



Being Careful With Current Events



By Dr. R. Pletsch

I have some suggestions for teachers handling current events. This can be critical now because of how the nation seems to be polarized. Now with Joe Biden deciding that opening all schools will be part of his program to revitalize the economy. It will probably happen soon and it is necessary to think ahead about presentations in class. Some staff will say ignore it. Others will say attack it. But most will be successful by letting the students formulate their questions.

It is often said that a safe environment is best for children. Part of safety is mental well being, not just physical well being. You may look at your students and assume they think one way, but for various reasons, they do not agree with what the common perception is of their ethnicity. Teachers have always had this problem. I was principal during the 9/11 attack and even though you might think everyone thought one way, it simply wasn't true. I was principal when some students thought that Gore actually won the election and later many students thought Clinton won the election. More important than these, I had several students in my school

believe that Obama allowed Americans to die in Benghazi. No matter what you think of these subjects, it is not the teacher's job to be the ultimate arbitrator.

As an administrator I told my staff that who they voted for was their own business and if they had a bumper sticker on their car or told the students who they voted for, you just left yourself open for unfounded bigotry. School-age children don't understand because they watch TV news that seldom seeks the truth. In recent days, how do you explain that 72 million people voted for the losing candidate and the press makes it sound like there must be something wrong with them?

The educators have the status of "knowing" what is true. Most staff members do not live in the 12th Ward. Whether you realize it or not, it is most likely that none of the students you have in class voted 100% for either candidate. The 12th Ward vote total for the presidential election shows that twice as many people voted for Trump in 2020 than did in 2016. That's right. Biden won the Ward by a landslide, but that about 2,000 of our 12th Ward neighbors cast their vote for the loser. What does this mean? The students are entitled to express their diverse opinion. It is educationally sound and morally correct to use answers like, "some but not all believe that" or "did you hear that person say that, or was it someone saying he said that". I recall that news items are discovered every day so there are probably no absolutes we should use with our students. Students will not feel safe if you make comments as to their family's opinions whether spoken or not. This is not easy, but it separates the average teacher from the great one.

Polar Plunge To Go Virtual

The annual Chicago Polar Plunge, presented by Jackson, will be a virtual event for the first time in its 21-year history, due to the pandemic. From March 1st - 7th, new and former plungers will have the opportunity to plunge safely in a setting of their choosing - whether it be jumping in the snow or running through a sprinkler - while raising money for the 7500 participants of the Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities program.

Registration is now open by visiting www.chicagopolarplunge.org. Prizes include: a Peloton bike or exercise mirror to those who raise \$25,000; Two round-trip tickets on United Airlines to the first plunger to raise \$2,100; choice of Polar Plunge towel, wireless speaker or water bottle to all who raise \$300; an official Chicago Polar Plunge t-shirt for all those who fundraise \$200 and a Chicago Polar Plunge neck gaiter to the first 200 people who register.

Other prizes such as Yeti coolers, televisions, Apple Ipad's and Airpods will also be awarded to

top fundraisers. A virtual melt-down party will take place on Sunday, March 7th, where photos and video clips of participating teams and individuals will be showcased. Special Olympics Chicago athletes, various Plunge Teams, local dignitaries and celebrities also make appearances. The winners of the annual costume contest and most creative plunge awards will be announced.

Last year's Chicago Polar Plunge was the most successful to date with over \$2.2 million raised, and 4800 plungers.

Fundraiser of the year for our organization, this is the perfect year for those who have not participated in the Plunge in the past, and who may have found the idea of jumping into Lake Michigan during the cold March weather a little daunting. The Virtual Polar Plunge allows everyone to participate in whichever manner they choose.

For more information call (312) 527-3743; or email polarplunge@sochicago.org.

Virtual Lecture On CZS Dolphin Research



Photo credit: Chicago Zoological Society/Sarasota Dolphin Research Program—photos taken under NMFS Scientific Research Permit No. 20455

Local dolphins leaping in Sarasota Bay, Florida.

In October 1970, two male bottlenose dolphins were tagged near Sarasota, Florida, in Palma Sola Bay. That moment would eventually blossom into the Chicago Zoological Society's Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, which today conducts the longest-running study of a wild dolphin population in the world.

The SDRP was the first to document the year-round residency of populations of bottlenose dolphins in coastal waters. This pioneering discovery has since been followed by many other findings just as groundbreaking. The SDRP is the model program for dolphin studies in locales around the world, and the Sarasota dolphins are used as a reference population for comparative studies of at-risk dolphins in other places.

Virtual lecture, "The Dolphins of Sarasota Bay—Lessons from 50

Years of Study," will feature Randy Wells, Ph.D., director of the Sarasota Dolphin Research Program on Jan. 26th at 7 p.m.

This is the second virtual program being offered as part of a new Winter Lecture Series by the Chicago Zoological Society about Brookfield Zoo. To learn more and register, visit CZS.org/LectureSeries.

The SDRP is led by Dr. Wells, a dolphin conservation biologist who is often consulted by U.S. and foreign governmental and nongovernmental officials about all aspects of dolphin biology and conservation.

The Sarasota Dolphin Research Program has been operated by the Chicago Zoological Society since 1989 and, since 1992, has been based at Mote Marine Laboratory, within the home range of Sarasota Bay dolphins.

Debt Forgiveness For Utility Bills

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot announced that the City has set aside \$8.9 million in potential debt forgiveness for eligible homeowners enrolled in the Chicago Utility Billing Relief Program, a debt relief initiative that reduces the cost of water, sewer, and water-sewer tax portions of utility bills for low-income residents. Launched in April 2020, the City has already cut in half the water utility bills for 8,539 participants, and the City anticipates setting aside more forgivable utility debt in 2021 as more qualified customers sign up for the program. UBR Program enrollees are eligible for total debt forgiveness on their past due balance.

The UBR program provides low-income residents with a 50 percent reduced rate on their water, sewer, and water-sewer taxes, as well as debt forgiveness on their outstanding utility balance for those who pay the reduced rate for one year. Over the course of the year, customers are not required to make any payments on their set aside balance and collection and shut-off activity is suspended during enrollment. Since implementation in April, enrollees have averaged \$1,044 in outstanding utility debt set aside.

While working in partnership with CEDA of Cook County, who operates the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the City has engaged in a public education campaign to enroll homeowners who meet program qualifications.

Eligibility criteria includes: must reside in the City of Chicago; must be a homeowner who resides in a single-family home or two-flat; and Income must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, i.e., the 30-day income for a family of four cannot exceed \$4,367.

Homeowners are encouraged to check their eligibility at www.chicago.gov/ubr and follow the prompts to complete the income verification process. For more information, contact the City's Utility Billing & Customer Service Center at (312) 744-4426 or utilitybill@cityofchicago.org.

Residents who do not qualify for the UBR Program may be eligible for a Senior Citizen Sewer Exemption. This program grants a sewer charge and sewer tax exemption to seniors aged 65 or over who own and occupy their own residence. The property must have a separate metered water service or city water assessment. Seniors who do not qualify for the exemption because they own and occupy a townhome, condominium unit, or cooperative unit with a shared water service or assessment may qualify for the Annual \$50 Senior Citizen Sewer Rebate.

The City offers several utility bill payment plans for residents including a 6-, 12-, 18-, 24-, or 36-month payment plan, which are accessible online or by phone. For more information, contact at (312) 744-4426 or utilitybill@cityofchicago.org.

Shedd Aquarium Plans Reopening



Photo credit: ©Shedd Aquarium/Brenna Hernandez

Shedd Aquarium is preparing to reopen its doors after 70 days of closure with member-first days on Wednesday, Jan. 27th through Friday, Jan. 29th, followed by general public admission beginning on Saturday, Jan. 30th.

Members will have the first opportunity to purchase tickets, which will go live this Thursday, Jan. 21st at noon on the aquarium's website. Tickets for the general public will be available for purchase starting Saturday, Jan. 23rd at noon. Memberships help fuel the aquarium's mission-driven work in animal care, conservation and education. Additional members-only hours will also be offered on Sunday, Jan. 31st at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. reservation times.

This includes limited building capacity, online purchasing of timed tickets to entry, mask requirements, hand sanitizer stations and one-directional pathways.

Dean's List At Southern Ill U.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale announces local students named to the Dean's List for the 2020 Fall Semester. A star preceding a student's name signifies a 4.0 grade point average.

Zip code 60608: Josue

Seek Families For Online Interviews

The Chicago History Museum invites families to participate in online interviews about an upcoming exhibition called City on Fire: Chicago 1871.

Families will spend about 45 minutes reviewing exhibit plans and interactives and providing feedback.

Participating families will receive a \$50 Target gift card and VIP Passes to the Chicago History Museum.

At least one adult and one child between the ages of 7 and 13 must be available for the interview via Zoom between Feb. 8th and 28th.

Interested participants must complete an online form using the link <https://www.research.net/r/CHMFire150> by Jan. 24th.

Garcia, senior; Elizabeth Jovanovic, sophomore and *Paul Rios, senior.

60609: Deidra D. Davis, senior and *Edgar Vargas, junior.

60632: Lulie A. Barera, sophomore; Juno Carrera, sophomore; Jesus E. Chavez, Jr., freshmen; *Miguel Vazquez, senior and Alejandra Zavala, senior.

60638: *Veronica I. Cahill, senior, *Ryan T. Fortuna, freshmen Holly L. Marousek, senior; Myles C. Miranda, senior; Krystal Rodriguez, senior; Noemi G. Rodriguez, sophomore; Alexandra N. Suarez, junior and *Melanie Vera, senior.

Virtual Tours Of Cultural Center

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events will present a prerecorded video tour series or a live 40 minute virtual docent led tour of the Chicago Cultural Center on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 11 a.m.

Video Tours available at any time from your own device at https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dca/supp_in/fo/ccc0.html

For more information VolunTours@cityofchicago.org

Lincoln Library Sponsors Art Contest

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and Illinois State Board of Education is sponsoring an art contest on the theme, "Art Surrounds Us."

Judging will occur across four levels: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. In each level a winner and three runners-up will be selected, and one piece will be selected as "Best in Show."

The 16 top designs will be displayed by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, and a single winner will be used as a poster sent to all schools during Illinois Arts Education Week, March 15th-19th, 2021.

Artwork may be submitted now through Feb. 12th. The winners will be announced in conjunction with Illinois Arts Education Week. The winner of "Best in Show" will be recognized during an ISBE Board meeting and a framed copy of their work will hang in the Board office.

Submissions must be 11 inches by 14 inches and two dimensional. They cannot feature copyrighted characters or

Dean's List At Bradley University

More than 2000 students were named to Bradley University's Fall 2020 Dean's List. Honorees must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

Local scholars and their major are: Mary Allen (60609), Nursing; Priscilla Calderon (60632), Political Science; Michelle Carchi (60638), Public Health Education; Elena Cerero (60608), English; Nicole Frontczak (60638), Elementary Education; Dylan Gazda (60638), Computer Information Systems; Mia Perez (60638), Social Work; Jennifer Rubio (60638), Management and Leadership; Julian Salgado (60638), Computer Science; Kларыssa Vargas-Hernandez (60638), Health Science and Giovanna Zacarias (60632), Psychology.



President A. Lincoln

images. More details are available at bit.ly/ALPLMArtContest.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, at 212 N. Sixth St. in Springfield, holds an unparalleled collection of Lincoln books, documents, photographs, artifacts and art, as well as millions of other items pertaining to Illinois history. Traditional exhibits, eye-catching special effects and innovative story-telling techniques educate visitors.

For more information, visit www.presidentlincoln.illinois.gov.

On Dean's List

Celeste Balderrama was named to the Albion College Dean's List for the 2020 semester. Honorees must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in four graded courses. The daughter of Albino Balderrama and Rosa Alvarez, she is majoring in Spanish.

BrightonParkLIFE.com

To complement our weekly edition The Brighton Park-McKinley Park Life has launched a website. On it can be found general information about us, recent and past issues, advertising information. Send neighborhood interest stories, student accomplishments, civic organization events to brightonparklife@aol.com.

Fall Graduates At Northern Illinois U.

Over 1,300 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in December.

Local graduates are: Lashawn Alexander, Bachelor of Science in Management - Leadership and Management; Roxanne Black, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Robyn Collins, Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology; Erick Juarez, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts - Acting; Sheila Martinez, Bachelor of Science in Marketing; Rachel Patino, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology; Gabriela Ramos, Bachelor of Arts in Advocacy and Public Communication; Teri Robinson, Bachelor of Science in Educ in Art and Design Education; K'La Salley, Bachelor of Science in Human

Development & Family Sciences: Child Development; Yilshalonte Tolefree, Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Pedro Vargas, Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology-Industrial Management & Technology.

Grant Program For School Habitats

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Conservation Foundation announced that 43 Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grants have been awarded from the fall 2020 application period. A total of \$35,524.59 will be distributed.

The program supports the development or enhancement of wildlife habitat on the school grounds or other public places.

Applications will be accepted for the next round of the Grant Program, with a deadline of Nov. 30th. See <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/GrantsSHAG.aspx>, call (217) 524-4126 or email [dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov](mailto:teachkids@illinois.gov).

Our Lady of the Snows School, received a grant of \$900.75 for a pollinator garden.

Science Pogram On Facebook Live

The Little Red Schoolhouse will conduct a program "I'm a Scientist: The Matter of Attraction" Facebook Live on Thursday, Feb. 18th at 10 a.m.

An experiment will demonstrate how magnetism effects our planet and its processes. For more information, (708) 839-6897 or littlered.schoolhouse@cookcounty-il.gov.

NIU Announces Fall Dean's List

Northern Illinois University announces its fall 2020 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Local scholars, their major or degree and high school are: Dianna Cores, Psychology - B.A., Eric Solorio Academy

High School; Alexis Guzman, Mechanical Engineering - B.S., Curie Metropolitan High School; Maritza Ibarra, Child Development, Rehabilitation & Disability Se, John F Kennedy High School; Kylie Little, Music Performance, Jones College Prep; Ricardo Ochoa Jr, Electrical Engineering, John Hancock College Prep High School; Jessica Sparr, Pre-Computer Science, Jones College Prep; Miranda Vaca, Undecided LA&S, John Hancock College Prep High School and Matthew Zebrowski, Sport Management - B.S., Saint Laurence HS.

2020 Fall Graduates At Southern Ill. U

Southern Illinois University Carbondale held virtual commencement exercises for 2020 Fall graduates on Dec. 12th.

Free Yoga Class At Conservatory

The Garfield Park Conservatory will present an online Yoga Class on Saturdays through March 27th from 9 to 10 a.m.

This class works to reduce stress while improving strength and flexibility through visualization, focused breathing, and yoga postures with modifications for all levels.

Beginners to advanced yogis are welcome to join. Pre-registration is required. This class is free but they welcome donations to help offset programming costs. Learn more at <https://garfieldconservatory.org/events/>

Zip code 60608:

Cheyenne R. Banks, BA Radio, Television and Digital Media.

60609: Destiny D. Hughes, BA Psychology, 60632: Janette Ceritos, BS Communication Disorders and Sciences.

60638: John P. Hernandez, MS Public Safety and Homeland Security Administration and Myles C. Miranda BS Paralegal Studies.

Dean's List At Saint Mary's U.

Juan Ramos, son of Norberto Ramos & Cassandra Sutor, daughter of Michael and Georgina Sutor was named to the fall 2020 Dean's List at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

Honorees earned a grade point average of 3.6 or better on a 4.0 scale.

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Brookfield Zoo's Facebook Live Chats



Chicago Zoological Society's animal care staff will once again present its "Bringing the Zoo to You" Facebook Live chats on Mondays through Fridays while Brookfield Zoo is closed in January and February. The weekday chats are a way to keep the zoo and its amazing animals connected to the public during its temporary closure before re-opening to guests on March 1st. The chats became popular when the zoo was previously closed from mid-March through June to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Animal care specialists at Brookfield Zoo will share interesting and fun facts about many of the animals as well as answer questions from viewers. Upcoming educational and entertaining chats will feature an update on Pistachio, a Kemp's ridley sea turtle who arrived at the zoo this past fall; Humboldt penguins; North American river otters; snow leopards; Raisin, a Hoffman's two-toed sloth; and orangutans.

Those who cannot tune in, can access "Bringing the Zoo to You" videos on Brookfield Zoo's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The live chats, the Chicago Zoological Society's education staff is also producing weekly videos called "Bringing the Play Zoo to You," which are geared towards young children. Play partners will present a different theme each week that highlights ways kids can explore nature, learn about animals, and do fun activities from home. Posted on Brookfield Zoo's Facebook page and YouTube channel every Thursday, each of the videos are available in both English and Spanish.

Zoom Workshop On Photography

The Forest Preserves of Cook County will conduct an online Winter Photography Skills Workshop via Zoom on Wednesday, Feb. 24th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The presentation will include recommendations on picturesque preserves to explore with your camera. Q&A will be held at the conclusion of the program. Registration is required at <https://winterphotoskills1.eventbrite.com>.

Library Schedules Online Zoom Events

The Chicago Public Library has scheduled Online events via Zoom.

A knit and crochet circle meets on the 2nd and 3rd Mondays of each month from 6 to 7:45 p.m. All skill levels are welcome, all you need is needles and yarn. Register by 10 a.m. the day before the event.

Live one-on-one homework help is also available online everyday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. through Brainfuse. Students in early elementary through advanced college prep can get help with: specific homework questions, improving study skills, writing papers, ACT and SAT test prep and learning English as a second language. Use Brainfuse on any connected device or at home with your library card.

Songs and poems written during the writing circle will have the opportunity to be showcased in a virtual open mic. Register by noon on the day before at chipublib.org.

The Chicago Public Library will conduct online Creative Write About It! Writing Club via Zoom on Tuesdays, through June 8th from 4 to 5 p.m.

The staff of the Thomas Hughes Children's Library will conduct a 30-minute story time for children 3 to 5 and their caregivers on Fridays through Feb. 5th and Feb. 19th and 26th from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Register by 9 a.m. the day before the event.

The staff of the Thomas Hughes Children's library will conduct 30 minutes of moving and grooving on Mondays, Jan. 25th and Feb. 8th and 22nd from 10 to 10:30 a.m. The program is suitable for children ages 0 to 7 and their caregivers.

The staff of Legler Regional Library will conduct Tots and Tales storytime for ages 0 to 5 and their caregiver via Zoom on Thursdays, Jan. 28th to Feb. 11th from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Register 24 hours in advance.

Thurgood Marshall Branch will conduct story time for ages 0-5 and their caregivers on Thursday, Jan. 28th at 11 a.m. Register by 11 a.m. on Jan. 27th.

The Tween Video Game Club (ages 9 & up) will play "Among Us" on Thursday, Jan. 28th at 6

p.m. Register by 5 p.m. on Jan. 27th.

Family Story Time for ages 0-5 and caregivers will feature books, finger plays, activities, rhymes and music on Saturdays through Feb. 27th at 10 a.m. Register by 9 a.m. the day before.

Building Puzzles with David L. Loyt will be featured on Monday, Jan. 25th at 2 p.m. Register 24 hours in advance.

The Pullman Branch Library will celebrate Elvis Presley's birthday on Monday, Jan. 25th at 4 p.m. Register by Jan. 24th.

Vanessa Powers from Employment & Employer Services, which provides assistance with completing job applications, job interview coaching, job applications, job interview coaching, job leads and free job placements will conduct an informational session on Tuesday, Jan. 26th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Register by Jan. 25th.

STEM Around the House will be available on Tuesdays, Jan. 26th, Feb. 23rd, March 23rd, April 27th and May 25th at 5 p.m. Participants will solve problems, meet design challenges and have some STEM-y fun with things you have around the house. Best for kids ages 5 to 12, but younger children are welcome to participate with an adult. Register at least 24 hours before the event.

Cine-File & Chicago Film Society will present The Editor's Notebook on Tuesday, Jan. 26th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join a conversation with Kyle Westphal from Chicago Film Society and Mike Mashon from the Library of Congress and moderated by Marilyn Ferdinand from Cine-File. The film will be streamed after the discussion, but you are encouraged to watch The Editor's Notebook on Vimeo anytime prior to the event. Register at least 24 hours before the event.

After High School Postsecondary Options is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 27th from 5 to 6 p.m. *After High School* is a series of virtual workshops dedicated to assisting teams and their families with post-secondary decisions. Register by Jan. 26th.

Register for events at chipublib.org.

Obituaries



LUCIA ALVAREZ, passed away on Jan. 12th the age of 63. She was the daughter of Leopoldo & late Celia Diaz de Herrera; wife of Salomon Alvarez; mother of Josue (Adriana), Erika, Angelica and Rosa; sister of Herlinda, Luis, Maria Elena, Lourdes, Irma, Nicolas, Leopoldo, Teresa, Humberto, Osvaldo and late Rogelio; grandmother of Joshua Alvarez and Ana Maria Tello. Visitation was held Jan. 15th at Ocwieja-Robles Funeral Home, 4256 S. Mozart. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 16th at St. Pancratius Church, 4025 S. Sacramento. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery.



HERMILO LOEZA ORTIZ, passed away on Jan. 6th at the age of 69. Visitation and arrangements were held at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery.



WANDA S. ZALEWSKI (nee Potempa) wife of late Robert A. Zalewski; mother of Patricia Hisaw, Frank (Judy) Zalewski and former 23rd Ward Alderman Michael R. (Millie) Zalewski; grandmother of State Representative Michael J. (Carrie) Zalewski, Jason (Ariana) Hisaw, Jamie Zalewski (Michael Kulaga), Melinda (Jeremy Sikorski) Amanda Hisaw and Jodie (fiance Nick Bumaris); great-grandmother of Reese, Henry, Ella Mae, Cecilia (Zalewski), Jacob, James, Joshua (Hisaw), JJ, Hunter and Taylor (Sikorski); sister of Chester (Peggy) Potempa and seven siblings that preceded her in death. Funeral mass was celebrated Jan. 19th at St. Rene Goupil Church. Arrangements were entrusted to Ridge Funeral Home.



FRANCISCO JAVIER VERGARA, passed away on Jan. 12th at the age of 72. Visitation and chapel service were held at: Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.



WALTER BURKOT, of Indian Head Park and formerly of Archer Heights, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 17th at the age of 86. He was born on June 15, 1934 in Ponice, Poland to the late Salomea (nee Prank) & late Bronislaw Burkot. In November 1956, he married his wife Christine (nee Gromada) and is the father of Ursula (Maciej) Wojdyla and Lidia (James) Stanczyk; grandfather of Monica (Adam) Guzik, Gregory (Olivia) Stan-czyk, Natalie (Matthew) Houghtaylen, Jennifer and Stephen Stanczyk; great grandfather of Anthony Guzik and Isaac Stanczyk; brother of Barbara (Czeslaw) Baran-czuk, Maria (Ferdynand) Dziobon, Franciszek (late Gertruda) Burkot, late Jan (late Julia) Burkot, late Andrzej Burkot, late Stanislaw (Maria) Burkot and late Bronislaw (Helena) Burkot; brother-in-law of Zdzislaw (Sylwia), Jan, Czeslaw (Alicia) Gromada, Jadwiga (Bogdan) Jarzabek and Jerzy (Danuta) Gromada.

Visitation will be held Friday, Jan. 22nd from 3 to 7 p.m. at Zarzycki Manor Chapels, Ltd., 8999 S. Archer Ave., Willow Springs. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Bruno Church on Saturday, Jan. 23rd at 10 a.m. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

Chavez Honored

Rebecca Chavez, a sophomore at Wisconsin Lutheran College, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester. She is a graduate of De La Salle Institute. Honorees must carry a semester GPA of 3.6 or higher.

CBA Offers Legal Service

As consumer and employment complaints relating to the Coronaviruses are surging, the Chicago Bar Association is reminding the public that attorneys are available to provide legal assistance online or over the telephone. The lawyer referral fee will be waived in the wake of the public health pandemic.

The CBA sponsors a monthly "Call A Lawyer" program through the Lawyer Referral Service, making attorneys available to take calls from the public. On Saturday, Feb. 20th from 9 a.m. to noon, the public can call (312) 554-2001 and explain their situation to an attorney.

These services can also be accessed on the CBA's website at www.chicagobar.org.

Organ Tissue Donor Registration

Secretary of State Jesse White announced that the state's organ/tissue donor registry reached a milestone of 7 million registrants.

There are 10,764,540 individuals in Illinois who qualify to become organ/tissue donors. Of those, 65 percent have registered as organ/tissue donors.

More than 100,000 16- and 17-year-olds have registered with the program since 2018.

Residents can register with the Organ/Tissue Donor Registry at www.LifeGoesOn.com or by calling (800) 210-2106.

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12 p.m. noon

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DITECH FINANCIAL, LLC; Plaintiff, vs. JESSIE PATTERSON AKA JESSIE PATTERSON-BATTLE; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CLEMON PATTERSON; DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; CLIFFORD PATTERSON; NADINE PATTERSON; RONNIE PATTERSON; HAZEL DAWKINS; ANNAZEL PATTERSON; KENNETH PATTERSON; LAVANCE PATTERSON; PHILLIPSTEIN PATTERSON; JOHN J. LYDON AKA JACK LYDON, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF CLEMON PATTERSON, DECEASED; Defendants. 17 CH 8078 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, February 8, 2021 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. 25-16-216-025-0000. Commonly known as 10605 South Lafonts, Chicago, IL 60628. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Koschanski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601, (614) 220-5611, 19-032094 F2 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13161984

City Offers Free Mulch
The Bureau of Forestry of the Department of Streets & Sanitation offers free mulch at 2342 S. Ashland ave. Bring a shovel and bags or other containers during working hours on weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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PNI
Public Notice
Illinois

To Our Advertisers: Please notify us if you find an error in your ad or if your ad failed to run. If you notify us on the first day it was scheduled to appear, we'll make the correction as soon as deadlines permit. We want to give you the best possible service. But if you do not let us know of a problem the first day, it may continue to run incorrectly. This newspaper will not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for a typographical error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for the errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad where the error occurred. Please check your advertisement EACH time it appears and notify us in case of an error (773) 523-3663. Brighton Park-McKinley Park Life Newspaper is not responsible for mail delivery, for the reproduction quality of any "computer generated" photograph or poor quality photographs submitted.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY AMERICAS, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCREDIT LOANS, INC., MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-QS12 Plaintiff, vs. MARY WILLIAMS, PATRICIA DAVIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants. 2020CH04192 1238 W. 73RD ST. CHICAGO, IL 60636 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 30, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 23, 2021, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1238 W. 73RD ST., CHICAGO, IL 60636 Property Index No. 20-29-119-041-0000 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale pursuant to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount of the bid, shall be paid in cash, \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The bidder shall be further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection at the time of the sale. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessment and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605.9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605.15 (5)(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE SECURITIES LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODLIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-5876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE. You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODLIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@ilclegal.com Attorney File No. 14-20-00713 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case Number: 2020CH04192 TJS/C#: 41-46 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2020CH04192 13162792

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The Illinois Department of Natural Resources announced 12 Illinois sites were added to the National Register of Historic Places during 2020, including one National Historic Landmark. The places recognized are located across Illinois and include a 150-year old farmstead, the home of the Chicago Cubs, and four historic districts. In general, properties must be more than 50 years old to be eligible. The Gage Park Bungalow Historic District, Cook County, Chicago was Listed March 13th, 2020. During the first three decades of the 20th century, Chicago's population doubled as an additional 1.5 million residents settled into the city. During this period, tens of thousands of one-and-one-half story brick bungalows were built in the city's neighborhoods. In 2004, a thematic study establishing the significance of Chicago bungalows was approved by the National Park Service. Since then, 13 bungalow historic districts in Chicago have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Gage Park Bungalow Historic District, is located on the southwest side. Brick Chicago bungalows form the bulk of the district, which was largely developed between 1924 and 1927. Wrigley Field, Cook County, Chicago was Listed September 23rd, 2020. Built in 1914 as Weeghman Park, this ivy-studded baseball park has been home of the Chicago Cubs since 1916. The park was renamed Wrigley Field in 1926 for William Wrigley Jr., who purchased the Cubs in 1921. The baseball park is also significant in the history of professional football as the longtime playing field for the Chicago Bears.

Esperanza Expands Pediatric Service

Esperanza Health Centers 47th & California will welcome VIDA Pediatrics, 59th and Troy to its network of clinics. Starting Feb. 1st, VIDA Pediatrics will officially become "Esperanza at VIDA Pediatrics," and continue to offer a full array of services. This will be Esperanza's fifth site, with the others located in Little Village, Marquette Park, and South Lawndale.

Alejandro Clavier, MD, MPH, became Esperanza's medical director in 2008, and left the organization in 2015 to open VIDA, his independent practice. His training was completed at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he served as chief resident.

Children ages 0-17 account for 28% of Esperanza's total patient population.

For more information about Esperanza at VIDA Pediatrics, call (773) 906-5160 or visit www.vidapediatrics.com.

PUBLISHERS NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any Preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parent or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1 (800) 669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1 (800) 927-9275.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BYLINE BANK, AN ILLINOIS BANKING CORPORATION F/K/A NORTH COMMUNITY BANK AS SUCCESSOR-BY-MERGER TO ARCHER BANK, Plaintiff, vs. ODA P. ISA; CARY R. ROSENTHAL AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR DECEDENT MICHAEL J. KOZIEL; JAWIDT MOHAMMAD; LAWRENCE LAPIANA; JOHN J. LYDON AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR DECEDENT VINCENT LAPIANA; CITY OF CHICAGO; HEBRON AUTO SALES, INC.; HUSAM ASAB; MAXWELL AUTO SALES, INC.; IHAD AFIF JUABA; SAMER RAHMAN; SAMMYS AUTO AND TOWING INC.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. 18 CH 5132 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate: P.I.N. Nos.: 19-13-211-031-0000, 19-13-211-032-0000, 19-13-211-033-0000, 19-13-211-034-0000 and 19-13-211-035-0000. Commonly known as 6644-5652 South Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60636. The mortgaged real estate is a commercial property operated as a used auto car lot. There is a receiver, Eric Maletsky of Malet Realty Ltd., 900 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL (312) 243-5397, Ext. 121 Sale terms: Bidders must present, at the time of sale, a cashier's or certified check for 10% of the successful bid amount. The balance of the successful bid shall be paid within 24 hours, by similar funds. For information call Mr. Scott H. Kenig at Randall & Kenig LLP, 455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, (312) 822-8800 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13161988

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Fair Workweek Now In Effect

Chicago's Fair Workweek Ordinance guarantees that many employees in specific industries get predictable Work Schedules so they can plan their income and lives. Right to decline unscheduled hours: Covered Employees can decline to work unscheduled hours offered to them within 10 days of the beginning of the Work Schedule in which those additional hours are proposed. Predictability pay: receive one hour's additional pay when hours are added to a shift, or a shift's time or date is changed with no change to the number of hours, within 10 days of the beginning of the Work Schedule during which that shift takes place. Predictability pay also applies when hours are subtracted from a shift within 10 days of the start of the Work Schedule in which that shift takes place, but with more than 24 hours' notice from the beginning of that shift. Pay for cancelled hours and shifts: receive no less than 50% of their pay for any hours that are cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice from the beginning of the shift during which those cancelled hours were to take place. If the entire shift is cancelled under these circumstances, then the Covered Employee must receive no less than 50% of their pay for the entire shift. Right to Rest: can decline shifts that begin less than 10 hours following the end of the previous day's shift. When Covered Employees agree to work such a shift, they are then paid at 1.25 time their base rate of pay. Initial Estimate of Work Schedule: must receive an initial good faith estimate of their Work Schedule, including the days of the week they can be expected to work, and the start and end times of their shifts for those days. Covered Employees can submit complaints to the Office of Labor Standards for investigation if they think they have been denied any of the above rights. If COVID-19 causes a material change to an Employer's operations that creates the need for a schedule change, the Employer is exempt from certain provisions of the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance (right to decline, predictability pay, and pay for cancelled hours and shifts) for the Work Schedule during which the change takes place, as well as the following Work Schedule. This exception is outlined in the Rule Pertaining to COVID-19 and Chapter 1-25 of the Municipal Code of Chicago. A worker is eligible for the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance protections if they satisfy all of the following criteria: Work for an Employer as an employee (as opposed to a contractor) or, if working for a day and temporary labor service agency, work for an Employer for 420 hours within an 18-month period. Spend the majority of their time working for that Employer within the City of Chicago; Perform a majority of their work in a Covered Industry (Building Services, Healthcare, Hotels, Manufacturing, Restaurants, Retail, and Warehouse Services); and Earn less than or equal to \$50,000 per year as a salaried employee, or less than or equal to \$26 per hour as an hourly employee. Only employees working for certain types of Employers are eligible for the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance protections. To be eligible for the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance protections, in addition to the other requirements outlined above, an employee must work for an Employer that: Employs 100 or more employees among all of its locations (both inside and outside of Chicago) - this number is 250 employees for not-for-profit corporations; Employs among its global count of employees 50 Covered Employees (defined as an employee as opposed to a contractor, spending a majority of their time working in Chicago, performing a majority of their work in a Covered Industry, and earning less than or equal to \$50,000 in salary or \$26 per hour); and is primarily engaged in a Covered Industry (building services, healthcare, hotels, manufacturing, restaurants, retail, and warehouse services). Franchise restaurants must globally have 30 locations, 250 employees and, for purposes of being an Employer, shall own at least four locations in Chicago. For the purposes of the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance, salary or hourly wage will always be calculated using the base rate of pay and will not take into account overtime, tips, benefits, bonuses, or any other form of pay beyond the base rate. However, for hotels, set service fees that an employee earns are included in the calculation of the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance hourly wage threshold (\$26 per hour). An employee is considered covered by the Ordinance if they meet the Covered Employee criteria, regardless of how they are paid, how frequently they are paid, the details of their job description, whether they are considered to be "administrative" or "professional" staff, or whether they are defined as salaried non-exempt or salaried exempt. A temporary worker becomes a Covered Employee once they work 420 hours for an Employer within an 18-month period. Does time worked by a temporary worker before the implementation of the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance on July 1, 2020 count towards the 420-hour total required to become a Covered Employee? No. Those hours do not count because all elements of the Ordinance go into effect when the Ordinance goes into effect. Specific counts of hours worked will begin once the Ordinance is effective. The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection provides the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance notice on the website of the Office of Labor Standards <http://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/ba/cp/OSL/20200518fwnnoticefinalv2.pdf>. The Employer must provide the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance notice to all Covered Employees with their first paycheck covered by the Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance and in communal areas at a workplace. Notices must be provided in English and any language spoken by employees that do not speak English proficiently, provided that a notice in that language has been provided by the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection on the Office of Labor Standards website. Notices mandated to be provided with Covered Employee's paychecks can be transmitted electronically. Likewise, notices can be posted physically in break rooms or other communal areas at a workplace, or can be displayed electronically on electronic bulletin boards and TV monitors in communal areas. All physical notices must be scaled appropriately (8.5 X 11 for notices provided with paychecks, and 11 X 17 for workplace postings). While there are no specific size requirements for electronic notices, they should be at least as legible as the physical notice requirements. Complaints to the Office of Labor Standards may be submitted by calling 311 or use the CHI 311 mobile application.

Gorillas Celebrate National Popcorn Day

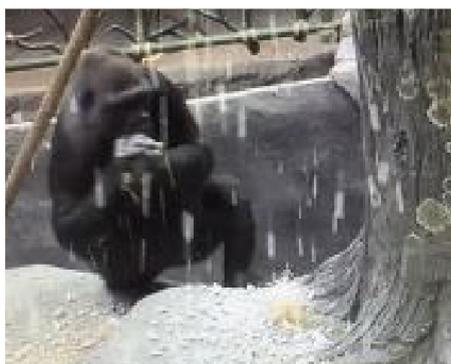


Photo credit Lynette Kleisner/Chicago Zoological Society

On Jan. 19th, National Popcorn Day, the low-fat treat rained upon the western lowland gorillas at Brookfield Zoo. Animal care staff air-popped the popular snack, and released it from timed feeders located in the Tropic World: Africa habitat.

The timed feeders, allow various food items to be released at random times during the day, encouraging the animals to forage.

Brookfield Zoo is temporarily closed to guests through the end of February, with plans to reopen on March 1st. To stay connected to the animals, the public can tune in to the "Bringing the Zoo to You" Facebook Live chats on weekdays at 11 a.m.

As a non-profit, Brookfield Zoo relies on ticket sales, donations, annual memberships, fundraising events, philanthropic gifts, and support from its community partners. Those considering donating to help keep the zoo's operations running during this time, can do so at CZS.org/Donate.

Schedule Events For School Choice Week

Illinois families and educators are gearing up to safely spotlight education options during School Choice Week Jan. 24th - 30th, 2021. Families, schools and organizations will be hosting 1,288 virtual or at-home celebrations.

School choice advocates have adapted to this year's health and safety protocols, opting for drive through scavenger hunts, virtual information sessions and showcases, online contests, drive-in movie screenings, more.

More than two dozen iconic U.S. landmarks and notable buildings will light up in special colors to mark the Week.

In Illinois, a variety of educational options are available including: traditional public schools with flexible open enrollment, charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, and homeschooling. Tax deductions are available for most students in private or home schools, and state-run scholarships for students under a certain income level.

To download a guide to school choice, use the Schools Near Me tool in

search for schools in your area, or see celebration photos and proclamation updates, visit schoolchoice-week.com/illinois.

National School Choice Week is an independent public awareness effort; it is nonpartisan, non-political.

A Tribute To Tim Samuelson

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events announced a tribute event to honor Chicago's first Cultural Historian, Tim Samuelson who recently retired after 33 years of public service. He will continue as a DCASE volunteer — as Cultural Historian Emeritus.

The free Zoom event, "Celebrating a Living Landmark — a tribute to Tim Samuelson," on Thursday, Jan. 28th from 4-5pm will be emceed by WTTW host and producer Geoffrey Baer. The public is invited to celebrate his exemplary career and learn about plans for an upcoming Chicago Cultural Center exhibition showcasing his vast collection of Chicago cultural artifacts. Registration is requested by Tuesday, Jan. 26th: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrating-a-living-landmark-a-tribute-to-tim-samuelson-tickets-136364807811>

The Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St., chicago.culturalcenter.org is currently closed to the public but expected to reopen later this year with new exhibitions, building tours and other free cultural programs.

Webinars Explain Money Management

Let's Talk Money is a free, online webinar series from University of Illinois Extension that can help individuals and families, gain a better understanding of basic financial topics and improve their financial situation.

The 8-week series helps consumers turn tough financial topics into more simple conversations. Participants will learn strategies to help understand spending habits, manage debt responsibly, understand credit scores, and save money for retirement and other important life events.

Register at go.illinois.edu/TalkMoney for one or more sessions held on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Topics include: Who are You with Money? (Feb. 2), How Much is Too Much Debt (Feb. 9), Fair Access to Credit (Feb. 16), Debt Repayment Strategies (Feb. 23), Credit Scores Revealed (March 2), Secrets for Financial Success (March 9), Framing Biases, Overcoming Hurdles (March 16) and Make Your Savings Grow (March 23).

For more information, contact program organizer Kathy Sweedler at sweedler@illinois.edu.

4,318 New Cases of COVID-19

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 4,318 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), including 33 additional deaths.

Cook County fatalities included 1 male 60s, 3 females 70s, 5 males 70s, 3 females 80s, 3 males 80s, 2 females 90s and 2 male 90s.

IDPH is reporting a total of 1,076,532 cases, including 18,291 deaths, in 102 counties. Laboratories have reported 71,533 specimens for a total 14,898,528, 3,335 patients were in the hospital 713 in the ICU and 395 on ventilators. The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total test from Jan. 12th - 18th is 5.7%.

Shared Cost Sidewalk Program



The 2021 Shared Cost Sidewalk Program will open to new applicants on Jan. 11, 2021 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Shared Cost Sidewalk Program cost per square foot charged to property owners is well below what a private contractor would charge. Senior citizens and persons with disabilities may qualify to receive a 50 percent discount.

The scope of a Shared Cost Sidewalk Program project is limited to sidewalk within the public right-of-way, and may include the main walk, the sidewalk thru a driveway, the existing courtesy walk (which runs perpendicular from the main sidewalk to the curb), and existing landing steps (the small strip of concrete sometimes found adjacent to the curb).

Sidewalk on private property will only be included if needed for transition purposes; otherwise it is not eligible for replacement under the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program. Owners of corner properties will be charged for sidewalk on both the main (address) side and non-address side of the property. CDOT will continue to build ADA-compliant corner ramps where applicable, with the City paying the entire cost of the ramps.

Replacement of sidewalk is based on engineering considerations. In order to minimize the cost to property owners and increase the number of participants, only the portion of sidewalk in need of replacement as determined by CDOT is eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program pricing.

The property owner does have the option to replace the entire sidewalk in front of the property. However, the entire cost to remove and replace the portion of sidewalk determined by CDOT to be in good condition will be charged to the property owner. No senior or persons with disabilities discount will be applied to this work. The City will not pay for removal and replacement of sidewalk in good condition.

Applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. The number of participants is based on availability of funds.

Applications will only be accepted through the City's 311 system, through the service request website <https://311.chicago.gov>, or through

the free CHI311 mobile apps on iOS Apple and Android.

Specify that you want to participate in the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.

If you currently do not have a courtesy walk or landing step and would like one installed, this should be mentioned at the time of request. Installation is subject to engineering recommendation.

If you are interested in removal and replacement of the driveway apron, this should be mentioned at the time of request.

You must give the property owner's complete name, a contact phone number, email address if available, and the property's complete address. Applications that are missing any of this requested information may not be processed.

Once the program budget amount is met, the program will close for the year. Applicants will be notified via U.S. mail indicating whether they have been included.

Applicants included in the program will receive a bill in the spring indicating the amount due. Payment in full must be made to the City's Department of Finance within the timeframe for work to proceed.

For more information, contact (312) 744-1746 or email cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org

Lawyers Offer Phone Advice

Attorneys with the Chicago Bar Association's Call-A-Lawyer Program will be available to take calls at (312) 554-2001 from the public and offer legal advice on Saturday, Feb. 20th from 9 a.m. to noon.

Citizens may explain their situation to an attorney who will then suggest self-help strategies or provide advice to help resolve their issues.

If callers need further legal services or have questions beyond the scope of the attorney's practice area, they will be advised to contact the CBA Lawyer Referral Service. For more information visit www.chicagobar.org.

Assistance Programs For Homeownership

Governor JB Pritzker announced the creation of two new programs designed to help bring additional assistance to working class families and underrepresented communities. Offered by the Illinois Housing Development Authority, the SmartBuy and Opening Doors programs were designed to aid communities of color, which have historically endured many barriers in their path toward homeownership.

Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs reported that more than 2 million people carry student loan debt, the average value of which is \$29,855.

Borrowers must meet eligibility requirements established for IHDA's DPA programs, and homebuyer education is required.

IHDA Mortgage SmartBuy will provide a 30-year fixed rate first mortgage with a deferred \$5,000 for down payment and/or closing cost assistance. In addition, the program will provide 15% of the purchase price (up to \$40,000) in assistance for student loan debt relief to borrowers looking to buy a home and help build generational wealth.

Potential borrowers must have at least \$1,000 in student loan debt and must pay off their full remaining student loan balance at closing. The promissory note and deed

restriction will have a term of 3 years, and if the borrowers sell the property within that time, they will need to sell to another borrower within IHDA's income and purchase price limits.

IHDA Mortgage Opening Doors is designed to increase home purchase accessibility for low- and moderate-income qualified homebuyers. This includes Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients. IHDA will provide a 30-year 1st mortgage with a fixed interest rate and \$6,000 in down payment and/or closing cost assistance. The down payment assistance is forgiven after five years.

For additional information and a list of the nearest participating lenders, visit www.ihdamortgage.org.

BPNC Provides Finance Counsel

The Financial Services department of the Brighton Park Neighborhood Council is virtually and telephonically providing counseling on services such as first-time home buying, financial coaching, and foreclosure prevention.

For more information, email communications@bpncchicago.org or by phone at (773) 523-7110.

2021 Scholarships For Conservation

Applications are being accepted by the Illinois Conservation Foundation for the 2021 Conservation Achievement Scholarship program til March 2021.

Up to four one-time scholarships of \$2,000 are given to high school seniors who have demonstrated

voluntary and long-term dedication to the preservation, protection, enhancement and promotion of natural resources.

Applicants must be residents and a senior in an Illinois high school during the year of the scholarship award.

HOW TO DO YOUR PART TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS IN CHICAGO

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS



- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water
- Cover your nose and mouth when sneezing and/or coughing
- Don't touch your face with unwashed hands
- Don't shake hands
- Pay closer attention to cold or flu symptoms



CHICAGO.GOV/CORONAVIRUS

Financial Assistance Options

NEW BILL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE for ComEd Small-Business Customers

We understand this is a challenging time for many of our valued small-business customers struggling in the face of COVID-19. To proactively support our communities, we now offer to all eligible small-business customers, for a limited time, a one-time grant through the Small Business Assistance Program.

For Small-Business Customers Who Received a Disconnect Notice

These customers may be eligible to apply for a one-time grant and special payment arrangement.

- One-time grant equal to 30 percent of their ComEd balance – up to \$1,000 – applied to the account
- Payment plan option to spread remaining balance over as long as 6 months

For Small-Business Customers Recently Disconnected

These customers may be eligible to apply for a one-time grant which could help service be reconnected.

- One-time grant equal to 30 percent of their ComEd balance – up to \$1,000 – applied to the account
- Customer must make a payment for the remaining balance due

ComEd urges all eligible small-business customers to take advantage of this new financial assistance program now. Grants are available for a limited time and until funds run out.

CUSTOMERS SHOULD ACT QUICKLY.

For eligibility, visit or call ComEd.com/SmallBizAssistance 1-877-4-COMED-1 (1-877-426-6331)



SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY.

The ComEd® Energy Efficiency Program provides customers with tips and offerings to help them save on their future energy bills.

ComEd.com/BizIncentives

Heating Repair Grant Program

The Emergency Heating Repair grant program is available to income-eligible Chicago homeowners for service to repair or replace their furnace or boiler heating system. Limited funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Open Enrollment Period is now until April 1st. Application packages are available by calling 311 by request through CHI311 app, or visiting www.chicago.gov/housing.

Maximum gross income for 2020 is \$58,000 for 2 people. Add \$7,000 for each additional person.

The program is open to Chicagoans who own and occupy a 1-to-4 unit residential property within the city limits. The property must be inhabitable condition and not a risk of foreclosure. Commercial and mixed-use properties do not qualify.

For more information, call (312) 744-3653 or doh@cityofchicago.org.

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