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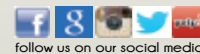
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SEPTEMBER 23 - SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

It is not women's liberation,
it is women's and men's liberation.

— Ruth Bader Ginsburg

NEWS-STAR

AN **INSIDE PUBLICATIONS** NEWSPAPER

FREE

VOL. 116, NO. 39

NEWS OF ROGERS PARK, EDGEWATER, UPTOWN & ANDERSONVILLE

insideonline.com



Walk-a-thon for charity in Rogers Park this weekend

This week Family Matters, a Rogers Park youth group, is hosting a weekend-long fundraiser that will combine an in-person walk-a-thon and a virtual gala to help raise funds for its battle against oppression.

The silent auction and giving tree items will be available from Friday 3:30 p.m. until Sunday 9:30 p.m. Saturday will feature a walk-and-roll-a-thon beginning at 10 a.m., stepping off at Willye B. White Park, 1610 W. Howard St.

On Sunday, they will close the weekend with a Virtual Gala, beginning at 7 p.m. Ticket packages range from \$175 to \$350 for a 'household.' For those who purchase the individual or household packages, food deliveries and pickups will be scheduled from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Guests will

select from a group of local restaurant partners. Each restaurant has a set number of orders they can fill.

Family Matters, founded in 1987 to help kids rise above racism, usually holds a gala in the Spring and a walk-a-thon in the Fall. But like many nonprofits, Family Matter's, located at 7731 N. Marshfield, has had their major fundraisers impacted by the pandemic lockdown, and the group was forced to alter its plans.

But this year, they are adding a "wheels" component for those who want to support the event in person and would prefer to ride their bikes or scooters. For more information call 773-465-6011 or write to info@familymatterschicago.org.

Ainslie Plaza redo in the works

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Since getting elected last year, Ald. Andre Vasquez [40th] has made it clear that art can be one good way to promote a neighborhood.

He is now trying to convert the north end of Lincoln Ave. into the Lincoln Avenue North Arts corridor.

"We've been working on the Lincoln Ave. corridor, typically holding meetings at least once a week. And now, in the world of COVID, we have to figure how to have more public spaces for people to be more socially distant, and still be able to somehow come together."

It's all part of the city-sponsored "Make Way for People" program. Now he says it's time for Ainslie Plaza.

Vasquez and a detail of city officials recently kicked off a plan to revitalize the Lincoln Square



Planning is now underway to revitalize the Lincoln Square Plaza, a public space in front of the McDonald's Restaurant at Lincoln and Ainslie, with the help of a group of local residents and nearby business owners.

Plaza with the help of a group of local residents and business owners and didn't have to wait long for responses. The last virtual

town hall meeting on this project was held on Sept. 2.

PLAZA see p. 12

Far North Side Census efforts lagging

On the North Side, the areas of Rogers Park, Edgewater and Andersonville are, so far, lagging national rates with getting their census information collected.

The latest data shows response rates ranging from 50% to 66.1% as of Sept. 21 for the areas north of Lawrence Ave.

Census results shape the future of communities, as census data informs how billions of dollars in

federal funds are distributed for health clinics, school lunch programs, disaster recovery initiatives, and other critical programs and services for the next 10 years. The local count started in earnest in February and ends Sept. 30.

In the 2010 decennial census, 76.5% of those same households mailed back their questionnaire, requiring a more costly and difficult in-person follow up from

the Census Bureau to count the remaining 23.5%.

Some states are already doing quite well with response rates over 98%, like Idaho, West Virginia, Hawaii, Maine and Kansas. The state of Illinois now stands at 74.3% in total, while Cook County stands at 66.2%.

Nationwide, as of August 18,

CENSUS see p. 12

Waitlist for new Rogers Park CHA building opening

The waitlist for the Clark-Estes Apartments, 1763 W. Estes, in Rogers Park will open 12 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. Any pre-applications received before the application opening date will not be accepted.

The new development has a total of 54 units, 15 of which will be subsidized through the CHA. The property management company is currently seeking individuals who are interested in applying for the affordable units and currently reside in Rogers Park to be placed on their waitlist.

This waitlist is only to fill the

remaining 39 units, not the 15 subsidized units for which the CHA will provide the applicants. Clark-Estes Apartments LP will accept vouchers for the remaining 39 units.

The waitlist will remain open until the property management company receives 200 applications. Pre-applications must be submitted either via fax at 847-498-4844 or via email at info@clark-estes.com.

Construction on the site is still underway and expected to be completed by the end of October. Clark-Estes Apartments LP

is aiming to have residents move in by late November or early December of this year.

To provide assistance to those who may need help navigating the application process or sending in their pre-application, Northside Community Resources [NCR], 1530 W. Morse, has offered to lend a hand to those who request it. They are taking appointments for Friday, Oct. 11, to help residents prepare their pre-application. They will also be open on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. to help residents either fax or scan and email their applications.

For more information, call NCR at 773-338-7722.

The pre-application will reserve a spot on a waitlist. Approximately 30-60 days prior to a unit becoming available, an applicant will be contacted by phone or email to set up an in-person meeting to complete their application. This step will include income verification, credit report, past landlord references, and a criminal background check for all members of the household 18 years and older. There is also a \$30 non-refundable fee to apply for all members of the household

18 years and older.

To qualify, applicants must make at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI) as of April 24, 2019.

For an individual that is \$37,440. For two people that's \$42,780; three people \$48,120, and four people is \$53,460. Individuals must have proof of income, must meet other requirements, and must demonstrate the ability to pay rent listed.

Disappointments on grand scale can be overpowering



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

The pandemic has made poor souls of us all.

In spite of careful internal cautions, we have all experienced unwanted fears and apprehensions.

Quarantine has worn away the polish from our exteriors and on the normally patient quality of our willingness to stay calm, go easy and let our better selves rule.

But a profound sense of wounds suffered is also a part of our pandemic story. The loss of access to friends, the absence of critical family members, the altered judgments that isolation and worry bring about. The restrictive environment that has been the incubator of our pandemic lives.

What's worse comes when easing up on the restrictions actually exacerbates the emotional feelings of isolation. Deepening despair, loneliness, and a never before experienced comfort in the hermit-like lifestyle. Taking comfort in being alone. Separate from the commotion of others, finding some pleasure in being free from the complexity of other peoples' living.

Kind of a "Stockholm Syndrome" discovered in our keeping to ourselves, free of the bedlam of other's choices, chatter and conflicts.

Alone we have way too much focus on ourselves, perhaps for the first time in many years. The lack of clutter might just feel good.

Perhaps you've found relief in your need to be alone, stay at home, or keep your mask on, even when by yourself?

My favorite comfort food in my quarantine remains my tie to my pre-pandemic world: Very soft scrambled eggs cooked in unsalted Irish butter. Crisp bacon. Buttered toast from homemade bread. Strong mugs of black tea with cream and sugar.

I'd take this restorative menu for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Dinner, perhaps my favorite. Better than turkey and all the trimmings. Or a Gibson's steak, Sushi at Mirai or a warm lobster roll at RL.

Full disclosure. I have also acquired the taste for gelato. Talenti Gelato. Black Raspberry with tiny chocolate bits. Mediterranean Green mint. And Sea Salt Caramel. And some Tate's chocolate chip cookies. They all bring comfort, when the human touch won't do.

Pandemic gives us the chance to reexamine what values such vittles have. Even the humble egg.

During the quarantine a great change is taking place, slowly, in

our way of life. Treasured institutions and ways of doing things have been upended.

Have you had a visit to the doctor yet on your computer? Has your favorite restaurant been closed? Have your usual travel plans been curtailed? Not much going on in front of the blackboard in schools. Got your laptop handy? Has anyone near and dear to you died recently? How about that funeral? If there was one. Hardly any weddings. Of course, very little feasting.

I was recently at my doctor's lab for blood work. Just getting there was an ordeal. My Uber had to travel down Monroe St. from DesPlaines Ave. to Michigan Ave. Across from the Art Institute. You really eyeball the Loop. What a mess. Depressing streetscape. Empty. No one out and about.

After my lab visit, I decided to have lunch at Gibson's. My driver took Lake Shore Dr. to Chicago Ave. Once again very depressing. Especially looking at the shuttered Navy Pier. My driver, from another continent, tried to take Rush St. to Gibson's. Can't be done. The street is sealed off for outside diners. So I told him to go around the block and drop me off at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill. My first time back since March 14. Gracious welcome. Lots of catching up. But so much had changed. In fact, everything. The seating arrangements. The menu. The staff. The management. My temperature taken before being seated.

But there was blueberry pie. And that became the glue of my lunch. The familiar. Memory laden. Purple berry summer favorite just made everything all right. I wore my mask. But I took my gloves off.

While familiarity was everywhere, there was no kidding myself. Everything had changed. So nothing was the same. Quite the metaphor for life as we now know it.

In the face of such systemic change, maybe there's little we can do, besides reading all of Jane Austen. Learning better French or finding the perfect recipe for Boeuf Bourguignon as autumn days approach.

Maybe a refreshed poetic intuition could better brace us for the uncertainty of change. Maybe a more arts-focused view of the world might help us regain our sense of what really matters in life.

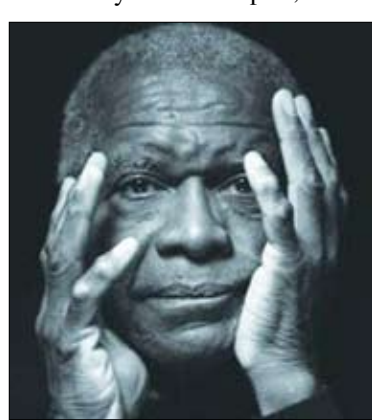
In Chicago, as the historic Palmer House is foreclosed, perhaps we need to recommit ourselves to making our city better than it ever was. Despite the growing loss of confidence in our mayor, or the strategic fears her leadership is causing. Or the emptiness we feel when some of our treasured favorites from baseball and football to Church on Sunday

have been reconfigured until we no longer recognize them. Disappointments are a part of life. But when they happen on the grand scale, they can be overpowering.

I wish my grandparents were still alive. They filled the days and nights of our childhood with extraordinary optimism. They were never disappointed by the twists and turns of life. They were always ready with a poem or a few lines of classical literature that so well fed their generation. They knew war in all its horror. On both sides of the Atlantic. They knew fleeing to a new land for survival. The loneliness of having family far away. The death of children. The struggle for achievement, and the complications of assimilation. But they rose above it all. No belly-aching, just the assemblage of a fresh, growing family around their table for feasting and gratitude. Chasing away the brokenness of the moment with stability and survival that comes from a future in which they were always confident. And to which they were always true.

CRIME STATS: Last week in our city of peace, love and understanding, 16 people were killed and 100 total were shot and wounded in Chicago through Sept. 19.

ARS GRATIAS ARTIS: Congratulations to famed Chicago sculptor, **Richard Hunt**, on his



Richard Hunt

85th birthday. Joyous birthday wishes, Richard. Dean of America's great sculptors, his work makes Chicago famous. His prestigious works that adorn the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., are among his greatest achievements.

ARCHITECT'S SHAME: In a bizarre twist, the American Institute of Architects Chicago board, embroiled in the mayhem of former Executive Director Zurich Esposito's departure, are now insisting on an age ceiling for future members of the board. No one over 50. When was the last time anyone reached out for "ageism" as a life preserver in troubled waters? Who's advising these people? Has the City of Chicago been embarrassed nationally by their antics? In a stranger twist, member architects are now said to want a meeting with the board and eye a meeting to vote on rehiring Esposito at the institute. But the board insists they need not heed the membership. Next stop could be a courthouse. Board President **April Hughes** is belittling the membership in her passion for refusing to see any groundswell pro-Esposito's rehiring

as binding. But members say they will vote to remove obstructionist board members.

CEAD MILE FAILTE: Ireland's new Consul General in Chicago, **Kevin Byrne**, has arrived for a Sept. 2020 posting. Joining the Irish Dept. of Foreign Affairs in 2010, he served in EU Division, Corporate Services, and in Ireland's Consulate in San Francisco. Prior to taking up his post in Chicago, he was secretary to the Management Board



Kevin Byrne

of the Dept. and policy liaison with Áras an Uachtaráin – the office of the President. Before joining the foreign service, Byrne worked in the European institutions in Brussels, the think tank sector in London, and taught in France and Japan. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin, the London School of Economics, and a Naughton scholar, he is married to his husband, **Aristotle Garcia Byrne**.

TITANIC SPILL: A little bird with wet feathers says that when a pipe broke in the posh pad on the top floor of an architecturally historic Gold Coast full floor apartment, all the Architectural Digest flats below got soaked and damaged badly. The owner was nowhere in sight, serving as **President Trump's** ambassador to a colorful kingdom.

#1 CHINESE: Word is out that New Jade Court will soon open in

OVERPOWERING see p. 8

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A fundraiser with lots of sole



Heart of the 'Hood

by Felicia Dechter

They say never judge a person unless you have walked a mile in their shoes, so here's a chance to let someone walk a mile in yours.

Whether it be your boogey shoes, your blue suede shoes, your kinky boots, or just shoes you no longer wear, please think about donating them to North Side Housing and Supportive Services (NSHSS) shoe collection drive. NSHSS, 4410 N. Ravenswood Ave., helps more than 700 women and men annually. Its mission is to end homelessness by providing housing and comprehensive supportive services, as well as to strive to eradicate the conditions that cause, contribute to and exacerbate homelessness.

I'm head over heels about this fundraiser, which ends mid-October. It's so easy to participate in and it will hopefully propel me into cleaning out my own closet. It's good to know that my shoes will be given a second chance,

and they'll make a difference in people's lives.

Here's how it works: All donated shoes will be redistributed through Funds2Orgs, which helps impoverished people start, maintain and grow businesses in countries such as Haiti, Honduras and other nations in Central America and Africa. North Side Housing will earn funds based on the total weight of the shoes they've collected, and Funds2Orgs will buy all of the donated footwear from them and then disperse it through its network of microenterprise partners in developing nations.

Proceeds from the Funds2Orgs shoe sales are used to feed, clothe and house families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school. So far, as of last weekend, 1,000 pair of shoes had been collected. The goal is 2,500.

"Funds2Org's shoe drive fundraiser gives North Side Housing an opportunity to raise funds without asking anyone to open their wallets," said Cari O'Brien, development and communications manager at NSHSS. "It's a way to grow awareness of our agency and the work we do within the community, while providing supporters a way to become engaged and learn more about North Side Housing as well."

"It's a really great way to get



Case manager Sherman McGee, left, and Bob Plantenberg, program manager of CoC Programs at North Side Housing, check out the shoe donations thus far.

these businesses off the ground," added O'Brien. "The shoes definitely don't end up in a landfill, they get a second life for sure. And we de-clutter our closets. I like to call it a win-win-win. As a supporter you can do something and you don't have to open your checkbook or wallet."

It's not a traditional fundraiser, but it is a creative way to engage support, said O'Brien. It doesn't have to be fancy footwear that

you're donating -- they'll take any season footwear and any size and type, including footwear like soccer cleats.

"Anything, as long as it is in gently worn condition or better," said O'Brien.

Shoes can be dropped off 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4410 N. Ravenswood Ave., suite 101. Please have shoe laces tied together when possible. There are also

drop off sites in Irving Park and Avondale, contact O'Brien at support@northsidehousing.org for more info.

Oh, if you're a loafer and don't feel like closet cleaning, here's another way to be involved. On Oct. 2, NSHSS will hold a virtual "Oktoberfest: Feast For Better Housing," with an Oktoberfest cooking demonstration by The Chopping Block featuring a mouth watering, three-course menu of Obatzda (Beer-cheese) dip -paired with Krombacher Pils; Beer braised bratwurst with sauerkraut & onion -- paired with Lagunitas IPA Beer; and a caramelized apple puff pastry tart paired with Weihenstephan Wheat Beer.

Skills covered in the class include: Getting familiar with German cuisine, braising and grilling sausages, knife proficiency, balancing flavors, selecting and caramelizing apples and working with puff pastry.

There's also a raffle drawing filled with prizes from ACM Music School, Dank Haus, Merz Apothecary, Gene's Sausage Shop, Baker Miller, Bottles and Cans and more. Sign up and save your spot, with proceeds supporting NSHSS programs including its COVID-19 expenses and the

SOLE see p. 6



Artis Safety Council Family and Caregiver Town Hall

Presented by Michelle Bellantoni, MD, CMD, Gerontology – Johns Hopkins; Morgan Katz, MD, MHS, Infectious Disease – Johns Hopkins; and Ravi Passi, MD, FACP, CMD, Internal Medicine, Advanced Primary & Geriatric Care

Several months have passed since we announced our partnership with the renowned physicians from Johns Hopkins. Through our partnership, we have refined protocols and began safely welcoming new residents to our communities. Together, we remain committed to our associates, our residents and their loved ones as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, information about the coronavirus continues to evolve daily and, as promised, we want to share that information with you, as we have it. Join our team of experts, once again, as they provide updates on:

- Evolving Changes in the COVID-19 World
- Updates on COVID-19 Treatments/Vaccines
- What Does the Future Look Like?

Please Bring Your Questions!

As always, we value your thoughts and will provide time during our discussion for any questions you may have.

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Virtual Town Hall

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Lords of Lane Tech class rings speak up on Indian issue

**Teen swoon
pays off 65-years later
with return of ring**



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

BY DON DEBAT
The Home Front

The Indian-loving Lane Tech tribe is on the warpath.

Potential removal of an iconic Native American statue—as the focal point of Lane Tech College Prep High School’s Memorial Garden—has developed in recent weeks into a generational donnybrook between war veterans and older alumni and students, versus faculty and a conservative school council.

Now the focus is shifting to the tens of thousands of Lane Tech graduation rings coveted by alumni, who view the bands—which showcase both the head of an Indian in a full-feathered warrior bonnet and an image of the school’s iconic clock tower—as a proud representation of their high school years.

“What will they want us to do next? Melt down our class rings?” asked Richard Bailey, a Jan. 1962 Lane graduate. “Should we change the name of the state of

Illinois, which is an Indian word referring to Native American people?”

Perhaps we should rename the city of Chicago, dubbed after a wild, smelly field of onions? And, let’s not forget the dozens of streets on the city’s Northwest Side with monikers like: Blackhawk, Dowagiac, Lathrobe, Lightfoot, Milwaukee, Mohawk, Nakomis, Natoma, Oconto, Oswego, Potawatomie, Sauganash, Seminole, Sioux, Tahoma and Tonty, to name a few.

In early August, the Lane Tech School Council unanimously agreed to start a process to remove the warrior statue from the Memorial Garden after Principal Brian Tennison directed the organization to address the “Indian” issue with a vote.

The restored bronze statue titled “Shooting the Stars,” depicts a Native American warrior in a feathered headdress gazing to the heavens. The warrior statue stands on a pedestal in the central, open-air, private garden at Lane Tech, 2501 W. Addison St. in West Lakeview.

Some students and alumni say the statue and other Indian symbols on the Lane Tech campus reinforce harmful racial stereotypes of Native Americans.

However, a plaque attached to the base of the war monument simply states: “In reverent tribute to those Laneites who gave the last full measure of devotion for justice, and the American way of life, this memorial is solemnly dedicated.”



Lane Tech High School’s “Shooting the Stars” statue. (Inset) Don Garbarino’s 1955 Lane Tech class ring.
Photo by Cara Garbarino

The Memorial Garden and “Shooting the Stars” statue by sculptor John Szaton was dedicated on Oct. 30, 1947, to honor Lane Tech’s 314 Gold Star Heroes who died in World War II. At least 6,539 Laneites served in World War II. Some 8,174 Lane Tech students served in the Armed Forces in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and in the Global War on Terrorism, according to a 2002 survey.

“Prior to this year, has anyone ever complained about the statue?” Bailey asked. “This monument to Lane veterans—and to all who were educated there—must be allowed to stand for future generations.”

Bailey urged legal action should be implemented to prevent removal of the statue. “Are there any Lane Tech alumni attorneys who would be willing to take this on? If not, we need to seek one out, preferably who would act pro bono,” Bailey said.

If a lawsuit fails, Bailey believes a poll of Lakeview residents should be conducted to see if this proposed waste of money is condoned, or if statue-removal funds would be better spent on a

monument to neighborhood residents’ lives lost to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lane ring serendipity

Over the decades, it is likely that hundreds of Lane class rings were given away, stolen, or lost, never to be found again.

Don Garbarino, 83, forgot he gave his Class of 1955 Lane ring to Barbara, an attractive blonde girl he dated at the Hub Skating Rink while a senior in high school in the mid-1950s.

In 2012, Barbara, a recent widow, who Garbarino hadn’t seen in 57 years, reached out to him. “On a lark she dialed 411. She confessed she was going over her life’s episodes and remembered me as one of her first loves.” After a brief conversation, she extended a dinner invitation at her home in a northern suburb, and Garbarino readily accepted.

“We had a lovely fish dinner and wine, and the ensuing conversation centered on our days at the skating rink and our times together. It was then that she placed a small container in front of me. ‘Here, I want you to have this,’ she said.”

“The instant I laid eyes on it,

I knew that was my 1955 class ring. I didn’t remember giving it to her. From time to time over the decades I thought it either slipped off my finger or I had somehow misplaced it,” Garbarino recalled.

“I’ve held it all these years and promised myself to give it back to you if I ever ran into you again,” Barbara said.

The ring was made by a company that was later bought out by Jostens, who told Garbarino he could have the ring re-sized and cleaned for free by contacting a company rep who would soon be at Lane Tech taking school ring orders.

“I met the rep in the school cafeteria. Before leaving I told him I had paid about \$25 for the ring in 1955, then asked the cost to duplicate that ring today,” Garbarino said. “You’re looking at about \$750,” he said.”

Garbarino has received countless compliments on his restored Lane ring over the years. “Much intricate workmanship went into making it. One highlight is the Native Indian image cast below the Lane Tech clock tower. And there it will remain.”

Incidentally, this writer’s Lane Tech ring, initialed “DD” with a green stone and plated with 14-carat gold was lost or stolen during a move in 2001. If anyone knows its whereabouts, a reward awaits.

If you lost your Lane ring and want to list it missing, visit: <https://www.alumniclass.com/lanetech-highschool-indians-chicago-il/lostrings>.

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. DeBat is a 1961 Lane Tech graduate.

Property assessment appeals focus of free virtual workshop

The Cook County Assessor’s Office will host a free virtual workshop on property assessment appeals 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Viewers will learn more about the property tax system, including ways to correct a tax bill if an exemption is missing.

Presenters also will offer reasons homeowners might consider filing property assessment appeals and give guidance about filing appeals online.

Residents can participate in the workshop via Facebook Live and will have the opportunity to speak during a live question-answer session. A Facebook account is not required.

A recording of the event will be posted on YouTube at a later date.

For more information call (312) 443-7550.

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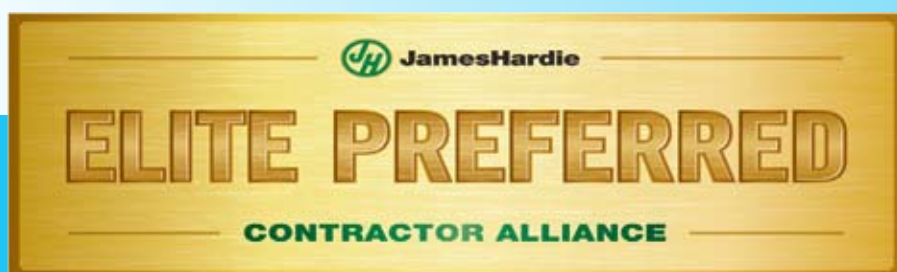
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Lincoln Park Conservancy 2020 Walk the Pond

The Lincoln Park Conservancy's 2020 Walk the Pond virtual event will run Sept. 26 - Oct. 31.

Walk the Pond has traditionally been a one-day fundraising and family event in support of their work in Lincoln Park, but not this year.

Walk the Pond is going virtual this year.

The outdoors can be a wonderful resource to de-stress and center our families suffering under a pandemic.

Walkers will need to register for access to fun and educational nature activities, which can also serve as a break from screen time for kids or adults alike.

It's free to participate, with a \$20 donation encouraged for each family or group. Proceeds benefit the Conservancy's restoration of North Pond. For more information call 773-883-7275.

Since their founding in 1984, the LPC has been at the forefront of historic conservation, ecological restoration, park programming and management. LPC staff their field staff in the park six days a week caring for park sites. They maintain native plants, gardens and trees, educate the public, and manage volunteer programs. All LPC field staff have college degrees in environmental fields.

Sept. 30 family, caregiver Town Hall to report on future of a COVID world

Artis Senior Living of Lakeview is hosting a virtual Family and Caregivers Town Hall 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30 presented by Michelle Bellantoni, MD, CMD, Gerontology – Johns Hopkins; Morgan Katz, MD, MHS, Infectious Disease – Johns Hopkins; and Ravi Passi, MD, FACP, CMD, Internal Medicine, Advanced Primary and Geriatric Care.

Several months have passed since Artis announced their partnership with physicians from Johns Hopkins. Through their partnership, they have refined protocols and began safely welcoming new residents to their

communities as their residents and their loved ones navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

To register for the Virtual Town Hall visit TheArtisWay.com/SafeLiving.

Information about the coronavirus continues to evolve daily and Artis wants to share that information with North Siders. Their team of experts will provide updates on evolving changes in the COVID-19 world, and on Covid-19 treatments and vaccines, and what the future looks like.

Register by Monday, Sept. 28 at TheArtisWay.com/SafeLiving.

Do you believe a government office can be efficient, give timely service, be considerate of citizens using it by offering helpful explanations, have clerks pleasant to speak with who have been trained well, and function well in their jobs?

No? Well visit the Secretary of State's office on Elston Ave. and see this miracle for yourself.

From the time you approach the door an outside monitor asks what you need and directs you to the correct door.

Then an inside monitor asks your department destination, points out the direction and turns you over to the next clerk if you're confused, as I was. That clerk escorts you in person until you're in the correct line, or chair, they then notify the monitor of that line where you are sitting and where your place in line is. That clerk then gets you up when it's your

Letter to the Editor

Do you believe in miracles?

turn at a window or camera for the next steps in your procedure.

I found this nice service twice, once to renew my drivers license and next to get my state license sticker.

Diane, the woman who did the interviewing and processing, deserves special commendation for her expertise and service. I am elderly, after the computer search and forms, she left her window to proctor the vision test herself so I could avoid another wait in line - as well as at the cashier while I sat and she stood in line for me. She also tried to get supervisory approval to cancel the written test, which I would not have thought to do for myself. When I was done she said a courteous goodbye and pointed to the exit, then returned to her window for the next applicant.

I was flabbergasted.

The other surprising and pleas-

ant event came after a very inflated, wrong property tax bill.

Michelle Jordan and Mary Luke went above and beyond their job duties to reach me from their homes and delivered to me, in person, the forms they accessed and completed themselves, and which I signed for in my own yard. Mary then took these forms to her own computer to file with Cook County. The county mailed me a Certificate of Error a few days later. I didn't even need to go to a mailbox. Those two ladies have helped me before, the word "service" is prominent in their functioning.

If these two office clerks can do it, why not all? They have the wrong CEO's.

Miriam Hellman Meyers
Rogers Park

SOLE from p. 3

Client Assistance Fund that helps participants overcome financial barriers. This help can often make the difference between housing and homelessness.

Happy anniversary... to Noreen Heron and her award-winning public relations firm, Heron Agency, which is still going strong after 20 successful years! I've had the pleasure of working with Noreen and many of her staffers for the last two decades, and I can honestly say that when I'm dealing with Heron Agency, I know everything will go smoothly. Noreen, who was once an intern for this newspaper before she started her company 20 years ago, is one of the smartest and most generous people I've ever worked with. I thank her for many years of fun shows, events, parties, etc. May Heron Agency continue to thrive and celebrate many more anniversaries!

Another sad sign of the times... COVID-19 continues to spread its wrath with the news of the closing of two outstanding Chicago restaurants, Lawry's Prime Rib, 100 E. Ontario St.,



Noreen Heron, president of Heron Agency in Lincoln Park.

and Twisted Tapas, 1146 W. Pratt Ave., in Rogers Park. The latter closes on Sunday and when I went to make a last supper reservation for this week, the person on the phone said they were "crushed" to have to close their doors.

Lawry's owner Richard Frank held an emotional meeting on Saturday to notify his employees. The 46-year-old renowned restaurant will close on Dec. 31 when its lease is up, although there is a re-open possibility at that location or elsewhere, according to various news reports.

Longtime Lawry's employees are in shock.

"I was just so devastated, I was ready to cry," said Debbie Garcia,

a server at Lawry's for the last 34 years who attended the meeting via Zoom. "That was like our second home -- everybody's second home. I spent more than half my life there."

"We were a big family -- one of the biggest," added Garcia. "This is going to be a big loss for the city of Chicago."

Indeed, it is. A huge loss. And losing the seven-year-old Twisted Tapas is devastating for me and my neighbors.

Let's hope that one day soon, COVID will "magically disappear," just like our president has repeatedly said it would. Meanwhile, thanks for masking to those who do.

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Proposed concept for Belmont Avenue junction and bus turnaround area.

LSD-Belmont Ave. bus turnaround proposed for lakefront



Common improvements such as reducing bottlenecks at junctions, straightening the Oak St. curve and replacing the Chicago Ave. traffic signal with a full access junction were announced last week.

Plans for the future of North Lake Shore Dr. [NLS] are coming out in bits and pieces and this week city and state planners have announced a proposal to add a bus turnaround at Lake Shore Dr. and Belmont Ave.

The Redefine The Drive plan hopes that all their roadway improvements will improve transit operations in the NLS Corridor.

Common improvements such as reducing bottlenecks at junctions, straightening the Oak St. curve and replacing the Chicago Ave. traffic signal with a full access junction were announced last week.

This week the group says a new bus-only space at Belmont will improve bus travel times and reliability in the corridor over a do no harm, no-action alternative.

The proposal calls for adding bus-only lanes along the Outer Drive north of Belmont; and/or secondarily a choice of providing shared bus/auto managed lanes at the same location.

The planners claim that bus-only queue jump lanes or bus-only ramps which provide dedicated

sections in advance of general purpose traffic.

They hope to provide bus turnarounds at the lakefront to allow for better east-west transit access to Lincoln Park, as well as more efficient east-west bus movements at the ends of their routes. They claim this also allows flexibility for several bus routes to reach more destinations within the park, and adds bus staging areas nearby Lincoln Park bus stops to minimize unreliable bus travel times from remote staging areas.

It does not deal with the fact in a post-pandemic era, ridership has dropped 90%. Data now shows that with many people working from home, and others refusing to even ride buses anymore, why they think there is still demand for adding bus infrastructure to the North Lakefront.

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Prosecutors charged lawyer Sujal Pandya, 36, with felony criminal damage to property to Sheffield's Beer and Wine Garden [inset photo].

Indiana lawyer charged with smashing Lakeview bar's windows last winter

An attorney from Indiana was charged Sept. 17 with smashing all of the windows at a Lakeview bar with a sledgehammer in February, causing nearly \$59,000 in damage.

Prosecutors charged lawyer Sujal Pandya, 36, with felony criminal damage to property in connection with the rampage at Sheffield's Beer and Wine Garden, 3258 N. Sheffield, on Feb. 1, before the pandemic lockdown took place.

Sixteen custom-made windows and two glass doors were destroyed, according to a CPD report.

The bar's surveillance cameras captured video of a hooded man using a sledgehammer to smash out all of their windows around 4 o'clock that morning.

"We know who it was. We got him on surveillance video," one

of the bar's employees told Block Club Chicago at the time.

Another employee in February told Block Club that the suspect was "a lawyer who we banned more than a month ago." Pandya, who lives in Ft. Wayne, turned himself in to Chicago police this week after learning that he was being charged in the case, his attorney said.

Prosecutors did not offer a motive for the crime, but an assistant state's attorney said Pandya was a regular patron at the bar. Replacement of the custom windows cost \$58,910, according to the state.

It is Pandya's first arrest. Although Pandya has a law degree from Notre Dame, he has not been working since December, according to his attorney.

Judge Arthur Willis released Pandya on a recognizance bond.

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Classical street festival changing format for COVID

Hybrid audio walking tour, live concert blocks planned

Organizers of the annual Thirsty Ears classical music street festival have modified their format in order to keep crowds to a minimum during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Access Contemporary Music (ACM) has re-imagined the event as a hybrid audio walking tour and live concert this year.

Ticket holders will be able to participate in a 90-minute block of live music, selected at the time of purchase. But they also will have the chance to explore 10 sites in Ravenswood and Lincoln Square that hold historical and cultural significance, including locations where the poet Carl Sandburg wrote some of his famous Chicago poetry, the site of the city's first – and still-standing – wood-frame church, Chicago's first movie theater, and a long-running musical instrument factory.

At each site, participants will learn about

the local history, hear from a composer about how the space inspired them musically, and then listen to a one-minute piece composed especially for the location.

After each performance, attendees will be able to access incentives to support neighborhood businesses.

"We wanted to be able to present this unique event in a way that also celebrated the vibrant community we serve and gave people a chance to support the incredible businesses that are here," ACM executive director and Thirsty Ears producer Seth Boustead said.

The audio tour will be available Sept. 30, and concerts will take place Oct. 9-11 in the 4700 block of North Ravenswood Avenue.

Tickets cost \$20 for general admission including the walking tour and a 90-minute block of music. The \$30 "Marquee" tickets also include access to the Sound of Silent Film Festival taking place Oct. 9. For more information call (773) 334-3650.

Open House Chicago offers self-guided exploration of the 'city of architecture'

The Chicago Architecture Center's [CAC] 10th annual Open House Chicago [OHC] festival will feature nearly 50 online and in-person experiences highlighting 20-plus local neighborhoods Oct. 16-25.

"As we approach the end of a year that has brought unforeseen challenges to us all, we're proud to offer (this) gift to the city's residents," CAC president and CEO Lynn J. Osmond said.

Osmond said the festival's new format was designed to help people "learn more about 'the city of architecture' from wherever they're most comfortable."

OHC 2020 includes more than 20 self-guided exploration trails with audio narration by local public figures, all accessible via a free, location-enabled mobile app for iOS and Android devices.

Visitors to each OHC 2020 area can access free resources that will let them

explore and select routes on a variety of themes, learn more about buildings and sites of interest in each neighborhood, and browse and register for related online programs.

Out-of-app, analog versions of the OHC content will be available upon request for those with access needs.

OHC participants are asked to observe all current recommendations from public health officials from the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago. In addition, while select online programs during the festival may include images and video footage of building interiors, visitors should not attempt to enter any of the OHC sites and buildings.

Most OHC trails involve easy to intermediate bicycle rides or walks and are designed to last an hour or less. For more information call (312) 922-3432.

OVERPOWERING from p. 2

Hyde Park, after a long interval closed, on Racine St. as Jade Court, and many years in Chinatown as Phoenix. The late **Eddy Cheung** created the top two Chinese restaurants in Chicago. Daughter **Carol Cheung**, longtime driving force for excellence there, is creating another high end winner. Stay tuned.

ARTS WEDDING: Biggest news blast, beautiful fine artist **Susan Volk** was married last week to the astound-

ing actor **Malachi Squires** (Lyric Opera, Goodman, Chicago Shakespeare, Les Ballets Grandiva, Ruth Page) and since their love is charmed, they will be too. As the bard reminds us - "Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks, But bears it out even to the edge of doom. If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved."

A SILVER LINING: "A Sterling Event Virtual Gala" – the 16th annual fundraiser for A Silver Lining Foundation (ASLF)

on Saturday, Oct. 3. **Dr. Sandy Goldberg** founded ASLF in 2002 when, as a breast cancer patient, she realized that not all women have access to mammograms; she and her husband set up the foundation because "we all deserve

a chance to survive ... no matter our financial situation, race, or documentation status." Since its founding, ASLF has helped over 28,000 in need of breast health help. Though the event is free, advanced registration is preferred. Register today for this exciting evening for a great cause.

CHICAGO LIGHTHOUSE: **Sherrill Bodine** celebrating dear friend, **Cookie Cohen**, as she was being honored by the Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind - it is truly a beacon of light and hope for those in need.

SYMPATHIES: Deepest condolences to **Michele Love Klarchek** on the sudden death of her beloved father, **Alexander Love**, in Michigan. He was a lovely and distinguished man. And a loving father. Tragic days filled with heartache, but transformed

by love.

AVVIO: Former Sabatino's chef, **Joel Piedra**, is opening a new restaurant later this month, bringing back some beloved dishes at Avvio, new location at 4358 N. Elston Ave. The restaurant will feature items that were on Sabatino's menu, including specials, like Gnocchi de Spinaci and Chicken Sabatino.

NEW OLD TOWN ITALIAN: Two Lights Seafood & Oyster on North Ave. closed due to the COVID-19 virus that has affected all of us. A raw seafood bar did not seem appealing in a pandemic world. "Gussie's Handmade Italian" has opened in its place in Old Town at 227 W. North Ave. The space has been completely transformed so that 90% of the tables are booth seating and the atmosphere becomes a warm, neighborly, charming room serving handmade pastas with fresh sauces. **Megan and Keane Addington** have teamed up with **David Thate**, whose **Grandma Gussie**, inspired the handmade Italian cuisine.

ART MARKET: **David Cook**, "Chelsea Morning" **Joni Mitchell** 48"/48" on canvas board. Available.

CLOSURES: Sadly some of Chicago's most treasured and trendsetting establishments have not been able to survive the economics of the pandemic. All across town the sadness is felt. Bite, Bar Biscay, Farmhouse Chicago Avenue, La Sardine, Guthrie's Tavern, California Clipper and CC Ferns found survival impossible.

A DIEU MRS. PEEL: Sadly, we all mourn the loss of treasured British actress **Dame Diana Rigg**. From her leggy days in the spoofing "Avengers" spy genre in the 1960s, to her triumphant longevity as the Duchess of Buccleuch, in "Victoria" and countless other PBS mysteries, Shakespearean classics and costumed think roles, Dame Diana proved "England swings like a pendulum do." All the way to the "Game of Thrones."

THE CROWN: The fourth installment of an intimate inside view of **Queen Elizabeth II** and the British Royal family, *The Crown*, starts Nov. 15.

READERS HAVE THEIR SAY: **Myra Reilly:** Congratulations Thomas, for speaking out for all of us who were born in Chicago and for those who love living here. Tragedy.

Barbra Luce: Your opening paragraphs were so sad, so poignant. It angers me that beautiful Chicago has people in power who either do not care or do not know what to do to take the first step.

Lucia Adams: Your best column ever. Must drop it from airplanes during this wartime.

Janet Owen: Your feature said it all, although it did bring tears to my eyes for Chicago.

John Chambers: This is the most cou-



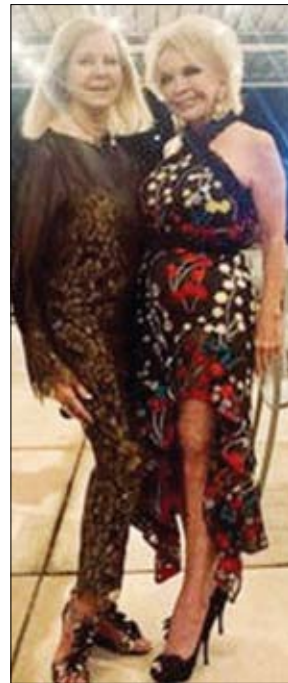
Artist Lucien Freud's Queen Elizabeth II.

rageous piece you have ever written! Unless our elected officials Black, White or Hispanic stand up and stop the shooting, riots, senseless violence and looting, the most beautiful city in America is doomed!

Barb Bailey: Thomas - This is the best accounting I've seen of what's happening to Chicago. Thank you for naming names and pointing fingers. Thank you for giving your loyal readers a place to vent.

ON THE TOWN: Fun for **Karin Carlson, Margaret J. O'Connor** and **Arica Hilton** running into famed journalist **Bill Kurtis** at the Hilton/Amus Contemporary...

Julia Jacobs with **Laurel Rundle** at Topo Gigio Restaurant on Wells... **Dan Kirk** has returned from his sand dune adventure in Nantucket, with dress-alike pooch, **Finley**, by his side... **Shawn Rajah**, looking fabulous with longer hair and his treasured pooch, **Prince**, beside him... **Sally Jo Morris** and **Dean Pfaff** have wed and are delighted at their joy... **Jolanta Ruege** looking fabulous in bright blue, bringing elegance to Gold Coast streets... **Contessa Bottega** getting the city re-fitted for post-pandemic life... **Abdel Afkir**, longtime favorite assistant manager at Ralph Lauren Bar & Grill, has happily popped up at Gibson's Steakhouse where his ways are most appreciated... **Mr. and Mrs. Aron Ianchici**, **Myra's Reilly's** last unmarried granddaughter, **Kathryn Risher**, ties the knot, with **Myra** and **John**



Cookie Cohen and Sherrill Bodine.

Reilly attending at Ravisloe Country Club in Homewood.

REPORTED ON SCC: "So tonight Antifa drove up and down Mount Greenwood streets," says the Second City Cop blog. "There were times they would get of their

car and shine flash lights in people faces to try and start trouble. They told 022 it was an art project. They went to any home and recorded homes with addresses that had blue lives matter Trump flags. I personally saw them recording a little girl on a bike who was terrified and tried to cover her face. We were ordered not to engage at all. I am furious and outraged and sickened by this and it makes me sick to my stomach. The good men of Mount Greenwood came out and told them to leave. One vehicle proudly said, "We are Antifa and we are recording all of you.""

If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude better than the animating contest of freedom, go home from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands that feed you. May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen.

-- Samuel Adams

tog515@gmail.com



Bill Kurtis and Karin Carlson.

Police Beat...

Offender caught on Damen, charged with looting



Vincent Bryant

Vincent Bryant, 25, of the 5800 block of S. Bishop, was charged with one felony count – Looting by Individual; one felony count – Burglary, and one felony count – Online Sale/Stolen Property under \$300 after he was arrested on Sept. 15, in the 3900 block of N. Damen.

Bryant was found in possession of and attempting to sell merchandise that was stolen from a store in the 0-100 block of E. Grand Ave. during the Aug. 10 looting incidents. The offender was placed into custody and charged accordingly.

Man robbed at knife point near Wrigley Field

An armed robber put a knife to a man's neck and robbed him near Wrigley Field Sept. 16, according to a CPD report. No arrests have been made.

The victim, age 19, told police he was near Clark and Waveland when the man approached him, displayed the knife, and demanded his valuables around 10:10 a.m., police spokesperson Kellie Bartoli said.

After getting the victim's money, wallet, and iPhone, the offender fled westbound on Waveland. Police searched the area but weren't able to find the robber, Bartoli said.

The victim, who was not injured, said the robber is a Black male between 20- and 29-years-old who stands about 6'-3" tall and weighs about 150 lbs. He reportedly has dreadlocks and wore a black jacket with dark pants that have a white stripe.

Good fortune brings charges in Red Line robbery

A Chicago man who robbed a Red Line passenger last week is facing felony charges after the detective who was assigned to the case just happened to see him while watching a live CTA surveillance camera feed days later, according to prosecutors.

On Sept. 7, a 25-year-old man told police that he was riding a northbound train when the robber boarded his car at Granville around 10 p.m. The suspect asked to use the victim's phone and then punched the victim in the



Marcos Rodriguez

face and body when he said the man could not use it.

When the victim walked to another train car, the offender followed him and demanded his money while holding his hand inside a bag he was carrying. The victim took his wallet out, and the robber reached into it, took about \$20 cash, and fled at the next stop.

The entire incident was captured on CTA surveillance video, according to prosecutors.

One week later, on Sept. 14, the detective who's assigned to the

case happened to be watching live CTA camera feeds from the Loop when he saw a man who looked like the robber standing on the Jackson Red Line CTA platform. He arranged for patrol officers to go to the station and detain the suspect.

The robbery victim identified the man, Marcos Rodriguez, 21, as the person who beat and robbed him on the train.

Rodriguez admitted to punching the victim, pretending he had a gun, and taking the man's money, according to the state's allegations. He also identified himself and the victim in CTA surveillance images, prosecutors said.

Judge Mary Marubio set bail for Rodriguez at \$200,000 and ordered Rodriguez to go on electronic monitoring if he can post the mandatory \$20,000 deposit bond.

Man arrested on Federal drug charge for dealing heroin, fentanyl

A Chicago man has been arrested on a federal drug charge for allegedly selling wholesale quantities of heroin and fentanyl in the West Loop neighborhood of Chicago.

William Townsend, 40, is charged with distribution of a controlled substance. A criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago accuses Townsend of distributing the heroin and fentanyl to two suspected drug traffickers. The sales occurred in a residential building in the 700 block of W. Couch Plc., the complaint states.

During the investigation, law enforcement seized approximately \$469,000 in cash and approximately a kilogram of suspected heroin.

Townsend was arrested on Sept. 10. He appeared Sept. 14 before U.S. Magistrate Judge Jeffrey I. Cummings and was ordered to remain detained in federal custody.

Chicago man may have robbed more than 20 people at bank ATMs

Prosecutors say a Chicago man may have robbed more than 20 people at bank ATMs across the city and other jurisdictions this Summer.



Thomas Lewis II

During a bond hearing Sept. 16, Assistant State's Attorney Jack Costello laid out details of two cases against Thomas Lewis II, 33, and told Judge Mary Marubio that four different law enforcement agencies are preparing to bring charges. Lewis was charged with two counts of robbery and operating a financial crimes enterprise, but Costello said "conservatively...at least 20" similar cases involving "dozens of victims" may be linked to Lewis II.

On June 23, Lewis allegedly approached a woman and her service dog as she conducted a transaction at the Citibank ATM, 180 N. Michigan, around 8 p.m. Lewis asked the woman for help using the machine next to her and then inserted a check into the ATM that the woman was using, Costello said.

Lewis then allegedly tried to withdraw money from the woman's account by pushing buttons on her ATM. The woman screamed at him, intervened, pushed him away, and pressed the machine's "cancel" button, Costello said.

But Lewis cornered her, forced her to enter her PIN, and withdrew \$700 from her account before fleeing, according to the state.

A witness saw what happened and provided police with a license plate number of the car that the robber used. Police traced the Jeep Wrangler back to Lewis through a rental car

agency, Costello said.

On July 29, Lewis robbed a man of \$900 through a similar scheme at a South Loop bank branch, according to Costello. During that robbery, Lewis made three \$300 withdrawals and told the victim to "back off" because "nobody needs to get shot today," Costello continued.

Both crimes were captured on bank surveillance videos. Lewis admitted to both robberies as well as "others of a similar nature," Costello said. All of the robberies that Lewis is suspected of committing followed the same pattern of approaching customers at ATMs and taking control of the machines, according to Costello.

Lewis was on bail for a pending forgery case at the time of the robberies. He has a history of fraud, forgery, and theft convictions stretching back to 2010, Costello said. Lewis has eight children.

Judge Marubio ordered Lewis held without bail for violating the terms of bail in the pending forgery case. She set bail on the new charges at \$10,000. After clearing up the violation of bail bond matter, Lewis will need to post a \$1,000 deposit bond and go onto electronic monitoring if he wants to get out of jail before trial, according to Marubio's order.

Two charged in midday shoot-out, car chase through Loop



Daquan Dunn Davarius Minor

Two men have been charged in connection with a shoot-out near Grant Park and a subsequent high-speed chase through the Loop Sept. 15.

Prosecutors said surveillance video shows one of the men handing off a baby he was carrying so he could return gunfire during the incident, which unfolded at 11:19 a.m. outside the Congress Hotel, 520 S. Michigan.

Davarius Minor, 21, Daquan Dunn, 20, and two friends were staying at the hotel when they walked out the front door to get into a car, Assistant State's Attorney James Murphy said during a bond court hearing Sept. 16.

As they approached their vehicle, Minor recognized a man at the intersection of Michigan and Harrison who pulled a gun on him the night before, according to Murphy. As he recognized the other man, the stranger pulled out a gun and fired two shots toward Minor and Dunn.

Minor handed a baby to another member of his group, pulled out his own gun, and fired nine rounds back, Murphy said. No one was struck by the gunfire, and the other man fled from the scene.

Meanwhile, Dunn, Minor, and their party sped from the hotel as police arrived on-scene, according to Murphy. Dunn drove at speeds exceeding 80 mph, ran red lights, and traveled into oncoming traffic through the Loop as police pursued them.

Their car crashed on the 600 block of W. Roosevelt, causing a four-car pile-up. Dunn, Minor, and their two friends ran from the scene, but police rounded them up. Police found a loaded 40-caliber handgun on the car's front passenger floorboard near where Minor sat, Murphy said.

Investigators found eight 40-caliber shell casings near the shooting scene along with two casings from a 45-caliber weapon. The shoot-out was captured on surveillance video, Murphy said. He added that Minor admitted to carrying the firearm for protection, and Dunn admitted to know-

ing that police were following him as he drove through the Loop.

The state dropped aggravated discharge of firearm charges against Minor during bond proceedings because prosecutors determined that he acted in self-defense against the unknown gunman, Murphy told Judge Mary Marubio.

Neither Dunn nor Minor have adult records.

Prosecutors charged Minor with aggravated unlawful use of a weapon. Dunn is charged with aggravated fleeing, leaving the scene of an accident involving injury, reckless driving, and traffic violations.

Marubio set bail at \$200,000 for each man. They are each required to go onto electronic monitoring if they can post individual \$20,000 deposit bonds to get out of jail, Marubio said.

Man fatally shot at Morse Red Line CTA station

A 26-year-old man was fatally shot Sept. 15 inside the Morse Red Line CTA station, police said. No one is in custody.

The victim was inside the station at 1358 W. Morse when a vehicle pulled up outside and opened fire on him, according to CPD. One round struck the victim in the abdomen, and he collapsed next to the turnstiles.

An ambulance transported the victim to St. Francis Hospital in Evanston, where he was pronounced dead.

Chicago police arrived at the scene very quickly and briefly chased a black Infiniti with chrome trim and a sunroof that they saw speeding from the scene. A CPD supervisor terminated the pursuit.

Investigators found about six shell casings at the scene. Area Three detectives are handling the case.

Parole escapee runs from cops, leaves 4-year-old in car with an AR-15 and heroin

A parole escapee left his 4-year-old daughter alone in his car "with an AR-15 rifle and a whole lot of heroin" when he decided to run from police Sept. 14, a Cook County judge said during a bond court hearing.

Two cops went to the 1500 block of W. North Ave. at 11:20 a.m. after a tipster said parole absconder Gilberto Bustamante was in the area, prosecutors said.

The uniformed officers pulled over when they saw Bustamante standing behind a car that had its trunk open. He ran, but the cops caught up with him less than a block away, and a five-minute battle broke out as the cops tried to arrest him, according to prosecutors.

During the brawl, Bustamante allegedly bit both officers, kicked one in the groin, tried to disarm one, and spit in both cops' eyes, mouths, and noses.

When police returned to Bustamante's car, they found \$140,000 worth of heroin inside, with an AR-15 rifle sticking out of a shopping bag in the front seat, and Bustamante's young daughter sitting alone in the back seat, prosecutors said.

During questioning, Bustamante told police "they were lucky he didn't get into his car, or he would have shot them with his AR," said an assistant state's attorney.

Prosecutors charged Bustamante with Class X manufacture-delivery of a controlled substance, Class X felony armed violence, unlawful use of a weapon by a felon, two counts of aggravated battery of police, child endangerment, two counts of resisting, possession of ammunition, and other

crimes.

He is also charged with previously threatening to burn the mother of his child and her car. Bustamante was also wanted by the state for failing to comply with the requirements of his parole and on a DUI warrant.

After hearing the state's lengthy presentation against Bustamante, Judge Mary Marubio said she believed there were many indications that he would not comply with the terms of a bail bond.

Marubio set bail at \$500,000 and ordered him to go onto electronic monitoring if he can post a \$50,000 deposit bond. However, Bustamante will also be held without bail while he deals with state parole authorities.

Man stabbed in Loop, another shot in River North

One man was stabbed, and another was shot during separate incidents in the downtown Sept. 16 and 17, according to police. No arrests have been made.

Most recently, a 38-year-old man was stabbed as he walked on the first block of W. Balbo in the Loop around 12:10 a.m. Sept. 17 according to CPD.

Police said the offender approached the victim on foot and stabbed him in the neck. CPD gave no motive for the crime. An ambulance transported the victim to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in serious condition.

Earlier, a 30-year-old man was shot in the head as he walked on the first block of W. Hubbard in River North, police said. The victim "was walking on the sidewalk when he heard shots and felt pain," according to a CPD statement.

He was taken by car to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, where doctors listed him in serious condition.

The shooting victim is the 20th person to be shot in River North so far this year. The neighborhood had ten shooting victims through all of 2019.

Area Three detectives are investigating both crimes.

Woman seriously injured when hit-and-run driver accelerates into CTA bus stop

Police are trying to track down the man who drove his truck into a Loop bus shelter on Sept. 15, leaving a 61-year-old woman seriously wounded. The incident was captured on video by at least two witnesses.

It happened across from Grant Park in the 1100 block of S. Michigan around 11:45 p.m. The entire downtown area was filled with traffic as people celebrated Mexican Independence Day. However, police have not connected the hit-and-run driver to the celebration.

A video taken by Marissa Parra of CBS2 shows the red truck accelerating down Michigan Ave. with its tires squealing before it turns

POLICE BEAT see p. 10

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Blood Runs Green: The Murder That Transfixed Chicago’s Gilded Age

A virtual lecture by author Gillian O’Brien about one of the most famous murder cases in Chicago history will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, via Zoom media. This program is a partnership with the Edge-water Historical Society and Friends of the Edge-water Library, and attendees are encouraged to read O’Brien’s book “Blood Runs Green” ahead of the virtual meet up.

Dr. Patrick Cronin was a respected Irish physician, but his brutal murder uncovered a web of intrigue, secrecy, and corruption that stretched across the nation and beyond.

In the years before his death, Cronin had been a member of Clan na Gael, a

secret Irish Republican organization intent on freeing Ireland from Britain’s grasp.

Dr. Cronin’s funeral was the biggest Chicago had seen since Lincoln’s. On May 26, 1889, 4,000 mourners proceeded down Michigan Ave., followed by a crowd 40,000 strong, in a howl of protest at what commentators called one of the ghastliest and most curious crimes in civilized history.

Concerned with the group’s increasingly violent methods and suspected embezzlement, Cronin publicly accused the organi-

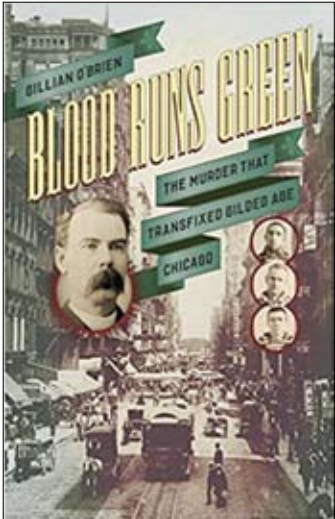
zation’s leaders. He disappeared on May 4, 1889, and was found 10 days later, naked and stuffed into a sewer in the city’s then suburbs... i.e, the present-day intersection of Broadway and Foster.

By the time of the trial in October, Chicago had become split over where Irish-Americans owed their loyalty. The newspapers’ sensational stories of corruption, secret societies and grisly details rocked the city and became an international scandal. It’s a story of hot-headed journalists in pursuit of sensational crimes, of a bungling police force riddled with informers and spies, and of a secret revolutionary society determined to free Ireland

but succeeding only in tearing itself apart. It is also the story of a booming immigrant population clamoring for power at a time of unprecedented change.

The discussion of this piece of true crime history will follow O’Brien’s book, which will be available at the Chicago Public Library circulation desk and can be sent to branches for pick-up.

To attend, register at bit.ly/ehszoom1. By registering for this event, you agree to abide by the Library Use Guidelines.



Blood Runs Green, the book.

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale	Real Estate For Sale
<div>232323</div> <div>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division. Nationstar HECM Acquisition Trust 2015-2, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not individually, but solely as Trustee Plaintiff, vs. Sandra Graff; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. Case #2017CH5204 Sheriff's # 200051 F17030262 CPN Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on October 27th, 2020, at 1pm in room LL06 of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment: Common Address: 6749 North Rockwell Street, Chicago, Illinois 60645 P.I.N: 10-36-404-037-0000 Improvements: This property consist of a Single Family Home. Sale shall be under the following terms: payment of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the successful and highest bid to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds at the sale; and the full remaining balance to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds within twenty-four (24) hours after the sale. Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special as-</div>	<div>sessments. Premise will NOT be open for inspection. Firm Information: Plaintiff's Attorney ANSELMO, LINDBERG OLIVER LLC 1771 W. DIEHL, Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563 Sales Department foreclosurennotice@fal-illinois.com 866-402-8661 fax 630-428-4620 For bidding instructions, visit www.fal-illinois.com This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division. Nationstar HECM Acquisition Trust 2015-2, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not individually, but solely as Trustee Plaintiff, vs. Sandra Graff; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. Case #2017CH5204 Sheriff's # 200051 F17030262 CPN Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on October 27th, 2020, at 1pm in room LL06 of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment: Common Address: 6749 North Rockwell Street, Chicago, Illinois 60645 P.I.N: 10-36-404-037-0000</div>	<div>Improvements: This property consist of a Single Family Home. Sale shall be under the following terms: payment of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the successful and highest bid to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds at the sale; and the full remaining balance to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds within twenty-four (24) hours after the sale. Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments. Premise will NOT be open for inspection. Firm Information: Plaintiff's Attorney ANSELMO, LINDBERG OLIVER LLC 1771 W. DIEHL, Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563 Sales Department foreclosurennotice@fal-illinois.com 866-402-8661 fax 630-428-4620 This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 161616 090909</div> <div>Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700</div>

Eviction tsunami quelled, but rent still will be due

MARY SCHUERMANN KUHLMAN
Illinois News Connection

An anticipated eviction tsunami has been calmed temporarily, but that doesn’t mean Illinois renters who have fallen behind are completely off the hook.

A new national eviction ban is in place through the end of the year for people unable to pay rent due to lost income because of the pandemic.

Bob Palmer, policy director for Housing Action Illinois, said COVID-19 has brought renewed attention to the long-standing issue of the lack of affordable housing, and said the moratorium is a move in the right direction.

“Obviously, at a time when we are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible to stop the spread of the virus, it doesn’t make sense from a public health perspective to be evicting people,” Palmer said.

The measure only delays evictions, and tenants will need to pay their mounting back rent when the moratorium expires.

Housing advocates are calling on Congress to provide at least \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance to help prevent tenants and landlords from falling further into debt.

It’s estimated at least half a million households in Illinois are struggling to pay rent because of lost income from COVID-19.

Palmer noted applications for the State of Illinois’ rental assistance program far exceeded the amount of assistance available.

POLICE BEAT *from p. 9*

sharply and heads into the bus shelter. Parra’s video ends a split-second before the woman is struck.

A second video was taken from overhead. The red truck is first seen standing diagonally across the traffic lanes with its hazard lights on. The engine revs and the vehicle begins moving in a wide left-to-right hook that sends it directly into the bus shelter.

After the collision, the driver backs out of the bus stop, pauses in a traffic lane for a few seconds, then continues south on Michigan Avenue. He then turned west on Roosevelt, according to police.

An ambulance transported the victim to Northwestern Memorial Hospital with injuries to her legs. Bystanders used a Mexican flag as a tourniquet to control the woman’s blood loss until first responders arrived.

Anyone with information about the truck or its driver can contact the Chicago Police Major Accidents Investigations Unit at 312-745-4521 regarding case JD-368588.

Man carjacked near Diversey Brown Line station

A driver was briefly dragged by his own vehicle during an armed carjacking near the Diversey Brown Line CTA station Sept. 19, police said. No one is in custody.

The 36-year-old man was seated in his parked Honda Civic when the carjacker pulled up and stepped out of a blue SUV on the 2700 block of N. Sheffield at 1:21 a.m., said Officer Michelle Tannehill, a CPD spokesperson.

The carjacker displayed a handgun that was in his waistband and ordered the victim to get out of his car, Tannehill said.

After briefly complying, the victim fought back and tried to gain control of the offender by grabbing onto the carjacker’s belt. But the offender got into the victim’s vehicle and began to drive away, causing the victim to be dragged

“So that’s why we need the federal government to provide additional resources for rental assistance,” Palmer said. “But also for expanded, extended unemployment insurance and also financial assistance for state and local governments to deal with their budget deficits.”

The residential eviction moratorium is for people earning \$98,000 or less, or households earning \$198,000 or less who are at risk of homelessness if evicted.

The residential eviction moratorium is for people earning \$98,000 or less, or households earning \$198,000 or less who are at risk of homelessness if evicted.

Palmer said Illinoisans in need of housing-assistance resources can find help nearby.

“Find out who your local community action agency is, particularly outside of Chicago and Cook County, and they’re really the best one-stop resource to help a person figure out what type of rental assistance or other financial resources are available to assist people,” Palmer said.

Folks in Chicago can call 311 to inquire about rental assistance.

Trump administration officials are encouraging renters to attempt to make partial payments when they cannot afford to pay in full.

a short distance by the fleeing car, according to Tannehill. The carjacker managed to get away with the victim’s vehicle.

The victim declined medical attention at the scene. Police did not have a description of the offender. Area Three detectives are investigating.

More shootings in Albany Park

A 38-year-old man is in serious condition after being shot in the Albany Park neighborhood Sept. 18. He is the 11th person shot in the 17th Police District in the past week, according to CPD records.

A police source said the escalating violence is connected to a cycle of shootings and retribution between the Latin Kings and Spanish Gangster Disciples street gangs.

The man was found in the driver’s seat of his Jeep on the 2700 block of W. Agatite around 10:15 p.m. after police received calls of shots fired in the area. He had gunshot wounds to his head, chest, and arm, police said. An ambulance transported him to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center.

Bullet holes were visible on the passenger side of the man’s SUV. Police said the victim does not appear to have previous contact with CPD. Investigators were trying to determine if the shooting was retaliation for another shooting earlier in the night or, potentially, a case of mistaken identity.

In the earlier shooting, an 18-year-old man was shot in the chest and back on the 4100 block of W. Lawrence around 6:45 p.m., according to police.

On Wednesday, a man was fatally shot on the 3600 block of W. Lawrence around 6:20 p.m.

The night before that, four men and a woman were shot in a drive-by as they stood on a sidewalk in the 3500 block of W. Lawrence. They all survived but were listed in critical to fair conditions.

— Compiled by CWBChicago.com

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Steve Dolinsky, the “Hungry Hound,” and celebrity judge and competitive eater, Patrick Bertoletti will host the “I Love Samosas” contest.

I Love Samosas

**Contestants needed
for \$500 Samosas eating contest**

So you say you love Samosas? Want to prove it?

The West Ridge Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Samosa eating competition Oct. 25, 2 p.m., called “I Love Samosas” which will offer a \$500 prize to the winning contestant.

This event is hosted by ABC-7 Chicago’s Steve Dolinsky, the “Hungry Hound,” and celebrity judge and competitive eater, Patrick Bertoletti. It will be held at Tiffin the Indian Kitchen Restaurant, 2536 W. Devon Ave. The competition will feature eight contestants comprised of West Ridge local officials and residents squaring off to see who can eat the most samosas.

Samosas are a spiced starchy, bite size, almost-mashed-potatoes, along with peas, all stuffed in a flaky pasty, deep fried to golden brown. Spectators will enjoy all you can eat samosas from West Ridge restaurants, great music, and wait for it... an appearance by the Samosa Man mascot.

Participating restaurants in West Ridge will be streaming the event live as they serve their own delicious samosa specials to patrons. So, if you would like to be a contestant (and we know you want to), contact the West Ridge Chamber of Commerce at 773-743-6022 or email to info@westridgechamber.org by Oct.11.

Tiffin the Indian Kitchen Restaurant will be properly socially distanced and all rules, regulations and guidelines stipulated by the City of Chicago’s Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumers Protections (BACP) will be strictly followed.

Andersonville Wine and Walk Home tickets now on sale

It’s that drinkie time of year! OK, so the drinking actually started in March, but Andersonville’s favorite Spring strolling event returns this Fall in a totally different format with less strolling, more drinking, at-home virtual add-ons and more.

The Andersonville Chamber of Commerce are offering to the public a curated packages from four different Andersonville businesses: Andersonville Wine and Spirits, Bar Roma, In Fine Spirits, and Uvaw Kitchen + Wine Bar.

All packages will need to be picked up from each individual location the weekend of Oct. 2-4. Almost all of the virtual components can be done on your own time except for one live experience from Uvae. For more information call 773-728-2995.

Do a bird a favor, turn off the lights at night



Join light reduction efforts to make Chicago a safer place for migrating birds.

Fall migration is a dangerous time for birds, especially when trying to navigate the cities they fly over.

One of the best ways to reduce bird mortality is to turn lights off in high rise buildings at night, when many species are moving.

The Chicago Audubon Society is now promoting a new Lights Out program in Chicago. Throughout the migratory seasons — the fall season started in July for shore birds and will likely run through early November — Lakefront and downtown buildings cut down on their decorative lighting and follow other guidelines, including extinguishing or dimming lobby lighting, and minimizing lighting in all perimeter rooms.

The western shore of Lake Michigan is a super-highway of sorts for migratory birds. And birds don’t really understand about large cities with large buildings with windows and glass, ... and so birds will

smack into them. It’s a big problem for the birds. The light attacks them and their crashes into the windows disrupt their migration, many times resulting in death and injuries. Research has shown that birds just do not see glass.

The goal is to reduce the total light emitted from the building from 11 p.m. until

sunrise during migratory seasons in late November.

Since 1995, Chicago’s tall buildings in the Loop have served as an example to the nation as they estimate these actions save 10,000 birds’ lives annually by participating in the Lights Out program. In addition to saving migratory birds, building owners have realized direct benefits, including decreased energy and maintenance costs.

Over 250 species migrate through Chicago every year, about eight million individuals in all. Many birds killed

by Chicago buildings are small migrants from the tropics – warblers, thrushes, tanagers and others.

Property owners and managers can take action right away by following the Lights Out guidelines. To enroll in the Lights Out program and receive support, call the Chicago Audubon Society at 773-539-6793.

Collaborative Art Institute moves fall programming online due to COVID-19

The Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago [CAIC] in Rogers Park will celebrate its 10th anniversary season with fall offerings that include the annual Collaborative Works Festival, two recitals, and the first installment of a Polish song workshop.

Due to the continued uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, and with the safety of the artists and audience members as its top priority, CAIC will present all of its fall programming online.

Concerts will be pre-recorded and available for 48 hours following their premiere broadcast.

Women composers

The 2020 Collaborative Works Festival: The Women commemorates the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Featuring exclusively the works of women composers, the festival explores a wide range of music spanning more than four centuries, shedding light on a long history of musical pioneers who have been overlooked due to centuries of sexism.

The festival opens Oct. 2 with the broad-

cast of a master class led by pianist Myra Huang. Huang will work with Chicago-based young professional singer-pianist duos on repertoire by composers and poets who are women of color.

With a premiere broadcast on Oct. 9, the festival’s first concert, Women of the Baroque, presented in partnership with The Poetry Foundation, spotlights the work of women composers of the late Renaissance and Baroque period.

The festival’s second concert, Les Parisiennes, which premieres Oct. 16, features the works of trailblazing women composers during the years of the Parisian Belle époque.

The festival’s closing concert, Modern Women, with a premiere broadcast on Oct. 23, showcases songs by some of today’s women composers, as well as American women composers of the 20th century.

Lieder Lounge recitals

CAIC’s Lieder Lounge series continues with two recitals this fall.

The season opens Sept. 18 with tenor Jonathan Johnson, a recent alumnus of the Lyric Opera’s Patrick G. and Shirley W.

Ryan Opera Center. Johnson will be joined by pianist Craig Terry, music director of the Ryan Opera Center, for a program including songs by Benjamin Britten and Henri Duparc.

The Lieder Lounge series continues Dec. 4 with a recital featuring tenor Karim Sulayman and fortepianist Yi-heng Yang. A native of Chicago, Sulayman won the 2019 Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Solo Album for his debut recording, Songs of Orpheus.

Polish song workshop

Chicago-based Polish-American conductor and keyboardist Michael Pecak will present a lecture on Polish art song and lyric diction Nov. 7.

A former Fulbright Fellowship recipient, Pecak studied the music of 20th and 21st-century composers at the F. Chopin Univ. of Music in Warsaw, and was an Artist-in-Residence at the Polish Studies Center of Indiana Univ.

This lecture is the first in a series of events on this topic, including master classes for singers and pianists and culminating in a performance in 2021.

PLAZA from p. 1

The respondents were quick in calling for food trucks, evening movies, lounge seating and better lighting, according to a survey sponsored by the Lincoln Square/Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce.

Respondents were asked for their vision of what the Ainslie Plaza should look like in the future. The request netted more than 2,200 comments from 1,200 neighbors over an 11-day period.

One called the plaza in its current state “bleak and boring,” another deemed it a “weed patch with a few trees,” another deemed it “forgotten and neglected,” while another called the plaza “a public purgatory.”

“Right now, the space is designed to be a buffer between a McDonald’s restaurant and Western Ave., said Rudy Flores, executive of the Lincoln Square/Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce. “We’re taking a phased approach because when McDonald’s started renovating their space, it gave us a rare opportunity to take back the street that isn’t really used much by anyone except the traffic that was using the drive-through.

Fifty-percent of the respondents said

One called the plaza in its current state “bleak and boring,” another deemed it a “weed patch with a few trees,” another deemed it “forgotten and neglected,” while another called the plaza “a public purgatory.”

they live in Lincoln Square; 24% said they were visitors; 19% said they owned property; while 70% work in Lincoln Square. Forty-percent were between the age of 35 and 50; 30% were between 18 and 34; while 14% were 66 years or older; and less than one percent were under age 18.

“The space is designed to be a buffer between McDonald’s and Western Ave.,” Flores explained. “Right now, we can test our ideas and see what works on what was essentially a dead public space.”

At this point, planners could see how people use the space as temperatures drop during the fall and winter before selecting a final permanent design, the planners explained.

In the meantime, local artists are being invited to submit their works to be reviewed by the chamber and the 40th Ward office.

CENSUS from p. 1

the worst cities for Census responses are Baltimore [46.6%], New York City [45.4%], Philadelphia [45.1%], Detroit [43%] and Miami [42.1%].

Nationwide the Census self-response rate was 63.9%. Of the top 10 cities where 2020 Census self-response rates increased the

**The latest data shows
response rates ranging from
50% to 66.1% as of Sept. 21
for the areas north
of Lawrence Ave.**

most between the beginning of May and the middle of August, three of them have populations of more than 1.5 million: New York, New York; San Antonio, Texas and Chicago. Between May 4, and Aug. 18, self-response rates increased by 10.7, 8.7 and 8.1 percentage points in the three cities, respectively.

On the North Side the government plans one more mass mailing to try and get people to self report their Census data.