

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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Dearbornexpress.net

Pandemic edition

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- The ACLU: How to vote by mail in every state.

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- Every item and race on your ballot, explained: <u>BallotReady</u> and Ballotpedia.
- Endorsements from the *Sun-Times* and the *Tribune*.
- Bar associations' ratings of judicial candidates in Cook County.
- Detailed judicial ballot analysis from *Injustice Watch*.
- WBEZ: How to decide how to vote.

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■ Where to drop off mail-in ballots securely in Chicago and suburban Cook County.

Applied for a mail-in ballot? Check its status here (Cook County) or here (Chicago).

- Where to vote early in Chicago and suburban Cook County.
- Where to vote Election Day in Chicago and the suburbs.

An ACLU guide to your voting rights in Illinois and nationwide.

■ Consumer Reports: <u>How to vote safely in-person</u>.

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Bonnie will be back next issue.

Mondays with Mike: Good news, really bad news.

Page 4

Marianne Goss: Guidance still lacking on whether and where to get tested. Page 9

INDEX

Jazz Showcasep 2
South Loop Neighborsp 3
Mondays with Mikep 4
Beth Finkep 5
Lorraine Schmall's Book Reviewp 7
Marianne Gossp 9
Newcityp 11, 12
Development News p 17,18, 19
Police Blotterp 23
Real Estate p 24, 25



Vol. 8, No.13



Saxophonist Ari Brown

<u>Quintet</u>

 THU, OCT 22 | 8:00 PM

 THU, OCT 22 | 10:00 PM

 FRI, OCT 23 | 8:00 PM

 FRI, OCT 23 | 10:00 PM

 SAT, OCT 24 | 8:00 PM

 SAT, OCT 24 | 10:00 PM

 SUN, OCT 25 | 4:00 PM

 SUN, OCT 25 | 8:00 PM

Saxophonist Rajiv Halim Quintet

 THU, OCT 29 | 8:00 PM

 THU, OCT 29 | 10:00 PM

 FRI, OCT 30 | 8:00 PM

 FRI, OCT 30 | 10:00 PM

 SAT, OCT 31 | 8:00 PM

 SAT, OCT 31 | 10:00 PM

 SUN, NOV 1 | 4:00 PM

 SUN, NOV 1 | 8:00 PM



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South Loop Neighbors South Loop Neighbors is a non-profit membership

based organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in South Loop's neighborhoods and preserving the area's landmark districts.

South Loop Neighbors represents South Loop residents who are concerned about:

 \Box Ensuring high-quality, reasonably-sized real estate development as well as infrastructure improvements that respect the unique character of our community

 \Box Preserving and protecting the area's Landmark Districts, including Printing House Row and Historic Michigan Boulevard

Promoting quality education, recreation, services, retail, community activities, and events
 Maintaining a socially, culturally, and economically diverse neighborhood

□ Developing strong relationships with key city officials to ensure they respect, hear, and act on the concerns and ideas of the South Loop community. South Loop Neighbors serves members and residents within the area bounded by Congress Parkway to approximately 25th Street and from the

Chicago River to Lake Michigan. Www.Southloopneighbors.org

South Loop Neighbors

Jim Wales- President Benjamin Cottrell- Vice Pres. Dorothy Miaso- Treasurer Rob Degnan- Secretary Dennis McClendon- Director of Planning and Development Roger Marsh- director Christine Hunt- director Want to know what's open in the South Loop?

Go to <u>https://</u> www.southloopneighbors.org/ open-for-business

For an easy to navigate map.

Compliments of South Loop Neighbors.

Dennis McClendon's presentation on Development, a year in review.

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=OJ58JrIoL8k&feature=youtu.be&t=64







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OPINION

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or South Loop Referral Group.

Mondays with Mike:

by <u>mknezo2014</u> | September 14, 2020

Good news, really bad news



The good news is that our visit to see our son Gus, though delayed a day by weather, took place yesterday at his group home in Watertown, Wisconsin. We stayed distant, sitting on the deck behind the house, but it was good to see him in the flesh, not on Zoom, and to hear him in person, instead of through tinny computer speakers. It was a lovely, sunny day and we sat on the deck and just chilled.

The bad news? In this year that knows no rock bottom, when things can somehow always get worse, they have gotten worse.

Last week, we got an ominous email from Bethesda Lutheran Communities, the operator of Gus' home, inviting us to a town hall call regarding the future of Bethesda's services in Wisconsin.

I couldn't make the town hall because I had a work Zoom, so Beth jumped on the call. When I got off my call I'd forgotten Beth was on the Bethesda call. Maybe intentionally. I looked in on her office and said something about my call—and she said, "Aren't you going to ask how the Bethesda call went?"

I looked at her face. Beth is as even keeled and resilient as anyone I've known, as you all probably know. The color was gone from her face.

She choked out this sentence: "Bethesda is closing all its group homes in Wisconsin."

Gut punched. Kicked in the groin. Cold cocked. I, yes I, was speechless.

Then we were sad. For ourselves, to be sure. We'd hoped Gus would be a lifer with Bethesda, which has cared for him since 2002. And looking for a new home will be a daunting task. But just as sad for the 90 odd other residents of Bethesda's group homes. For their families and loved ones. For the unbelievable staff who care for Gus and others who'll lose their jobs. For Bethesda's long, rich tradition operating residential facilities for the developmentally and intellectually disabled.

Me being me, I also am dealing with anger. Not at Bethesda. But at well-meaning people who years ago pushed the turn to community settings for housing (group homes in average neighborhoods vs. "institutional settings") with unrealistic and illogical claims. I do not disagree with the idea that some developmentally disabled people will do better in a community setting rather than a segregated campus. Having developmentally disabled neighbors isn't bad for the abled bodied, either. Integration is usually better than segregation.

But, folks like Gus don't really get much benefit from it. And group homes, despite pie-in-the-sky claims from proponents, cost more to operate than the concentrated, campus setting Bethesda used to operate.

When Gus moved to Bethesda in 2002, he moved into a nearly new, one-story building that resembled a public school. He had his own room, and his unit had 16 total residents. They had a Gus' current home is a duplex. Each side houses four residents in their own rooms, with its own kitchen. Gus lives in the left side.



common area where they could hang out, and where meals were served.

Gus' unit was connected to others identical to his. They were like interconnected pods. Each had 16 residents and its own staff. But staff could move between the units as necessary.

Now, one of the claims of the pro-community setting folks was that the staff to resident ratio was better. True enough. Three or four staff, as I recall, were on any single shift to take care of 16 residents. The ratio was much better in the homes.

But. Staff at the group homes run a household. That means cooking, cleaning, and other things besides caring for the residents. And if you have two people for the house and one calls in sick, well, that's a bigger impact, and there was no borrowing people from the attached unit.

In addition, as a Bethesda executive explained to me, "We have to have an accessible van that can carry four residents in wheelchairs at every single house." Back when Gus was on campus, I remember two or three always at the ready.

So the state ended up mandating that the campus be emptied out and residents move to group homes. <u>But they didn't up the state</u> <u>reimbursement to Bethesda and other operators</u>. (Another provider, the Catholic St. Coletta, closed its residential service years ago.) For years, Bethesda and other providers have lobbied for that increase. It never came. They've been operating at losses on their group homes for many years now.

Which brings me to anger point number 2. We live in a country that saw fit to give enormous tax breaks to the likes of Google and Apple, and to billionaires. But we don't provide federal support that would provide incremental increases that would barely be noticed.

Bit by bit, my pride in my country is being eroded by shame.

Back to us. Gus will not find himself on the street. We're working with an agency in Wisconsin and another in Illinois to look for a new home for Gus. He may end up moving as Bethesda consolidates homes as placements are found for residents.

Beyond that, we have no answers, and have all the questions you have.

To the many of you who have donated to Bethesda over the years, thank you, thank you, thank you. We had 18 years of feeling confident and comfortable about Gus' situation, and you were a big part of it.

I only wish it wouldn't end.

Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke



http://Bethfinke.com/blog

Why Learn to Use a White Cane before You Get a Seeing Eye Dog?

Did you know that <u>today</u>, <u>October 15</u>, is <u>National White Cane</u> <u>Safety Day</u>? Me, neither. Not until the supervisor at my job moderating the National Easterseals blog pointed it out to me. I was glad she did, because it got me reminiscing about a school visit I especially enjoyed at <u>Eastview Elementary</u> <u>School</u> in Algonquin, Illinois long before the pandemic hit.

With so many elementary school children learning at home these days, new Seeing Eye dog Luna and I haven't made a school visit since March. I miss being with the kids, but time off gives me a chance to think about visits we'd done in the past.

Like that one to Eastview. I was told ahead of time that three students at Eastview were blind, so I arranged to have <u>Braille copies of my children's book, *Safe & Sound* sent there before our visit. I'd use one myself to show the kids at different grade levels what Braille looks like and how it works, and the other three copies would be given to Miguel, age 10, and Seth and Ethan, both age 8.</u>

I didn't expect that these three little blind kids would be able to **read** the Braille books on their own, I just thought that if the other kids at Eastview might be getting books, these three should get a copy they'd be able to read someday, too.

The Braille version of *Safe & Sound* was produced in contracted Braille, a form of Braille I've never been able to master. Contracted Braille has a bunch of shorthand symbols (contractions) for commonly used words and parts of words: there's a cell for the word "and," another for the word "the," and so on. Most of the letters of the alphabet are also used as shorthand for common words, such as "c" for "can" and "l" for "like." Kind of like texting, only you can't make as many mistakes!

When I met the vision teacher at Eastview, I apologized that my book was only available in contracted Braille. "No problem," she said. "That's the only Braille these guys read!" Sure enough, the little buggers were Braille experts.

Really, **all** the Eastview kids seemed to have a strong interest in reading. The school's principal, Jim Zursin, emphasized reading with all the students, and with the help of his staff and the PTO they were making sure reading wouldn't end when summer began. Every child who participated in Eastview's summer reading program and reached their goal would be marching in the Founders Day Parade that summer, each star reader wearing a sandwich board with a drawing of the cover of his or her favorite book on the front. "There'll be hundreds of books marching down the street," Mr. Zursin exclaimed. You didn't have to be able to see to know there were stars in his eyes, just thinking about it. Kids who read that summer would be invited to a



community pool party, too, where Mr. Zursin promised to jump off the high dive – with his clothes on!

I'm pretty confident Seth, Ethan and Miguel marched in the parade that year. They'd be swimming at that pool party, too. They love to read, and turns out they can write in contracted Braille, too. Seth, Ethan and Miguel each wrote a poem for me, and they had to work hard to hold back their laughter as I stumbled through some of the contractions when I tried reading their work out loud. They were happpy to help me through, and in the half hour the four of us were able to spend together in their vision resource room we became fast friends. Miguel showed me how his talking watch worked, and Ethan and Seth, twin brothers, counted off their favorite rides at Disney World. We all laughed at how other kids find Space Mountain so scary. "It's in the dark," we said. Big deal.

The boys had lots of questions about my Seeing Eye dog, and I told them that in order to train with a Seeing Eye dog you have to learn good orientation and mobility (white cane) skills first. "Knowing where you are by what you hear, how the ground feels, which way the wind is blowing – you'll need those skills when you get a Seeing Eye dog, too," I told them. You can't train with a Seeing Eye dog until you're 16 years old, so they had a lot of time to perfect their white cane skills before then. "The Seeing Eye wants you to get good with your white cane before you train with a dog. People who know orientation and mobility and can get around with a white cane are the ones who do best with Seeing Eye dogs."

Later on one of their teachers expressed how glad she was that I'd said that. Apparently the boys hadn't been using their white canes as much as they should. "Now they'll have an incentive."

Before I left their room, each boy proudly presented me with a special collar he had made for my Seeing Eye dog. "We strung the beads ourselves," Seth said, proud of their work. The collars were made of ribbon, and in addition to the beads, each ribbon had a big bell on it, too. "That's so you'll always know where your dog is," Miguel explained.

The three of them came up after the all-school assembly at the end of the day to say goodbye. When I reached out to shake Seth's – or was it Ethan's? – hand, I felt a rubber handle. He was using his white cane!

An earlier version of this post appears on the Easterseals National blog

4th Ward South Loop Public Safety Meeting October 15th

The Webinar featured the following panel Alderman Sophia King

Beverly Carrington, Police, Dept of Communications Commander Jake Alderden, 1st District Police Deb Rowland, Chair South Loop Advisory Council Roger Marsh, Safety Committee Chair, South Loop Advisory Council

Chief Boick, Chicago Police, 1st District Captain Manning, Chicago Police 1st District

Mexican Independence Day-5 Day Celebration

Because the celebrations in Little Village and elsewhere were canceled because of Covid, those who wanted to celebrate felt compelled to go elsewhere. The downtown area has destination sites where celebrations or protests are attracted to ie. Pritzker Park, Trump Tower, Millennium Park, Grant Park. It became obvious that the downtown area was going to experience noise, gridlock and thousands of vehicles heading towards the area and traffic came to a standstill backing up on the Eisenhower all the way west to Austin Blvd, an eight mile stretch. Because of damage and looting that has occurred during other mass gatherings, it was feared that it might happen again. To spare the central business district of any more damage, they blocked all streets north of Ida B Wells Drive and attempted to move them out to Lake Shore Drive.



Much to the dismay of South Loop Residents, the traffic was able to turn south. The chaos that ensued made many residents nervous as it was very loud, dangerous; with fireworks, drinking and vehicles driving on the wrong side of the road and ignoring traffic lights. One night would have been enough but this continued for five nights.

Roger Marsh pointed out that the police on the scene were only instructed to prevent traffic from going north. Nothing was accomplished by calling 911. No information was distributed concerning what the plan was. All residents could do is watch and hope that the nightly celebrations would not get out-of-control.

The participants on the panel agreed that going forward, there needs to be better communication distributed through business groups and community groups. They are currently crafting a plan for Election Day. They don't think any permits for protests will be allowed because of Covid.



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7

Saving Ruby King by Catherine Adel West (Park Row Books 2020)

Catherine West is "young, gifted and Black" (thank you, Weldon Irvine and Nina Simone) and a University of Illinois alum; the daughter of a pastor; and a South-sider who told an interviewer she draws heavily on her own experience in this nicely-written debut novel. West wants her readers to understand, if they don't already, about being Black in Chicago, where "the wind is unique in its relentlessness" and where life for those with "caramelcolored bodies" is "never simple." West addresses readers who "mean well—just not experienced with Black people." Protagonists Ruby King and her best friend, Layla, the pastor's daughter, share a "distinct fear...when it comes to police,...we might just [end up] riddled with bullets." It's unclear whether the author or her character confess: "To be fair, I rarely go past the loop onto the north side, a part of the city where I feel I don't belong, where I sense the whispers and stares of the white people who stroll up and down the blocks; the cute little shops and restaurants and other businesses that wouldn't think of opening or investing in our communities....They can have their artisan cupcakes and organic coffee and handmade gelato." Layla hopes folks can grasp the "nuance of South Side living...not as a war-zone, but somewhere with nice homes, friendly faces and untapped potential." She argues that TV clips of young guys with "pants hanging



Writing Out Loud

what a blind teacher learned from leading a memoir class for seniors

Beth Finke

low, loud-talking about their next reckless conquest and a friend who was shot" do not tell the whole story. But this social commentary is only the context: The heart of the matter is a riveting but uneven saga of two families, three generations, the great migration, and the Church—-a mainstay in the lives of all the souls who want to save Ruby King. They are family, or *like* family. Their grandmothers were best friends whose daughters and sons-in-law and granddaughters are best friends—and all very complex people. There is fidelity but also incest, alcoholism, domestic violence, murder, theft and blackmail. The century-old edifice known as the Calvary Hope Christian Church—a sanctuary for the suffering, a setting for grievous sin, and a sage story-teller itself—serves as the Greek chorus that clarifies the narratives of the seven main characters. Calvary Hope watches its parishioners pray over the suffering they choose to ignore, and reflects that "more things than love bind people together; secrets and lies make just as hearty a bond as love." Stronger editing will make West's next novel even better, but don't skip this one.

Lorraíne Schmall

Dearborn Park October, 2020



A new novel by local author, Paul

(paulwcisel.com)

In a remote corner of

northern Michigan, the residents of Leelanau County have a secret society that has been living on the peninsula for thousands of years. They are the beartransforming descendants of tribes who

crossed Lake Michigan millennia ago to escape

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PAUL WCISEL



the destruction of their clan.

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SCOTT PEEPLES



The Man of the Crowd: Edgar Allan Poe and the Citv

Edgar Allan Poe changed residences about once a year throughout his life. Driven by a desire for literary success and the pressures of supporting his family, Poe sought work in American magazines, living in the cities that produced them.

In The Man of the Crowd: Edgar Allan Poe and the City, Scott Peeples chronicles Poe's rootless life in the cities, neighborhoods, and rooms where he lived and worked, exploring how each new place left its enduring mark on the writer and his craft.

This program takes place October 27 at 6:30 pm Central and will be hosted live via Zoom, <u>register for the program here</u>. You can purchase the book ahead of time on our page at Bookshop.org.

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OPINION

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Retired in Chicago

Guidance still lacking on whether and where to get tested

By Marianne Goss, October 12, 2020

Should I be tested for covid? You've probably asked yourself that during the last several months, and maybe thought, why not? But then perhaps you considered that there aren't enough tests available for everyone, and labs are overburdened with processing tests.

I certainly wouldn't have asked for a test out of curiosity. But I had symptoms — maybe. So perplexing is everything about the coronavirus that I wasn't sure what to make of sleeping longer than usual.

About a week and a half ago, I awoke after 10½ hours and still felt tired. There was also a mild cough. Before last March, neither of those "symptoms" would have received a second thought.

What prompted me to ask my doctor's opinion was that I was due to see my mother in four days and didn't want to put her or the other residents of her assisted living home at risk. Either be tested or isolate for two weeks, my MD replied via email. Being tested seemed preferable — potentially a shorter isolation.

My doctor's office doesn't test. I was on my own to navigate stage two of the testing quandary: where to be tested.

The Illinois Department of Public Health's testing sites are nowhere near me. Neither are Walgreens'. Physicians Immediate Care locations had no appointments available for more than 24 hours. A clinic within walking distance would not accept my HMO insurance. I couldn't locate a nearby CVS site (but later learned of one near the Illinois Medical District, as well as a Rush Medical Center site).

The appointment and insurance details were a surprise. After seeing images of cars and pedestrians lined up at drive-through and walk-in locations, I expected to be able to show up and take a place in line. I also thought the tests were free. In fact, Illinois residents are not paying out of pocket, but if they have insurance, it is billed. Many sites require a screening phone call.

After more than two hours of searching online and on the phone, I found a clinic in Lakeview that would teleinterview me the next day before scheduling a test.

I was instructed to quarantine while waiting three to five days for the test result. I canceled my reservation for Sunday church services and told my mother I'd see her another time. We keep hearing that testing is key to controlling the spread of covid, so why is testing so complicated and inefficient almost eight months into the pandemic?

Resources are still limited. The United States does not have the capacity, of supplies or staffing, to test widely, so the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has prioritized who should be tested.

You've heard numerous times about the failure of the federal government to plan and coordinate a national response to the pandemic. Although more than willing to fault the Trump administration, I was still baffled by people being left to their own devices about whether and where to be tested.

If covid had hit a year ago, when my dad was living, my parents would have been confused about what to do had either shown symptoms. Their experience was that a doctor ordered medical tests and instructed them about where to get them. If the doctor had told them to choose between getting a test or isolating for two weeks, and didn't inform them where to be tested, would they have known what to do?

My test results came back negative. I wondered whether I had overreacted to a cough and fatigue.

"Most public health officials and infectious disease doctors will say that if you feel you have a reason to be tested, you should be tested," Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease specialist, commented. "I can't think of any reason why somebody shouldn't get tested."

That sounded reassuring and helpful. Good to remember if another judgment call is needed about how much coughing qualifies as a symptom.

ANTI-TRUMP COMMENTS: 133RD IN AN ONGOING SERIES

"[I]t's kind of amazing that conspiracy theorists have lined up so supportively behind Trump, when he's really the most convincing proof yet of all their worst fears." Marina Hyde, *The Guardian*

http://www.chicagonow.com/retired-in-chicago/

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

Thedearbornexpress@gmail.com





Photo of the interior of Paisans Pizzeria & Bar located on Clark midway between Polk and Harrison. It looks like it's almost ready to open. This photo is from Oct 5th, 2020.



Trying to make a good first impression. Imprint Apartment building at 717 S Clark. Photo Oct 20, 2020.

CPA_

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Join us for an online behindthe-portraits look at Andy Warhol's Ten Portraits of Jews of the 20th Century



Thursday, November 19 at 7 pm CST

In 1980, **Andy Warhol** created a series that memorialized luminaries of modern Jewish culture: Sarah Bernhardt, Louis Brandeis, Martin Buber, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, George Gershwin, Franz Kafka, the Marx Brothers, Golda Meir, and Gertrude Stein.

Each work was based on an archival photograph that the artist enlarged, partially redrew, and overlaid with blocks of high-contrast color. Warhol provocatively referred to these thinkers, politicians, performers, and writers as his "Jewish geniuses."

Join art historian **Dr. Richard Meyer** for a live-streamed exploration of these portraits and Warhol's interest in fame, genius, and Jewishness.

Dr. Richard Meyer curated the 2008 retrospective *Warhol's Jews: Ten Portraits Reconsidered* at the Jewish Museum in New York and the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco and is author of the book of the same name. He is the Robert and Ruth Halperin Professor in Art History at Stanford University, where he teaches about modern and contemporary American art.

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Our lives as publishers and producers are converging as we document in the Film 50 the creative forces who lead the rise of cinematic Chicago.

As I write, we're deep in the trenches of our movie business, three days away from the world premiere of "Dreaming Grand Avenue." Most of the longer-lead prep is done: the DCPs are at the theaters—Showplace Icon and Music Boxwhere it will open two days later, on Friday. The post-



Colette Ghunim/Photo: Sandy Morris (Sally Blood) | Photographed remotely with Sally in Chicago, Illinois and Colette in Cairo, Egypt. At Zamalek Cinema in Cairo with photo assistant Christina Rizk and retouching, Baby Doll Studio || Cover Design: Dan Streeting

ers are in place for Chicago and ordered for future markets. The merch is in for the premiere gift bags, that night's program is at the printer, and most of the planning is done. Now we're down to the essence: selling tickets in Chicago and planning our expansion. We're not following a conventional rollout to theaters, due to the pandemic, of course, but also to our Chicago- and Midwest-centric way of thinking about what we do. And we're waiting for the first reviews. Since we publish cultural criticism on the magazine side of our business, we know that this part is out of our hands as producers. We can only hope for the best. By the time you read this, this will all have played out and much of the film's trajectory determined.

Our movie business is evolving into more of a micro-studio than just serving as a producer. We play a lead role in finding financing for our films—we're even launching a fund for this, The Chicago Film Fund. We take a very hands-on approach to development and creative production that engages us from casting to principal photography to post-production. And we not only chart the distribution path for each project, but we're increasingly taking on at least some of the role of distributor as well. So here we are, handling theatrical distribution for "Dreaming Grand Avenue."

And our other projects, past and future, demand their own amount of attention, too. We've just signed new distribution deals for "Signature Move," both in North America and the U.K., and we're getting things in order for that. And we're still trying to figure out how to work better with the distributors of "Knives and Skin." All while continuing late-stage development of our next project, "Homesick," which means casting searches, financing conversations and assembling a team.

But first, the Film 50 must go to press and so I conclude this letter. It's a remarkably dynamic film and TV community that's nurturing Chicago, and we're happy to document it. And to be a part of it.



BRIAN HIEGGELKE

Look for Newcity's October 2020 print edition at over 1000 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at <u>Newcityshop.com</u>.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Filmmaker of the Moment: Colette Ghunim

Film 50 2020: Chicago's Screen Gems



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Chicago Cooks

In Chicago Cooks: 45 Perfect Recipes for the Passionate *Palate*, the basics are covered for any kind of meal.

Not every food category is included here. but the ones we have chosen represent a foundation any cook will need to provide for a family or to entertain brilliantly. We hope you will trust us and try these recipes



The two authors are long-time residents of Chicago. Returning to Chicago after 40 years in California as a jazz producer and recording engineer, **Jonathan Horwich** has continued pursuing his passion for music and high quality sound. Carol Montag grew up in St. Louis, MO and came to Chicago to attend The University of Chicago and never left. She has been an educator for 52 years as a classroom teacher, school administrator, and educational coach.

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Review: Honey Berry Cafe gets an Instagram like from me

By <u>Paige Barnes</u>, Audience Engagement Editor October 14, 2020

Stack two thick pancakes, add a substantial amount of vanilla crème anglaise

and hot pink berry mascarpone filling, top it off with an assortment of fresh berries and you will have an #InstaWorthy, #NoFilter Needed sweet taste of Honey Berry Cafe.

The "Signature Honeyberry" pancakes are topped with colorful berry mascar-

crème anglaise over a spread of black-

pone filling, fresh berries, vanilla

berry coulis. Camilla Forte Photo

Honey Berry Pancakes and Cafe, 901 S. State St., is the newest and trendiest South Loop breakfast and brunch place. The small breakfast chain officially opened Sept. 21, replacing Bulldog Ale House.

Since the sports bar chain closed in July, the location has received a David Tutera-esque makeover, from the rustic white dinner tables inside to the gargantuan artificial hedges against the wall that screams, "Take a brunch selfie in front of me."

The menu caters to those with a sweet tooth or in need of something savory and warm for the cooler weather. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are also available.

Its "Signature Honeyberry" pancakes are slightly denser than angel food cake and lighter than the texture of a Bundt cake, but the toppings are what make this signature pancake worthwhile for \$13.

The drizzled berry mascarpone filling looks like a mixture of hot pink Silly String and freshly-dressed fondant. Together, the mélange of tastes mixes perfectly with the vanilla crème anglaise and the blackberry coulis.

It was hard to eat the pancakes in one sitting due to the generous portion and how saccharine the combination was.



For the rest of the review click: https://columbiachronicle.com/ review-honey-berry-cafe-gets-aninstagram-like-from-me

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Written and directed by Hugh Schulze

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PRESS CONTACT

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Media Assets

Trailer https://www.imdb.com/video/vi2594423065? playlistId=tt9059850&ref =tt ov vi







Buddy Guys at Wabash and Balbo. Photo 9-29-2020. Kithcen is temporarily closed . New temporary menu coming soon.



Jazz Showcase is open Thurs-Sunday. Go to page 4. Photo of Pat Mallenger Quartet on Oct 4th, 2020.



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Roosevelt Park is going to the dogs. Oct 5th, 2020.



Dearborn Park on October 12, 2020.

Did you see <u>VOA Illinois</u> on CBS 2 this week?

CBS 2 visited Hope Manor Village, our new 2 bedroom apartment homes in Englewood, to get a sneak peek of our latest project and meet one of the families that



will be moving in this month! Hope Manor Village will replace 36 vacant lots surrounding our Hope Manor II campus with beautiful apartment homes for families in Englewood. Hope Manor Village is a critical piece of our larger strategy to continue supporting the community revitalization efforts going on throughout the Englewood community. You can watch the full <u>story here</u>! We are so proud to share this project and hope you enjoy watching Mr. Liggins happy dance as much as we did!

You can <u>click here</u> to help us continue to change the lives of the people we serve!

Sincerely,

Newy Hughes Mayer

Nancy Hughes Moyer President and CEO, VOA Illinois Learn more about our work <u>here</u>. Volunteers of America is located inside Dearborn Station



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Conversations With the Curators: What Does Democracy Look Like? (Part II)

Thursday, October 22, 6 p.m. CDT Presented virtually on Zoom Register <u>here</u>

Part II: Are democracies serving all citizens? In this session, panelists will discuss if elections are fair representations of democra-

cies in the US and abroad and corporate influences on elections. Featuring: Onur Öztürk, PhD, Assistant Professor of Art History; Joshua A. Fisher, PhD, Assistant Professor of Immersive Media, Interactive Arts and Media; and Ames Hawkins, PhD, Associate Provost for Faculty Research and Development & Professor of English and Creative Writing. Moderated by MoCP Curatorial Fellow Asha Iman Veal.

This event will be recorded and transcribed. If you require special accommodations for this event, please contact <u>mocp@colum.edu</u>.

Image: Oliver Sann and Beate Geissler, Methadone, 2016



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Saturdays with Seniors: Guest Post by Wanda Bridgeforth

1921 was a very good year: Wanda Geneva Johnson was born that year! If you've followed our blog for a while, you know Wanda Johnson by her married name, Wanda Bridgeforth. Witty and talented, Wanda had been attending the memoir writing class I led in downtown Chicago for nearly two decades before coronavirus hit.

What you might **not** know about Wanda is that she is an immigrant: she was born in Canada. Hamilton, Ontario to be exact. The woman Wanda has always affectionately called Mama is the <u>wom-</u> an who adopted Wanda as an infant and loved and raised her on Chicago's South Side. To celebrate her 99th year, we're publishing an <u>essay featured in my book Writing Out Loud</u>. Wanda wrote this piece to describe the resilience and determination that guided her family through the Great Depression — and has influenced Wanda's own life ever since. Sheltering-in-place in her apartment now, Wanda fills her days with episodes of Jeopardy!, naps, meals, and visits from Wanda Jr. The rest of the time you'll find her looking out the window, amazed at the beauty of Lake Michigan and the sky above. "And sometimes I just close my eyes and reminisce," she says. "It makes me happy."

Memories of the Great Depression

By Wanda Bridgeforth

Chicago was especially hard-hit by the Great Depression. Men couldn't find jobs, especially Black men. Here was my father, with a degree in chemistry, and he could not get a job. He was humiliated. And really, that's when he started to fall apart, and that's when Mama started working "in family." She told me that this was the way it had to be. We either survive doing it this way, or we don't do it and we don't survive. So I went to live at Uncle Larry and Aunt Gert's house.

My neighborhood was known as the Black Metropolis. Louis Armstrong had lived there, and Ida B. Wells. Uncle Larry was actually a cousin, but we called him uncle as a term of respect because he was the head of the household.

Uncle Larry was a big Black man that had been injured in WWI, where he fell in love with a White German woman named Gert. He married her and brought her home to the Black Metropolis.

Aunt Gert was a very heavy woman but had very small feet, I think she wore a size three-and-a-half shoe. All her shoes were too big on her, so we could always hear her clomping down the hall.

I had to learn to share. Nineteen of us lived in Uncle Larry's sixroom apartment. The grownups had the bedrooms. Where we slept, in the daytime it was a dining room. We each had a rollaway bed, really a cot on rollers with a cover. At night we took the leaves out of the dining room table and took down our roll-away beds. That was our all-purpose room. We ate in that room, did homework at the table, played cards there and slept there.

Some of the people in the apartment were on relief. Everybody but Aunt Gert would go out every day to try and find work somewhere. Aunt Gert ruled the household. She did the cooking and sent us out. Every Saturday, some people living there would get ration cards. We would take baby buggies to a warehouse and use the ration cards to get our vegetables, fruits, and dairy goods. Auntie Gert baked a pound cake every Saturday and whipped the batter with her hands. We just loved it when we heard her slapping that bowl. We knew we were in for a treat.

She formed committees, and I was on the committee to churn the ice cream. We would always fight over who would get the dasher. Aunt Gert would bake the cake, but we didn't get it right after dinner. After dinner



CLICK HERE

the boys were sent to the kitchen to clean the linoleum floor.

Once they were done cleaning the floor, she would sit in the corner and play the guitar. That's when the rest of us would know to take our shoes off and come in our stocking feet to spread the wax and wax the floor. She'd say "Clarence, get over to that corner, it needs more wax!" We would make so much noise that others in the building knew it was time to join us. Nobody reported us for being too noisy because they were all involved. In the summertime Aunt Gert would play her guitar on the porch and we'd dance in the yard.

We were kids, and we didn't know we were poor. And actually, we weren't poor, we were po'.

And today, thanks to Wanda's fabulous memory and tremendous writing, we are all richer for knowing her. Happy birthday, dear Wanda.

MOST RECENT EPISODES



GOP Senator Mike Lee tweeted this week that "we are not a democracy." On this week's On the Media, why the Republican party's political future may depend upon anti-democratic — small-'d' — ideas. Plus, how the good luck of the so-called "silent" generation has shaped the politics of Joe Biden. And, how the *bad* luck of the millennial generation might shape our collective future.

1. Nicole Hemmer [@pastpunditry], Columbia University research scholar and author of <u>Messengers of the Right: Conservative Media</u> and the Transformation of American Politics, on the origins and evolution of the "republic, not a democracy" slogan. <u>Listen.</u>

2. Matthew Sitman [@MatthewSitman], associate editor at the Catholic journal <u>Commonweal</u> and co-host of the <u>Know Your</u> <u>Enemy</u> podcast, on the anti-democratic state of the Republican party. <u>Listen.</u>

3. Elwood Carlson, sociology professor at Florida State University, on the "silent generation," members of which comprise much of the governing elite. <u>Listen.</u>

4. Anne Helen Petersen [<u>@annehelen</u>], author of <u>Can't Even: How</u> <u>Millennials Became the Burnout Generation</u>, on the downwardly mobile millennial generation. <u>Listen.</u>

Monday, October 5, 2020 New Plans and Renderings for High Profile Lot at Harrison and Dearborn

A reader sent us an email about the evolving plans at 601 S. Dearborn. This is the email that was sent from the developer:

The 601 S. Dearborn development team submitted a revised building rendering and responses to a list of questions that had been provided by the Board of Directors through our zoning attorney, Bridget O'Keefe.

There will be a community meeting of the Board of Directors, the Association's zoning attorney and Transportation Building owners on October 15th via Zoom (meeting info will follow), which will give the homeowners an opportunity to hear a presentation directly from the 601 S. Dearborn Team and to have them answer questions posed by our residents.

We ask that residents return questions to the management office by October 12th so that we may consolidate questions for the developer. After the October 15th meeting concludes, residents will have an opportunity to return follow up questions by October 29th.

There were also some renderings and blueprints of the plan:

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We will send you a ZOOM link to the class once you are registered.

Construction on Building at Southern End of Southbank Development is Apparently Starting

We posted a couple weeks back about some movement at The Southbank development (corner of Harrison and the Chicago River). The Chicago Architecture website got some more info:



According to the mouthpiece for Lendlease, "The next phase is going to be along the river on the southern end of the site." That means Building E, according to the documents drawn up by Perkins+Will and filed with the city on November 15, 2015 by CMK when it was still part of this project.

The construction of Building E will also bring the city a new section of Chicago Riverwalk. And like we've seen with Wolf Point West, and 110 North Wacker, it's going to run underneath the building's cantilever. In Building E's case, there will be about a hundred feet of clearance above the riverwalk. Everyone living on the fourth floor and above on the west side of this building will be hanging over the edge. It seems like an interesting time to be starting a project, but good to see that there is faith in the neighborhood and apparently demand for these types of units.

The addition of the riverwalk is also nice. We've been impressed with the work to-date and adding more public amenities is a nice thing for the neighborhood.

What isn't so nice? If you reside in River City apartments and had a nice northern view of the Willis tower and skyline - that seems to be going away pretty quickly.



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Essex on the Park High-Rise Being Sold to San Francisco Investment Firm

It looks like the Essex on the Park is changing hands (via <u>Global Tall Building News</u>):

A San Francisco investment firm is paying US\$190 million for a new 56-story luxury apartment tower along Grant Park, the biggest Chicago multifamily sale of the year, according to a report.

Iconiq Capital is buying Essex on the Park, a 479-unit high -rise at 808 S. Michigan Ave., from the development joint venture that built it, according to Real Estate Alert, a trade publication. The venture between Chicago-based Oxford Capital and Quadrum Global, which has offices in New York and Miami, completed the project in spring 2019, one of three big South Loop apartment towers to open last year.

The article provides some perspective on the background, but unless you're in the real estate game it probably will go over your head (it did ours!).

In some perspective, it's nice to see that high-profile buildings in the neighborhood can fetch a hefty sum - but we don't know what to make of this. Does anyone else?

Of interest, the Essex Inn Hotel is not part of the deal - so should be interesting to see if the original builders hold onto that part of the asset (that said, it's probably harder to sell a hotel during the pandemic).

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Photo Al Hippensteel



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'Backroom Deal' Ward Maps Help Politicians And Harm Communities, Neighbors Say — But Will Lightfoot Deliver Redistricting Reform?

Bizarre ward maps leave residents scrambling to find who represents them. Then-candidate Lori Lightfoot campaigned for an independent citizens commission to redraw maps — but now won't commit to one.

CHICAGO — The city will soon redraw its 50 wards — and that process needs to be done in public, rather than in backrooms with secret deals, according to a new alliance of community groups across Chicago.

Influential aldermen have long worked with mayors behind the scenes to carve up ward boundaries in ways that benefit incumbents, punish wayward aldermen and ensure a set number of council seats go to the city's white, Latino and Black populations.

The result is a gerrymandered mishmash of wards that zig-zag the city in strange shapes. Some neighborhoods are represented by as many as six aldermen, leaving residents scrambling to figure out who represents their interests at City Council, the community groups said during a virtual meeting with reporters.

But under Mayor Lori Lightfoot — who vowed to increase transparency at City Hall and called for an <u>independent commission</u> to redraw Chicago's wards when she was campaigning — now is the chance for a truly transparent process, Madeleine Doubek told Block Club. Doubek is the executive director of CHANGE Illinois, one of the groups calling for greater transparency in the redistricting process.

The city can also increase transparency because Ald. Ed Burke (14th), long a beneficiary of confusing redistricting, is busy battling corruption charges, Doubek said.

"The combination of a mayor who has a history of commitment to independent redistricting and the fact that Ald. [Ed] Burke has his hands full dealing with federal corruption charges means that we have our best shot to get something like this done the right way," she said.

The groups hope Lightfoot will fulfill her campaign promise of using an independent citizens commission to redraw the wards, and they want more resources — including money — put toward raising awareness of the redistricting process and getting input from residents.

But in a statement Thursday, Lightfoot's office stopped short of calling for an independent citizens commission to redraw the next ward map. The mayor's office did not answer questions about whether Lightfoot still supports an independent commission.

"As the city moves forward with its redistricting process following the completion of the 2020 Census in three weeks, Mayor Lightfoot remains deeply committed to ensuring Chicago's residents receive nothing less than full and fair representation in the redrawing of the city's 50 ward boundaries," the statement read.

"From end to end, there must be transparency and fulsome engagement with our residents. Mayor Lightfoot is committed to working with the council to ensure that happens." Doubek said she's "happy to hear" Lightfoot supports a transparent process, but said she hopes the mayor will "uphold her previous commitment to an independent commission."

Doubek and other advocates want the city's upcoming budget to include money for increasing public outreach ahead of the ward redrawing.

"We certainly believe in and have advocated for independent commissions, but at the very least, the bare minimum expectation that we have and everyone in the city of Chicago should have is that the redrawing of the wards happen after meaningful public input in public, in a transparent and accountable way," Doubek said.

How Redistricting Works

After every census, Chicago is required to redraw its legislative districts to account for changes in population. The city must be separated into 50 contiguous wards, each with roughly the same number of residents.

State law requires City Council to present an ordinance with a ward map by Dec. 1, 2021, but past redistricting fights have led to lengthy court battles that delay the maps.

Even once the dust settles, the new ward map will only go into effect at the next election in 2023. Ward boundaries will remain and current aldermen will represent the wards they were elected to serve until then.

Although each ward must be contiguous, ward redistricting over the decades has resulted in a hodge-podge map that does not align with neighborhood or other geographic boundaries.

The 2nd Ward, led by Ald. Brian Hopkins, resembles a lobster, stretching from the Gold Coast to West Town and heading north along the newly created Lincoln Yards megadevelopment into Lakeview.

RELATED: What The Heck Is Up With The 2nd Ward Map?

Not a single block of the ward now resides inside the 2nd Ward's previous boundaries, when it stretched from the South Loop to the West Loop because of redistricting after the 2010 Census.

It's widely thought <u>the ward was redrawn so drastically</u> to deprive former Ald. Bob Fioretti of his usual constituents and prevent him from being reelected because he was an opponent of then-Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

The 3rd Ward (left) runs in a narrow path from Roosevelt Road all the way to 57th Street. The 27th Ward (right) stretches east of Halsted all the way west of Pulaski. For the rest of the story click

https://blockclubchicago.org/2020/10/09/backroom-deal-ward-maps -help-politicians-and-harm-communities-neighbors-say-but-willlightfoot-deliver-redistricting-reform/

This story was produced by <u>Block</u> <u>Club Chicago</u>, a nonprofit newsroom focused on Chicago's neighborhoods, and the <u>Better Government Association</u>, a nonpartisan watchdog organization.



The "Lens On Lightfoot" project is a collaboration of seven Chicago newsrooms examining the first year of Mayor Lori Lightfoot's administration. Partners are the BGA, Block Club Chicago, Chalkbeat Chicago, The Chicago Reporter, The Daily Line, La Raza and The TRiiBE. It is managed by the Institute for Nonprofit News. Dedicated outdoor parking spot near the intersection of 9th Street and S. Park Terr. available for rent immediately. \$165/ month.

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THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

We welcome letters to the editor

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http://home.chicagopolice.org/

BEAT 123

Fri, 25 Sep 2020 03:00 800 S Wabash Ave AUTO THEFT Parking Garage (non residential)

Wed, 30 Sep 2020 01:48 0 E Roosevelt Rd AG-GRAVATED BATTERY KNIFE CTA Train

Mon, 05 Oct 2020 10:20 AGGRAVATED BATTERY 700 S Plymouth Ct Apartment

Wed, 30 Sep 2020 17:00 800 S Wabash Ave AUTO THEFT Parking Garage (Non Residential)

Sat, 26 Sep 2020 20:00 500 S State St AGGRAVATED BATTERY Street

BEAT 131

Tue, 29 Sep 2020 13:40 100 W AUTO THEFT Street

100 W 23rd St

Wed, 30 Sep 2020 13:48 1300 S Michigan Ave BURGLARY Unlawful Entry Apartment

Thu, 01 Oct 2020 20:42 1300 S Michigan Ave AUTO THEFT/ RECOVERY – Arrest made Street

Tue, 06 Oct 2020 19:00 1600 S Wabash Ave CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT Vacant Lot

Thu, 01 Oct 2020 04:30 1900 S Wabash Ave AUTO THEFT

BEAT 132

Tue, 06 Oct 2020 20:25 2000 S State St AGGRAVATED ASSAULT - HANDGUN CTA Bus

Fri, 25 Sep 2020 08:25 1700 S Indiana Ave STRONG ARM - NO WEAPON Arrest made Street

Sun, 04 Oct 2020 201400 S Lake Shore Dr EAGGRAVATED BATTERYSidewalk

We focus on crime that is violent or may affect your physical safety. If you look at the graph on top of this column, you will see that the highest incidence of crime is theft, usually on the street or in restaurants (like cell phones stolen from tables). The crime shown on this page is based on Beat 123 131 and 132.



Man Shot in South Loop

Thursday, Oct 16th, By <u>Sun-Times Wire</u> Oct 16, 2020

Earlier that afternoon, a man was shot in the South Loop.

Paramedics picked him up about 1:35 p.m. in the 1000 block of South State Street, according to police. He was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in good condition with a gunshot wound to the hand.

South Loop town house fire displaces residents

The fire damaged multiple town houses and at least nine adults and three children were displaced, police said. No injuries were reported.

By Sun-Times Wire Oct 16, 2020, 1:53a



Multiple residents were displaced in a town house fire Oct. 16, 2020, in the 1800 block of South Dearborn Street. *Sam Kelly/Sun-Times*

A dozen people were displaced in a fire early Friday in the South Loop.

The blaze was reported about 12:40 a.m. in the 1800 block of South Dearborn Street, according to Chicago police.

The fire damaged multiple town houses and at least nine adults and three children were displaced, police said.

No injuries were reported, according to police and Chicago Fire Department officials.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

http://chicago.suntimes.com

Real Estate Transactions

\$690,000 1412 S STATE ST 8/6/20

\$532,000 47 W 14[™] ST 2102 8/14/20

\$399,000 1075 S PARK TERRACE 208 8/21/20

\$940,000 1354 S FEDERAL ST 8/20/20

\$382,500 161 W HARRISON ST 701 8/17/20

\$585,000 1324 S INDIANA PKWY 8/14/20

\$340,000 1101 S STATE ST 902 8/14/20

\$659,000 1335 S PRAIRIE AVE 1606&GU103 8/13/20

\$255,000 1250 S INDIANA AVE 915 8/13/20

\$232,000 1250 S DEARBORN ST 207 8/10/20

\$330,000 1255 S STATE ST 1817 8/10/20

\$252,000 910 S MICHIGAN AVE 1214 8/7/20

\$170,000 680 S FEDERAL ST 908 8/7/20

Dearborn Express Al Hippensteel, editor 312.939.8888 dearbornexpress@gmail.com



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Dearborn Street Realty Tom Feddor, 312.203.3841 tomfeddor@gmail.com



40 E 9th, #1216

2 Bed, 2 Bath, 1250 Sq Ft

\$280,000

Anne Rosen Keller Williams 312.545.7148

711 S. Dearborn Street: Unit 201-303, Chicago, IL Price: \$1,260,000 Square Feet: 4,200 (Really BIG Space) 4 Bed, 3.5 baths



Susan Dickman - Koenigrubloff/ Berkshire Hathaway Home Services 773-627-8176

910 S Michigan Ave #908 For Rent or Sale 847 SF Fully renovated 1 bedroom Rent: \$1,750 mls# 10883384



Sale: \$240,000 MLS# <u>10851644</u> Video: <u>https://youtu.be/b1nJR6ymoHU</u>

Broker Owned Stephanie Derderian Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Chicago

312-636-6044

910 S Michigan Ave #406 847 SF 1 bedroom with sunroom \$215,000 with storage MLS#<u>10836810</u>



Stephanie Derderian Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Chicago 312-636-6044 1305 S Michigan Ave #1102 2 bed, 2 bath, 1285 sq ft \$375,000

Brett Pechter • @properties 847.858.5464

732 S Financial PI #304 1 bed, 1 bath, 812 sq ft \$255,900

Lena Straight Kale Realty 312.939.5253



Daniel Pyne • Eldorrado Chicago Real Estate 773.343.9142

1101 S State St #706 1 bed, 1 bath, 800 sq ft \$199,900

Daniel Beck • Dream Town Realty 847.858.2357

1 E 8th St #807 2 bed, 2 bath \$269,900

Sohail Salahuddin • @properties 312.437.7799

901 S Plymouth Ct, 405 2 bed, 1.5 bath 1250 Sq Ft \$335,000 Thomas Palman @Properties 312.543.9380











