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ELECTION 2024 COOK CO. STATE'S ATTORNEY

O'Neill Burke gets key party support

Lands backing of Dems with November campaign looming

By A.D. Quig Chicago Tribune

A little more than 48 hours after securing a razor-thin victory that was among the closest in recent Cook County history, Eileen O'Neill Burke emerged Monday as the fully backed Democratic Party nominee for state's attorney and immediately caught a glimpse of what her Republican opponent's campaign strategy will be this fall.

O'Neill Burke finds herself being embraced by the same county Democratic Party that

for months championed her opponent in the primary, Clayton Harris III, until he conceded defeat on Friday.

As she now receives the backing of Cook County Board President and county Democratic Party Chair Toni Preckwinkle, O'Neill Burke's also managing continued support from one of Preckwinkle's biggest political foes — Chicago police union boss John Catanzara, a declared proponent of former President Donald Trump.

The political dynamic played out Monday at a belated celebration that O'Neill Burke, a retired appellate justice, joked was "Election Night 2," following 10 days of vote counting after Election Day.

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Cook County state's attorney Democratic Party nominee Eileen O'Neill Burke, left, chats with Ald. Debra Silverstein and supporters Monday at the Plumbers Local 130 UA Training Center in Chicago. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"It meant so much to me to have the support of all of these elected officials who didn't do the easy thing. They did the hard thing. And they said this is our candidate."

Cook County state's attorney Democratic Party nominee Eileen O'Neill Burke



VINCENT ALBAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cubs fans celebrate win in Wrigley Field home opener

Steve Vandernaalt, center, of Washington, Illinois, and Richard Flores, right, of Arizona, cheer during the Cubs' home opener against the Rockies on Monday at Wrigley Field. The Cubs won 5-0. Chicagoland, Page 3, and Chicago Sports

Unseasonable winter diminishes ice cover

On the Great Lakes through mid-March, figure reaches new low

By Kate Armanini Chicago Tribune

The sun beat down as Liz Ricketts peered over a wooden bridge on Rosewood Beach in Highland Park. Below her, a narrow stream carved through the sand, flowing from a grove of barren trees into Lake Michigan.

Through the murky water, littered with leaves, she spotted two rainbow trout lingering along the riverbed. They faced upstream, swimming through jagged rocks and a gentle current.

She scribbled her observations of the familiar scene on a folded slip of paper. But it wasn't trout she was looking for — it was suckers.

"I don't see any in here right now," Ricketts said, scanning the stream with polarized glasses.

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Liz Ricketts, natural areas manager at the Park District of Highland Park, stands Thursday at Rosewood Beach in Highland Park as she checks for white sucker fish activity and records the level and clarity of water

in a ravine flowing toward Lake Michigan. TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Johnson outlines Ukraine aid plan

Energy project that Biden blocked may factor in package

By Catie Edmondson The New York Times

WASHINGTON - House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., has begun publicly laying out potential conditions for extending a fresh round of U.S. military assistance to Ukraine, the strongest indication yet that he plans to push through the chamber a package that many Republicans view as toxic and have tried to block.

His terms may include tying the aid for Ukraine to a measure that would force President Joe Biden to reverse a moratorium on liquefied natural gas exports, something that Republicans would see as a political victory against the Democratic president's climate agenda. The move would also hand Johnson a powerful parochial win, unblocking a proposed export terminal in his home state of Louisiana that would be situated along a shipping channel that connects the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Charles.

"When we return after this work period, we'll be moving a product, but it's going to have some important innovations," Johnson said Sunday in an interview on Fox

That strongly suggests that the aid package for Ukraine, which has been stalled on Capitol Hill for months amid Republican resistance, could clear Congress within weeks. It enjoys strong support among Democrats and a large coalition of mainstream Republi cans, and the main obstacle standing in its way in the House has been

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House of worship stripped of assets

Naperville Korean Church in dispute with United Methodist Church

By Tess Kenny Naperville Sun

A Korean Methodist church in Naperville has been stripped of its property and bank account while it engages in a legal battle for the assets with the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Since last May, Naperville Korean Church members have been involved in a property dispute that arose after they tried to break off from the state body following a disagreement over LGBTQ-related policies — and decided to take with them what they maintain are their rightful belongings, including buildings.

But March 21, as the matter continued in court, DuPage County Judge Anne Hayes granted a preliminary injunction restoring possession of disputed property to the conference.

For more than a decade, Naperville Korean Church — previously the Naperville Korean United Methodist Church — offered worship and prayer services from the property at 2403 W. Diehl Road. The congregation also had a parsonage, housing for its pastor, at

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