dennis Donn** and **Fernando Asturizaga** gathered at Carmines on Rush.

POLO RIP: Friends everywhere this side of a chucker mark the passing of the erudite, elegant, quixotic **Michael Butler** of the Oakbrook Butlers. Sympathies and love to all the family.

TRUE BLUE GALA: **Bethany Florek** was rich in detail working to get another True Blue Gala on the books. Event planners and board leadership created a remarkable event benefiting the Chicago Police at the Park Hyatt.

Compassion, my dear Brother, is preferable to cleanliness. Reflect that with a little soap, I can easily clean my bed covers but even with a torrent of tears, I would never wash from my soul, the stain, that my harshness toward the unfortunate would create.

-- St. Martin de Porres

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Iconic One of a Kind Show returns to THE MART

The One of a Kind Show is Chicago's not-to-miss annual shopping event. It will return to THE MART, 222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, Thursday, Dec. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 4.

Now celebrating 21 years, the show will bring together 500 talented artists, artisans, and makers to offer the best in everything from fine art and handmade goods to gourmet cafes, bar areas, live entertainment and activities fun for all ages.

Shoppers are invited to save the date as tickets to the holiday show are available at www.oneofakind-showchicago.com.

Unlike traditional shopping, the show provides the opportunity to shop directly from the makers of goods spanning a variety of categories including accessories, gourmet, painting, bath and body, holiday, paper, ceramics, home goods, pet products, fashion, jewelry, photography, fiber art, kids, sculpture, furniture, metal, wood,



Designer Akese Stylelines will offer African Prints with western fabrics at December's One of a Kind Show.

glass, and mixed media.

An artist locator is available online so shoppers can browse

the artists and sort by name, location, category, allowing shoppers to plan their perfect experience

CHEER from p. 3

program," said Price.

The three grants we hope will make a huge impact in the community and we hope to see grand things happening on Howard St. and for business entrepreneurs in the future.

Thirty-eight will be great... Petition filing for the aldermanic races starts Nov. 21, and I'm happy to report that a former general manager of this newspaper, Ed Bannon, is running for alderman in the Northwest side's 38th Ward. I've known Bannon—Eddie B., as I call him -- for many years and if elected, he'll bring a level-headed, well-informed, experienced-in-the community voice to the City Council.

I met Bannon when we both worked for the Lerner Newspapers, the original publisher of this newspaper. From 1992 to 2004, Bannon worked at Lerner, leaving as general manager. He's running for the aldermanic office because, "the 38th Ward needs leadership that will collaborate with residents and make sure we are getting the resources we need to thrive."

"People are feeling less safe in Chicago, so we need to make sure city resources are being marshaled to go after the root causes of crime," he said. "In my professional and extensive volunteer work, I have a long track record of solving problems by working with my neighbors, and I look forward to doing that as the next alderman of the 38th Ward."

I asked how he thought his many years of newspaper experience would be helpful.

"There's a saying in journalism, 'There's no news in the newsroom,'" said Bannon. "It means you have to get out of the office and talk to people to find out what's going on."

"I will be all over the ward finding small problems before they become big ones," Bannon said. "I'll talk to residents and organizations to figure out data-driven solutions. And I'll use my journalism skills to communicate effectively with the 38th Ward."

"I love community journalism



This Sound of Music Sing-A-Long photo was taken way back when of the then morning crew at WGN.

because it covers the local issues that have a big impact on our lives," he continued. "Serving the community as an alderman, I can address the same local issues, just in a different role."

We'll be keeping our fingers crossed that we'll be calling Eddie B., "Ald. Bannon" in 2023.

Warm stuff needed ... 44th Ward Ald. Tom Tunney's office, along with Cook County Commissioner Bridget Gainer, would love your gently-used clothing to give to justice-involved women. Professional clothing, winter coats, and clothing sizes L to XXXL are particularly needed. Drop off locations: 10th District Downtown Office, 118 N. Clark St.; District Offices, 3223 N. Sheffield Ave. and 5533 N. Broadway; 1726 W. Belmont Ave., 4243 N. Lincoln Ave., and 4544 N. Broadway.

Speaking of Ald. Tunney, we wish him the best of luck when he retires from the City Council next year. It has been a true pleasure dealing with him and his always-helpful and knowledgeable chief of staff, Bennett Lawson, who is seeking to take his boss's seat on the council floor come February. We wish Lawson the best of luck also, even though we suspect he won't need it.

A few of our favorite things... last week, at the request of West Ridge resident Felicia Sue Kaplan, I met with an interesting and varied-in-opinion group of

East Rogers Park and West Ridge women at the new Urban Morning Cozy Café, 7113 N. Western Ave.

The cute café was opened last month by Bridget and Ricky Burns, a sister and brother team who both live nearby (Ricky is in Evanston). It's a petite, charming space filled with good vibes, cozy seating, and a small but something-for-everyone menu.

The furniture is cool and on the wooden tables, on display under glass, are photos of people and places from the Civil Rights movement. On Sundays, they have karaoke!

Forget about that other, chain coffee shop a few doors to the north and give this mom-and-pop, or should I say sis-and bro, place a whirl.

• Dino-mite was the recent Jurassic World Live Tour at the Allstate Arena! It was a little corny but a lot of fun and my grandkids loved it. Catch it next time it comes to town if you can.

• We loved it when many years ago we attended "The Sound of Music Sing-A-Long," at the Music Box Theater, 3733 N. Southport Ave. It'll be there once again Nov. 25 to 27 and Dec. 3 and 4. Check out the beloved classic on the big screen. I have to tell you, some people get totally serious about dressing up for the costume contest. There'll also be goody bags and more.

beforehand. Exhibiting artists will be on-site throughout the run of the show to engage with attendees, sharing their inspiration behind-the-scenes insights.

"We [are] thrilled to once again connect the show's gifted artists and makers with such a loyal community that values and supports hand-crafted work," said Kathleen Hogan, of the show.

New this year is an expanded gourmet market section featuring over 50 vendors, including 10 from The Hatchery, the food business incubator in the East Garfield Park neighborhood. The Hatchery enables local entrepreneurs to build and grow successful food and beverage businesses, and offers on the job training courses. This section of the show will welcome over 100 new vendors to add variety.

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Assessor’s Office releases report on changes to Chicago tax base

The Cook County Assessor’s Office released a report on Nov. 14 on the impact of the Board of Review’s appeal decisions on the property tax bills that Chicago-ans will be receiving in the coming weeks. The report reflects changes due to appeals filed at the Board of Review, which will affect tax bills that property owners will receive later this month.

Assessments released by the Assessor’s Office lowered Chicago residents’ share of assessed value, which is the basis of their share of property taxes, by 5.9%.

But the Board of Review’s appeal decisions reduced the value

of non-residential property assessments, which increased homeowners’ share of assessed value.

When compared to 2020, the Board’s 2021 changes mean Chicago homeowners are bearing more of the tax burden this year than last year. Because the final assessed values set by the Board of Review increased the share of assessed value for homeowners (due, in part, to reductions of large commercial properties downtown), tax bills for many homeowners appear likely to increase or stay flat.

“This report will bring more transparency to the entire property tax system,” said Assessor Fritz Kaegi. “Most property owners don’t realize appeals are filed at both our office and the Board of Review. These appeals significantly reduced the value of large commercial property, which will mean many homeowners and small businesses pay more in property taxes.”

To get a copy of the report, visit the Cook County Assessors website at www.cookcountyassessor.com.

UPLIFT from p. 5

enrollment stands at 107 students. Last year, the school used less than 10% of its space.

A CPS spokesperson told Tribune reporter Maddie Ellis that in the district’s choice-based high school system, “many CPS high schools do not have attendance boundaries.”

Currently, most of Uptown feeds into Nicholas Senn High School, 5900 N. Glenwood, which is located about two miles north. Senn now has about 1,500 students.

Uplift offers general education, special education and career and technical education. According to CPS data from the last school year, about 55% of students are Black and 26% are Hispanic. More than 70% of students are low income.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

the driver that she was pregnant and was going to throw up. The driver pulled over.

Once the car stopped, Barrett-Washington’s boyfriend put the driver into a headlock, hit her in the head with a large flashlight, and ordered her to drop the keys, prosecutors alleged.

A witness called the police, and Barrett-Washington, and the boyfriend

Uplift offers early college and STEAM — science, technology, engineering, art and math — programs and works to showcase these opportunities when recruiting students. But instead of having to recruit a new class each year, advocates want the school to instead be filled with students from the neighborhood.

CPS has a number of other tiny high schools also struggling to maintain their populations: Hirsch Metropolitan High on the South Side has about 100 students; Austin College and Career Academy lists an enrollment of about 175, while another West Side building, Manley Career Academy High, has only about 70 students.

Indeed CPS has a glaring problem of increasingly empty, failing schools.

Of CPS’ 478 stand-alone “traditional” or non-charter, non-

The 20 most-empty CPS schools are only five percent to 25% full – most with depressing educational outcomes.

contract schools, one third of them, 150, are less than half-full, according to CPS attendance statistics.

The 20 most-empty CPS schools are only five percent to 25% full – most with depressing educational outcomes.

As the student population continues to plummet in CPS, the number of schools under-enrolled has remained stubbornly high. Overall, 55% of the district’s 478 traditional schools fall below CPS’ 70% enrollment threshold for efficient utilization.

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ran away without getting the car. Police arrested them nearby.

Officials said that Barrett-Washington posted a \$5,000 bail deposit in the suburban case and has attended all of her court dates. Noting that she has complied with the conditions of bail, Judge Maryam Ahamad ordered her to post \$1,000 to be released on the new charges.

During Barrett-Washington’s bail hearing on Thursday, a prosecutor said she did not know why it took so long for authorities to bring charges in the Roscoe Village case.

Two in custody after SUV hijacked in Logan Square, crashes in Lakeview

Chicago police arrested two people who crashed a hijacked car in Lakeview on Nov. 11. The stolen SUV was taken at gunpoint from a woman in Logan Square.

A CPD spokesperson said the 48-year-old woman was walking toward her home in the 1800 block of N. Cali-

fornia when three offenders confronted her around 4:46 p.m.

One of the hijackers displayed a handgun and ordered her to drop her car keys. She complied, and the trio drove away in her gray Honda CR-V.

Following the hijacking, Chicago police tracked the vehicle’s GPS location as it traveled to Wrigleyville, then south on Racine Avenue. According to a CPD crash report, cops closed in on the hijacked car in the 1200 block of W. Fletcher, and its driver bailed out while the SUV was still moving.

The vehicle struck a parked car, and police arrested the driver, who will turn 16 later this month, after a short foot chase. Another occupant of the vehicle was also quickly taken into custody.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

161616 -----
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWTAL, INC., ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-11CB MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-11CB
Plaintiff,
-v-
MEGGIE HERRERA, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS OF THE CWHEQ INC., HOME EQUITY LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-S2, 4744 N PAULINA CONDO CORPORATION
Defendants
22 CH 03533
4746 NORTH PAULINA STREET 1E
CHICAGO, IL 60640
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 13, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 19, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 4746 NORTH PAULINA STREET 1E, CHICAGO, IL 60640
Property Index No. 14-18-204-033-1002
The real estate is improved with a condominium with no garage.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admon-

Real Estate For Sale

ished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiffs Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
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One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200
Chicago IL, 60602
312-346-9088
E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com
Attorney File No. 22-098491L_792243
Attorney ARDC No. 61256
Attorney Code. 61256
Case Number: 22 CH 03533
TJSC#: 42-3517
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 # 22 CH 03533
13206746
090909 -----
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
MATRIX FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION;
Plaintiff,
vs.
BETHEL BURTON; BETHEL BURTON, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE TRUST AGREEMENT DATED DECEMBER 7, 2015 AND DESIGNATED AS THE BETHEL JOHNSON DIXON BURTON REVOCABLE TRUST; CITY OF CHICAGO 4325-27 N. HAZEL STREET CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; SAMUEL BURTON; Defendants;
17 CH 12064
NOTICE OF SALE

Real Estate For Sale

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, December 12, 2022 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 14-17-407-054-1004.
Commonly known as 4327 North Hazel, #1N, Chicago, Illinois 60613.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. F21020007 ADC
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13206407
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
1 SHARPE OPPORTUNITY INTERMEDIATE TRUST
Plaintiff,
-v-
MARYCREST DEVELOPMENT I SERIES, LLC- 1911 WOLFRAM, INTEGRITY FUNDING GROUP, LLC
Defendants
2020 CH 04721
1911 W. WOLFRAM STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60657
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 14, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 2, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1911 W. WOLFRAM STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60657
Property Index No. 14-30-221-019-000
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$1,736,361.44.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is

Real Estate For Sale

due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, contact JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 N. LASALLE STREET, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 541-9710. Please refer to file number 20 1277.
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.
JOHNSON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC
30 N. LASALLE STREET
Chicago IL, 60602
312-541-9710
E-Mail: llpleadings@johnsonblumberg.com
Attorney File No. 20 1277
Attorney Code. 40342
Case Number: 2020 CH 04721
TJSC#: 42-3925
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Real Estate For Sale

Case # 2020 CH 04721
13206323
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR CASCADE FUNDING MORTGAGE TRUST HB5
Plaintiff,
-v-
RUTH SMITH, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, CITY OF CHICAGO
Defendants
2021 CH 04251
6136 NORTH WINTHROP AVENUE UNIT C
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 September 1, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 5, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 6136 NORTH WINTHROP AVENUE UNIT C, CHICAGO, IL 60660
Property Index No. 14-05-208-047-0000
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section

Real Estate For Sale

505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876
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BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
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Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code. 21762
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East Bank Storage, located at 429 W. Ohio St, Chicago IL (312/644-2000), is opening lockers: 3523X and 6619X (Edward Lahoud), and 4524X (Elbert Hatley), for public sale on November 29, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. Cash only.

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East Bank Storage located at 730 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 312-876-2000, is opening lockers: 3405A- Bland, Breacan 9032B- Mayer, Justin 7740C- Rasmussen, Andrea 8165SM- Taylor, Tywanna 4405B- Vaughn, Maya for public sale. This sale is to be held on Tuesday November 29, 2022, at 2:00PM. Cash payments only.

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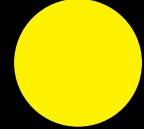
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Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning.

--William Arthur Ward

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BELTWAY CAPITAL, LLC Plaintiff, -v- GERARDO ALBERTO ROJAS- CARDONA A/K/A GERARDO ALBERTO ROJAS, SUSUKI ARELLANO GONZALEZ, THE 680 SOUTH RESIDENCE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 18 CH 9088 680 N. LAKE SHORE DR., UNIT 515 CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 14, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 15, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 680 N. LAKE SHORE DR., UNIT 515, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-202-062-1028 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$542,005.85. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor

Real Estate For Sale

acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Nicholas J. Schuler, Jr., CHUHAKE & TECSON, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys,

Real Estate For Sale

120 South Riverside Plaza, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 855-4313. Please refer to file number 34197-78702. 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. Nicholas J. Schuler, Jr. CHUHAKE & TECSON, P.C. 120 South Riverside Plaza CHICAGO IL, 60606 312-855-4313 Fax #: 312-444-9027 E-Mail: nschuler@chuhak.com Attorney File No. 34197-78702 Attorney Code: 70693 Case Number: 18 CH 9088 TJSC#: 42-3483 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 9088 **13206948**

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Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Plaintiff, -v- JASON GREGORY SPOOR HARVEY A/K/A JASON GREGORY SPOOR, GREENVIEW COURT CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 22 CH 4555 6417 NORTH GREENVIEW, UNIT 1E CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 8, 2022, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 20, 2022, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6417 NORTH GREENVIEW, UNIT 1E, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-32-326-032-1012 The real estate is improved with a condominium. The judgment amount was \$156,812.48. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the

Real Estate For Sale

sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

Real Estate For Sale

For information, contact LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201, CHICAGO, IL, 60606 (312) 357-1125 Please refer calls to the sales department. Please refer to file number 22-01372. 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. LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO IL, 60606 312-357-1125 E-Mail: pleadings@nevellaw.com Attorney File No. 22-01372 Attorney Code: 18837 Case Number: 22 CH 4555 TJSC#: 42-3366 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 # 22 CH 4555**

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SHENANIGANS from p. 1

ing you your ballot, until perhaps the next election. And a ballot sent through the U.S. Mail, can be completed and returned regardless of the status of the initially attributed and/or registered individual it was sent to. Mail-in ballots are the key necessity to ballot harvesting, where one person will go collect many ballots from others, and then drop them at once into a mail box or ballot box.

With the old precinct system, your neighbor - Mrs. Gladys Kravitz - knew you by sight, and yet would still check your signature against their records before handing you a ballot.

Today, nobody knows how much care really goes into validating mail-in ballots once they arrive in the mail at a collection site.

Since the advent of a ballot-centric focus through voting centers, mail-in, harvesting and collection drop-off boxes, votes have become increasingly less valuable amid the organizers who may wish to meddle with election outcomes. As a result, ballot collection has now become the key to success more so than 'getting out the vote' on election day.

Like the staffers in the Chicago Board of Elections [CBOE], this newspaper got multiple calls about "Sharpiegate" on Nov. 8. After facing severe blowback from the 2020 election version of 'Sharpiegate,' the CBOE once again utilized Sharpie pens that in some instances leaked through ballots, leaving voters to wonder if that would disqualify their cast ballots.

Like the staffers in the Chicago Board of Elections [CBOE], this newspaper got multiple calls about "Sharpiegate" on Nov. 8. After facing severe blowback from the 2020 election version of 'Sharpiegate,' the CBOE once again utilized Sharpie pens that in some instances leaked through ballots, leaving voters to wonder if that would disqualify their cast ballots.

CBOE spokesman Max Bever assured us last week that ballot disqualification did not occur unnoticed. "If a ballot is unreadable our machines will instantly reject it, and spit it back out." So if your ballot did not get kicked out while you stood there over it, then it very likely was counted.

Still some voters called this office saying they brought their own pens to use, which the CBOE advises against. "We do not advise voters bring their own pens," said Bever. "Any other color than black will not be read, nor pencils. We recommend felt tipped and Sharpie pens, but most ballpoint and gel pens will work too," said Bever.

And about the next election right around the corner? "We plan to rectify this situation before the Mayor race in February," Bever said.

Still, bottom line, elections now are all about voter confidence. "If there are large numbers of voters who do not feel confident in the voting system, no matter what candidate they are for, then the system does not pass the confidence test, period," said Rogers Park resident Lora Chamberlain, of the Illinois Ballot Integrity Project.

The CBOE's "job after Jan. 6 is to increase voter confidence, not decrease it. Sharpiegate was a completely predictable and unnecessary problem which CBOE had two years to figure out, and [they] did nothing."

Illinois Ballot Integrity Project volunteers said they were out on election day at a



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Illinois Ballot Integrity Project recommends

The Illinois Ballot Integrity Project is a grassroots statewide coalition that acts as an election watchdog. Their election recommendations for Illinois are to hold four days of voting at ward-based voting centers, with perhaps three to four locations to a ward.

Voting would be conducted on hand-marked paper ballots except for the disabled and visually challenged.

They are adamant against the use of Sharpie pens for optical reading voting machines.

All voters would have to vote in the ward they live in, with no cross town voting center. Vote-by-mail would only be utilized for sickness, travel, elderly and shut ins.

All paper ballots are stored in secure lock boxes with security, and video-taped at the voting centers.

On Election Day, they suggest teams of deputized hand counters would go to the centers starting at closing and

hand count 20% of the ballots, drawn from random in a public process where folks can go and watch and video the process. These teams of hand counters would then stay late to count the 20% of the ballots cast, then drop off all of the crucial election material to the CBOE. The goal is that all voting, counting and auditing be wrapped up by midnight on election day.

Any questionable precincts could be investigated right then, the night of the election.

Only a few remaining vote by mail ballots to be counted and audited later. No ballots would be centralized until the audits are complete. The tapes from the scanners and the results of the audit would all be posted publicly at every voting center and made public on the website. They claim this process would save the CBOE millions of dollars and increase voter confidence.

variety of voting locations and "saw a high number of spoiled ballots," due to the use of Sharpie markers.

But perhaps the Chicago voting public's larger concern should be over the reduced polling places and fewer election judges.

The CBOE claimed to have trouble recruiting workers, while also reducing polling precinct locations by 40% city-wide for this election. And they reduced the number of election judges by 40% too. Judges were reduced from 10,345 to 6,450.

This year the CBOE established 1,290 precincts with an average of 1,165 voters

per precinct. Previously we had 2,069 voter precincts with an average of 550 to 750 voters per precinct.

These cutbacks will also affect Chicago's Feb. 2023 municipal election.

And then there is the case of the U.S. Postal service, who may have been slow walking it on delivering political mailings for candidates they may not have supported.

In the mail Wednesday, the day after the election, this newspaper office received two issues of the Chicago City Wire. That is the newspaper that drew much criticism from

TAX SALE from p. 1

sure they are up to date on their taxes and getting all the exemptions they deserve, so they can rest easier in their home, which probably is the biggest investment of their lives," Pappas said.

Owners can avoid the Tax Sale by paying the delinquent taxes and interest before the Sale begins. Check to see if your taxes are delinquent by visiting cookcountytreasurer.com. Use the box on the home page labeled "Avoid the Tax Sale" to search for your home or other property by entering a Property Index Number or an address. Property owners can also use the website to make sure they are receiving the exemptions for which they qualify. These include the homeowner, senior and senior freeze exemptions.

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Per Illinois law, an annual tax sale is conducted 13 months after the due date. But the pandemic delayed the 2018 and 2019 tax sales. The 2018 Tax Sale was held in Nov. 2021, and the 2019 Tax Sale was held in May.



The U.S. Postal Service may have been slow-walking delivery of this political mailer. Like everyone else in town, this newspaper received large amounts of political mailings in a timely fashion prior to the election. Only two items arrived late, after the election was held, two issues of the Chicago City Wire newspapers.

Democrats, which was created, published and put into the U.S. Mail by supporters of Republican gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey.

According to the U.S. Postal Service cancellation stamp on our copies, these newspapers were delivered pre-sorted to the Post Office, in early October. The newspapers were dated Oct. 3 and Oct. 17. They both arrived at our door on Nov. 9, the day after the election.

We are presuming that the Post Office was just overworked delivering all the other election materials that arrived in our mailbox on time, as one would expect, but they were unable to get the Chicago City Wire newspapers to us until the day after the election.

Like everyone else in town, we received large amounts of political mailings in a timely fashion prior to the election. So far the only two items that arrived after the election are the two Chicago City Wire newspapers.

We'd be interested to hear from other North Siders who may also have received their copies after the election.