

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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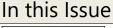
It's a New Day!

We all suffered through the Pandemic. Some more than others. Local businesses especially. They had to adopt to a new business model quickly not knowing what lay ahead. And mostly, it was worse than expected. Remember "flattening the curve?" The curve from left field? Some businesses persevered expecting that, eventually, it would be behind us and we'd be back to normal. Many businesses closed after the worset was over. The lease came up and they had to make a decision. Recently, we have seen some activity. A promise for a brighter future. Individuals who lost their jobs during the downturn, used some ingenuity to re-invent themselves during the Pandemic and are now feel confident enough to open a brick and mortar businesss.

Tilly Bagel Shop is opening later in the Summer at 34 E Balbo. In the meantime, you can find them at the Printers Row Farmers Market on Saturdays if you don't mind standing in line. See page 20. Another food related business is Southern Chicago at 2000 S. Wabash. You can expect elevated southern fare. Page 21. And Walgreens has reinvented themselves for a new store experience. You order your items ahead of time on an app or using a kiosk at the store. Whatever the reason for this re-model, (most folks think it's in response to shop lifting), I'm glad they decided to stay. Page 17. On a down note, Indigo Printing at 900 S. Wabash (entrance on 9th street), has closed. It was my "go to" place for copies and printing.



JUNE 15, 2023





Beth Finke





Bonnie McGrath

Rerun, 2018: Monitoring the air quality on my corner sure taught me a few things about the EPA, particulates and Wifi Page 13



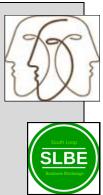
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Thu-Sat, Jun 15-17, 8pm & 10pmBobby Lewis Quintet	
Sun, Jun 18, 4pm & 8pm Bobby Lewis Quintet	
Mon, Jun 19,5:30, 8pmChicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Alyssa Allgood	
Tue, Jun 20, 8pm & 10pmPetra's Recession Seven	
Wed, Jun 21, 8pm & 10pmChicago Soul Jazz Collective featuring Yvonne Gage	
Thu-Sat, Jun 22-24, 8pm & 10pmBassist Christian Dillingham Quartet	Ι
Sun, Jun 25, 4pm & 8pm Bassist Christian Dillingham Quartet Mon, Jun 26, 5:30pmChicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Thad-	3
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Thu-Sat, Jul 6-8, 8pm & 10pmCharles Heath Quartet	







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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

Elected board President - Jim Wales V.P. of Planning & Development – Dennis McClendon Vice President/Secretary – **Benjamin Cottrell** Treasurer – Dorothy Miaso Director - Sarah Breedlove Director – Roger Marsh Director - Greg Borzo Director-Jack Chalabian Director—Susan Zinner Director—Robert Hard

Development update Presentation

A roundup of what's proposed and underway for the South Loop was the program at our annual meeting in January. You can watch it on YouTube.



The latest information on planning and development in our area can always be found at our website SouthLoopUpdate.org





Mondays with Mike: by <u>mknezo2014</u> Strange Bedfellows

June 12 2023



On July 1st and 2nd this summer, <u>NASCAR is running a</u> <u>street race in Chicago</u> through and around Grant Park.

Don't believe me? You aren't the first. Several neighborhood friends have told relatives or friends from other parts of the country, and they balked. Until they looked it up. Heck, I've told fellow Chicagoans who didn't believe me.

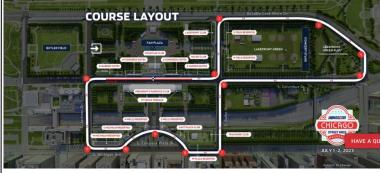
NASCAR has raced in the Chicago area for some time, but at <u>Chicagoland Speedway</u> in Joliet. So it's not like NASCAR is unknown in these parts, just that no one can believe it'll be on our downtown streets. They can be forgiven: Though <u>F1</u>, <u>Indycar</u> and other circuits have had street races forever, this will be NASCAR's first ever, anywhere.

Given where Beth and I live, we've been keen to the reality of the race from the beginning, because the cars will be roaring by within earshot and a couple blocks away. Parking restrictions have already started, and segments of major arteries—including DuSable Lake Shore Drive, Roosevelt Avenue, Michigan Avenue, Balbo Street and Jackson Boulevard will be closed well before and after the race. It's like Lollapalooza but for race fans.

We don't own a car so I'm not worried about that. The noise I am worried about. All in all it promises to be a hot mess, especially for local drivers.

But there is a voyeuristic part of me that just wants to see whether this becomes the predicted shit show or whether it surprises.

The course is actually kind of clever. And it will provide NASCAR with the most picturesque backdrop it's ever had. And racing—particular road racing has always been a guilty pleasure of mine.



Still don't believe it? Check out the NASCAR site.

And there's a possible <u>Talladega Nights</u> movie sequel here where Bubbas come north and run into Ditka fans at local taverns and gang members in the streets. (I'm pretty sure it'll be mostly high-rollers who are coming, though.)

Then again, maybe the race comes off great, the NASCAR fans enjoy conversation over beers with locals, and the Bubbas go home to tell folks that Chicago ain't all that bad.

A person can dream (hallucinate)?

For those who haven't seen <u>Talladega Nights</u>, it's spoof whereby a gay, French F1 driver comes to America explicity to beat a NASCAR driver named Ricky Bobby. Antics ensue.

MOST RECENT EPISODES JUNE 7, 2023



TAYLOR SWIFT TICKETS!

On January 24, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on Ticketmaster. The hearing followed in the aftermath Taylor Swift's "Eras Tour" tickets going on sale last November, a debacle during which Ticketmaster broke down during the presale, leaving millions of fans without tickets. Senators convened to hear testimony from a top Live Nation executive (Ticketmaster's parent company), competitors in ticketing and concert promotion, antitrust experts, and a musician. The hearing represented a step toward a potential antitrust case against Live Nation and Ticketmaster, which merged in 2010.

<u>Moe Tkacik</u> and <u>Krista Brown</u> are researchers at the American Economic Liberties Project, a left-leaning think tank which is part of a consortium that is pushing for the DOJ to break up the Live Nation monopoly. In February Micah Loewinger spoke to them about an <u>article</u> they co-wrote for *The American Prospect* about Ticketmaster's forty-plus-year-history, and how the company came to dominate, and in some ways reshape, the live music landscape.

This is a segment from our February 3, 2023 show, <u>Too Big to Fail?</u>.

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.

Backstory Essays Regan Burke **Tommy at Woodstock** June 8, 2023





Two neglected shoeboxes of faded and forgotten memories sit on the top shelf of my bedroom closet. They are filled with negatives, a noun I've not heard nor used since the Aughts gave us cameras on our mobile phones. I had used all types of cameras in my life from a Kodak Brownie to a 35 millimeter Pentax until photographic film and developing became too expensive in the 2000s. All my cameras had film that I'd drop off at the corner drug store or a camera shop for developing. I'd then mark time for a week or more waiting to hear that my pictures were ready for pick-up. The much anticipated package included the developed photos and their corresponding negatives.

A negative is the reversed image of the picture that can be used to develop another print. They were produced on small strips or sheets of transparent plastic film. Eight or ten miniature negative images appeared on each dark strip. If I wanted to reproduce a photo, I'd hold the plastic film up to the light, protect it from my fingerprints, search for the picture I wanted, cut the tiny square from the strip, and take it to the store for developing.

There's no logical reason I packed old negatives in archival boxes and stored them on the top shelf of my closet. In order to get to them, I need to unfold the step stool, risk pinching a finger or two, and trust my balance will hold as I climb each step to reach the shelf. I have no intention of ever looking through the negatives in order to develop old photos. Most of the corresponding pictures may be in musty albums in my bookcase. I'm never drawn to those either.

A few years ago I acquired a photo scanner. I offered to pay my teenage grandson to digitize my photos as a summer job. "I don't know how to do that," he answered.

"It's easy. I'll show you. You can do it at home and upload to your computer."

"Naaw, I don't think I'd like that."



Regan at Woodstock

All hope drifted away then, that any of my relations would be interested in the photographic documentation of my life. I can't blame him. I was never curious about details of my parents' or grandparents' lives until recently. How can I tell him that when he nears his sixties or seventies he's going to find himself wondering what I and his other ancestors did during our lives? More importantly, how will he come to know that factors outside his control, passed down generation after generation may be the source of his own physical or mental hardships?

A production of the rock opera Tommy will be onstage this summer at Chicago's Goodman Theater.

"Wow! You saw Tommy at Woodstock?" exclaimed a theater-goer when we were in line to purchase tickets.

Woodstock cachet seems to increase with every passing era. Forget the old photos. My-grandmother-wentto-Woodstock is probably the only legacy my grandchildren will ever need.

by Regan Burke <u>In</u> <u>That Number: One</u> <u>March From the</u> <u>Streets of Protest to</u> <u>the Halls of Power</u> <u>(And Beyond)</u>

Available at Sandmeyer's Book Store and other places.





Credit: Hannah Tillett The upcoming storefront for Tilly Bagel Shop, 34 E. Balbo Drive



Paris Baguette Bakery opened a few weeks ago at 11th and Michigan Ave.



You're Invited ANNUAL MEMBER **MEETING 2023**

Friday, June 16, 2023 **Hilton Chicago** 720 South Michigan Ave. **Continental Ballroom**

11:15 AM - Registration & Cocktail 12:00 PM - Lunch & Program

*Annual Meeting will include Board Elections and update on NASCAR



Tickets

NSPB Members: \$110 Non Members: \$140 Reserved table of 10: \$1,300

Sponsor the Event



Guest Speaker: Dr. Jawad Shah MD Founder, Insight Hospital & Medical Center Chicago

Dr. Shah will provide an update on critical operations and services on this 2nd anniversary since acquiring the former Mercy Hospital in June 2021. Join us to learn more about their accomplishments to-date, their vision, and their journey of restoring a holistic community hospital in the Near South Side of Chicago.

REGISTER

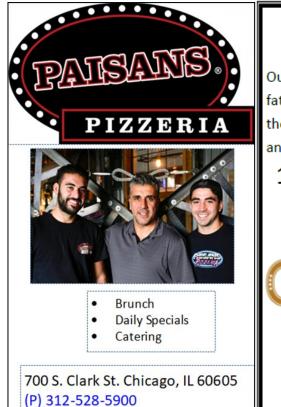
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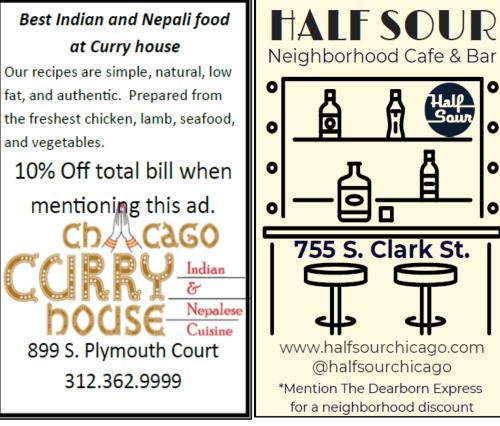


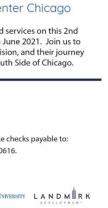
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A Juneteenth Celebration



Juneteenth Celebration at the American Writers Museum

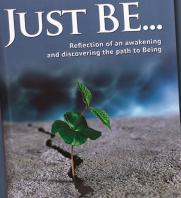
Join us at the American Writers Museum for an evening in celebration of Juneteenth and the work of Black writers and artists. The evening includes a reading from *Those Who Saw the Sun*, **Jaha Nailah Avery's** new collection of oral history narratives from the time of Jim Crow in the South.

Then, a gallery talk by artists featured in the AWM's special exhibit <u>Dark Testament: A Century of Black Writers on Justice</u>. Chicago artists **Dorothy Burge, Damon Reed**, and **Dorian Sylvain** will talk about their process, what it meant to them to create representations of America's legendary Black authors for the exhibit, and how the words and work of those writers affected the artists' renderings.



American Writers Museum 180 N. Michigan Ave, 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 60601 <u>https://americanwritersmuseum.org/</u>

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Writing Out Loud

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

Beth Finke

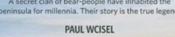
Helen Elaine Lee, **Pomegranate** (Atria Books 2023).

"Gone and not gone." That's how Ranita Atwater, brand-new ex-con, three years' clean, orphan, mother and recentlydiscovered BBS- black bisexual—described her estranged mother as she lay dying. It's an apt description of everything in our struggling-but-sympathetic hero's life—-her parents, her children, her church, her exes, her still-behind-bars lover, her voice, her drugs and alcohol, her sexuality, her pain. Helen Lee captures our hearts and brains as we follow and feel Anita's journey as she staggers out of prison and back into the life she almost lost to addiction and abuse. It is a moving novel about "the people America tosses away." Ranita is not a lucky woman. We're told almost half of the US population use illegal drugs; even during the years when incarceration rates were the highest for women, fewer than one-third of one-half of one percent of women ended up in jail for drug crimes. Lee puts us amongst that shadowy population and gets us rooting, maybe even praying, for this ordinary Black girl with a fairly stable and financially secure family, good grades and loving aunties, who was sent to jail. Nita's nascent bisexuality was crushed by her impossible-to-please mother, who removed the first object of Anita's exploration and affection with a swift hand and a harsh punishment. Others found Ranita easy to abuse, positioning her more directly in harm's way and more easily seduced by strong, attractive men with even stronger and more attractive drugs. Her babies' father was mostly absent, unable to support even himself, and came by only to share his never-realized dreams, his body, and his cocaine. Her second lover (she did once love him) shared his heroin and used her body to get them more when they ran out. Her good

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 beartransforming 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.

Pick up a copy at Sandmeyer's Bookstore today.

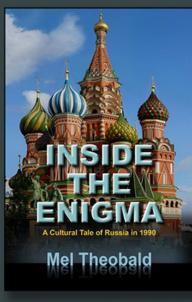
mothering was limited to making sure, when she was too high or too drunk, that her widowed dad would use his steady mechanics' hands to care for them. In prison, where "all day long you're told what and when and how," Ranita hears the voice of ancestors whispering "the best chance of survival"—submission—may be "the death of you." But it was the only place, she told her court-mandated therapist, "where I've known true love." Her acceptance of being queer, powerless over drugs and alcohol, and her painful rebuild of connections with a traumatized, angry teen daughter and a squirmy, scared first-grade son who says "they take Mamas" every time he sees a police car is a nearly-Sysyphean climb, but Lee gives us the sliver of hope Ranita, and we, need. Her auntie accepts Anita's female lover: "If you can get it, love's the thing you need." Her 12-step meetings, her shrink, her job give her a chance with her kids. When she shares at "The Queer People of Color Open Mike" her allusion to the continuing metaphor of the pomegranate that opens to surprisingly brilliant rubies inside: childhood memories of her wonder at a kaleidoscope; and the broken, colored glass she collects off the street and saves artfully tie the novel, and Ranita's life, together. Step inside.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park / June, 2023



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by Mel Theobald

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

J

ook Review

OPINION

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Mondays with Mike:

by mknezo2014 Dog Days

June 5, 2023

I would bet that if someone kept track, my Printers Row neighborhood has more dogs per capita than any place in Chicago—and probably beyond.

Which is fine. I like dogs.

I like people, too. Mostly. But here's the thing. Because of Beth's circumstances and by extension my circumstances, I have a different viewpoint than some.

Some context: A survey by The Seeing Eye was published last year in the *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*. Seeing Eye dog users were asked about interference–which is any distraction (intentional or not) by people or other dogs. From the article in the <u>Seeing Eye Guide</u>, a magazine for constituents:

> "The interference can range from deliberate, sustained eye contact with the dog that can cause a distraction to an attack on the guide dog or handler."

The survey found 89 percent of the people had at least occasional interference from other people and 78 percent reported interference from other dogs.

Beth's freedom of movement, her independence, her very life all depend on a dog. Luna is not a pet. She is a partner who relies on Beth as much as Beth relies on Luna. Walking around Chicago is a difficult and intense job. Beth is listening for traffic and sensing input from the handle on Luna's harness. Luna is listening for Beth's commands and weighing them against what Luna sees—and Luna selectively disobeys Beth's commands when what she sees (construction barriers, potholes, cars, trucks, dumbshits on electric scooters, etc.) runs counter to what Beth has asked.

I love Beth and I worry about her. So, sometimes it's hard for me not to make orphans of some of the dogs in our neighborhood and our very own condo building. Their people do really stupid shit.

Let's leave Beth and her blindness and her service dog out of it to start. There's stuff that a sighted person like me can't understand. People in our building let their dogs pee immediately outside our building entrance. Usually against the planters. Often near outside seating at restaurants on the first floor. Which, apart from being, at its face, completely ignorant and insensitive to others, requires our maintenance people to wash down the area, every day, with detergent. This is not cool. It is disrespectful.

As an able-bodied, sighted person, I also am perturbed by people who assume I like THEIR dogs. Who have long retractable leashes that I have to sidestep to avoid tripping. Who like to stop in the MIDDLE of the sidewalk to let their little whatevers sniff someone else's little whatevers while the people blurt out baby talk to the little whatevers.



Give them a wide berth, please.

For these people, the dogs are not pets. They're attentiongetting devices. They are accessories. And if you haven't picked it up as yet, I don't like it.

For me it's an annoyance. For Beth it's a freaking hazard. There is a person in our building with an adorable puppy. And this person milks it. She stations herself on the sidewalk looking for people to ooh and aah and it always creates a little bottleneck. These circumstances aggravate me but they are absolutely hazardous for Beth. Luna's job is really hard and she's trained to negotiate circumstances but there are limits. And people like this make it impossible.

It's not that hard. Here are some human being lessons for you Printers Row/Transportation Building dog owners:

- Some people don't like dogs.
- Some people are fine with dogs but yours is not that special.
- If you love dogs, that's great, but ask their companion if it's OK to pet or otherwise pay attention to their dog.
- Because all people need to travel down the sidewalk, keep your dog close at hand.
- Because all people need to travel down the sidewalk, it's OK if your dog wants to visit with other dogs, but please, move to the side.
- Beth's dog—and other service animals—are not pets. Don't make baby sounds, or make eye contact, or assume that Luna needs to meet your dog—or you.

Follow these simple precepts and you will avoid my wrath. Which you really should want to do.

New bathroom finder app in NYC brings hope for one to be made in Chicago

By <u>Zoë Takaki</u>, Staff Reporter May 10, 2023

When Matthew Manning moved from Georgia to New York, it was harder to find a restroom in the city. "Typically, where I'm from, you could just walk into any restaurant, or any public place, and there would always be a restroom," Manning said. "But when I moved to New York, there wasn't that. As you can imagine, it's very dense from a population standpoint. Even worse, there's even more people and less restrooms."

When Manning noticed people were sharing locations of private and public restrooms through word of mouth, he thought it would be a good idea to centralize the information for more people to access.

So he created "<u>Bano</u>," pronounced like the Spanish word baño, a restroom finder app that sources and presents information from community contributions.

"So when someone does have to use a restroom, they're not having to Google something; they can just pull up an app on their phone," he said.

There are currently no Chicago specific bathroom locator apps, only national ones that proved to be less accurate and less up to date when tested by the Chronicle. The Chicago Tribune has a <u>website page</u> to find restrooms, but it only shows public ones and excludes cafes and other establishments that are not run by the city. CLICK ON LINK

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

https:// columbiachronicle.com/newbathroom-finder-app-in-nycbrings-hope-for-one-to-bemade-in-chicago

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Grills Night Out

Jun 24, 6:00 PM to 8:30PM

Cotton Tail Park

Bring your own meat (or veggies) and join your neighbors for a midsummer's night of good food and good times. South Loop Neighbors will provide the grills, drinks, chips, and dessert.



SOUTHLOOP NEIGHBORS



Jim Wales 847-815-9459



Specializing in Printers Row Properties Email: j.wales@kw.com



Editor's Letter: June, 2023

May 39, 2023 by Brian Hieggelke

We were brainstorming about where to do the photo shoot for this year's Big

Heat, our long-running feature chronicling the city's food-anddrink culture that had been on a pandemic hiatus, when Jan suggested a food hall. It was a perfect idea, since the elevated reinvention of the food court is a still-recent phenomenon, dating back in Chicago to the 2016 opening of the Revival Food Hall by the 16" on Center company owned by Bruce Finkelman and Craig Golden. I've known Bruce and Craig for years, so I asked them if we might do the shoot at From



Cover photo by Monica Kass Rogers/ Cover design: Dan Streeting

Here On in the Old Post Office, their most recent take on the food hall, and they said yes. Chicago's former Main Post Office opened in 1921 with a design by Graham, Anderson, Probst & White that featured a magnificent Art Deco lobby and occupied twenty acres of space to serve what was then the world capital of mail-order commerce led by the Sears, Roebuck & Co. and Montgomery Ward companies. Now it has been restored and turned into a majestic office building anchoring the south end of the West Loop. Surprisingly, this colossal historic renovation quickly gained traction by becoming the headquarters of such corporations as Ferrara Candy, Uber Freight and Walgreens. Less surprising when you see how beautiful it looks after the renovation.

When we started Newcity in 1986, we did not have an office space, so we rented out Post Office Box 802722 and, for a couple of years, I paid a daily visit to the then-fading and dingy temple, the Main Post Office, to collect checks, unsolicited manuscripts, press releases and everything else vital to the operation of a fledgling publication in those pre-Internet, pre-email days. I could not have imagined then that nearly forty years later, I'd be grabbing lunch inside its confines and working on its riverside patio with a laptop computer. Or, even more so, that I'd be dressing up in my most "urban chic" clothing to attend a gala in its expansive lobby, the air filled with the cocktail-fueled chatter of the actors, directors and donors who keep the Steppenwolf Theater Company moving forward.

-BRIAN HIEGGELKE

NEWCITY <u>newcity.com</u>

IN THIS ISSUE

Unburdened Beauty Allana Clarke pursues Black futurity

Fungi Fantasia A visit to Windy City Mushroom is a trip

Big Heat

The return of the Food & Drink 50

AND

Comics

"Three Sisters: Welcoming Spring at Star Farm" A new comic by Anya Davidson

Poetry

"Time Heals All Wounds" A new poem by Eve Ozer

And so much more ...

Look for Newcity's June 2023 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at <u>Newcityshop.com</u>.

NEWCITY <u>newcity.com</u>

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 reci-

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. https://www.chicagocooks.net/ Available at Sandmeyer's and Amazon.

Chicago Cooks



45 PERFECT Recipes for the PASSIONATE Palate

Jonathan Horwich & Carol Montag



Greg Borzo of South Loop Neighbors welcomes attendees to JAZZ NIGHT OUT at the Jazz Showcase sponsored by South Loop Neighbors.

Below, Jan Koeber and friends at the Jazz Showcase



STREET CLOSURES				
ON	FROM	то	ANTICIPATED	ANTICIPATED OPENING
Balbo Dr	Columbus Dr	DuSable Lake Shore Drive	6/19/2023	7/13/2023
Balbo Dr	Michigan Ave	Columbus Dr	6/19/2023	7/13/2023
Congress Circle	Harrison St	Van Buren St	6/26/2023	7/6/2023
Ida B Wells	Michigan Ave	Columbus Dr	6/10/2023	7/10/2023
Jackson Dr	Columbus Dr	DuSable Lake Shore Drive	6/28/2023	7/10/2023
Jackson Dr	Michigan Ave	Columbus Dr	6/25/2023	7/10/2023
NB Columbus Dr	Roosevelt Rd	Jackson Dr	6/25/2023	7/10/2023
SB Columbus Dr	Jackson Dr	Roosevelt Rd	6/25/2023	7/10/2023
NB DuSable Lake Shore Dr	McFetridge Dr	Randolph St	7/1/2023	7/2/2023
SB DuSable Lake Shore Dr	Randolph St	McFetridge Dr	6/28/2023	7/4/2023
B Michigan Ave	Balbo Dr	Jackson Dr	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
B Michigan Ave	Jackson Dr	Roosevelt Rd	6/30/2023	7/2/2023
Roosevelt Rd	Columbus Dr	DuSable Lake Shore Drive	6/29/2023	7/4/202
Roosevelt Rd	Michigan Ave	Columbus Dr	6/29/2023	7/3/202

NASCAR STREET CLOSURES WITH DATES

LOCAL ACCESS ONLY

ON	FROM	то	ANTICIPATED ROAD CLOSURE	ANTICIPATED ROAD REOPENING
8th St	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
9th St	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
11th St	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
Balbo Dr	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
Harrison St	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
Ida B. Wells	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
Jackson Blvd	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
NB Michigan Ave	Roosevelt Rd	Balbo Dr	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
SB Michigan Ave	Monroe St	Jackson Dr	6/29/2023	7/5/2023
Van Buren St	Wabash St	Michigan Ave	6/29/2023	7/5/2023

AVAILABLE RACE DAY ROUTES:

* These routes are scheduled to be available; however, additional streets may be closed by the City of Chicago, if deemed necessary.

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OPINION

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

Rerun, 2018: Monitoring the air quality on my corner sure taught me a few things about the EPA, particulates and Wifi

I wrote this piece five years ago; it even won an award. I thought of it a lot last week as I frequently checked my outside air quality, in light of the Canadian forest fires that invaded our skies

When I was asked a few months ago to participate in a short study that required monitoring the air quality on the street where I live, I was eager to please. Not only did I want to please the person who asked me to do it--<u>Gail Merritt, who started Alliance for a Greener South Loop</u>, always so nice, so earnest and so smart about the environment.

I also wanted to find out a few things to please myself.

I wanted to find out what I've been breathing for the last 24 years.

As it turns out, nothing too bad. Not too much bad stuff is in the air at Roosevelt and State.

Unless, of course, my monitor was wrong. Which was the purpose of the study: to find out if the personalized monitors that several of us had temporarily installed to gather data, were able to match the data collected by more powerful devices, such as those used by the Environmental Protection Agency.

It's all explained here.

So last Fall, Gail came over, plugged an electrical cord into my front porch outlet, asked me for my wifi password and attached the monitor to my front gate using little plastic ties that held it beautifully atop some wrought iron and beneath some leaves.

I was scared that my wifi would break or be compromised in some way, having the monitor running all the time. But my wifi seemed to work better than ever.

The cool thing is that I was able to look up my monitor (and everyone else's who was participating near me) via an online map and see what was going on with the air outside anytime I wanted. Most of the day, my air quality was good, just fine. In fact, it was better on my busy corner than at another location that was much more quiet, serene and what one would think would be a less polluted complex nearby. During rush hour, the pollution/particulates/soot upped a bit--but not the least bit dangerously, alarmingly or nerve-wrackingly.

One day, though, a few blocks away at 16th and Clark, I noticed the air was registering positively awful, filled with particulates like there was no tomorrow, polluted to the hilt. It didn't last long, though, and I sure was curious as to what happened there. Or was it just a glitch in the software?

Gail explained that it was probably a diesel-fueled train that had just gone by.

Wow! Totally made sense. She nailed it.

After a couple of weeks, the study was done and Gail came back to get her monitor. But she promised she'd bring it back at some point so the study could continue gathering data from our community to compare to EPA-quality data.

I hated to give it up; I hated to lose the ability to go online and check out the air in my 'hood.

And I also hated to give up a little monitor that people passing by may have wondered about. Like about what it was monitoring.

Crime, perhaps?

Bonnie McGrath

Thanks for reading Mom, I think I'm Poignant ! Subscribe for free to receive new posts and support my work.

Subscribe





Two young ladies having their caricatures drawn. Near the Art Institute.



A couple of your columnists — Beth and Mike — were close friends with Brad Gillaugh. I served on the Printers Square board with Brad. Not too long before he passed he told us about purchasing a tile for the fountain in Printers Row park.

His friends may not be aware that there is a now sweet memorial for him in the neighborhood. *Patricia Methven*

Printers Row Park Advisory Council FOUNTAIN ESTORATION ELEBRATION

632 S Dearborn Street



Rain or shine Refreshments

OPINION

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<u>Sincerely, Marianne</u>

What a reunion showed me

By Marianne Goss

In 1985 I returned to my hometown of Joliet as a feature writer at the *Herald-News*. An attractive job offer drew me back, but I felt as many do about their hometowns: I didn't want to remain there. I made good friends among the staff but disliked some non-pc attitudes in the newsroom.

When I left the *Herald-News* and joined Northwestern University's publications office in 1990, I expected to find more political correctness (though the term wasn't in widespread use yet). That I did, along with, at first, intellectual pretentiousness and snobbery. Well, I had been a snob about my hometown, so maybe the tough early years at Northwestern were payback.

Fast forward more than three decades to a recent reunion of former *Herald-News* newsroom staff. I can't remember when I was so comfortable and unselfconscious at a party.

I felt that I was among people with whom I had nothing to hide and nothing to prove. I didn't care that I'm 40 pounds heavier than when some of them last saw me. No one dressed to impress. One woman had dug out our old "Herald-News Running Club/The Write Stuff" t-shirt. A woman in cancer treatment, bless her heart, came with her head covered.

I didn't think about whether I had anything witty to contribute to the chitchat. Conversation flowed effortlessly. Everywhere I looked, for more than three hours, people were talking animatedly.

There was tangible affection among us even if we hadn't met in decades. "It's great to see you" was undoubtedly said sincerely. It took all of about 60 seconds for an estranged friend and I to make up.

Stories told long ago on morning and afternoon breaks were recalled and laughed over once again. Current events were discussed as if we'd been together the day before. Maybe, I thought, I belonged in Joliet after all. My former *Herald-News* colleagues are bright and accomplished, but nearly all of us come from working-class roots, and most went to nonprestigious universities. With them I was on a



level playing field. In the sophisticated big city, I've often felt like I'm running to catch up with acquaintances raised by college-educated parents who provided music lessons, travel, and intellectual discussions.

I could have remained a *Herald-News* writer longer, but I probably would have lost my job eventually when the features department was disbanded. The people I partied with all left at one time or another. That so many returned for the reunion, some from as far as Colorado and California, evidences a durable connection.

South Looper Marianne Goss blogs at https://sincerelymarianne.blogspot.com/

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 : thedearbornexpress@gmail.com

How to Help!



Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club ChicagoMembers of the Southwest Collective have organized food drives and other services throughout the pandemic. Now, they are building on those programs to help migrants arriving in Chicago.

The city has partnered with Instituto del Progreso Latino to create an Amazon wishlist where people can buy supplies for migrants, including pants, shoes, shirts, hoodies, backpacks, razor blades, shower shoes and laundry bags. The wishlist is <u>online</u>.

The Southwest Collective, an organizing group of neighbors and activists, is also asking for help to get supplies to migrants awaiting housing. Direct donations can be made <u>here</u>.

Donations to Pilsen Food Pantry can be made online. Donations to Nourishing Hope, a food pantry which also <u>serves people with Spanish</u> language services in Humboldt Park, can be made <u>online</u>.

https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/05/03/heres-how-tohelp-the-latest-wave-of-migrants-coming-to-chicago/

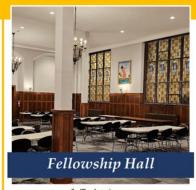


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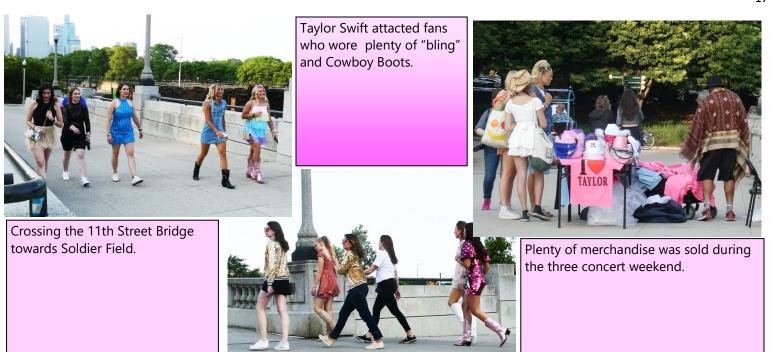
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At New Chicago Walgreens, You Can Only Browse 2 Aisles — The Rest Of The Store Is Locked Away

Mack Liederman Jun 2, 2023

Liederman/Block Club Chicago

SOUTH LOOP — A South Loop Walgreens has unveiled a renovated interior where most of the merchandise is kept away from customers — and some shoppers say the changes make them feel unwelcome.

The new design at the Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, places most of the merchandise in aisles behind staffed counters, with two interior aisles — covered by anti-theft detectors — where customers can browse and grab items themselves.

The redesign was first reported by CWB.

Customers walking in Thursday were greeted by an employee who directed them to a kiosk for digital shopping. A sign tells shoppers they can "place your order and relax" while an employee fetches items from aisles now blocked by the counters.

"Let *us* do the shopping," the sign reads.

In a statement, Walgreens spokesperson Megan Boyd said the store continues to offer the same products, "just with a new look and feel that focuses on shopping digitally for convenience."

"We are testing a new experience at this store with new concepts, technologies and practices to enhance the experiences of our customers and team members," Boyd said in the statement.

The "store test" is the first of its kind, Boyd said. The store still has self-checkout stations for groceries, bandages, allergy and pain medication and other lowercost products, and it has a pharmacy in the back. But several regulars who shopped Thursday said they think the new design is an attempt to deter theft. There were 19 reported thefts at convenience or drug stores in .the 100 block of East Roosevelt Road in 2022, according to police data

Jacoby Gunn, a street cleaner and neighborhood peacekeeper with Readi Chicago, peeked into the store Thursday. "I don't understand why they had to move everything to the back at just this store. ... There's crime everywhere," Gunn said. "It's racial profiling. Why don't you trust your customers?"

Customer Sirak Goitom said he found the store "confusing to walk through."

"The way it was set up before, it was easier to move in and out," Goitom said. "I don't think this is good for business.

Walgreens claims the South Loop store, which forces customers to order items digitally, is about "convenience" and not theft prevention.



Credit: Mack Liederman/Block Club ChicagoThe open aisles for shopping at the renovated Walgreens, 2. E Roosevelt Road.



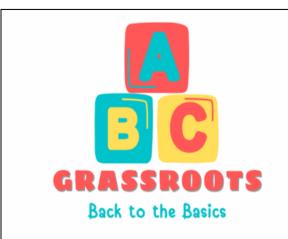
https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/06/02/atnew-chicago-walgreens-you-can-only-browsetwo-aisles-the-rest-of-the-store-is-lockedaway/ Contined from previous page, WALGREENS

And security can't be that much better if there's self-checkout."

Mu Ergin, a South Loop resident and regular of the store, said the shop was previously "dirty, smelly and not properly organized." Before the renovations, Ergin saw someone shoplifting and people would gather outside, he said.

"I'm pretty amazed at how the store looks more clean now. They're making it smaller so they can control it better," Ergin said. "It's better for me ... but I never felt unsafe to start with."

More than a half dozen employees worked the small store's floor as construction workers finished final touches Thursday. Employees declined to comment due to company rules. A city building permit for "interior alterations" was submitted in February and approved in March, according to a sign posted at the store.



INDIVISIBLE DOWNTOWN

June 20th Meeting Tuesday @ 7pm

When we began in early 2017, we gathered in people's homes to build a grassroots movement of local citizens with a mission to elect progressive leaders, **rebuild our democracy**, and defeat the Trump agenda. Today, these goals are as important as ever. Join us as we once again meet in neighborhood homes (for June & July at least).

RSVP for location info

In January, James Kehoe, Walgreens global chief financial officer, told investors on an earnings call the company had overstated shoplifting, and it was more realistic it accounted for "the lower 2s" of Walgreens' percent of sales.

"Maybe we cried too much last year," Kehoe said. "And we're stabilized."

https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/06/02/at-new-chicagowalgreens-you-can-only-browse-two-aisles-the-rest-of-the-store-islocked-away/



https://blockclubchicago.org/

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Barbara's Basement

Opening: Tuesday, June 6th, 2023, 10 am – 1pm Regular Hours: Tuesdays and Saturdays, 10 am – 1 pm Sundays: As announced in advance

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Daley Plaza City Market

- o Thursdays
- o May 11 October 26th, 7 am 2 pm
- o 50 W. Washington St.



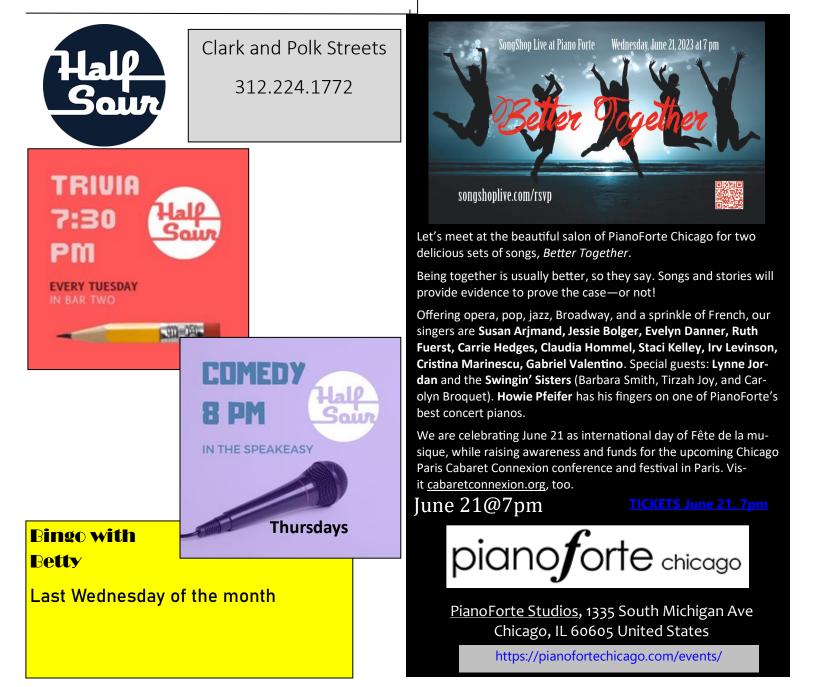
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Terri Hemmert Updates

"Time heals. Most of the time. It's healing me. I appreciate everyone's support, from my siblings to total strangers, after that near miss being in the wrong place at the wrong time when bullets went flying. It was like being in a movie. But it wasn't. But it was surreal," WXRT stalwart <u>Terri Hemmert posts</u> on Facebook. "I've spent a lot of time reaching out to my twenty-eight friends who were there for the birthday party that never happened. I don't care if I ever have another birthday party. Hopefully more birthdays. Grateful that my guests that night will continue to have more birthdays. The horror of gunfire is in the news every single day. Let's not get used to it."



Chicago-Style Bagels? Tilly's Brings Solid Bagels To South Loop By 'Not Trying To Be New York'

Former fine dining pastry chef Hannah Tillett hopes her quarantine sourdough recipe will make her South Loop shop a bagel destination.

Mack Liederman May 31, 2023

Mike Banaszak and Hannah Tillett have been growing their bagel business since the pandemic. Hannah Tillett SOUTH LOOP — A former fine dining pastry chef is on a mission to move the city up the bagel ranks with the first "Chicago-style bagels."

Baker Hannah Tillett has seen success with her pop-ups and ghost kitchen, which specializes in bagels. Now she and her fiancé, Mike Banaszak, are opening Tilly Bagel Shop in late July or early August at 34 E. Balbo Drive, on the ground floor of a Columbia College student building. The pandemic-boredom-born <u>Instagram business</u> has had runaway success with its sourdough bagels, which "have a good crust on the outside of them, aren't too dense on the inside and are a little fluffier with a good chew," Tillett said.

"The No. 1 thing with our bagels is that we're not trying to be New York," Tillett said. "This is our own version because Chicago deserves its own good bagels."

Tilly Bagel Shop's has traditional plain, everything, sesame seed, poppyseed and garlic rosemary varieties, Tillett said. But it also has designer flavors: There's a cacio e pepe bagel rolled from black pepper sourdough and baked with parmesan cheese, a cheddar bagel and a pizza bagel featuring mozzarella, pepperoni and a sun-dried tomato dough, Tillett said.

The shop will also have its own cream cheeses including caramelized onion and jalapeño flavors — and customers can complete their orders with staples like lox or bacon, egg and cheese, Tillett said.

Regular bagels start at \$3.50 each, and speciality bagels are \$4, Tillett said. A half-dozen runs \$17, and a dozen will be \$27.

Tillett — who has worked as a pastry chef in acclaimed restaurants Girl & The Goat, Marisol and Boka — has her own theories for why Chicago bagels don't seem to rise above the rest.

"I don't want to knock anyone, and there are great places in Chicago, but generally there's more of a focus on the bagel sandwich than the bagel itself," Tillett said. "On the East Coast, there's bagel places everywhere. They originated there; that helps."

But Tillett's Chicago-style bagels have a unique shaping process, with the sourdough rolled into balls before being stretched back out into bagels, she said. For those still skeptical: The shop will feature an open-concept design where patrons can watch a team of bakers roll fresh bagels each morning, Tillett said.

The bagels rise before being boiled, topped and baked, Tillett said.



Credit: Hannah Tillett Bagel power couple Mike Banaszak and Hannah Tillett have been staples at local farmer's markets.

Tillett, who is from Florida, said she grew up enjoying a brown bag of bagels with family every Sunday in the Sunshine State, which "has a lot of people from the East Coast who bring their bagels with them."

After finishing her culinary degree, Tillett moved through top Chicago kitchens, but she was furloughed during the pandemic. The baker started rolling bagels at home because "it was almost like meditation," she said.

Passing the bagels out to family and friends soon led Tillett to "selling them through Instagram DMs" and at local farmers markets, she said.

"I would bake them at the home in South Loop and bike around town delivering," Tillett said. "It all started as a pandemic hobby."

Tillett soon moved into a ghost kitchen and has now partnered with Banaszak, an architect, to design their shop from scratch.

The shop will also sell coffee from local provider Sparrow Coffee Roastery, Tillett said.

Tillett said she's most looking forward to hiring a staff and teaching them her secret bagel recipe.

"It's exciting, it's nerve-wrecking, but I'm ready. I want to make this a place where aspiring bakers can have a career," Tillett said. "And whenever people from the East Coast try the bagels and tell me they love them, that's the best compliment."



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https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/05/31/chicago-stylebagels-tillys-brings-solid-bagels-to-south-loop-by-nottrying-to-be-new-york/? utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=c5a84aa51f-



Southern Chicago Owners Aim To Bring 'Elevated' Comfort Food To The South Loop

The new Black-owned restaurant will be a "marriage" of regional Southern dishes from Mississippi and Tennessee, the co-owners said.

Jamie Nesbitt Golden Jun 6, 2023

SOUTH LOOP — Two best friends are bringing their take on Southern cuisine to the South Loop this summer. Executive chef Xavier Vance and entrepreneur Troy Vivrett will be opening Southern Chicago, 2000 S. Wabash Ave., in a storefront previously occupied by Royale Puppies Pet Spa. The partners are aiming for a Labor Day grand opening. Vance and Vivrett — both Chicago natives and South Loop residents — came up with the concept when they connected on Instagram during the pandemic. Vance was running his own catering company while Vivrett was hard at work building his real estate investment firm, The Vivrett Group. "We talked about the idea of the doing the restaurant, and at first it was a different concept that we decided to table for future projects," Vance said.

The duo soon realized they could combine their skills and experience to open their own restaurant, with Vivrett using his real estate savvy to find the perfect location in the South Loop.

"There's a growing niche in that area. We're right next to the largest convention center in America and the only breakfast spot in the immediate area is McDonald's. It was a nobrainer," Vivrett said.

Patrons can expect "elevated, yet accessible" Southern fare with a menu paying homage to Vivrett's and Vance's ancestral Mississippi and Tennessee roots. Vance will be taking the lead in the kitchen while Vivrett will be using his entrepreneurial expertise to handle the administrative side. Vance is confident Southern Chicago's menu will satisfy the most skeptical of palates. Staples like shrimp and grits, Oysters Rockefeller and red velvet pancakes round out the brunch offerings while the dinner menu focuses on even heartier entrées



https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/06/06/ southern-chicago-owners-aim-to-bringelevated-comfort-food-to-the-south-loop/? utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=0947a4afe 9-

SLFM PRINTERS ROW

South Loop Farmer's Market Saturdays May 27 to October 14, 2023 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Printers Row Park

Days: Saturdays (rain or shine) Dates: May 27 - October 14 Times: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Location: 632 S. Dearborn St. Printers Row Park Free entrance | No parking provided | Paid parking nearby NO Bathrooms on site, Pet Friendly Most vendors accept credit cards, some only cash



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5/10/2023

According to the 1st District Commander, Homicides and shootings across the city are down from last year, with homicides by 6% and shootings by 5%, according to police data.

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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!

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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Next CAPS Meeting 2023

May 10, 5:30pm IN-PERSON Beat 123 caps.001district@chicagopolice.org





http://home.chicagopolice.org/

5/22/2023 4:45pm 500 E McFetridge Dr AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun on Street Beat 132

5/19/2023 12 Midnight 1400 S Plymouth Ct STRONGARM ROBBERY No weapon Sidewalk Beat 131

5/30/2023 10:42am 1100 S Michigan (Park) STRONG ARM ROBBERY No weapon Beat 123

5/30/2023 2:40pm 1100 S Michigan Av STRONGARM ROBBERY No weapon Small retail store Beat 123

5/24/2023 10:40am 1200 S Wabash ARMED ROBBERY Grocery Store Beat 131

5/30/2023 12:05pm 20 E Roosevelt ATTEMPT STRONGARM ROBBERY No weapon CTA Platform

5/30/2023 9:06pm 1100 S State St Armed Robbery, Handgun Subway Train, Beat 123

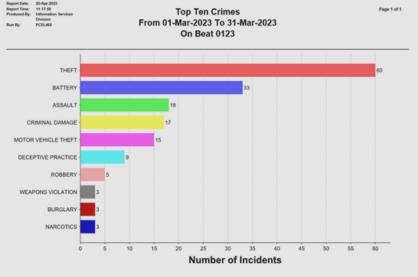
5/29/2023 6:50pm 1100 S State St AGGRAVATED BATTERY Subway train Beat 123

5/20/2023 3:04pm 1100 S State St AGGRAVATED BATTERY Handgun Subway train Beat 123

5/25/2023 3pm 1100 S Wabash NON-AGGRAVATED CRIMINAL SEXUAL AS-SAULT Apartment Beat 123

5/22/2023 8pm 700 S Michigan AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun Parking garage Beat 123

5/16/2023 3:55pm 600 S Dearborn ARMED ROBBERY Handgun Small retail Store Beat 123



AUTO THEFT

5/28/2023 10:30am 1800 S State AUTO THEFT Street Beat 131

5/23/2023 9:30am 10 E 14th PI AUTO THEFT Parking garage

5/26/2023 9AM 1300 S Wabash AUTO THEFT Residential Driveway Beat 131 5/29/2023 1:10pm 1200 S Wabash AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 131

5/19/2023 7:30pm 800 S Michigan Av AUTO THEFT Non Res Parking Beat 123

5/22/2023 12:30pm 800 S Wabash AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

5/26/2023 4am 0 E 9th ATTEMPT AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

5/30/2026 900 S Clark St AUTO THEFT Residence Garage Beat 123

5/17/2023 1:15am 900 S Wells AUTO THEFT Parking lot Beat 123

5/29/2023 4am 800 S Wells St AUTO THEFT Parking Garage Beat 123

Dearborn Express Al Hippensteel, editor 312.939.8888 thedearbornexpress@gmail.com Dearbornexpress.org



Real Estate Transactions

\$5,750,000 630 S WABASH 5/10/23

\$400,000 41 E 8TH ST 1606 5/9/23

\$386,500 5 E 14TH PL 805 5/8/23

\$428,000 1250 S MICHIGAN AVE 1101 5/5/23

\$545,000 1515 S PRAIRIE AVE 713 5/5/23

\$420,000 520 S STATE ST 1515 4/28/23

\$320,000 1111 S WABASH AVE 2406 4/28/23

\$875,000 1211 S PRAIRIE AVE 3703 4/27/23

\$500,000 910 S MICHIGAN AVE 401 4/26/23

\$310,000 633 S PLYMOUTH CT 1102 4/26/23

\$139,000 780 S FEDERAL ST 1102 4/26/23

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Anne Rosen Keller Williams 312.545.7148

Susan Dickman - Koenigrubloff/ Berkshire Hathaway Home

773-627-8176



Susandickman.com

Sdickman@BHHSChicago.com





1115 S Plymouth Ct #607 3 bed, 2 bath, 1443 sq ft \$350,000

Susan Dickman • Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

773-627-8176



901 S Plymouth Ct, #803 2 Bed/ 2 Bath 1250 Sq Ft \$335,000 Amy Sunshine @properties Christie's International 312.404.1994

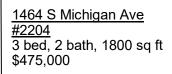


330 S Michigan Ave 2 Bed/ 2 Bath 1560 Sq Ft \$390,000 Penthouse unit

Anne Rosen



312.545.7148 Anne@buyarosenhome.com Buyarosenhome.kw.com



Terrie Whittaker Redfin Corporation 312.488.1977

720 S Dearborn St #305 1 bed, 1 bath, 650 sq ft \$198,000

Thomas Bezanes Compass 312.622.2850

701 S Wells, #2303 3 Beds/ 2.5 Baths \$475,000

Michael Saladino Keller Williams ONEChicago 773.232.4979

1255 S State St #1203 2 bed, 1 bath, 990 sq ft \$272,000

Tat Kong Richland Global Inc 312.945.8818

1111 S Wabash Ave #1107 1 bed, 1 bath, 825 sq ft \$285,000

Marissa Parrott Compass 348.212.4663

100 E 14th St #1203 1 bed, 1 bath, 927 sq ft \$415,000

Nazee Hamidi Homesmart Connect LLC 847.495.5000











