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Risk/ Benefit

We are currently in Florida. The question was/ is . . . What are the risks? It seems reasonable that one could drive to Florida and isolate fairly well. What about hotels? Hotels get it. They have precautions, they have protocol. It's the hotel guests that may be the problem. As long as you avoid crowds, you should be able to do okay. What about breakfast? We have been surprised at the uncrowded conditions. At one hotel, the food was in one room, mask and plastic gloves were required, and the seating was in the next room. We shared it with only one other party. What about restaurants? On the way down, we waited until mid-afternoon to eat—well past the Noon hour. At one location in Georgia, we were the only inside patrons. If there were more than three parties, we might have carried out. Yet, the two drive-thru lanes both revealed long lines. If you don't want to wear a mask, I guess you use the drive-thru. Okay with me. In Florida, restaurants are fully open and bars are fully open. Customers feel that it's okay when it's outside. To me, too many groups of unrelated people were too close for comfort. Most folks in the south seem to go along with mask wearing when they have to. Some gas stations seemed lax and the customers took advantage of it. And some counties in Alabama seem to have stricter rules than sister counties elsewhere. The benefit of spending the month in Florida, for us, outweigh the risks as long as we can manage the risk by following Dr Fauci's advice. See Monday's with Mike on page 9.



A bar on the pier in Saint Peterburg, Florida. Photo Jan 29, 2021

Feb 15 , 2021

Vol. 9, No.2

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JAZZ SHOWCASE

The Jazz Showcase is the oldest historic jazz club in Chicago, founded in 1947 by Joe Segal, now owned and operated by Wayne Segal (Joe Segal's son). The greatest names in Jazz have played here, including but not limited to:

Roy Hargrove, Chris Potter, Frank Morgan, Danilo Perez, Larry Coryell, Paul Wertico, James Carter, Stu Katz, Ira Sullivan, Winard Harper, McCoy Tyner, Dexter Gordon, Bunky Green, Count Basie, Kenny Burrell, Milt Jackson, Jimmy Smith, Randy Weston, Barry Harris, Joey DeFrancesco, Jack McDuff, Bill Evans, Walter Bishop Jr., Sun Ra, Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Orchestra, Sonny Stitt, Yusef Lateef, Eddie Jefferson, Richie Cole, Joe Lovano, Dizzy Gillespie (who appeared there on his birthday for many years), Johnny Griffin, Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, Howard McGee, George Benson, Pat Martino, Joe Pass, Barney Kessel, Philly Joe Jones, Charles McPherson, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Ernestine Anderson, Lou Donaldson, Hank Crawford, Jimmy McGriff, Lonny Liston Smith, the Art Ensemble of Chicago, Muhal Richard Abraham, Zoot Sims/Al Cohn, Joe Williams, Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, Joe Farrell, Art Farmer, Bobby Hutcherson, the Capp/Pierce Juggernaut, Freddie Hubbard, and others. Ahmad Jamal recorded his trio album Chicago Revisited here in 1992. Joe Segal produced the live album "The Chase" by Gene Ammons and Dexter Gordon here in 1970.

Today, the Jazz showcase continues to be a thriving Jazz club in Chicago, bringing in top international & Chicago homegrown musicians.

Watch NEA Jazz Masters: Tribute to Joe Segal <https://youtu.be/D6m-2jBvrvY>



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Jazzshowcase.com

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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:

- Ensuring high-quality, reasonably-sized real estate development as well as infrastructure improvements that respect the unique character of our community
- 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
 Greg Borzo, Lana Reese and Jeremy Campbell have joined the Board.

South Loop Development Roundup

A reminder: Our Sept. 16 online meeting covered the development and planning issues active in the neighborhood. If you weren't able to attend, you can view [the entire presentation on YouTube](#).

The latest on all South Loop projects can always be found at southloopupdate.com

Dennis McClendon
 Director of Planning and Development



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Safe & Sound Blog

by Beth Finke

[A Pedestrian Plea](#) Feb 12, 2021

<http://Bethfinke.com/blog>



That's me and Luna posing in snowy Printers Row Park, me in the red coat, Luna in the black coat.

Every winter here in Chicago I find myself questioning why it is that when snow plows clear passage for cars, the snow mounds they leave on curb cuts and crosswalks go unshoveled. What about the pedestrians? This [article in Forbes](#) says it well:

Plowing equipment exists that can clear sidewalks at least as efficiently as streets are cleared by conventional plows. College campuses and companies with large and complex facilities use them. But very few cities take full responsibility for clearing sidewalks the way they all do for clearing streets. And by and large, either taxpayers don't want to fund it, or politicians don't want to risk asking. So while some winter weather cities and towns are better than others for winter accessibility, very few do a genuinely good job of it.

Temperatures are hitting record lows (and are staying there) in many parts of the country this week. With so many people working or attending school classes from home due to COVID-19 regulations this winter, many Americans are spending less time in their cars and more time walking or bicycling outside. In our neighborhood, the city has plowed bike paths, but walking on snowy icy sidewalks to take short breaks from work, run errands, help neighbors, or just get exercise has been difficult. For friends who use wheelchairs, it's been impossible.

We appreciate city services plowing the streets, but if they don't clear the crosswalks, curb cuts and sidewalks, how can pedestrians get safely across to the other side? In addition to people with certain disabilities, other parts of the U.S. population do not drive, including:

- Children
- Many people age 65 or better
- Those who cannot afford a personal vehicle
- A growing number of people who simply choose not to drive.



Beth in red coat, Luna in the black coat.

Sidewalks and crosswalks are necessary for all of us who don't drive. More from that *Forbes* article:

If this was purely a weather problem, then disabled people would have no choice but to endure, or somehow find a way to move to warmer climates. But winter weather accessibility barriers are also a policy and practice problem. Winter weather would be substantially less of a problem if cities and towns made it a higher priority.

Maybe we pedestrians all need to band together?? In the meantime, hang in there -- it's all gotta melt sometime.

MOST RECENT EPISODES

Billion Dollare Idea

January 29, 2021

On this week's show, we look at what happens when scientists try to save the public...from itself. Plus, why vaccine distribution might be slowed down by intellectual property rights. And how, memers and righteous redditors used GameStop to upend Wall Street.

1. Zeynep Tufekci [[@zeynep](#)], associate professor at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, explains why public health officials send mixed messages on everything from masks to variants. [Lis-ten.](#)

CLICK HERE

ON THE MEDIA



Retired in Chicago

Leanne, I wish you could read this post Jan 25, 2021

By **Marianne Goss**, January 25, 2021

This is the third post in the last four that I'm writing about death. My good friend Leanne Star, former coworker and current fellow blogger on ChicagoNow, died unexpectedly over the weekend at age 72.

Three weeks ago I blogged about another friend and former coworker whose death from cancer was anticipated. Leanne's came out of the blue. As far as her friends know, Leanne had no serious health problems. She exercised diligently, ate healthy food, and paid attention to symptoms.

Our friendship wasn't surprising, considering what we had in common. Word people, we met in the 1990s as editors in the Northwestern University publications office and had backgrounds as writers. Only five months apart in age, we both had progressive views shaped by coming of age in the late 60s. We shared a love for and knowledge of Chicago, she as a Chicago Architecture Center docent and I as a Chicago Greeter.

A stellar writer and cook and competent in so many areas, Leanne will be most remembered by her friends for her generosity. We all can tell stories of Leanne's going above and beyond. She gave me a party for my 65th birthday; it was so much fun she repeated it for a couple more birthdays. She helped me celebrate my 70th at a restaurant.

Before I put my former condo on the market, Leanne brought over a sander to repair spots on the hardwood floor. Soon after I moved to my present place, she arrived unbidden to restack boxes so that they would be out of the way until a closet was built. She hemmed my window curtains and shopped for the pole and hooks at Ikea.

When my father died, Leanne made the drive to Joliet for the funeral. The dwarf fern growing on my bedroom ledge was a gift from Leanne after I lost my cat Lizzy last May. The yoga pants I'm wearing as I write this were from Leanne. There were countless meals for which she wouldn't let me pay, always coming up with a reason she should treat.

Leanne wanted me to go through the Chicago Architecture Center's docent training with her. I preferred the laidback style of Chicago Greeter but was always happy to be her guinea pig when she rehearsed a new tour. She particularly relished leading the CAC river cruise. She took pride in being able to remember and recite name, style, architect, and date in the short time the boat was in front of a building, and doing it repeatedly for scores of buildings.

Some of my fondest memories will be of the times Leanne and I were joined by our friends Juanita and Roseann. The conversation never lagged, the laughs were frequent. We all looked forward to the annual Yuletide get-togethers Juanita hosted. Leanne, Roseann, and I took monthly three-season hikes in the forest preserves for years. Leanne, leaving an unhappy marriage during that time, said she was grateful for sympathetic listeners. I was grateful to do something for her, since I worried that she gave more than she got.

I am glad that Leanne found love after her divorce; that she saw her three daughters achieve professional success, marry, and make her a grandmother; and that she built the energy-efficient home her architect daughter designed. How she doted on her six grandkids, all under six. She made them exquisite quilts and clever storybooks. When COVID kept her from seeing them in person, she wrote "Doggie Diaries" for them from the point of view of her pets Diva and Dillon.

Five months ago Leanne began her [Star Gazing](#) blog on ChicagoNow. I especially enjoyed her three-part series about her hometown of Park Forest. We often emailed one another to comment on a post. After I blogged three weeks ago about my friend Vickie's death, and two weeks ago with thoughts about mortality, Leanne emailed me to validate my feelings. The second post was headlined "Do what makes you happy." What Leanne did in recent years brought her happiness, but I wish it could have lasted longer.

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

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Looking north from Dearborn Station towards Federal St past the Divy Bike station.

Photo by Staff Photographer Mary Ivory

Monday, February 1, 2021

[After Taking 2020 Off For Covid-19, Printers Row Lit Fest Plans to Return in September](#)

Good news and some not surprising news about one of our favorite Chicago festivals (via [Chicago Sun-Times](#)):

36th Annual

PRINTERS ROW

LIT FEST

The [Printers Row Lit Fest](#) is back this year, as the annual free showcase of booksellers, author events, spoken word performances, writing workshops and more now is scheduled to take place Sept. 11-12 in the South Loop.

This year's festival returns following the postponement of the 2020 iteration due to state and city COVID-19 festival/large gathering restrictions.

For those unfamiliar, the fest [usually takes place in June](#). Given some of the remaining uncertainties about the pandemic, probably a good move by the organizers. Hopefully come September, some things will be more normal.

<http://www.sloopin.com/>

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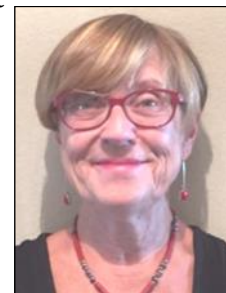
A black history: Eddie S Glaude, jr, **Begin Again** (Crown Publishing 2020)

Joe Biden ran for President on the promise he would *restore the soul of America*. But James Baldwin (1924-1987), Black writer, thinker, activist—one of the “great moral essayists of his time...the saint of the twentieth century”—knew we lost our souls at conception. Despite his witness of lynchings, church bombings, and the murders of his three dear friends: Medgar [Evers], Malcom [X], and Martin [Luther King, Jr.], Baldwin kept his secular faith in his singular gospel: we can't save our souls until we acknowledge our original sin of slavery. Three decades after his death; seven years after three Black women created Black Lives Matter; four years after the rise of Donald Trump; and only six weeks after the armed siege of the US Capitol by white supremacists—draped in “the iconography of the glory of enslavement in the era of lynching”—we *must* read Eddie S Glaude Jr's powerful meditation on Baldwin's legacy, **Begin Again**. Glaude fosters the hope we can finally write an honest story of America. Only when we remember that the White Lion, carrying Angolans sold into enslavement to white settlers in Jamestown, arrived *one year before* the Mayflower made it to Plymouth Rock, will we understand that racism and domination of Black bodies and souls began at our beginning. “The lynched relative; the buried son or daughter killed at the hands of the police; the millions locked away to rot in

prisons; the children languishing in failed schools; the smothering concentrated poverty passed down from generation to generation; and the indifference to lives lived in the shadows of the American dream” are not “exceptions to the American story,” but “the rule.” Glaude worries we will again fail to address “the lie” of racism, as we've always done after “cataclysmic events”—the Civil War; the Civil Rights Movement; the Civil Rights Act, now Black Lives Matter—that could precede the baptism needed to cleanse our souls. His persuasive moral arguments and the painful racist history that Glaude illuminates—which many of us don't or refuse to know—commends this book. James Baldwin believed white folks could be saved: “*we don't need enemies.*” Despite the antipathy towards a country where he “lives but doesn't belong,” so does Glaude. “A new story doesn't mean that we discard all of the elements of the old story, nor does it mean that we dwell only on our sins. Instead we narrate our national beginnings in light of our contradictions and our aspirations. Innocence is left aside.” Go for it.

Lorraine Schmall

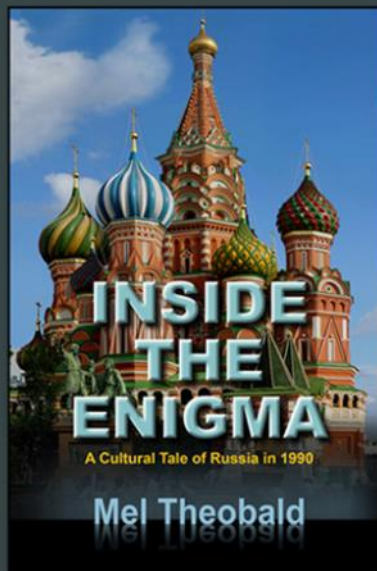
Dearborn Park February, 2021



Susan Bass Marcus writes and illustrates fiction, essays, and reviews. Her Dragonwolder fantasy novels, *Malevir: Dragons Return* and *Where Dragons Follow*, offer a world of dragon clans, an enigmatic menace the Malevir, sprites, goblins, questing humans, and magical giants. Her musings appear weekly on her blog, “About Susan Marcus,” <https://susanbassmarcus.net>. Both paperbacks are available at Sandmeyer's Bookstore.

Inside the Enigma A Cultural Tale of Russia in 1990

by Mel Theobald



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For complete details, please go to:
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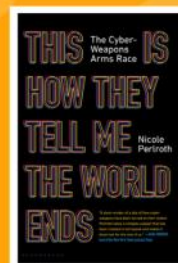
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NICOLE PERLROTH



February 26
6:30 pm CST



Nicole Perlroth: This Is How They Tell Me the World Ends

In *This Is How They Tell Me the World Ends: The Cyberweapons Arms Race*, New York Times cybersecurity reporter **Nicole Perlroth** reveals the untold story of the cyberweapons market—the most secretive, invisible, government-backed market on earth.

This important book offers a terrifying first look at a new kind of global warfare. This virtual program takes place **February 26 at 6:30 pm** Central and will be hosted on Zoom. [Register for the program here.](#)



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<https://americanwritersmuseum.org/>

Writing Out Loud

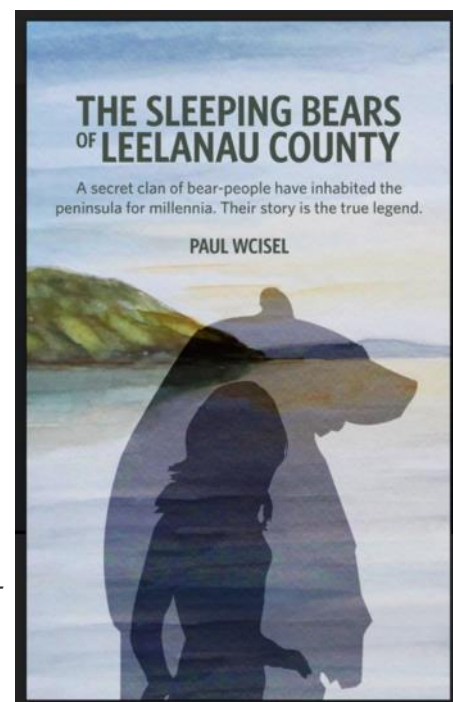
what a blind teacher learned from leading a memoir class for seniors

Beth Finke

A new novel by local author, Paul Wcisel (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 bear-transforming descendants of tribes who crossed Lake Michigan millennia ago to escape the destruction of their clan.

One evening, a traveler has a chance encounter with a spirit bear and discovers he has a hidden history of his own. In the months that follow, he becomes deeply involved with the Sleeping Bear Clan and — depending on your point of view — a murder.



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 [mknezo2014](#) | December 7, 2020

Do no harm, or least
do your best



I had the day off last Monday, so I played hooky on the blog, too. Besides wanting a break, I really didn't know how to do right by Dr. King, and so, my day of silence.

We had a terrific MLK weekend. We took the Metra commuter line to Glen Ellyn Saturday afternoon. Last time we took the train, we didn't even have to buy tickets. This time one window was open at Ogilvie Transportation Center, and we bought tickets. It felt kinda normal. Sorta. Luckily, everyone was masked and the cars were pretty empty. Our friend Jenny picked us up and chauffeured us to her and her Husband Dean's back yard.

It was pretty cold, but they have an enormous outdoor fireplace and Dean had constructed a sort of open-air enclosure that provided a roof and a wind break. Beth has been friends with Jenny, Dean, and Jenny's sister Jill since...high school. And they still talk to each other! Actually, we have a gas together. Cocktails are involved.

Was it a risk? Not much of one. They've all been tested umpteen times in order to meet with their children and grandchildren. Beth and I have had it already, and I'd been tested that very morning.

The short of it: It was a very low risk effort with an extremely rich and much needed reward. Ain't nothing like laughing out loud in the company of friends. Beats the hell out of LOLing virtually.

From there Beth and I got a Lyft to [Geneva, Illinois](#), a sweet little town on the Fox River that we called home for a few years in the 1990s. We stayed at a beautiful, rustic hotel called the [Herrington Inn](#), built in 1874, it was originally a creamer that had been meticulously restored and expanded by the time we moved to town. It's right on the river, and from our balcony we could hear the water swirl by. On Sunday it snowed, and it was idyllic.

The town is almost painfully quaint with gift shops and little restaurants. And it's just what the doctor ordered. Masks were prevalent. Except. There were several restaurants flying in the face of directives that were still in place last weekend. They were seating people inside, and the distancing was iffy. We walked by a bar and I was sorry to see that the bar was open with patrons three deep watching football. Most sans masks.

On Saturday night upon arrival, we ordered room service, and the next night we dined in a heated tent. Servers and patrons were masked.

We've been eating outdoors at our favorite Italian restaurant pretty regularly. It's a fantastic place owned by a native of Milan, and his perfectionism comes through in the food and the service.

We don't want it to go out of business. Once a week we share a propane heater and have a sumptuous meal. Staff is masked and meticulous about hygiene, and we keep our masks on as much as possible.

We've also had drinks at our local, Half Sour, which is permitted to have indoor guests only at tables that are adjacent to big open windows. We need to get out and they need business. We judge it to be a risk worth taking, and dressing for the cold is weirdly fun.

It's been so hard on everyone. Many of the restrictions have seemed like blunt instruments. Here in Illinois, casinos opened before restaurants. If you serve food you can have limited indoor guests, but if you don't—like our beloved Jazz Showcase—you're out of luck.

On the other hand, the idiotic flaunting of wearing masks in the name of freedom is ridiculous. Freedom is not the absence of responsibility.

All this reminded me of an article in The Atlantic from way back in May. (It references a death toll of 70,000. Man.) The headline, way back on May 11, was "[Quarantine Fatigue Is Real](#)."

The subhead was, "Instead of an all-or-nothing approach to risk prevention, Americans need a manual on how to have a life in a pandemic."

It argued to take a harm reduction approach. It borrows from approaches to AIDs and drug use that don't shame and don't insist on abstinence so much as encourage less risky, safer behavior. From the article:

In the earliest years of the HIV epidemic, confusion and fear reigned. AIDS was still known as the "gay plague." To the extent that gay men received any health advice at all, it was to avoid sex. In 1983, the activists Richard Berkowitz and Michael Callen, with guidance from the virologist Joseph Sonnabend, published a foundational document for their community, called "How to Have Sex in an Epidemic." Recognizing the need for pleasure in people's lives, the pamphlet rejected abstinence as the sole approach and provided some of the earliest guidance on safer sex for gay men, including recommendations about condoms and which sex acts had a lower or higher risk for disease transmission.

The article's author, an epidemiologist and professor at Harvard Medical School, suggested way back in May that wearing masks, avoiding crowds, and redesigning spaces could make life more livable in the time of Covid.

Everyone has a different threshold for risk—especially in these times. We have immunosuppressed friends who can't take even small risks. And then we have friends who just got over the virus and feel comfortably safe for a few months.

Whatever your threshold, wear a mask and be careful out there.

Welcome 2021 and Welcome 3 New Board Members!

The South Loop Neighbors begins the New Year with a Planning session by the Board of Officers for SLN, with events plotted out for the entire year. This year's planning session will be enhanced with the addition of 3 new Board members to the SLN Board! In addition to the incumbent officers being re-elected to the Board, **Greg Borzo, Lana Reese and Jeremy Campbell** have joined the Board.

If you have suggestions on activities the Board should consider in the planning session, please submit them [HERE!](#)

Thanks for your continued support!



Snow Man eyeing the statue of General John Logan at 9th and Michigan Ave. in Grant Park.

Photo by Staff Photographer Mary Ivory

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February 2021: 35th Anniversary Spectacular

We have a weakness for **nostalgia**, which is why we approach anniversary issues of Newcity with trepidation. We know how easy it is to fall into the black hole of memories. To avoid this, we've adopted the custom of looking forward, rather than backward, with our annual anniversary issues.

But we do have lessons we can learn from our history, so since this is something of a milestone anniversary, our thirty-fifth, we decided to combine the two. Taking as our premise "Mirror to the Future," we tasked our writers with looking to the past to help us understand where we are today and where we might go from here. We hope you find the work as fulfilling and fun to read as we did to edit it.

One of the joys of an issue like this is reconnecting with your past. In 1986, Frank Luby, a recently graduated editor of the University of Chicago Maroon, helped us get this crazy idea off the ground, and served as our first editor for ten issues over those first months. His piece in this issue, which revisits a lifelong obsession with the blues that he introduced to Newcity readers back then, is one of a very few he's contributed since. Other writers have stayed connected throughout, like Ted Fishman, who's not only continued to write for us off and on as his career has soared, but has become a dear personal friend outside of work. Robert Rodi has taken the unlikely path of meeting us long ago as a cover-story subject, and serving now as our music editor. And Ray Pride is our longest-serving editor, still helping the film section.

This is the 1,411th issue we've published. Needless to say, we have thousands of folks, past and present, to thank for getting us here. And for the memories of moments we've shared in our journey. It hasn't been easy—our chosen field has seen its business model thoroughly disrupted since we started. But the joys of publishing great work, of seeing our "kids" soar in their careers, keeps us going.

As do the little things. We got this card in the mail the other day, on an otherwise bleak day in both weather and in business. It came from a subscriber in Boulder, Colorado, who was renewing. "Here's \$130—two years sub money," he wrote, "plus a tenspot to get an Italian beef at Al's #1 on Taylor Street."

For a brief moment, the sun started shining.

BRIAN & JAN HIEGGELKE

Look for Newcity's February 2021 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at Newcityshop.com.



Cover design: Dan Streeting

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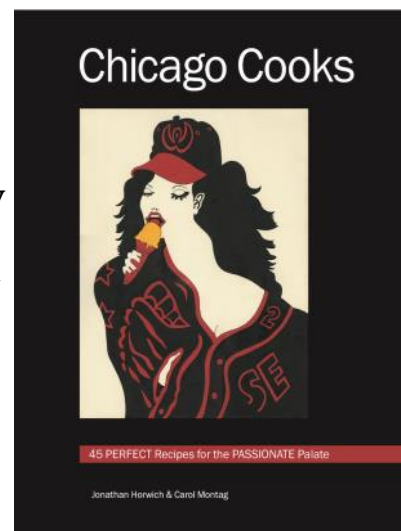
In Chicago Cooks: 45 Perfect Recipes for the Passionate Palate, the basics are covered for any kind of meal.

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

so that you can experience food made with care and passion, food that stimulates your palate, and inspires you to share each recipe with those you love.

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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It's pretty obvious what's wrong with Marjorie Taylor Greene, don't you think?

Thurs, Feb 4, 2021

My mother called me a couple of days ago and she said this: "You know I hate to talk politics with you, but I'm really curious about one thing: Can you keep it to 10 words or less?"

I told her I'd be glad to. Whatever the question.

"What do you think of Marjorie Taylor Greene?" she asked.

I told her I could do it in less than 10. In fact, I could do it in three. (Albeit there is one contraction). "She's mentally ill," I said.

She was elected by 75 percent of the vote in her Georgia district. I suspect she said she wasn't against guns, but she *was* against abortion. And in this country, whether we're red or blue, a poll's position on those two things is all that matters. Those two issues, for or against--sometimes with a side of Green New Deal, Medicare for All and Black Lives Matter--are what drive every House election in the country, one way or the other.

No matter what I read, Greene [sounds crazy](#) to me. In the most medical and diagnostic of terms.

She's sick, not bad.

But that's not how most people see it, I guess. Especially politicians who should know better. They treat mentally sick people like criminally bad people. How wrong they are to do that. And they should change their tune. Now. When it really matters, with a real person in a real situation.

Saying someone is very bad or very mean is easier to do than saying someone is very mentally ill. Dealing with mental illness takes compassion, it takes grit and wherewithal and strength of character and just plain physical strength. And dedication. Because mentally ill people, who you have to do something about, zap everything you have, mentally and physically, all your prowess wrapped up together. It's really really really really really really hard.

And that sort of energy is in short supply in Washington. Especially the compassion part.

If your kid started telling you that school shootings are a hoax and that forest fires are caused by Jewish lasers, would you throw her out of the house or take her to a doctor? Would you allow people to call her an awful disgrace and despise her? Or would you want your friends to help you get help for her?

When sick people are demonized and not encouraged to get treatment, it's a sign of a sick society. Look in the mirror. Who are we? Should we let pettiness and meanness prevail? The people in Washington do practice what they preach, which is demonization at all cost. And for the rest of us, that is *not* an example to follow.

Not one person in the media or in the government or in my circle of friends has ever suggested that people like Greene are mentally ill. Never. They may call her crazy--but they say it as an insult, not as a diagnosis. Our politicians operate in the dark ages. We should demonize *them*.

When Washington insiders go on talk shows and cavalierly call Greene nuts, they never mean it literally. They're right. She is nuts. But they mean she's a worthless fool, who needs a kick in the butt so hard, she lands back in Georgia. They think a good insult is what she needs to combat what ails her.

Greene is not spouting conspiracy theories. Conspiracy theories are possible theories about possible conspiracies. About things for which there is evidence.

That Bush and Cheney looked the other way when knowing for some time that Muslim terrorists were going to fly planes into buildings is [a believable theory](#) about a conspiracy between the White House, the intelligence community and the oil companies. That there were made up weapons of mass destruction to provide an excuse to invade Iraq and get their oil is plausible if you've read American history. True or not, it sounds possible and there is some evidence. It could be true for all we know. That is a conspiracy theory.

But believing that kids in a school being gunned down is a hoax is not a theory about a conspiracy unless one is crazy. Certifiably crazy. Which Greene appears to be. There is no evidence whatsoever that supports that theory.

Greene is delusional if she believe Jewish lasers are conspiring to start forest fires. Believing that indicates a psychotic break. Believing that Bush and Cheney and the intelligence community and the oil companies conspired to get us into a phony war doesn't indicate that a person is psychotic. It indicates a certain level of skepticism.

Likewise, false flag conspiracy theories aren't crazy if there is 100 percent evidence that one was underway, like [this one from 2016](#).

But if you believe, without any evidence that Hillary Clinton was running a [child sex ring out of a pizza parlor](#), that indicates a psychotic break.

So what should be done about Greene? If anything. I don't know. I'm not in Congress, nor am I in the medical profession. Even if I knew exactly what to do, I couldn't do it anyway.

But there are choices for others who have a responsibility to do *something*. Do nothing and ignore her? If the House thinks that Greene is dangerous to herself, or to others or to the Institution she was elected to serve in, here are some ideas: Take her to court and try to have her committed. Call a psychiatrist over to Capitol Hill from Walter Reed for advice on how to convince Greene to take medication that could help her discern reality.

Ask Greene's family to hold an "intervention." Maybe they'd have to restrain her in a straitjacket to get her to see a doctor. But better than letting her be called a bad person and stripped of all dignity. Hospitalization to get her brain chemistry back in order could help her, perhaps. And she may agree. And she may agree to therapy of some kind, too, if she knows she's not thinking straight.

Everyone should put their money where their mouth is. And if they don't think she is dangerous, leave her alone.

Otherwise, I'd say remove her as a danger to herself and others--due to a severe illness. A break from reality. Not because she's stupid and bad. And hold that standard for all, don't use medical emergencies as a political tool.

(Continues on next page)

Bonnie McGrath

Visit my blog: www.chicagonow.com/mom-think-poignant/



(Continued from previous page. Bonnie McGrath)

The easiest thing to do, and politicians usually do the easiest thing, is to call Greene an evil stupid woman. And kick her out of the club even though she was voted into the club by real people who live in a real district in this very real country. Be real. And don't make that a cavalier precedent.

It's hard not to bully her or silence her or demonize her. Like House leaders and others of the chattering classes in the elite circles of Washington and on the coasts do. It's her country, as well. And she deserves consideration and respect. Maybe ignoring her rambling is better than giving it all this negative attention? If you want to try a simple Pavlovian treatment.

Whatever. But help her. Understand her. Extend a compassionate hand. Don't live and act in the Dark Ages.

Put up that sign in the halls of Congress that so many Americans have in their windows and on their lawns: Hate Has No Home Here.

Bonnie McGrath



Mask wearing Snow Man in Grant Park.

Photo by Staff Photographer Mary Ivory

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

We welcome letters to the editor.

This publication is sponsored by the South Loop Referral Group, a professional and business networking group. It is our mission to provide the Printers Row area with current news and to promote local businesses and organizations. This publication will be distributed through email to individuals who wish to receive it. If you have any questions or would like to contribute information, please email us:

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Car Jacking Meeting sponsored by Alderman Sophia King. Jan 22/2021

Questions posed and answered from various members of the Chicago Police Dept.

Are there certain neighborhoods where car jackings are most prevalent? No, there is no pattern and all neighborhoods have experienced this.

When car jackers are arrested, how many are released back on the streets? There are no statistical data showing how many are let go.

What are the root causes of car jackings? Police don't see this as, say, an initiation to join a gang. Most of the time, it's to steal a car to commit another crime or for just joy riding.

If you have a permit for conceal carry, can you use the plea of "self-defense?" Police can't answer that, but it is not wise to put yourself in danger for a car. And the car jackers probably already have a gun on you.

Is it possible to station officers near schools when parents are picking up their kids? Good question, maybe. However, you should always call 911 if you see suspicious persons or a suspicious car where you don't expect one. Be sure to have a good description of the car and license plate number if possible.

What is the percentage of people getting hurt or killed with these car-jackings? Don't have those statistics at this time however, few people get hurt in the 2nd District according to police records.

What is the safest way to put a child in a car seat? First put the kids in their seat and then start the car. Car jackers do not want to steal a car with a child in it. Much more serious crime.

Have people been followed home for instance from a grocery store? Police see no pattern in this. Out of 19 cases this year in the second District, only 2 were from Marianos. If you have a garage door, drive in and close the door immediately. If someone is following you, keep driving and don't attempt to park in the garage.

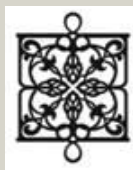
Are there locations where car jackers like to commit their crime? They do like quick exits to Lake Shore Drive and any expressway. There's been a few at gas stations.

State Senator Robert Peters spoke to the Skyline Village Chicago on February 8th, 2021. Among the topics, he mentions car jackings. In response to those who call for stiffer penalties, he points out there is only a 5% clearance rate (only 5% get caught) so most perpetrators don't make it to court. And, he explains, vehicular car jacking is already a detainable offence.

To view the entire program

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=258544932356126&ref=watch_permalink

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Wednesday, February 3, 2021

[1000M High-Rise Looking to Shift From Condos to Rentals to Get Building Off the Ground](#)

The off again on again high-profile development - 1000M - continues to be in the news. [The Real Deal has a quick summary](#) of the current attempts to resuscitate this project.

Time Equities' revised plan for its 1000M tower means building nearly that many residential units.

The firm is seeking a zoning variance that would let it build more than 700 units at its stalled luxury condo skyscraper project by Grant Park, according to Crain's. The filing comes nearly seven months after Goldman Sachs yanked construction financing on the \$470 million development.

New York-based Time Equities filed an application with the City Council to boost the allowable units to 738 at the planned 74-story tower, Crain's reported.

Time Equities initially intended to build 421 luxury condos at 1000 South Michigan Avenue — called 1000M. Current zoning calls for a maximum of 506 units, according to the report, so the new figure would be a massive increase. The filing also shows the building's height would drop from 832 feet to 805 feet.

As we've seen just down the street at NEMA (Roosevelt and Indiana), the rental market has been easier for developers to get off the ground. Will the Sloop be able to support another massive rental high-rise? We shall see.

<http://www.sloopin.com/>



Fort Zacary Taylor, Key West Florida. Photo by Al Hippensteel



O'er the ramparts we watched, the wave runners gallantly streaming. Photo by Al Hippensteel.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BARBARA'S BASEMENT?

As we draw closer to the holidays, **Barbara's Basement Resale Shop** is beginning to decorate for Thanksgiving and Christmas with pumpkins, Christmas tree ornaments and floral arrangements.

Our store is stocked with a large assortment of new and used ladies and men's watches, bracelets, earrings, necklaces and rings.

Do you need extra dinner plates for the holidays? Check out our stock. Gift wrapping is available this year, beginning *December 1st (by appointment only)*. Please provide boxes if needed.

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Second Presbyterian Church hosts its annual Winter Coat Drive during the months of November through February. Donations of warm clothes, socks, sweat shirts, hoodies, sweaters, coats, gloves, caps, scarves and mittens will be distributed to our neighbors in need.

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Gator along the Tamami Trail, northern border of the Everglades. Photo by Al Hippensteel



The Pyramids of Florida, Fort Myers, Fl. Vacation Resort. Photo by Al Hippensteel.

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Where To Get Paczki In Chicago For Fat Tuesday 2021

Paczki Day falls on Feb. 16 this year. Here are more than 65 places you can grab a pastry in Chicago.

[Kelly Bauer](#)

Feb 8, 2021

Tuesday is Paczki Day.

THE LOOP — Bakeries will make — and undoubtedly sell — tens of thousands of paczki this Fat Tuesday.



Fat Tuesday is Feb. 16 this year, and Chicagoans love to celebrate the holiday with the famous Polish doughnuts.

Paczki are pastries made with a bit of alcohol and rich flour. They're typically filled with something sweet, like jam, chocolate or fruit, and topped with sugar or icing. They're eaten on Fat Tuesday, otherwise known as Mardi Gras.

RELATED: [How Do You Pronounce 'Paczki'? Most Chicagoans Are Saying It Wrong \(VIDEO\)](#)

Block Club has rounded up 59 bakeries, cafes and restaurants where you can grab paczki on Fat Tuesday. (Or [want to make your own? We have a guide for that, too.](#))

Just make sure to call ahead if you want to make sure you get a paczki — major bakeries are often swamped on Fat Tuesday.

Stan's Donuts on Roosevelt Road next to the Roosevelt L Stop. And most grocery stores.



<https://blockclubchicago.org/>



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Wreath in Printers Row Park, Dec 16th, 2020.

Wreath later after the first snow storm.

Photos by Al Hippensteel and Mary Ivory.



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South Loop cafe proves resilient despite the pandemic

By [Abby McFarland](#), Photojournalist
February 5, 2021

Grail Cafe is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is located at 715 S. Dearborn St.

The heart of Printer's Row is home to a quaint cafe where comfort and community are a top priority. Grail Cafe, a Black-owned business located in the South Loop, opened on Jan. 1, 2020, and quickly became a staple of the neighborhood.

But due to the pandemic, owner Sheldrick Holmes has faced repeated crushing blows that left him angry.

The first obstacle was the re-paving of Dearborn Street outside the cafe in late April, right after indoor dining was closed for the first time.

"The city's telling us, 'Hey, we really need to support small businesses' ... [but] I have these big huge things of gravel and dust, and wind, so who's eating out there?" Holmes said.

But that was not the only problem. Grail Cafe also had issues with applications for multiple small business grants being rejected.

Holmes applied for the Business Interruption Grant on Nov. 3, which is funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce, and soon after he received an email explaining the funds had run out, and he would not be awarded the money.

The bright pastry display is the first thing that welcomes customers as they enter Grail Cafe.

"I have worked too hard to keep this business," Holmes said in a livestream video posted on Grail Cafe's Instagram on Dec. 31.

"And then to see that injustice of the Business Interruption Grant that was meant for people to keep open. I've kept my doors open; I've worked. And I'm still going to be open. [The South Loop community] should be mad right now."

According to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's website, only 6% of the Business Interruption Grant funds were given to Black-owned businesses, whereas 55% of the funds were given to white-owned businesses.

Alexandra Landers, a South Loop resident and customer who has been supporting Grail Cafe since the beginning of the pandemic, is among many others who are concerned about the livelihood of the cafe.

Landers works in the theatre arts and was confused as to why larger organizations such as the Goodman Theatre were receiving so much funding while other businesses were not. [CLICK LINK BELOW FOR REST OF THE STORY](#)

<https://columbiachronicle.com/south-loop-cafe-proves-resilient-despite-the-pandemic>



PHOTO BY Abby McFarland

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Six Years Ago.

This letter originally ran in the Dearborn Express February 15, 2016.

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FERD KRAMER
*Chairman
of the Board*

Thanks to Jerry Sideman of Dearborn Park who sent me this letter. Ferd Kramer was one of the committee members to help form Dearborn Park. He now has a park named in his honor just to the west of the Dearborn Station.

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August 5, 1985

To the Residents of Dearborn Park:

It has occurred to me that many of you, particularly those of you who have moved to Dearborn Park in the last few years, may not be familiar with the origins and philosophy that prompted the development of the new neighborhood in which you reside.

Approximately seven years ago, a group of Chicagoans called the Central Area Committee presented a development plan known as "Chicago 21" for the entire central area of the city. The segment of this area from Polk Street to 15th Street and from State to Clark, comprising of some 52 acres, was designated for residential construction.

As no developer was interested in providing housing as suggested by the plan, a small committee was formed, of which I was one, to procure the equity money needed for the acquisition of the land, and the construction of the first 1,000 dwelling units for middle income purchasers, as well as housing for the elderly. The principal financial and business organizations in the central area put up approximately \$14,000,000 for equity and we procured construction loans totaling \$73,000,000.

It was decided that a new neighborhood should have a variety of housing types in a suburban environment with adequate recreational facilities. We therefore selected separate architects for the site plan, and for each type of housing - the town houses, mid-rise, high-rise and the elderly building - five architectural firms in all. We also employed a firm of construction managers with a national reputation.

Our goal was to provide housing that was the best buy in the entire Chicago area. We achieved this in two ways. First, the Dearborn Park Corporation was formed as a limited dividend Corporation so that the investors would be limited to a return

continued ...

DRAPER AND KRAMER

INCORPORATED

Residents of Dearborn Park

Page 2

August 5, 1985

of six and one half percent on their investment, (incidentally in seven years they have received no return whatsoever.) Second, we were successful in securing mortgage money at interest rates from three to five points under the market.

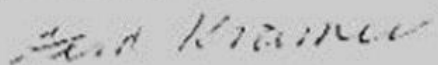
From the beginning, it was the hope of the Board of Directors of Dearborn Park, that the success of our project would be the catalyst that would spark other developers both to rehabilitate existing buildings and construct new housing in the area.

Testimony to the achievement of our hopes is evident by the following:

1. The condominiums are 96% sold out.
2. Parks, tennis courts, swimming pools and jogging tracks are in place.
3. Printers Row is well on its way to complete renovation.
4. New developers are constructing more housing and facilities.
 - a. 2 East Eight Street
 - b. River City
 - c. Town houses east of tennis courts
 - d. Renovation of the Dearborn station
 - e. Board of Education has funds for an 8 grade elementary school
5. The city has agreed to put the infrastructure in the area south of Roosevelt Road, thus making it ripe for further development.

It has been very gratifying to me, both as one of the earliest occupants of the development and as Chairman of the Board of Draper and Kramer, to see Dearborn Park attain the goals which we hoped for when the Dearborn Park Corporation was first formed.

Sincerely yours,



Ferd Kramer
Chairman of the Board

FK/kb

MentorWorks: Mentoring in Crisis

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
- 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

MentorWorks is a workshop series for mentors, coaches, managers, and supervisors to develop new professional skills, explore new ideas, and connect with a professional network of peers.

Mentoring in Crisis

Clinical psychologist and mental health advocate Dr. Anat Geva leads two online, interactive sessions.

Build a framework for connecting in crisis, with skills you can apply right now and far-reaching benefits for facing future challenges.

Living through the COVID-19 crisis can be stressful and induce a sense of grief. Grief is a universal response to the loss of a loved one—and it is a natural response to the pandemic-related losses many are experiencing, such as loss of routine, security, professional identity, social connections, and certainty about the future.

How can we mentor people through this time of uncertainty—when we may be facing the same challenges in our own lives?



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Saturdays with Seniors: Guest Post by Gabriela Freese

Gabriela, free at last

I am pleased to feature Gabriela Freese as our Saturdays with Seniors guest blogger today. Her parents immigrated from Germany to South America; she and her twin sister were born and raised in Paraguay, and Gabriela immigrated to Chicago in 1959, where she met her husband, a German immigrant.

Gabriela received a degree in dentistry from Loyola University in Chicago and had a practice in suburban Oak Park. After retiring, she moved to Admiral at the Lake in Chicago and has been in the memoir class I lead there ever since the class started. We meet via Zoom now, and when I assigned "Free at Last" as a writing prompt to honor Martin Luther King's birthday last month, she came back with this beautiful essay.
Beth Finke

by Gabriela Freese

It was the first time in my life that I got to watch someone draw their last breath. It was more like a sigh. Nine days in a deep coma were the last chapter in my husband's life. It got very quiet in the room, no more rattling anxious breaths. We sat in wonder as we watched peace enter the room...and stay. Yes, he was now free, free at last. It was such a relief to witness this torture end.

I had been next to my husband for the nine days he was in a coma, spoke to him, and tried to comfort him. It is said that hearing is the last thing to go, although a reaction was no longer possible.

This was in 2010, and the passing of time has softened many of the sharp corners of those days. I cannot tell you how relieved I was when his torture was over.

Yes, he was free at last.

But was I free also? The toll that years of caregiving takes on the carer is huge. We chalk it up to having the energy to do more and more like we did when we were "young," creating a deep emotional exhaustion that some people will never overcome and others, like me, had the strength to focus on other aspects of life that were totally out of reach before.



Still, going to the Symphony alone? A trip? Actually, quite wonderful. Nonetheless, it took me four years to settle back into my own person -- thanks to support groups, friends and especially, my children that had to deal with the ups and downs of their own lives.

Susan Lane, a friend I had met in a support group, lived here at the Admiral and invited me to those great Sunday brunches where everyone enjoys the food and has a good time. That made my decision to move to the Admiral quite easy.

None of us expected a pandemic, of course, but friends of mine who still live on their own sometimes marvel at my stories. "Oh, the Admiral plans this for you?" they ask. "They do that for you?"

Hmmm.

When thinking of my own freedom from household chores and all that, I'm grateful, of course. But am even more grateful for what lies behind me.

Live and Learn? When I find myself in need of assurance, I look to friends and family around me. What lies ahead of me goes on forever.

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

TheDearbornExpress@gmail.com





ALDERMAN * 4TH WARD
SOPHIA KING

Ward04@cityofChicago.org

CPD Sentiment The Chicago Police Department's [Sentiment Dashboard](#) shows how safe residents feel and how much they trust the police in different parts of the City. The scores are based on people's responses to a survey that you can fill out [here](#).

Flu Shots Getting the flu vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from the flu. The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is hosting over 50 community flu clinics where residents can get free flu shots. Find the closest location to you at chicagoflushots.org or learn more at chicago.gov/flu.

- **Mental Health** Emotional reactions to this emerging health crisis are expected. Remind yourself, your family, and your friends that feeling sad, anxious, overwhelmed or having other symptoms of distress, such as trouble sleeping, is normal. If symptoms become worse, encourage them, or yourself, to reach out for support and help.

o Call 312-747-1020 to connect to free telepathy services at the Chicago Department of Public Health's Mental Health Centers.

Call 311 or NAMI Chicago Helpline 833-626-4244 for a mental health counselor.

[Bright Star Community Outreach](#) also has a helpline at 833-TURN-123. For after hours, there is the Crisis Text Line which serves anyone, in any type of crisis, 24-hours a day. Instructions: Text HELLO to 741741 to access a trained crisis counselor.

Housing

Housing Assistance If you need housing assistance, there may be state and local agencies that can give you financial assistance. Enter some information on this online form to find out: chi.gov/housinghelp.

Landlord Problems? If you or someone you know is unable to pay rent or is having other issues with their landlord, call the [Chicago Tenants Movement](#) at 773-657-8700 or fill out their form at bit.ly/letsorganize.

Rental Housing Counseling The Chicago Urban League is offering counseling to help current and future tenants work on finding housing, budgeting, and working with landlords. Talk to Deidre Beaver at 773-451-3610 or dbeaver@chiul.org to schedule an appointment.

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451 Confirmed Cases

13,088 Tests completed

By age group	Dec 19	Jan 15	Feb 14
<20	5%	6%	6%
20-29	29%	29%	32%
30-39	28%	26%	29%
40-49	13%	13%	13%
50-59	11%	10%	10%
60-69	7%	8%	6%
70-79	4%	4%	2%
80+	3%	4%	2%

No data on deaths per zip code

<https://www.wbez.org/stories/map-by-zip-code-of-coronavirus-covid-19-cases-illinois/90ca85cd-bdf4-423a-a7bc-924fcee9d0f3>

Next CAPS Meeting Mar 10, 2020

3PM at Zoom

(Every 2nd Wednesday)

Police Blotter



<http://home.chicagopolice.org/>

BY SAM CHARLES, STAFF REPORTER
scharles@suntimes.com | @samjcharles

A close associate of the popular yet embattled Chicago rapper G Herbo was killed in a brazen daytime shooting in a South Loop barbershop last week.

Gregory Jackson III — more widely known as “Lil Greg” — was in the Studio Nineteen barbershop, at 1931 S. State St., shortly after noon on Jan. 28 when someone walked in and shot him in the face, according to Chicago police and the Cook County medical examiner’s office.

Jackson, a 24-year-old from South Shore, was pronounced dead at Stroger Hospital a short time later. In a brief interview with the Chicago Sun-Times, Jackson’s mother, Nicole Griffin, said Jackson was a father to two young children.

Jackson’s death occurred just hours after he appeared before a Cook County judge for a marijuana possession charge. His attorney, Herschel Rush, successfully pleaded the charge down to a misdemeanor, and Jackson walked free after he was sentenced to six days of time served, court records show. Rush said Jackson had no violence in his criminal history, and he was “courteous and respectful” throughout their time as attorney and client.

“I’m shocked and saddened to hear this news and I always had a great relationship with him,” Rush said.

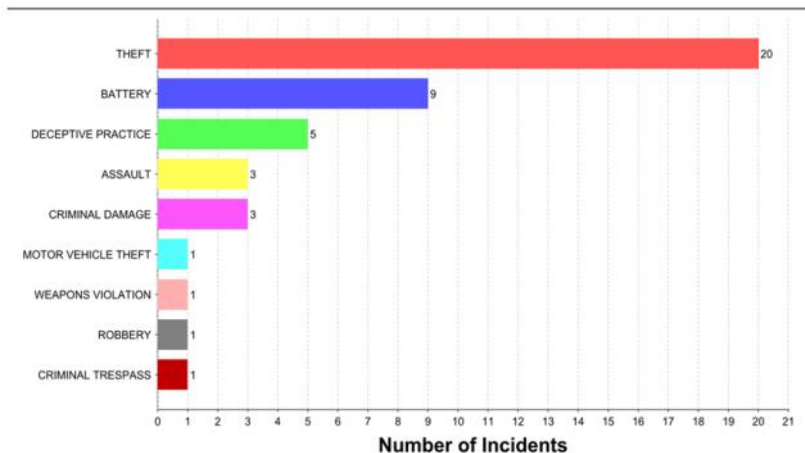
According to police sources, Jackson was a member of the South Shore-based No Limit Muskegon Boys gang — a renegade faction made up of members of both the Black P Stones and Gangster Disciples. “NLMB” is occasionally used as an acronym for the saying “Never Leave My Brothers,” as well.

G Herbo has long claimed an affiliation to NLMB, and in a 2012 song with fellow local rapper Lil

Report Date: 10-Feb-2021
Report Time: 12:13:25
Produced By: Information Services
Division
Run By: PC0996

Top Ten Crimes From 15-Jan-2021 To 10-Feb-2021 On Beat 0123

Page 1 of 1



Bibby, G Herbo said: “Yeah it’s no limit, thirty years runnin’, thirty years gunnin’ and we still the s—.”

In recent days, Jackson’s Instagram account has been deluged with messages offering sympathies on his death, including a tribute from the popular Atlanta rapper 21 Savage.

The last post on Jackson’s account features a smiling photo of him and G Herbo — whose birth name is Herbert Wright III — with a caption stating in part: “Can’t Nun Come Between Us.”

In a song released last year, G Herbo made an apparent reference to his close friendship with Jackson, saying: “Me and Greg was sharing clothes, but we wasn’t really bros.”

Last December, G Herbo and several members of his crew were charged in Massachusetts federal court for allegedly using stolen credit card details and IDs to pay for private jets, expensive meals and designer puppies over the last four years. G Herbo faces charges of wire fraud and aggravated identity theft. G Herbo’s attorney in that case declined to comment on Jackson’s death. Other representatives for G Herbo could not be reached.

In another recent Instagram photo, Jackson is seen making a vulgar hand gesture while smiling and standing next to Maurice Harris, another member of NLMB who goes by “LilWet.”

Harris was charged in 2017 with murdering four people at a South Shore restaurant on East 75th Street, although those charges were dropped last year.

<http://chicago.suntimes.com/>

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10/22/20

\$408,000
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10/22/20

\$307,000
1530 S STATE ST 430
10/22/20

\$525,000
1335 S PRAIRIE AVE 1908
10/22/20

\$222,000
780 S FEDERAL ST 1007
10/22/20

\$233,000
40 E 9TH ST 1306
10/21/20

\$640,000
1313 S PLYMOUTH CT A
10/21/20

\$350,000
1516 S WABASH AVE 304
10/21/20

\$915,000
1436 S FEDERAL ST
10/21/20

\$265,000
520 S STATE ST 615
10/21/20

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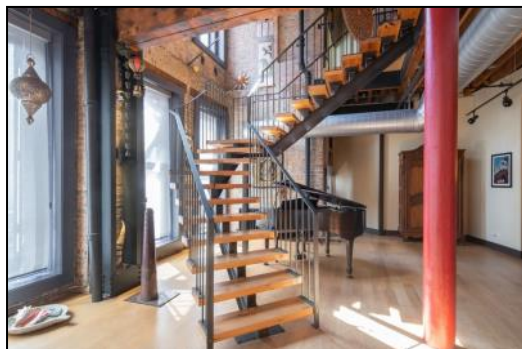
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