

Lakeview Presbyterian Church circa 1915. Courtesy of the Ravenswood Lake View Community Collection.

A Historic Gem

BY DAYLE MURPHY

Imagine you are out for a walk and you happen to find yourself at Broadway and Addison. Let your eyes wander to the northwest corner and you will see beauty and history all rolled into one, the Lake View Presbyterian Church. I have many fond memories of the church, as I spent years there attending services. I was also married in the beautiful sanctuary. The marriage didn't last but the church has been standing in that same location since 1888.

In 1880, the neighborhood that is now Lake View was not part of Chicago. The population was small and roads were poor and unpredictable. During bad weather it was not possible for people to travel to church in either Evanston or Chicago. Thus, Lake View Presbyterian Church was estab-

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Landmark status for two historical Lake View East homes

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY PETER VON BUOL

The Chicago City Council on March 28 passed two separate ordinances which recognized two historical properties in Lake View East as city landmarks.

The properties, both originally built as residences, provide tangible glimpses of city history. The Italianate-style Netterström House at 833 W. Aldine was built in 1872 by Charles Magnus Netterström, one of Lake View East's first Swedish immigrants. The large building, which also includes elements of the Queen Anne-style, was constructed

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The Italianate-style Netterström House, 833 W. Aldine, was built in 1872 by Charles Magnus Netterström, one of Lake View East's first Swedish immigrants.

CITY OF CHICAGO TURNS 180 YEARS OLD!

BY PATRICK MCBRIARTY

Chicago is a relatively young city, particularly for a metropolis of its size. During the 19th Century, Chicago experienced the most rapid growth of any city in history. Yet, Chicago's roots are much deeper. For thousands of years Native American tribes utilized the Chicago portage, paddled its waterways, and was occasionally the site of tribal camps and villages.

For the western world, Chicago's recorded history traditionally begins in 1673 with the diaries of Marquette and Jolliet, however Nicollet may have actually passed through here. A decade later French explorer Rene-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle passed through Chicago several times and established a fort at

Starved Rock. By 1690, a French mission and trading post was established in or near Chicago.

However, non-Native Americans were driven from Chicago by the start of the Fox Indian Wars against the French between 1710 to 1740. By 1778, Frenchman Jean Baptiste Guillery is the first known trader to return and establish himself in Chicago on the North Branch's west bank. Thereafter into the 1830s, the Chicago River's North Branch was known as "the Guillery" (by various spellings).

The young United States of America first recognized Chicago in the Treaty of Green Ville of 1795, claiming a, "piece of land six miles square, at the mouth of Chikago riv-

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Local man an expert on Chicago organized crime

BY PATRICK BUTLER

Despite what you may have thought you heard from watching gangster movies, you didn't need to be Italian to be a Chicago gangster.

Unlike the New York-based Mafia, Chicago criminality during the Roaring '20s was an equal-opportunity profession open to all, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity, Richard Lindberg – one of the best-known authorities on local organized crime – told a recent Ravenswood/Lakeview Historical Assoc. meeting at the Sulzer Library.

And while the likes of Al Capone were focused mostly on the South Side, they didn't exactly ignore the North Side as the eight victims of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in the SMC Cartage building at 2122 N. Clark St. learned 89 years ago, Lindberg said.



Richard Lindberg

Contrary to urban legend, the still-open case had less to do with the Italians wanting to muscle in on the North Side Irish gangs than simply thirsting for a larger share of the bootleg liquor business,

Lindberg explained.

And make no mistake, the North Side had its share of resident gangland luminaries – such as Dion O'Banion, a onetime altar boy at Holy Name Cathedral who lived at the Belmont Hotel and was a part-owner of the Schofield flower shop at 738 N. State St., longtime headquarters of the North Side "Outfit."

According to Lindberg, "Dean," as O'Banion's friends called the onetime singer at the old McGovern Inn on Clark St., was reputedly "very devout" to his dying day.

Lindberg also spoke about the long ago, and now mostly upscale, North Side neighborhood known as "Little Hell."

Little Hell was bounded by La Salle

St. on the east, Division St. on the North, Chicago Ave. on the South and the Chicago River to the west. Its name was derived from the large gas house that was located at Crosby and Hobbie streets whose night time flames lit the skies at night. The roaring thunder of its furnaces could be heard for blocks as coal was poured into the ovens and moistened with water from the Chicago River to create gas that was used for heating, cooking and lighting.

There was quite a bit of organized criminal activity that was centered on that area. In fact the intersection of Oak St. and Cleveland Ave. in 1909 was nicknamed "Death Corner" and was the scene of well over 100 unsolved murders. Many of the victims over the years were casualties of the Prohibition-era "alcohol rivalries" between the bootlegging gangs of Giuseppe "Joe" Aiello and the infamous "Scarface" Al Capone.

As notorious as Cabrini-Green would become in the 1980-90s, Little Hell may well have been worse. O'Banion, was also a product of this district.

Since most of the vice districts in Chicago were on the South and West sides of the city, this area was more or less ignored for many years in the city's fight against crime. It is said that, in the first 51 days of 1906, the police made over 900 arrests. For two decades, Chicago police remained hampered at every turn by the silence of the "Italian colony" — a reference to the large Italian-American population in the neighborhood.

Another noted local mobster, George "Bugs" Moran, lived in the Lincoln Park Apartments on Clark St. at Armitage, while fellow North Sider Peter (Goosey) Gusenberg – one of the St. Valentine victims – lived long enough to tell a police officer "nobody shot me" as he lay dying in a nearby hospital.

But the real drama for that family didn't come until Gusenberg's wake at the Braithwaite Funeral Home at 2221 N. Lincoln Ave. when "Goosey's" two wives turned up at the same time, not knowing until that very moment they

were both married to the same man at the same time.

"The great thing about Chicago history is you can't make this stuff up," Lindberg said, recalling how the old SMC Cartage building took on a life of its own for years afterward.

Legend has it that the massacre site has been "cursed" ever since the shootings, even after the building itself was

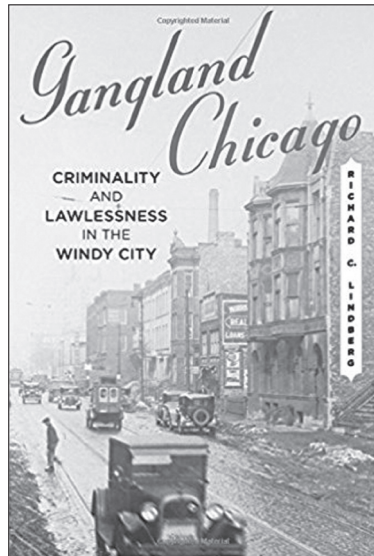
razed, due to the building's owner getting tired of being hassled by tourists who wanted to see "the wall," Lindberg said.

The city itself wasn't much help – especially under the two Mayor Daleys, who loathed any publicity of Chicago's gangster past, no matter how many tourists turned up, Lindberg added. "Even today when a TV or movie producer shows up asking about organized crime, City Hall frequently send them to me."

The bullet-riddled wall was eventually sold in the 1970s to a Vancouver entrepreneur who installed the macabre memento in the men's room of one of his restaurants.

"I understand the man who bought those bricks has had a lot of bad luck since," said Lindberg, noting that the restaurant failed in the 1970s and the bricks were eventually sold piecemeal.

No word on how any of the mostly anonymous purchasers have fared over the years, said Lindberg, whose latest book *Gangland Chicago: Criminality and Lawlessness in the Windy City*, focuses on the evolution of Chicago street gangs dating back to the pre-civil war era.



Where did Lake View's community newspaper come from?

BY SHEILA SWANN

Inside Publications now owns and publishes what was once known as the Lerner Newspapers serving Chicago's Lakeview Township. The Newspaper serving Lakeview Township was called the Lincoln-Belmont Booster, and is now called the Inside-Booster.

Inside Publications also owns the Skyline newspaper that serves North Township [Fullerton south to the main branch of the Chicago River] and the News Star, which serves Rogers Park Township [Devon Ave. north to the city limits].

The Inside-Booster is part of what's left from the first family-owned and operated neighborhood newspaper chain that served the North Side communities of Chicago.

Founded by the Lerner Family, these newspapers are now offered free to readers courtesy of their advertisers. "We are proud of the legacy we carry on and relish our relationships with the hundreds of community groups, chambers of commerce, neighborhood associations, local professional and social service organizations we work with and cover," said publisher Ronald Roenigk. "We have an open door policy to all inquiries big and small. We were 'hyper-local' before it was considered cool."

Their history in Chicago goes back nearly a century. The Lerner newspapers were founded in January of

1926 serving Chicago's Near North, North and Northwest Sides (after taking over a previous newspaper founded in 1905). Over time they added newspapers to other in-city and suburban markets, at one time publishing 55 different editions.



"We have an open door policy to all inquiries big and small. We were 'hyper-local' before it was considered cool," said Ronald Roenigk.

Today many of those suburban editions are part of the Pioneer Press chain that is now owned by Tronc [publishers of The Chicago Tribune].

In 2009, the Booster and News Star newspapers were purchased by Inside Publications and Roenigk (the Sky-

line was purchased separately in 2012) who merged them with his own community newspapers that he had already been publishing. "We had competed against Lerner News for decades and suddenly during the 'Great Recession' of 2008 we were made an offer we couldn't refuse: the chance to buy them for no money down," says Roenigk. Prior to this sale they were owned by Wednesdays Journal of Oak Park.

The newspapers had been sold in 1985 to Pulitzer Publishing Co. of St. Louis by then-owner Susan Lerner, reportedly for between \$9-12 million. The future of the chain under the ownership of the Lerner family had come into question after the death at age 49 of Louis Lerner in Nov. 1984, who had been editor, publisher and sole owner. Susan Lerner had succeeded her husband in his positions and had been running the chain after his death.

Journalists who got their start at Lerner include the late Mike Royko, gossip columnist Ann Gerber, Crain's Chi-

cago's columnist Gred Hinz, one-time Sun-Times columnists Bill Zwecker and Robert Feder, the sportscaster Bruce Wolf, novelist Bill Brashler, author Pat Butler, syndicated columnist Robert C. Koehler, and Ted Allen, host of Food Network's "Chopped" and "All-Star Academy."

In 1993 Inside Publications produced its first Summer Activity Guide which is

now published annually just prior to the Memorial Day weekend. The Guide lists all the festivals, art fairs, public activities and special events on Chicago's North Side from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Today they are the only free, independent weekly newspapers serving the North Side neighborhoods - and in the truest sense of community journalism - perhaps the only outlet for many local residents and businesses to redress their concerns and problems when satisfaction cannot be obtained through more general channels.

As a free newspaper, their sole source of income are the businesses who buy advertising.



Gossip columnist Ann Gerber began her career with Lerner newspapers at the age of 16.



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The Daniel O. Hill House is a handsomely-designed American Four Square mansion with Prairie-style proportions and Classical-style ornament.

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when Lake View East was still a Chicago suburb. Located at 448 W. Barry, the Daniel O. Hill House was built in 1902 for a wealthy silk-merchant. Designed by “society architect” Francis Perkins, the Hill House is an embodiment of an architectural style known as Four Square.

Perkins had established a reputation for finely-designed and crafted single-family houses. His homes were built in an array of fashionable late-nineteenth century and early twentieth-century Chicago neighborhoods.

Ald. Tom Tunney (44th) has been among those who had actively pushed for landmark status for the two Lake View East properties. Earlier this year, the alderman had appeared before the city’s landmark commission to lobby for the landmark designation.

Ward Miller, executive director of Preservation Chicago, a non-profit that advocates for architectural preservation, was among those who appeared before the city landmarks commission. His orga-

nization supported landmark status for both properties and added that not only are they architecturally significant, both help preserve the local history of two immigrant groups. For the past few decades, the Hill House has served as the Serbian-American Museum St. Sava.

“Members of Chicago’s Serbian-American community gave their heartfelt accounts at that meeting about what the Hill House has meant to them. Coming all the way from across the ocean, they appreciated being able to come to this lovely building situated in a beautiful neighborhood, close to the lakefront. It really created a homelike setting for these immigrants. There were generations of them. It helped them to reconnect to their homeland. They did also talk about how they appreciated the architecture but for the Serbian-American community, it was more about its physical beauty,” Miller said.

According to Miller, from an architectural standpoint, the well-preserved building has an impressive architectural pedigree. He was pro-ficient in a variety of styles

that were popular in the early 20th Century. These styles included Romanesque Revival, Classical Revival, Tudor Revival, Mediterranean Revival and Georgian Revival. Homes designed by Perkins were finely-detailed and used traditional building materials such as brick, stone, and decorative metalwork.

“The architect, Francis Perkins, has an amazing biography. He designed many unique properties, not just in Chicago and Illinois, but also extending to states nearby, and even Mexico. Among his most important commissions was the now-demolished mansion of John G. Shedd (after whom the aquarium is named),” Miller added.

With the Hill House now recognized as a city landmark, Miller hopes it will now contribute to the creation of a new landmark district for its surrounding neighborhood.

“We are encouraging several larger houses of about the same age nearby to be designated as landmarks and also, the creation on and Lake View East Landmark District, from Sheridan Road to Broadway, perhaps even west of Broadway. The buildings east of Sheridan Road were once known as Meekerville, after the Chicago industrialist Arthur Meeker. He had moved there from Prairie Street and had been the first to build a mansion there,” Miller said.

The Netterström House also has a significant connection to a Chicago immigrant group. It was built by a prominent Swedish-American.

In a report compiled for the landmark commission, Netterström is described as having had a diverse career. He worked in the skilled-trades and also in construction. In addition, he was a civic leader and was active in Lake View East politics. His support was crucial for adding sewers, paved roads and sidewalks to the area.

Originally a lath nailer, he later operated his own ornamental plastering business. Architectural historians believe his expertise and craftsmanship continue to be evident in the plastering on display in

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the Netterström House. Most likely, his masonry work continues to be on display.

With its gable front, bay window and tall corner-tower, as well as its combination of the Italianate and Queen Anne architectural styles, the now-landmarked Netterström House will continue to provide a snapshot of Lake View East history.

Between the 1870s, when Netterström arrived and the early 1900s, Lake View East became home to Chicago’s largest ethnic Swedish community. Chicago Swedes used to boast they formed the world’s third-largest Swedish population.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: Mike Rotunno, Photographer to the Stars

BY
CHRISTOPHER LYNCH

Before the jet age, Midway Airport, on Chicago southwest side, was the place to be for meeting the legendary stars of Hollywood.

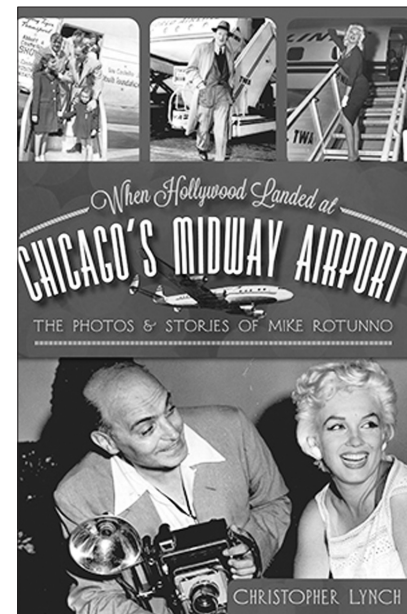
In an age of piston engine aircraft (in the 1920s thru the 1950s), a flight from New York to L.A. meant a refueling stop in Chicago. And when the star exited the aircraft, photographer Mike Rotunno would be waiting, camera in hand.

Paparazzi is an Italian word which made its debut in popular culture with the debut of the film “La Dolce Vita” (1960) directed by Federico Fellini. The only thing that Rotunno had in common with the word Paparazzi is that both were of Italian origin. A star of the 21st century steps out of their private jet and into a limousine on the restricted side of the airport. But in Rotunno’s day, if a star like Jimmy Stewart stepped off the plane and saw Mike’s camera, he would greet Rotunno warmly, pose for a picture, and then go have a cup of coffee at Marshall Field’s famed Cloud Room restaurant.

Before the dominance of television, there were limited venues for promoting a star. There was no “Entertainment Tonight” or “Access Hollywood” programs. The primary mode of publicity besides radio were newspapers, and in Chicago, there were several papers, with morning and afternoon editions.

Rotunno would photo-

graph a star, like John Wayne, and then run to his dark room in his office at Metro News in Midway’s terminal, and develop the film. Then, the photo would be treated like a V.I.P.,



dispatched to one or more of the nine newspapers in town via taxi. And if the photo ran, Rotunno got paid.

One might think it was the newspapers or the Hollywood PR agents who would pay Rotunno for taking the photo, but in fact it was the airlines. Rotunno would get Betty Hutton’s curls right in the photo, but more subtly, he always got the logo of the airline that Ms. Hutton had flown into Chicago as well.

During the 1920s and through the heyday of Midway Airport up to the end of the 1950s, the dominant mode of travel was trains. Although flying to a destination was faster, there were hazards involved in bumping along in a non-pressurized airplane from Chicago to New York chasing a thunderstorm,

one could travel in luxurious splendor on the Lake Shore Limited or Broadway Limited train.

To help others overcome the flying fear, Rotunno’s camera was put into action, and with every photo of a famous star, on a subconscious level, it was hoped, if John Wayne could fly, so could you. Rotunno always had a quip to relax a movie star arriving in Chicago, and such patter usually worked to get one to pose for his camera.

Another trick was the use of his two daughters, Judy and Mimi, who were as cute as buttons. The number of photos of them posing with the greatest stars of the Golden Age of radio and Hollywood is amazing, and

it wasn’t just at the airport. At their home in Berwyn, when the phone rang, one never quite knew who would be on the other line. When one of them picked up the phone, it might be the gravely voice of Jimmy Durante asking “Hey kid, is your Dad at home?” Or it might be Duncan Renaldo, (The Cisco Kid) who was also a frequent caller to their home, and often traveled through the airport dressed in his full cowboy regalia, complete with guns, a stunt that would make one of today TSA agents faint.

Rotunno would have many encounters with the stars of radio, from Bob Hope, to Don McNeill of the Breakfast Club, to Arthur Godfrey, who would always joke with Rotunno when in town.

On April 14, 1972, Rotun-

no was the guest of another legend of radio, Wally Phillips, who dominated Chicago radio for 21 years at WGN and for most of those years had the highest-rated program in Chicago radio. “He has a unique job. He’s Chicago’s most famous clicker, Phillips said in his introduction of Rotunno, “He photographs celebrities, international leaders, anybody.” The purpose of the visit was that Rotunno was being honored by the Chicago Club for his 45 years of being a photographer at Chicago airports.

On the program, Phillips was nearly speechless as Rotunno opened a package with a return address of 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., and handed Wally photos that he took of him with President and Mrs. Nixon. Phillips was moved by the favor, repeating “Oh wow” several times as he studied the photographs, autographed to Wally personally by President Nixon. As he asked Rotunno how he got them autographed, Rotunno answered that he told Nixon that “he had to sign them!”

What comes across in this interview is the generosity of spirit of Mike Rotunno, who used his wits and humor to charm countless stars over his decades of work. His charm worked on Katharine Hepburn, Charlie Chaplin, Jimmy Stewart, and Wally Phillips and many more.

Christopher Lynch is the author of “When Hollywood landed at Chicago Midway Airport: The photos and stories of Mike Rotunno” available at Amazon.com.

lished in 1884. The first leader of the church was Dr. Thomas H. Skinner of McCormick Theological Seminary. During the first year parishioners met in the community’s Town Hall, and when they could no longer meet at the Town Hall, they graduated to a tent on the current site.

The property was purchased in 1885 for \$4,000.

The original church was designed by John Wellborn Root of Burnham and Root fame.

As is often the case the budget was limited, therefore, Root chose a simple, minimally detailed design. The church is a wood frame with wood shingles on a limestone foundation. It is a classic example of Shingle style and Romanesque design in wood. The building cost was \$13,057: \$10,000 for the building and \$3,057 for furnishings. The matching spindles on the balcony are features that mark Root’s style. These spindles can also be found on the entry stairway and on the outside steeple. The bell tower is original to the structure, as is the main entrance on the east side of the church.

In 1898, an addition was added, which doubled the size of the sanctuary; Burnham and Root did not design the addition. The glass on the original north wall of the sanctuary was moved to the west wall of the addition. The glass on the original west wall was moved to the east wall. While the glass is original, it is a good example of catalogue windows of the time period.

During construction, a Lyon & Healy pipe organ was installed in the new space.



Lakeview Presbyterian Church after the 2004 renovation.

It is notable that the building is at the Orange Level of architectural significance because of Burnham and Root, however, it has not been landmarked.

The town of Lake View was incorporated in 1887, two years before its annexation to the City of Chicago. In 1911, a Parish House was constructed designed by the architectural firm of Patton & Miller. It is located on the west side of church. There was a gymnasium within the Parish House, which was converted to a lunchroom with a kitchen in 1970.

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er, emptying into the southwest end of lake Michigan.” Throughout this time Chicago remains surrounded for hundreds of miles by what is then called Indian Country.

In the 1960s and 70s, with the Civil Rights Movement and the revision of popular history, Jean Baptiste Point de Sable* (c.1740-1818) was widely recognized as the founder of Chicago. According to respected historian John F. Swenson, J.D.,

In 2000, the sanctuary was renovated, adding new lighting and electrical, some glass restoration was done and 5 rows of pews were removed. While the pipe organ was restored, it is unplayable. A new ventilation system was installed and interior wall colors changed at a cost of \$35,000.

Holabird and Root began the historic renovation of the outside of the church in 2005. They had to work from the original photo of the church because the original plans had been lost in a fire.

The first task was the removal of asbestos siding, which uncovered the design detail and color palette. Windows on the south and east sides and the large window on Broadway were restored. The old shingle siding was removed, then insulated and fireproofed before new cedar shake shingles were attached to the structure. All molding was either stabilized or replaced and the steeple was repaired.

The total cost of this restoration was \$1.2 million. I would like to note that the floor in the sanctuary is the original floor from 1888. It is incredibly beautiful and well

in the wonderful book and website Early Chicago, “His house was about where the Tribune Tower is now, and he was living, farming and trading there by December, 1782. His prosperous farm was the cornerstone of the production economy of the future city, which began to replace the old fur trade. He was probably born about 1740 at Cahokia, [IL] the son of a slave mother of Haitian ancestry named Catherine who was freed along with her son, Jean in 1746.”

worth seeing. Currently, the church is in the process of fund raising for the addition of an elevator.

From 1972 to 2017, Lake View Academy was part of the church. This alternative high school was for teens at risk, which provided them an opportunity to finish their high school education. The Chicago Public Schools now has such a good program in place for these teens that the decision was made to close the school.

The current pastor is Joy Douglas Strome who oversees a growing membership.

Sue Cox is the parish nurse and provides help and information when needed to the entire congregation.

The church, in partnership with the City of Chicago, welcomes Golden Diners Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. They also provide crafts, exercise, bingo, movies, celebrations, and visits from the Parish Nurse.

Playgroups are available for toddlers.

Services are Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00.

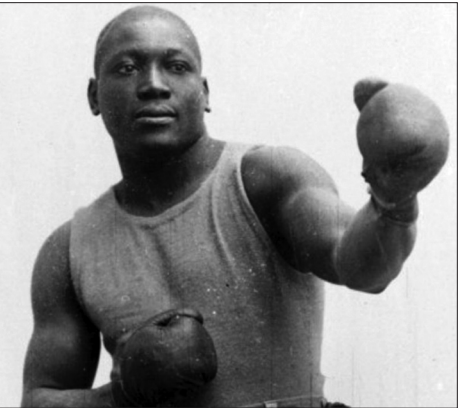
If you are a Lake View history buff pay a visit, you won’t be sorry.

In 1800, Point de Sable’s Chicago estate is purchased by William Burnett, a prominent trader in St. Joseph, Michigan for approximately \$1,000 cash. Point de Sable relocates to Spanish Upper Louisiana on the west side of the Mississippi River in the area now known as St. Charles, Missouri.

Frenchman Jean Lalime, under the employ of Burnett, manages the former Point de Sable estate until 1803, when John Kinzie takes the

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PRESIDENTIAL PARDON?



Jack Johnson

BY DAYLE MURPHY

News organizations across the country reported recently that President Donald Trump is considering granting a posthumous pardon to boxer, Jack Johnson, on the advice of actor Sylvester Stallone.

What does this have to do with Lakeview? Jack Johnson was quietly buried in Chicago’s Graceland Cemetery, near the Red Line in 1946.

John Arthur “Jack” Johnson was born on March 31, 1878 in Galveston Texas, the third of nine children born to former slaves. Johnson was known as the “Galveston Giant.” Johnson possessed the drive to exceed beyond the indentured life his

parents had known. He grew up in a poor neighborhood and socialized with white kids who were also poor. He later said he never felt that whites were superior since he spent his childhood in and out of their homes, eating at their tables. At the age of 16, he left home for New York where he had his first fight, going four rounds with professional boxer, Bob Thompson; he earned his first \$25.

As his ability grew, he was known as a “cunning boxer.” In the era of “Jim Crow” this made him a target for white America, where white boxers would not even spar with black boxers. Johnson finally got his chance at a heavyweight title fight in Sydney, Australia against Champion Tommy Burns and won after 14 rounds. This made him the first African-American World Heavyweight Boxing Champion. After losing the title in Havana, Cuba in 1915 to Jess Willard in the 26th round, he continued to fight for another 12 years until he retired at age 50 but came back to do an exhibition fight at age 67.

Johnson went out of his way to flaunt his wealth and his dislike of racial and social restrictions of the times. He drove expensive cars and dated white women. In 1912, he was convicted of violating

the Mann Act by bringing his white girlfriend across state lines before they were married. He was convicted by an all white jury and sentenced to prison. Instead of serving his sentence he fled to Europe with his wife where they remained fugitives for seven years. However, upon his return to the U.S., he served his 10-month sentence.

Johnson married three times to three white women. His first wife was a Brooklyn socialite, Etta Terry Duryea, who committed suicide in 1912. His second marriage to Lucile Cameron ended in divorce due to his infidelity. In 1925, he married his third wife, Irene Pineau, and they remained together until his untimely death in a car accident on June 10, 1946.

Several other lawmakers had also sought the pardon. Senators John McCain and Harry Reid and Congressmen Peter Kind and Gregory Meeks wrote to President Barack Obama in 2016 seeking to overturn the “ongoing injustice” of Johnson’s “racially-motivated” conviction. In 2017, Senator Corey Booker joined the others by introducing a resolution on behalf of Johnson.

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residence. That summer via a “big canoe on wings” U.S. Army Captain John Whistler, his family and sixty-one soldiers from Detroit build the first Fort Dearborn on the south river bank. The fort was situated at what today is now Wacker Drive and Michigan Avenue, across the Chicago River from the Point de Sable estate.

Chicago gained national attention because of (what was then known as) the Fort Dearborn Massacre (now Battle of Fort Dearborn) on the morning of August 15 at the beginning of the War of 1812. John Kinzie, his slaves, family and

a few others avoided death or capture and because of his influence escaped to Detroit and back to civilization.

At least three French traders, with Native American wives and children, continued to reside in the Chicago and Milwaukee area during the war. In 1816, after the end of the War of 1812, Fort Dearborn was rebuilt and settlers returned. However, Chicago remained predominately a French and Indian trading post until after the second Treaty of Chicago in 1833 which ended the Black Hawk War, concluding in 1835 with the permanent removal of the Native Americans to west of

LAKE VIEW AND RAVENSWOOD...

In 1857, the area presently bounded by Fullerton, Western, Devon, and Lake Michigan was organized into Lake View Township; and in 1887 Lake View was incorporated as a city. Despite a controversial vote and the recalcitrance of Lake View officials, in 1889 the city was annexed to Chicago.

the Mississippi River.

The Town of Chicago incorporated on August 12, of 1833, with approximately 350 residents. It continued to grow rapidly and the City of

Chicago was incorporated on March 4th, 1837 and has now surpassed its 180th Birthday.

*Note: The proper French spelling is Point de Sable where the “de” is pronounced “du” often leading Americans to misspell his name.

Patrick McBriarty is a Chicago and bridge historian and author. His childrens picture books introduce STEM in early childhood to inspire future builders, pilots, architects, and hands-on learning. His first book was the award-winning Chicago River Bridges and companion PBS program Chicago Drawbridges. He regularly provides tours, talks, school visits, and STEM workshops. For more details go to: www.pmcabriarty.com.



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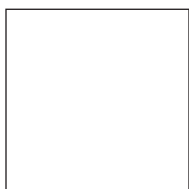
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