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CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine • April 2024

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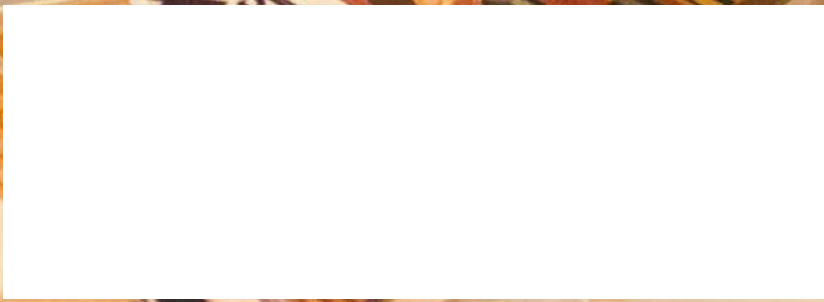
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**COVER STORY
PAGE 32**

No More Monopoly

For much of the past eight years, Chicago residents have been victimized by Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's policies about being soft on crime. With Judge Eileen O'Neill Burke winning the State's Attorney Democratic Primary, that all stands to change. Now, it might not be go directly to jail for those who are arrested. But, to be sure, the days of free parking for criminals should be coming to an end. And the ones who stand to benefit most from O'Neill Burke's election are the residents, who may no longer have to live in fear of becoming the next victim every time they get in their cars.



COVER DESIGN BY JENNA RAMOS

MESSAGES FROM LODGE 7

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INSIDE STORIES





CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine
President's Report



A new state's attorney means a new day for the City and criminals will no longer be allowed to pass Go



JOHN CATANZARA JR.

Criminals, felons, perps and the like, take notice: You will need more than Monopoly money if you are charged with a crime now in Cook County, even shoplifting. And the victims of these crimes can now expect the type of prosecution, and maybe even justice, that actually might deter and reduce such acts that have the City looking like battlefield.

Specifically, with regard to Eileen O'Neill Burke taking over the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, she definitely has been very clear that she does not concur with a lot of the things that currently are being done in that office. So we absolutely expect a 180-degree course correction to law and order from Judge O'Neill Burke now that she has won the Democratic primary and appears headed for the Cook County State's Attorney's Office come November.

Now does that mean lock everybody up? We understand that that's not a reality. But we also understand that Kim Foxx made it her life's work to intentionally look for reasons to give innocence certificates, or, I should say, to drop charges or basically have wrongful convictions be a center of her agenda. And it ended up costing the City hundreds of millions of dollars in a very grimy kind of, I don't know, merry-go-round, we'll say.

Someone would say they were tortured, so she would bring it back up for another trial, where obviously, detectives attached to that case are not going to testify again. Because now you're looking for one misstatement to bring them up on official misconduct or perjury charges and putting their freedom and pension at risk. Which then grants this offender a new trial or a dismissal altogether and an innocence certificate. And that allows some scumbag to sue the City, get a settlement and then donate back to the Kim Foxx political campaign as a, well, you get the idea.

So that in itself, I think, is going to be one of the drastic changes going forward. I certainly would not expect State's Attorney O'Neill Burke to even entertain any nonsense like that going forward.

Look, all we've ever asked for from the Cook County state's attorney is a fair shake. We weren't looking for anybody to look the other way on police misconduct or anything like that. But don't go out of your way searching for it, which, quite frequently, they were literally looking for scalps to basically justify their existence. I don't see that being the case going forward, thankfully.

There are certainly going to be investigations. There's certainly going to be police conduct looked at. We're not naive enough to say that that's not going to happen. But a professional approach is fact-based, not emotion-based. And sadly, that's why we've been dealing with emotion, wokeness and agendas for the past eight years under the state's attorney.

Hopefully, we can get to saving this county past that point. I think that means for members that a lot of their hard work is no longer going to get washed down the drain and discarded.

It isn't like Chicago Police Officers haven't been arresting people. Superintendent Snelling recently told us that three months into 2024, gun recoveries this year are already up, even over last year. And we recovered more than 13,000 last year.

So they could talk about violent crime being down, carjackings being slightly down, yada, yada, yada. But there's still a ton of guns on the street. We just charged a 16-year-old with triple murder. A 16-year-old. And these were his friends he allegedly shot in the house he was hanging out at with them because he wanted the freakin' automatic rifle that they had.

It's crazy. These kids, regardless of whether they have parental supervision, think they can do whatever they want and it's just going to be ignored. Those days need to come to an end, and I think we have a much clearer path for that happening under State's Attorney O'Neill Burke.

I know she kind of already was talking about a get-tough-on-crime perception, but then had to

President's Report continues on Page 7

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Election Results: You be the judge

With the Cook County state's attorney primary tipping in our favor, let's check the score on the bench. See, Eileen O'Neill Burke is one cog in the wheel. Obviously, our officers are the first cog, and she's the second.

Unfortunately, Judge Tim Evans and his policies for the magistrates on the benches in Cook County are a whole different cog in the wheel. As long as he's there, I don't see Preckwinkle's policies changing because he's certainly carrying her water.

But with this primary, we started to put Judge Evans in the spotlight, and it's kind of a ladder we're going up here. First, it was the piece-of-garbage superintendent we had to suffer under and a miserable mayor, a dictator. We finally changed those dynamics.

Now we move up a rung to Kim Foxx, and once we have a professional approach at the state's attorney's office, then it's now going to fall on the judges and Tim Evans' policies about the SAFE-T Act with his no bail. The change in the state's attorney's office will really highlight how ineffective these policies are.

So now we can turn our focus on the benches and the judges and really target giving O'Neill Burke another set of tools to help make this county safer. Jim Murphy did get elected to the 10th Subcircuit as one of our endorsed candidates, so that's good. He is a former Cook County assistant state's attorney and one brilliant mind elected, that's for sure.

Our Illinois Supreme Court justice candidate handily won her election. So Justice Joy Cunningham, who's also a Gold Star Family member, will remain on the Illinois Supreme Court for a full term now.

The Lodge 7 Political Action Committee picked a lot of winners. We definitely also affected some races and had positive outcomes.

Unfortunately, we couldn't get Iris Martinez across the line against the machine's millions of dollars and slander of Preckwinkle and Iris' opponent. But now we're going to be watching the Cook County Circuit Court Clerk's Office very closely because I highly doubt that this woman who won the primary is going to be much of a change from anything else that was already going on.



Why a millionaire would want that job is simply because Preckwinkle wants the ability to employ more than 2,000 people, which is what the Circuit Court has routinely been about. Under Dorothy Brown, that's all it was — patronage jobs — and Preckwinkle wanted that because Iris was not part of the machine. We love her, and I'm sure we're not hearing the last from Iris Martinez.

How they made a mess of Arbitration for Termination

So the judge shit the bed regarding his final decision on the arbitration for termination issue by splitting the baby instead of making a decision left or right. He gave us arbitration, but he also said it needs to be public, which is absolutely wrong. He also said, "You don't stay in a paid status." Which again is absolutely wrong when it comes to what was decided in grievance arbitration and our agreement with the City. So we're going to appellate court to fight for what was given to us in arbitration and by Illinois law.

It's not much of a surprise. It's a surprise that Judge Mullen messed it up. What he did was effectively create new contract language with his decision, which a court has no authority to do.

Taking this to Judge Mullen was literally supposed to be an interpretation of the law. But his decision created new provisions within our contract, which is 100 percent unlawful.

I think he just wanted it out of his courtroom, knowing it was going to the appellate court. The City's attorneys told me they weren't going to appeal. They got the transparency part that they wanted. But I'm like, "Well, OK, I'm glad you think you did, but we're certainly not going to." I didn't say to them we were appealing, but we're absolutely appealing.

It was probably a lack of understanding of labor law by the judge, which I think is because he was looking at it as more of a contrac-

tual agreement that he can interpret. That's just not true. That's the arbitrator's job. These protections are enshrined in the Illinois Labor Act, and a judge cannot affect that. But he did anyway.

I don't know how quickly the appellate court will pick it up. We filed the appellate court brief, and we assume the City will also file a brief and go back to Judge Mullen and ask for a stay of his order, which would, in theory, prevent us from having the ability to move to arbitration on all the Police Board cases.

If he denies the stay, it's a moot point. But if he grants their stay, then we would no longer have the ability to postpone or transfer the Police Board cases to arbitration. So then we'd have to go to the appellate court and seek injunctive relief like we did in Mullen's court. So there's a bunch of branches still up this tree yet.

The overriding theme is that he reaffirmed our right for arbitration. So the rest of it kind of got lost in the smoke and mirrors and the sensationalism of Ed Benn's award. And the accusations of violations of oath of office by City Council members, which had nothing to do with the legal part of all this as far as the court is concerned. So they made it a circus, and as it turned out, Judge Mullen kind of bought some popcorn for it.

A historic meeting

As I work on this article, I'm actually sitting in Public Safety Headquarters, and it was quite a refreshing revelation. I guess it's indicative of Larry Snelling's leadership, trying to build relationships and morale, because he just named a new chief of patrol, Jon Hein.

And without any solicitation from Lodge 7, Chief Hein actually reached out to me and asked me if I could come in and have a sit-down with him. He just wanted to talk some things over and make sure we're on the same page going forward.

That's never been done before. I mean, the Lodge has historically reached out and asked for that. But for the Department to make this kind of outreach speaks volumes about Superintendent Snelling's leadership.



Give the kids their money

Regrettably, I don't know who to blame for this one: the Department or the City of Chicago.

They just can't seem to get things right, sometimes. The employee bonus that was agreed upon in Phase 2 of the contract all of a sudden now turned into "Well, that doesn't apply to probationary police officers."

That was never discussed. It was never agreed upon. It was never even talked about as any exceptions whatsoever. The bonus was

for every employee.

But all of the sudden, it turned into a reality. And I heard the bonus actually hit paychecks one pay period early. They weren't supposed to go in until April 7. I already told the Department, "Don't do it. You're 100 percent wrong on this one." I don't know who's pushing these stupid buttons, but those kids deserve to get the \$2,500 bonus just like everybody else.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

walk back on that perception that she said she was tagged with. I'm like, "tagged with?" That was what everybody said she was going to be. Because if that's not what you're going to be, you're already starting off on the wrong foot with us.

For now, she has all but basically assured us that we will have no contact with her whatsoever and that we will have a conversation

at a later date. You want to play hands-off because you think there's this perception of conflict of interest? OK, great. I understand it to a degree, and we'll play nice. You have a professional job to do, and it may require you to indict one of my officers. So be it. But you certainly better do a whole lot different than what Kim Foxx was doing. Or, believe me, we will have a conversation.

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Taking an Opportunity to Unplug From the Daily Grind



MICHAEL
METTE

Happy April everyone! Hopefully this article finds you as well as can be. My family and I just got back from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We decided to take a road trip for spring break at the end of March. I cannot tell you how much I love getting out of the city and away from hustle and bustle. It's amazing what a week away can do for the mind and soul! And what a week it was!

When we first planned on taking the kids to the mountains, we wanted to take our little travel trailer and stay at a KOA in Cherokee, North Carolina. Cherokee is a beautiful town just on the North Carolina side of the mountains. The KOA there has the only indoor pool available in the KOAs in the area and would have been perfect for the day or two of possible rain. But you know what they say about a well laid plan don't ya?

Well, the trailer never left Chicago and we had to make a quick audible and just go with the flow. We ended up just driving down taking back roads all the way. We drove through southeast Indiana using 1-50. It takes you right through French Lick and some beautiful winding roads. I absolutely love taking the extra time to drive back roads. You never know where you'll stop and who you will meet along the way. We ended up staying just east of Louisville, Kentucky, on the first night.

It was a quick sleep and wake up to finish up the drive to the Smokies. We ended up finding a neat little place to stay in Townsend, Tennessee, called the Tremont Lodge and Resort. It wasn't what we wanted, but it filled in nicely. If you are not familiar with the area, Townsend is away from the touristy areas of Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. It is nicknamed the Peaceful Side. It's not only peaceful but also very scenic. You have a beautiful river walk along the entirety of the main road in town.

We were blessed with some great weather and the opportunity to explore the park while taking a couple nice hikes near Cade's Cove and the Little Greenbrier School. Even though we didn't get to stay in Cherokee, we did get a chance to get over to that side of the mountains and do a little horseback riding. I highly recommend the Smokemont Riding Stables just inside the National Park

north of Cherokee. The trail ride was gorgeous, and we got to cross a river while on horseback. It reminded me of the scene in City Slickers, where Billy Crystal's character laughs about saying moo cow in a river! It was just cool! To top it all off on the ride there we were blessed with running into a herd of elk grazing on the side of the road. It was great to see the kids get so excited about something other than electronics.

Besides the wonderful mountain tops and great animals of the region, if you get a chance to get to this area, you must check out the Tuckaleechee Caverns. Words cannot describe just how cool this awesome cave system is to see. The story behind it is even cooler. Two young kids, W.E. "Bill" Vananda and Harry Myers found an opening of the cave right where the store front building is now. At the ages of 6 and 8, they would go into the pitch-black emptiness of the cave and explore with just little torches they made to only be able to see a couple of feet in any direction. It truly is an amazing story of how they ended up over a quarter mile into the cavern at such a young age. And here I thought I was an explorer when my brother and I jumped on a Niles Free Bus by ourselves at the ages of 8 and 5. Somehow I just don't think it stacks up to what these kids did. This is definitely a must see!

It was an amazing week. We got to make a ton of new memories doing new and exciting things. We got to meet some great people in Townsend, especially Julie and Jeff! Jeff is a retired officer from Virginia and still an active FOP member. The only downside of the trip was that it had to end! So back to Chicago we have come and back to the grind we go.

Here is some of the upcoming grind: On May 6 through May 8, the Billy Graham Law Enforcement Appreciation Retreat will be held in Lincolnshire at the Marriott Resort. This event is free for all first-time attendees! Also, we will be holding the FOP Gun Safety Days on May 29 and 30 at the lodge. Make sure to bring in your firearms for a good look over and cleaning!

Please remember, this job is just that a job. Don't forget to unplug and revive the soul! What's the point of doing all the work we do if we can't enjoy the life it can provide! As always stay healthy and safe!



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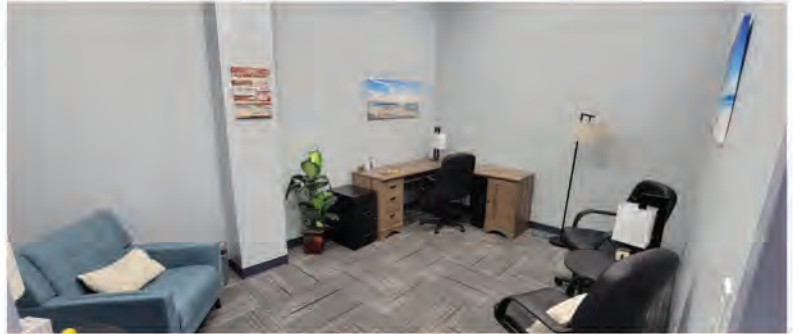


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- Retired CPD



A Report on Discipline Briefs



DAN GORMAN

My report given at the monthly general members' meetings includes examples of arbitrators' decisions issued at arbitration hearings. Every investigation has its own individual circumstances, and in most cases, there are multiple allegations and redundant alleged "rule violations" (usually piled on by the investigators). However, below are summaries of some recent dispositions that have been awarded by the arbitrators. The following discipline briefs only provide a generalization of the allegations that were sustained in the CR investigation.

| General Summary of Allegation | Original Recommended Penalty | Arbitrator's Award |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Search without consent | 5-day suspension (2x's) | Expunged (2x's) |
| Fail to issue case report | 2-day suspension | 1-day suspension |
| Fail to obtain Search Warrant (in 2003) | 10-day suspension | Expunged (untimely due-process) |
| Alleged "push" of a trainee/ PPO | 2-day suspension | Expunged |
| Fail to Investigate Dometic | Reprimand | Upheld |
| No BWC during reports | 1-day suspension | Expunged |
| Push handcuffed subject to ground (threatened to spit) | 29-day suspension | 5-day suspension |

QUOTE BOARD:

To add some context to the above listed dispositions, here are some notable quotes taken directly from the arbitrator's written award/decisions.

Quote from a 9-page arbitration decision re: ("Push" of a PPO trainee)

"This arbitrator watched the Body Worn Camera videos from both the Grievant and PPO Leo - numerous times each - and came away with the conclusion the BIA description of what transpired is seriously overblown."

Quote from a 9-page arbitration decision re: (Fail to Obtain Search Warrant ...in 2003)

"It is axiomatic among attorneys that anyone can sue any-

one for anything at any time. The mere fact that a civil complaint alleges improper behavior in no way proves the misbehavior occurred."

Quote from an 8-page arbitration decision re: (Search without consent)

"Setting aside the fact that the Chicago Police Department command staff thinks the search was consensual and the sustained findings erroneous, the passage of such an extraordinary unjustified and unexplained amount of time before fulfilling its obligations as an investigative agency alone is enough to dismiss the charges outright. "

Quote from a 7-page arbitration decision re: (No BWC during report writing)

"Since the Special Order does not expressly require officers to continue to have their BWC's activated during post-arrest administrative duties outside the presence of the arrestee, the arbitrator concurs with the Command staff and finds no misconduct occurred."



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Reflecting on Women's History Month



MONICA ORTIZ

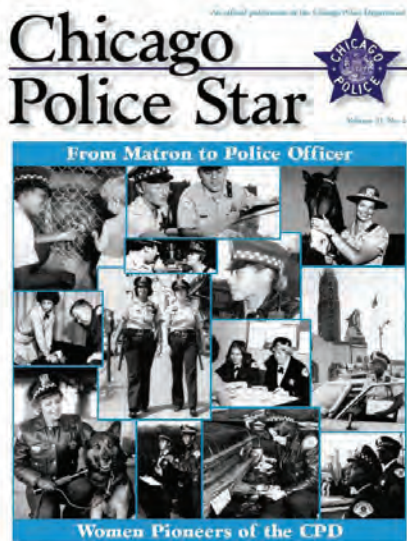
I'm writing this article during Women's History Month, and I wanted to share a conversation with a retired detective who called about my January article. In the January issue, I wrote about the first female police officer killed in the line of duty, Dorelle Brandon. I received calls and mail about this article. One of the callers was a retired female detective from Area 1 Violent Crimes. We chatted for several minutes, and she began to give me a little history about women on the job in the 1960s. This detective came on in 1967 and said

that at that time, around 60-something women were in the department. Women's uniform equipment differed significantly from today's police radios, sidearms, tasers, pepper spray, batons, body-worn cameras, cargo pants, baseball caps, and MOLLE vest covers.

In the '60s, ladies in the department wore a skirt and 2-inch patent leather shoes. The detective explained that when women officers entered the housing projects at State Way Gardens, the residents thought they were crossing guards or city inspectors. Women didn't carry a weapon on their waistband but had a leather purse to hold their revolvers. The officers often had to save their uniform allowance for a year to purchase the leather purse for their pistol, as it cost \$100. I researched the details and found that in 1956, the Chicago female police uniform was a navy blue fitted jacket, straight shirt, light blue crossover tie, overseas cap, leather pumps, and shoulder bag. The bag with the over-the-shoulder strap had a built-in holster and a handcuff compartment. Women did not carry weapons on their waist. On April 22, 1974, the department issued a special order allowing uniform pants to become part of the policewoman and police matron uniforms. Uniform pants were an optional item that was part of the winter uniform and worn only from Nov. 1 through April 30.

In the 1960s, 99 percent of the department consisted of males. Today, approximately 27 percent of the department is made up of women. In the past, the women on the job were police matrons assigned to work in lockups and the youth division. Those interested in reading the Chicago Police Star, a once-published magazine, can find archived issues on ChicagoCop.com. This excellent magazine will give you a history lesson on the Chicago Police Department (CPD). Thank you to our women pioneers of the CPD, who paved the way for those who followed. One of the pictures is from the Chicago Star magazine. It's my favorite picture honoring the history of Chicago policewomen, and it hangs in my office as a reminder of how far women have come in this department.

God bless you and stay safe.



National Alcohol Awareness Month: Tips For Being Smart About Drinking



ROB
NOCEDA

Hello, Lodge 7, I hope and pray you are doing well.

April is a month of many celebrations and observances. One of these observances is National Alcohol Awareness Month. You're probably thinking, "Rob, what does this have to do with lodge business?" Well, it has to do with many issues that lead to discipline and employment issues.

Here are some quick points to look at per the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism:

- Alcohol is the third preventable cause of death with over 178,00 deaths reported per year. (approximately 120,000 males, 59,000 females)
- Among people who die by suicide, AUD (alcohol use disorder) is the second most common.
- Mental disorder and Alcohol involved is roughly 1 in 4 deaths by suicide.
- More than 200 diseases and injury-related conditions are associated with alcohol misuse.
- Research has shown that people who misuse alcohol have a greater risk of liver disease, heart disease, depression, stroke, and stomach bleeding, as well as cancers of the oral cavity, esophagus, larynx, pharynx, liver, colon, and rectum. These individuals may also have problems managing conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, pain, and sleep disorders. Misusing alcohol may also increase the likelihood of unsafe sexual behavior.
- Of the 98,475 liver disease deaths among people ages 12 and older in 2022, 46 percent involved alcohol.
- Among all cirrhosis deaths in 2019, 50.3 percent were alcohol related.

Now that we laid out some facts. I think it's safe to say alcohol is dangerous when used in excess and over a long period of time. Alcoholism or alcohol abuse has devastating impacts on a person, their family, and their finances.

In our police culture, as with most of society in general, alcohol is abundantly accessible at all events.

I want to touch on the impacts of alcohol on those in law enforcement. In most civilian sector jobs, a DUI would result in little or no discipline from their employer. This is not the case in law enforcement. On the job, members pay a price. Usually that price is significant. Members will serve a lengthy suspension for an off-duty alcohol related incident. This suspension time brings members a financial loss. We're talking thousands of dollars at a minimum.

The other issues I see consistently are some members

drinking alcohol and not utilizing the rideshare apps or calling family and friends as designated drivers. Have a plan to get home safe, without incident. This option is always the most economical. Members can save time, money, and a lot of heartache if they use rideshare or other viable options. A couple drinks and an accident or a DUI can lead to a lawyer taking home your hard-earned money.

Over my time at the lodge, I have assisted and seen members who do acknowledge they have an alcohol problem. They knew it hurt themselves, their loved ones, and in some cases their finances. I am glad these members got the help they needed and made their lives better for them and their families. I hope and pray others do that too. I want to repeat something I say at roll calls: You will not lose your job if you go get help. Alcohol treatment programs are accessible and always available.

So get help if you need it. We are here to support you at the lodge if you need us.

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Saluting SROs Before They're Removed From Schools



JIM
JAKSTAVICH

Hello again, officers, both active and retired. The Chicago Public School Board and progressives on City Council have hammered another nail into the coffin by removing SROs (school resource officer) from around 30-plus high schools by June 2024. The Bureau of Patrol has come up with a new transition plan under B.O.P. #24-0066. Under this new transition plan, many officers who did not previously answer calls for service in schools will now be sent to respond. Officers, you are reminded in this B.O.P. that "when responding to CPS schools for service you should not engage solely in enforcement of CPS school discipline policies or procedures but focus on specific safety concerns necessitating the police response." I remember early in my career responding to a job at Tilden High School. The school principal was demanding that the police on scene search a student who was allegedly in possession of a cell phone. It was a violation of the student's rights if we had searched him. We refused to search this student for a cellphone as it was not a violation of the law. A request for a supervisor was made and we taught the principal about the Fourth Amendment.

I reached out to a friend who is an SRO at a north side high school. I wanted to know her input and the impact of the SRO program being gone from the school system. She related that at the

high school she is assigned, many inner-city kids – a large number from the west side – attend this school. She was personally heart-broken that this program is coming to an end. The rapport she built with the staff and students over the years has been successful in keeping them safe and quelling violence. The students who trust the SROs give them a heads up about conflicts, some gang-related, some social media-related, which are often stopped before they even start. The students share every aspect of their lives with the SROs, asking for advice about their upcoming unexpected parenthood or seeking help in attending college upon graduation. The SRO I interviewed started a GoFundMe for a less fortunate student to assist him with attending college. An anonymous foundation heard of this story and paid for his last two years of college. I seriously doubt any school board member has done something of this magnitude to help a student. That student is still enrolled and set to graduate college in two years!

The progressive agenda is using every angle in making inroads into defunding the police and creating a further divide between the police and community by removing SROs from high schools. I feel sorry for the SROs who have dedicated themselves to the students and staff, but your accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. You have made a difference in the lives of many and we as a department and city should be grateful. As always, stay safe.



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Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 Picnic at Brookfield Zoo

Adults \$20 / Children \$10 Ages 3 to 11

Includes: Parking in North Lot, Zoo Admission, Lunch at Designated Picnic Area 11:30am to 2pm

Tickets must be purchased at Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, 3rd Floor

1412 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago, IL 60607

FOP members that are zoo members, \$5 per person to join us for lunch – wrist bands required.

Must be a FOP member to purchase tickets. Tickets are on a first come first serve basis. Deadline to purchase tickets is June 27. For additional information contact Kathy Spiewak 312.870.794. Zoo Hours are 9:30am to 6pm



Asked and Answered Bump Cards



KENYATTA
GAINES

Our lodge attorney has provided explanations as to why filing a grievance about the bump card issue is not viable. The city requires officers to be clean shaven before being provided with a respirator for the DNC. Unfortunately, the case law on this issue favors the employer.

For example, in *Bey v. City of New York*, black firefighters who had been diagnosed with Pseudofolliculitis Barbae (PFB), a condition which results in persistent irritation and pain following shaving, brought discrimination claims against the city, the fire department, the fire department's commissioner, and two deputy chief medical officers. The firefighters alleged that the department's rescission of an accommodation exempting the firefighters diagnosed with PFB from the department's clean-shave standard violated the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title VII. The court found that: (1) the department's rescission of an exemption from the clean-shave standard did not violate ADA because the accommodation was unreasonable in the first place; and (2) while the firefighters could establish a prima facie Title VII discrimination case, compliance with OSHA's regulations was a business necessity presenting a complete defense to the Title VII disparate impact race discrimination claim.

A similar case brought by black firefighters who suffered from PFB against the city of Atlanta resulted in a finding in favor of the city as well (see, *Fitzpatrick v. City of Atlanta*). In that case, the plaintiffs asserted that the clean-shave rule discriminated against the handicapped in violation of the Rehabilitation Act. The court entered summary judgment in favor of the city, and plaintiffs appealed. The appellate court held: (1) the city's evidence concerning safe use of respirators established a business necessity defense to the claim that the no-beard rule had disparate impact on African Americans; (2) with respect to disparate treatment claim, plaintiffs failed to establish that the safety justification for the no-beard rule was a pretext for racial discrimination; and (3) the city could not be held liable under the Rehabilitation Act in absence of evidence that an adequate reasonable accommodation was available.

Finally, a court in the District of Columbia upheld a claim brought by Muslim firefighters against the District based on religious discrimination grounds (*Potter v. District of Columbia*). Unfortunately, the court appeared to rule in the plaintiffs' favor based on the District of Columbia's litigation strategy as opposed to a clear finding that a clean-shave standard is discriminatory for religious reasons. Recently, the District of Columbia reinstated the clean-shave standard which is being challenged again.

Although the above cases relate to firefighters, I believe the courts' findings are instructive for police officers. The courts that have addressed the issue appear to give deference to the employer's need to make sure the respirators are used safely.

Is it a violation of HIPAA?

To require officers to share their dermatology notes with the department to provide exemptions to the clean shave requirement, the answer is no. HIPAA requires an employer to keep medical

information confidential. HIPAA does not prevent employers from requesting medical information from employees to support an employee's request for an exemption from an essential function of the job—in this case, to be clean shaven. Once the employer has the medical information, it can decide whether to exempt the employee from a job requirement, but it should also keep the medical records separate from the employee's regular personnel file.

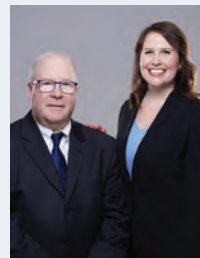
As an aside, to address the department's requirement that Officers be clean shaven in order to wear gas masks in terms of discrimination. The courts have found that since OSHA requires that people be clean shaven to where gas masks, then it is a legitimate safety requirement for an employer to require employees to be clean shaven when wearing gas masks. Accordingly, this requirement has been found to not discriminate against people with disabilities (conditions making shaving uncomfortable) or against African Americans for whom it is more common to have the condition related to shaving.

Lastly, we immediately investigated this issue when officers were being sent for training. Unfortunately, I believe that the department has the upper hand on this issue, especially when they can claim that this is for our safety to don a gas mask.

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Honoring Retired Members

January 2024

| Name | Rank | Unit | Years |
|-----------------------|---------------|------|-------|
| Terry O. Baylis | Officer | 001 | 26 |
| Kenneth O. Becker | Detective | 650 | 28 |
| Donald G. Beese | Detective | 640 | 30 |
| Joel F. Bemis | Officer | 193 | 33 |
| Elgin L. Biles | Officer | 544 | 19 |
| Michael F. Black | Officer | 016 | 30 |
| Patricia M. Darcy | Officer | 001 | 28 |
| Derrick Denton | Officer | 017 | 28 |
| Ricardo E. Dixon | Officer | 018 | 24 |
| Eileen T. Donohoe | Evidence Tech | 277 | 30 |
| Brendan C. Dougherty | Officer | 116 | 30 |
| Darryl Edwards | Officer | 011 | 22 |
| Wilson Feliciano | Officer | 020 | 21 |
| Matthew T. Foerstel | Officer | 016 | 30 |
| Louise Y. Goodner | Officer | 701 | 32 |
| Linda M. Gutierrez | Officer | 012 | 28 |
| Yolanda Hampton | Officer | 005 | 32 |
| Artis Haywood | FTO | 006 | 30 |
| George E. Hemesath | Officer | 016 | 32 |
| Kelly S. Hespe | Officer | 014 | |
| Victor K. Johnson | Officer | 005 | 29 |
| Terrance M. Johnson | Officer | 544 | 29 |
| John W. Maggi | Officer | 188 | 21 |
| Jeffrey F. Malik | Detective | 650 | 29 |
| Garrian A. Manning | Officer | 020 | 21 |
| Alvin Matthews | Officer | 016 | 24 |
| Marianne C. McKenna | Evidence Tech | 177 | 29 |
| Jesus J. Orozco | Officer | 116 | 28 |
| James M. Paulin | Officer | 050 | 32 |
| Roland A. Perez | Officer | 124 | 25 |
| Carolyn Redd | Officer | 018 | 30 |
| Teres C. Reed-Johnson | Detective | 610 | 21 |
| Michael Reischl | Officer | 124 | 30 |
| Carlos M. Rojas | Officer | 020 | 31 |
| Jason M. Schoenecker | Detective | 610 | 28 |
| Froylan N. Serna | Officer | 050 | 30 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----|----|
| Joan H. Simmons | Officer | 022 | 21 |
| Thomas W. Skelly | Detective | 630 | 30 |
| Maher I. Suleiman | Detective | 650 | 31 |
| Paul J. Torbick | Officer | 014 | 21 |
| Eric J. Torres | Detective | 650 | 29 |
| Elaine Vabakos | Officer | 025 | 21 |
| Charles A. Van De Velde | Detective | 620 | 30 |
| Arturo Vega | Officer | 544 | 30 |
| Robert M. Yamane | Explosives Tech | 442 | 34 |

February 2024

| Name | Rank | Unit | Years |
|----------------------|----------------|------|-------|
| William L. Beck | Officer | 008 | 29 |
| Timothy J. Berg | Officer | 701 | 29 |
| Lynette Brady | Officer | 007 | 28 |
| James E. Browne | Detective | 181 | 27 |
| Maurice Burks | Officer | 145 | 29 |
| Frederick Collins | Officer | 012 | 30 |
| Thomas M. Crouchelli | Officer | 008 | 28 |
| Darren N. Crowder | Detective | 187 | 24 |
| Francis De Peder | Officer | 051 | 34 |
| Jeffrey M. Everett | Detective | 630 | 24 |
| John E. Gana | Officer | 059 | 29 |
| Vincent L. Humphrey | Detective | 640 | 38 |
| Fernando M. Jacinto | Officer | 008 | 19 |
| Rita M. Kennedy | Officer | 124 | 33 |
| Phyllis D. Little | Detective | 620 | 27 |
| Rachel Love | Officer | 484 | 20 |
| Jose C. Martinez | Officer | 009 | 29 |
| William J. Meister | Detective | 181 | 33 |
| Elmore D. Metcalfe | Technician | 188 | 33 |
| John D. Nader | Officer | 050 | 29 |
| Len Nakoff | Officer | 145 | 29 |
| Timothy M. O'Hara | Officer | 025 | 31 |
| Brian C. Ortiz | Officer | 009 | 30 |
| Milan Sipic | Mounted Patrol | 055 | 19 |
| Andrew J. Stokilo | Officer | 007 | 29 |
| Kyle L. Walker | Officer | 016 | 24 |
| Ronnie R. Williams | Officer | 051 | 31 |

Honoring Sisters and Brothers who have passed

| Name | Status | Age | Date of Passing |
|--------------------|----------|-----|-------------------|
| Thomas M. Flynn | Retired | 60 | February 8, 2024 |
| Benton Fisher | Retired | 97 | February 11, 2024 |
| Freeman J. Coates | Retired | 83 | February 18, 2024 |
| James J. O'Leary | Retired | 80 | February 22, 2024 |
| George E. Brown | Retired | 81 | February 25, 2024 |
| Jason Barnes | Unit 011 | 44 | March 3, 2024 |
| Kenneth L. Watt | Retired | 77 | March 6, 2024 |
| Elizabeth Quintana | Unit 008 | 29 | March 7, 2024 |

Retiree Meetings

Check the contact info listed with each location to confirm meetings are being held

18th District Retiree's Lunch-

Thursday, 25 April 2024
1100-1400 hrs.
European Chalet
5445 S. Harlem
Chicago
Cost: \$40.00
John Wotring
johnnywo1@aol.com
520-631-0910

North

First Tuesday of the month
@ 9 a.m.
D'Agostino's Pizza and Pub
7530 W. Oakton St., Niles
Steve Marchfield 773-771-0877

The Northsiders' Luncheon

Third Wednesday of January, April,
July, October @ noon
Suparossa, Chicago
Paul Vitaoli, 312-402-1040

South

Second Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Jedi's Garden, Oak Lawn

8-Ball Luncheon

Last Wednesday of month
@ noon
Les Brothers, Oak Lawn
Dorothy Piscitelli, 773-972-0139

Bomb and Arson

Second Monday of month
@ 9 a.m.
Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant
Chicago
Ross Horne, 312-613-9182

12th District Retirees and Alumni

First Thursday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Southern Belles Restaurant
Bridgeview
12retirees@comcast.net

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services and Mobile Unit

First Tuesday of month @ noon
Flap-Jacks Restaurant, Oak Lawn
Bob Baikie, 773-284-1935

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization

Third Thursday of month
@ 7:30 p.m.
Orland Park Civic Center
Orland Park
Don Ade, 708-408-9308

Survivors Lunch

Second Saturday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Beverly Woods Restaurant
Chicago

Public Housing Unit (North, South and Administration)

First Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
George's Restaurant, Chicago
Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

Arizona Retirees

Third Thursday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Eagle Buffet at Casino Arizona
524 N. 92nd St.

Scottsdale, Arizona
Brian DuFour, 623-521-6146 or
bdu4@aol.com

Arkansas Retirees

Third Friday of month
@ noon
Elks Lodge
Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bob Zdora, 870-405-5407

Florida Retirees

First Wednesday of month
@ 1 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida
Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896

Michigan Retirees

First Thursday of month
@ 8 a.m.
Macks on Main
101 W. Cedar Ave.
Gladwin, Michigan
John Nielson
989-324-0877
jnnielson@gmail.com

Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin Retirees

Second Thursday of month
Herner's Hideaway
N202 Williams Road
Genoa City, Wisconsin

Hellenic American Police As- sociation Northsiders Retiree

Breakfast

First Monday of month
@ 10:00 a.m.
Burgundy Restaurant
5959 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago

Hellenic American Police As- sociation Southsiders Retiree

Breakfast

Second Monday of month
@ 10:00 a.m.
Valois Cafeteria
1518 E. 53rd St., Chicago

Another Victory For The Good Guys



PAT
FIORETTO

It's no wonder why the city keeps fighting the lodge when it comes to allowing officers the right to select grievance arbitration in lieu of a hearing in front of the Police Board. Here is yet another example of how arbitrators keep the city honest when it comes time to evaluating the appropriateness of discipline sought to be imposed by the superintendent. Proof that officers get a fair shot in front of a neutral body, rather than the rubber-stamping Police

Board.

In a recently issued decision by neutral Arbitrator Daniel Nielsen, the lodge prevailed in a significant case, which focused on COPA's unsupported conclusions and the department's outlandish discipline recommendations. In a case presented by one of my partners, Brian Hlavin, the lodge successfully reduced a 45-day suspension to a three-day suspension when the city improperly sustained false allegations against a Patrol Officer and served him with notice of an unreasonable discipline.

At the time of the incident, the grievant worked as a tactical officer, where part of his duties included conducting a surveillance area near Homan and Ohio avenues. In Chicago, that area is known to police to be an "open-air drug market." While patrolling the area, the grievant observed a female soliciting and making a narcotics sale. The grievant and three other police officers placed the offender under arrest. The responding officers transported the offender to district headquarters in a department vehicle to process her. Upon arrival at the station, the grievant officer met the offender and escorted her inside. As part of department protocol, the offender was placed in the processing room with another female arrestee.

The grievant officer and another officer patted down the offender's pockets and person to ensure that she carried no weapon. When patting down the offender's waistband, the grievant officer felt what he suspected to be narcotics. The offender then immediately began to yell out "he grabbed my pussy" and started jumping on the bench. Two female police officers then took the offender to another room and further searched the area where the grievant officer had recovered packets of heroin in her waist band and bra.

Not surprisingly, the offender filed a complaint, which automatically resulted in a CR number and a COPA investigation. In the course of its investigation, COPA interviewed the grievant officer, the officer present in the processing room at the time, and the female

offender. Remember, COPA's mission is "to provide a just and efficient means to fairly and timely conduct investigations within its jurisdiction." Moreover, COPA is empowered to conduct investigations with "the highest level of integrity and independence in order to make findings based on a thorough review of the evidence and accurate legal analysis, without regard for political influence."

At the hearing, the lodge elicited evidence that COPA also "claimed" to have interviewed the other arrestee in the processing room. However, the COPA investigator could not get the woman whom he allegedly interviewed to sign an affidavit. Furthermore, the arrestee had no identification and did not match the description of the woman in lock up with the offender at the time of the incident. Despite having any concrete evidence, COPA concluded that based on the preponderance of evidence, the investigation demonstrated that the grievant "conducted an improper search" on the offender by placing his hands inside her pants and touching her pubic hair without justification, in violation of Rule 6 and Special Order 06-04." COPA recommended that the department suspend grievant officer for 30 days for that conduct. On March 5, 2021, former Police Superintendent David Brown not only concurred with COPA's sustained finding but opined that the discipline should be more severe, and he increased the discipline to a 45-day suspension.

After the parties presented all the facts, Arbitrator Nielsen strongly disagreed with both COPA and the superintendent, finding the conclusion that grievant officer placed his hands inside the offender pants "is not supported by reliable and persuasive evidence." Arbitrator Nielsen emphasized that once "allegations and behavior are considered; the weight of the evidence does not favor a conclusion that the Offender allegations that Grievant put his hand down her pants and touched her pubic hair are true."

Arbitrator Nielsen did find the grievant officer conducted a search of a juvenile female in violation of Rule 6 and Special Order 06-04 and should have waited for a female Officer to become available to search the Offender. However, Arbitrator Nielsen found the 45-day suspension to be unreasonably excessive and unjustifiable given the facts. In reducing the suspension, Arbitrator Nielsen properly noted:

The Superintendent's penalty is not consistent with the nature and character of the offense that was proven. Ultimately, the violation here is one in which the Griev-

ant made a mistake in judgment. All officers who gave statements in this matter agree that department policy only allows officers to conduct a search - including a pat down - of an arrestee of the opposite gender and especially a juvenile arrestee of the opposite gender when there is no officer of the same gender available and there is an articulable need for immediate action.

In light of COPA and the superintendent's glaring mistakes, the arbitrator reduced the grievant officer's discipline to three days. Once again, COPA's biases are brought to light. Perhaps its investigators need to take a refresher course on how to conduct a fair investigation with "the highest level of integrity and independence" so that any findings will be based "on a thorough review of the evidence and accurate legal analysis, without regard for political influence." Until then, the lodge will continue to fight for its members, one case at a time.



Does FOP have your current information?

Any updates to your address, phone number can be called into Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, 312-733-7776. If you need to update your beneficiary, please let us know and we will mail you a beneficiary card as that can not be updated over the phone.

The city doesn't share this information with us, please call us as well for any updates.

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Hard Decisions



TIM
GRACE

While COPA and the movement believe officers are looking for a reason to take their duty weapon out and shoot, the reality of almost all deadly force situations is that officers are looking for the exact opposite. While de-escalation and acting in the foremost regard for the sanctity of life is paramount to all officer-involved shootings, many times officers are caught in what is called “no man’s land,” meaning they have precious seconds to make a deadly decision to use deadly force.

The decision to discharge is the most difficult decision to make and can result in death of an offender when discharge is required or the death of the officer for failing to recognize the threat posed. It will be the hardest decision you will ever make and one that requires time, of which you will not have.

A standard question I get is, “When am I justified in using deadly force?” It is a very difficult question to answer, and I have the benefit of a temperature-controlled office to ponder the answer. You observe a person walking down the street, and you clearly see the imprint of a gun. You and your partner approach with caution and ask to speak with him. You must ask yourself, “Does he have a concealed carry license or is that really a gun?” You probably have enough information or reasonable articulable suspicion to detain him briefly. You approach and ask him to come over and talk to you, he looks in your direction, and immediately begins to flee. His flight is immediately followed with him reaching into his waist area and pulling out a firearm. You do the balancing test and determine that a foot pursuit is allowed. He runs down a gangway, the lighting is darker, but you can see that the gun is beginning to come out in your direction. You are within 15 feet of him, and he has ignored all of your verbal orders. He knows you are a police officer, he knows that you know he has a gun as you have ordered him to put his hands up and to drop the gun. He begins to turn on you, his eyes appear to be tracking you as though looking for a target, and that gun continues to raise towards you and your partner. Do you wait to see if he is tossing the gun? Do you take aim and stop the threat? You must make that decision in seconds. There is no pause button to assess, there is no time to roundtable it with your sergeant, you are stuck in no man’s land. Most important is that it is patently unfair to ask any human being to make that decision.

I can only give you what the general orders tell us. GO

03-02-01 tells us that the use of force must be objectively reasonable, necessary, and proportional under the totality of the circumstances. Great. What is objectively reasonable to a police officer may not be to COPA or the movement. The general orders tell us to de-escalate. The tools they tell us to use in force mitigation are communication, tactical positioning, and time and distance. Those are all wonderful concepts, but what COPA doesn’t understand is that it takes two to de-escalate – the officer and the offender. No matter how quickly you check off these boxes and all the attempts you make to make this not a deadly use of force situation, if the offender is committed to firing at you, it will not work. You are in a deadly force situation. The general orders tell us that the use of deadly force is a last resort only allowed when an officer is faced with an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm. Let’s break that down. The offender’s action or his threat is imminent or immediate. It is a last resort as you have no cover or concealment and you have used all other force mitigation techniques to get him to drop that gun. And most importantly the actions of the defendant, pointing that gun at you and firing, are likely to cause death or great bodily harm to you or your partner. Last and most important: Is it objectively reasonable to believe he will fire? No fair and honest person would trade places with you or any officer at this point.

The law is based on reasonableness and it provides some help. The seminal case for officer-involved shootings is the 1989 United States Supreme Court case of *Graham v. Connor*. In *Graham* the court stated that all excessive force claims must be analyzed under an objectively reasonableness standard. The “reasonableness” of a particular use of force must be judged from the point of view of the officer. With respect to a claim of an unjustified shooting, the same standard of reasonableness at the moment applies. Not every push or shove, even if it may later seem unnecessary in the peace of a judge’s chambers, violates the law. The determination of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving – about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. The “reasonableness” inquiry in an excessive force case is an objective one: The question is whether the officer’s actions are “objectively reasonable” in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. The “reasonableness” of a particular use of force

must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight.

I cannot agree more with you that this is a very exacting and unfair standard. I could not apologize more to the hard-working officers. I will tell you that your first job is to ensure your partner, yourself, and innocent civilians all make it home. I will also tell you that if they treat us fairly, we can justify your use of force, and it will be within policy. You don't have to wait for him to fire that gun at you and you don't have to hope he is simply tossing it. You are allowed to stop that deadly threat. You can articulate that the threat posed by the offender was an imminent deadly threat and your use of force was a last resort and justified. No matter what COPA tells us, no matter what the movement chants, the law is on our side. Remain safe.



GRACE & THOMPSON

The Law Firm of Grace & Thompson Specializes in Representing Chicago Police Officers



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28 YEARS OF SERVING LODGE 7 MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

An Update From Springfield



DAVE SULLIVAN

The Illinois Legislature continues their spring session as they head toward a late May adjournment. So far this session, the legislation we see moving through the process are not ones that we worry about yet. We continue to work with Democrats and Republicans on issues that are of importance to policing. The House has had a series of committee hearings on pension issues. We have participated in these discussions but do not look for much pension

legislation to pass during this spring session. Since there may be a pension package in the fall veto session or next January's lame duck session, we will continue to work with all four caucuses on these important pension details. Now that the primary is over, the legislature will be in session most days until they adjourn in late May.

As of this writing, the primary is over except for the counting in the Cook County state's attorney race. Currently, Judge Eileen

Burke has a lead of around 1600 votes and looks like she will hang on for a narrow victory. She would then be the heavy favorite for success in the November election. In the primary elections, Rick Ryan won the Democratic race in the Evergreen Park area to succeed State Representative Kelly Burke who has been a solid voice for policing issues. We think Rick will be a strong legislator. While not every race went the way we had hoped, most did, including far downstate incumbents Senator Terri Bryant and Representative Dave Severin posting big wins. In Chicago, there were a few major Democrat primaries, which included the victory of State Representative Angie Guerrero-Cuellar whose husband is a Chicago police officer. Most incumbents throughout the state won handily with two glaring exceptions. The Dean of the House, Representative Mary Flowers, lost her bid for re-election after serving for nearly 40 years as did newly appointed first-term Senator Natalie Toro. There were millions of dollars spent in these races and they were the only incumbents to lose a primary this year.

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CHICAGO POLICE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



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It's time to register for the 20th Annual Run to Remember 5K!

Saturday, May 4 / 8am start

Gold Star Families Memorial & Park near Soldier Field



Register Today!

<https://give.cpdmemorial.org/R2R2024>

Helping Chicago Police Families

During the month of February 2024, CPMF provided over **\$76,612** in assistance, including:

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In addition, the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation provided assistance to Gold Star Families, Chicago Police Survivors & Widows of CPD Officers killed in the line of duty.

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What Grieving People Want You to Know



RABBI
MOSHE WOLF

There are those moments in life where we find ourselves at a loss for words. Recently, at a wake for one of our members, before entering the Chapel, I was approached and asked, “Rabbi, I wish I knew the right words to say and not to say.” The first thing that came to mind was one of the most important lessons in life, that in challenging times of trouble or difficulties, just “being there” can be one of the most powerful sources of comfort to others. We have all found ourselves in this situation. It brought to mind a very powerful guide that was given to me many years ago.

“What Grieving People Want You To Know”...

1. I am not strong. I’m just numb. When you tell me I am strong, I feel that you don’t see me.
2. I will not recover. This is not a cold or the flu. I’m not sick. I’m grieving and that’s different. I will not always be grieving as intensely, but I will never forget my loved one and rather than recover, I want to incorporate his life and love into the rest of my life. That person is part of me and always will be, and sometimes I will remember him with joy and other times with a tear. Both are okay.
3. I don’t have to accept the death. Yes, I have to understand that it has happened, It is real, but there are just some things in life that are not necessarily acceptable, and I pray for strength to cope.
4. Please don’t avoid me. You can’t catch my grief. My world is painful, and when you are too afraid to call me or visit or say anything, you isolate me at a time when I most need to be cared about. If you don’t know what to say, just come over, give me a hug, or touch my arm, and gently say, “I’m sorry.” You can even say, “I just don’t know what to say, but I care, and want you to know that.”
5. Please don’t say, “Call me if you need anything.” I’ll never call you because I have no idea what I need. Trying to figure out what you could do for me takes more energy than I have. So, in advance, let me give you some ideas:
 - Bring food.
 - Offer to take my children to a movie or game so that I have some moments to myself.
 - Send me a card on special holidays, birthdays (mine, his or hers), or the anniversary of the death, and be sure and mention her name. You can’t make me cry. The tears are here, and I will love you for giving me the opportunity to shed them because someone cared enough about me to reach out on this difficult day.
 - Ask me more than once to join you at a movie or lunch or dinner. I may say no at first or even for a while, but please don’t give up on me because somewhere down the line, I may be ready, and

if you’ve given up, then I really will be alone.

6. Try to understand that this is like I’m in a foreign country where I don’t speak the language and have no map to tell me what to do. Even if there were a map, I’m not sure right now I could understand what it was saying. I’m lost and in a fog. I’m confused.
7. When you tell me what I should be doing, then I feel even more lost and alone. I feel bad enough that my loved one is dead, so please don’t make it worse by telling me I’m not doing this right.
8. Please don’t call to complain about your husband, your wife, or your children. Right now, I’d be delighted to have my loved one here no matter what they were doing.
9. Please don’t tell me I can have other children or need to start dating again. I’m not ready. And maybe I don’t want to. And besides, what makes you think people are replaceable? They aren’t. Whoever comes after will always be someone different.
10. I don’t even understand what you mean when you say, “You’ve got to get on with your life.” My life is going on, but it may not look the way you think it should. This will take time and I never will be my old self again. So please, just love me as I am today, and know, that with your love and support, the joy will slowly return to my life. But I will never forget that there will be moments that I will break down and cry and that is okay. Thanks for “being there!”

A little humor from the “Moshe Files” to keep you smiling.

“English Is A Difficult Language”

Let’s face it – English is a difficult language. There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger, neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren’t invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren’t sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don’t fing, grocers don’t groce, and hammers don’t ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn’t the plural of booth beeth? One goose, two geese. So, one moose, two meese? One index, two indices?

Doesn’t it seem crazy that you can make amends, but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why didn’t preacher praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to be examined for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another.

Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful carriage or a strapful gown? Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, grunted, ruly or peccable? And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm clock goes off by going on. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects

the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it. I rest my case. Time for a cold drink.

Quote of the day:

"I thought the dryer was making my cloths shrink, turns out it was the refrigerator."

On behalf of all the Chaplains, May God bless you keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care.

Your Chaplains are available for you 24/7. Should you need a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen or perhaps have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call.

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FATHER DAN BRANDT

Easter greetings! I'm glad Lent is over, and Easter has arrived. For my Lenten sacrifice, I gave up three things I really like: chocolate, marshmallows, and nuts. Let me tell you, it wasn't easy. In fact, it was a rocky road!

Despite the circumstances that brought us there, it was heartening to see so many officers and supervisors present in the courtroom and overflow room at the nine-day trial of Officer Ella Grace French's murderer. On behalf of Ella's mother, Elizabeth, as well as Carlos and Josh, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to be there.

Some of Ella's co-workers commented on how moved they were to see some of my colleagues like Chaplains Kim, Joe and Hysni also present to lend support to so many who packed the courtroom. If you couldn't be there in person, please know at least your thoughts and prayers were appreciated! Thank God the jury did their job well and justice was served for Ella.

We express gratitude to Pizano's Pizza and Pasta at 21st and Indiana for once again hosting our Upper Room Club last month. When choosing a pizza place, please remember how much Pizano's supports the police. If you'd like to add your name to the Upper Room Club invitation list, please email me. It's a wonderful opportunity to share faith, learn about the Divine, and enjoy a meal with like-minded folks.

At a get-together following the downtown St. Patrick's Day parade on 16 MAR, I had the pleasure of joining Emerald Society bagpipers Kevin Forrest (Lyons PD) and Paul Kane (former CPD, now Oak Park PD), along with members of the Garda (the Irish police force). What a wonderful afternoon!

I was the unworthy recipient of an award last month from Blue Lives Matter New York, an organization that (like our Brotherhood For The Fallen) helps send uniformed officers to LOD funerals throughout the country. Thank you to those from Chicago who travelled to Staten Island to be part of the celebration with our NYPD

brothers and sisters!

On Saturday, April 27, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., we'll be taking over The Klairmont Kollections auto museum (near Belmont/Cicero). This is a fundraiser for Police Chaplains Ministry. There will be a grand raffle, so please shake the tree if you have friends who own restaurants, car washes, bars, clothing stores, whatever! Please ask for gift certificates. We would appreciate your help!

On Sunday, May 19, the Chicago Gearheads car club will gather at Bunker Hill Woods for their annual season-opener car blessing. Whether a car enthusiast or not, feel free to come and check out some old cars, hot rods, and everything between. Rabbi Moshe Wolf and I have the annual honor of assisting at this event.

Mark your calendar! On Sunday, June 16, we will celebrate our annual Father's Day mass at 10 a.m. at Gold Star Families Memorial and Park. Since it's an outdoor venue, please call 773-550-2369 that morning to make sure the Mass is on if the weather is questionable. You are welcome to bring folding chairs or a blanket and even a picnic lunch for after mass.

Keep up with all of the above and lots more on our Facebook page or website (www.ChicagoPCM.org).

Thank you for doing God's work! I leave you with this Irish secret to a long life: May you leave the bed tired, leave the table hungry and leave the tavern thirsty.

Fr. Dan Brandt, Directing CPD Chaplain
773/550-2369 (cell/text)
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | www.ChicagoPCM.org



Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Dec. 4, 2023, at 537 N. Leamington, 015th District officers responded to a call of an armed robbery. Upon arrival the officers met with the victim who related that an offender attempted to rob him at gunpoint while he was in his garage. The victim provided a detailed description of the offender, and the responding units began to scour the area. The offender was observed in a nearby gangway and once observed he began to flee through the backyards. The offender was further observed throwing his firearm and then became stuck on a fence he was trying to climb. The offender was placed into custody, his weapon recovered, and he was positively identified by the victim on scene. The offender was transported to

the area where detectives were able to determine that this one-man crime spree was responsible for multiple vehicular hijackings and armed robberies. The detectives presented their case to the state's attorney and had charges approved for Attempted Murder, Vehicular Hijacking X 2, Robbery, Attempt Vehicular Hijacking. This combined effort removed a violent repeat offender from the streets of Chicago.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents the Distinguished Service Award to these officers. Nice Pinch!

Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On June 29, 2023, at 4714 N. Broadway, a cellphone store had been robbed. 019th District officers immediately began utilizing the SDSC room to access POD cameras in the nearby area and gave responding units the description and direction of flight of the offenders. The offenders had entered a CTA train, but officers had responded so quickly that they were able to halt its departure. Officers conducted a search of the train and located two offenders along with a backpack containing proceeds from the robbery and a loaded Interarms 9MM handgun. A third offender was located after he was observed passing

in between train cars. Proceeds and a handgun were recovered on him as well. The offenders were then positively identified by the victims on scene. All offenders were charged with felonies ranging from Armed Robbery/ Agg UUV/ Theft. This combined effort resulted in taking three violent offenders off the streets of Chicago.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge#7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award. Nice Pinch!

Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On June 17, 2023, at 2210 W. Pershing Rd, K9 Handler Valdez responded to the call of a “person overdosing” in the park. K9 Handler Valdez located the subject who was exhibiting signs of an opioid overdose. K9 Handler Valdez utilized his LEMART training and administered two doses of Narcan aka “westside holy water,” which finally brought the victim back to life. K9 Handler Valdez monitored the victim’s breathing and continued CPR until CFD arrived on scene. The victim was ultimately revived, and he was transported to the hospital for observation.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents Officer Valdez with the Life Saving Award.



Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Aug. 4, 2023, at 3101 W. 83rd Street, Officers Ortiz and Miller responded to a call of domestic disturbance with a man armed with a gun. The officers learned that the subject was a retired civilian CPD employee suffering from progressive cognitive decline and a debilitating physical condition. The officers learned from the wife on scene that her husband had pointed the gun at her and was now inside the bedroom holding the gun to his throat. The officers were able to utilize their CIT training and build a rapport with the



male subject, gaining his trust to a level in which he put down the loaded gun. The male subject was transported for a mental health evaluation and the officers were able to prevent any further incident. These officers should be commended for their dedication and professionalism.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents these officers with the Life Saving Award.



JUSTICE SERVING

With her experience as a judge, prosecutor and defense counsel, Eileen O'Neill Burke is ready, willing and able to lead the Cook County State's Attorney office the right way.

■ **BY MITCHELL KRUGEL**

Down the block from Lodge 7 headquarters, a cautious but rousing celebration began to bubble up at the Plumbers Union Hall on the afternoon of April 1. Some 13 days after the polls closed on the Illinois Primary, labor leaders, some of City Council's most astute Alders, other prominent elected officials from throughout Cook County and even the drivers of the Democratic Party machine gathered to revel in Eileen O'Neill Burke's seismic victory in the state's attorney race.

O'Neill Burke defeating Clayton Harris, the machine's endorsed candidate and apparent heir to carry on the Kim Foxx pox on the City, in a race so airtight truly filled that the hall with optimism. Silvana Tabares, the 23rd Ward alderwoman, described the event as being filled with a sigh of relief over the extreme left having lost its grip on a state's attorney's office that gave criminals more respect than their victims.

"So you had people in that room saying that we finally have someone qualified to lead that office," Tabares observed. "You had labor folks and North Side politicals in the room,

too, who feel that her election really shows that people are fed up with the extreme left's approach to governing and public safety."

Perhaps it was appropriate to signal a new day for the City on this fabled day. For Foxx's tenure as Cook County State's Attorney has seemed like one big, long, bad April Fool's joke. Really, the joke's been on those who live in the City, so O'Neill Burke emerging after taking the lead on election night and enduring almost two weeks of counting mail-in ballots seemed messianic when Harris finally conceded on March 30.

Brian Hopkins, the 2nd Ward alderman and one of the first council members to endorse O'Neill Burke, has witnessed the trauma that residents have endured during the Foxx futility. His ward, which includes the Gold Coast, has been like pretty much every other in the City.

"I've spoken with more victims of violent crime than I ever thought I would in the course of my job," he began. "We've seen more people in what was formerly considered a safe

neighborhood become victims of crime. It's clear they're never going to get over it, that it's going to haunt them for the rest of their life."

He has also witnessed the betrayal that has made it worse, adding to credible perspective on what needs to change. And he believes it will.

"One thing victims of crimes all expect is that the justice system is going to be on their side. And expect that police, prosecutors, judges, social workers — everybody involved in that system that the victim never imagined they would be a part of — are all going to have their back," Hopkins continued. "What's unconscionable — and I've seen that happen too — is the state's attorney's office more interested in apologizing for the criminal than prosecuting the criminal. I believe Eileen Burke is going to change that."

And justice for all

So the new state's attorney hopefully will enable victims to finally trump criminals. Not by undoing what has been done the past eight years as much as by not doing what has been done. The view from the inside details how criminals have become emboldened by not having to go to trial and also by knowing they won't go to trial.

Much of this is due to the considerable lack of experience in the state's attorney's office, something those who are in O'Neill Burke's court believe she is so well equipped to change. Again, nobody seems to know that better than the criminals, through their defense attorneys, that they're getting offered deals more attractive than they should be from the perspective of their victims.

"So you're seeing public defenders increasingly saying, 'We're going to turn down the first offer. We're going to turn down this second offer. We're going to take the third offer where charges are all but dismissed,'" Hopkins commented. "I think we can safely say that this experiment in the last eight years, where you have prosecutors choosing not to prosecute, is a disaster."

The new state's attorney comes into a climate of, well, imagine this: A defense attorney suddenly argues that a client is a really bad person and doesn't deserve the best defense. Essentially, that's what prosecutors are doing, not prosecuting because a criminal has had a tough time or is a product of poverty and that's what led to committing a heinous act.

Apparently, that has turned the majority of voters in Cook County into victim's advocates.

"That's what's happened for the past eight years, and it took people a while to figure it out, but once they did figure it out, they spoke at the ballot box," Hopkins confirmed.

Perhaps to further illuminate the task at hand (no charge for this view, Judge Burke), a further look inside comes from newly elected Cook County Judge James V. Murphy. He served as an assistant state's attorney for more than 20 years but couldn't take it anymore under Foxx and resigned in July 2022.

Murphy offers this analysis as a note about what has victimized victims the past eight years.

"This administration routinely claims that they have shifted their focus from prosecuting low-level crimes so that they can focus their resources on fighting violent crime and drivers of violence. This is simply not true," he wrote in his resignation letter that he made public after departing. "If this administration was truly concerned with effectively fighting violent crime, then they would fully staff those courtrooms. Not create more useless policy positions on the executive staff at the



Eileen O'Neill Burke on the campaign trail.



The support of City Council members like 23rd Ward Alderwoman Silvana Tabares, left, helped Eileen O'Neill Burke win the Cook County State's Attorney Democratic Primary.

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

expense of hiring more [assistant state's attorneys] who can work in the trenches."

Tabares puts a bow around victims' advocacy by sharing what she has picked up from the pulse of her constituents. Many are also victims of being robbed and carjacked, like so many across the City.

"People are really sick of coddling the criminals and these repeated offenders," Tabares declared. "It's time to support the victims, and I really hope people see that Eileen's election is a sign of a changing of the times, that the pendulum is starting to swing back."

Bringing to justice

To step up, O'Neill Burke had to step down from serving as a Cook County Circuit Court judge from 2008 to 2016. She was then elected judge of Illinois' First District Appellate Court, a role she held until stepping down to run for state's attorney last year. She served as an assistant state's attorney for 10 years, then as a defense attorney, seemingly emphasizing that she is a premium candidate because of qualifications and experience, not political connections.

Her advocates and admirers accentuate how O'Neill Burke didn't need this. She is not running out of some kind of blind ambition. In some ways, it's kind of a step down for her, but certainly a step up in terms of stress and aggravation and living in the spotlight.

"She stepped down from the bench as a judge to do the job. I mean, who does that?" Tabares exclaimed. "She really wants to make a change. And I think that's what we need today, somebody who's going to do it from the heart and govern with heart."

Perhaps heart has been missing from the state's attorney.

"She's willing to do it because of a sense of mission and duty and public service," Hopkins added. "Public life is a sacrifice, and it's one that I'm grateful she's willing to make."

O'Neill Burke has not minced any words about her platform and priorities, starting with "upholding the law" in cases related to automatic weapons charges, retail theft, robberies and similar crimes. She has also pledged to prosecute retail thefts of \$300 or more as felonies, which would undo Foxx's 2016 decision to charge most retail thefts under \$1,000 as misdemeanors.

After emerging from the primary, O'Neill Burke talked about the need to run a professional state's attorney's office that would prioritize taking illegal guns off the streets and fighting crime not by locking everyone up, but by turning people around.

A Chicago native raised by a single mother, O'Neill Burke comes from a family of police officers. She garnered backing from several of the county's more moderate labor unions and a majority of City Council's more moderate or pro-law enforcement alders by expressing the need to more aggressively prosecute top-of-mind crimes like robbery and violence on public transit.

Her campaign platform includes important intentions apparently carrying urgency brewing from the recognition that the backbone of the criminal justice system is not working. And, as a result, "We have businesses and people leaving, and they're leaving because of crime, fear of going out at night, heading downtown and taking the CTA," she wrote.

She promises that leading the second-largest prosecutor's office in the country and its nearly 800 attorneys will take the

following type of approach noted on her campaign website to addressing the great struggles like getting guns off the street:

“If someone commits a crime with a gun in Cook County, they’ll meet head on with the best-trained felony prosecution division in the country. Eileen will work with federal officials, neighboring states and anyone they need to tackle the flow of illegal guns into Chicago. She’ll go after straw purchasers who sell those guns to criminals, and nobody who commits a violent offense is going back into the community to reoffend.”

If Chicago Police Officers get a sense that O’Neill Burke will have their backs, well, they are not alone.

“The fact that she’s been both a prosecutor and a defense attorney, I thought that would sort of inoculate her against charges that she was just a lock-them-up, hang-them-high kind of candidate,” Hopkins stated. “Because she has that balance and she has that natural instinct, she’s aligned with the truth. Anyone who has been on both sides of the courtroom, as a prosecutor and as a defense attorney, for as long as she has, your natural orientation is to lean toward the truth and to bring that balance. The statue of Lady Justice has a blindfold on for a reason.”

Doing justice

Added emphasis to the impact of O’Neill Burke’s primary triumph came from Lodge 7 President John Catanzara in a video he posted on social media after she was declared the winner. Catanzara complimented members for pulling a Democratic ballot on the urging of the Lodge and, then — perhaps contrary to how they voted in past elections — Catanzara reiterated the message.



“Every vote counted, and your votes going Democratic this time made the difference to get Judge O’Neill Burke across the finish line to try and save this City before it is lost forever,” he declared.

Crossing the finish line presumably came because O’Neill Burke sought to distance herself from Foxx throughout the campaign and confirm she would be tougher on those arrested for retail theft, more aggressively pursue violent offenses on the CTA and push for detention for individuals found in possession of automatic weapons.

There is some concern from the Lodge over O’Neill Burke walking back some of her campaign positions. But even as she

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



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detailed her commitment to a newly fashioned Restorative Justice Bureau in the state's attorney's office, she noted that these programs often cost a fraction of the expense to incarcerate someone.

Hopkins processed all that took place in the wake of the primary and offered a perspective that might resonate with the members Catanzara praised.

"Despite a media that was cheerleading for Clayton Harris, Eileen still won," he voiced. "It may be short of a mandate because it was a razor-thin margin, but when you consider everything Eileen Burke was up against, the fact that she won at all is a significant statement that people want to see repeat, violent criminals held responsible for their acts. We're tired of seeing prosecutors make excuses for people who are harming society and adding to the number of people who have been victimized by crimes."

The next five-plus months leading up to Election Day provide a chance to keep the momentum going about what the City wants and needs to significantly reduce the pall Foxx has left.

"That's why I supported Eileen O'Neill Burke. She has the experience to lead that department, and she's not connected politically to the Preckwinkle machine," Tabares proclaimed. "I think people are sick of having the bad guys look like the victims. And I hope Eileen's election is the sign of a turning of the tides."



As part of her commitment to upholding the law, Eileen O'Neill Burke is out with a supporter from the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.

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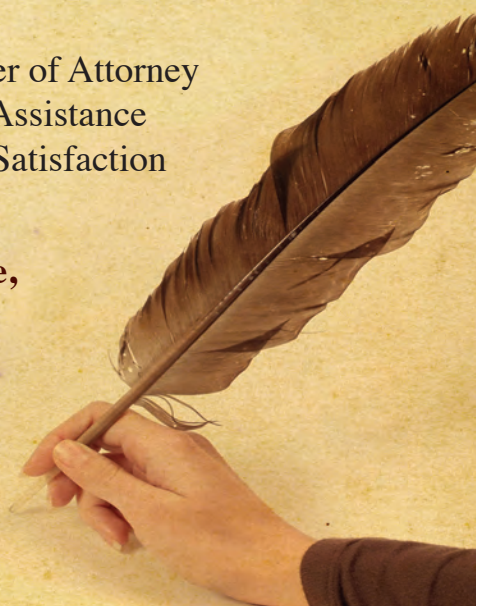
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Easter Treat

Lodge 7 hosts Lunch with the Easter Bunny for members and their families

Chicago Lodge 7 buzzed with laughter and chatter from hundreds of members and their families who attended a Lunch with the Easter Bunny event on March 23. They all had a chance to take a picture with the Easter Bunny, and children participated in a frenetic egg hunt on the patio outside the FOP hall.

The Easter Bunny was joined by some of his friends. Members of the Chicago Police Department Mounted Unit greeted children out front of the FOP Hall. And the horses appeared in almost as many photos as their buddy, the bunny.

The Lodge 7 Women's Committee once again spearheaded the event. Members came together to decorate tables in the hall, collect candy for the Easter egg hunt and prepare treats for the kids.

In addition to the Easter egg hunt, children also took part in a coloring contest. Lodge 7 took on planning Lunch with the Easter Bunny for this very reason: to let members and their family members know Lodge 7 will always be there for them.



PHOTOS BY GEORGE GILL







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