



Covid-19 and Teacher Retirement



By Dr. R. Pletsch

The news headlines over the summer warned about teacher shortages due to mass retirements. "Education Week" studied the statistics and found that this has not happened. It appears that many use the threat as a political tool to scare those in charge not to have in-person instruction.

"Education Week" requested data from State Retirement Plans. Not all replied, and some included all school staff and not just teachers. They did their best to review the stats of the teachers who retired. It found that an analysis by The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates 18% of public school teachers are 55 and older; and about 25% have health conditions linked to Covid-19 complications.

The Teachers' Retirement System of the city of New York listed 1,377 retirements in 2019 and only 1,100 during the same period in 2020. The report also stated that the retirements were inconsistent by state and shows no clear trend. But definitely no large increases in retirements. For example, Massachusetts retirements were higher, Minnesota's was lower, and Arkansas was about the same. The reporters believe that you could always claim that

you are going to quit, but, of course, there is no commitment.

When time comes to retire, it is a very personal decision. It is sad that many try to use this show of force to frighten school boards away from in-person classes. Here in Chicago, the motto is "Think Children". Yet everyone but the Teachers Union seem to indicate in-person instruction was probably safe. If you talk to teachers, they often rate classroom discipline as the highest cause of stress they incur. Why would you not keep working with your yearly pay raise when discipline problems are eliminated by not having a classroom? When the students return, most school boards allow you to reconsider, though some demand that you complete the year. Many teachers that I have been in touch with, stay at home to work on the computer with the kids, which allows them to teach their own children and save money for daycare.

You may notice the irony with the "defund the police". It is a handy slogan, but I know several officers who say they could retire, but why would they. They are making more money now than they ever have, because the protests that accompany the "defund the police" marches. So the more they protest, the more overtime the police get, which is just too good to pass up.

The health risks associated with a teacher's job must be looked at on an individual basis. No one can talk for another individual, but if you follow the science, as everyone claims, some reports have said that schools and churches seem to be the safest places out of your own home. As I always have stressed during this time, individuals should do what is best for their families. But they should not try to force their beliefs on others, because everyone has different situations.

Online Tours At Science Museum



The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, is offering online tours of two of its most popular exhibitions, Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light on Fridays, Dec. 4th, 11th and 18th and Thursday, Dec. 24th at 3:30 p.m., and the U-505 Submarine on Saturday, Dec. 5th at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; and Thursdays, Dec. 17th at 12 and 3 p.m.

The public can now sign up for free online tours of MSI's holiday exhibits starting Friday, Dec. 4th. In this interactive experience, viewers will explore the decorations among more than 40 trees and displays representing holidays and traditions.

Kristina Wilkes, manager of volunteer projects, who has worked with the volunteer community groups for nearly a decade to create festive ethnic trees and displays, will guide viewers through the free

45-minute tour and answer questions live.

Tickets are now available for purchase to take a live online tour of the U-505 Submarine. The exhibit had reopened this summer, but due to COVID-19 restrictions the on-board tour has been on hiatus since March.

Through this live tour, viewers can once again climb onboard to learn about the sub's history, capture and the human stories of the German and American submariners.

The online experience lasts approximately 45 minutes, including a live question-and-answer session.

Live tours of Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light are free to the public. Tours of the U-505 Submarine cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for kids. Visit msichicago.org/holiday and msichicago.org/

Holiday Magic At Brookfield Zoo



Brookfield Zoo is offering an expanded schedule for its 39th annual Holiday Magic, presented by ComEd and Meijer. With 10 evenings added and expanded hours, this year's event will be held on Wednesdays-Sundays, Dec. 6th, 9th-13th, and 16th-20th; and Saturday-Thursday, Dec. 26th-31st, from 3 to 9 p.m.

The expanded schedule will allow zoogoers to enjoy the holiday lights before the Zoo temporarily closes to the public Jan. 1st - Feb. 28th, 2021, with plans to reopen on March 1st.

Zoogoers can safely stroll along the many pathways, lit with more than one million twinkling LED lights, including a brilliantly lit 600-foot-long tunnel featuring thousands of colored lights all synchronized to music.

Additional dazzling light displays include a giant 20-foot-lit orb, where guests can stand inside to take a memorable holiday photo, a 41-foot tree, and larger-than-life illuminated animal sculptures of a bison, bear, and giraffe. The malls and Roosevelt Fountain are all decked out for the holidays, thanks to local community organizations and corporations that decorated 660 LED-lit trees with

ornaments, many of them homemade.

Guests of all ages can play the Game of Gnomes, a fun-filled scavenger hunt in search of 24 whimsical themed gnomes, measuring 12- to 20-inches-tall that will be located throughout the park.

Although Santa Claus will not be making an appearance this year, families can still take photos next to a life-size cutout of him, as well as at other festively themed selfie frames located around the zoo. Kids will be able to drop off their letters to Santa in the giant box on the south mall.

Outdoor food stands will offer seasonal fare for purchase, including funnel cakes, praline nuts, cinnamon sugar pretzels, popcorn, pizza, burgers, spiced wine, hot chocolate, and beer.

Advance admission and parking tickets are required. Reservation times will be available in 20-minute increments. Tickets must be reserved at CZS.org/Online Ticketing. Admission is \$24.95 for adults, \$17.95 for children ages 3-11, and \$19.95 for seniors 65 and over. Parking is \$15. Review zoo protocols at CZS.org/KnowBeforeYouGo.

Library Schedules Online Zoom Events

The Chicago Public Library has scheduled Online events via Zoom.

The Write About It! Writing Club will meet on Tuesdays, through Dec. 22nd from 4 to 4:45 p.m. All types are welcome including fiction, non-fiction, poetry and song. Register by 10 a.m. the day before.

The staff of the Thomas Hughes Children's Library will conduct a 30-minute story time for children 18 to 35 months and their caregivers on Thursdays through Dec. 17th from 10 to 10:30 a.m. The program will include books, songs and rhymes.

Mock job interviews and resume help for adults and teens on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through Dec. 31st from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Email Jose at jgallegos@chipublib.org with the job you're applying for.

Toon Talk, a web-comics discussion for teens will be held on Monday, Dec. 14th from 4 to 5 p.m. Register by noon on the day before the meeting.

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.

Kids 2 to 6 and their caregivers may join musician and teacher Little Miss Ann for singing, dancing, moving and grooving on Friday, Dec. 4th from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Register at least 24 hours in advance.

Episode 10 of the webtv series "Chicago Neighborhoods Beyond Borders" will feature Hyde Park on Wednesday, Dec. 9th from 12 to 12:30 p.m. This event will be simulcast live on CPS's

YouTube channel and CPL's Facebook page. The video will be archived on YouTube to watch later.

Homework Help from a Virtual Teacher for students in kindergarten through 12th grade will be available on Thursdays, Dec. 10th, 17th and Jan. 7th, 14th, 21st from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

A Poetry Writing Workshop for teens age 13 to 18 will be held on Monday, Dec. 7th from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Performance poet Robb Telfer will share some of his favorite poems and lead writing exercises in response. No previous writing experience is necessary. Register at least 24 hours before the event.

Christmas in the Movies with Leslie Goddard will be featured on Monday, Dec. 7th from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Christmas in America from the 1940s through the 1960s meant aluminum trees, department store Santas and cartoon specials. Favorites were an Easy Bake Oven, a G.I. Joe or a Slinky. The coolest houses had trees with rotating color wheels. Historian Leslie Goddard will utilize photographs, advertisements, greeting cards and catalogs to explore why this era was a turning point for how we celebrate the holidays.

Register by 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5th.

Songwriting with Liz is open to teens, ages 14-19 on Tuesday, Dec. 8th from 4 to 4:45 p.m.

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.

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.

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, Dec. 19th 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.

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.

AHCA Cancels Dec. 9 Meeting

The Archer Heights Civic Association has cancelled its Dec. 9th general membership meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions. The annual raffle will be rescheduled for the January 2021 meeting.

ZooLights Returns To Lincoln Park Zoo



Lincoln Park Zoo's 26th annual ZooLights Presented by ComEd and Invesco QQQ returns this November.

Guests can partake in several special activities at home and at the zoo: Virtual ZooLights Challenge, Adults Night Out: Holiday! (Dec. 10), and Chris White Trio Tribute to "A Charlie Brown Christmas" (Dec. 13). A full schedule of holiday happenings is available at lpzoo.org/events.

Festive activities include socially-distant visits with Santa, a holiday pop-up bar, an Enchanted Forest, Light Maze Presented by Invesco QQQ, sweet treats of all kinds, and more.

Tickets for ZooLights are \$5 person (all ages, including infants, require a ticket) and will be available to the public via EventBrite.

There is a free membership-only night on Dec. 1st. Join at lpzoo.org/ membership to enjoy these perks as well as members-only reservation times at the zoo daily.

ZooLights runs from 4 to 10 p.m. on Dec. 4th-8th, 11th-16th, 18th-20th, 22nd-23rd, 26th-28th, 30th-31st, and Jan. 1st-3rd.

ZooLights presented by ComEd and Invesco QQQ will be free on Dec. 9th, 17th, 21st and 29th. Reservations are required via EventBrite. Light Maze Presented by Invesco QQQ takes guests on an enlightening journey, one ticket (\$3) required per guest.

Pritzker Family Children's Zoo transforms into an Enchanted Forest with music, smoke machines, twinkle lights,

Zoom Events At Archer Heights Library

The Archer Heights Branch Library, 5055 S. Archer has scheduled book clubs, a Graphic Novel monthly discussion and other events via Zoom.

A new Virtual Adult Graphic Novel Book Club will meet on the 2nd Monday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The topics are: Dec. 14th with *Saga* by Brian K. Vaughn & Fiona Staples. Register by 6 p.m. on the day before the discussion.

The Virtual Book Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Topics are: Dec. 23rd, *Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter* by Theodora Goss.

Library hours are Monday and Wednesday, 12 to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (312) 747-9241.

and mirrors. One ticket (\$3) required per guest.

Snowy's Spirits & S'more's a holiday-themed pop up bar will feature festive cocktails, hot drinks and sweet treats. One ticket (\$3) required per guest for entry.

Guests who visit any of the above experiences during ZooLights will receive special 3D Holospex® Glasses to enhance their viewing.

Adults Night Out: Holiday! on Dec. 10th gives guests ages 18 years and older exclusive entry from 6:30 to 10 p.m. for evening hours. Tickets start at \$15 Food and drink are available for purchase.

The Chris White Trio Tribute to "A Charlie Brown Christmas" will return on Sunday, Dec. 13th at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for general admission and \$15 for virtual admission.

New this year, ZooLights Virtual Challenge challenges families to choose from four virtual distances: Ultra Marathon (52.4 miles), Marathon (26.2 miles), Half Marathon (13.1 miles), or Kids' distance (2.62 miles) from Nov. 27th- Jan. 3rd. Participant swag varies by registration package.

BrewLights Presented by Louis Glunz Beer Inc. will return virtually on Dec. 31st. Check out lpzoo.org/events for details.

12,542 New Cases Of COVID-19

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 12,542 new confirmed and probable cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19, including 125 additional deaths.

Cook County fatalities included 1 female 50s, 1 male 50s, 2 females 60s, 3 males 60s, 1 female 70s, 3 males 70s, 2 females 80s, 2 males 80s, 3 females 90, 1 male 90s and 1 female over 100.

Currently, IDPH is reporting a total of 738,846 cases, including 12,403 deaths, in 102 counties. Laboratories have reported 116,081 specimens for a total 10,614,079. As of last night, 5,835 in Illinois were reported to be in the hospital with COVID-19. Of those, 1,195 patients were in the ICU and 721 were on ventilators.

The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total test from Nov. 24th - 30th is 10.4%. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity from Nov. 24th - 30th is 12.2%.

Chgo. Park District Opens Ice Rinks

The Chicago Park District operates ice rinks at McKinley Park, 2210 W. Pershing rd., phone (312) 747-5992 and Wentworth Park, 5625 S. Mobile, phone (312) 442-2194. Admission is free, skate rental is \$7 for all ages.

McKinley Park offers open skate on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m., Fridays from 1:30 to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 12 to 6 p.m. Saturday events are 10 to 10:45 a.m., Stick & Puck; 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. Pond Hockey; 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Learn to Skate and 1 to 9 p.m. Open Skate.

Wentworth Park features open skate on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 1:30 to 9 p.m. Saturdays events are 10 to 10:45 a.m. Stick & Puck; 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Learn to Skate and 1 to 9 p.m. Open Skate. Sunday events are 10 to 10:45 a.m. Stick & Puck; 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. Pond Hockey and 12 to 6 p.m. Open Skate.

The Chicago Black-hawks are giving kids ages 5-12 the opportunity to participate in a free 1-hour Learn to Play ice hockey clinic which will be coached by Black-hawks Fan Development staff. Locations are McKinley Park on Saturday, Jan. 16th and Wentworth Park on Saturday, Feb. 13th from 11 to 11:45 a.m. (ages 5-8) and 12:15 to 1 p.m. (ages 9-12).

For more information or to register, visit chicagoblackhawks.com/cpdclinics. 2021 Silver Skates Free Speed Skating Competition will be held at McKinley Park on

Tuesday, Jan. 12th and Wentworth Park on Thursday, Jan. 7th at 6 p.m.

Limited entries, registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis to the first 20 participants from each age group and gender.

The Citywide Championship is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 23rd at 10 a.m.

The top qualifiers (up to five) in the children's division will advance to the Citywide Championship. Adult skaters are invited to an 18 & over meet immediately following the children's meet. Adults do not need to qualify to participate. Visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com.

Owl Search



North Park Village Nature Center Park, 5801 N. Pulaski rd. will conduct a free Family Fun Nature Night Out on Saturday, Dec. 12th from 5 to 6 p.m. Participants will be lead on a walk through the preserve to search for owls. Dress warmly, all ages Registration is not required.

Ice Skating Ribbon Open at Maggie Daley



At Maggie Daley Park, 337 E. Randolph st. skaters can experience "alpine in the city" as they lace up their ice skates and follow a path twice the length of a lap around a traditional skating rink. Complementing the skating ribbon are places to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and rent skates for \$16. Skate with your own is \$5. Holiday pricing includes Holidays and Holiday season (Dec. 16th - Jan. 3rd) \$20. Skates are available in child's size 8 through men's size 12. Rental for standard lockers \$5, locker \$8 - per day. Make reservations at maggiedaleypark.com.



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DCASE Announces Holiday Events

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events announced details for the 107th Annual City of Chicago Christmas Tree in Millennium Park. This year's 45-foot Blue Spruce was donated by the family of Catherine Townsend of Morgan Park. Millennium Park holiday programs are produced by DCASE and presented by Powering Chicago, with support from the Millennium Park Foundation and Chicago Transit Authority.

Chicagoans and visitors are invited to visit Millennium Park to see the City of Chicago Christmas Tree shining brightly near the intersection of Michigan Ave. and Washington St. through Jan. 7th. The Park is open daily, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., for groups of 10 persons or fewer who practice physical distancing and wear face coverings. For information about where to enter/exit the Park and other details, visit MillenniumPark.org.

The new, 30-minute "Millennium Park at Home: Chicago Holidays" program is viewable throughout the Holiday season at YouTube.com/ChicagoDCASE.

Skating will not be presented at Millennium Park's McCormick Tribune Ice Rink this season, but the Chicago Park District will offer skating in neighboring Maggie Daley Park at the Ice Skating Ribbon. Reservations can be made up to two weeks in advance. For details, visit MaggieDaleyPark.com.

While visiting Millennium Park, guests are encouraged to take selfies with the iconic Cloud Gate and Crown Fountain sculptures, take a quiet stroll through Lurie Garden, and see the Millennium Monument and Jay Pritzker Pavilion lit up in holiday colors. Opening in December, a new art installation in Wrigley Square created by designer and gallerist Jason Pickleman, presented by

the Millennium Park Foundation, will honor the Chicago lives lost to COVID-19.

Other in-person and virtual events across the Millennium Park Campus include: Virtual tours of the Chicago Cultural Center — plus outdoor public art tours of the Millennium Park Campus on the first and third Saturday of the month, DCASEVolunTours.org.

In lieu of the annual Dance-Along Nutcracker® event at the Chicago Cultural Center, which remains closed to the public, the original Dance-Along Nutcracker will be streamed for free by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band (Dec.12th&13th.DanceAlongNutcracker.org) — and Ballet Chicago will present two virtual versions of The Nutcracker (Dec. 18th–30th, ticket at BalletChicago.org).

Holiday shopping at Buddy, a new store created by the Public Media Institute selling Chicago-made art, objects and more — online for now at hi-buddy.org.

CMS at Home: Brandenburg Concertos presented by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Harris Theater for Music and Dance, streaming Dec. 17th–21st, HarrisTheaterChicago.org.

Monet and Chicago, through Jan. 18th, and other exhibitions and events at the Art Institute of Chicago, artice.edu

Library Offers Daily Story Time

The Chicago Public Library has launched "Live from the Library: A daily Story Time for Kids of Chicago" weekdays at 10 a.m. CST on Facebook live. This program will feature librarians and Chicago notables reading their favorite children's books.

Obituaries

PAUL MICHAEL GRECO, U.S. Air Force veteran passed away on Nov. 8th at the age of 65. Interment was at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.



STELLA JAGIELNIK passed away on Nov. 26th at the age of 96. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery. Visitation and religious services were entrusted to Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.

IRENE LATTYAK (nee Vanda), of Brighton Park passed away on Nov. 28th at the age of 93. She was the wife of 49 years to late Edward Lattyak; mother of Renee Balzer, Donna (Paul) Hanke, Charmaine (Charles) Puchmelter, Bruce (Mel) Lattyak and late Darlene (Michael) Sluga; grandmother of Jennifer, Scott, Daniel, Christopher, Heather, Michael, Ian and Holly; great grandmother of Christian, Riley, Dax, Lincoln, Theo, Sam, Brooke and Grayson; daughter of late Peter Vanda and late Ann (nee Cordak); sister of Robert Vanda and late Peter (late Peggy) Vanda. Visitation will be held Sunday, Dec. 6th from 2 to 6 p.m. at Wolniak Funeral Home, 5700 S. Pulaski rd. Chapel service will be held Monday, Dec. 7th at 10:30 a.m. Entombment will be at Resurrection Garden Mausoleum.

LUIS RIVERA passed away on Nov. 13th at the age of 75. Arrangements were entrusted to Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.

JEANNETTE A. LEDESMA passed away on Nov. 16th at the age of 69. Visitation was held Nov. 20th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.



JOSE R. MADRID, SR., age 78, husband of late Maria M. for 54 years; father of Jose Madrid Jr. (Magdalena Lopez Madrid) and Vanessa Madrid Stetler (Brian Stetler); grandfather of Jessica, Roque, Lily, David, Thomas and Emma; brother of Manuel Madrid. Mr. Madrid was a 1980 graduate of Loyola University and participated in Chicago marathons. Visitation was held at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer on Nov. 12th. The funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Mary of the Angels Church on Nov. 13th. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery.



AMANDA M. MALESKY, of Hickory Hills, and formerly of Chicago and Cicero, passed away on Nov. 28th at the age of 40. She was the daughter of Susan (nee Krol) & Thomas Malesky; sister of Michael (Kristen) Malesky; aunt of Thomas and Evan Malesky; niece of William (Nancy) Malesky, Judith Malesky, Jeanine (William) Tonn, David (Laura) Malesky, late Walter (Claudia) Krol and late James (Colleen) Krol. Visitation will be held Friday, Dec. 4th from 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. at Zarzycki Manor Chapels, 8999 S. Archer, Willow Springs. 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass will follow at St. Patricia Church. Entombment will be at Resurrection Garden Mausoleum.

LUIS RIVERA passed away on Nov. 13th at the age of 75. Arrangements were entrusted to Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer.

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.

Lira Soloist Sings Polish Mass

The Lira Ensemble of Chicago, which specializes in Polish music, song and dance, announces that Lira soloist Ewa Kowcz-Fair sings a Polish Mass at St. John Brebeuf Church in Niles, IL every Saturday at 6:30 p.m. The event is broadcast "live" on Facebook and re-broadcast on YouTube every Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

All are invited to access these Polish Masses each week as follows:

On Saturdays at 6:30 p.m.; go to www.sjbrebeuf.org & scroll down the home page to Polish Mass.

On Sundays at 12:30 p.m.; go to YouTube St. John Brebeuf Niles & scroll down to Polish Mass of the day.

Mezzo soprano Ewa Kowcz-Fair has been a member of the Lira performing arts company for more than twenty years. She holds a master's degree in vocal performance from the Music University of Krakow, Poland.

An audio-only concert honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of St. John Paul II is available for free on the Lira Ensemble website www.liraensemble.org.

The concert consists of sacred music sung in Polish, English and Latin, music to celebrate the Polish Pope, written by both Polish and American composers and performed by the Lira Singers female ensemble and the Lira Chamber Chorus.



E. KOWCZ-FAIR

Federal Funding For Opioid Crisis

The Illinois Department of Human Services announced that the state has received \$36.7 million in federal funding to fight the opioid crisis through prevention, treatment, recovery and overdose response initiatives.

The federal grant is awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

If you or someone you know is experiencing problems with substance use disorder, call the state's Helpline for Opioids and other Substances at (833) 234-6343, Text "HELP" to 833234 or visit HelplineIL.org.

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<p>Masses at St. Barbara Bridgeport — 2859 S. Throop Saturday, 5 PM, Rosary: Sunday, 5:30 AM 6 AM & 9:30 AM Sunday Masses Weekday Schedule (Chapel) Tue., Thurs., & Sat. 8 AM Mass</p>	<p>Masses at St. Therese Chinatown — 218 W. Alexander Sunday Masses 8AM & 10:30AM in English Weekday Schedule Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8 AM Mass Check out our newly remodeled and air conditioned Church!</p>
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St. Barbara: 312-842-7979 St. Therese: 312-842-6777 School 312-326-2837

This Sunday, December 6th, Mass on Facebook/YouTube at 10:30 a.m. in English

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4 ROOMS, 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, 2nd floor. Tenant pays own utilities. No pets. Credit check. Vicinity Pershing and Sacramento. (773) 254-5042.

Miscellaneous For Sale

KENMORE refrigerator, \$75. Electric clothes dryer, 220V, \$50. (773) 715-8892. please text, can deliver.

Use The Want Ads
Call
(773) 523-3663
or email
brightonparklife@aol.com
Deadline Tuesday
12 p.m. noon

Paid Leave Under Covid Response Act

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act) requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19.

Generally, the Act provides that covered employers must provide to all employees: two weeks of paid sick leave at the employee's regular rate of pay where the employee is unable to work because they are quarantined by government order or advice of a health care provider and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis.

Alternatively, two weeks of paid sick leave at two-thirds the employee's regular rate of pay because they are unable to work because of a bona fide need to care for an individual subject to quarantine by government order or advice of a health care provider.

An additional qualifying reason is care for a child (under 18 years of age) whose school or child care provider is closed or unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.

A covered employer must provide to employees up to an additional 10 weeks of paid expanded family and medical leave or two-thirds of the employee's regular rate of pay where an employee is unable to work due to a bona fide need for leave to care for a child whose school or child care provider is closed or unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.

The paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave provisions of the FFCRA apply to certain public employers, and private employers with fewer than 500 employees.

Virtual Class For Citizenship

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council is offering free citizenship classes via WhatsApp. To register, call Adrianna Morales at (773) 540-4033.

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" photography or poor quality photographs submitted.

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST Plaintiff,
-v-
JOHNNIE M. STUCKEY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants
2019CH13325
7954 S RICHMOND ST CHICAGO, IL 60652
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 6, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 21, 2020, 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 7954 S RICHMOND ST, CHICAGO, IL 60652
Property Index No. 19-36-104-038-0000
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 payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 of fractional interest, of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor 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 quarter interest title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after completion of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. This property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other court venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-5300
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.tjisc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.csllegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-19-10309
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Attorney Code: 21763
Case Number: 2019CH13325
TJSC#: 40-2381
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 # 2019CH13325 13161054

Recycling For Home Electronics

Healthy Chicago is conducting a residential electronics recycling program at 2300 W. 52nd st. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through December. Accepted items are: computer, computer monitor, TV, printer, fax, scanner, keyboards & mice, VCRs, DVD players, DVD recorders, video game consoles, portable digital music players, digital converter boxes, cable & satellite receivers and small-scale servers. Materials should not be left outside of operating hours. Commercial and other residential electronics will not be accepted. To learn more about this program, visit www.chicago.gov/hccrf.

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 advertisement 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.

Shedd Aquarium Closed To Visitors



Shedd Aquarium will temporarily close for six weeks with a target reopening date of Saturday, Jan. 2nd.

Digital doors will remain open and full of ever-evolving fun videos, experiences and programs. By participating in any of the paid virtual programs, you are directly fueling the aquarium's mission and helping to support animal welfare, conservation research and ongoing virtual education efforts.

Consider becoming a member, making a gift or symbolically adopting an animal.

Meet sea otters, penguins, or sea lions from home during a Virtual Animal Encounter. Two links for \$69.95, share this experience with a friend or family member

Families can log-on from the comfort of their home for "Zzzs Under the Seas" a Virtual Slumber Party with Shedd for \$125 per household. Explore all aspects of aquatic life, including up-close looks at animals at Shedd in their habitats or behind-the-scenes, and participate in hands-on activities, games and more. The next morning, enjoy breakfast with the belugas and yoga

Toys for Tots Goes Virtual

Metra is partnering again with the U.S Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation but this year, the holiday toy drive is going virtual.

Instead of a one-day toy and donation event at Metra's five downtown stations, Metra is asking its customers to participate virtually by making an online donation this year at: https://chicago-il.toysfortots.org. All monies donated through this link go directly to the Chicago Marines Corps Reserve unit for the purchase of toys for local children.

The U.S. Marines Corps Reserves are doing everything they can, despite the obstacles created by the pandemic, to make sure children across Chicagoland find the joy of Christmas under their trees.

Metra riders can still donate new, unwrapped toys directly to the Marines by visiting drop off sites listed under "Ways to Donate" at https://chicago-il.toysfortots.org.

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Carry-Out Only	
Catering Package 30 people minimum or by the tray for any amount of people. Call for details. \$6.95 person Not valid with any other offer. Exp.12/31/20.	

Children's Theatre Offers Walking Tours

Chicago Children's Theatre has created Walkie Talkies podcasts which are fun, original audio experiences for families to enjoy while exploring Chicago neighborhoods. The first three self-guided strolls go through South Shore, Little Village and around the North Pond Nature Sanctuary in Lincoln Park through Dec. 31st.

Before you start, download a walking map and resources and review it first. You may also want to bring a bluetooth speaker or some wireless headphones so everyone in the family can listen together.

"Butterflies, Aztec Gods & Puerquitos/Sweet Piggie Bread" features storyteller Jasmin Cardenas and her children Mateo (8) and Cataline (5) who lead listeners in a game of "I Spy" through Little Village. Children's quintessential Mexican American community. Listeners are encouraged to keep count how many decorative monarch butterflies and Mexican flags they see along the way. Stops at neighborhood landmarks like Cafe Cathedral, Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, Our Lady of Tepeyac Mural and the Little Village Public Library.

Illumination Events At Arboretum



Morton Arboretum will celebrate its 8th Illumination: Tree Lights, through Jan. 3rd. This year's new driving experience (30-40 minutes long) features an unparalleled spectacle of color, light, and music.

Returning favorites reenvisioned, include Symphony Woods, Woodland Wonder, and Crystal Promenade, and live newly designed signs displayed along a two-mile road among the magnificent trees.

The exhibition will stay open later, until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and it will be open on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Ticket prices are \$39-\$49 and include parking. Tickets must be purchased in advance of arrival at mortonarb.org. Tickets will not be available for purchase on-site during the exhibition. In-person and online programming for all ages will be available. Select fall events will take place in-person with adjusted operations and some will be held in a virtual format.

Moratorium On Utility Shut-Offs

Attorney General Kwame Raoul reminds residents that state-regulated electric and natural gas utilities are prohibited from disconnections through March 31st.

Customers should explore their options to manage their bills over the winter and avoid having a large balance become due in the spring. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program application period is open until June 20th, or until funding is exhausted. Utility customers may be eligible for LIHEAP funding if their household income in the last 30-day period is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Many households that were not previously eligible may now qualify if they are now unemployed or underemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Call

Each episode is free with a suggested donation of \$25. Visit https://chicagochildrenstheatre.org.



5621 S. Nottingham Ave. - Location, Location, Location.
Price Change Archer & Nottingham - Quad Level 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms brick with 3 baths. New roof on home & garage, all windows upgraded with shades or blinds. Built in sprinkler system; A/C in 2009, hardwood floors in 2017, 2.5 car garage, side drive. Semi finished sub basement, fireplace, laundry room and more. Call for more details at (773) 582-9300.



6918 W. Archer Ave. - Price Reduced Commercial brick building. Large store front & 3 offices, 1/2 basement, 85x125 lot. Parking in rear and additional parking across the street. Immediate possession! Call (773) 582-9300.

4772 S. Archer Archer and Lawndale. Immediate possession! Zoned C-2-1. Value in land. Rehab or tear down 2 flat frame, 2 car brick garage, over 19,500 SF of land. Multiple uses. Extra income from Billboard! Call for details (773) 582-9300.

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Brighton Park Community Bank is a branch of Beverly Bank & Trust Company, N.A. **1. ATM Fees.** There is no Wintrust Financial Corporation (WFC) transaction charge at any ATM in the Allpoint, MoneyPass, or Sum surcharge-free networks. Other banks outside the network may impose ATM surcharges at their machines. Surcharge fees assessed by owners of other ATMs outside the network will be reimbursed. Reimbursement does not include the 100% International Service fee charged for certain foreign transactions conducted outside the continental United States. **2. General Information.** This Total Access Checking account bonus offer is valid for new accounts opened April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. This Total Access Checking account bonus offer is not available to existing or closed checking account customers of WFC and its subsidiaries or its active employees. Limit 1 bonus payment per customer, regardless of the number of accounts opened. If you qualify for this Total Access Checking account bonus offer, you are ineligible to receive this Total Access Checking account bonus offer from any other WFC location. If you qualify for any other WFC savings offer it may be combined with this Total Access Checking account bonus offer. Your new account must be open, in the same product, and have a balance greater than zero to receive the bonus payment. Balance is determined as of the end of each Business Day as the funds currently in your account including deposits and withdrawals made in the Business Day. The \$300.00 bonus payment is subject to IRS 1099-INT reporting and may be considered income for tax purposes for the tax year in which the bonus was paid. **3. Bonus Qualifications.** (i) Open a new Total Access Checking account; (ii) tell us you are aware of this Total Access Checking account bonus offer at account opening; (iii) have at least monthly occurring direct deposits totaling \$500.00 or more each month made to your new account for 2 consecutive calendar months after the calendar month your new account was opened (Qualification Period). For example, if you open your new account in January, you would need to have "Direct Deposits" made to your new account in February totaling \$500.00 or more and in March totaling \$500.00 or more; and (iv) enroll in online banking and activate e-statements within the Qualification Period. A direct deposit is defined as any payment made by a government agency, employer, or other third-party organization that is made via an electronic deposit. A direct deposit does not include teller/ATM/mobile or remote deposits, wire transfers, online banking/telephone transfers between accounts at WFC, external transfers from other accounts at other financial institutions or ATM/debit card transfers and deposits. After you have completed all the above bonus qualifications, we will deposit the bonus payment into your new account within 30 calendar days after the Qualification Period. **BANKER INSTRUCTIONS:**