

Some day the workers will take possession of your city hall, and when we do, no child will be sacrificed on the altar of profit.

— Mother Jones

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Ann Gerber's Pix Page on Page Six

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NEWS OF THE LOOP, STREETERVILLE, RIVER NORTH, NEAR NORTH, GOLD COAST & OLD TOWN

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Gold Coast cottage built after fire, facing wrecking ball after pending sale

STORY AND PHOTO BY PETER VON BUOL

A piece of Chicago history may soon disappear if the city of Chicago approves a pending demolition permit for a small brick cottage located at 1241 N. State Pkwy.

Built shortly after the Chicago Fire of 1871, it was among the first buildings erected in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood after the famous conflagration. Its age (perhaps 144 years old) and its largely unaltered exterior were reasons it was given an Orange designation on the city's historic-resources survey. With its Orange rating, an automatic demolition delay has been put into place.

The handsome little cottage now faces a contemporary problem: it is a low density property located in a high density area, surrounded by high-rises, notable mansions and stately townhouses.

According to information posted on the city's web site, the city's demolition delay ordinance "establishes a hold of up to 90 days in the issuance of any demolition permit for certain historic buildings in order that the department of planning and development can explore options, as appropriate to preserve the building, including but not limited to landmark designation."

The delay begins when a permit is first presented to the city's historic preservation division. It can be extended beyond the original 90 days by mutual agreement with the applicant. City officials have said the purpose of the ordinance is to "ensure no important historic resource can be demolished without consideration as to whether it should and can be preserved."

Built possibly as early as 144 years ago, the small brick cottage (listed as having 1,072 square feet)



This orange rated building at 1241 N. State is in danger of the wrecking ball.

resembles many of the brick workers' cottages that had been built after the Chicago Fire. Interestingly, the building is just west of 1350 N. Lake Shore Dr., where the now-demolished Potter Palmer Mansion once stood. Completed in 1885, Palmer's castle-like mansion was built over a three year period. It is not unreasonable to believe the cottage may have had an association with the construction of what was

COTTAGE see p. 5

Shiver me timbers, pirates shown Towing Bill of Rights

Ahoy, batten down the hatches, alderman threatens to scuttle noted North Side scalawags

STORY AND PHOTO BY PATRICK BUTLER

What's good news for motorists is bad news for the Lincoln Towing Co. Maybe.

After some debate that included a verbal firefight between Ald. Ameya Pawar (47th) and Lincoln Towing attorney Allen Pearl, the City Council unanimously OK'd what many considered a long-awaited "Towing Bill of Rights" on June 22.

But towing companies are in fact regulated by the state, and a notorious band of 'pirates' would seem an odd lot of people for the City to suggest follow a Bill of Rights.

The new law — enacted after years of complaints, mostly against Lincoln Towing, 4882 N. Clark St. — now requires vehicle "relocators" to report a towed car's year, make and model, and license plate number to the police within a half-hour after moving the car or truck.

It also requires the towing company to post signs clearly spelling out rates, photograph illegally parked vehicles before they are



"Towing companies need to exist, they just need to learn how to behave," said Ald. Ameya Pawar (47th), after passage of the "Towing Bill of Rights" aimed at companies like the controversial Lincoln Towing, 4882 N. Clark St.

"They're bad operators" who "routinely engage in abusive activity. I think people are tired of being abused. It's time for them to go," said Ald. Pawar.

towed and immediately release the vehicle if the owner gets there with the car key before the vehicle is towed.

Under the new ordinance, if the owner isn't immediately able to retrieve the vehicle, the company must allow the owner to remove any personal belongings from the car.

Towing companies will also have to supply police with a list of their clients, noting whether they tow cars from each of those lots only when asked or at their own discretion.

At the same time, the Illinois Commerce Commission is considering taking away Lincoln Towing's state vehicle "relocating" license in the wake of hundreds of consumer complaints and petitions with more than 3,000 signatures.

Complaints against Lincoln Towing employees over the years have included reckless driving while relocating a vehicle, outright lies told by employees and mistreatment of motorists, including one incident where a man's leg

TOWING see p. 11



Garcia and Shelton share a pamphlet with a homeless Chicagoan near Harold Washington Library Center. Photo by James John Jetel

Homeless on State St.

It is a problem that will never go away. Homeless Chicagoans, drawn to State St. and, specifically, the money that shoppers give them. Chicago Loop Alliance is in its third year of managing the problem but there are challenges. Besides being homeless, many

on State St. are battling addiction and mental illness. For some, homelessness is a lifestyle choice and panhandling helps them make ends meet. For most, however, it is a seemingly endless cycle between hope and despair.

BY STEVEN DAHLMAN
Loop North News

During their three-and-a-half mile journey up and down State St., Edmund Garcia, 44, and Terrence Shelton, 27, pass thousands of people — workers at the retail stores for which State St. is famous, shoppers, and tourists. But it is a handful of Chicagoans in which they are most interested, people whose only home is a doorway or a chair outside a restaurant or any spare spot on the sidewalk.

They know these people by name. They can tell you their history — what they are like, why they are here, and what has been done to help them so far. They know the chronically homeless, for whom there is almost no hope. They know the panhandlers who are not as homeless as you might think. They know the scammers, like the men dressed as monks who, as far as they can tell, are not affiliated with any ministry.

"The worse ones are the professional panhandlers, the ones who are out here just to make money," says Garcia, who has 15 years of social work experience. "When they get close to their deadline, like they have a bill to pay, they start getting a little more aggressive. That's when we step in to make sure they understand what they can and can't do."

On a day on which the high temperature will reach 93 degrees, Garcia and Shelton will put in an eight-hour shift walking from the middle of the Loop south to Congress Pkwy., then north to the Riverwalk, then south again. Armed with a device to tally interactions and electronic case management files on people with whom they interact, they will check on businesses, walk through the Pedway, help tourists with directions, and keep trying to move the homeless to better places.



"I'm homeless because I want to be." One Chicagoan, Willie, had been homeless for at least nine years before a Street Team helped him connect with the right agencies to get identification, birth certificate and social security card. Struggling with alcohol addiction, it was challenging for him just to save \$20 needed for the birth certificate. He asked a Street Team to hold onto an envelope for him, containing money he would add to a few dollars at a time.

It's happened 51 times since Oct., 2013 — a homeless person got off the street — but it took more than 600 tries.

"You almost have to talk to people seven times before they decide they actually want to go," says Michael Edwards, president of Chicago Loop Alliance [CLA], "and eventually you'll figure out 15% of them, this is their chosen lifestyle. This is what they do. They're not going to move."

According to Edwards, there are some people who have been homeless and living on State St. for 28 years.

"If you have to be poor, it's better to be poor in a big city where you can put your hand out and you're probably going to get some money, as opposed to being poor

HOMELESS see p. 10

HOMELESS from p. 1

in the middle of Indiana. So the folks on the street will be with us always.”

CLA is stepping in, says Edwards, “both selfishly for ourselves, to have a more pleasant shopping experience on State St., but also recognizing that these are people like you and me. They have lives like you and me. They have brothers and sisters and mothers and fathers. They just for whatever reason are in a bad situation.”

“That’s one of the biggest challenges,” says Garcia. “At a social service center, when they come to you, they’re looking for help. But when you’re dealing with an outreach, you’re trying to get them to think about a change, accepting help. A lot of them are doing what they’re doing because they’ve chosen it. So we plant the seeds

of hope, of thinking about moving forward again. For some of them, it takes a year, two years before they even start asking deeper questions.”

Trying to understand the homeless

Six members of two “Street Teams” are employed full-time by CLA. They are outside six or seven days per week, depending on the season, covering a nine-block stretch of State St. They work in two shifts – one from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the other from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., debriefing during the half-hour overlap.

The cost is \$360,000, representing 15% of CLA’s \$2.4 million annual budget, money raised from a special assessment on about 40 properties along State St., from Wacker Dr. south to Congress

Pkwy. This State Street Special Service Area is re-confirmed every year by the Chicago City Council.

Street Team members have college degrees in social services, health care, and mental illness, plus additional training in first aid, CPR, and crisis intervention.

“They can begin to understand who’s homeless, what their issues are, and then channel them into the services that they need,” explains Edwards.

Shelton’s background includes work as a security officer. Garcia has martial arts training.

Their least favorite part of the route is Pritzker Park, across Van Buren St. from the Harold Washington Library Center.

“The park can be difficult,” says Garcia. His worst experience? “The lady who pulled a spear out on me.”

He’s seen panhandlers go into a store and change into clothes that look less destitute, before going home for the day. He’s had to call 911, which Street Team members did 157 times in 2015, an increase of 78% from the year before.

But he believes things are getting better, at least for the general public.

“When we first started doing this, there was a lot more aggressive people constantly walking up and down the street and now it happens a lot more rarely.”

Last year, Street Teams made more than 6,200 social service referrals, helping people find food, shelter, clothing, transportation, housing, and employment.

They will do whatever it takes to get a homeless person to the right service. They will pay for their L ride. They will ride with

them. They will wait with them

Eventually, the Street Team helped one man apply to a half-way house for recovering alcoholics, where he stayed for five months before transferring to another half-way house.

But he “fell off the wagon,” says Garcia, and they are working with him now to get his paperwork in order to try again.

“Every winter, he starts thinking about not being homeless.”

There is not a single panhandler Garcia and Shelton do not know something about.

Of a woman sitting on the sidewalk with an animal carrier outside a Starbucks at State & Adams streets, Garcia says, “Her family lives here in Chicago, actually less than a mile from my house, I

HOMELESS see p. 11**HOMELESS** from p. 10

found out. She can go back at any time. Unfortunately, she’s choosing this lifestyle.”

Across State St., another woman, Ruth, her face deformed by cancer, panhandles but is not homeless.

“She’s on disability so she comes here to compensate her income,” according to Garcia. “Most of the time she’s friendly. She’s always telling us who we need to help. She’ll buy food and give it to ones who actually are homeless.”

Public still discouraged from giving money to panhandlers

Street Teams will do whatever they can to help a homeless person but they will not give him or her money, as it is not a long-term solution.

“If you dry up the money, they will probably not leave Chicago but they’d leave State St.,” says CLA president Michael Edwards.

Instead, CLA produced a guide last year, directing the homeless to resources such as food and shelter. The guide was based on thousands of personal interactions with the homeless by Street Teams. More than 56,000 copies have been distributed.

Despite the effort, Edwards says

there will always be panhandlers on State St.

“You’re never going to get rid of them. You’re not. All the money is on your street so they’re going to come there.”

State St. is just part of the problem, of course, as 140,000 Chicagoans are homeless today, according to Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. A task force announced by Mayor Rahm Emanuel in March is going to try to lower that number by making it easier for people to connect with resources, paying particular attention to the chronically homeless and homeless families with children. The Task Force to Reduce Homelessness will consist of 14 city agencies.

In May, Emanuel announced Chicago has received a \$100,000 grant from Elks National Veterans Service Commission to help 50 homeless veterans find housing.

The homeless in Chicago are officially counted. The Point-In-Time Homeless Count is conducted every two years by Chicago Dept. of Family and Support Services. The data serves as a basis for federal funding, service and resource planning, and to raise public awareness about the homeless. The most recent count was on Jan. 26 and a final report is expected this summer.

CLASSIFIEDS**Legal Notice Cont'd.**

-v-
DAVID C. HALL, INDIVIDUALLY, THE SLEEP SHOP, INC., AN ILLINOIS CORPORATION, CITY OF CHICAGO, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
15 CH 08347
158 N. LECLAIRE AVENUE Chicago, IL 60644
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 27, 2016, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on July 11, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: LOT 11 IN THE SUBDIVISION OF LOTS 1, 2 AND 3 IN THE RESUBDIVISION OF BLOCK 6 AND VACATED ALLEY IN THE

Legal Notice Cont'd.

City of Chicago: Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants
Defendants.
CASE NO. 16 CH 7044
5464 West Rice Street, Chicago, Illinois 60651
Walker Calendar 57
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Terrance Bay, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 16 IN BLOCK 3 IN THE SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 13, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN,

Legal Notice Cont'd.

SAID DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP AND SURVEY, PARCEL 2: EASEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF PARCEL 1 AS SET FORTH IN THE DECLARATION OF EASEMENT DATED JUNE 3, 1968 AS DOCUMENT 20520336 MADE BY WINSTON GARDENS INC., A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS, FOR VEHICULAR INGRESS AND EGRESS OVER THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND; THE NORTH 30 FEET, AS MEASURED AT 90 DEGREES TO THE NORTH LINE THEREOF, OF A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF BLOCKS 4 AND 5 TOGETHER WITH ALL THAT PART OF VACATED NORTH ALBANY AVENUE LYING NORTH OF THE SOUTH LINE OF BLOCK 5 EXTENDED WEST, SAID EXTENSION ALSO BEING THE SOUTH LINE OF VACATED WEST LUNT AVENUE, AND LYING SOUTH OF THE NORTH LINE OF SAID BLOCK EXTENDED WEST, SAID EXTENSION ALSO BEING THE NORTH LINE OF VACATED WEST ESTES AVENUE AND TOGETHER WITH ALL OF VACATED WEST ES-

Legal Notice Cont'd.

13 CH 27176
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON (F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK) AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF CTS HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1996-1
Plaintiff,
-v-
ESTATE OF LUCY CLARK JEFFERSON BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AREGNE DIXON, PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC, CITY OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF LUCY CLARK JEFFERSON, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
11 CH 29527
4706 NORTH AVERS AVENUE Chicago, IL 60625
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

Legal Notice Cont'd.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDER OF MORGAN STANLEY HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2007-2 MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-2
Plaintiff,
-v-
TOMMIE KING, JEANETTE KING, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC, AS NOMINEE FOR FIRST NCL FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC
Defendants
14 CH 18382
2519 N. RUTHERFORD AVENUE Chicago, IL 60707
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 28, 2016, an agent for

Legal Notice Cont'd.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON (F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK) AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF CTS HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1996-1
Plaintiff,
-v-
ESTATE OF LUCY CLARK JEFFERSON BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AREGNE DIXON, PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC, CITY OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY SERVICES, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF LUCY CLARK JEFFERSON, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
15 CH 12163
1737 N. LOTUS AVENUE Chicago, IL 60639
NOTICE OF SALE

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY NOT

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

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