

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH LOOP REFERRAL GROUP SERVING PRINTERS ROW AND DEARBORN PARK AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR JANICE KOERBER, ASST. EDITOR

Dearbornexpress.net



Flavio Gentile

Last Wednesday night, I was busy cooking for Thanksgiving when we got a text from our friend Cami: "FYI, Flavio passed away today." As simple and straightforward as it was, it took a minute to process: Do I know more than one Flavio? For <u>Flavio Gentile</u> was too young (fifty-one), vibrant and *present* to die. But apparently he took ill a couple of weeks ago, a day after attending a Bears game, seemingly with the flu. By the end of the week he was in the hospital fighting a losing battle against sepsis. He left behind a wife, two young daughters, and his other baby, the Printers Row Wine Bar & Shop.

I did not know Flavio well enough to be considered a good friend, but I felt a different kind of bond built out of time and consistency. Over the arc of his career, we had hundreds of conversations, forming the kind of long-term relationship that is rare in contemporary life, one of friendly shopkeeper and regular customer. Printers Row Pharmacy opened on Dearborn Street not long after Jan and I moved to the area in 1985; a few years later, Flavio's father Michael, who'd run Gentile Pharmacy on Taylor Street since 1963, taking it over from his father, purchased the shop on our street as another location. Over time, the drugstore started offering a robust selection of wine, the influence of Michael's son Flavio. Eventually, as son once again took over for father, the son decided he'd rather sell vino than vaccines, and he transformed the space into Printers Row Wine Shop in 2004. Three years ago, he added a wine bar, the charming Lee Gusman joined him as manager, and business flourished like never before.

Flavio booked musical acts and poetry readings but more than anything created a place where locals and visitors alike could spend hours in convivial conversation. Flavio exuded *gioia di vivere*. I will never forget warm summer nights on the wine bar's patio when Flavio would join us for a break, puffing on a cigar and contagious in his

contentment.



Brian Hieggelke NewCity

November 30, 2022



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Wed, Nov 30, 8pm/10pm	Bob Lark & His Alumni Big Band
Thu-Sun, Dec-1-4, 8pm/10pm Sun, 4pm/ 8pm	Guitarist Russell Malone
<u>Mon, Dec 5, 7pm</u>	Chicago Academy for the Arts
Tue, Dec 6, 8pm/10pm	Bob Lark Septet
Wed, Dec 7, 7pm/9pm	Barb Bailey's Birthday Bash
Thu-Sun, Dec 8-11, 8pm/10pmGoldings Bernstein Stewart Organ Trio	
Sun, 4pm/8pm	
Mon, Dec 12, 7pm	Chicago Human Rhythm Project
Tue, Dec 13, 8pm	WDCB 90.9FM – Free Admission
Wed, Dec 14, 5pm	Jazz Links Jam Session
Thu-Sun, Dec 15-18, 8pm Sun. 4pm/8pm	Saxophonist Tim Warfield's Jazzy Christmas
Tue, Dec 20, 8pm/10pm	Chicago Soul Jazz Collective

Russell Malone

Dec 1-4



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M - F 11:00am - 8:00pm Sat: 9:00am - 6:00pm Sun: 10:00am - 6:00pm 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

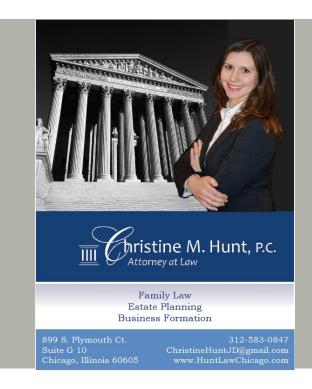
Elected board President – Jim Wales V.P. of Planning & Development – Dennis McClendon Vice President/Secretary – **Benjamin Cottrell** Treasurer – Dorothy Miaso Director – Christine Hunt Director – Roger Marsh Director - Greg Borzo

Call for Board Members

The South Loop Neighbors, like most other organizations, runs under the direction of a Board of Directors. The monthly activities, and general direction of the organization is developed through the work of an active Board. The SLN is looking for additional members to join our Board. The main commitment is a monthly Board meeting, generally held in the evening on the 1st Tuesday of the month. If interested for would like more information,

please connect here!





OPINION

Mondays with Mike: by mknezo2014 October 10, 2022

A Neighborhood Grieves



In 2002, our son Gus moved away from our home in Urbana to a group home in Wisconsin and Beth and I became empty nesters. In 2003 the weekly paper I edited folded and I was out of a job. That spring, Beth's book, "Long Time No See," would be published. I got a gig up north and Beth thought it'd be easier to promote her book if we lived in Chicago.

We both grew up in the suburbs but had never lived IN the city. And so, we ended up in the Printers Row neighborhood that we've grown to love. We were drawn to its central location—multiple expressways, bus lines and L stops converge here. And back then, before Uber and Lyft, you could count on catching a cab within a minute or two.

More than that, the place felt like Bedford Falls nestled in a bustling metropolis. It still lives like a small town. Plus, we've always been drawn to places where Beth and her Seeing Eye dog could function and get stuff done independently. And Printers Row fit the bill. A bank was just down the street. Even nearer there was <u>Sandmeyer's Book</u> <u>Store</u>, Kasey's Tavern, and a little old-fashioned pharmacy/ convenience store. I mean, that's life right there.

Flavio, the proprietor of the pharmacy, was a keen entrepreneur, and he decided to transform the pharmacy into a wine shop/liquor store. (<u>He came by his entrepreneurial</u> <u>spirit honestly.</u>) We were concerned at first about losing a business we liked, but we weren't hurting for drug stores, as CVS and Walgreens stores had popped up everywhere.

We needn't have been worried. Flavio divided the space, leased out half, and turned the other half into a warm, intimate, friendly space. He stocked wines at multiple price points and he had a knack for finding delicious bottles at very approachable prices. And if you needed a recommendation, you need only tell him the occasion and the menu and you'd walk out with a winner.

On Friday evenings Printers Row Wine Shop hosted wine tastings. They became a regular destination for lots of folks in the neighborhood. That popularity sparked Flavio to convert the tasting bar into a bar-bar, and hence a business within a business was born.

It's still a retail store. While people sit and sip and converse in an extremely civilized environment—wood floors, tin ceiling, and conversation-level background music—others stroll in and out, picking up a bottle of wine for a dinner party, or beer for the weekend.

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.

Beth and I thank our lucky stars for the people and places that make Printers Row Printers Row. Ellen Sandmeyer and her late and one-of-a-kind husband Ulrich. <u>Totto's Market</u>. <u>Sofi restaurant</u> and <u>Senoritas Cantina</u> in our building. The folks at <u>Kasey's Tavern</u>. Jazz Showcase. <u>Half Sour</u>. And Flavio and the great staff at <u>Printers Row Wine</u>.

These places are businesses, yes. But because of the care and attention of their proprietors, and their care and attention to their customers, these businesses become characters in the lives of we who live in Printers Row.

The neighborhood lost Ulrich Sandmeyer a few years back. And, I'm heartbroken to report <u>that we lost Flavio last</u> <u>week</u>. Suddenly, unexpectedly, and given that he was an extremely vital 51, entirely too soon.

He leaves behind his wife and two daughters, the oldest of whom just started high school. A large, tight-knit family and a plethora of good friends—many of whom we met at the shop—are coming together to support Flavio's family and each other.

Still, our hearts ache for them.

And, of course, we'll miss him. He reminded me of my grandfather on my mother's side. Paolo Latini immigrated from Italy and worked in the coal mines of southwestern Pennsylvania. By the time I knew him he was retired, had black lung, and wore straw hats with green visors and sprayed pesticide on his perfect garden just like Marlon Brando did in The Godfather.

He kinda scared me when I was little. And then I got to know him and realized that inside his gruff self was a heart of marshmallow.

I was fortunate enough to see Flavio with his family and to hear him talk about his daughters to know that the perfectionist shopkeeper had my grandfather's soft and giving heart.

It's hard for we and our Printers Row neighbors to fathom this loss—there's been too much loss this year.

When Ulrich Sandmeyer passed away, the neighborhood mourned the loss of a friend and, selfishly, worried that the beloved book store that has anchored the neighborhood for decades would be no more.

We needn't have fretted. The tiny but mighty Ellen Sandmeyer has it going strong.

The staff at Printers Row Wine is devastated. And committed to maintaining the neighborhood spot just as Flavio would have. His heart beats there and his blood runs through that place.

And the neighborhood is the better for it. Godspeed, Flavio.

OPINION

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Retired in Chicago

So what if I'm a middlebrow?

By Marianne Goss,

A couple of novels my book group recently read have me thinking about my preference for plain, direct writing.

The latest was Ocean Vuong's On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous, a semi-autobiographical novel by a gay Vietnamese immigrant in the guise of a letter to his illiterate mother.

Widely praised by critics, On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous was applauded by most of our book group too.

I welcomed Vuong's topic of the immigrant experience, admired his raw honesty, and was saddened by his characters' struggles. However, I thought the language overshadowed the story, and it often lost me. Vuong, who is a poet, writes poetry-like prose. Sentences such as "A page, turning, is a wing lifted with no twin, and therefore no flight," left me wondering, "Huh?"

If this comes across as criticism of Vuong, that's not the intent. I'm thinking about my own inadequacy. Although I'm a so-called word person, my appreciation for writing has limits. The direct, explicit, simple style of newspaper journalism, where I started my career, is also my preference in fiction. I dislike writing that calls attention to itself. I want to understand what an author is saying without having to reread.

What's wrong with that? Nothing, if this were just about personal taste, but ego comes into play. I'm doubting that I have the capacity to understand lofty language or the diligence to try. If the comparison were just between Hemingway's simplicity and Faulkner's complexity, I could choose Hemingway without feeling intellectually inferior. But lyrical, figurative language — the opposite of my preferences — is usually assumed to be the pinnacle of literary writing.

My favorite book is Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird, which Flannery O'Connor dismissed as a children's book, and Francine Prose derided as an example of books taught in school that are responsible for students not learning to read closely. Sure, it lands at the top of most-lovedbooks lists, but popularity is synonymous with middlebrow.

So I'm a middlebrow. How much do I care? Not enough to challenge myself to aim higher. If ever I had intellectual pretensions, in the eighth decade of my life it's time to shed them. I don't expect to comprehend economic theories or quantum physics; why must I comprehend all literature? It comes down to personal preference after all. What I like will determine my fiction reading, especially at the time of life when enjoyment can be unapologetically chosen over challenge. The exception will be in the book group, which ought not be hamstrung by my taste. I'll read whatever the majority wants — and admit my problems with a book. It will be helpful to remember that while my reaction to On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous exposed my intellectual limits, it also spurred part of a good discussion. Shedding intellectual pretensions can have positive consequences

MOST RECENT EPISODES NOVEMBER 4, 2022



THE DIVIDED DIAL

Episode 1: The True Believers

In 2016, Christian talk radio host Eric Metaxas begrudgingly encouraged his listeners to vote for then-presidential candidate Donald Trump. By 2020, he pledged his life to fighting the "stolen election" while talking with Trump on the air. Ahead of the midterm elections, Metaxas and many of his fellow talk radio hosts made sure the falsehood of massive 2020 election fraud was top of mind — on the airwaves and beyond. And while election-denying candidates didn't do as well as many on the right had hoped, at least 170 such candidates have been elected to state and national offices, some of whom will be in charge of future elections. We meet the company whose hosts never backed down from the lies of the stolen 2020 election: Salem Media Group, the largest Christian, conservative multimedia company in the country – and perhaps the most influential media company you've never heard of.

Episode 2: From Pulpit to Politics

How did the little-known Salem Media Group come to have an outsized political influence? In this episode we trace the company's rise to power from its scrappy start in the 1970s to the present day — a growth that paralleled and eventually became inextricable from the growth of the Religious Right. We learn that Salem is tightly networked with right wing political strategists, pollsters, big donors, far right leaders and Republican party mainstays thanks to their involvement with the Council for National Policy — a secretive group of Evangelical and conservative leaders. For decades, the CNP has been working behind the scenes to get a specific, highly influential subset of voters to act. And Salem has been a megaphone for their cause.

The Divided Dial is hosted by journalist and Fulbright Fellow Katie Thornton. Her written articles and audio stories have appeared in The Atlantic, 99% Invisible, The Washington Post, BBC, NPR, WNYC, Minnesota Public Radio, The Guardian, Bloomberg's CityLab, National Geographic, and others.

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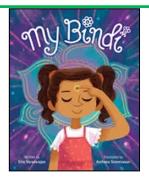


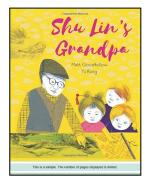
Browsing Sandmeyers for the Holidays



By Gita Varadarajan

In this universal story about embracing who we are and where we come from, a young girl finds the magic, power, and history of wearing a bindi for the first time, in this moving and lyrical picture book





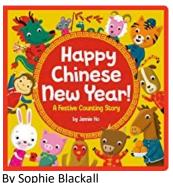
By Matt Goodfellow With a stunning double-gatefold spread revealing a beautiful Chinese picture, this uplifting story shows the transformative power of art and imagination in developing cultural understanding and empathy.

The MOMENTOUS debut of a groundbreaking Fairy Tale series -- a brilliantly crafted, hilarious twist on this beloved classic, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, from renowned, award-winning, and New York Times bestselling duo and picture book pioneers Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen!

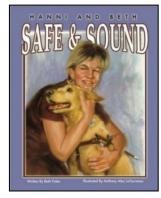


By Beth Finke

Hanni and Beth: Safe & Sound, is the story of how Beth, who is blind, travels safely around the city--to work, shopping, even to baseball games--with the help of Hanni, a specially-trained Golden/Labrador Retriever. It's a touching tale of mutual devotion and teamwork. Hanni and Beth: Safe & Sound includes factual information about how Hanni was raised and trained, how Beth and Hanni learned to work together as a team, and what it's like to be blind.



This glorious new picture book from two-time Caldecott Medalist Sophie Blackall is as lavish and moving a tribute to a storied, beloved place as Hello Lighthouse.



By Jannie Ho

Count to twelve with the zodiac animals as they get ready to celebrate Chinese New Year! Sweet, colorful illustrations introduce each of the zodiac animals as they bring special items to the celebration.





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Writing Out Loud

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

Beth Finke

Chicago Public Library Posts Best Of The Best 2022 Books List

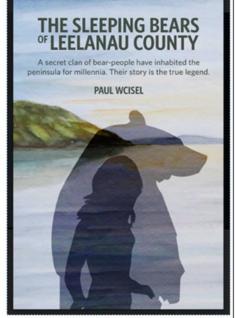
The Chicago Public Library has posted its Best of the Best for 2022, with lists of this year's best books for children, teens and adults. The lists include 150 books for kids across categories including picture books, board books, fiction and informational books for both younger and older readers and libros en español; fifty books for teens, including fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels; and a hundred books for adults. The top ten books recommended for adults? "The Book of Goose," Yiyun Li; "Constructing a Nervous System: A Memoir," Margo Jefferson; "Demon Copperhead," Barbara Kingsolver; "An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us," Ed Yong; "The Invisible Kingdom: Reimagining Chronic Illness," Meghan O'Rourke; "Night of the Living Rez," Morgan Talty; "Olga Dies Dreaming," Xochitl Gonzalez; "Solito: A Memoir," Javier Zamora; "Stay True: A Memoir," Hua Hsu; and "Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow," Gabrielle Zevin. The complete list is <u>here</u>.

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- Thanksgiving Day Parade Over a dozen bands. Jessie White Tumblers Floats Spectators with
- cell phone cameras More pics on page 19

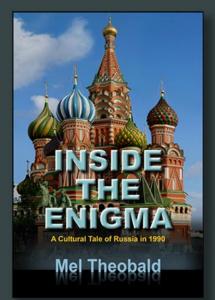






Inside the Enigma

A Cultural Tale of Russia in 1990



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by Mel Theobald

"Inside the Enigma sweeps you along like the very best fiction, all the more captivating because it really happened. An ordinary guy becomes caught up in high-level wheeling and dealing during a critical moment in international relations. Along the way he discovers hidden art treasures, gets to know the passionate men and women who create them - and recaptures meaning and purpose in his own life. With those four great themes and an inexhaustible wealth of twists and turns, this book will enthrall you from the moment you enter its unique world."

Gerald de Jaager Author of The Million-Dollar Parrot and three other books



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," <u>https://susanbassmarcus.net.</u> Both paperbacks are available at Sandmeyer's Bookstore.

Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke Wanda's Stories Live On



We got the news Monday morning. Our dear friend Wanda Bridgeforth had died. Wanda's daughter, Wanda Jr., had texted me last week to let me know "Mama is in hospice care at home." She added, "Don't be sad about this, Mama l-i-v-e-d long...and much!"

I was grateful to Junior for that message — her letting me know about hospice made the news about Wanda's death easier to swallow. Wanda was 101 years old. She'd been in my "Me, Myself & I" memoir-writing class 15 years, sharing her life stories there with us every week. What joy and wonderment I feel now, having had the honor to know Wanda , meet her family, laugh with her...it's all pretty miraculous.

Thinking about Wanda so much this past week got me reminiscing about meeting her for the first time: it all happened when she was in the audience at Printers Row Book Fair in 2007 to see her friend Minerva (another writer in the memoir class I led back then) appear with me at a presentation there. Here's the story.>

"Minerva told me she was going to be in the book fair with her teacher, and I should come and meet Beth Finke," Wanda told me, explaining that Minerva and Wanda had been friends since DuSable High School opened in 1935. Minerva hadn't mentioned that I was blind, and Wanda was sitting so far back that she didn't see my Seeing Eye dog Hanni at my feet until she walked up to say hello. "I said 'Holy Toledo! A blind lady teaching a writing class? This I gotta see!"

I invited her to sit in on a class, and she signed right up. Minerva and Wanda brought a slice of Chicago history with them to class every week. Tens of thousands of Southern blacks flooded into Chicago during the Great Migration of the early 20th century. Minerva's parents came from Georgia, Wanda's came from Mississippi, and the stories these two read in class describe Bronzeville, the segregated neighborhood they grew up in, as a "city within a city."

Overcrowding, joblessness, and poverty was a fact of life, but so was literature, jazz, blues, and gospel music.

DuSable High School, the first Chicago high school built exclusively for African-American students, opened in the Bronzeville neighborhood in 1935. Minerva transferred in as a sophomore, and Wanda was a freshman. "I was in the birthday class," Wanda would remind us any time her beloved high school was mentioned. DuSable was built on Chicago's South Side 15 years before the Brown v. Board of Education decision. Wanda says it was built to keep schools segregated. "We were blocked in," she'd write. "We knew not to cross Cottage Grove, 51st Street or the train

That's Wanda earlier this year, modeling her 1960 Easter bonnet for her home health care worker.



tracks." Everyone inside those boundaries was Black. "That was our neighborhood, and DuSable was our neighborhood high school."

When DuSable first opened, some neighborhood parents applied for permits to get their children into nearby White high schools. "Their parents didn't think a Black school could be any good," Wanda wrote, adding that she felt sorry for those kids. True, DuSable classes could be very crowded; she remembers 50 or so students squeezing into classrooms. "But at those other schools, if you were Black and you wanted to be in a play, you had to be a maid or a butler," she wrote. "At DuSable, we did everything, we were in all the plays, we wrote the school newspaper. We were having such a good time at DuSable."

Between the two of them, Minerva and Wanda were at the high school between 1935 and 1939. During those years they walked the hallways with some pretty impressive classmates, including Nat King Cole; John H. Johnson, publisher of Ebony and Jet magazines; Harold Washington, first African-American mayor of Chicago; comedian Redd Foxx; and singer Dinah Washington.

"Nat Cole added King to his name later," Wanda would tell me with a laugh. "You know, like Old King Cole!" They remembered Dinah Washington when she was Ruth Jones, and they knew Redd Foxx as Jon Sanford. "His brother was Fred, that's who Sanford and Son is named for," Wanda told us, reminiscing about the old television series. . "They changed their names once they were stars."

DuSable's initial fame was in its music program, and Wanda and Minerva both sang during "Hi-Jinks" student talent shows there. "We were in the background, but we put on shows that were better than what was going on in Chicago professional theatres," Wanda wrote. "With musicians like Ruthie Jones and Nat Cole and all of those guys, we couldn't miss!"

And with writers like Minerva and Wanda in the memoirwriting classes I've led over the years, I couldn't miss, either. Their stories live on through the essays they wrote — I am so, so grateful. As Wanda always liked to say..."Hugs all around!"



A new restaurant has opened at 829 S Wabash in the East-West Student center. Besides burgers, it features some interesting items like the "No moo Shake (lactosefree), the Impossible Burger, a grilled chicken sandwich. And a warmed up cookie that's pretty good. They offer

single alley

double allev

besides shakes, a variety of bottled drinks and the Mahalo joe, Waiakea hot coffee. You can order ahead (recommended) through their web site or phone

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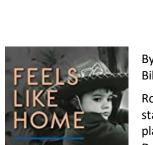
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the alley bird



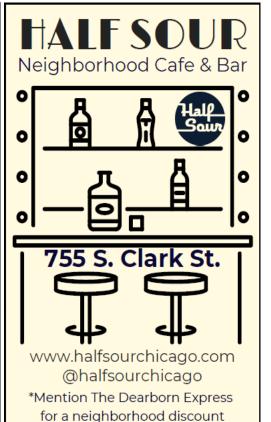
By Linda Ronstadt, Lawrence Downes, **Bill Steen**

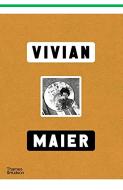
Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Linda Ronstadt takes readers on a journey to the place her soul calls home, the Sonoran Desert, in this candid new memoir.



Bisa Butler (b. 1973) is an American artist who creates arresting and psychologically nuanced portraits composed entirely of vibrantly colored and patterned fabrics that she cuts, layers, and stitches together.









Anne Morin This full-career retrospective on the work of photographer Vivian Maier brings together a selection of key works from throughout her life and career.

By Christa Blumlinger, Ann Marks,

Holidays

Browsing Sandmeyers for the



10

Editor's Letter: November, 9th 2022 Editor's Letter: November, 11th, 2022

Since the polls are still open as I write this, I really have no idea how we'll feel in the morning: euphoric, depressed or somewhere in between. Or we might not know much at all, given the infernally clunky voting process in this country and the possibility of days to get the vote counted. My experience voting at Jones College Prep High School was reasonable, given that our longstanding poll location closer to home had been downsized and the national shortage of election workers. Jones was busy. And filling in almost onehundred races with a black Sharpie that tended to bleed through the ballot made me feel like I was back in the 1970s taking the SAT exam.

Given our country's increasingly disastrous experience with Election Day, it's time for a ground-up redesign in the system, beginning with making it electronic. (Brazil, a country nearly as big as the United States, has such a system and knows the election results to the last vote within a few hours of polls closing, eliminating things like hanging chads and the entire basis for Trump's 2020 antics.)

Since the logic is so compelling, it won't happen in our lifetimes. But if yesterday's election went as bad or worse than expected, it won't matter, since the Trumpist plan for the future is to deny, deny and deny unfavorable results while also taking control of the apparatus of elections whenever possible.

But I'm an optimist so I'll be looking for sunshine as you read this...

Novermber 11th, 2022

As an experiment, I spent the afternoon a week ago today operating out of Convene Workplace, at 131 South Dearborn. Convene is in a similar business as the infamous We-Work, but its core operation is a meeting and conference facility, one that competes with hotels and private clubs for Fortune 500 offsite gatherings. It's a vast, handsome space, with contemporary architectural design flourishes that make you feel like you're working at that tech startup you've always wondered about.

Except nearly no one was around on a Friday afternoon, meaning that the dynamic for me was similar to the workfrom-home setup we've been in since 2010. Just me and my laptop. Except that at Convene, someone else picked the background music and the tempting snacks were far too accessible.



The Friday ghost-town phenomenon is not unique to Convene, as conventional wisdom says that as workers return to the office with a more flexible mix of remote and in-person work, that most are choosing remote on Fridays and Mondays, which is leading to hand-wringing and pontificating over the implications for downtowns and their various worker-dependent businesses, like bars and restaurants. But I expect the story is unfinished, since we're really just crawling out of the pandemic, and we're perhaps on the verge of experiencing the first economic setback since it started. If the all-knowing Elon Musk thinks that a virtual company like <u>Twitter can't</u> function virtually, who am I to question?



If you'd like to <u>lock in the current rate for a sub-</u> scription and get the amazing December issue as your first, you should do it now.

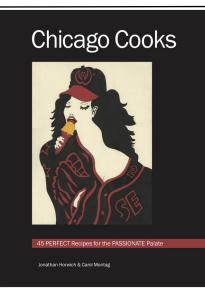
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In Chicago Cooks: 45 Perfect Recipes for the Passionate Palate, the basics are covered for any kind of meal.

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 experi-



ence 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. https://www.chicagocooks.net/

Available at Sandmeyer's and Amazon.

With Field Museum Popup Ketapanen Kitchen, Groundbreaking Indigenous Chef Works To Pre-



Chef Walks First is an enrolled member of the Menominee Indian tribe of Wisconsin.Provided

serve Native Culture

Chef Walks First, also known as Jessica Paemonekot, wants more Chicagoans to learn about (and eat) Native food. She's planning to turn her Field Museum pop-up into a food truck or permanent restaurant.

Maia Pandey on Nov 28, 2022

DOWNTOWN — A boundary-breaking Indigenous chef has been selling out of her tamales, pulled bison and other dishes during a pop-up at the Field Museum — and she's planning a food truck and permanent restaurant next. Chef Walks First, also known as Jessica Paemonekot, operates Ketapanen Kitchen 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at the museum through Wednesday as part of Native American and Indigenous Heritage Month.

Some of the dishes often sell out by midday, so the Field is looking at how to keep them on its menu even after the pop-up ends, said J. Kae Good Bear, the museum's conservation cultural liaison. But the pop-up is just part of a growing empire for the chef.

Walks First is Chicago's first Native American executive chef. She attended Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Chicago before its closure, but her earliest culinary education was from cooking with her mother. Walks First said those early experiences led her prefer "cooking for an army" over assembling a dinner for two. "For Native people, cooking and sharing meals and food itself is part of everything we do," Walks First said. "When you grow up in a communal setting, there's lots of events. And anytime we'd go to these events, I would go in the kitchen and help. It's always been second nature to me."

Walks First, a member of the <u>Menominee tribe of Wisconsin</u>, started <u>Ketapanen Kitchen, her catering business</u>, seven years ago. Ketapanen has since "exploded," she said, and she plans to develop a food truck and permanent establishment.

Though Walks First loves cooking, educating people about Native culture and food was also a central motivation to launching her business, she said.

"You live in Chicago, where there's representation of every ethnicity, but there's very minimal Native representation, and there was zero in the culinary industry," she said. "I knew right then and there, that is what I needed to do."

Though Chicago houses the country's largest urban native community — with more than 100,000 Indigenous people residing in the area — Walks First said people are seldom aware of Indigenous people's influence on the city. "There are foods that most people eat every day [that] they do not realize are Indigenous things, like carrots, squash, various nuts and berries," Walks First said. Through her Seed to Feed Native Foods Initiative, the chef is working to raise \$15,000 on GoFundMe to con-



CLICK https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/11/28/chefwalks-first-works-to-preserve-native-culture-withketapanen-kitchen/?

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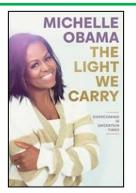
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Browsing Sandmeyers for the Holidays

By Michelle Obama

An an inspiring follow-up to her critically acclaimed, #1 bestselling memoir Becoming, former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today's highly uncertain world. ... <u>Google Books</u>





By Neil Steinberg

A daily celebration of Chicago's history, both known and obscure, and always entertaining. Every day in Chicago is a day to remember. ... <u>Google Books</u>

Wherever I'm At

By Donald G. Evans

The Chicago Literary Hall of Fame has partnered with Chicago publishers After Hours Press and Third World Press to produce a definitive collection of poetry

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Thank you for allowing us to be of service!

Great South Loop Bake Off

Grace Place 637 S Dearborn December 10 2:00 pm

Entry Fee: \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers



Prize: 1st place \$50 2nd place: free 1 year household membership 3rd place: SLN oven mitt (Bonus points awarded for festive attire)

Judging: all community members are encouraged to participate

Contestants should bake 2-3 dozen cookies for tastings. All participants can enjoy cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate while mixing and mingling with neighbors and enjoying holiday tunes.

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Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke



Our Senator Earned her Seat in Congress November 17, 2022

I was delighted when Tammy Duckworth won last week's election: it means she'll serve as senator here in Illinois for six more years. Senator Duckworth has a long career serving her country, and when it comes to disability access, she is an expert: she served in Iraq and lost both legs when a rocket-propelled grenade struck the helicopter she was co-piloting in 2004. After she won the 2017 election for Senator of the State of Illinois, an <u>article in the *Chicago Tribune*</u> pointed out that running a Senate campaign involves lots of travel and complicated logistics. From the article:

Duckworth said she and her staff have a preevent checklist to make sure the site is up to their standards — and that means making sure even the bathrooms are wheelchair accessible.

"I don't go to any place that isn't accessible even though I have artificial legs that I can walk in; it's on principle," she said. "If someone in a wheelchair can't get in it, I'm not going to do an event there. Just because I can get in there with my artificial legs doesn't mean somebody else can."

The article said that during her campaign Duckworth often heard from voters who question her ability to serve. A question about using a wheelchair in public during the campaign came up when she first ran for Congress. "I'm not ashamed I'm in a wheelchair. I earned this wheelchair," she said. "I've always insisted it's not something that we hide."

A seasoned member of Congress now, Senator Duckworth joined Representative Sarbanes of Maryland last month to introduce the Websites and Software Applications Accessibility Act (S. 4998, H.R. 9021) in both houses of Congress. The bill will require employers, state and local governments, and private businesses to make their websites and applications accessible.

Much has been made about how people with disabilities benefitted from digital access during the COVID pandemic, but casual conversations I've had with friends who have visual impairments tell me how frustrated they've been with technology, the high number of web sites that are not easy to use if relying on speech software and the hours they've wasted trying to make it work.



I am one of those people. During the pandemic my husband Mike has had to take over much of the on-line ordering we do, the forms we are asked to fill out on line, and any online streaming we do. Throughout the pandemic I got a lot of messages in my in box about plays and concerts and lectures available on line free of charge, but when I gave them a try, the links and buttons were not accessible – frustrating!

If passed, this new legislation will make it clear that the Americans with Disabilities Act applies to websites and applications. I already know that my Senator will be voting in favor of the bill — she's the one who introduced it to the Senate!

Beth Finke's books: "Safe and Sound", "Long Time No See" and "Writing Out Loud" can be purchased at Sandmeyer's Book Store.



Donation and Volunteer Support for New Arrivals from Texas

Since Wednesday, August 31st, the City of Chicago has welcomed hundreds of migrants bused from Texas to Chicago. Our has city greeted them with dignity and respect, and the City government, in collaboration with local, state, federal, and community partners, continues to take action to ensure they have access to shelter, food, and other resources. We anticipate that the state of Texas will continue to bus migrants to Chicago and we remain committed to providing support and resources to our newly arrived neighbors during this transition period.

VOLUNTEERS

At this time, our shelter partners cannot accept "walk-up" volunteers, and due to security and safety concerns for minors on-site, there is a registration process to become a volunteer. If you wish to volunteer, please complete the <u>volunteer registration form found</u> <u>here.</u>

DONATIONS

As a welcoming city, we know Chicagoans are ready to show their generosity and are looking for ways to support. Below please find more information about how you can help Chicago's newest arrivals.

Amazon Wish List

To have a quick and direct impact, now, residents and organizations can also support asylum seekers by purchasing items directly from an Amazon Wish List set up in partnership with Instituto

del Progreso Latino. You can find the Wish List by clicking <u>Rapid Response Wish List on Amazon</u> or at <u>InstitutoChicago.org</u>

ONLY <u>NEW</u> ITEMS CAN BE ACCEPTED AT THIS TIME

*List subject to change based on supply and demand. Please check this website regularly for the most up to date info.

Urgently needed:

- New clothing for adults (including cold weather clothing)
- Men's sizes small, medium, and large in particular medium
- Women's sizes small, medium, and large—in particular medium
- Men's underwear

- Women's underwear
- Women's sports bras
- Long sleeve shirts (men, women, unisex)
 - Sweatshirts/sweaters (men, women, unisex)
- Sweatpants (men, women, unisex)
- Pants (men and women)
- Socks (men, women, unisex)
- Shoes (closed toe gym shoes) (infants, boys, girls, men and women)
- Shoelaces

Winter coats (men, women, children, infants) Other items needed:

- New hygiene kit items (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo)
- Feminine hygiene products
- Preference for sanitary pads and pantyliners
 - Reusable bags (e.g., duffle bags and suitcases)
- Backpacks

•

- Bath towels (large towels, hand towels, wash cloths)
- Baby bottles
- Baby carriers
- Baby formula
- Pedialyte
- Diapers
- Vaseline / diaper ointment
- Baby wipes
- Blankets
- Nail clippers
- Pack n' plays
- Razors
- Hairbrushes
- Chapstick
- Ace bandages
- Antibacterial cream
- Antifungal cream
- Band-aids (all sizes)
- Calamine lotion
- Calcium antacid (e.g., Tums)
- First aid tape
- Gauze
- Heartburn medication (Famotidine)
- Hydrocortisone cream
- Tylenol/Ibuprofen
- Toys and activity books
- New clothing for children
- o 6 months-teens

Underwear for children and teens

We will update this list as we continue more detailed needs assessments. For additional inquiries, please email: <u>DONATIONS@cityofchicago.org</u>.

Thank you for all your efforts.



Jones College Prep Needs Leaders To Listen After Principal Removed Over Handling Of Student's Nazi-Like Costume, **Community Says**



Longtime Principal Joseph Powers was removed after videos of a student gooseJones College Prep in the Loop on Nov. 7, 2022.Colin Boyle/ **Block Club Chicago**

stepping in a Nazi-like uniform spread on social media. It is unclear if the student will be disciplined.

Jamie Nesbitt Golden on Nov 16, 2022

SOUTH LOOP — Parents, faculty and students at Jones College Prep are looking for a way to move forward after a student wore a Nazi-like uniform and goose-stepped at the school's Halloween parade. Longtime Principal Joseph Powers was relieved of his duties Nov. 4 after footage of the student's outfit and march spread on social media. Veteran CPS administrator Arthur Slater was appointed the school's new principal. The removal of Powers meant the removal of Jones' Independent School Principal status, with full control of the selective-enrollment school reverting to

https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/11/16/jones-college-prep -needs-leaders-to-listen-after-principal-removed-becausestudent-wore-nazi-like-costume-community-says/? utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=d90c67453a-





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- Advocate for affordable housing

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Bold Start at The 78: Discovery Partners Institute

<u>Home Programs & Events</u> Bold Start at The 78: Discovery Partners Institute

Program

The University of Illinois-backed Discovery Partners Institute is sparking large investments from new tech, starting with a future-forward design from Dutch superfirm OMA. It will also be the first building to break ground at The 78 a massive new development along the South Loop's riverfront.

> December 1, 2022 6:00 pm \$15 public \$7 CAC Members FREE Donor-Level Members Gand Lecture Hall at Chicago Architecture Center



Register Chicago Architecture Center 111 E. Wacker Dr. Www.architecture.org 312,922,3432



It's hard to believe we're already thinking about the holidays! Are you or your company interested in providing wishes to the children and families we serve this holiday season? Consider partnering with us for our annual <u>Holiday Wishes drive</u>! Holiday Wishes is our holiday drive that provides holiday gifts to the Veterans families we serve, youth in our foster care program, and the families in our Rapid Rehousing program. Each child selects up to three wishes (each up to \$25) and we ask our partners to fulfill these wishes. Each year we provide gifts, toys, and JOY to more than 350 children. For more information or to get involved email Katie at <u>kwade@voail.org.</u>



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The Chinese



The Mexicans



The Koreans



The Lithuanians

Second Presbyterian Church hosts its annual Winter Coat Drive during the months of December through March.

Donations of warm clothes, socks, sweat shirts, hoodies, sweaters, coats, gloves, caps, scarves and mittens will be distributed to our Lunch Bag Program and neighbors in need.



Gym Rental



Those interested in renting our Gym can visit our website at <u>2ndpresbyterian.org</u>, navigate to build-ing rentals and complete our rental form.

Thank you! Ashley McLean | Office Administrator Second Presbyterian Church 1936 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60616 Phone: (312) 225-4951





Century and Consumers Buildings Commission on Chicago Landmarks

Advice To Feds: Don't Demolish Historic Early Twentieth-Century Skyscrapers November 14, 2022

In last Thursday evening's public hearing, reports Dennis Rodkin at Crain's, commenters urged the federal government not to "waste" historical buildings on State Street. "Four early twentieth-century buildings the federal government wants to demolish because of security concerns should be saved and rehabbed," commenters said. Tearing down the sixteen-story Century and twenty-two-story Consumers Building towers and two of their neighbors on State Street "would be a waste of money, natural resources and the city's architectural heritage." Urbanize Chicago: "As the GSA seeks to demolish the buildings, they must go through multiple federal processes before any kind of work can begin. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to consider the anticipated environmental impacts of proposed federal actions as part of their decision-making process and to provide appropriate public involvement. Occurring simultaneously, the GSA is also going through the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) process to accommodate historic preservation concerns with the needs of the federal undertaking through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)."

Sunday, December 11th, 2022

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3:30 pm. Reception to follow

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Theatre. . . . In the South Loop

Votes For Women

7:30pm - 9:30pm Miller Studio Theatre

Thu, Dec. 1, 2022 thru Sun, Dec 4, 2022

VOTES FOR WOMEN by Elizabeth Robins (Play). Directed by BarbaraZahora From the National Theatre: "We must get the conditions of life made fairer. We womenmust organise. We must learn to work together. We have all (rich and poor,happy and unhappy) worked so long and so exclusively for men, we hardly know how towork for each other. But we must learn."

The rallying cry of Miss VidaLevering, the rebellious protagonist of Elizabeth Robins' 1907 play, Votes for Women, reminds onehow much, and how little, has changed during the last one hundred years.

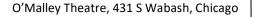
The play is an unapologetic propaganda piece which makes a forceful plea for alternative narratives forwomen outside of marriage and motherhood. As President of the Women Writers'Suffrage League, formed in 1908, the American actress turned activist wasdedicated to achieving political change by "the use of the pen". Votes for Women wasclassified by its author as a "dramatic tract". It emerged directly from thewomen's suffrage movement and voiced the playwright's personal quest forpolitical and social reform, while also tackling a series of taboo issues suchas illegal abortion, unmarried motherhood and presenting a radical critique ofmale sexuality. All venues are accessible through the 425 S. Wabash Ave. entrance. Photo ID

may be required. Additional COVID-19 safety protocols

may be put into place.

For Tickets Click Here

Roosevelt University



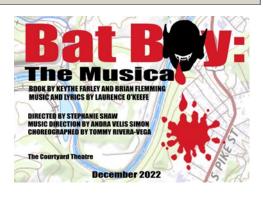


Good Grief

by Ngozi Anyanwu directed by Aurelia Clunie Matthew Jason George is a celestial king with a James Dean vibe. At least that's how Nkechi (N) decides to conjure him in an attempt to stop time and mourn her best friend. Somewhere between the concrete and mythical, N, an immigrant daughter, weaves her feelings into the factual to rewrite the love story she never got. February 03, 2023 - February 12.2023 Previews : Wednesday, February 1 In the Healy Theatre

DePaul University

Merle Reskin Theater 60 E Balbo Dr.



Bat boy: the musical

Directed by Stephanie Shaw Music Direction by Andra Velis Simon Choreographed by Tommy Rivera-Vega Book by Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming Music and Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe December 1-10, 2022 The Getz Theatre Center | 72 E. 11th Street Chicago, IL 60605 | Courtyard Theatre

What happens when a half-boy, half-bat, "<u>Bat</u> <u>Boy</u>", finds himself in a small, Appalachian town, love and mayhem and music. Born in a cave, raised in isolation, Batboy emerges on the scene of a small town in West Virginia, learning to speak, sing, love, despair, watch PBS and get freaky. Adopted by a complicated family and introduced to a suspicious community of farmers, Batboy just wants what everyone wants- to be loved. And blood. Lots of blood. A musical comedy

with bite. Content Disclosure: This production includes representations of othering, violence, homicide, patricide, matricide, accidental incest, bestiality and sexual assault.

PERFORMANCE DATES

Thursday, December 1st - 7:30PM (Preview) Friday, December 2nd - 7:30PM (Opening) Saturday, December 3rd - 2:00PM and 7:30PM

Wednesday, December 7th - 7:30 PM Thursday, December 8th - 7:30 PM Friday, December 9th - 7:30 PM Saturday, December 10th - 2:00 PM

<u>Tickets</u>

Columbia College

The Getz Theatre Center 72 E 11th Street, Chicago

CTA Will Give New Hires \$1,000 Signing Bonus In Hopes Of Filling 'Severe Workforce Shortage'

Transit agency leaders hope hiring bonuses, higher starting salaries and raises for staying on the job will entice desperately needed employees.

Mack Liederman 5:00 PM CST on Nov 18, 2022

CHICAGO — In its latest bid to fix service problems plaguing the agency, the CTA is spending \$80 million to attract new bus and train workers — including a \$1,000 signing bonus. The incentives for workers come as the CTA lumbers through intense scrutiny over train and bus service. Officials, residents and employees have blasted the transit system for long wait times, deteriorating conditions, security issues and "ghosts": buses and trains that show up late or not at all. With public pressure mounting, embattled CTA President Dorval Carter Jr. appeared before City Council last week, saying reliability issues are due to a "severe workforce shortage" of 700 bus drivers and 200 train operators.

The CTA will give all new mechanics, bus drivers and train operators a \$1,000 signing bonus, according to a news release. Workers must stay at the CTA for at least a year to keep the bonus. officials said.

Newly hired union employees and current workers also will get a 3 percent bonus for every six months they stay on the job through December 2023. The bonuses will be given in lump payments every six months that max out at \$1,500 for bus and train operators and \$1,200 for other employees, officials said. This benefit would not apply to bus mechanics and railcar repairers hired in 2022 and 2023.

The CTA also will raise starting salaries through 2024. New bus mechanics and railcar repairers normally start at 80 percent the normal hourly rate but now will start at 100 percent the rate: \$39 to \$40 an hour, officials said.

Starting rates for bus and rail operators will increase from \$24 to \$28 an hour, then to about \$30 an hour as part of a contract agreement, officials said. The time it takes for them to reach top pay will also be shortened by a year, according to the CTA.

The transit agency pegs the total cost of the incentives at around \$80 million over two years.

"Every industry has faced the challenges of attracting new employees and retaining current ones, and it's an issue that has especially impacted the transit industry," Carter said in a statement. "In order for CTA to hire and retain the best employees, we have to do everything we can to make CTA an even more attractive employer."



https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/11/18/cta -will-give-new-hires-1000-signing-bonus-inhopes-of-filling-severe-workforceshortage/?

utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=bc93f733 54Grace Papineau-Couture (left) and Ryan Lucas (right) are the gallery curators and organizers for "The Discarded." The gallery runs until Dec. 15. Bianca Kreusel



Porous Gallery embraces the art of trash in 'The Discarded' exhibition

By Kimberly Kapela, Copy Editor November 22, 2022 Located at 623 S. Wabash Ave. in room 411, the Porous Gallery hosts the latest exhibition,

Abandoned shopping carts, trash bins and used stuffed animals grace the Porous Gallery in the newest installment of "The Discarded" exhibition.

Located at 623 S. Wabash Ave. in room 411, "The Discarded" is an experimental curatorial project by codirectors and curators Ryan Lucas and Grace Papineau -Couture. The exhibit highlights abandoned materials found on the street in hopes of it serving a new purpose for creators.

Lucas and Papineau-Couture, a second-year and a first -year graduate student in the fine arts program, respectively, invite their visitors to think conceptually about trash, in hopes of shedding light on materials that no longer serve the general public but can be repurposed as something new.

For the second exhibition held at the Porous, Papineau -Couture wanted to also showcase work from artists that had been left unfinished or leftover materials they used to create the piece and give it new life by displaying the unfinished artwork as something fresh and different.

"Right now, it's very found-object focused," Papineau-Couture said. "So anything that we see on the street, and we are drawn to visually or feel like we could display as an object, rather than just a piece of trash. That's our major deciding factor: can we display this as something that can be read as an object instead of street garbage."

Lucas said in order to make new art, the artist has to go through scrapped concepts and abandoned pieces before it is put on display.

"Conceptually, trash in general is something that we take advantage of, and some of the things that you find on the ground are the things that you take advantage of — everyday objects," Lucas said.



https:// discarded-exhibition



SOPHIAKING

Web Site

KING4THWARD.COM

Ward04@cityofChicago.org

Camera Reimbursement Program

HOME AND BUSINESS PROTECTION PROGRAM In June 2022, the City of Chicago launched the <u>Home and</u> <u>Business Protection Program (HBPP)</u> to ensure residents and property owners had access to security devices needed to protect their property and when they choose, aid law enforcement in criminal investigations by providing video footage. HBPP features reimbursement benefits for (eligible) residential/business applicants as well as access to cost-free security equipment for residents throughout the City of Chicago. The program is first-come, first-serve. It will run through December 31, 2024, or until funds are depleted, whichever comes first.

Find Food Now with Chicago Food Bank

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING Chicago Food Bank's website allows you to enter your area code, and then directs you to a list of food banks in the area as well as their hours of operation. There are many food banks in the 4th Ward - <u>find food in</u> <u>your area now.</u>

Office of the Inspector General

CITY OF CHICAGO

The Office of Inspector General's Public Safety section has posted its Draft 2023 Outlook on Police Oversight and Accountability for Public Comment. <u>Please see the</u> <u>report in its entirety to view statistics, metrics, and other</u> <u>data collected.</u>

Additionally, the Office of Inspector General's Audit and Program Review (APR) section has posted its APR 2023 Draft Audit Plan for Public Comment. <u>Please see the re-</u> port in its entirety to view statistics, metrics, and other

Carjacking Prevention Tips

There have been several instances of carjackings in our community this year, and while we are working with the Chicago Police Department to keep our neighborhoods safe, we hope that you will take heed of these <u>carjacking prevention</u> <u>tips</u> to keep yourself from being a victim.

Join The South Loop Advisory Council SOUTH LOOP

Are you interested in getting involved, learning more about your Alderman and ward, or do you desire to make a difference in your community? If so, please consider joining the South Loop Advisory Council's leadership team.

Responsibilities include: attending monthly leadership meetings, coordinating subcommittee meetings with committee members, and organizing public-facing events for the community.

For any inquiries about the South Loop Advisory Council, please contact slcac.contact@gmail.com.

Virtual Alderman 'On the Block'

MEET WITH ALDERMAN KING ON ZOOM

The next Alderman on the Block date is June 27. To request a meeting with Alderman King, please email ward04@cityofchicago.org with the subject line "AOB Meeting Request" describing your issue to secure an appointment. Call 773-536-8103 for comments, questions or concerns.

For more City info, click here

CPD District Meetings

ADDRESS YOUR SAFETY CONCERNS

Use the CPD's online <u>tool</u> to find your district and beat.

COVID-19 Boosters

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COVID-19 boosters are now available for everyone 16+ at CDPH-sponsored clinics and programs. <u>Click here</u> to learn more.

Driver was going 75 mph in wrong lane when he hit car fleeing police in South Loop, prosecutors say

Kendall Sprouts, 18, charged with reckless homicide, hit a driver making a U-turn in the 1400 block of South Michigan Avenue as that driver fled police last weekend, police said.

By <u>Tom Schuba</u> and <u>Matthew Hendrickson</u> Updated Nov 23, 2022, 1:00pm CST

A driver charged with reckless homicide was traveling 75 mph in the wrong lane when he crashed into a car that was trying to elude police last weekend in the South Loop, Cook County prosecutors said Wednesday.

Kendall Sprouts, 18, collided about 8 p.m. Sunday with a Hyundai Sonata that was making a U-turn in the 1400 block of South Michigan Avenue, prosecutors said during Sprouts' initial hearing.

The driver of the Hyundai, Keyshawn Javon Gray, 22, had been pulled over by police but then took off, Chicago police and prosecutors said. As he tried turning around on the block, he was broadsided by the Infiniti G37 that Sprouts was driving, according to traffic reports and video of the collision.

Three other vehicles were struck after the initial impact, including two parked cars and a Jeep Compass driven by a 32-year-old woman that had two teenage passengers, authorities said.

The video shows that Gray began pulling into the opposite lane as Sprouts barreled toward the Jeep, apparently blocking the SUV from being struck directly.

The Hyundai flipped over, and Gray was rushed to Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where he was pronounced dead, officials said. An 18-year-old passenger in the Hyundai was taken to the hospital in fair condition. A third passenger, a 21-year-old man, was taken to Stroger Hospital in fair condition.

Sprouts, who was recorded stepping out of the driver's seat on the Infiniti by a police officer's body-worn camera, was taken to Stroger in fair condition, along with the driver of the Jeep and her passengers, a 14-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl, according to police and the report.

Just before the crash, Sprouts narrowly missed striking an officer who had stepped out of a patrol car to approach the Hyundai for the traffic stop, prosecutors added.

Sprouts was charged with reckless homicide and aggravated reckless driving and was cited for failure to reduce speed. He was ordered held on \$20,000.

Sprouts is a former wide receiver for Morgan Park High School's football team and is enrolled at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he plays football, according to his defense attorney, Donna Rotunno, whose previous clients include Harvey Weinstein.

Rotunno noted Sprouts' lack of a criminal background and said her client didn't drink, take drugs or even have tattoos, and told Judge Kelly McCarthy that "he's not a flight risk; there is absolutely no reason to keep him in custody."

"This is a horrifyingly sad situation," Rotunno added. "But judge, I think what's missing from the state's proffer is the car that is pulling away from police is fleeing police."

McCarthy said Sprouts would need to post \$2,000 to be released and ordered him to have no contact with anyone involved in the crash. The judge also allowed him to continue to attend school in Minnesota. His next court date was set for Dec. 12.



Did you know the South Loop Neighborhood Watch -Police Beat 123 has a facebook page?

We do!...and we encourage you to use it!

The South Loop Neighborhood Watch – Police Beat 123 Facebook Page is a crime communication tool intended to enable the rapid sharing of crime alerts and crime prevention news specifically for Police Beat 123. This area is the section of the South Loop that is bordered by Ida B. Wells on the north, Roosevelt Road on the South, the Chicago River on the west and Michigan Avenue on the east.

Link to Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/1475398529519963/

Please stay engaged! The safety and security of our neighborhood is <u>everyone's</u> business!

I have a deeded, indoor parking space available for sale at 801 S Plymouth Ct Garage for \$32,000.

Space P57 (it's a first floor preferred parking space)

Tom Palman 312.543.9380

http://chicago.suntimes.com

Next CAPS Meeting 2023

Zoom or in-person

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



http://home.chicagopolice.org/

11/16/2022 11:19am 1200 S Wabash Ave AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Knife Grocery Store Beat 131

11/14/2022 11:48pm 1100 S State St ARMED ROBBERY Subway Train Beat 123

11/14/2022 9:52pm 30 E Balbo ARMED ROBBERY Handgun Apt Beat 123

11/14/2022 11:24am 2200 S Wabash AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun Alley Beat 131

11/14/2022 10:30am 1100 S Clark St STRONG ARM ROBBERY No weapon Sidewalk, Beat 123

11/14/2022 8am 700 S Federal St AGGRAVATED BATTERY Domestic in Apt Cleared Beat 123

11/14/2022 4:28am 100 S Dearborn ARMED ROBBERY CTA Platform Handgun Beat 112

11/13/2022 8:20pm 1800 S Burnham Harbor Dr ARMED ROBBERY Knife Street Beat 132

11/12/2022 1:42am 1100 S State STRONG ARM ROBBERY, No weapon Subway Platform Beat 123

11/11/2022 9:09pm 800 S Michigan AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun, Street Beat 123

11/11/2022 3:22am 600 S Wabash AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Knife Commercial Office Cleared Beat 123

11/11/2022 2:10am 1100 S State St ARMED ROBBERY Subway platform Beat 123

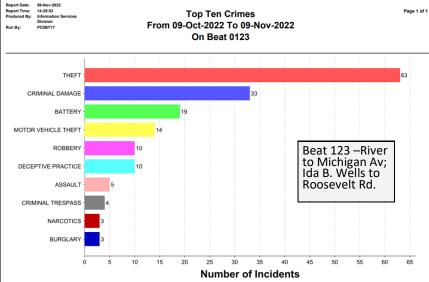
11/10/2022 9:57pm 1800 S Michigan ATTEMPT STRONG ARM ROBBERY No weapon Street Beat 132

11/10/2022 9:03am 1100 S Clark ARMED ROBBERY Target Beat 123

11/9/2022 11:09am 1200 S Wabash AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, Knife Grocery Store Beat 131

11/8/2022 7:30pm 700 S LaSalle AGGRAVATED BATTERY, Street Beat 123

11/8/2022 6:54pm 500 S Federal VEHICULAR HIJACKING, Street Beat 123



Catalytic converter thieves fire gun after security guard spots them in South Loop: CPD report November 21, 2022 CWBChicago South Loop

Chicago — Catalytic converter thieves fired a gun after a security guard saw them trying to steal part of a vehicle behind the Marriott Marquis Chicago hotel in the South Loop on Sunday morning, according to a Chicago police report. As a bonus, the offenders escaped in a car that was carjacked last weekend.

The thieves were stealing the catalytic converter from a Toyota Prius in the 2100 block of South Prairie, not far from the hotel loading dock, when a security guard saw them around 6:10 a.m.

Two men ran from the Prius and jumped into another car when the guard approached them, the report said. As the thieves escaped in their getaway car, one fired a gun, but no injuries were reported.

The offenders got away in a black Nissan Altima bearing Florida license plates, the report said. According to CPD records, the Nissan was carjacked in the 7900 block of South Bennett on November 13.

One of the catalytic converter thieves was described as a Black male wearing a black hoodie with gray sweatpants.

http://www.cwbchicago.com/

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