



THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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DEARBORN PARK

AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR
JANICE KOERBER, ASST. EDITOR

Dearbornexpress.net



In this Issue

“One of our contributors, Marianne Goss, asks the question, is this a neighborhood? “Shortly after I moved to the South Loop from Edgewater, someone asked me how it felt to not live in a neighborhood anymore.”

She says “The question came back to me as I read about the Chicago Neighborhood Project. The University of Chicago initiative invites people to draw their neighborhood borders as they perceive them.”

I would argue that my building is my smallest community. My larger neighborhood is Printers Row/ Dearborn Park. I see my neighbors every day on the elevator. I know people who have lived here over 30 years, over 20 years and over 10 years. We are bound together economically. We have community board meetings, we have a book club. We have social events. The neighborhood has a community organization called South Loop Neighbors. Originally, they were formed to make sure they had a voice in how development would proceed in one of the fastest growing neighborhoods in the city. We have a local church where many community meetings are held. Candidate forums are held prior to elections. I have met many a local politician there. I started the Dearborn Express to help define the neighborhood. To report on subjects that are important in our neighborhood. We walk to restaurants, we walk to grocery stores, we are 100% walk-able. I would argue that some suburbs with their subdivisions, with their attached garages, with their strip malls a mile or two away, are no more a neighborhood than where I live right now.

What would be your response? See page 5.

Covid deaths have been elevated since September at about 1,200 to 1,300 deaths per week, inching up to about 1,500 per week in December. Researchers say they will most likely continue to rise unless more people get the updated Covid vaccines and antiviral treatments. Where is our Chicago Health Department? Why do we have to search on-line to learn about this? What is the prudent course of action?

JANUARY 15, 2024

Vol. 12, No.1

In this Issue



Beth Finke
All the Light You Cannot See.

Page 6



Bonnie McGrath

Back next issue.



Mondays with Mike:
Lacking resolution, and the case
of the Argentinian Rosa
Page 10



Marianne Goss:
I live downtown. Is it a
neighborhood?

Page 5



Regan Burke:
Killing the January Blues.

Page 13

Book Review	page 10
Newcity	page 12
Theatre in the South Loop	page 18
Police Blotter	page 23-24
Real Estate	page 25 & 26

JAZZ SHOWCASE

Thu-Sat, Jan 11-13, 8pm & 10pm.....Pharez Whitted Quintet
 Sun, Jan 14, 4pm & 8pm.....Pharez Whitted Quintet
 Tue, Jan 16, 8pm.....WDCB 90.9FM Presents
 Steve Million Quartet
 Wed, Jan 17, 8pm & 10pm.....Julian & Friends
 Thu-Sat, Jan 18-20, 8pm & 10pm.....Charles Heath Quartet
 Sun, Jan 21, 4pm & 8pm.....Charles Heath Quartet
 Tue, Jan 23, 8pm & 10pm.....Marcel Bonfim Album Release Party
Wed, Jan 24, 8pm & 10pm.....Chicago Soul Jazz Collective
 Thu-Sat, Jan 25-27, 8pm & 10pm.....Lenard Simson Quartet
 Sun, Jan 28, 4pm & 8pm.....Lenard Simson Quartet
 Tue, Jan 30, 8pm & 10pm.....Bob Lark
 Wed, Jan 31, 8pm & 10pm.....Julia Danielle Quartet
 Thu-Sun, Feb 1-4, 8pm & 10pm/ 4&8pm Sun.... Harry Allen & Andy Brown Trio
Valentines Day with Dee Alexander, Feb 14, 8 & 10pm..Dee Alexander Quartet



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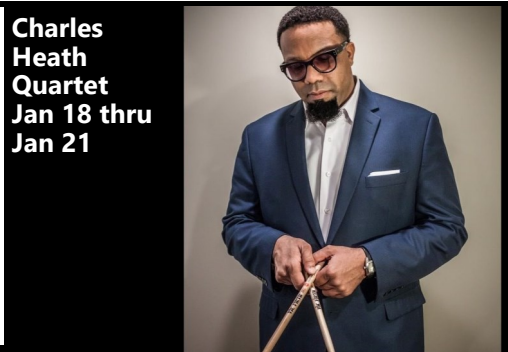
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 Jan 18 thru
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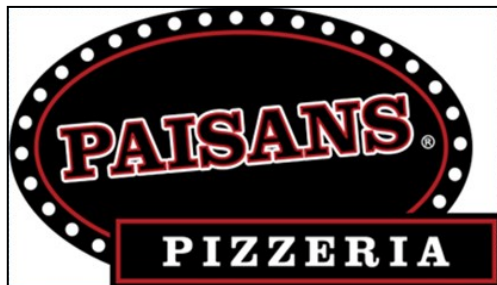
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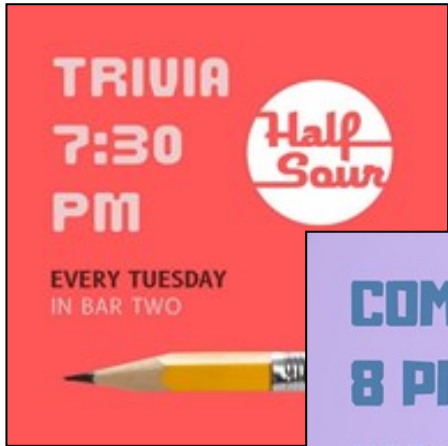
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Sandmeyer's Book Store festive windows.
Photo: December 27, 2023.



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Bingo with Betty
Last Wednesday of the month



BUDDY GUY w/ Bobby Rush

Ages 21 and up
Friday, January 12
Show: 8:30pm
[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

BUDDY GUY w/ Toronzo Cannon

Ages 21 and up
Saturday, January 13
Show: 8:30pm
[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

JANUARY 2024 BUDDY SHOWS

Doors: 5:00PM
Dinner Acoustic Set: Tracye Eileen 5:30PM-8:00PM
Show time: 8:30PM
Reserved seating: \$125.00
GA Standing only: \$75
AGE RESTRICTIONS: All Buddy Shows are 21+.

BUDDY GUY w/ Carlos Johnson

Ages 21 and up
Sunday, January 14
Show: 7:30pm
\$75
[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

JANUARY 2024 BUDDY SHOWS

***Reserved seating for the Buddy shows is now SOLD OUT. Limited standing room tickets are available**

Doors: 5:00PM
Dinner Acoustic Set: Ivy Ford 5:30PM-7:00PM
Show time: 7:30PM
Reserved seating: \$125.00

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

Best Deal in the South Loop

The South Loop Neighbors has two forms of memberships. One is a full, dues paying membership and the other is a free affiliate membership.

A full, dues paying membership provides a number of benefits but also help SLN pay for operational costs, such as room rentals for our meetings. In addition to receiving the monthly digital SLN newsletter, full members also can attend our annual members dinner for free (see above), get discounted member rates throughout the year on SLN events that have a cost and get first access to limited events. Membership dues start at \$35 for an individual and \$20 for a senior.

An affiliate membership, which is free, provides for the monthly digital SLN newsletter.

To sign up for full SLN membership, [click here!](#)



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Chicago 60605

JaqiGInt@gmail.com



Jim Wales

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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.



Sincerely, Marianne

I live downtown. Is it a neighborhood?

By **Marianne Goss**

Shortly after I moved to the South Loop from Edgewater, someone asked me how it felt to not live in a neighborhood anymore.

The question came back to me as I read about the Chicago Neighborhood Project. The University of Chicago initiative invites people to draw their neighborhood borders as they perceive them. There are no right or wrong answers, reflecting the fluid nature of boundaries here, but the researchers are hoping to find more consensus about neighborhoods. You can take the survey at <https://chicago-neighborhoods.com>.

Project developer Emily Talen, a professor of urbanism at the University of Chicago, suggests that the old-time concept of neighborhood — where people shopped in the corner grocery store and attended the neighborhood church — has lost meaning. Neighborhoods have become “geographic locators” to answer questions about where you live, she told *Chicago* magazine.

“The first step of elevating a neighborhood as being important is naming it and identifying it and thinking of it as a real place,” Talen said.

Going by Talen’s assessment, it’s not only downtown areas that lack the neighborhood feel. But as my questioner implied, downtown high-rises are singled out as incompatible with the concept of neighborhood.

“High-Rises Kill Livability” is the headline of an article on the Smart Cities Dive website. The author, “Bloomingrock,” argues that high-rises separate their residents from street life and the outdoors and lessen the possibility of chance encounters. Residents are encapsulated in silos, especially in buildings with amenities like gyms and markets, where they mostly interface with people of the same socioeconomic strata.

Following Bloomingrock’s reasoning, I should be glad instead of disappointed that my high-rise building lacks a community room because it forces me to go out when I have cabin fever.

I agree that high-rise living can feel anonymous, although I don’t understand why I run into some people often and some never. Except for a couple down the hall who became my good friends, my friendships in the building did not happen spontaneously. They came out of a social group that some of us seniors formed.

High-rise livability would improve with more communal amenities distributed throughout the building instead of placed on a single level, according to “Improving the Social Sustainability of High-Rises,” a research paper on the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat’s website. I wonder whether Bloomingrock would say that more amenities would produce more siloing. I doubt that would be the case in downtowns, whose attractions are what draw residents.

On the Chicago Neighborhood Project site, I drew my perception of the South Loop’s boundaries — Ida B. Wells Drive on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, the Chicago River on the west, and 16th Street on the south.

Does it feel like a neighborhood by Talen’s standards? I eat out more often outside the area than in it because most of my friends do not live around here. Although I could attend a church nearby, I go in River North. There are some locally owned stores, but most are chains without local appeal — and I shop very little anyhow.

Clearly, my life isn’t centered on the South Loop, but I do feel connected to the area. I’ve learned its history and show it off on Chicago Greeter tours. When someone asks where I live, I point out that buses, el trains, the Museum Campus, the lake, and downtown are within walking distance, and that there are two grocery stores on the corner.

Loving my location may not be the same as loving my neighborhood, but I’ve never regretted moving here.

COMMENT

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

Dearborn Express
Al Hippensteel, editor
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To Subscribe
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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 :



Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke



All the Things You Cannot See

November 1, 2023

I usually avoid reading fiction or watching movies starring characters who are blind. Too many writers and filmmakers portray blind characters one-dimensionally — we're either heroic or tragic, bumbling or, particularly lately, blessed with super-powers.

But Netflix is releasing a limited series of four episodes of the film *All the Light We Cannot See* tomorrow, November 2, and I am eager check it out.

The film is based on Anthony Doerr's Pulitzer-Prize winning bestseller. I listened to the audio version when it came out in 2014, and if you ask me, he deserved that Pulitzer!

One of the main characters in Doerr's novel *All the Light We Cannot See* is blind, but there's much more to Marie-Laure LeBlanc than that. She grew up in Paris, her father is raising her on his own, and the two of them evacuate to a village in Brittany called St. Malo after Paris is invaded by the Nazis. Her father goes missing, and she's a teenager by the time the Americans arrive on D-Day.

Written in third-person, Doerr's chapters are very short — they swing back and forth between the changes young Marie-Laure is enduring in France and those that Werner Pfennig, an orphaned teenager in Germany, faces when placed in an elite Nazi training school there during WWII. The author avoids using visual descriptions in the chapters about Marie-Laure, since they are written from her point of view. So here's a question for you blog readers who've read the book already: I bet you can describe Marie-Laure's beloved Papa, but any idea what he looks like? Probably not, because the author never tells us that. There is little, if any, visual description of Étienne or Madame Manec (the pair Marie-Laure and her Papa live with in exile) either, yet readers come to know these characters very well, too. Here's an example from early in the book, before Marie-Laure's cigarette-smoking Papa goes missing:

Every time she comes within earshot, Marie-Laure hears the "Pfsst!" of her father lighting another match. His hands flutter between his pockets.

Afternoons he repairs things around Étienne's house: a loose cabinet door, a squeaking stair board. He asks Madame Manec about the reliability of the neighbors. He flips the locking clasp on his toolbox over and over, until Marie-Laure begs him to stop.

Marie-Laure doesn't have to be able to see her Papa to know he is anxious, and neither do we. If Marie-Laure could see, the author wouldn't have pointed out that she **sees** the cabinet door he is fixing, he would have just said "he's fixing a cabinet door." And so, he doesn't use extra words to point out Marie-Laure **hears** the squeaky cabinet door, either. We know he's fixing the cabinet door the same way Marie-Laure would know, and that helps us stay right in her head and experience her life during WWII the way she is.

As I continued reading, I noticed how often Doerr chose the verb "find" rather than describing Marie-Laure "feeling through" something or "touching" an object. Sounds simple, I guess, but to me, keeping it simple like this is brilliant. Over and over again, the author resists the temptation to sound trumpets to remind the reader that Marie-Laure can't see, and that keeps readers in the moment. Here's another example, this one from later in the book when Marie-Laure is alone and escaping into the attic:

Only thing to do is climb. Seven runs up into the long triangular tunnel of the garret. The raw timbered ceiling rises on both sides toward the peak, just higher than the top of her head.
Heat has lodged itself up here. No window. No exit. No where else to run. No way out, except the way she has come.

The passage continues:

Her outstretched fingers find an old shaving bowl, an umbrella stand, and a crate full of who-knows-what. The attic floor boards beneath her feet are as wide across as her hands. She knows from experience how much noise a person walking on them makes.

Isn't it something, the way that using senses beyond the visual can make writing more colorful? Aria Mia Loberti, who is blind due to a severe form of the genetic condition achromatopsia, plays Marie-Laure LeBlanc in the Netflix adaptation, which also stars Louis Hofmann, Hugh Laurie, and Mark Ruffalo. I'm hoping to start streaming it tomorrow – stay tuned!

[COMMENT](#)

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



In 2023, high school Seniors from Kenwood Academy, Lincoln Park High School, and Prosser Career Academy worked with social justice artist Tonika Lewis Johnson and teachers Todd Osborne, Sydney Walters, and Erin Jimenez, to create photographs and videos inspired by the [Folded Map Project](#). This is a digital exhibition of their work.



Tonika Lewis Johnson's *Folded Map™* Project visually connects residents who live at corresponding addresses on the North and South Sides of Chicago.* She investigates what urban segregation looks like and how it impacts Chicago residents. What started as a photographic study quickly evolved into a multimedia exploration with video interviews. The project invites audiences to open a dialogue and question how we are all impacted by social, racial, and institutional conditions that segregate the city. Her goal? For individuals to understand how our urban environment is structured. She wants to challenge everyone to think about how change may be possible and to contribute to a solution.*This is an ongoing project, which will have more interviews, an interactive mapping website and a Chicago West Side study as well.

Folded Map™ Project is supported by The Chicago Community Trust



SLN Annual Meeting & Dinner



Time & Location

Jan 15, 2024, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Roots Pizza

Chicago, 744 S Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60605, USA

About the event

The SLN Annual Meeting and Members dinner is being repeated! The meeting will start with a welcome, followed a complimentary dinner buffet (cash bar), a presentation on all accomplished in 2023 and then the election of officers and board members. The annual dinner is **free for all full SLN members (Current dues paying members)**

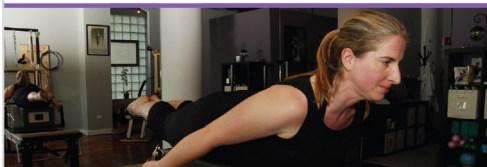


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Necessary and Sufficient is a woman-owned coffee shop in Logan Square. (Grace Wong / Chicago Tribune)

necessary and sufficient

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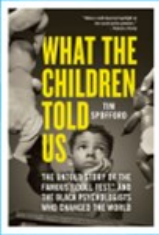


Sandmeyer's Bookstore has served Chicago's South Loop since 1982, providing quality new books and unbeatable service. A true mom-and-pop shop, Sandmeyer's Bookstore has been family-owned and operated since the beginning.


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IN PERSON
TIM SPOFFORD

February 6
 6:00 pm CT



Tim Spofford: What the Children Told Us

Journalist and professor **Tim Spofford** visits the AWM to discuss his book *What the Children Told Us*. Unfolding like a novel, this is the true story of two young Harlem psychologists who developed the famous doll test, the path-breaking experiment that played a key role in the land-

mark 1954 Supreme Court ruling against segregated school systems. For Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark, this was just the opening act in their struggle for justice and racial integration. Books will be available for purchase and Spofford will sign them following the program.

This is an in-person program at the American Writers Museum. This program will also be livestreamed, and you can [register for the link to the online broadcast here](#).



American Writers Museum
 180 N. Michigan Ave, 2nd Floor
 Chicago, IL 60601

<https://americanwritersmuseum.org/>



A HISTORY LOVER'S GUIDE TO **CHICAGO**

GREG BORZO




Writing Out Loud

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

Beth Finke

The Pallbearers of Thanksgiving, Milo Savich, Blast Furnace Publ., Chicago

"Nearly eight years after their steel mill closed and they lost their jobs, 2,700 workers at the Wisconsin Steel Co. called it quits Wednesday and accepted a \$14.8 million settlement of all claims against their former employer. Under the settlement, Navistar International Corp. will pay some longtime workers up to \$17,200 and some who worked less than three years in the old mill only \$200. The settlement ends the battle by workers to get up to \$40 million in severance pay, vacation pay, supplemental unemployment benefits and pensions. But Navistar still faces two other suits in the Wisconsin Steel case, one by the federal government. Company officers said Navistar wanted to settle the emotional issue of the workers' claims before the other suits go to trial." *Chicago Tribune, Feb 11, 1988.*

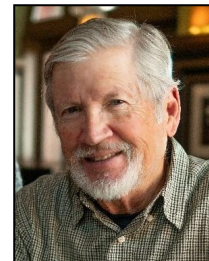
"Dey're actin' like dey can get away wid anything," a steelworker declares in this arresting, outrage-and dialect-driven novel of labor set in South Chicago in the early 1980s. Savich (Wilde About Holmes) dramatizes the fight of workers against Wisconsin Steel, which abruptly shut down plants early in the Reagan era, denying laid-off workers promised benefits. " *BookLife*

This book is a novella (91 pages) which could, in my opinion, be a lively screen play. It's many characters are defined by the dialogue which dominates the book and reveals the workers grievances and illuminates the sins of International Harvester, who owned Wisconsin Steel. The book is not humorless but does strike a foreboding tone of an era which saw the decline of the steel mills and the start of union busting, a characteristic of the Regan years. And it provide a vivid description of the Commercial Avenue business district and Avenue O. The author lives in Printers Row and lived in the 10th Ward growing up, home of US Steel and Wisconsin Steels, two huge producers. There is even a character who is a lawyer and an alderman who is a thinly veiled huckster who many of us know and remember. The book is more truth than fiction. It struck a chord since my father-in-law worked at Wisconsin Steel.

Al's Two Minute Review

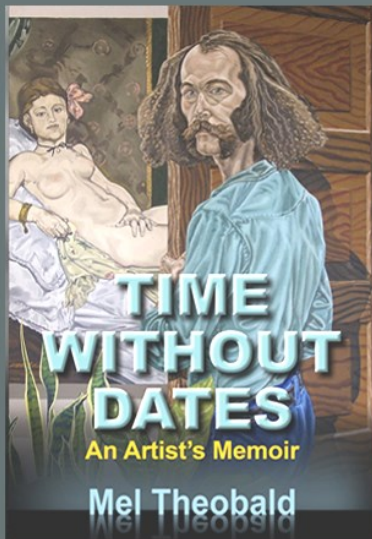
Al Hippensteel

January, 2024



Time Without Dates

An Artist's Memoir



by Mel Theobald

In this candid memoir, the author pays tribute to the mentors and events that inspired him and lays bare the experiences that shaped him as an artist. The Art Institute of Chicago plays a central role in the years he spent as a student, museum conservator, and alumni leader. His struggles with his parents' archaic ideals and his dreams give rise to a thoroughly engaging association with an elite art community.

He became a university professor and graphic designer before receiving an invitation to Russia in 1990. This book is a prelude to *Inside the Enigma*, an intricate account of that transformative year, and defines the complexity of his foray into the inner workings of an art museum, university and the people who represent the heart and soul of his creativity. Art, science and religion are the cornerstones of his belief that creativity, technology and faith in nature will lead man to a higher consciousness.

For more details about the author, go to: www.theobaldart.com

Hardcover, 358 pages, \$30

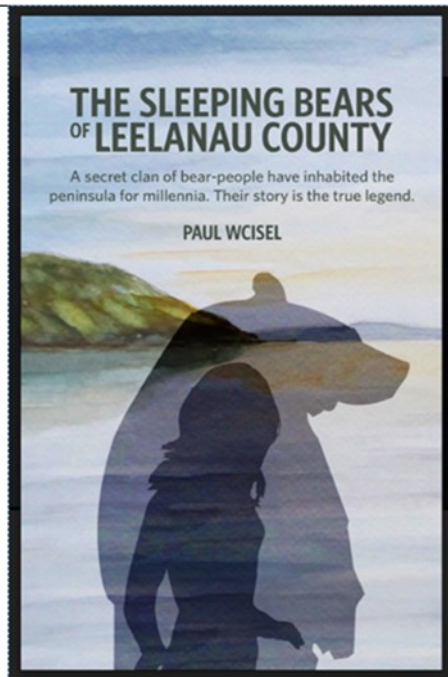
For ordering information, email: theobaldart@gmail.com

A new novel by local author, Paul Wcisel (paulwcisel.com)

In a remote corner of northern Michigan, the residents of Leelanau County have a secret society that has been living on the peninsula for thousands of years. They are the bear-transforming descendants of tribes who crossed Lake Michigan millennia ago to escape the destruction of their clan.

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

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OPINION

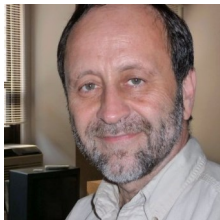
The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or South Loop Referral Group.

Mondays with Mike:

by [mknezo2014](#)

Lacking resolution, and the case of the Argentinian Rosa

January 1, 2024



A happy 2024 to you all, and thanks for stopping by. I am not doing Dry-uary but I wholly support all who are. Me, I may drink more because you know, it's an election year. Numbing is in order.

Our holiday season starts in earnest on December 23, Beth's birthday. We went to Hamilton, and then to dinner at a funky, delightful place called [Rootstock](#) in the [Humboldt Park](#) neighborhood. Our friend Val, who works across the street from our apartment at Printers Row Wine Shop, works Saturday nights at Rootstock, which aligned very nicely on December 23. She and the owner took great care of us and our friend Ruth. Beth's birthday was just about perfect.

The next morning things went off the rails a bit: Beth awoke in the 5 o'clock a.m. hour, as she always does, to feed Luna. And, as she always does, Beth took her morning medications. One of those meds, a pesky little time-release capsule, decided not to go down all the way. Heimlich maneuvers, water, calisthenics—nothing worked. She never had trouble breathing, thank God, but the dang thing just sat there and burned in her throat. She finally dozed off and when she awoke, the pill seemed to have dissolved but the irritation was front and center. This is already TMI but I'll fast forward and say that a week after her birthday and one visit to an urgent care, we spent 11 hours at the emergency room and left with a prescription for two medications and not a whole lot of instant gratification.

But, as of this writing, those two meds seem to be a good idea and Beth is feeling better than she has for over a week and once we get some more sugar-free pudding in her we'll be off to the races. (She couldn't eat this past week because it was so hard to swallow.)

OK, let me say that I feel wholly lucky that we have wonderful friends and health insurance. That the nurses and doctors at Northwestern were fantastic, as were the intake folks and other staff. But, I must also say what I've been saying since my twenties and we were navigating the health care system because of Beth's eyes and Gus' many maladies—"system" is the biggest freaking euphemism since Reagan coined the term "peacekeeper" for a nuclear missile.

I'll stop there for fear of starting 2024 on the wrong foot. The bottom line is we're fortunate, Beth is feeling better, and we're both exhausted.



In a period when Beth was out of bed and on the couch, we watched an absolutely fantastic documentary on Netflix called "American Symphony." The foundation of the story told is the process that the multitalented Jon Batiste followed in writing a symphony. That part of it is powerful—watching him collaborate to create an unconventional orchestra to play an unconventional piece of music is fascinating and gives shape to the ephemeral term "creativity." The documentary would be good if that's all it did—but the whole process is spliced with Batiste's complicated personal situation—that being his girlfriend-eventually-wife being treated for a relapse of leukemia. It's one of those experiences that's real, heartbreaking and inspirational all at once.

Finally, I invite your help in helping Beth and me solve a mystery. Sometime around her birthday we got notice from our building that a package was waiting at the desk. It turned out to be a big box, and our door person, who's seen the two of us through various maladies over the years, put it on a hand truck and brought it to our place. (We love you Chauncey!)

It turned out to be a case of rosé wine from Argentina. It's called Rule of 3, it's made from Malbec, and it's delicious. The problem? The card that came with it said only, "Merry Christmas!" No name, no hint at who gave us the lovely gift. So, if you are the generous, thoughtful soul who sent it and have been wondering whether we got it, we did and thank you! And please, raise your hand!

Here's to a safe, healthy, and peaceful 2024. A man can dream.

To Subscribe

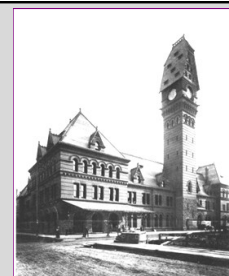
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Our 2024 Winter Indoor Vendor List is still being updated.
Please note that vendors have varying schedules, so be sure to
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Market Vendors

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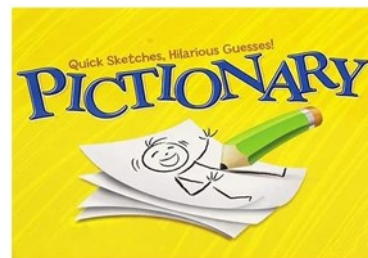
January - March
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www.SouthLoopFarmersMarket.com

PICTIONARY NIGHT!

Presented by South Loop Neighbors



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Editor's Letter: January, 2024

January 9, 2024 by [Brian Hieggelke](#)

As the curtain rises on 2024, whether we're in the front row or the balcony, we are trepidatious.

With the economy singing and progress on the infrastructure and the environment dancing, are we going to be uplifted by a musical?

Or will the wars that entangle us abroad, as well as the migrant crisis right at home, show us a tragedy?

One thing we know for sure is that this election year will have a bit of everything: drama, farce, comedy and even puppetry. We can only hope that it does not leave us, in the end, streaming out of the theater in tears.

In a year where the prevailing narrative about media companies was one of doom and gloom, the 2023 chapter of the Newcity story was happier. Our audience and revenue both grew enough to give us our best numbers in more than a decade.

This is a reflection of the world's need for more culture, and more ways to learn about and engage with it, especially in these trying times. Our mission has never been clearer.

We're not complacent going into a new year. When we think about our ambitious vision of where we want to be in five years, we see the long road ahead rather than the distance behind us.

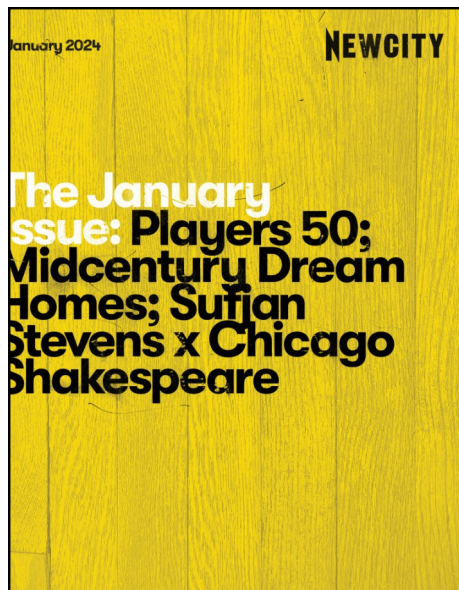
If all the world's a stage, we're about ready for a cheesy musical with its predictable story, some show-stopping performances and unforgettable tunes. And, most of all, love winning in the end.

Let's grab a drink at intermission. I'd love to hear what you think.

Brian Hieggelke

Look for *Newcity's* January 2024 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at

Newcityshop.com.



IN THIS ISSUE

Coming of Age

Sufjan Stevens' "Illinois" is brought to life at Chicago Shakespeare Theater

Home Delivery

My father and the midcentury house contest that launched his career

Players 2024

The fifty people who really perform for Chicago

AND

Poetry

"Night in Chicago"

A new poem by Mike Puican

And so much more...

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newcity.com



Saturday, February 10
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NEWCITY newcity.com

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

Killing the January Blues January 4, 2024



Early in my sobriety, a therapist told me to volunteer in order to get out of my depression. I almost went for her throat.

“That’s your advice? How can I help anyone when I can hardly get out of bed?”

In Alcoholics Anonymous, we’re told self-centeredness is a common trait that leads to drunkenness; it’s suggested that serving others will help keep us sober.

“It’s a spiritual principle. Don’t overthink it. Just go help someone.” An AA meeting-goer told me when I was whining about the blues one January.

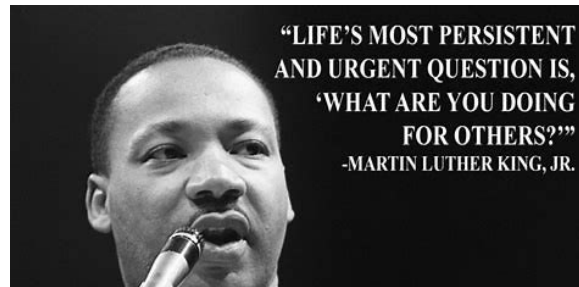
After years of campaigning by activists, members of Congress, and Coretta Scott King, President Ronald Reagan finally signed a bill creating a federal holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observed on the third Monday of January, dear Martin was first celebrated in 1986.

“You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.” MLK told us.

Grace is an indulgent gift from the cosmos. A heart full of love sounds too godly for my rebellious nature. For some, it comes naturally. Not for me. I meet many people I don’t want to love or serve. I balk. This is why I must be told to commit to love, commit to serve. Every day, I’m reminded of the promised rewards: freedom from melancholy and self-pity. The promise is appealing—and attainable.

During the month of January, organizations, politicians, GenXers, and citizen elders all celebrate MLK through service to others. Rush University Medical Center in Chicago offers a few easy opportunities.

Celebrate at a hybrid event: “A Lesson from Dr. King: Health Equity is Everyone’s Business,” on Wednesday, January 17, from 1:00 -2:00 pm. Experts share how to work towards ensuring everyone has access to their highest level of health. Click [here](#) if you’d like more information.



Volunteer in person in Chicago distributing 300 meals on Friday, January 19, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Multiple volunteer roles are available (preparers, packers, and drivers). Want to help? Click [here](#) for more info.

Mentor with the Community Health Mentor Program. Teach first-year graduate students about living with chronic conditions (high blood pressure, diabetes, alcoholism), as well as guide them in becoming patient-centered practitioners. All Community Health Mentor meetings will be on Zoom. Mentors receive up to sixty dollars in gift cards for participating in the training and all three meetings. The meeting dates are Wednesdays, January 24, February 14, and March 20, between 1 pm -6 pm for 60-90 minutes. Click [here](#) for more info or email Hannah Weitzman, Program Coordinator, at hannah.weitzman@rush.edu.

Dispelling my preoccupation with self is a lifelong endeavor. It’s comforting that MLK recognized this is true for many, which is why he gave us all the big quote:

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

[COMMENT](#)

by Regan Burke [In That Number: One March From the Streets of Protest to the Halls of Power \(And Beyond\)](#)

Available at Sandmeyer’s Book Store and other places.



Born Again Consignment Wants To Breathe New Life Into Printers Row



Owner Summer Amin hopes to bring style and whimsy to the Dearborn Street corridor.

by [Jamie Nesbitt Golden](#) January 2, 2024

Credit: Provided.

PRINTERS ROW — For eight years, Summer Amin has called the South Loop home. Now it's also home to [Born Again Consignment](#), Amin's first entrepreneurial endeavor.

The shop, 703 S. Dearborn St., held its grand opening on New Year's Eve, welcoming [Swedish American Museum's](#) Kristen Larson for a talk about "hygge" — a Norwegian term that describes the feeling of contentment evoked by comfort and conviviality.

Opening in the South Loop was a no-brainer for Amin, who left her longtime corporate job and cashed out her 401(k) to fulfill a long-held dream of being her own boss. She loved the idea of owning a funky, eclectic resale store that offered patrons an experience.

And with so many consignment shops on the North Side, why not open one south?, Amin thought.

"I always had the dream of opening a consignment shop. I hate waste. I'm the kind of person that, if I have too much hummus in the fridge, I'll try to find someone to give it to so I don't have to like, throw it away," said Amin, a Washington, D.C., transplant who moved to Chicago for a change of scenery and cheaper rent. "I love

reusing quality materials that had a life before but now I'm giving them a new life."

The store's name, Born Again Consignment, is a nod to the beauty of resilience and transformation, a theme illustrated best by its logo: a phoenix rising from the ash.

Amin said the name has rankled a few people who believe she's being sacrilegious, but as a "spiritual" person, it captures her business well.

Coming across the Dearborn Street storefront seemed like fate, especially after seeing so many of Amin's favorite shops closed as a result of the pandemic. With the tri-level building in her price range, suddenly the dream Amin had put off until retirement seemed within reach.

When fleshing out the concept for Born Again, the Georgetown University alumna said she wanted the store to have something for everyone.

"I really wanted to be very inclusive with my shop. Anybody who walks in, regardless of their size, regardless of their background, regardless of their income, should be able to find something that they like. I don't just have designer stuff. I have stuff that's affordable," Amin said.

Born Again isn't just limited to apparel; the store offers furniture and other home goods. Some of the items are vintage, others more of a novelty. From designer jeans and kitschy wine glasses to obscure board games ([Reminiscing](#), anyone?) Amin wants patrons to embrace whimsy.

Amin also wants them to take their time exploring the store. "Once I have the furniture, it's going to be a BYOB lounge so people can actually come and hang out there while checking

Read more



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2024/01/02/born-again-consignment-wants-to-breathe-new-life-into-printers-row/>

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Hundreds Of Migrants Sleeping In CTA Buses As Winter Storm Hits City

More than 10 times the number of migrants were temporarily staying overnight at the city's landing zone Monday compared to a week ago.

by [Madison Savedra](#) and [Colin Boyle](#) 3 hours ago
 Hundreds of newly arrived migrants seek warmth in CTA warming buses at the "landing zone" in the Near West Side as they await placement in a shelter on Jan. 8, 2024. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago
SOUTH LOOP — Over 500 migrants slept in CTA buses at the city's designated landing zone for new arrivals Monday — a record as Texas officials double down on busing people to Chicago and city leaders scramble to find enough housing with snow and freezing cold coming. As of Monday morning, 537 asylum seekers were at the landing zone at Desplaines and Polk streets, waiting to be placed at shelters, according to data from the city's Office of Emergency Management and Communications. Dozens of people were walking around the area Monday, some throwing around a football for the first time. Many people were seen huddled inside CTA buses labeled "warming bus."

The landing zone is the city's required drop-off point for buses bringing migrants to Chicago — although that policy [has been flouted repeatedly in recent weeks](#). When asylum seekers arrive in Chicago via bus, train or "other means," they are received at the landing zone to await placement in a city shelter, [city officials have said](#). Once there, they are provided with meals, blankets, warm clothing and space on a "warming bus." The number of people awaiting shelter placement at the landing zone has fluctuated dramatically. A week ago, only 56 people were staying there, according to city data. On Saturday morning, there were 120 people there. The next day, there were 472.

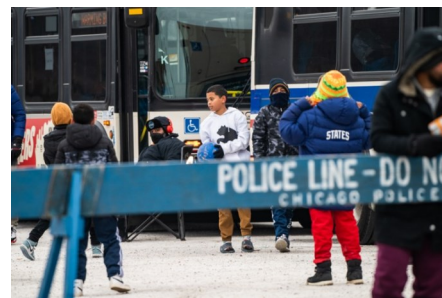
There were eight CTA buses at the landing zone Monday morning, ahead of [a winter storm](#) anticipated to bring 2-5 inches of snow to the Chicago area.

Hundreds of newly arrived migrants seek warmth in CTA warming buses at the "landing zone" in South Loop as they await placement in a shelter on Jan. 8, 2024. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago
 Andres, one of the dozens of people at the landing zone Monday, said he arrived Saturday after traveling from Medellín, Colombia, for more than a month. He came to Chicago from El Paso, Texas, on a bus, he said. Once here, officials at the landing zone gave him a kit which included some basic hygiene supplies, a backpack and a jacket, he said.

The 21-year-old said volunteers periodically bring donated goods to the area, which is how he got a thick pair of gloves. Andres said he's still waiting for new shoes — his only pair of shoes are missing the laces after they were taken out by immigrations officials in Texas.

The bus Andres has been sleeping on at night is warm enough, but not particularly comfortable, he said.

"Last night, the bus was very full — about 30 people," he said. "People find space for themselves in every spot. In the aisles, on the seats, between the seats. Sometimes more buses arrive and they move people to create more space."



Read More. [CLICK HERE](#)



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2024/01/09/hundreds-of-migrants-are-sleeping-in-cta-buses-as-severe-winter-weather-hits-city/>

**Community Meeting on New Proposed Building adjoining Pritzker Park
 Wednesday, January 17 at 6 pm
 Grace Place
 637 S. Dearborn St.**

Assemble Chicago Community Meeting

Come join us to learn more about the proposed development at 331 S Plymouth Ct!

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

(Doors open at 5:30 PM)

Grace Place

637 S Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60605

Please RSVP at ejohnson@tcbinc.org



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Near South Planning Board
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Tickets

Abbott and the Field Museum are collaborating on a first of its kind blood drive. Residents who donate blood at one of several upcoming events will get an exclusive first look at the new museum exhibition "Bloodsuckers: Legends to Leeches" and 4 free tickets to the museum. To learn more and to sign up to participate [click here](#).



FIELD.
MUSEUM

Second Presbyterian Church hosts its annual Winter Coat Drive during the months of November through February.

Donations of gently used or new winter coats, hats, gloves and sweaters are accepted and distributed to our Lunch Bag Program and neighbors in need.



Winter
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November 1, 2023—February 29, 2024.

Donations are received Tuesdays -Fridays, 11am-1pm



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Milo Savich

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A group of unemployed steelworkers from Wisconsin Steel on the south side of Chicago organize a Thanksgiving Day demonstration in 1983 in order to call attention to their plight after the mill was suddenly shut down. Their gimmick is a coffin that the demonstrators will carry that represents the death of the American steelworker.

Savich's searing prose captures the rough life of the steelworkers with wry humor and compassion, especially their struggles, camaraderie, and feelings of betrayal. The characters are all well-etched, complex, and true to life, and their talk is funny, bleak, pained, and convincing ... these creations and lives linger in the mind after the last page....

— *BookLife*

\$14.95 92 pages ISBN: 978-1-7374709-3-9

Available on Amazon

Holidays and Closures

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 15, 2024
Closed All Day

Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 12, 2024
Closed All Day

George Washington's Birthday
Monday, February 19, 2024
Closed All Day

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3 Things To Know About Chicago's School Choice Resolution

When school board members passed a resolution declaring their intent to invest more in neighborhood schools and move away from school choice, it set off a flurry of misinformation. Here are three important facts to know.



by [Reema Amin, Chalkbeat Chicago](#) and [Becky Vevea, Chalkbeat Chicago](#) January 3, 2024 Updated January 4, 2024

Sign up for Chalkbeat Chicago's free daily newsletter to keep up with the latest education news.

Chicago's Board of Education made waves last month when officials revealed a vision to move away from its school choice system and boost neighborhood schools. The declaration, included in a [resolution](#) the board passed in December, lays out priorities for the district's five-year strategic plan, which will be finalized this summer. Any resulting changes will depend on feedback from the community, board members said.

But the board's new vision immediately sparked misinformation. Here are three things to know about the board's resolution.

No. Not yet, at least.

The [resolution](#) does not say anything about closing schools. State law [put a moratorium on school closures in Chicago](#) until Jan. 15, 2025, [the same day](#) a [new 21-member, partially-elected school](#) is set to be sworn in. The current seven-member school board, appointed by Mayor Brandon Johnson, would not be able to close schools of any type – charters, magnets, or neighborhood schools – until that time.

Chalkbeat reporters explain what the CPS resolution means for parents:

School board member Elizabeth Todd-Breland did indicate the board is scrutinizing charter school performance through [the usual renewal process](#) and questioned whether poor-performing operators should “continue to exist.” But even a recent board decision to revoke a charter agreement with Urban Prep did not ultimately mean those schools closed. First, the district proposed operating the two campuses as district-run schools. But after a court order, the board [extended Urban Prep's charter](#) until June 2024.

Will I have To Go To My Neighborhood School?

No. The [resolution](#) does not say anything about requiring families to attend their neighborhood schools. The closest it comes to addressing enrollment policies is a bullet point about a “reimagined vision” that includes a “transition away from privatization and admissions/enrollment policies and approaches that further stratification and inequity in CPS and drive student enrollment away from neighborhood schools.”

Any school-aged child living in Chicago is [guaranteed a spot](#) at their zoned neighborhood school. Additionally, [board policy](#) amended as recently as last summer, allows

Jones College Prep at dismissal on March 16, 2022. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago



families to apply to a myriad of selective, magnet, charter, or other speciality programs that admit students from across the city. Some schools require a test for admission, while others are a straight lottery.

These policies have not changed, but could after community feedback sessions.

“There likely will be policies that need to be revised and changed,” Todd-Breland said. “The admissions and enrollment policy is on the table.”

[Data shows](#) half of elementary school students attend their zoned neighborhood school and only a quarter of high school students do. These numbers shifted over the course of the past 20 years, when roughly 75% of elementary school students went to their local school and half of high schoolers did.

What Do Parents And Students Think?

It varies greatly.

Chalkbeat Chicago [asked readers for their thoughts on school choice](#) and got nearly 80 responses from families across the city about how they've navigated the system. [Five families shared more about how — and why — they chose their schools.](#)

The wide range of responses could be a bellwether for the kind of debate or disagreement that could emerge during community feedback sessions.

The Board of Education was awarded a \$500,000 federal grant to create socioeconomically diverse schools. The district said it plans to use the money to engage the community on how to draw more families into neighborhood schools. Their application included a goal to reduce the percentage of families attending a school outside of their regions by at least 3%. The district did not answer questions to clarify their definition of region or why 3% was their goal.

The district is already collecting feedback on the next five-year strategic plan through [an online survey](#) and [community meetings](#) for the next Educational Facilities Master Plan. Officials have said they will host in-person and online meetings in February to gather feedback on the strategic plan.

Reema Amin is a reporter covering Chicago Public Schools. Contact Reema at ramin@chalkbeat.org.

Becky Vevea is the bureau chief for Chalkbeat Chicago. Contact Becky at bvevea@chalkbeat.org.



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2024/01/03/3-things-to-know-about-chicagos-school-choice-resolution/>

Theatre. . . . In the South Loop

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot **tells the story of a court case over the ultimate fate of Judas Iscariot.** The play uses flashbacks to animaged childhood, and lawyers who call for the testimonies of such witnesses as Mother Teresa, Caiaphas, Saint Monica, Sigmund Freud, and Satan.

Feb 14—18th, 2024

Miller Studio Theatre

Auditorium Building, room

BAT BOY The Musical

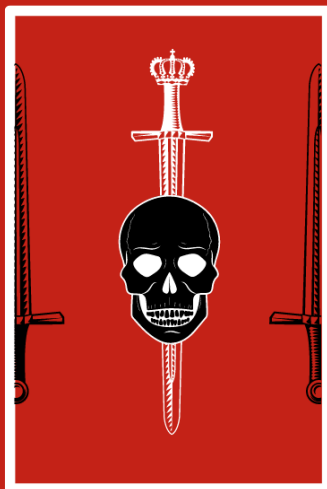
Based on a story in The Weekly World News, **Bat Boy – The Musical** is a musical comedy/horror show about a half boy/half bat creature who is discovered in a cave near Hope Falls, West Virginia. The local sheriff brings Bat Boy to the home of the town veterinarian, Dr. Parker, where he is eventually accepted as a member of the family and taught to act like a “normal” boy by the veterinarian’s wife and teenage daughter.

Wednesday, Feb 28 –Mar 3, 2024



Roosevelt University

Miller Theatre, 431 S Wabash, Chicago



The Tragedy of HAMLET Prince of Denmark

FEBRUARY 7TH 7:30PM FEBRUARY 14TH 7:30PM
FEBRUARY 8TH 7:30PM FEBRUARY 15TH 7:30PM
FEBRUARY 9TH 7:30PM FEBRUARY 16TH 7:30PM
FEBRUARY 10TH 2:00PM FEBRUARY 17TH 2:00PM
FEBRUARY 10TH 7:30PM

WRITTEN BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTED BY JEREMY MICHAEL COHN

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PERFORMANCE DATES

Wednesday, February 7th - 7:30PM (Preview)
Thursday, February 8th - 7:30PM (Preview)
Friday, February 9th - 7:30PM (Opening)
Saturday, February 10th - 2:00PM and 7:30PM
Wednesday, February 14th - 7:30 PM
Thursday, February 15th - 7:30 PM
Friday, February 16th - 7:30 PM
Saturday, February 17th - 2:00 PM

Columbia College

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The Chicago Bar Association Presents
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Comedy

January 12 – 13, 2024

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January 31, 2024 – February 25,

[BUY TICKETS](#)



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The part-time faculty union has ratified their contract, officially ending historic strike

The part-time faculty union has ratified their contract, ending the longest U.S. adjunct instructor strike in the history of higher education.

The announcement was made in an email from the Columbia Faculty Union, known commonly as CFAC, late Wednesday evening, announcing that 85.3% voting members took a vote, accepting the contract with a 99.7% yes-vote.

The Chronicle will be back after the break with in-depth analysis of what this means for faculty, students and the college.

The college said it has reached a tentative deal with the part-time faculty union, potentially ending the longest adjunct strike in U.S. history.

“We are pleased to announce that the college and CFAC, the Columbia part-time faculty union, reached a tentative agreement today,” according to [an email](#) from the Office of the President sent on Sunday evening, Dec. 17. The email was signed by Columbia Faculty Union President Diana Vallera, Vice President Lisa Formasa-Parmigiano and Columbia Chief of Staff Laurent Pernot and Special Counsel Labor Relations Terence Smith. The email said the deal will be submitted for a ratification vote this week by the union.

If union members approve the deal, J-term and the Spring 2024 semester will proceed as planned. It is unclear how many union members will get to vote on the new contract. Not all of the college’s 584 part-time instructors voted to go on strike on Oct. 30. The union [said](#) it had an 88% approval vote to strike but didn’t say how many of its members were eligible to participate.

The union went on strike over cost-cutting measures the college is implementing to address a \$20 million deficit. The union was particularly upset over an increase in some class sizes and a reduction in course sections, which will mean fewer opportunities for them to teach. Hundreds of classes were impacted each day that the strike went on because the majority of Columbia’s teachers are part-time instructors.

“I am, and I believe many full-time faculty are as well, relieved at the idea of a J-term and spring semester where the prospect of a strike doesn’t loom over us,” said Faculty Senate President Madhurima Chakraborty. “It will be great to have our colleagues back in the classroom, for full-time faculty to return to their normal workload, to begin to chart ways to repair a factious environment, and, most importantly, to have students be able to progress in their education without interruptions.”

Tyler Harding, president of the Student Government Association, said he hopes that over the coming

semesters, students can “heal together as a campus and come back together as one Columbia.”

“I think this is a moment of excitement for students, a moment of relief,” Harding said.

After Thanksgiving break, many of the college’s 221 full-time faculty, who are not unionized, picked up the classes of their striking part-time colleagues to help students finish the fall semester, which ended on Saturday, Dec. 16.

By then, nearly half of the college’s part-time instructors were teaching and not honoring the strike.

The college and the union agreed to bring in a [federal mediator](#) to aid with bargaining sessions in late November, after initially disagreeing on how to pursue mediation.

Because of the strike, students were allowed to choose pass/fail for their courses. The grading window for faculty also was extended until Jan. 3.

This story has been updated.



THE COLUMBIA
CHRONICLE

<https://columbiachronicle.com/>

Chicago Newcomers Assistance Network

Supporting Asylum Seekers at South Loop Landing Station. See Facebook page for updates

See the website for an overview of how to help: ChicagoNewcomers.org

Join this Facebook group to follow more closely: [Facebook.com/groups/d1nan](https://www.facebook.com/groups/d1nan)

Make a tax deductible donation via our fiscal sponsor [Life Quilt Foundation](http://LifeQuiltFoundation.org)

Purchase high-priority items off this [Amazon Wish List](#) (set up to be delivered directly to volunteers, not to your address)

Hi [@everyone](#) we would just like to share an update of current city protocols concerning newcomers. We do still have newcomers arriving at D1 because buses from TX are now just dumping people without jackets/warm clothing at remote suburban train stations with train tickets into the city. When they arrive, they have been walking to the police stations with only what they have on.

If they arrive between 8am-8pm, the station is supposed to alert OEMC and they are usually picked up daily soon after they arrive. If they arrive after 8pm, the police is supposed to allow them to stay in the station until the next morning when OEMC start making their rounds.

What we ask of everyone is to keep an eye out for newcomers walking to the station from the train station or if you see anyone outside of the station. I know it's hard to tell if they are newcomers but a telltale sign is if they are walking without jackets or warm clothing and often with just sandals/flipflops. Also, please be on the look out for buses dumping people at suburban train stations or on the side of the road.

If you see this happening please ask them if they just arrived in Chicago and where they are headed (translate apps if you don't speak Spanish) and/or alert us on on this chat so we can make sure OEMC is alerted.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/230022846380468/chats/7158798730809725>

(This photo is a bus that just dropped off newcomers at a closed suburban train station.)



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a All located in Printers Row.

Chicago Newcomers Assistance Network

DONATE COATS, BOOTS, & COLD WEATHER GEAR

Please donate
new or gently
used/clean coats,
boots, hats, gloves,
scarves, sweaters,
& sweatshirts
to help migrant
asylum seekers
keep warm during
their first winter.

www.chicagonewcomers.org



Drop off locations/time: Sundays, 1133 S Wabash, 11am to 1pm
Wednesdays & Fridays, 1829 S State, 4-4:45pm (in the alley, garage door should be open) D1 Newcomers Assistance Network-PSRT



The Robinson Report

4th Ward Service Office
 Phone: 312-744-2690
 Email: ward04@cityofchicago.org
 Monday - Friday 9am-5pm

Dear Neighbor,

I'm thrilled to share the exciting news that in 2024, I will be establishing resident advisory councils to enhance community engagement, organize community driven events, and guide the initiatives of my office. Applications are currently open for the following councils:

- Youth Advisory Council
- Senior Advisory Council
- LGBTQ+ Advisory Council
- Economic Development & Business Advocacy Advisory Council
- Community Safety Advisory Council

I am actively seeking a diverse group of passionate residents from the 4th Ward to fill each council. If you have a keen interest in any of the council topics and can commit 5-10 hours per month to council activities, I wholeheartedly encourage you to apply. To submit your application [click here](#). Applications will be accepted until **Friday, January 13**.

Exciting Chicago Public Library Paid Internships

The Chicago Public Library will be hiring almost 70 paid interns this fall and spring. Opportunities include paid learning opportunities in experimental game design, cosplay, social media content creation, and running local book clubs in your neighborhood. To learn more and to apply [click here](#).

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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

<https://www.dearbornexpress.net/>

The Monandnock Building (lower right) in the foreground, a Mies Van der rohe building in the background.



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 Chicago, IL 60605

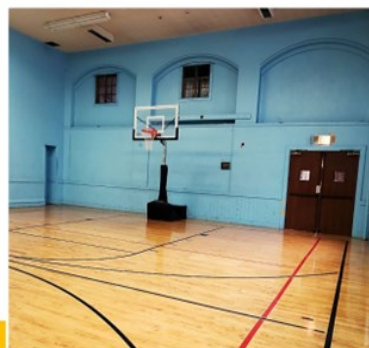
(312)722-0057

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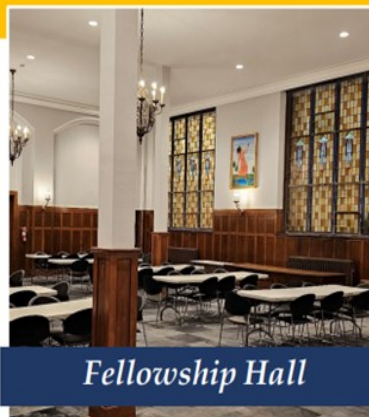


Gym Rental

ARE YOU HOSTING AN EVENT?

Consider hosting it at historic Second Presbyterian Church!

For more information on our rental spaces and fees, please visit our website at 2ndPresbyterian.org/rental or contact the Church Administrator at (312) 225-4951.



Fellowship Hall

2ndPresbyterian.org
 1936 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60616

We have Rental Spaces Available!

We have a variety of spaces within our church buildings, including the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, a Gymnasium, and several meeting rooms, that may be rented for your special event or on a recurring basis!



1ST DISTRICT COMMUNITY AND BEAT MEETINGS - 2024



Beat 111

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Jan 03 2024	Mar 06 2024
May 01 2024	Jul 10 2024
Sep 04 2024	Nov 06 2024

Beat 113

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Mar 06 2024	Jan 03 2024
July 10 2024	May 01 2024
Nov 06 2024	Sep 04 2024

Beat 121

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Jan 10 2024	Mar 13 2024
May 08 2024	Jul 17 2024
Sep 11 2024	Nov 13 2024

Beat 123

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Mar 13 2024	Jan 10 2024
Jul 17 2024	May 08 2024
Nov 13 2024	Sep 11 2024

Beat 131

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Jan 17 2024	Mar 20 2024
May 15 2024	Jul 24 2024
Sep 18 2024	Nov 20 2024

Beat 133

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Mar 20 2024	Jan 17 2024
Jul 24 2024	May 15 2024
Nov 20 2024	Sep 18 2024

Beat 112

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Feb 07 2024	Apr 03 2024
Jun 05 2024	Aug 07 2024
Oct 02 2024	Dec 04 2024

Beat 114

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Apr 03 2024	Feb 07 2024
Aug 07 2024	Jun 05 2024
Dec 04 2024	Oct 02 2024

Beat 122

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Feb 14 2024	Apr 10 2024
Jun 12 2024	Aug 14 2024
Oct 09 2024	Dec 11 2024

Beat 124

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Apr 10 2024	Feb 14 2024
Aug 14 2024	Jun 12 2024
Dec 11 2024	Oct 09 2024

Beat 132

3:00 PM Virtual	5:30 PM InPerson
Feb 21 2024	Apr 17 2024
Jun 26 2024	Aug 28 2024
Oct 16 2024	Dec 18 2024

Join the 1st District email blast by emailing

caps.001District@chicagopolice.org

Zoom meeting links will be disseminated a few days prior to the meeting
in person locations will also be sent out via email.



1st District CPD



Cpd01District



ChicagoCAPS01

Contact us at 312 - 745-4381

****All beat meetings will be on Wednesday's for the calendar year****

**** 3:00 PM meetings will remain virtual via zoom****

**** Every 5:30 PM meeting will be held in person****

Man fired ‘indiscriminately’ into a crowd at Roosevelt Red Line, injuring 2: prosecutors

[December 19, 2023 7:18 PM](#) [Tim Hecke](#) [CTA](#), [Loop](#)

CHICAGO — A 20-year-old Chicago man with a history of armed carjacking and gun possession fired shots into a crowd of people at the Roosevelt Red Line station Saturday evening, prosecutors said.

Marcus Jones is only charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm because prosecutors instructed Chicago police detectives to continue to investigate whether he should be charged with shooting the two men, according to court records.

CPD officers on patrol at the Roosevelt station around 10:15 p.m. “observed multiple people running in a frantic and scared manner away from the CTA Red line [sic] mezzanine and yelling ‘they are shooting,’” according to Jones’ arrest report.

The report said that one of the officers saw a man in a New York Yankees jacket “casually walking” from where the panicked people were running. After a Chicago police video surveillance officer notified field units that the shooter was wearing a Yankees jacket, the cops hustled up to the Green Line platform and detained Jones, the report said.

A loaded 9-millimeter handgun previously stolen from Rockford was still “hot to the touch” when cops pulled it from Jones’ waistband, according to the report.

“They got me,” Jones allegedly told someone he was speaking with on the phone as cops converged on the train.

In a detention petition filed Tuesday, prosecutors said that Jones “had just fired multiple rounds from that handgun indiscriminately into a group of approximately 7-8 individuals who were chasing after him.”

Bullets struck two men in the crowd: a 20-year-old who was in good condition and a more seriously injured 25-year-old who suffered multiple gunshot wounds, officials said. CTA cameras recorded the incident.

Prosecutors said Jones is on probation for possessing a stolen motor vehicle. He was adjudicated delinquent as a juvenile for aggravated vehicular hijacking with a firearm and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon. According to prosecutors, he picked up the adult stolen vehicle case while the two juvenile cases were still pending.

Judge Barbara Dawkins detained Jones as a public safety threat during Tuesday’s hearing. Prosecutors told her charges related to the shooting may be forthcoming.

<https://cwbchicago.com/2023/12/man-fired-indiscriminately-into-a-crowd-at-roosevelt-red-line-injuring-2-prosecutors.html>

<https://cwbchicago.com/>

CLICK on link for more



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 everyone's business!

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Next CAPS Meeting Mar 13, 2024

3pm virtual

Beat 123



caps.001district@chicagopolice.org

Police Blotter



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

12/15/2023 1:30am 1500 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT/RECOVERY Street Beat 131

12/12/2023 12:01am 1400 S Wabash
ATTEMPT. AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

12/20/2023 12:01am 1200 S State
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

12/15/2023 6pm 40 E 9th
CYCLE/SCOOTER/BIKE THEFT on Street Beat 123

12/16/2023 11pm 800 S State
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

12/15/2023 9:30pm 700 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

12//2023 2am 700 S Plymouth Ct
AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

12/6/2023 12:10am 600 S State
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

12/5/2023 1pm 500 S Michigan
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

12/8/2023 5:30pm 100 W Roosevelt
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

12/25/2023 10:30pm 900 S Wells st
AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

12/7/2023 8am 800 S Wells
AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

12/15/2023 2:15am 1500 S Wabash
CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, Knife Apt Beat 131

12/26/2023 2:30pm 30 E Roosevelt Rd
STRONG ARM ROBBERY CTA Platform Beat 123

12/16/2023 8:57am 20 E Roosevelt Rd
ATTEMPTED ROBBERY CTA Bus Stop Beat 123

12/18/2023 1:14pm 1100 S Wabash
STRONG ARM ROBBERY No weapon Restaurant B123

12/16/2023 10:03pm 1100 S State
AGGRAVATED BATTERY, Handgun Subway Platform,

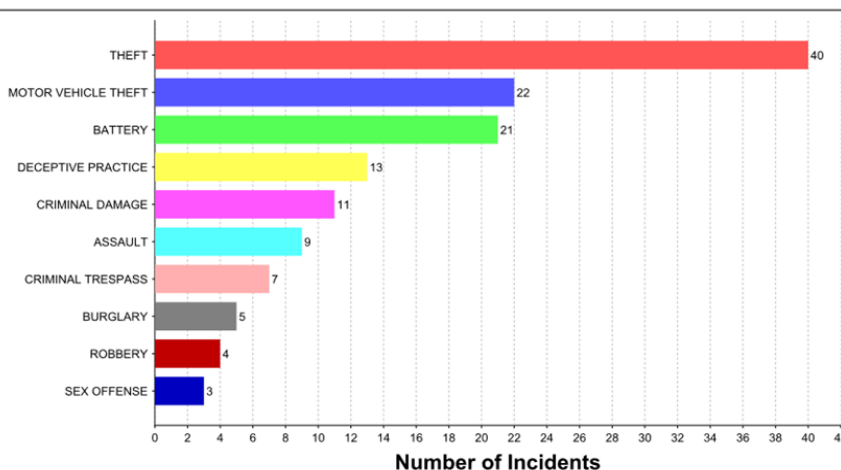
12/15/2023 12:51pm 900 S Clark
AGGRAVATED BATTERY Apartment Beat 123

12/6/2023 9:45pm 800 S Financial Pl
AGGRAVATED BATTERY on Street Beat 123

12/17/2023 7:44pm 600 S Clark
ARMED ROBBERY Hand gun Restaurant Beat 123

Report Date: 06-Dec-2023
Report Time: 15:27:55
Produced By: Information Services
Division
Run By: PC08X11

Top Ten Crimes From 01-Nov-2023 To 30-Nov-2023 On Beat 0123



Authorities identify assailant who died during robbery, kidnapping, sexual assault spree

[December 20, 2023 7:03 PM CWBChicago South Loop](#)

CHICAGO — Authorities have identified the man that Chicago police say went on a one-man [violent crime spree](#) last Friday in which he sexually assaulted a woman, robbed others, and kidnapped three strangers from a South Loop condo building, then died after colliding with a CPD squad car.

The Cook County medical examiner's office identified the deceased man as Armond Freeman, 34, of the 10300 block of South Komensky. He died from injuries suffered in the crash, the office said.

A Facebook account associated with Freeman includes a video of him swinging a large knife outside the Clark-Division Red Line station within the past two weeks.

Violent crime spree

Chicago police said Freeman had battered and sexually assaulted a 48-year-old woman at knifepoint inside a condo building elevator in the 1500 block of South Wabash around 2:30 a.m. on December 15. An internal bulletin distributed within the police department said the victim was an off-duty police officer. When two 27-year-old women came upon the attack in progress, he forced all three women into a condo unit at knifepoint and began to rob them, according to CPD. A 27-year-old man entered the residence as the robbery unfolded, and he, too, was robbed at knifepoint.

Frames from a video recently posted to Armond Freeman's social media page. | Facebook

Police said the woman who had been sexually assaulted managed to escape and get to a hospital. But the assailant forced the remaining three victims into a Volkswagen Jetta that one of them owned, then drove to a Subway restaurant in the 700 block of West 31st Street.

There, he forced the man to join him as he robbed the restaurant cashier at knifepoint, slashing the clerk's shoulder in the process.

<https://cwbchicago.com/>

Real Estate Transactions

\$413,000
1210 S FEDERAL ST D
12/8/23

\$370,000
5 E 14TH ST 806
12/5/23

\$280,000
1503 S STATE ST 405
11/27/23

\$140,000
801 S PLYMOUTH CT 178
11/21/23

\$250,000
900 S WABASH AVE 403
11/20/23

\$260,000
40 E 8TH ST 2804
11/17/23

\$235,000
1515 S PRAIRIE AVE 415
11/16/23

\$384,000
1305 S MICHIGAN AVE 913
11/16/23

\$300,000
1515 S STATE ST 1617
10/16/23

\$140,000
899 S PLYMOUTH CT 2305
11/16/23

\$875,000
1346 S INDIANA AVE 1346
11/15/23

\$276,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 1210
11/15/23

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FOR SALE780 S. Federal St. #506 | \$172,500.-

Clean, bright, and spacious one bedroom/ one bathroom condominium in the heart of printers row. The freshly painted city home boasts many recent upgrades including; brand-new GE stainless steel appliances, brand-new carpeting, lighting, and window treatments. The furnace and a/c were updated in 2022. The unit is move-in ready and shows very well. Indoor parking is available for rent in the building.

701 S. Wells St #3201 | \$430,000.-

Bright, spacious 2 bed / 2 bath luxury condominium in the hot South Loop community just steps to everything! Located on the 32nd floor, with a magnificent northeast exposure this gorgeous city home boasts stunning city and lake views. The intelligent 1300 square foot floorplan features a huge living/dining room, open kitchen, large balcony, and split bedrooms including a sizable master suite. The full amenity building offers a full time doorman, exercise room, party room with kitchen, business center, meeting room, and a quiet, comfortable library. Premium indoor parking and a full height storage locker complete the package.

FOR RENT600 S. Dearborn St #505 - \$1900/month

February 1st, 2024 occupancy. Clean, bright 900 sq foot one bed/one bath condo in the heart of printers row. This city home features hardwood floors throughout, an updated kitchen and an updated bathroom.

600 S. Dearborn St #1306 - \$2300/month

March 1st, 2024 occupancy. Fully updated one bed/one bath lux condo in the heart of printers row. This gorgeous city home boasts a huge 1000 square foot floorplan featuring, maple hardwood floors throughout, a gorgeous chefs kitchen with white cabinets, stainless steel appliances, and granite countertops. A huge bedroom with an extra large walk-in closet, and an updated spa-bath with huge walk-in shower. Tons of storage and in-unit laundry complete the package.

600 S. Dearborn St #1112 - \$2650/month

Immediate occupancy. Fully furnished 1 bed/ 1 bath plus den in the heart of printers row. This magnificent city home is sure to please! The bright 1000 square foot home includes hardwood floors throughout, an updated kitchen with white cabinets, quartz countertops, and stainless appliances. An enormous master bedroom with walk-in closet, in-unit laundry, and a fabulous spa-bath featuring a huge 6' jacuzzi tub!

701 S. Wells St. #3201 - \$3800/month

February 1st, 2024 occupancy. 2 bed / 2 bath condominium for rent. Full amenity building with full time doorman, exercise room, business center, party room, and library.

**Dearborn Street
Realty**

**Tom Feddor,
312.203.3841**



40 E. 9th St #612
0 bed, 1 bath, 423 sq ft
\$149,000

Genadiy Aizikovich
Realty Advisors Elite LLC
224.770.1302



1111 S State St #701
3 bed, 2 bath, 1750 sq ft
\$675,000

Alexandru Susma
Main Street Real Estate
Group 815.404.3079



910 S Michigan Ave #812
2 bed, 1.5 bath, 1265 sq ft
\$324,500

Tom McCarey
@properties Christie's
International Real Estate
773.848.9241



1335 S Prairie Ave #605
3 bed, 2 bath, 2076 sq ft
\$779,500

Mildred Shemluck
Engel & Voelkers Chicago
312.296.3723



100 E 14th St #1203
1 bed, 1 bath, 927 sq ft
\$359,900

Nazee Hamidi
Homesmart Connect LLC
847.702.6337



1530 S State St #723
2 bed, 2 bath, 1280 sq ft
\$375,000

Brian Murphy
Dream Town Real Estate
773.550.1045

