



(L) As an established architectural landmark, the Wrigley Building, 400-410 N. Michigan Ave., is boarded up and patrolled around-the-clock by the Chicago Police Dept. (R) A police officer stands outside the Wrigley Building as the first full day following the election comes to a close. Just blocks away, a protest will draw greater police presence later in the evening.

Downtown's shuttered storefronts left boarded up and in limbo

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY GRACE RODGERS
& MARISA SLOAN
Medill news Service

Two weeks after the ballots were cast, many storefronts Downtown and along Chicago's Michigan Ave. remain boarded up. Their windows and facades were sealed up several days in advance, anticipating election night unrest. Instead, crowds mostly gathered to dance, sing and occasionally pop bottles of champagne.

But if President Donald Trump somehow finds a way to stay in office, all that could change. And perhaps that's why our local retailers remain mostly hidden behind plywood.

Sadly, nearly every business on the Mag Mile, on Oak St., and along the stretch of State St. from Kinzie to Illinois in River North still had its windows and doors boarded up. The fear was that a Trump win would create all new rioting and looting in cities

across the nation. In spite of this initial celebration, cities across the country remain in limbo as President Trump fights his battles to hold office.

The souvenir shop Bye Bye Chicago was one of several that prepared for Election Day by boarding up their windows. Although the plywood has since been taken down, employee William Askew said the shop's owner is keeping it in a safe place.

"Over the summer, our windows were busted and merchandise was stolen," Askew said. "It was certainly an interruption of business."

First in June and then again in August, dozens of storefronts along Michigan Ave. were looted during weeks of widespread civil unrest in response to the murder of George Floyd. After the first wave, plywood was taken down as soon as the damage was repaired.

Now, the boards — often covered with colorful designs to match designer brands — are



A single sign is the only indication that a Walgreens, 410 N. Michigan Ave., can be found behind this seven-foot-tall wooden barricade.

becoming a more long term measure.

Many local residents now wonder what the long term implications will be for their beloved upscale downtown shopping districts. The city has yet released any hard numbers about what the two bouts of rioting and looting has lost the city, but damages and losses of merchandise are estimated to be in the tens of millions of dollars. And now rumors abound as to which large retailers might be exiting the downtown area entirely after the holiday shopping season. So far none have officially pulled the plug.

New Van Gogh exhibit coming to Gold Coast



Visitors will be immersed
in Van Gogh's works at former Germania Club

A popular new exhibit is coming to the Gold Coast early next year as the U.S. premiere of the Immersive Van Gogh Exhibit will be opening Feb. 1 in the rehabbed former Germania Club, on Clark St. south of North Ave.

Lighthouse Immersive on Monday announce the project. They are the creators of the blockbuster exhibit Atelier des Lumières seen by over 2 million visitors in Paris and now wowing crowds in Toronto.

The exhibit will allow visitors to be immersed in 500,000 cubic feet of stunning projection animating the master's oeuvre and illuminating the mind of the genius, through giant projections that highlight brushstroke, detail, and color as few have ever experienced them.

Visitors will be immersed in Van Gogh's works from his sunny landscapes and night scenes, to his portraits and still life. The installation includes his work Les Mangeurs de pommes de terre (The Potato Eaters, 1885) to La Nuit étoilée (Starry Night, 1889),

Les Tournesols (Sunflowers, 1888), and La Chambre à coucher (The Bedroom, 1889).

The exhibition is custom-designed specifically for the stunning Lighthouse Artspace Chicago, a new venue within Chicago's recently renovated landmark Germania Club, 108 W. Germania Pl. The three-story facility is dedicated to immersive art presentations, merging the boundaries between entertainment and culture.

The show hopes to allow visitors to experience the organic landscapes of Van Gogh's imagination, and follow the route of Van Gogh's descent into madness.

At the outset the exhibit will feature circles projected onto the floor delineating safe social distances and it will require visitors to wear masks. Tickets will run from \$105 to \$30, with off peak specials at \$10. Tickets are available now online at www.vangoghchicago.com, by calling 844-307-4644, or directly at the box office on the day of the exhibit, first come first serve.

North Union plans draw virtual standing room only crowd

JDL CEO James Letchinger made his case - virtually - before the community Nov. 12 on his plans to develop a swath of land owned by the Moody Bible Institute [MBI] that he hopes someday will bridge the residential gap between Old Town, the Gold Coast and River North.

In a sign of strong community interest, Thursday's virtual meeting hit its maximum allowable attendance of 500 Zoom participants. Additional people were able to stream it live on YouTube, which did not allow for public participation, the pandemic era's version of a 'standing room only' crowd.

Now named "North Union," JDL has proposed a \$1.3 billion, 8.1-acre mega-development that could add over 2,680 residential units to an area generally bounded by the CTA Brown Line tracks

and Oak, Chestnut, and Wells streets. The proposal also calls for 30,000 square feet of commercial space, and approximately 1.3 acres of public open space. Still, the proposed project will no doubt go through many revisions before it gets a go-ahead from nearby community groups and City Hall, before it goes to the Chicago Plan Commission and the City Council for approval.

After the application is submitted, a second community meeting will be held before the project could get placed on the agenda of the Chicago Plan Commission and then receive a vote in City Council. Two projects sit within two North Side wards, those of aldermen Walter Burnett Jr. [27th] and Brian Hopkins [2nd].

JDL Development has a contract to buy the land now that MBI has declared the acreage ex-



The North Union project proposal.

cess property. MBI says that they plan to continue its Christian education at its main campus, 820 N. La Salle St.

The project as proposed would be built in five phases, and break ground in 2021 on one of the parks

and three buildings with 447 residences. Construction would then continue over the next decade when two residential towers of 47 and 55 stories may be built.

Letchinger said the development could generate more than

JDL has proposed a \$1.3 billion, 8.1-acre mega-development that could add over 2,680 residential units to an area generally bounded by the CTA Brown Line tracks and Oak, Chestnut, and Wells streets.

\$20 million in annual property taxes a year when completed, and Letchinger says he is not seeking any public subsidies to support the project.

JDL plans pay \$21 million in additional taxes to the city to preclude the project from having to include affordable housing under the rules of Chicago's Affordable Requirements Ordinance.

Time to rediscover American myths, legends, historical archetypes over a skinny turkey



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

In a first, a seven-pound wild turkey has arrived at my door, and no it's not our mayor.

Covid has forced me to scale back on Thanksgiving, and unless you're out stalking about in the woods with a 12-gauge shotgun, wild turkey is most expensive.

In putting a grand feast together, I'm anxious to include such a remarkable bird in my ongoing cookery book. Believe me, it's no Butterball.

The bird looks skinny. Flat chested. The girl no one wants to dance with in eight grade.

It is a creature of nature, eating seeds, bugs, berries and pine needles, while scampering through the great American woodlands.

It must get so much exercise in the wild, it doesn't have time to get fat. It's more like the actual bird the Pilgrims might have found.

My wild bird will be packaged and shipped to me overnight on Nov. 24. Plenty of time to get to know it before I cook it. The bird will become an eternal part of my quarantine.

It's likely still alive today. I'm already excited. I wonder if it comes with the head attached?

But it seems the wild turkey means that I have officially 'bit the bullet,' at least as far as Thanksgiving goes.

My quarantine record remains intact. Non-stop since March 14. I can hardly abandon it now.

Plans everywhere seem to be extremely fluid. I'd normally go for dinner to the home of friends. The Dombrowski/Dal Santos in

Lincoln Park. An elegant feast in the finest Italian traditions. Homemade, handmade Italian delicacies that are just too good to be true. Uncontemplated by the Irish.

The late Nonna (grandma) Dal Santo established herself as a refined master of Italian cuisine. Something her three daughters, Lois, Colleen and Victoria, happily share and excel at. Top of the list of vittles is the homemade raviolis, stuffed with cheese, which always leads off the dinner.

There's also an enormous antipasto table filled with quality delights, including cheeses, prosciuttos, peppers, seafood and salumi. That's the benefit of family with a past and a future. People caught amidst the anxiety and brutality of everyday life. They know the solution for many of life's quandaries is found in teaching your children the secret of making fresh pasta. Or in creating the perfect mellow tomato sauce from the tattered recipes of family history.

But what should I serve with the wild turkey?

Creating the right balance of food is always a mark of deep respect for guests. I only have one. As well as a mark of culinary respect for the bird whose home-spun position in the pantheon of memorable meals is noble.

In many ways, as Americans, all of us have a fresh meal to prepare this year, different from the past. We have the chance to reinvent the quality of our hospitality, not just repeat the tired old family meal humor of yore, but the engaging opportunity to reinvent what nourishes us and sustains our living now.

As Thanksgiving opens the doors for the holiday season, we all have the ability to create a suitable and sustainable environment for respecting the traditions of the past. Perhaps, this year, for the first time, we must scale back the dimensions of our cel-



Due to the pandemic lockdown, many Americans have a pared down Thanksgiving meal to prepare this year.

ebration. Fewer guests. Fewer grudges. Fewer miles to travel. Perhaps with a shortened guest list we might discover renewed admiration for those who sit with us. With less commotion bell-beating the contours of our table talk we might uncover some fresh nostalgia with those who share our table.

Maybe reconfiguring the shape of our holiday celebration might just introduce us to those who easily get lost in the mix.

Thanksgiving seems by far to be one of America's favorite feasts. I suspect it was because the expectations were so much more reasonable than Christmas. Less stress in the anticipation. Less disappointment in its reach to deliver a perfect moment.

Of course I will miss my buddies at my solo feast. Give me 30 people going at it hammer and tongs and I am right at home. Solo dining is so mysterious. Such a cantankerous society of one. So French. But since the goal is survival, I don't mind giving Thanksgiving 2020 away.

Who doesn't like the way Thanksgiving connects us to an era of historic settlement in the New World, even if it's English and Puritanical?

I suppose it's terribly controversial to speak of anything that a White man accomplished here in America. Some radical bolshevik

female historian with a mustache might find my analysis oppressive or degrading. I've lost any patience I used to have with academic incompetents and phony man-hating revisionism. Americans need to rediscover our myths, our legends, our historical archetypes. We need to be revived by their real meaning.

So I'm starting with my wild turkey. And its giblets.

All turkey parts massaged with an herb butter with cognac.

You make it into a paste and stick it between the skin. Wild turkeys need a lot of basting since there are few fat deposits to self-baste. I'll do a croissant and shallot stuffing with walnuts inside the bird.

The encouraging aesthetics of a solo quarantined Thanksgiving permit me many choices which I like. Roast oysters for one. They're the perfect starter course. A dab of fresh sage butter makes a grand condiment. Fresh cranberries with port and cayenne is another indispensable accompaniment. I'm searching for the recipe for a sweet potato soufflé that should do very well.

Pumpkin pie is a must for dessert. I wish I could finagle some from Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill.

Being patriotic and modern, American composers from Charles Ives to Aaron Copeland and Henry Cowell will be the order of the musical day. The evening will belong to Bach and Vivaldi.

Oh yeah. Remember. Life, like wild turkeys, requires a lot of basting. And more pumpkin pie.

SLEEPLESS IN CHICAGO: Carol Marin had a quirky, pit-bull-like journalistic persona that put her in perfect character to pursue people of political power in Chicago. Her steadfast annoyance often brought her results at any



Carol Marin

number of the news desks where she hung her hat. The proof of her success can be found in the antipathy in which some true "business as usual" Chicago potentates found her so accurate and dreaded. There may be no one around to replace her or replicate her brand of Chicago investigative style. After a

sparkling career as the respected voice of moral probity in the zip code, she retires to hopefully pen some volumes that will reveal some of the secrets and scandals she pursued.

WILDING ON STATE: Chicago Police were providing only sketchy details on a website re-

TURKEY see p. 8



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Shopping local and for a few good causes



Heart of the 'Hood

by Felicia Dechter

There've been a lot of silent nights, and silent days as well, for local business owners, restaurants, entertainers, nonprofits, and all of the other folks trying to grapple with the reality of what this pandemic means economically.

So many people are experiencing a serious economic sting and barely surviving, while many others are not surviving.

The lucky ones are fortunate enough to somehow be getting through this financially unscathed. To those people who can afford it -- please, now more than ever your support is needed. There are many ways to help locally. Here are a few:

Holiday blues are real, and this year, I can only imagine what it will feel like to be cut off from the people we love. That's why I like what fashion expert and personal stylist Lora LaPratt is doing with her Uptown-based business, Shopping Girl XOXO.

LaPratt has a showroom available by appointment only, but she has also launched a new online shopping website with a wide variety of her favorite clothing, accessories, jewelry etc., 90% of which are from Chicago designers.

Through the end of the year, purchase a gift certificate from her and 10% goes to the North Side-based Hope for the Day, a nonprofit empowering the conversation on proactive suicide prevention and mental health education, both locally and nationally.

So, LaPratt is supporting local designers, and a local nonprofit that is near and dear to her heart as she has a brother who struggles with mental health issues.

"I wanted to incorporate that for the holiday," said LaPratt, who has degrees in Fashion Merchandising and Organizational Communications. "Everybody knows more than one person struggling. Now more than ever it's so important to support these small businesses," the 38-year-old added. "It's important to stay safe right now, shop local, and give back."

LaPratt founded Shopping Girl XOXO about a dozen years ago after discovering her passion for fashion and her strength in helping others feeling comfortable in their own skin. She prides herself



(L) Lora LaPratt. (R) Eleanor and Clara at the North Pole.

on working with all budgets, all ages, and all sizes of women while avoiding cookie-cutter looks. You can shop her website, www.shoppinggirlxoxo.com, her "cozy little boutique" of a showroom by appointment only; or she will come to your house.

She follows all COVID-19 guidelines and there are plenty of mask items -- mask clothing, mask chains, mask sweaters... you get the picture.

"Everyone has had to pivot and get creative," she explained. "Every little bit helps. Even if you want to stay cozy and comfy there are still ways to do that and put a smile on your face and a passerby's."

Oh what fun... it was to watch Gold Coaster Denise McGowan

Tracy's lovely kiddie masterpiece, "Eleanor's Very Merry Christmas Wish—The Musical," from the comfort of my own home during a recent virtual press screening.

"Eleanor" is the touching tale of a rag doll named Eleanor who lives on one very enchanting North Pole. Although she adores her family, which includes Santa, Mrs. "Cookie" Claus, Clara Claus, and the elves Twinkle, Sprinkle, and Sparkle, Eleanor truly longs for a best friend and home of her own, and that is her very merry Christmas wish. The story, which McGowan Tracy wrote a handful of years ago, is of how Eleanor's Christmas wish comes true.

I saw this sweet show premiere last year at the theater, and I wondered how and if its magic would transfer virtually. Would

the amazingly beautiful costumes look as colorful and cheery? How would the songs come out? Would the story somehow get lost in translation?

What I found was that although it wasn't a live production, I still thoroughly enjoyed "Eleanor," as did my five-year-old granddaughter, Sydney. When I asked how she liked it, Syd replied, "It's good." I had to agree. (And this year, you can get a cool Eleanor toy set too. Read on.)

Based on the heartfelt book of the same name authored by McGowan Tracy, I would recommend this charming family-friendly production to anyone looking for something to do with the kids that doesn't involve going out. "Eleanor" will be available to stream Nov. 27 through Dec. 27 for \$25 per household through In-Player. Not only are you showing your little ones a locally-produced holiday show, but you're also supporting the work of McGowan Tracy, who has given her all to this city as an entertainer.

As executive producer and creator of the show, McGowan Tracy's wish, "is to keep the magic of the holidays sparkling in the eyes of children no matter what challenges we face this year."

There's also two immersive

LOCAL see p. 4

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Will expiration of eviction moratorium mean you're homeless after the Holidays?

An unprecedented wave of homeless families and individuals may soon be cast out onto the streets due to COVID related job losses and unpaid rents.

These ranks of new, first time homeless, may overwhelm the city of Chicago and state of Illinois once Gov. Pritzker and the federal government lift their eviction and foreclosure moratorium.

And worst of all, this coming batch of new homeless may include many who don't know the ropes, and who will be cast out at perhaps the worst time, just as winter takes hold of Chicagoland.

On Nov. 13, Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced another 30-day extension of the state's moratorium on evictions, while the federal eviction moratorium is due to expire Dec. 31. So just as winter set in, struggling renters and homeowners may find themselves without a place to live.

According to a recent LendingTree / U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse survey, Illinois is ranked 10th among states where renters have fallen the most behind on payments.

The survey shows that 19.7% Illinois of renters are behind on payments, while 24.4% of Illinois renters doubt they'll be able to cover next month's rent. In total, renters in Illinois now owe over \$414,422,940 in unpaid back rent.

For many of those people, the end of the moratorium will mean homelessness. And for a bunch of those people, it will be their first

experience with homelessness. Many will have no clue what to do, nor will they have any real survival skills for living on the street during a time when many homeless shelters are servicing the community with reduced numbers of beds to accommodate social distancing needed as the pandemic continues.

The pandemic threatens the financial viability of both tenants and landlords across Illinois as they all face unprecedented pressures. Just because a tenant does not pay the rent doesn't mean that a landlord can skip his or her own mortgage loan payments.

And the extending of the moratorium multiple times over the summer and fall means that for many, the axe could now fall in the dead of winter.

With housing costs, the cost of living and property taxes so much higher on the North Side, class and economic struggle may be a more prevalent problem than any racial strife if the existing moratorium ends as scheduled. And many of those who lost a good job due to the state's forced economic shutdown, may now face homelessness for the first time.

In Rogers Park, the faith-based New Life Interim Housing-Good News Partners, 7632 N. Paulina, owns 10 buildings and is undergoing renovation. Board Member Timothy Williams relates, "The shelter is being renovated to better house people, provide more

privacy, and more space."

Both the shelter and transitional housing rely heavily on donations. They serve the community with a homeless shelter (New Life Interim Housing), and transition housing (Good News Partners) that includes a single room occupancy hotel. They try to help people transition out of homelessness to owning their own condo

The extending of the moratorium multiple times over the summer and fall means that for many, the axe could now fall in the dead of winter.

in a building the organization owns. The goal is for their clients to sell the condo with its built up equity and use proceeds to buy their own home, independent of the organization's property.

Regarding the upcoming moratorium deadline, Williams says, "One of the reasons we exist is to provide housing to people down on their luck, someone struggling. Our goal is not only to fill in the gap of evictions, but we help [people] stand on their own two feet. Our goal is not to spit religion to people; it is to live a life [of] love." [We need to] "keep the moratorium going. [We have] about 13-20 available occupancy. Most of our housing is filled up. If we fill up, we have other organizations we can [refer them to]. We'll always fill up with people that are struggling."

Right now they are nearly 80% currently occupied. So New Life may be quickly overwhelmed by

the end of the year, as will other shelters throughout the City.

Williams speaks out on misplaced priorities regarding the moratorium, saying, "I really don't think removing it is the priority. The priority [should be] providing a place for people to be safe and not exposed. Let people live where the need to live. We're the richest country in the world.

We can afford to take a hit [if the moratorium expires] people are going to be in bad spots. I have [clients] working at Jewel. These guys can't pay their rent because they're quarantined. Christ and the Bible allows us to talk about God and encourage others."

It's not all bad news though. In thousands of instances all over town, landlords are now working with tenants in offering extended grace periods and manageable payment plans.

But the governor's recent order also provides for greater accountability by non-paying bad actors who have refused to communicate with their landlords to demonstrate their need for assistance, enabling landlords to better assist tenants truly in need. As with any government benefit, some people with the ability to pay are abusing the moratorium by basically squatting in rental units all over town.

Northside Housing and Supportive Services, 4410 N. Ravenswood, is a social service agency that serves the North Side with an emergency shelter, and permanent housing programs through subsidized apartments, clothing

closet, financial coaching, food pantry, mental and medical health services, and resources and referrals. Executive Director Laura Michalski says they "utilize case managers who make sure individuals have what they need."

"[Currently] the shelter is between 85-100% occupied, depends on the night," reports Cari O'Brien, Development and Communications Manager. Their current overall available shelter beds have been reduced by approximately 30% due to the pandemic.

"Staff have [the upcoming moratorium expiration] on their radar," says Michalski. "Like many organizations and shelters, Northside Housing has had to reduce their number of available beds due to social distancing to accommodate COVID restrictions. Due to COVID, we've had to reduce the number of [available beds] by almost half."

If Gov. Pritzker fails to extend the upcoming moratorium past the New Year, Michalski anticipates an increased need [for their shelter services] because people will be losing their housing. "[Our] shelter and day program is [the] biggest need when the moratorium ends. That's the data we're watching very closely to see what the uptick [will be]. We've been in contact with the City about [our] increased needs. There's multiple factors [to consider]; people have lost their job. We've also seen domestic violence. [The] Moratorium is going to have a tremendous impact on the system overall,

HOMELESS see p. 10

Revere Park construction

Major renovations are now underway at Revere Park and at the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club building, 2501 W. Irving Park Rd., including new windows, roofing and electric.

The Revere Park field house and the northern half of the

track and field will be closed to the public until Sept. 2021 while the work is ongoing. The southern half of the track and field, as well as tennis courts, will remain accessible. All playgrounds remain closed citywide.

LOCAL from p. 3

Eleanor's Very Merry Christmas Party in a Box gift set options, which are shipped from The North Pole's special Chicago-based distribution center. The Super Fun Sprinkle & Sparkle Box (\$45) includes a soft-cover copy of the book that inspired the show, a 2020 Eleanor Christmas keepsake ornament, Eleanor's own stationery notepad and pencil for children to write their letters to Santa, and four holiday fun hats. The Super Duper Fun Eleanor Box (\$60) features all items in the Sprinkle & Sparkle Box with a hardcover book, cookie cutter with recipe card, and Twinkle's favorite reindeer ring toss game.

It's a great way to have a good time and also shop locally. And congrats to McGowan Tracy be-



Eleanor's Very Merry Christmas Party in a Box includes the book that inspired the show.

cause the reindeer ring toss was recently featured on "The Today Show," as a top toy of the season!

More information can be found at www.eleanorswish.com.

Help wanted... The Chicago Help Initiative is holding a new

cold weather apparel drive for the homeless and unemployed. Donate new hats, gloves, coats, socks and scarves of all sizes through Jan. 31 with drop off 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Saturdays at 721 N. LaSalle St.

CHI also needs volunteers to make and/or deliver bag meals to various sites throughout the city. A bag meal consists of a sandwich, a piece of fruit, a snack and a drink (water or juice). Of course, you can always add more or get fancy.

"We are not able to offer face-to-face meals with our many programs as we did in the past, but we are hopeful we can continue to help CHI's guests and the many others who are out of work get through this very difficult time," said CHI founder/president Jacqueline Hayes.

Email kblatt@chicagohelpinitiative.org for large collection pick-ups or for more bag meal info.

Also, through Dec. 12, Jet's Pizza locations will give you a free small, one-topping pizza with the donation of a new or like new children's coat. In partnership with Chicago Youth Programs, Jet's will be working to give back and provide essentials to at-risk youth in the area this holiday season. For more info, please visit www.jetspizza.com.

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Chicago parties on despite closing bars and restaurants



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

While COVID-19 virus cases and deaths continue to soar, the city's endless big-party nightlife scene still is rocking and rolling.

Chicago's restaurants and bars currently may be closed to indoor business because of the pandemic, but huge downtown weekend parties of 60 to 80 people have shifted underground and outside the city's regulatory reach to five-star 'bargain-rate' hotels and vacation-rental residences, warned Ald. Brendan Reilly [42nd].

"Huge groups. Totally unregulated. No masks. No distancing. Spreader events," Ald. Reilly said recently.

Apparently, a few enterprising hotel operators have turned the big-party crowd into a business model—profiting off of the closure of bars and restaurants. Insiders also report that some North Side vacation-rental owners with large "party units" are raking in thousands of dollars a month in rental fees.

The problem, in part, is that with our convention business dead, and no tourists in sight, our formerly pricey downtown hotels are now renting for \$60 to \$80 a night.

Any old Gangster Disciple, Latin King or Black P Stone Nation member can afford those rates.

After an appeal to the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Assoc. by the city's Business Affairs and Consumer Protection Commissioner Rosa Escareno, hotel owners say they are beefing up anti-party se-

curity measures.

But with those hotels struggling to fend off insolvency, bankruptcy and foreclosure, who can really blame them for grabbing that business that's still out there?

This past summer, the Chicago City Council approved a new round of regulatory measures to combat the use of the city's more than 9,000 licensed short-term vacation rental units as "party houses" and nests for the breeding and spread of the pandemic.

In March, during the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic the City Council moved to suspend single-night bookings in short-term vacation rental units. Recent updates to the law extend the ban on single-night stays for the near future and require a minimum rental period of two consecutive days. Other changes include:

- Tougher prohibition on excessive loud noise and/or vibrations

Huge downtown weekend parties of 60 to 80 people have shifted underground and outside the city's regulatory reach to five-star 'bargain-rate' hotels and vacation-rental residences, warned Ald. Brendan Reilly.

generated from within the rental unit, in any private open space adjoining the rental, or on the adjacent public way.

- Enhanced penalties of \$5,000 to \$10,000 if the maximum occupancy limit for the rental units is exceeded.

- Operator license suspension/revocation if the rental unit is involved in two or more separate incidents of illegal activity or objectionable conditions, in any combination, during a 12-month period.

- Owners who list homes and apartments as vacation rentals on popular booking sites such as



A 33-year-old man is recovering after he was shot inside an elevator in the Swissotel in the 300 block of E. Wacker Dr.

AirBnB, VRBO and HomeAway now must submit their registration information directly with the city as opposed to just sharing them with the respective home-sharing platforms.

- An increase in the annual owner registration fee to \$125 from \$60 per unit. A graduated license fee also is paid by the intermediators—the platforms that list and advertise vacation-rental units.

These reforms to the city's Shared Housing Ordinance became effective on Oct. 17, however some changes will not go into effect until April 1, 2021.

The reforms should help the Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection track violations and help prevent rule-breaking vacation-rental unit owners from renewing their licenses.

Well, it will help once City Workers return to work. A visit to City Hall and The County Building last week proved you could play a pick up football game in those hallways free of fear from bumping into anyone.

Along with the new regulations, future vacation-rental unit owners and managers need to keep the following points in mind before

venturing into the world of shared housing:

- Owners must purchase homeowner's fire, hazard and liability insurance, and general commercial liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1-million per occurrence, as mandated by code.

- Short-term vacation rental guests pay a 23.4% sales tax on their stay. Hotel clients pay a 17.4% tax.

- There will be ongoing house-keeping costs, including the maintenance of guest registration records, provisions of soap, towels, linens, plus cleaning and sanitizing of the vacation rental unit after each guest departs.

- If the unit is subject to restrictions by a homeowner association or board of directors, owners must document that the association or board has not adopted bylaws prohibiting the use of short-term vacation rentals at the property.
- The unit may be inspected by the City of Chicago Dept. of Buildings. Additional costs to the owner may be created in the form of building code violations, notices and/or fines.

For a full copy of the Shared Housing Ordinance, visit: www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/bacp/supp_info/sharedhousingandacomodationslicensing.html.

Second meeting over fate of Bethany Methodist

Aldermen Matt Martin [47th] and Andre Vasquez [40th] are hosting a second community meeting 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 on the future of North East Ravenswood, including the fate of Bethany Methodist retirement community, hospital, and their adjacent parking lots.

In the near future there may be a proposal to redevelopment all or some of the Bethany lots. To reserve a spot at the meeting, or for more information, write to info@aldermanmartin.com.

2021 budget community meeting

City of Chicago Finance Committee Chairman Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd] will be hosting part two of his Chicago financial series at a Virtual Town Hall on 7 p.m. Thursday, which will be moderated by David Orr.

The City is planning now for the 2021 budget. Mayor Lori Lightfoot has put out her \$12.8 billion proposal, and City Council will soon vote on it. The budget is expect to offer a variety of tax increases and service cuts.

This event is free to attend, but requires advance registration. for more information email morgan@teamacacia.com.

Graceland walking club

The Graceland Cemetery walking club now meets every Friday at 11 a.m. To join in a historical cemetery walk call 773-633-8312.

For more housing news, visit www.dondebat.biz. Don DeBat is co-author of "Escaping Condo Jail," the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com.

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Police Beat...

Man gets 9 years for Wrigleyville home invasion

A Lawndale man who faced attempted murder charges for allegedly battering a woman and then arming himself with a knife during a Wrigleyville home invasion two years ago has reached a plea deal with prosecutors.

Lorenzo Shorter, 24, pleaded guilty to home invasion causing injury and aggravated assault of a peace officer in the agreement. Prosecutors dropped nine other felonies including four counts of attempted murder in the deal.



Lorenzo Shorter

Judge Lauren Edinin sentenced Shorter to nine years for the home invasion and three concurrent years for the assault charge.

Around 3:20 p.m. on Dec. 10, 2018, Shorter entered a woman's apartment in the 900 block of W. Cornelia and put her into a headlock that caused her to have trouble breathing, prosecutors said at the time. The woman freed herself and locked herself inside her bedroom. Meanwhile, Shorter grabbed a butcher knife from the kitchen and began stabbing the apartment walls, breaking the woman's property, and shattering a front window.

Police chased Shorter through the streets of Wrigleyville and Boystown for nearly 10 minutes as he swung the butcher knife wildly in the air, officers said. When cops cornered him in the 3300 block of N. Seminary, he swung a knife at an officer's head. Three other cops tazed Shorter and took him into custody. The victim told investigators that she recognized Shorter from around the neighborhood, but she did not know him personally.

Shorter's parole date has not yet been set. He will receive credit for 683 days he spent in jail before sentencing.

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Sweet 16, man on "affordable bail" for 15 Rogers Park burglaries busted again

A man who has 15 pending burglary cases is back in custody after police allegedly caught him burglarizing yet another residential building in Rogers Park.

Prosecutors charged Louis Moneyham, 65, with those 15 felony counts, and prosecutors at the time said he used a screwdriver to break into a string of apartment buildings to steal packages between Oct. 2019 and the time police arrested him this summer in the 1300 block of W. Estes.

Every one of the 15 break-ins was captured on surveillance video, prosecutors said in August. And the state said Moneyham even admitted to using a screwdriver to break into the buildings to steal packages.

Nonetheless, Judge David Navar-

ro allowed Moneyham to go home by posting a \$500 deposit bond after his August bond court appearance. Now, prosecutors say he went right back to work — but he didn't use a screwdriver this time.

Authorities said Moneyham accessed an apartment building in the 6900 block of N. Ashland on Oct. 12 by following a tenant into the complex. Once he got inside, he opened an unclaimed package that contained \$300 worth of clothing, prosecutors said. He allegedly put the clothing into a Jewel bag and walked out.

Once again, the entire thing was captured by surveillance cameras and — as you might expect — burglary investigators recognized him from the footage. In fact, one of his other 15 burglary cases involves a break-in at the same building.

After hearing about his newly-filed 16th case, Judge John Lyke ordered Moneyham held in lieu of \$100,000 bail. Lyke also ordered him held without bail for violating the terms of his bail bond in the pending cases.

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Shots fired on Rush St. during afternoon robbery

An armed robber fired shots while mugging a man near the Magnificent Mile on Nov. 9, police said. Less than an hour later, two women were robbed nearby. The incidents do not appear to be connected.

Police said a 29-year-old man was walking in the 700 block of N. Rush when someone tried to take his shopping bag around 2:15 p.m., police said. The offender displayed a handgun and then fired three shots toward the victim, who fell to the ground. He was not seriously injured. Police said the victim declined medical attention.

The robber fled from the scene eastbound in a silver Ford Explorer with the man's property. Police believe the Explorer was stolen overnight from a car dealership.

CPD did not release a description of the robber. Officers recovered at least one shell casing near the rear entrance of the old Chicago Place shopping mall at 713 N. Rush.

About 45 minutes later, two women were robbed of a purse and shopping bags as they walked near Rush and Superior streets, about a block from where the first robbery unfolded.

The women said a man wrestled away a blue handbag and two Victoria's Secret bags containing recent purchases. He then fled north on Rush St.

Woman beaten with gun during Lakeview carjacking

Two men beat a woman in the head with a handgun during a carjacking attempt in Lakeview Nov. 9, police said. The hijacking failed when several citizens intervened. Another driver was successfully carjacked less than an hour later near North and Clybourn.

In Lakeview, a 42-year-old woman was sitting in her car on the 900 block of W. School when two men walked up on the sidewalk around 6:14 p.m., said Officer Hector Alfaro, a CPD spokesperson.

One of the men opened the woman's driver's side door and began beating the woman in her face with a handgun, Alfaro said. The offenders then pulled the woman from her car and tried to drive off with it.

But several witnesses intervened in the crime, and the robbers reportedly ran into the east alley of Sheffield Ave. toward the Belmont Red Line CTA station. The woman, who was bleeding from the attack, declined medical attention, Alfaro said.

According to witness reports, the robbers were a Black male in a yellow shirt and a Black male who wore all black clothing.

Coincidentally, about 20 minutes before the woman was attacked, a

Accused rapist-robber missing after judge lets him out of jail for \$500

A Chicago man who's accused of robbing a woman while on electronic monitoring for allegedly sexually assaulting two other women has gone missing after a Cook County judge slashed his bail bond to \$500 as authorities swept thousands of detainees out of jail when COVID-19.

Rene Chandler, 31, is awaiting trial on charges of sexually assaulting and battering two women in separate alleged attacks downtown in 2018. While free on bail and electronic monitoring for those cases, Chandler allegedly beat and robbed another woman in April 2019.

According to court records, Chandler was ordered held without bail on the robbery charge for violating the terms of the sexual assault case bonds.

But, when COVID-19 arrived this Spring, Chandler's attorney filed an emergency motion to reduce his bond amount based on Chandler's asthma condition.

"He is absolutely not a flight risk," the defense attorney wrote in the bail reduction request.

As it turned out, he was. In Aug. 2018, prosecutors charged Chandler with sexually assaulting and battering two different women that he met separately on dating apps.

In one case, he invited a 26-year-old woman to a condo in the 800 block of N. LaSalle and then tried to sleep with her, prosecutors said. When the woman started to walk out, Chandler allegedly grabbed her from behind, threw her on the couch, and sexually assaulted her. She reported the incident a short time later.

During that investigation, police learned that Chandler was a person of interest in another sexual assault case reported in Streeterville earlier

man walked into the Town Hall (19th District Police station at 850 W. Addison to report that two men robbed him at gunpoint on the 800 block of W. Cornelia.

But Alfaro said police officers determined the man's claim was not bonafide.

Then, around 6:50 p.m., a delivery driver was carjacked at gunpoint by two men in the 1400 block of N. Halsted, about a block from the North-Clybourn Red Line CTA station. The man told police that two Black male teenagers dressed in dark clothing displayed a handgun and drove away with his black Toyota Camry. He was not injured.

Armed carjackings have been surging on the North Side since early October.

Boystown robbery, dismissed as "not bonafide," now under investigation

An armed robbery in Boystown Nov. 9 that police initially said was "not bonafide" is now under investigation after two carjackers beat a woman with a gun in the same area less than 20 minutes later.

The 24-year-old victim of the initially-dismissed robbery later contacted this reporter to tell his story. The CPD confirmed the crime is now under investigation. The man asked not to be identified by name.

Around 6 p.m., the victim was walking on the 800 block of W. Cornelia when two men approached, and one of them said, "look here."

"I then noticed he had a handgun held inches from my head," said the man, who has lived in the neighborhood for about 18 months.

"They told me to empty my pockets... then they made me give them my AirPods, which were in my ears."

"They said, 'where the money at,' to

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS	
CRIMINAL DIVISION COURTROOM 706	CLERK OF COURT THOMAS HENNELLY
DEFENDANT (Print Name) CHANDLER, RENE	CHARGE AGG. CRIM. SEX. ASSAULT-BODILY HARM
BAIL AMOUNT \$ 5,000.00 - Five Thousand Dollars and 0/100 Cents	DEFENDANT'S SIGNATURE
DEPOSIT AMOUNT \$500.00 - Five Hundred Dollars and 0/100 Cents	DISPOSITION
COURT COMPLAINT OR INDICTMENT NUMBER(S) 18CR1289301	

Rene Chandler (inset) allowed out of jail by posting a \$500 deposit bond.

that year.

That alleged attack involved a 22-year-old woman who told police Chandler invited her to a high-rise party in the 400 block of E. Ohio via social media. When Chandler tried to have sex with the woman, she began "kicking and screaming and managed to knee [him] in the face," prosecutors said in a court filing.

Chandler "became very angry and slapped [her face]" after she kicked him, according to allegations. When she tried to leave, he grabbed her by her wig, threw her to the ground, kicked and punched her, and sexually assaulted her, prosecutors said.

Afterward, he followed the woman onto the elevator and continued to batter her as they rode down to lobby level, according to prosecutors. The woman flagged down police outside, but Chandler was no longer at the scene. Cops later arrested him.

A judge set Chandler's bail on the attacks at \$100,000 each, and he posted \$20,000 to get out of jail on electronic monitoring.

A few months after Chandler went home to await trial, another woman accused him of battering and robbing her as they rode in an Uber.

which I replied 'I have none,' and then they told me to get out of there. So, I booked it to the police station. After a few steps, I heard them yell 'hey come back,' which obviously I was not going to do," the man continued.

Officers at the station "were nothing but polite and respectful," he said. They helped him get in touch with his landlord so they could unlock his apartment. The robbers had his keys.

"They went above the call of duty in this regard."

"While I was in the police station, I heard the call come in regarding one of the carjackings. One of the officers kind of just gave me a look and asked if one of the guys was wearing a yellow shirt. That was part of the description that came in on the call."

But when this reporter contacted the police department about the man's robbery report, CPD said the case had been deemed "not bonafide" and was "coded out" by officers.

After hearing from the victim directly, we re-contacted CPD on Nov. 10. A spokesperson confirmed his case is now under investigation by detectives.

As for the victim, he said he applied for a license to own firearms a few months ago.

"I still have not received a response. I know several people who applied all the way back in June and have still not been approved," he said.

Burglary charges filed after man found unconscious with a bag of stolen mail

Passing out on the street? That's bad. Passing out on the street with a bag of stolen mail? That's a felony.

But prosecutors say that's exactly what happened to Patrick Slagel in Old Town.

Fire department paramedics who responded to a "man down" call in

The woman, 26, met Chandler through social media and had been dating him for a short time when they got into an argument in the Uber. When the driver pulled over because the argument was escalating, Chandler struck the woman in her face and took her new phone along with \$640 cash from her purse, prosecutors said. According to the state's allegations, he ran from the car and fled in a taxi cab.

A judge ordered him held without bail for violating the terms of bail in the sexual assault cases and set bail in the robbery matter at \$80,000, court records show.

Chandler remained in jail until COVID arrived.

On April 9, Chandler's defense attorney filed a motion to get him out of jail due to COVID concerns. The lawyer told Judge Thomas Hennelly that the sexual assault cases were "he-said-she-said" and claimed Chandler bought the phone for the alleged robbery victim.

Hennelly, who had not been overseeing the case previously, repeatedly questioned why the judge

MISSING see p. 10

the 200 block of W. Menomonee around 7:30 a.m. Nov. 6 reportedly found the 41-year-old lying on a sidewalk. As medics treated Slagel inside an ambulance, another firefighter looked into his bag to make sure there were no weapons inside



Patrick Slagel

before they transported him to the hospital.

There weren't any weapons. There was, however, a 7" crowbar,

a duplicate Postal Service mailbox key, and 72 pieces of mail that were addressed to a multi-unit residential building about four blocks away, according to prosecutors. There was also a gift card in someone else's name, they said.

Coincidentally, Slagel is currently on probation for illegal possession of someone else's credit card.

Prosecutors have now charged him with felony burglary.

Judge David Navarro ordered Slagel held without bail for violating the terms of probation.

Uber driver carjacked while waiting for passenger in Old Town

An Uber driver was carjacked at gunpoint while waiting for his passenger in Old Town Nov. 11, police said. It's the latest in a month-long auto hijacking surge that has swept across the North Side.

The victim, 32, was sitting in his parked Nissan Sentra on the 1500 block of N. Wells when the carjacker walked up and ordered him

POLICE BEAT see p. 10

Armed robbery on 'That Great Street'

BY CWBCHICAGO

Police are investigating an armed robbery that unfolded near the Magnificent Mile Nov. 12 just a block from where a gunman fired shots while robbing a victim on Nov. 11.

Around 12:20 p.m., a 31-year-old man was walking just east of Chicago and State streets when a small gray or silver SUV stopped in front of him, said CPD spokesperson Kellie Bartoli.

Two of the vehicle's three occupants got out, displayed a gun,

and took the man's valuables, Bartoli said. They then got back into the SUV and fled westbound on Chicago Ave. The victim was not injured.

On Nov. 11 a 29-year-old man was walking in the 700 block of N. Rush when an armed man displayed a handgun and tried to take his shopping bag around 2:15 p.m., police said. The robber fired three shots, causing the victim to fall to the ground. But the man was not struck by any bullets.

Wednesday's robber fled from

the scene in a silver Ford Explorer. Investigators are trying to determine if the two cases are linked.

About 45 minutes after the shots were fired, two women were robbed of a purse and shopping bags as they walked near Rush and Superior streets, about a block from where the Rush St. incident. The victims said a man wrestled away a blue handbag and two Victoria's Secret bags containing recent purchases.

Man on parole for carjacking Tribune crime reporter shot himself during CPD stop

BY CWBCHICAGO

A man who's on parole for carjacking the Chicago Tribune's overnight crime reporter accidentally shot himself in the leg with an illegal handgun during a police street stop Nov. 11, prosecutors said. He's now being held without bail and will likely be heading back to prison.

Early on Dec. 4, 2017, Noriyhea Evans was "celebrating" his 18th birthday with a friend when the duo walked up to a woman as she sat inside a car on the parking lot of a Dunkin' Donuts in Bridgeport. The men knocked on the car window and ordered the woman out. Then, they sped away with her vehicle.

As it turned out, the woman, then 29-years-old, was the Chicago Tribune's overnight crime reporter. She was sitting in a company car waiting for a story to break when the story came to her — via Evans and the other guy.

Police arrested Evans two days later after cops caught him driving the Tribune's car the wrong way in Ravenswood. He eventually pleaded guilty to vehicular

hijacking, possessing a stolen motor vehicle, and escaping from electronic monitoring in exchange for a four-year sentence.

He was paroled on June 24.

On Nov. 11, cops on patrol saw a Dodge Durango with no front plate at a gas pump near Pershing and Wells and decided to take a closer look. Police have been advised to be on the lookout for new Dodge vehicles with fraudulent plates because several have been recently stolen from dealerships.

While police spoke with Jalen Howard, 19, the Durango's driver, Evans stepped out of the passenger side and started talking with other cops.

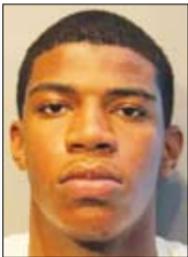
As officers leaned into the Durango to examine an object that appeared to be a cannabis dispensary package in the center console, a gunshot rang out. Officers didn't know where the shot came from because it sounded muffled, according to prosecutors.

That's when the officers realized that blood was pouring out of Evans' thigh. And he had a new

hole in his pants — with a gun barrel sticking out of it, authorities say.

Police took a loaded handgun with an extended magazine from Evans' pants and administered first aid, prosecutors said. Cops allegedly found a loaded handgun in Howard's jacket pocket, too.

While speaking with investigators, Evans reportedly told cops that he is a member of Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's extended family. One source said he claimed to be her cousin, while another said he claimed that his mother is



Noriyhea Evans

Foxx's cousin. Foxx's spokesperson said that Foxx "has no idea who this person is or if they are related to her."

Evans' claims didn't win him any favors. Prosecutors from Foxx's office charged him with unlawful use of a weapon by a felon and felony reckless discharge of a firearm. The Illinois Dept. of Corrections also lodged

CARJACKING see p. 10

Second man charged in Old Town shootout

BY CWBCHICAGO

Prosecutors have charged a four-time felon with participating in a wild shooting this summer that a judge called a "straight-out gun battle" that turned an Old Town street "into the OK Corral."

Valentino Russell, 38, is the second person charged with the shootout that left one man hospitalized on July 18.

Russell has twice been convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm, prosecutors said during a bond hearing.

Multiple video cameras operated by the city and private entities captured footage of the incident, which unfolded in the middle of the 1300 block of N. Hudson around 7 p.m.

About 20 people were wandering around the block when Russell and the man who would eventually be shot pulled onto the

block and got out of their car, leaving it double-parked in the street, prosecutors said. According to the state, the two men pulled out handguns, and Russell's companion began beating a man in the street with a handgun.

Video allegedly shows Russell extending his arm and firing several rounds while his sidekick fired shots up the street. One of the bystanders shot Russell's companion, who collapsed on the street. Police later found the 35-year-old victim lying unconscious between two cars.

The head of security at a nearby apartment complex identified Russell from video footage and in photo line-ups based on previous contact between the men, prosecutors said. Russell is banned from the complex, according to the guard.

On Wednesday, a fugitive apprehension unit located Rus-

sell and ordered him to raise his hands. When he did, officers saw the butt of a loaded handgun sticking out of his waistband, prosecutors said.

He is now charged with armed habitual criminal, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, and reckless discharge of a firearm. Judge Arthur Willis set bail at \$500,000 and ordered Russell to go onto electronic monitoring if he posts the mandatory 10% deposit bond.

Prosecutors last month said Brandon Brown, 36, was one of the bystanders who fired shots in the melee. Video allegedly shows Brown duck down during the gunfire, grab a pistol from his pocket, and pop up twice to fire shots during the shoot-out. He then fled in a car, prosecutors said.

Judge John Lyke, who handled Brown's bond court hearing, said the street turned "into the OK Corral" during "a straight-out gun battle."



Darien Green (inset), a serial shoplifter, admitted to using a baseball bat to threaten a security officer and others.

Shoplifters brought baseball bats to ward off Macy's guards

BY CWBCHICAGO

A shoplifting team that has repeatedly targeted the Macy's store at Water Tower Place raised the stakes by bringing baseball bats to ward off security officers during a raid on the retailer's menswear department last week, prosecutors said. One adult and one juvenile are now charged with robbery.

Loss prevention officers caught Darien Green, 19, shoplifting three times in the previous month, according to prosecutors. But Macy's didn't press charges in those cases.

So, when Green and two companions entered the store with baseball bats on the afternoon of

Nov. 12, security officers decided to keep an eye on them, said Assistant State's Attorney Meredith Rudolphi.

When a guard approached the trio in the menswear department, Green threatened him with a bat while a juvenile threatened to beat the agent if he didn't stop following the group around. The security officer backed away while other Macy's employees kept an eye on the crew via surveillance cameras.

Green and the third offender allegedly took coats from the racks and walked out. Macy's agents did not try to apprehend the group.

SHOPLIFTERS see p. 10

Second round of police community conversations

The Chicago Police Dept. has scheduled a second round of Strategic Planning Community Conversations for two district on the North Side. The 18th District will be 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, and the 19th District will be noon on Saturday, Nov. 21.

These events help CPD gather input from neighbors to help draft each District's 2021 strategic plans surrounding crime enforcement and community engagement.

Links to each District's registration page are below. Fullerton is basically the dividing line between the two districts, with the 19th being north of Fullerton.

To attend the meeting for the 18th District call Please call 312-742-5870 or email CAPS018-District@chicagopolice.org; to attend the 19th District meeting call 312-744-8320 or email CAPS019District@chicagopolice.org.

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TURKEY from p. 2

garding the assault by a large mob of young people at Macy's on State St. Apparently it's uncharacteristically late in the year for a wilding. But CPD said it might just be early Christmas shopping. Why hide the details from the public? Lightfinger's orders?

PAX: Chicagoan **Linda Rae Sher**, an instigator of important efforts among Jewish women supporting Democratic candidates, has died at a young 73. The long-time politico was instrumental in establishing the Joint Action Committee for Political Affairs (JACPAC), the first PAC for Jewish women. She was a firebrand, an enthusiast of justice and peace, and an indispensable friend to the **Biden-Harris** ticket. Her love for Israel was inspired by her family of traditional optimists. She had the gift that inspired others.

AU REVOIR: Staff at the prestigious Benjamin Marshall on the Park building, AKA 1550 N. State Pkwy., are on the alert that penthouse tenants, U.S. Ambas-

sador to Belgium **Ron Gidwitz** and wife, **Christina**, will be returning to these shores given the change in American presidents at the polls.

OVER THE TRANSOM: Can it be true? **President-elect Joe Biden** is said to be reviewing the career of **Mayor Lori Lightfoot** for a possible nomination as Attorney General.

AVE ET VALDE: Longtime British sitcom legend **Geoffrey Palmer** has died at 93. His long, quaint romantic pursuit of **Dame Judy Dench** in the PBS broadcast, "As Time Goes By," has been a cherished favorite for years in America. His grumpy, befuddled, hangdog persona appeared a charming personal metaphor for British comic relief. He and Dench revived the public's belief in true love and romance stirring again in well-educated, aging characters. Ironically, both actors were veterans of various Bond films over the decades.

DANNY'S NO MORE: More sad news of closures. **Danny's Tavern**, 1951 W. Dickens, long

INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



Pat Toney with President-elect Joe Biden.



Linda Rae Sher



Geoffrey Palmer



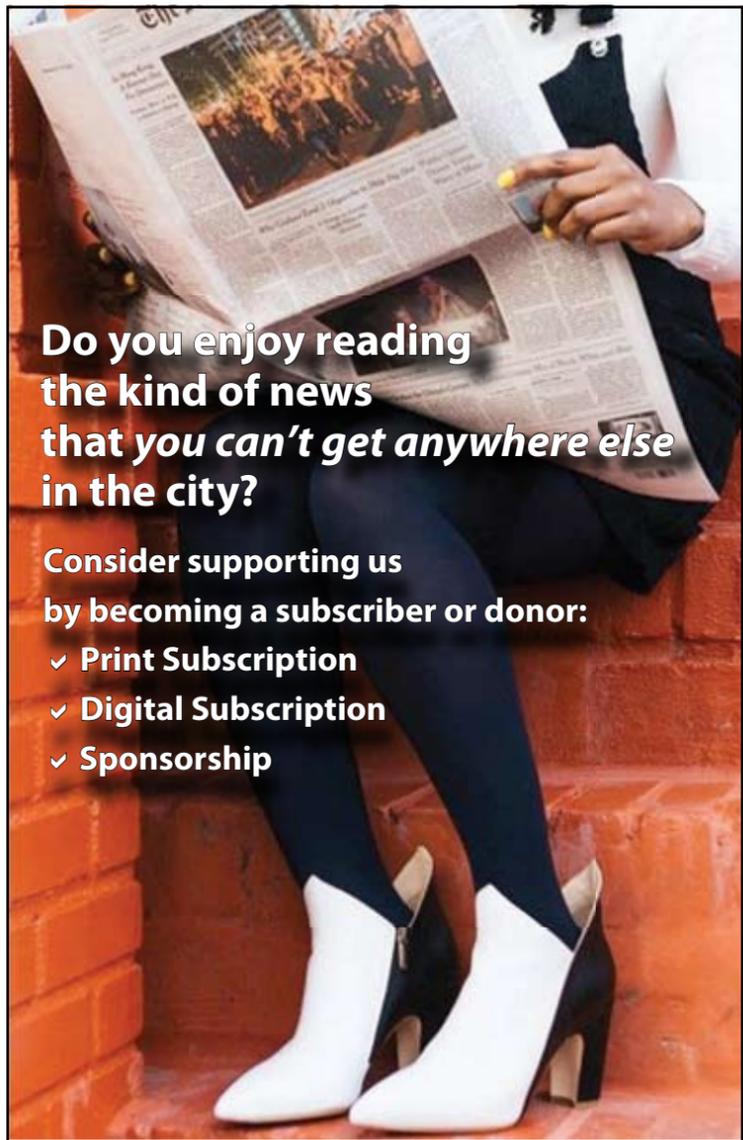
Shaun Rajah



Ron and Christine Gidwitz.



Candace Jordan, Sherrill Bodine Lauren Lein Kavanagh.



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a unique watering hole on the landscape of hip Bucktown, has announced that it will shutter its doors permanently after almost 35 years of quirky service. Well loved for its candlelight interiors, it was cherished for its dance parties and Smith nights which had patrons lined up down the block. This is a neighborhood tragedy.

BUCK BOLTS: Was that young buck spotted strolling past Lawrence and Leavitt last week the same one who has been grazing and growing up all summer long over at a nearby cemetery? Might he be headed to the riverfront seeking some female attention?

CLOSURE: Sadly, another first rate Chicago restaurant bites the dust with the closing of Longmann & Eagle on Kedzie and Milwaukee in Logan Square. Who could believe it's over for the farm-to-table establishment that once made customers wait 90 minutes for a table that they were glad to get? Has the wave of endings begun?

WHO'S WHERE? **Pat Toney** discovered a great snap of herself with the new president, **Joe Biden**... Arts operative **Marcin Mogielski** in Times Square amid people cheering and dancing in the

streets of New York once again in the aftermath of the **Biden-Harris** presidential election victory... **Shauna Montgomery** reaching out with birthday wishes for son **C. Knox Montgomery**... newsy **Anne Kavanagh** and **Maria Maso Fraser** took their happy smiley photo on Wednesday but held it until election was official for **Joe Biden** and **Kamala Harris**, finally now breathing, and ceasing to stress, toasting... **Bobbi Panter** and husband, **Matt Arnoux** on their way to Anna Maria Island, FL, with pooch babies **Bebe** and **Cece**... **Shelley Howard** assembling his troops on phantom Friday in 70 degrees doing dinner al Fresco at Gibson's... **Mark Olley** eating breakfast with **Jim Ellsworth** at Original Pancake House on Bellevue but managing the serendipity of snapping

a deer in Uptown later while out for a morning stroll... Lunch appears to have turned into dinner for **Hector Gustavo Cardenas** and **Marius Morkvenus** as those delicious martinis passed the fifth refill mark... **John** and **Myra Reilly**, **Sherrill Bodine**, **Cheryl Coleman**... **Sherry Lea Fox** and **Stacie McClane** doing Saturday night dinner at Gibson's... Also seen at Gibson's, **Horst Siegal** and friends celebrating a big birthday dinner; two lovelies lunching with the stars, Chicago society queen **Mamie Walton** and PR maven, **Dori Wilson**... attorney **Tom** and **Janet Murphy** out stretching their legs on Rush St. waving to friend at Gibson's... **Shelley Howard** with **Roger Hatanaka** on Wild-



Bobbi Panter, Myra Reilly and Meg Schenkler.

card Wednesday at Kamehachi in Old Town... Cook County Treasurer **Maria Pappas** back on WVON 1690 AM with her unique style. Tune in... Catching famed Chicago dancer **Mark Howard** in a great rerun on the Tonight Show with **Johnny Carson**, 30 years ago, St. Patrick's Day, 1990 revving up the blarney in **Ed McMahon** and Johnny with his Trinity Dancers... U.S. Ambassador to the U.K. **Woody Johnson** at Westminster Abbey for Armistice service and centennial of Unknown Soldier... Everyone's favorite, **Shaun Rajah**, celebrating 16 years with the prestigious Drake Hotel. He's magic.

CAD-FILE: **Lady Catherine FitzGerald** has been working in seclusion at her girlhood Irish home, Glin Castle, with mom, **Olda**, and reacting slowly to

her actor husband, The Crown's **Dominick West's**, two-timing behavior with Downton Abby actress **Lily James**, admitting the marriage just might be kaput after 10 years? He said he had "feelings" for James.

THE PIPES ARE CALLING: Rush St. diners rose from seats at the triangle as a surprise appearance brought cheers and tears as the **Shannon Rover Pipe Band** made the march up Chicago's most celebrated pavement. Cradled in the warm, Indian Summer winds of fresh political excitement, the ancient tunes had everyone tapping their toes and whispering a small prayer for the new President and Vice President, as well as the restaurant workers and restaurant guests who have kept the triangle's dinner spots heavily populated and open.

MCA: The Andrew Mellon Foundation has announced Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art will receive \$2.5 million award from its Art Museum Futures' fund.

AT THE STRAND: Netflix just began a sweet series for Christmas, **Dash and Lily**. It's funny and romantic, very Christmasy. A large portion of the series takes place at The Strand. New York's greatest used bookstore. Maybe America's best. Tragically in real life, because of the pandemic, they have hit on hard times and are facing ruin. So this is a call to all book lovers and readers. Buy a few volumes from The Strand. Look then up online. Help restore their future. Let's do it one book at a time.

JADE COURT: Back now in sophisticated Asian splendor, in Hyde Park, **Carol Cheung** and **Adrian Race** have created the perfect spot for lasting high quality Chinese cuisine, 1516 E. Harper Ct., 773-966-4106. It's just opening now in this great location.

Peace is that brief glorious moment in history when everybody stands around reloading.

-- Thomas Jefferson
 tog515@gmail.com



ZooLights fires up this Friday

ZooLights at the Lincoln Park Zoo is on this year for selected dates, starting 4 p.m. Friday Nov. 21.

The holiday lights festival will feature hundreds of luminous displays and offer seasonal activities, all under the glow of millions of illuminated lights, plus reduced capacity admission designed to keep your family safe.

While admission to ZooLights is \$5, there will also be five free

nights, on Nov. 24, Dec. 9, 17, 21 and 29. These days will offer the same holiday experience and tickets are still required, but they will be complimentary. These tickets will be released the Sunday prior to each date at 4 p.m.

Popular portions of the festival include the Light Maze, the Enchanted Forest, Adults Night [Dec. 10] and the Holiday 3-D Experience. Visitor will also be able to take socially distanced

photos with Santa from 4:30–9:30 p.m. through Dec. 23.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, from 7–8 p.m., Chris White is back for his soulful jazz tribute to a favorite holiday classic: “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” This year will feature a reduced capacity general admission ticket at the zoo’s Café Brauer, as well as a virtual option so others can enjoy the show from home.

Pandemic inspires luxury restaurants to offer takeout

As the pandemic worsens in Chicago and the state mandates closure of inside dining, luxury restaurants are relying on takeout to stay in business. Some see it as a sign of the viability of Chicago’s restaurants.

BY ELISA SHOENBERGER
Loop North News

With COVID-19 regulations and closures, luxury restaurants and bars have pivoted to takeout. High-end restaurants like Alinea and Spiaggia provide multi-course meals while bars like Three Dots and a Dash and Billy Sunday offer their signature drinks to go.

Back in March, many restaurants had to adapt to an earlier ban of on-site dining. Some restaurants already provided takeout and delivery options, but others had to enter the business in their own way. Alinea, for example, known for its high prices and scarcity of reservations, provided its customers with pages of heating and assembly instructions. Restaurants had to be thoughtful about their takeout options

“The menu that was chosen for Spiaggia at Home features dishes we felt would travel the best once they left our kitchen, and also involved very little ‘lift’ from the guest in terms of preparation,” explained Tara Zavagnin, Director of Operations for Levy Restaurants, owner of Spiaggia.

While it may be tempting to offer fewer high-end specialties with takeout, Spiaggia currently offers dishes with white and black truffles.

Luxury takeout has allowed diners the chance to try these restaurants without a hefty price tag. While Alinea in-person meals easily run hundreds of dollars that must be paid upfront, the takeout option is less expensive – though still pricey by any standards – and thus more accessible.

Daniel Laloggia and his wife, Sarah, tried Alinea’s takeout menu for her birthday.



Tara Zavagnin (left) and Rachael Lowe, Beverage Director at Spiaggia.

Photo courtesy of Levy Restaurants

“It seemed like a nice consolation prize for not being able to do something special for it,” Laloggia said. “Though, to be honest, we were just looking for an excuse. We’d never been to Alinea and this was also a great way to try one of the best restaurants in Chicago without paying a million dollars.”

Luxury takeout has allowed diners the chance to try these restaurants without a hefty price tag.

However, with these high-end takeout options, some preparation is required. Laloggia estimated that it took about 45 minutes to put it all together. Certainly, a bit different than getting Chinese takeout from a local restaurant.

Erin Pierce-Spurrier, who dined at Alinea years ago, tried their takeout twice. She says the first time, the quality of the food “was good, not ‘Alinea-good’ but something you’d get from a four-star restaurant. Michelin-worthy.”

However, both were less than impressed with Alinea’s August “grill out” menu, which was more expensive and time-consuming.

“The entree was steak/shrimp/veggie kebabs which you were required to grill and season yourself. They came raw,” Pierce-

Spurrier noted. “I followed the instructions provided but after the recommended grill time, my steak was cooked but most of it was still very raw. I accidentally ate a whole raw shrimp, which was disgusting.”

Restaurants, too, are learning from their experiences with takeout.

“During the first lockdown, we offered carryout through Café Spiaggia because the family-style concept felt more adaptable to carry-out,” said Zavagnin. “However, since reopening Spiaggia, our team has really adapted and learned to be creative in a new medium.”

As the pandemic worsens in Chicago and the state mandates closure of inside dining, luxury restaurants may have to continue relying on this revenue source to continue operations. But some see it as a sign of the viability of Chicago’s restaurants.

“Seeing so many outstanding restaurants pivot their concepts to adapt to a new landscape that better serves the people of Chicago is impressive,” says Zavagnin. “It is a reminder that hospitality does not only exist within the four walls of a restaurant, and we are resilient and strong and believe we will all weather this storm and come out better than ever.”

Alinea was not available for comment for the story.

The Beatles know Edgewater, Chicago and the 1960s

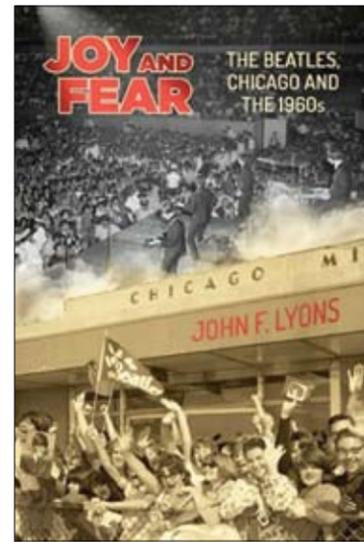
Did you know The Beatles partied in Edgewater?

You can hear all about it in a Zoom book talk about Chicago and the 1960s, 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5.

For many in the 1960s, The Beatles revolutionized the staid American cultural scene. For others, the mop-top haircuts, jangling music, and hysterical female fans that always greeted the lads from Liverpool, were a symbol of unwelcome social and cultural decay. Public conflict over the group increased as the decade wore on, especially after The Beatles embraced more extreme countercultural values.

And Chicago was at the center of some of The Beatles more interesting episodes – from a party at Edgewater’s Saddle and Cycle Club to John Lennon’s most famous mea culpa.

These stories are explored in the new book “Joy and Fear: The Beatles, Chicago and the 1960s” by local historian John Lyons,



who will offer a provocative look back at those turbulent times and how they were shaped by the Fab Four and the Windy City.

Register in advance for this meeting at bit.ly/ehszoom3.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Supply drive

The Lincoln Square Ravenswood Solidarity Network, Andersonville Mutual Aid, and Lakeview Mutual Aid are collecting food and supplies to be distributed to requests from North Side neighbors and those from other Chicago mutual aid groups.

Those who would like to drop

off donations, they will be accepted from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Fridays at Ravenswood Fellowship United Methodist Church, 4511 N. Hermitage. Donations should be brought to the table behind the church, and you can enter at the south end of the alley off of Sunnyside.

Stay away from Leland Ave.

The final stage of the Ravenswood Metra Station construction will take place for the next 18 months, and Leland Ave. is now closed to traffic under the Metra tracks for deep foundation work. This closure is expected to last 3-4 weeks, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The east leg of Ravenswood between Leland and Lawrence will

experience a partial closure for the next 12-18 months. There will be no on-street parking on this block as the traffic lane will be temporarily pushed into the eastern parking lane. This blockage will be put in place as on Nov. 23.

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MISSING from p. 6

assigned to the matters didn't take action for over a year if the lawyer's arguments had been presented to him. In court transcripts, Hennelly seems reluctant to take a major step when the trial judge had not done so.

Nonetheless, Hennelly struck Chandler's no-bail status and allowed him to get out of jail by posting a \$500 deposit bond, court records show.

Prosecutors, who presented minimal counter-arguments during the April 9 bond hearing, filed an emergency motion to reinstate Chandler's no-bail status.

Among other things, the state's attorney's office admitted that its lawyers did not tell Hennelly the facts of the sexual assault cases. And, prosecutors said, Chandler's alleged victims weren't even notified of the bond reduction hearing.

The state also revealed that Chan-

dler was accused in 2013 of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman he met online. But a judge later dismissed the case finding no probable cause.

And, prosecutors accused Chandler of talking about paying off one of his alleged victims during a jailhouse phone call on March 31. During the call, Chandler "details one of his cases and also discusses a previous attempt to tamper with a victim and pay her a sum of money to alter her story," attorneys for the state said.

After hearing the prosecution's objection and Chandler's defense, Judge Michael McHale ordered Chandler to return to jail and to be held without bail. But the hearing was conducted via Zoom due to the COVID pandemic and Chandler could not be taken into custody immediately.

Instead, a warrant was issued for Chandler's arrest two days later. He remains at large.

CARJACKING from p. 7

a warrant while they consider revoking Evans' parole.

Judge Arthur Willis said Evans can get out of jail on electronic monitoring by posting a \$5,000 deposit bond if the state decides

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

out of the car around 10:13 p.m., said Officer Ronald Westbrooks, a CPD spokesperson.

When the carjacker displayed a handgun, the man got out of his car, and the offender drove away with the vehicle. The victim was not injured.

Westbrooks said the carjacker is a Black male in his 20's who stands about 5'-8" tall and weighs 150 lbs. The man was wearing a blue hoodie and a black facemask.

Four years for man who lured, fondled girl in Lincoln Park laundry room

A Lincoln Park man who allegedly lured young girls into an apartment building laundry room and then fondled one of them in 2018 has been sentenced to four years in prison.

But, state records show that Charles Clayton is already being processed for release from prison after receiving the state's automatic 50% sentence reduction for good behavior and credit for time spent in jail while awaiting trial.

On July 2, 2018, Clayton lured three 9-year-old girls into a residential laundry room in the 1500 block of W. Fullerton and then sexually abused one of the children while soliciting the others, prosecutors said after his arrest.

According to allegations laid out in court records, Clayton gave each

to release their hold on him.

Howard, who has no criminal history, is charged with aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and driving on a suspended license. Willis is allowing him to go onto electronic monitoring without posting any bond.

girl \$1 and gave one of them a beer. He fondled one of the girls over her clothing and exposed himself to the children while making lewd sexual comments to one girl about what he would like to do to her, prosecutors alleged.

The girls told their mothers about what happened and they, in turn, notified police. A U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force tracked him down a few days later.

The state charged Clayton with three felony counts of sexual exploitation of a child; felony aggravated criminal sexual abuse of a victim under age 13, and felony indecent solicitation of a child. A grand jury later added kidnapping and other charges.

State records show Clayton reported to Stateville Correctional Center on Oct. 16 for a four-year sentence for criminal sexual abuse of a child. The same records show that he was scheduled to be paroled the same day after getting various credits. As of Nov. 15, Clayton remains at Stateville. His name has just been added to the state's sex offender database.

—Compiled by CWBChicago.com



Charles Clayton

HOMELESS from p. 4

not just on Northside Housing. If people have an eviction on their record, it's going to make it hard for them [to get any housing]. As a whole, from a systems standpoint, [if] someone is under eviction, needing to find another apartment or home is going to be problematic."

Uptown's Cornerstone Community Outreach, 4628 N. Clifton, has to wait and see how they fare in light of the upcoming moratorium expiration. "It all depends on Catholic Charities Services," said Naquita Harrison during her shift there.

Harrison said they have "no specific plan in place" [to address the end of the moratorium]. Catholic Charities operates as a co-ordinated entry program

in conjunction with the city. When calling the City's non-emergency 311 number with homeless needs, calls are routed to Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities was unavailable for comment.

The Ark, 6450 N. California Ave., in West Rogers Park, offers social services and homeless shelter services to the community. While the Ark continues to provide food, rent and utility assistance, they unfortunately have had to close their shelter services due to the pandemic.

Lakeview Lutheran Church, 835 W. Addison, services the LG-BTQ community under the leadership of Pastor Liala Beukema. Lakeview Lutheran has a rooftop garden that they use to help supply food to two local shelters and partners with local outreach programs.

With the moratorium set to ex-

pire, Beukema thinks it is "critical to provide housing. I'm also a landlord. I actually have people in my apartments in the service industry." So as a landlord herself, she sees it from both sides.

"The number of shelters is limited. Where will they go? We need to think about creative ways to support landlords. We can't ask them to share and bear the whole burden themselves." Reflecting on the impact on churches, Beukema says, "[The moratorium not

"The number of shelters is limited. Where will they go? We need to think about creative ways to support landlords. We can't ask them to share and bear the whole burden themselves." Reflecting on the impact on churches," said Pastor Liala Beukema.

being continued] would create more of a demand for our church and churches being there for people in crisis. [How would people have] access to meals? Where are they going to sleep?"

The City is helping with its own Rental Assistance Program [RAP]. But the online application closed at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 15. Year round, the paper copy of the RAP application is available at one of the City's six community service centers. RAP offers up to six months of rent support for those facing eviction and eviction due to fire, flood, foreclosure and domestic violence, and includes payment and arrears, provided the property owner or manager agrees.

Williams spells out New Life's Good News' plan should the moratorium expire: "We'll take as many people as we can, build

them up and get them working." In the big picture, Williams recognizes both sides too... "I'm a landlord. People have to pay bills. If they have buildings and they're not paying the rent, our government needs to understand that and not be hands off. The [government] should be pulling together so we [can] live. Business isn't important right now. There's a need to help people. It's not just a conversation."

Michael Mini, executive vice president of the Chicago-Land Apartment Assoc., thinks that the governor has fine-tuned his residential eviction moratorium rules so landlords are not taken advantage of by tenants who withhold rent payments without cause or demonstrated financial losses due to COVID-19.

"The amended eviction moratorium announced [Friday] provides for greater accountability by non-paying bad actors. The pandemic threatens the financial viability of both tenants and landlords across Illinois as we all face unprecedented pressures. We need more federal funding to ensure renters experiencing hardships can keep paying their rent and property owners can cover their operating costs and maintain safe living conditions for their residents."

Beukema hopes Chicagoans can work together to not put people in the street. "The community cost dealing with people who are homeless is a lot higher than trying to help subsidize [the] landlord. Trying to put together housing on the fly would cost the City more. I would like to see the moratorium extended."

SHOPLIFTERS from p. 7

Two days later, Green and the juvenile returned to Macy's. Loss prevention officers called police, and cops took the two into custody.

Green was wearing the same burgundy pants that he wore during the baseball bat incident — along with a jacket that is "visually identical" to the one he stole, Rudolfi said.

During an interview with police, Green admitted to being in

the store with a baseball bat on Nov. 12, and he said the juvenile made threats while wielding another bat. Green also admitted that his coat is "expensive" and eventually conceded that he stole it from Macy's.

According to CPD records, Green has been arrested six times in the past eleven months: for criminal trespass to vehicles and trespassing in Englewood; for shoplifting in Uptown; for battery at the Sheridan Red Line CTA station; and for failure to dis-

perse from Trump Tower during riots on May 31. Only the battery charge remains pending, Rudolfi said.

On Sunday, prosecutors charged him with robbery in the Macy's case and held him on an arrest warrant for another retail theft case. Judge Arthur Willis set Green's bail at \$20,000 and ordered him to go onto electronic monitoring if he can post the required \$2,000 deposit bond.

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