

# TENANTS TALK

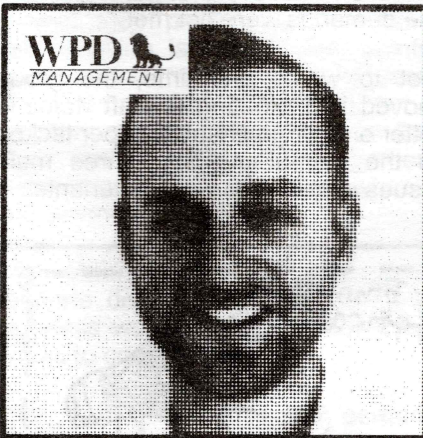
SEMI-REGULAR CHICAGO TENANTS NEWSPAPER

Issue 7

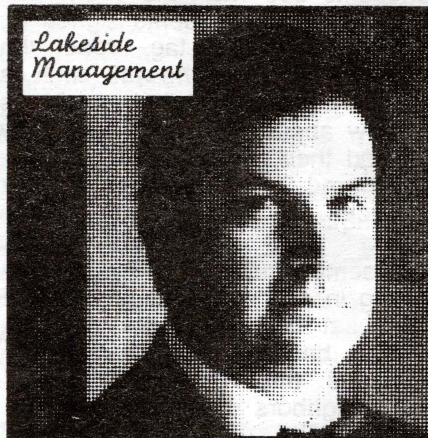
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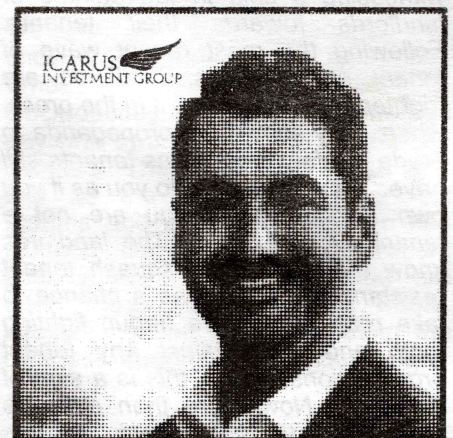
# WANTED! FOR CRIMES AGAINST TENANTS



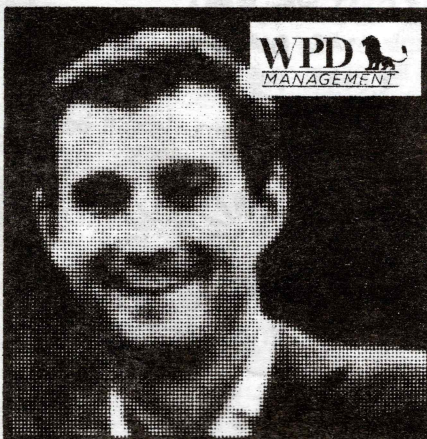
KEVIN NUGENT  
WPD MANAGEMENT



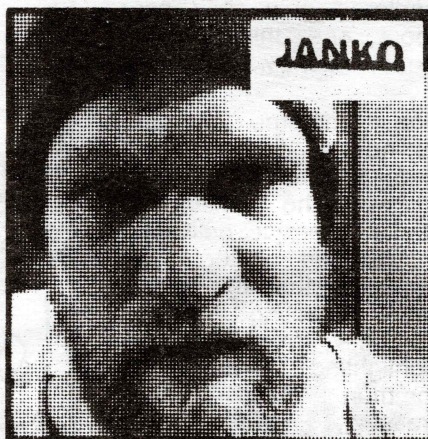
BORUCH GOTTESMAN  
LAKESIDE MANAGEMENT



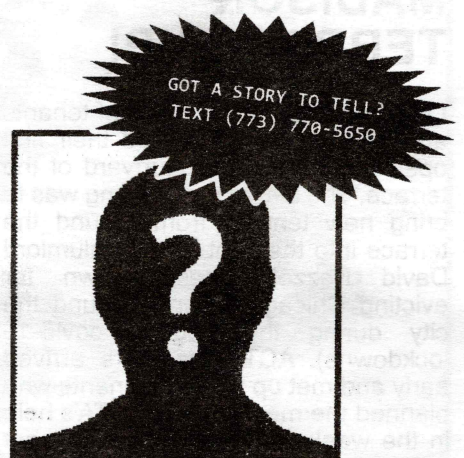
DAVID PEZZOLA  
ICARUS INVESTMENT GROUP



ERIC GREEN  
WPD MANAGEMENT



MATT JANKO  
JANKO PROPERTIES



YOUR LANDLORD?

★ NEWS FROM THE TENANT POINT OF VIEW ★



All across the country we are witnessing a shift in the attitude of landlords towards their tenants. Following the most recent wave of tenant organizations, landlords are frightened. We can see it in the press, where they spew their propaganda to erode the few protections tenants still have. They will appeal to you as if you own a home—as if you are not a tenant. Do not listen. The landlords know that they must squash tenant resistance before it has a chance to take root. They have begun fighting tooth and nail against **any** tenant organizations. To us, this is a sign of their fear. Now more than ever we must remain vigilant. Tenants Talk has its eyes on the landlords. **Do you?**

## MADISON TERRACE UP!

On November 9th, a group of tenants at Madison Terrace hosted their first open meeting in the courtyard of the terrace. The aim of the meeting was to bring new tenants from around the terrace into the fight against slumlord David Pezzola (best known for evicting Chicago tenants around the city during the original covid-19 lockdowns). ACTA members arrived early and met up with the tenants who planned the meeting with ACTA's help in the weeks prior. Together they set up tables and chairs and waited for their neighbors to come out.

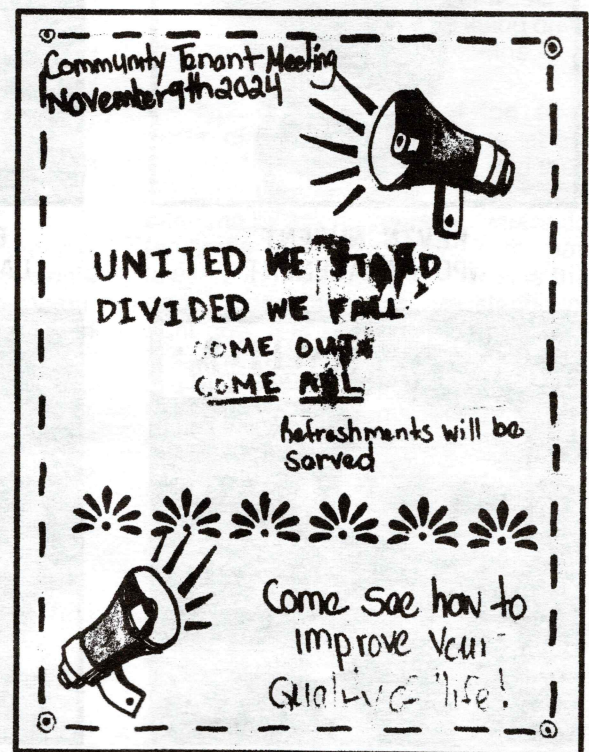
Tenants and locals alike drifted by, curious to see what the event was about. Terrace residents signed in, grabbed a name tag, read the questions posted on the wall (such as what they would want their neighbors to know about them, and what they believed their landlord cares about), and shared their thoughts with other attendees.

After some time of people coming in and out, a core group sat down and the meeting began. Tenants discussed the needs of their neighbors and how they could go about changing things at the Terrace. One point that was widely agreed on was that landlords only truly care about one thing: taking tenants' money.

One long-time member outlined a first potential step to take action in improving the conditions at Madison Terrace: delivering a demand letter. She explained that this would entail collecting a list of concerns from tenants, highlighting the most common and most pressing, and then delivering the letter to WPD management. This letter

would be delivered during a protest, with the threat of protests continuing if the demands were not met.

Not to waste any time, the group moved into creating a draft demand letter on a large sheet of paper tacked to the central building. Three main issues were chosen by the tenants.



Madison Terrace tenant meeting flyer

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The first two were safety and cleaning. Many buildings on the terrace have broken locks on the front doors, which make it easy for people to come in and out as they please, including many who tenants would prefer did not enter the building. During ACTA's time speaking with renters at Madison Terrace, we heard stories from people describing strangers sleeping in the hallways, parents coordinating with neighbors to get their kids out safely and a general nervousness of potential harm. Rats and roaches are also invited in thanks to hallways that the slumlord allows to fill with trash, despite the best efforts of tenants to keep them clean.

The third issue addressed in the demand letter was one that makes these and other issues with the WPD managed property especially outrageous: no one is able to reach any of those responsible for the property! Neither WPD nor Pezzola answer their phones when tenants call, emailing is a slow and painful process and maintenance requests are often canceled by management. It probably comes as no surprise that the only time management communicates with tenants is when a rent payment is late.

The tenants decided that more concrete demands to address these problems would be written up in the weeks to come.

After putting together the demand letter, the group planned and carried out a practice protest on the terrace. Everyone came up with chants like "David Pezzola, more like crapola!" and "Rent Strike! David Pezzola take a hike!", drew up some picket signs and hit the street. Rain began to fall as the tenants poured out onto the sidewalk, like the tears that will soon fall from Pezzola's pampered eyes.

Despite the weather, spirits were high as everyone marched and chanted onto Madison Avenue. There was a strong feeling of hope and unity in the air as the group arrived at an empty WPD management building around the corner. There the tenants taped the letter to the door, then stood back and took a moment to soak it all in.

Terrace to pack up, tenants expressed feeling hopeful about the direction of the union. It was agreed that what was needed next is new members, continued outreach, and before long, a real version of the amazing display of strength and community that had just been demonstrated.

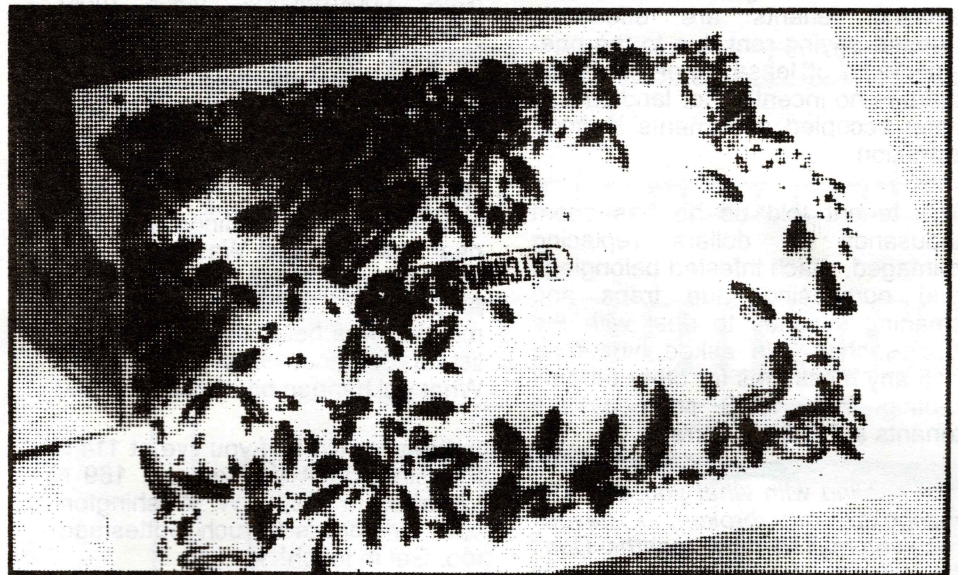
## KEVIN NUGENT OF WPD MANAGEMENT - PROFITING OFF OF MISERY

The web of slumlords in the city is extensive and it links one crook to the next. It's likely your landlord has had dealings with the ones in this story. Tenants Talk reporters have been investigating the WPD "management" company's neglect at Madison Terrace and at the same time tracking down Boruch Gottesman's various slums throughout the city. When we sent a reporter to a recent press conference at a third building, 5334 W. Madison Avenue where tenants spoke out about the oppressive conditions in their building, we weren't surprised to learn that WPD and Boruch Gottesman both had their hands in the mess. Boruch was the longtime owner of the building and the one responsible for its steady decline. He

sold it to WPD management just this last summer and since then the problems have only gotten worse. The chief slumlords at WPD, Eric Green and Kevin Nugent, see an opportunity to profit off of the misery of these tenants, many of whom have been living in the building for years, watching as it crumbles around them.

When the building sold, eviction notices went out immediately to many of the tenants. Some of the tenants fought the evictions in court and won. Although the judge declared the evictions unlawful, the slumlords were not worried. The following week the same tenants received notices of massive rent increases, up to \$500 more per month. This is a blatant attempt at what has been called a "soft eviction" where landlords raise rent arbitrarily, knowing the tenant will not be able to afford it and will have to leave.

We spoke to one of the tenants, who showed us around his apartment. What we saw was shocking. Cockroaches of all sizes out in broad daylight, swarming in the fridges and cabinets. The tenant we spoke with told us the infestation began six months ago and since then he has stopped cooking in his apartment entirely. Although cockroaches are often associated with waste, infestations can persist in even the cleanest apartments without proper



Cockroaches caught in a WPD tenant's apartment

As the group walked back to the

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insulation and pest management.

*"It's been about six or seven months. When they laid the mulch outside, it got worse inside. This was a little cabinet, they took it out and didn't replace it. The floors leaning sideways, and all the bugs come in through that crack in the wall. All of this is infested, waterlogged, damaged."*

The tenant cleans his apartment frequently to manage the pests, but he showed us openings in the floors and walls that cockroaches crawl out of. Although he sends maintenance requests, he showed us that every one was canceled by WPD management without reason or action. In fact, maintenance has been in the building, but they never come to the occupied units:

*"The maintenance doesn't come, but they have another maintenance crew on the first floor in an empty unit, fixing it up."*

The tenant showed us a video of the work in the unoccupied unit. A crew of workers were executing repairs and installing new fixtures. This is sadly not uncommon in slum buildings. Slumlords will take the loss on vacant units, fix them up while they wait for the perfect moment to push all the other tenants out and raise the rent on the newly fixed units. Management knows that existing tenants are effectively trapped paying rent due to the one-sidedness of lease agreements, so there is no incentive for landlords to keep occupied apartments in good condition.

The tenant told us he has spent thousands of dollars replacing damaged, roach infested belongings and purchasing glue traps and cleaning supplies to deal with the cockroaches. We asked him if he had any messages for other tenants renting from WPD such as the tenants at Madison Terrace:

*"I'm dealing with what you are. The mailboxes are broken, I haven't received mail for three months. Don't be afraid, because no person deserves to live like this. It's a*

*violation of humanity. Period. Fuck amendments and fuck rights, we're human. Don't be scared to speak up against these people because they're taking advantage of, who knows... Thousands of people? Thousands being taken advantage of. They're taking money from all these people. How much money are they making? Help make them accountable for their actions. Help make them feel ashamed."*

## LAKESIDE MANAGEMENT AND BORUCH GOTTESMAN: A MATCH MADE IN SLUMLORD HEAVEN

In a quiet suburb of upstate New York, away from it all, slumlord Boruch Gottesman sleeps peacefully in his mansion on a tall bed of rent money. Meanwhile, a completely opposite scene plays out on the west and south sides of Chicago. Here, inside Gottesman's fifteen apartment buildings that are managed by the clowns at Lakeside Management, 100s of tenants can't sleep peacefully, if they can sleep at all.

Rats, cockroaches, black mold, broken appliances—all the typical features. Why is it that block after block, building after building, we find the same exact thing: tenants suffering while their landlord gets rich as hell?

In one of these buildings in Austin, near Parkside and Washington, the tenants are making moves with the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance. A meeting was held in the entryway, a list of demands was put together. What will happen next? Stay tuned...

In the meantime, if you live at 114 N Parkside, 5334 W Madison, 169 N LeClaire, or 4200 W Washington, your landlord is Boruch Gottesman, too. Get in touch! ★

## HOMEOWNER BLUES

The relationship between my mother and I has, at times, been strained but only recently settled into lukewarm waters. The time between our correspondences increased gradually until we fell into rhythm. After a period of inactivity she calls to give me updates, and in return I do the same. At this point in our relationship she has been met with disappointment regarding my disinterest in marriage and children. Naturally, with those items dead in the water, the only conversational avenue left after reciting our updates is homeownership.

The conversation always ends in the same place, despite it not being the first instance that the topic comes up. Everytime, I say that I have no wish to own a home, yet this pervasive issue has burrowed itself deep in the mind of my mother. I suppose she thinks this reflects poorly on her in the eyes of the rest of the family. Or maybe in her mind one part of the holy trinity is better than no part at all.

But she would hardly be alone in this matter. Marriage, having a child, and homeownership have become anchoring points in our lives. Homeownership, however, has a distinct character in that it is a necessity required by people to live (even more so in certain places where homelessness is policed aggressively). This fact alone is not enough to make it unique, its key aspect is that it has become a commodity, transforming this human need to a money transaction.

In this manner homeownership becomes the supposed solution to the societally created problem of homelessness. With this in mind it's easier to understand where my mom's mind is when she says things like "Having a house gives you security" or "You need to be an owner to

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make your own decisions". It's her expressing the individual understanding that in order to secure your place in society you have to secure a physical place. This way they can fend off the dangers of capitalism. In other words, if you can't beat them, join them.

The individual, in this case my mom, sees the power imbalance between the tenant and the landlord. She sees in homeownership a window to escape this imbalance. In other words, a way to acquire independence and security. This is often where the argument for homeownership leads. But the dream of material security in the form of homeownership, presupposes that this is the correct way of structuring our society.

Although often regarded as a symbol of individual freedom, homeownership is in reality an abandonment, a retreat into the self. It removes them from the larger tenant class and becomes a place where the lone owner can escape the realities of the world. Separated from the tenant neighbors and alone in a house most likely too large for the needs of an individual, the drive to fill rooms and garages with a myriad of items takes over. The dangerous cocktail of boredom and materialism changes the mind of the individual; escapism and fear of those outside the home take center stage.

### *Life becomes serving the house.*

Beyond the escapism entrenched in homeowner life, a house serves another purpose, that of an investment. So to serve the house is to serve the investment.

The focus becomes on improving the house to keep its value even while the pitfalls we have seen time and time again stare us in the face. The housing crashes of the past and the countless stories of families being trapped in predatory mortgages don't dissuade people. Outside of the realm of the market, a torrential storm can just as quickly vanish any improvements made to a house. Houses are subject to the forces of the market and the forces of nature.

Despite these risks, homeowners will

make this gamble. This desire becomes so strong that it causes completely rational people to uproot their lives in order to secure a plot of land several hours away from the place where they made friends, ate their favorite meals, and built strong relationships during their formative years. Worst yet, that person doesn't even truly own the house.

With the bank holding all the cards, the payments have to keep coming in on time. The only possibility left is that the house can be sold at an indeterminate future date for an indeterminate amount, the "owner" crossing their fingers that it's higher than what they paid for it.

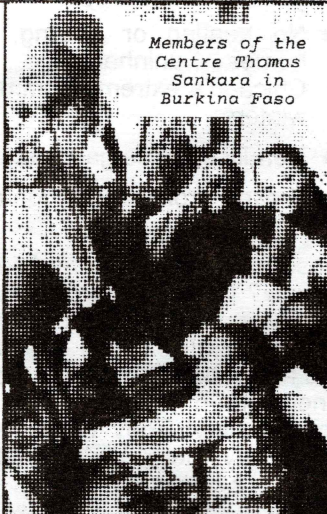
At this point some accept their fate, scraping by to pay the mortgage while their houses fall into disrepair. Others, like my mom, begin to see that it is not enough to own one house. You can own two or three or even a large multi family unit. Happy with this thought, as if they were the first person to think of it, the transition from tenant to homeowner to slumlord is soon complete.

This is the heart of the issue. In the attempt to attain material security, the consumption of the material is never



enough. The desire for more, like a stomach that can't be satiated, is ever consuming. This transforms the individual into the thing that they once wanted to get away from: the landlord.

When I last talked to my mom about this, she said that I've changed. She said she felt sad that I don't have a place of my own. I find it sad that she sees no other alternative to the difficulties of renting than to withdraw into isolation, and that she can't envision living near other people as an enriching thing. I wish I could tell her how much she has changed since owning a home, how distrustful she has become of the people around her, and how much time she spends fussing over the house. Her community has shrunk down to the size of her lot, while mine has expanded to the size of the neighborhood and beyond. ★

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## JANKO PROPERTIES

Something is brewing across Chicago. Tenants are tired of being beaten down by slumlords. In a number of buildings under the thumb of Janko Properties, tenants are coming to recognize something new: that they don't have to fight back alone.

Over the past few weeks, organizers of the All-Chicago Tenant Alliance have been meeting in Janko buildings across Garfield Park, Hermosa and Austin, where tenants have been subjected to some of the worst conditions one could imagine:

- Cockroaches and pests spilling out of sinks, kitchen cupboards, and carpets. No matter the method of extermination, which many tenants pay for regularly out of their own pocket, buildings are totally infested.
- Unusable bathrooms. Broken showers, shoddy pipes, and bathtubs painted with house paint which flakes off frequently in regular use.
- Mice run rampant through building walls and rats "the size of dogs" chew through the electrics of kitchen appliances making ovens and dishwashers totally unusable.
- Thousands of dollars worth of furniture thrown out due to bed bug infestations.
- Dirty water and urine routinely leaking from ceilings.
- No heating or cooling, making homes uninhabitable during Chicago's extreme summers and winters.
- Deadly surprise gas leaks.
- Broken front doors, gates, and locks.

These buildings are in terrible shape. But why? Those looking to pass off the blame for the problems point at the tenants. Matt Janko's maintenance men are good examples of those who benefit from shifting the blame. "They're dirty! They don't clean up! That's why there's bugs and mice." But what's the truth? All you need to

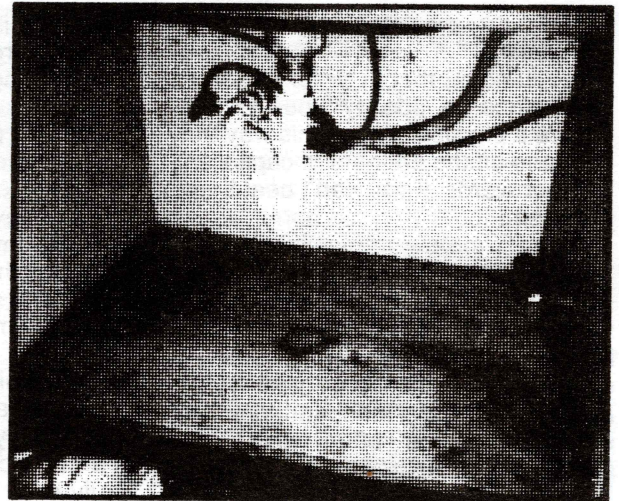
do is talk to the tenants and take a look at the apartments and hallways. You'll begin to understand the bigger picture.

The tenants are folks who have tried time and time again to keep their apartments in good condition, digging deeper into their pockets for cash to spend on exterminators, new appliances, and new furniture.

These are tenants who are deeply concerned about the well-being and safety of their kids, their parents, and their neighbors as it relates to their homes. They do not blame one another for the circumstances they've found themselves in. They know who is really to blame: their money-hungry landlord, Matt Janko.

There are hundreds of slumlords in Chicago. Matt Janko is one of them. In his own words, he has "acquired and manages 50 properties with over 450 units. Aggregate purchase price of over \$18.5 million." Tenants Talk writers have visited four of these buildings so far (around 40 units in total), and every single tenant has significant problems with the conditions of their apartment and the building. Yet this man refuses to fix these issues. He boasts about the amount of money these tenants make him, but with oh so much, why wouldn't he repair their broken-down apartments? It's very simple. Sending the maintenance man out costs money. Extermination costs money. Water and gas pipe repair costs money.

To the tenants, despite their dissatisfaction with the conditions, these apartments are their homes. Their apartments are no luxury items, but rather necessities for survival. But, to their soulless bastard of a landlord, the same apartments, their shelter, are a vehicle for investment. His only concern is getting more money out than he put in. From this cruel perspective, why pay for repairs if tenants pay rent on time, regardless of



! Cockroaches and water damage in a Janko apartment

the conditions of their apartments? If that investment, that money-making-machine, still runs, with or without a repair, why bother spending the money? It's only when that money-making-machine is threatened, or when the rent checks cease to line his pockets, that the slumlord yields to demands.

An example can be found in a recent article published by Injustice Watch highlighting the plight of ex-Janko tenant James Ware and his family. The Wares had a good number of the listed issues above, but namely, no heat for the past two winters. The family routinely called Janko's maintenance, who, shockingly, never bothered to make repairs. They called the city, who fined the slumlord but later dropped the case. Finally, pushed to their limit, the family put the heat on Janko, withholding rent for months to pressure the landlord into repairs. In order to stop the bleeding, the money-hungry Janko repaired the boiler, and the Wares returned the back rent withheld.

When another winter rolled around, and the heat stopped working again, the Wares skipped the maintenance requests and city phone calls and withheld rent again. This time, the slumlord was prepared, and pursued evicting the Wares, arguing it was an illegal withholding. Pressured with a costly eviction case, the Wares settled for moving out. But, finding a new place was as challenging as ever:

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credit-checks and rising rent prices pushed them to settle for less-than-preferable new housing situations: after being pushed from their apartment, the family found themselves split between relatives' houses, romantic partners, and shelters.

The Wares knew the truth: that the only way Janko would yield to repairs is by threatening to stop his money-making-machine. Despite the tenants' rights they found on paper, the city proved to be too slow and toothless in pushing the landlord to uphold his side of the contract. After all, what's a small fine to the landlord worth to a tenant without heat in the winter?

The Wares knew exactly what it would take to really put fire under their slumlord. Their unfortunate mistake is the same one many tenants make: they fought the landlord alone. For Janko, it's pretty easy to get rid of one "bad tenant". Getting rid of the whole bunch? That's a lot harder. Imagine the money-making-machine runs on gas, and each tenant's rent is a drop. One less drop of gas? Machine works fine. A total empty tank? Need to fix that right quick.

As of this article's publication, tenants in Janko properties across Chicago are in the early stages of their united fight back. Tenants of a building in Garfield Park have formed their own tenant union: the 525-527 N Homan Tenant Union. Bound by their shared problems with the conditions of the building, they're looking to fight Janko together. In the words of one of the building's leaders, "One band, one sound."

Tenants in the Wares' old building in Austin still find themselves with the same old issues James did, and are beginning to speak to one another about how they, too, can get what they are owed. Updates on the brighter future for the fighting tenants of Janko properties will be published in future editions of Tenants Talk. ★

## LESSONS FROM THE KANSAS CITY RENT STRIKE

For a long time, renting an apartment in Kansas City has been a lot like renting one in Chicago. Tenants here and there have a lot in common. But on October 1st the Kansas City tenants took a historic stride out in front of the tenants of Chicago—they started a rent strike. Together, in coordinated and strategic fashion, they stopped paying rent at the same time.

In both cities live poor, working-class tenants. In both cities, they live with rat infestations, cockroaches, bed bugs, dirty, cold water, backed-up sewage, burst pipes, leaking, moldy and rotting walls, no heat in the winter, no cold air in the summer, broken elevators.

In both cities, too, tenants have filed maintenance requests, reported violations to the inspectors, contacted their representatives in city hall only to be ignored, told to move out and even sent eviction notices as retaliation for complaining. In both towns for as long as can be remembered, the message to tenants has been the same: These are the landlords' buildings, this is the landlords' city,

and this is the landlord's world—you're just living in it.

All else being equal, we see no reason why we shouldn't be able to rent strike in Chicago like they do in Kansas City. So, perhaps we should use the occasion of their historic action to learn what these rent strikes are all about.

### HOW DOES A RENT STRIKE START?

In KC, events leading to the rent strike began when tenants from Quality Hill Towers and Independence Towers formed tenant unions. These tenants repeatedly tried and failed to confront their landlord on their own, so they decided to unionize.

What is a tenant union? A tenant union is what tenants form when neighbors living together in a building join up and begin solving their issues together rather than individually. Any action one tenant can take can be taken by two or more tenants as a collective. Not only will the power of the action be increased in quantity (1+1=2), it will be different in quality than if one person did it alone.

For example, if one tenant would like to clean the trash up in the courtyard, they can. And two, five or seven tenants can produce the same result together in a fraction of the time, with



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less work falling on each individual. But what is important about the group of tenants working together is that in addition to a clean courtyard, the group of tenants have produced a united plan of activity together, creating a positive building culture.

Some might call this community, some might call this organizing. We call it unionizing. In any case, a group of tenants—a tenant union—creates something that is greater than the sum of its parts.

The two Kansas City unions started Boruchly raising alarms about the condition of their homes. These unions asked the landlords to bargain over a set of demands. But, just because they now called themselves a tenant union didn't mean they had a silver bullet. The landlords still failed to address their concerns suitably.

Instead of being alone and hopeless like before, the tenants stood together. As a result they could turn their frustrations into support for one another. There were only two options for their anger. The first option was to let it fade away, to stay and try to ignore the problems, to wait for a future where they might be able to move out and get on with life as an exploited money tree for some other landlord. The second option was to turn their anger into imagination and militancy, starting from the reality that their back was against the wall.

Here's how Quality Hill tenant, Lawrence Sims, expresses the matter: "We have nothing left to lose, our homes are already threatened. The worst they could do to us, they're already doing." His neighbor and fellow unionist Hell Woods adds: "Our rent is our power. Our rent pays their bills. Our rent pays their mortgage. Our rent is our power. And if our demands aren't met, we aren't afraid to flex that power."

It is only a matter of time before tenants dealing with negligent, criminal slumlords are forced to face the reality that, when it comes to the people who profit off of our misery, money talks and bullshit walks. So the union voted to strike. It was time to use their money as a weapon.

## LESSONS FROM THE KANSAS CITY RENT STRIKE

On one hand, in the state of Missouri, there is an implied warranty of habitability in all lease contracts. This means apartment units need to be fit for living in or tenants can withhold rent. On the other hand, the state of Missouri does not protect tenants who join a rent strike when they become targeted for retaliatory eviction.

This is a contradiction. By going on strike, the tenants in KC are taking a risk, to be sure. They are being brave and choosing to fight standing up instead of living on their knees.

So, the first and most important lesson that Chicago tenants can learn from their friends in KC is they should be guided by what is right, not by what is

***Some might call this community, some might call this organizing. We call it unionizing. In any case, a group of tenants—a tenant union—creates something that is greater than the sum of its parts.***

legal or socially acceptable. They should also remember that every privilege they enjoy currently was the product of a struggle in a time before ours. We have inherited a responsibility to fight.

The second lesson to learn is that it is not necessary to have every single neighbor in the building in agreement. In Quality Hill towers, 56 of the 234 tenants are on strike and in Independence Towers 35 of the 63 tenants are striking. Boruchly, between all the tenants in both buildings, \$120,000 in rent money is being held back from the landlord as leverage—and that's just for the months of October and November!

The third lesson to learn is that rent strikes are creative, galvanizing experiences for tenants.

Since the strike began, the tenants have been busy with all kinds of tactical activities, rallies and theatrics to increase publicity and support for

their fight. Their demands appear to be a five-year stoppage of rent increases, standardizing rent levels across similar units, completion of all structural repairs like plumbing and electrical work and a total pest extermination with regular pest control going forward.

The tenants routinely picket together to the manager's office. They tape cockroach traps to the manager's door, they leave buckets of dirty water from their pipes. They hold press conferences and have mock "bargaining tables" where the tenants wait dramatically for the landlords to join them to negotiate.

Come December 1st, the landlords of Quality Hill Towers and Independence Towers will be \$180,000 in the red. On top of this, they will have to decide to pay the filing fees necessary to send evictions to all the tenants which will cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000; there are over 100 tenants on strike. If they all go to court, the cost lawyers charge for representing landlords in eviction court varies, but they should expect to pay anywhere from \$500 to \$1000 per tenant. Meanwhile, the tenants would be living in the building holding on to their rent for months and months.

It's typically believed that the all-in costs of evicting a tenant is about \$3,500. Multiply that by 100+ and then consider the severity of the landlord's dilemma by asking yourself: "where do landlords get their money to pay lawyers in the first place?" This is the paradox the landlords are staring at right now. It is a snake eating its own tail. The money the landlords would like to use to evict the tenants is in the hands of the tenants they want to evict!

If you were a bull, would you hand the butcher the knife he was going to use to skin your hide? We wouldn't. We'd hold out, month after month. Watch \$60 grand turn into \$120 grand, into \$180 grand until the landlord was forced by economic necessity to negotiate. The KC rent strike is ongoing, and we will report on the next stages of its development. We're sure there are more lessons to come. ★

# TENANTS TALK KID'S PAGE

Find the 6 words from the newspaper hiding in the building.

Answer key on the back.

"There is not a housing crisis. There is a private property crisis. There is a profit-seeking crisis, and that's all there is to it."

What is private property?

What is profit?

Ask someone you know for help with the answers.

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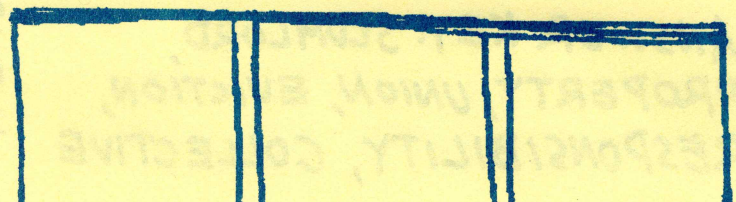
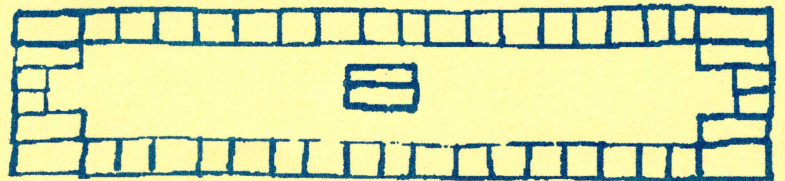


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R	A	I	T	S	E	R	U	W	C	O	M	T	E
T	E	V	I	C	T	I	O	N	U	R	N	A	T
C	A	S	C	R	Y	S	I	B	G	F	U	R	E
U	L	S	P	C	I	T	D	O	A	V	G	I	C
I	W	T	E	O	G	A	E	R	R	L	U	M	B
L	E	A	L	L	N	I	T	T	D	A	T	V	I
P	O	T	T	L	E	S	L	U	M	L	O	R	D
R	D	I	S	E	C	Y	I	A	D	E	C	A	E
O	I	D	A	C	R	C	N	B	A	D	E	I	L
P	N	E	I	T	G	L	O	D	I	N	U	W	E
E	C	F	N	I	T	U	D	A	N	L	N	A	T
R	E	A	G	V	A	M	E	R	T	U	I	I	E
T	L	L	U	E	M	T	D	L	E	T	O	T	R
Y	D	E	R	M	G	E	A	H	R	A	N	C	Y



**Imagine** Dahlia and her mom live down the hall. You play together every Saturday. One Saturday when you knock on the door, Dahlia opens it and says, "I can't play today. I have to help my mom pack. We are being evicted." You ask what that means. Dahlia says, "It means the landlord is kicking us out."

Who do you know that you could ask for help?  
What do you think they might say?

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**Think** of a time when you worked with a group of people to do something you couldn't do by yourself. Draw a picture of you and the group working as a collective.

**ANSWER KEY: SLUMLORD, PROPERTY, UNION, EVICTION, RESPONSIBILITY, COLLECTIVE**

Send us a picture of your finished Kid's Page to win a button!  
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