

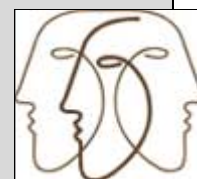


THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

SPONSORED BY THE
SOUTH LOOP REFERRAL GROUP
SERVING PRINTERS ROW AND
DEARBORN PARK

AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR
JANICE KOERBER, ASST. EDITOR

Dearbornexpress.net



Everything has a season

It's the let's cram everything into three months season. Besides the Nascar Race and Lollapalozza, let's toss in a Democratic Convention. I just want to go to a couple of day games at Sox park. How about this? I think a cool goal would be to go visit three neighborhoods you've never been to.

Last week, I started running a printers story about starting out in Printers Row. I ran into him in the mid 2000s when I worked as a print broker. He was so convenient over on 18th street. He celebrated 50 years in 2002. Many of his former locations in Printers Row are now loft apartments and condos. Installment two is on page 14.

The Schools will soon be out for summer. Whatever happened to the proposed Near South High School? See the answer on page 11.

A man and a three year old girl (I assume it was his daughter) were struck by a car which was turning right from 11th street onto south Wabash. The driver was issued a citation. We have many bicyclists in the neighborhood. Be aware, especially when turning. See page 23.

CAPS Community Policing meeting held at Grace Place May 8th. Robbery patterns are still prevalent on the North and Northwest side. Not so much here. The major hot spot for crime remains the CTA L and Subway. Be cautious when using the L late in the evening. Deceptive practices are on the rise. Someone will stop you posing as a charity. They won't ask for a credit card, rather ask you to send a \$1 or two via Venmo and then ask to use your phone to complete the transaction. They'll empty your checking account. Target young people. Car theft is still high but they are targeting more high end cars.

May 30, 2024

Vol. 12, No.7

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Beth Finke

Taking some time off.



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JAZZ SHOWCASE

Thu-Sat, May 30-Jun 1, 8pm & 10pm.....Charles Heath Quartet
 Sun, Jun 2, 4pm & 8pm.....Charles Heath Quartet
 Mon, Jun 3, 5:30pm.....Chicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Paul Marinaro
 Tue, Jun 4, 8pm & 10pm.....Petra's Recession Seven
 Wed, Jun 5, 8pm & 10pm.....Sharif Zaben – One Pulse
 Thu-Sat, Jun 6-8, 8pm & 10pm.....Mike Stern Quartet
 Sun, Jun 9, 4pm & 8pm.....Mike Stern Quartet
 Mon, Jun 10, 5:30pm.....Chicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Devon Sandridge
 Tue, Jun 11, 8pm & 10pm.....Dan Kaufman Trio
 Wed, Jun 12, 8pm & 10pm.....Julian & Friends
 Thu-Sat, Jun 13-15, 8pm & 10pm.....Bethany Pickens Quartet
 Sun, Jun 16, 4pm & 8pm..... Bethany Pickens Quartet
 Mon, Jun 17, 5:30pm.....Chicago Jazz Orchestra
 Tue, Jun 18, 8pm..... WDCB 90.9FM John Hanrahan Quartet featuring
 Andrew Dixon
 Wed, Jun 19, 8pm & 10pm.....Marlene Rosenberg Quartet
 Thu-Sat, Jun 20-22, 8pm & 10pm.....Steve Turre Quintet



Dearborn Station

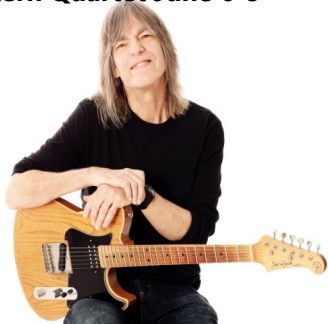
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Jazzshowcase.com

Mike Stern Quartet June 6-9



Charles Heath Quartet May 30—June 2



Welcome to Jazz Showcase where Jazz lives in Chicago since 1947. Our exclusive 170 seat venue features the best Jazz acts you'll find anywhere in the Chicago area. Tickets are now available online. Don't forget to sign up for our e-mail newsletter so you don't miss out on our upcoming shows!

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 across from the Art Institute

Queens of the Blues captures the heart of the African American experience as we reminisce on the lives of four “Blues Queens”; Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Koko Taylor and Etta James.

JUNE 7-30

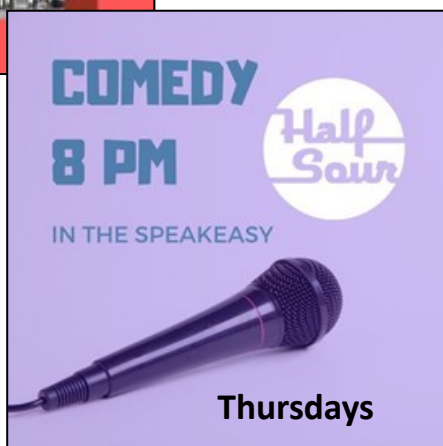
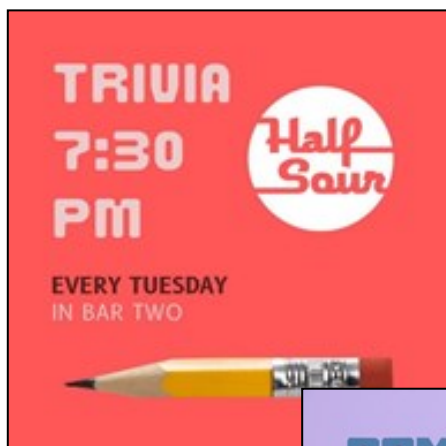


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Bingo with Betty

Last Wednesday of the month



Nu Blu Band FT. Carlise Guy

Ages 21 and up
Saturday, June 01
Show: 9pm
\$25

700 S Wabash Ave

[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

Online ticket cut off time is 4:00PM day of show.
Tickets are available at the door after 5:00PM

Free Acoustic Set: Harmonica Hinds 5:30-8:00PM

Opening Band: Bernard Crump 9:00-10:00PM

**Headlining Band: Nu Blu Band
Ft. Carlise Guy 10:30PM – Close**

CLOSED SUNDAY, JUNE 2

21+ After 8:00PM

SEATING POLICY:

All tickets sold are General Admission, which means table/bar seating are on a **first-come, first-served** basis. Buying your ticket online in advance guarantees admission (not seating). We recommend arriving early for seating.

PHOTO/VIDEO POLICY:

No professional photo/video equipment will be allowed without a media pass.

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

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Vice Pres. Jack Chalabian

V.P. of Planning & Development – Dennis McClendon

Sec. – Benjamin Cottrell

Director & Chair of Membership—Roger Marsh

Treasurer – Dorothy Miaso

Director – Sarah Breedlove

Director – Roger Marsh

Director – Greg Borzo

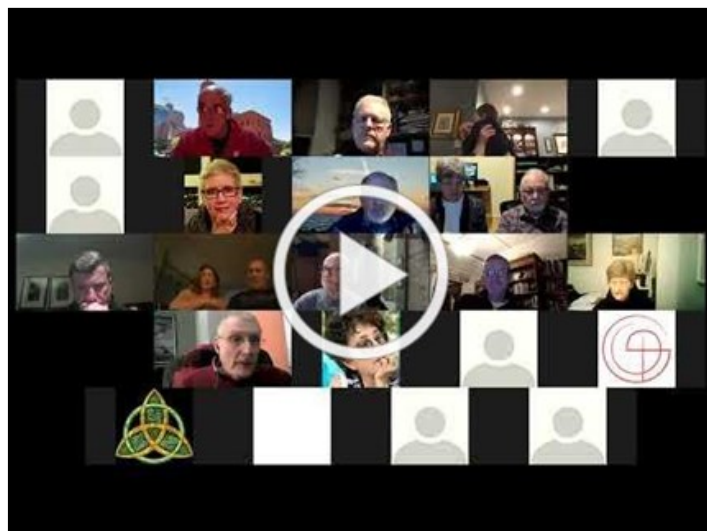
Director – Rob Hard

Director— Susan Zinner

Development update presentation

A roundup of what's proposed and underway for the South Loop was the program at our annual meeting in January 2022. 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](#)



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Chicago 60605

JaqiGInt@gmail.com



Jim Wales

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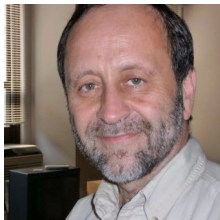
The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or South Loop Referral Group.

Mondays with Mike:

by [mknezo2014](#)

The wide, wacky, world of sports

April 13, 2024



Mondays with Mike is back! It's—about the time I thought I'd get back in the Mondays rhythm, life happened and, well, apologies for the absence.

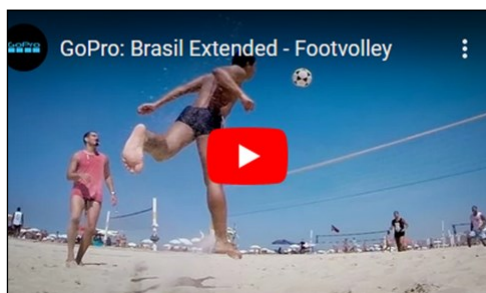
There's a backlog of blog ideas, but for today, I'm going to stick with something that maybe has been going on for a while but I've just noticed: The proliferation of weird sports.

I kinda thought it had peaked around Covid lockdown when ESPN, desperate for any live content, began broadcasting the [American Cornhole League](#). Now, I prefer calling it bags, but whatever. Anyway, two Cornhole players stood, with surgical masks, side by side and battled it out. I guess I was desperate, too.

Of course, all the major sports have been back for awhile. And that's plenty—especially football, which is seeming more and more like an all-year thing. But lately I've noticed three new sports that one channel or another sees fit to broadcast. One of them is called kick volleyball (also known as Sepak Takraw). Although it's hard to visualize if you haven't seen it, it's exactly what it sounds like: it's like volleyball except it uses a smaller ball and players don't use hands, they use feet. Here's a sample of some highlights from an international match:



I have to say, they pull off some remarkable plays, kind of soccer, volleyball, and acrobatics all in one. There's also a beach version called footvolley:

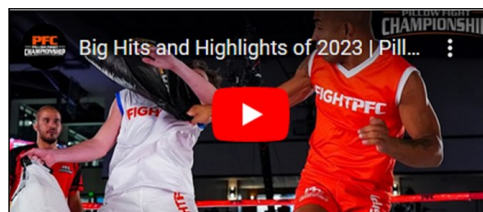


Next, we all remember tag, right? You're "it" until you tag another person, who is then "it." Little did I ever think as a kid playing tag with neighbor kids that there would one day be a professional tag league. It's called [World Chase Tag](#) and while the whole "tag" thing is the basis, it involves an obstacle course. Once again, you kind of have to see it:



But wait, there's more! I present to you, the [PFC Pillow Fight Championship](#).

You just can't make this stuff up



[COMMENT](#)

MOST RECENT EPISODES

May 10th

What the Media Get Wrong About Campus Protests

In reports about pro-Palestinian college encampments, comparisons to the anti-war demonstrations of 1968 abound. On this week's On the Media, hear how historical analogies distract us from what makes today's protests unique. Plus, a reporter debunks a theory that Bill Gates is somehow funding campus activism.

[6:00] Host Micah Loewinger speaks with [Danielle K. Brown](#), a journalism professor at Michigan State university, about how coverage has detracted focus from students' demands for universities to cut ties with Israel. Plus, [Rick Perlstein](#), a columnist at The American Prospect, says reporters' fondness for drawing parallels with 1968 has obscured the singularity of today's encampments.

[23:37] Micah continues the conversation about pro-Palestinian protest coverage with [Andrew Perez](#), senior politics editor at Rolling Stone. They explore the inaccurate reporting on "outside agitators" and funding sources of campus demonstrations.

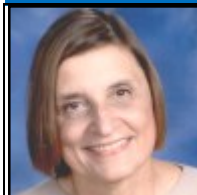
[36:36] Micah speaks with [Oren Persico](#), a staff writer at [The Seventh Eye](#), about how current events like a potential Israeli invasion of Rafah and the ongoing Israel-Hamas ceasefire negotiations are being covered by Israeli media.

Click here

ON **THE MEDIA**

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

A wine-tasting weekend in southwest Michigan

By **Marianne Goss**

Seven women in my family were planning a girls weekend to celebrate my sister Nancy's 60th birthday. We rented an Airbnb for three nights in St. Joseph, Michigan, the heart of southwest Michigan's wine country. Togetherness was the point of the weekend, but as long as we'd be going to wine tastings, I figured I should learn something about wine.

When Nancy heard that I was checking out websites to educate myself, she laughed and said, "Don't take it so seriously. The wines won't be very good." Nancy has been on wine tours in Napa Valley and knows wines — at least better than I do — but I suspected there was snobbishness in her comment and kept studying.

Remember the five S's of wine tasting, multiple websites said.

See. Pause to look before drinking. A lighter white wine is sweeter, a yellower white is dryer. (Dry means little or no sugar.) Reds are fuller bodied as they get darker.

Swirl. Keeping the glass on the table, hold it by the stem and move it in circles to release aromas. Look for "legs" — the streaks of wine that stream down the side. Legs indicate more alcohol, sugar content, and viscosity (thicker consistency), not higher quality.

Smell. Put your nose up to the glass and inhale, trying to identify aromas that come from the grapes, such as fruits and flowers, and from the winemaking process, such as vanilla and spices.

Sip. Swish the wine around in your mouth, noticing the flavors, the amount of dryness, and the viscosity.

Savor. The lingering sensations on your tongue and in the back of your throat are called the finish. A long and complex finish indicates a quality wine.

It didn't take long at the tastings for my attention to the 5 S's to wane. Once I started to mellow from the alcohol, I just enjoyed myself. As Nancy had added after expressing her expectations for the wine, "We're going mostly for the camaraderie."

Over two days we went to seven wineries out of the more than four dozen in southwest Michigan. We started with a tour at Dablon Vineyards and Winery in Baroda, seeing vineyards with different varieties of grape vines; stainless steel fermentation tanks; and oak barrels where some wines, mostly reds, are aged.



The wineries are just minutes apart, and it's easy to put together a route that doesn't require a lot of driving. Except for the scheduled tour, we simply showed up everywhere. Sommeliers (I suppose they are called that) gave us sheets with the wineries' offerings listed in categories like dry white, dry red, sweet white, sweet red, and rosé. We each chose four or five and were poured samples (a flight) of about three ounces for \$15.

If we'd stayed with the sommeliers and asked questions, I might have learned more, but we wanted to enjoy the beautiful weather and took our flights outside. I did try to detect flavors and aromas but usually couldn't. Since my alcohol tolerance is low, I skipped some tastings and had a flight of hard cider at one place, but my companions were up for multiple wine tastings.

By our last stop on Sunday afternoon, at the Round Barn Winery, we'd had our fill of tastings and opted for a sangria or another iced drink. Live music was playing outdoors, cornhole games were in progress, and children ran around as their parents sipped drinks.

Southwest Michigan was featured in a winereview.com article headlined "The Next Frontier of World-Class American Wine." The region's winemakers benefit from a lake effect that provides longer and warmer growing seasons than elsewhere in the Midwest. The region also has nutrient-rich soil and more than enough natural rainfall. Ambitious winemakers are experimenting with new varietals to augment the area's traditional crisp whites.

Nancy conceded that some of the wines were good and went home with three bottles. I bought only one because I'm happy with wines from Trader Joe's for under \$5 a bottle. Saying that may be admitting that I didn't refine my palate on the trip. But I still had a great time.

[COMMENT](#)

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

Yard Sale

June 8, 9 am – 1 pm

Dearborn Park,
9th & Plymouth

Spots are
1st come
1st serve at
there is always

plenty of space to spread out. Most folks like to line up along the path going through the park. The South Loop Neighbors does not provide tables, but you are welcome to bring your own and many sellers use blankets on the grass to line items up if they don't have tables.

[Click here](#) to reserve a spot or ask a question!

SLN will have table at the Yard Sale and will accept donations that morning. SLN will sell donated items as a fundraiser and any unsold items will be donated to a nonprofit thrift store (not returned to donor).



Printers Row Farmers Market June 2, 2023. Early for strawberries but don't be surprised if they magically appear.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

If you wish to send a letter to the editor, send it to thedearbornexpress@gmail.com. I will respond to it and confirm you are a real person and give you the option of having it published in the newsletter with your name or as anonymous. Sending a response to one of our contributors only goes to their web site, not to the Dearborn Express.

CHICAGO
Burger Alley

OPERATING HOURS

MONDAY 11AM-11PM

TUESDAY CLOSED

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THURSDAY 11AM-12AM

FRIDAY 11AM-12AM

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SUNDAY 11AM-5PM

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STREET MARKET & FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

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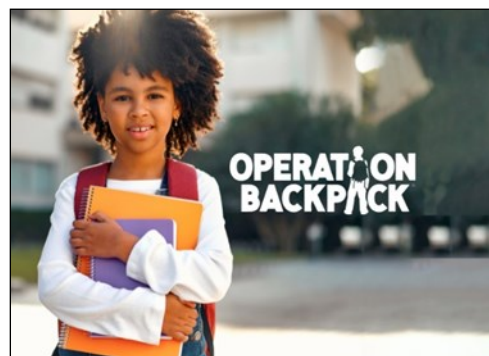
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Helping Kids in Need Succeed

Operation Backpack® is our initiative to fill in the gap for children experiencing homelessness, poverty, and otherwise underprivileged circumstances. **From now through September 2024**, your donations will help us provide backpacks, school supplies, and funding for academic enrichment to homeless and underprivileged children. Together, we can help ensure these children achieve success despite their circumstances.

Supplies are provided to students from low-income families in our programs as well as partnering Title 1 schools. To learn more about our family-based programs, click the button below.

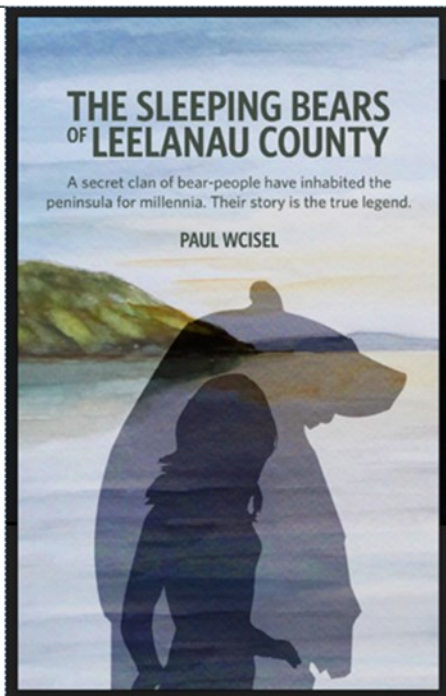
[CONTACT](#)

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.

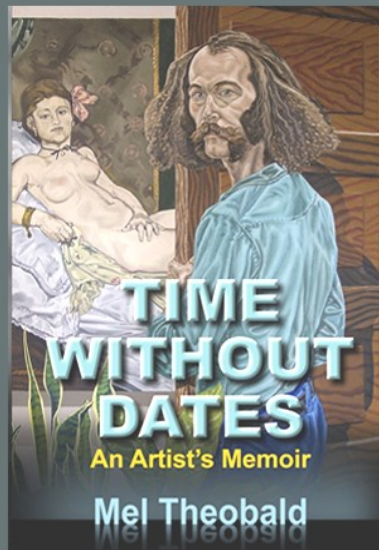
Pick up a copy at Sandmeyer's Bookstore today.



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

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IN PERSON

R. O. KWON




June 5
 6:00 pm CT

AMERICAN WRITERS MUSEUM

R. O. Kwon:
"Exhibit" (IN PERSON)

Nationally bestselling and award winning author **R. O. Kwon** (*The Incendiaries* and *Kink*) visits the American Writers Museum to discuss her highly anticipated second novel, **Exhibit**. She takes her investigations into desire, identity, and ambition to new heights in this novel, hailed by Pulitzer Prize-

winner Andrew Sean Greer as "brisk, jolting, brilliant, beautiful, true" and with "the most exquisite prose in the bookstore." Books will be available for sale and Kwon 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](https://americanwritersmuseum.org/).



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


<https://americanwritersmuseum.org/>



Writing Out Loud


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

Beth Finke



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

GREG BORZO



chill with us



Ice Cream Social

Wednesday June 12 at 5 pm
Webster (Daniel) Park
1357 S. Indiana Ave.

Summer's coming...

Come out and enjoy a free ice cream social sponsored by the South Loop Neighbors



Community Development Grant applications are open

- DPD is currently accepting Community Development Grant (CDG) applications for more than \$250,000.
- CDG supports local commercial, mixed-use and light manufacturing.
- Eligible costs include pre-development, new construction and renovations.
- Applications are open to business owners, property owners, community developers and entrepreneurs.

Apply by Aug. 9th, 2024



More info: bit.ly/chicagocdg

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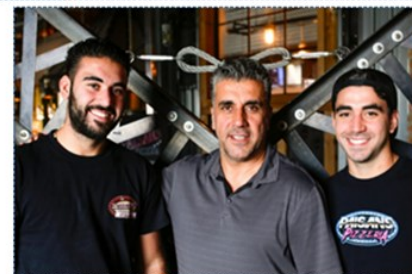
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What's Going On With The Near South Side High School Plan?

Funding for the controversial \$150 million high school was slated for a vote last summer, which didn't happen. CPS says the proposal is still "under review," but a website has been taken down, and stakeholders say it's been months without an update.

by [Jamie Nesbitt Golden](#)

NEAR SOUTH SIDE — A controversial plan for a new Near South Side high school appears to have stalled. Families on the Near South Side and Chinatown have been asking for a dedicated community high school for years, as many families say students are forced to travel across the city to attend selective-enrollment schools that offer classes and extracurriculars nearby high schools lack.

In 2018, plans to convert National Teacher's Academy, 55 W. Cermak Road, into a high school [were scrapped after outcry from families and NTA staff](#). Instead, a \$150 million school was proposed for the former Harold Ickes Homes site near 24th and State streets on the Near South Side. That plan was met with criticism from Bronzeville and Chinatown neighbors who [opposed building the school on public housing land](#). It has also [drawn accusations of backroom deals](#) and prompted backlash toward Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Housing Authority and City Hall leaders.

Now, officials are being quiet about the status of the school, and a website [that served as an information hub for the proposed high school](#) has been taken down.

"We've been given no update yet, but as far as I know, everything is pretty much still status quo. I'm still committed to making this happen," Ald. Nicole Lee (11th) told Block Club.

A Board of Education vote to approve a capital budget for the project was originally set for June 2023 but was pulled pending further review, sources said at the time. It's unclear what the next steps are.

In a statement, a CPS spokesperson said the website was "currently paused," but more information would eventually be shared.

"The Near South High School proposal is still under review as the District develops long-term strategies and objectives through work on the CPS Educational Facilities Master Plan and Five-Year Strategic Plan," district officials said in a statement.

Mayor Brandon Johnson's office did not respond to requests for comment. During his campaign, Johnson pledged to enforce a moratorium on building anything on public housing land, but it is unclear whether he supports the school proposal.

A month after the stalled school board vote, [Johnson replaced all but one board member](#) and named Jianan Shi school board president. Shi, previously with parent advocacy group Raise Your Hand, was part of a coalition of residents calling for the high school to be built elsewhere.



People Matter co-founder Angela Lin talks ahead of a protest opposing a controversial Near South Side high school. Credit: Jamie Nesbitt Golden/Block Club Chicago

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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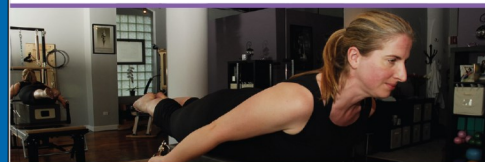
*Per federal guidelines, beneficiaries of federal funded plans are not eligible for free injury screens.

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From the Editor of New City
Brian Hieggelke

May 16th: Every time I see a movie in a theater—this week it was "The Fall Guy" at Showplace Icon—I am reminded of how distant the experience is from watching the same, or any movie, at home. The scale of the screen, the saturation of the sound, the complete immersion in the experience are things we can attempt but inevitably fail to replicate at home. Not to mention the popcorn, the trailers advertising future movies we did not know about but now want to see, and the date-night element—with friends or partners or family—all remind me how much I love the spontaneous joy of going to the movies.

We should start a club. Who wants to go to the movies next week?

Monday, May 20th: It's Saturday afternoon and the halls of Illinois Tech's Hermann Hall are buzzing, filled with eager learners going from lecture hall to lecture hall. Except school's out for the year—these students, many long past their graduation date, are spending a day with the Chicago Humanities Festival in order to hear from various public figures on subjects both arcane and mainstream. (We were there to see Marina Abramović.)

The Chicago public's thirst for knowledge on full display at the festival is encouraging, which made the same day's news that the last daily newspaper to be printed in Chicago had rolled off the presses at the Chicago Tribune's Freedom Center all the more discouraging. The loss is largely symbolic—the paper will still be printed somewhere in suburbia—but I can't stop thinking about what might have been if the company had not so profoundly lost its vision and disintegrated into a private equity cash cow being milked into oblivion. The Freedom Center, a future casino site, was a symbol of the newspaper's brawn, while the grandeur of Tribune Tower, now a luxury apartment building, once symbolized its ambition.

Tuesday, May 21st: We're going to press with the June print edition of Newcity as you read this, and we think you're going to love it.

From Mary Wisniewski's profile of the woman who has almost single-handedly been trying to keep Polish culture alive in what has been historically the world's second-largest Polish city, to Dave Hoekstra's plunge into the story of a long-time bartender who turned to writing at the end of his life, to the Design 50, which gives you a lifetime's worth of insight into the city's leading creators of things we see, touch, smell and even, in one case, taste, you'll get ninety-two pages of storytelling in a package wrapped inside Dan Streeter's gorgeous cover

NEWCITY newcity.com

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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.

Backstory Essays

Regan Burke

Smelly Lilacs

May 14, 2024



The tulips were showing their last droopy colors. The iris' were ready to pop for a week or two of runway-like exhibitionism. The trees in the small park were half-dressed, embarrassed by their young fresh leaves, waiting for their green siblings to fill in around them.

And oh those smelly lilacs.

Their short-lived incarnation makes me holler

thank you Jesus.

And then, the warblers.

Every spring is the same. Year after year. And yet, every single time, I'm shocked out of winter doldrums by the sheer variety of beauty and fragrance in the cultivated and in the wild city gardens. A text or an email or an article from birding organizations will remind me to listen for migrating warblers. They pass through as the tulips fade. I hear them. Never see them.

Warblers visit Chicago on their way up north from Central and South America. They're tiny. My old eyes are acclimated to spotting bigger birds—starlings, blackbirds, crows. Even sparrows are larger than warblers. I look, but mistake the warbler for a leaf or a twig, even a large bug.

But the other day, on an unusually seventy-five-degree May morning, I passed under a tree while Elsa sniffed around the ground cover for messages from new and old pals. I heard a symphony of birdsong overhead and looked straight up to see tiny bright-colored warblers flitting from branch to branch, hunting insects.

I switched on my iPhone, pressed the Merlin bird app, and recorded a Tennessee Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellowthroat, and American Redstart all singing their wee hearts out within shouting distance. I suddenly realized I was in a bird "fallout," a phenomenon that occurs when curious weather slams into migrating songbirds in the air and they descend into the trees below.

The weather systems predict the number of songbirds that may be migrating over Chicago on spring nights. Attracted to their reflections in the windows of high-rises, they accidentally kill themselves by flying into lit buildings.



Hyde Park residents Meghan Hassett and her husband Max Smith captured the northern lights from Promontory Point Friday, May 10, 2024. Provided by Meghan Hassett

The uncommon migration fallout happened twelve hours after Chicago's unusual sky-drenching from the northern lights—yes, the northern lights! The aurora borealis: blazing bits shooting out of the sun, hitting the diluting atmosphere with undulating ribbons that lit up the Chicago night. All this only a month after a solar eclipse.

In the park, a dog-walking neighbor neared with Zeus, stopped, and looked up.

"Whatcha lookin at?"

"Warblers."

"Oh," and he continued on. He lives in my building and told me a few days before that he's planning a hiking trip to the Rockies because he "likes nature."

Me too.

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



Editor: This is a printer's story of how he started out his career and business in Printers Row. With tenacity and faith in God, he survived the ups and downs of the printing business, and the change in technology to celebrate his 50th Anniversary in 2022. In his own words.

How it All Began, 2nd installment

Early in 1972, my cousin Sam Bianchi called to tell me of a friend of his (Joe Rossi) that worked the night shift in his full-time position for Hall Printing, where they printed magazines and books. Joe was looking for a kid to come in a couple of times a week to clean up his part-time printing business, Beacon Press, which he ran during the day. I accepted the position with Joe. I worked with Joe for a while, keeping his shop in order and learning all I could. Due to financial issues, Joe was no longer able to keep me on his payroll. I was willing to do anything I could to be around printing, so I volunteered to continue on without pay--just to be in the printing atmosphere and learn. Joe didn't feel right about this and initially refused the offer. So, I brought up the old hand-feed letterpress Joe had sitting idle in the corner of his shop. I explained I could use that machine for my own printing orders. I imagined I could use the press to print business cards, Christmas cards, invitations, etc. Joe explained that he didn't actually own the press, but put me in contact with the owner who was a friend of his. Immediately after Joe gave me the name and number. I called and asked if I could use the press. His response was "How would you like to buy the press, kid?" This reply shocked me. I hesitated to answer, because I had no idea what a machine like this was worth. My pause caused him to say, "How about a hundred dollars?" I was stunned. I agreed and asked when and where we could meet. After the paperwork was completed, I informed Joe that I would be moving the press. He then explained that he occasionally uses the machine and offered me a \$35.00 per month lease.

At that point on September 2, 1972, D&R Press was in business on Pulaski Road two blocks south of Addison Street in the city of Chicago.

Within a few months, Beacon Press lost its lease, forcing me to junk that press because it was not worth the cost to move it. However, I was under pressure because I had weekly printing jobs to produce. So, I rented a press from my friend and owner of Federal Typesetting which was located at **525 S. Dearborn** and just a couple of floors above Ranis Menu Printing. I was able to work at Ranis during the day for 8 hours and then head upstairs to Federal Type to print my jobs because their second shift usually kept them operating most nights until 11pm. Unfortunately, this only lasted a few months, because Federal Typesetting Company was a union shop and the owner was told by his employees that they would walk off the job if I continued to operate

there. So, to avoid causing him any trouble, I finished the jobs I had to complete and departed. Thankfully, I contracted my work with an elderly printer at Meredith Printing Company on the west side of Chicago. This



Dave Ransom, owner of D&R Press

gave me time to shop for and find a press in the Tradin' Times. This press was originally part of the fleet of presses at Cuneo Press. After purchasing it, my father, David, Sr., and my friend George Spathies, helped me move it into my Dad's garage at 5468 W. Rice St., on the west side of Chicago, in the Austin neighborhood. From the middle of 1973 until April of 1976, I ran D&R Press out of my parents' garage. In 1976, I moved the company to **Printers Row at 525 S. Dearborn** on the 5th floor of a seven-story building that housed printing companies and related services. I was still working for Ranis Menu Printing, which was on the first floor of this same building. During the years of 1976-1980, I continued to work full time for Ranis Menu Printing. We had a great working relationship. I would work eight hours at Ranis during the day and then go upstairs and work at D&R for 6-8 hours every night and then eight hours on Saturdays and Sundays. In 1980, the **525 S. Dearborn** building fell prey to the urban development of condos in the Printers Row district. I located the **Patten Building in the South Loop**. D&R moved into its new location on the 3rd floor of **161 W. Harrison Street**. This was a twelve-story building full of printers, binderies & graphic art supply companies, simply nothing but printing and related services. During the next 15 years at **161 W. Harrison**, we grew to 10 presses with a full dark room & prepress department including typesetting and design capabilities. At one point we had 8,000 sq. feet of space. But as urban growth would have it, this building also went condo in 1995 and D&R Press was forced to move yet again to a new location. Through my old contact, Steve Ranis (Sam's son) I learned of a printer that was looking to retire but still had a lengthy lease. I agreed to assume the lease and take over the equipment. The shop was over 5,000 sq. feet at **329 W. 18th Street in the South Loop area**.

(To be continued next issue June 20th, 2024)



The Patten Building at 161 W. Harrison

(BLOCK CLUB New School continued from p. 11)

The Story So Far

Near South Side neighbors and elected officials have long fought for a community high school in the area, saying the lack of options for the growing population has forced students to travel up to two hours to other neighborhoods.

But many of those proponents have pushed CPS to consider other sites for the school. They suggested [The 78 megadevelopment](#), or a plot between 17th and 18th and Canal and Stewart Avenues. They also suggested repurposing Jones College Prep into a neighborhood school.

[The Illinois Answers Project reported last year](#) that CHA, CPS and city officials had homed in on the Harold Ickes Homes site by July 2021, maintaining to the public there were no other viable locations for the school. School board members narrowly voted in September 2022 [to buy the land at 23rd Street and Wabash Avenue for \\$10.3 million for the school](#). They also approved a land swap deal with the CHA: The district would lease land at 24th and State for the high school, and the housing agency would get the deed for the Wabash land to complete the [Southbridge](#) residential development, allowing some of the families displaced by the demolition of the Ickes Homes to return.

The school would accommodate 1,200 students from the community, 30 percent of them Black. It would be a feeder school for nine surrounding elementary schools: Armour, National Teachers Academy, Drake, Healy, Ward J, Holden, Smyth, Haines and South Loop. An ad hoc committee consisting of parents, community leaders and district staff was formed in November 2022 to guide CPS families through the process. The following month, the City Council approved \$8 million in tax-increment financing dollars to buy some of the land involved in the swap. The ad hoc committee launched a series of virtual meetings in January 2023 to get community input and was to meet twice a month ahead of the scheduled board vote.

Following the land swap, Rep. Theresa Mah [vowed to withdraw the \\$50 million in state funding she helped secure](#) because of the city's refusal to compromise with neighbors who wanted to explore alternate sites. Mah told Block Club earlier this month she hasn't had a chance to speak with Johnson's administration on the issue, but she remains firm on finding a compromise that doesn't involve using public housing land. "I want to revisit it, and I still believe we should consider another site because it doesn't make sense to stick with a site so many are opposed to," Mah said.

READ MORE

<https://blockclubchicago.org/2024/05/20/whats-going-on-with-the-near-south-side-high-school-plan/>



<https://blockclubchicago.org/>

Glessner House Craft Group

1800 S. Prairie Avenue

Chicago, IL 60616



Located on Historic Prairie Avenue in the South Loop, Glessner House, which was completed in 1887 is a National Historic Landmark. It is widely regarded as the urban residential masterpiece of architect H.H. Richardson, who had a lasting impact on architects such as Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright. The Glessner family called this house their home for nearly 50 years. Mrs. Glessner was a talented crafts woman engaging in activities such as needlework, and silverwork. She was also an avid knitter and purportedly knitted more than 500 sweaters for children, employees, and servicemen. In her lifetime she was also an active member of the several other social and philanthropic organizations, including Antiquarian Society of the Art Institute of Chicago, and its predecessor, the Chicago Society of Decorative Art.

In honor of Mrs. Glessner and her skills and talents as a crafts woman, the Glessner House Craft Group was started in October of 2023. You are invited to join us at Glessner House for this free craft group to work on your own projects. We are meeting once per month on Thursdays. **The dates so far for 2024 are April 18, May 16, June 20, and July 18.** Two sessions are available for each of the dates, 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm. You can come for one or both!! Individuals are encouraged to bring their own knitting, crocheting, sewing, and/or needlework projects to work on while enjoying the historic Arts and Crafts interior of the Main Hall of Glessner House just as Frances Glessner (shown above) and many of her friends and family did. If you are interested in attending, please email Cari Dudich at cdudich@glessnerhouse.org. We look forward to seeing you!

The Revival Comedy Shop Opens In New South Loop Digs

Neighbors have lined up to check out the comedy venue's new home to the delight of owner John Stoops, whose mission is to make comedy accessible to all.

by [Jamie Nesbitt Golden](#) May 22, 2024 Block Club SOUTH LOOP — Three months after departing one of Hyde Park's popular commercial corridors for the South Loop, The Revival is open for laughs.

Owner John Stoops welcomed his new neighbors with a May 9 grand opening celebration at the comedy venue, 906 S. Wabash Ave. They've been coming back ever since, he said, adding that the summer session is underway.

The Revival's new home is "50 percent larger" than its old Hyde Park digs, with a bar and reception area in the front that leads to a large, airy performance space with enough seating to accommodate 200 people.

"We opened up the show with the legendary [David Pasquesi](#) from 'Veep' and 'Curb Your Enthusiasm.' He's part of an ensemble called Unsend. That was our first show on this stage for the general public, and it was a packed house. Every seat was filled, and that kicked us off

for a weekend of shows. We could not be more excited about the reception," Stoops said.

Neighbors have been signing up for classes, as well. One of the more popular offerings is The Revival's Drop-In Improv, which allows newbies to try out improvisation without committing to a full session. The Friday night class has attracted a cross-section of city dwellers looking to have a little fun, Stoops said.

"It's a critical part of our community outreach," Stoops said. "Yes, we're putting some of the best and brightest on this stage, and we want to bring folks from every background, every stripe, every age to try this thing because it is among the most accessible art forms. Anyone can bring their lived experience to the stage and have joyous fun being creative and spontaneous with each other."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Members of The Revival's staff after a recent Friday night show. Credit: Jamie Nesbitt Golden / Block Club Chicago



You're Invited

NSPB ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, June 20, 2024

Hilton Chicago

720 S. Michigan Avenue

Registration: 11:15 AM | Program: 12:00 PM

Election of Board Members will take place.

Guest Speaker:

★ ★ **KENYA MERRITT** ★ ★

Deputy Mayor | City of Chicago

Deputy Mayor, Kenya Merritt, will join us as she shares what's in store for the City moving forward, especially as it relates to development on the Near South Side and business growth in the City.

Sponsorship Levels:

☐ \$5,000 - Platinum ☐ \$3,500 - Gold ☐ \$2,500 - Silver

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(Outdoors)
Neighborhood Parking

[Market Info](#)



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June 13 - October 3
Thursdays from 4am-8pm
No Market July 4th

Roosevelt Collection Shops
150 W. Roosevelt Rd.
(Indoors & Outdoors)
2-Hour Free Validated Parking

[Market Info](#)

Revival Comedy Shop CONTINUED from previous page

After checking out the drop-in class, people can stick around for a Friday night show to see how the professionals do it. Chicago Style is one of five groups performing on The Revival stage — including Unsend and Quitting Contest — and the diverse, six-person ensemble will bring its brand of absurd “mid-form” improvisation to new audiences until mid-June.

Though the group formed three months ago, the members are improv vets who cut their teeth at shops like Second City and iO. They came from other groups to form one of their own, said Chicago Style member Jason Tolliver.

“It was basically a group of improvisers who just gathered around and came up with this show because improv is either short-form or long-form. We’re kinda combining the two into a mid-form show. We do a couple of games and songs and things. It’s a fun show. I’d give it a PG-13,” Tolliver said.

For those lamenting the Revival’s South Loop move, Stoops said the venue is still pretty accessible if people need a comedy fix.

“We’re accessible to all the folks who are ‘L’ riders, Lake Shore Drive commuters jumping off the highway and popping down Michigan Avenue. The old facility could’ve easily fit into this space. This is the result of a two-year plan, and we’re so excited to be official,” Stoops said.

For more information on classes, workshops and shows, visit [The Revival website](https://the-revival.com).



<https://blockclubchicago.org/>

CHICAGO INTRODUCES NEW FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF PROGRAM



Hey Chicago, let's compost! The City of Chicago is launching its first-ever citywide **Food Scrap Drop-Off Program**. All Chicago residents are welcome to drop off their household food scraps for composting at one of 15 locations across the city – for **FREE!**

Composting is one of the easiest ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the climate crisis. Composting keeps food scraps out of landfills and recycles nutrients to build healthy soils.



Scan the QR code or visit www.ChicagoRecycles.org to register for the program and learn how it works.






JOIN US IN BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE, ONE BACKPACK AT A TIME

Operation Backpack at VOA Illinois will begin on June 3rd, 2024! This is a summer-long drive to collect backpacks and school supplies for the youth we serve including children in families experiencing homelessness and children of Veterans served by VOA Illinois. It is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in a child's life, and ensure they have everything they need to succeed in the classroom.




Scan the QR code to visit our website and learn more!






For questions or more information on ways to get involved, email development@voail.org

THE PALLBEARERS OF THANKSGIVING



Milo Savich

New Novel by Local Author

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

Explainer: How the Student Center was funded

By [Maya Swan-Sullivan](#), Staff Reporter May 20, 2024

When President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim steps down on July 1, he will leave his successor to grapple with rising tuition costs, declining enrollment and a \$38 million operating deficit. But his legacy also includes a showcase building for students that has become the centerpiece of Columbia's urban campus.

The five-story Student Center, which opened in Fall 2019, just before the pandemic hit, was partially [funded](#) by a donation from Kim himself. It was also paid for through the sale of real estate and other private donations, according to Lambrini Lukidis, associate vice president of Strategic Communications and External Relations.

The [building](#), located at 754 S. Wabash Ave., houses a food court, study and meeting rooms, the fitness center, a tech bar, the Career Center and event spaces. Many students who crossed the graduation stage this past weekend to get their diplomas wore caps decorated at the Makerspace in the Student Center.

On Monday, May 20 the Student Center added the Levin Family Lounge, a third-floor gathering space in the Student Center was renamed after the Levin family, who fund four scholarships for Columbia students.

It also has a large event space, which is where Kim was [holding a brunch](#) for parents during Family Weekend in Fall 2023 when students led by the part-time faculty union president confronted him over his handling of the growing deficit. This was just days before the historic part-time faculty union strike started.

On Monday, May 20, the college's Board of Trustees will meet in the Student Center boardroom to vote on whether to accept Kim's recommendations for how to close the deficit.

For the past several years, the college's spending has been more than its revenue, which is what [led to the operating deficit](#). Any spending decisions were obviously part of that, including the construction of the Student Center, although declining enrollment, discounted tuition and the strike also contributed.

By the numbers:

The Chronicle previously reported in 2017 that the \$210 million sale of the University Center, which was also partially owned by Depaul and Roosevelt University, contributed most of the funding for the Student Center.

Even so, the Student Center's cost, which was \$50 million, was a major talking point during the strike. On the picket line, part-time instructors held up signs that called the Student Center a "\$50 million pool hall." (The Student Center does have a pool table on the 4th floor.)

But the Student Center was the source of contention for the union even before the strike.

Part-time Union President Diana Vallera told [WBEZ](#) in 2018 that it was difficult for her to see the center being built because programs were being cut, with diminishing opportunities for instructors to teach.

Vallera declined to answer questions when asked by a Chronicle reporter outside of her classroom.

What students are saying:

For students, the Student Center is a popular gathering spot. Columbia's buildings are spread out around the South Loop, with no quad like most traditional colleges.

It was conceptualized through "Dream Out Loud" student input sessions.

Jewel Pratt, sophomore graphic design major, said they mainly use the Student Center for the gym and the food court. They also work at the tech bar, located on the first floor, a new addition to the building, which replaced the coffee shop and opened in Fall 2023 as a place for students to get help with the college's online platforms like Canvas and Office 365.

Isaac Christophe, sophomore graphic design major, said he mainly uses the Student Center as a place to do homework and eat.

Jen Haskins, a senior film and television major, studies at the Student Center and uses the audition space.

Haskins also works at the Makerspace, located on the second floor of the building, a studio space with large tables, craft supplies, sewing machines and 3D printers where students can go to work on class assignments or personal projects.

"I toured Columbia in 2019," Haskin said, when the student center was still pretty new.

"I really loved how everything was set up and just how neat and cool and how it really just applies to all majors. Like you don't have to be in a certain major to enjoy the Student Center or Makerspace."

"I remember on my tour them showing us the Makerspace and I just thought that was so cool," Pratt said. "And [the student center] just looked really cool. It's like the first thing you see when you google Columbia."

<https://columbiachronicle.com/40294-2>

THE COLUMBIA
CHRONICLE

For the rest of the story, click here



[Kaelah Serrano](#)

Columbia's Student Center, located at 754 S. Wabash Ave., is used as a gathering place for students across majors. The building houses a food court, study and meeting rooms, the fitness center, a tech bar, the Career Center and event spaces.

Author Event



Wednesday, June 5,

6pm - 7pm

CPL is pleased to welcome Emil Ferris to discuss her highly anticipated new book, [My Favorite Thing Is Monsters Book Two](#).

Set against the tumultuous political backdrop of late '60s Chicago, *My Favorite Thing Is Monsters Book Two* is the eagerly awaited conclusion to the most acclaimed graphic novels of the past decade, [My Favorite Thing Is Monsters](#). Presented as the fictional graphic diary of 10-year-old Karen Reyes as she tries to solve the murder of her beloved and enigmatic upstairs neighbor, Anka Silverberg, a holocaust survivor, while the interconnected stories of those around her unfold. In Book Two, dark mysteries past and present continue to abound in the tumultuous and violent Chicago summer of 1968.

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book Clubs



Tuesday, June 18, 2024

12PM—1PM

Article Discussion: Fake News & Misinformation

Don't have time to read a book? Join us for a lively article discussion on trending topics. June's topic will be fake news and misinformation. The article readings are:

- "Don't Believe What They're Telling You About Misinformation," *The New Yorker*, 11/10/2023.
- "Why Do Our Brains Believe Lies?," *The Washington Post*, 11/3/2022..

To access the articles, you can:

- Pick up copies of the articles at the Newspapers and Periodicals desk on the fifth floor of Harold Washington Library Center.

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Saturday, May 11 th , 2024	10 am - 1 pm
Tuesday, May 14 th , 2024	10 am - 1 pm
Saturday, May 18 th , 2024	10 am - 1 pm



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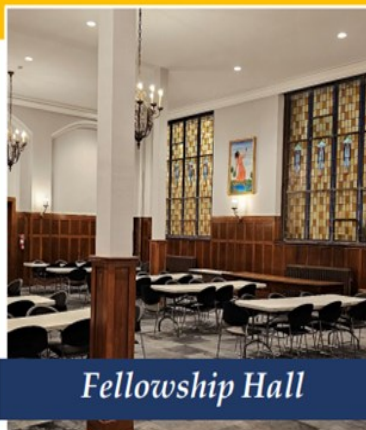


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We have a variety of spaces within our church buildings, including the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, a Gymnasium, and several meeting rooms, that may be rented for your special event or on a reoccurring basis!

Are Airbnbs Fueling Gentrification in Pilsen?

The proliferation of short-term rentals and skyrocketing rents have made it difficult for lifelong residents to stay on the Lower West Side.

by [Alma Campos](#) May 22, 2024



Credit: _Zoe-Kauder-Nalebuff

Gentrification has already pushed property taxes in Pilsen and Heart of Chicago, two neighborhoods on the Lower West Side, up in recent years—and now, residents are beginning to worry that the proliferation of Airbnbs in the area will push them even higher. Residents said they aren't necessarily worried about people occasionally renting out Airbnbs long-term. It's more about the hotel-like Airbnbs operated by affluent people in struggling communities, especially when the people involved aren't from the community. Airbnbs can stimulate gentrification. A 2017 [study](#) found that short-term rentals like Airbnb take away already scarce housing and landlords may encourage tenant evictions so they can earn more. Local home prices also go up. Higher prices result in higher property value and taxes which forces homeowners to increase the rent or force people who cannot afford the taxes to sell their homes.

There are over [1,000 Airbnb listings](#) in Pilsen and Heart of Chicago, according to Airbnb.

Casa Corazón, an Airbnb on 24th and Damen, is one of the many short-term rentals that have proliferated in Pilsen in recent years. It's owned and operated by Amanda Gentry, an artist who bought the two-story home in 2004 for \$259,000. It's near public transportation, with the Pink Line Damen stop minutes away, and the Damen and Western Avenue buses nearby. The Stevenson Expressway is about a mile away. Last month, the house went on sale with an asking price of \$500,000.

According to her [Airbnb](#) listing, Gentry operated it as a short-term vacation rental for more than a decade. The three-bedroom Airbnb, which lists rooms at \$82 per night, boasts positive reviews from hundreds of tourists. In big cities like Chicago, short-term rentals

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LITERACY IN BLOOM

Literacy Chicago's Annual Gala

JUNE 6, 2024

Come watch literacy grow! Join us for Literacy Chicago's Annual Gala: Literacy in Bloom on June 6, 2024 at the Glessner House. Enjoy food, entertainment, and inspiring stories while supporting our adult literacy programs. The event starts at 6:00pm, but arrive early starting at 5:30PM for complimentary tours of the Glessner House Museum.

Purchase Tickets & Learn More!



PILSEN CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

are typical for [tourists going to concerts or summer events](#), and rentals peak in June and July. Gentry's [sculptures and paintings sell for between \\$650 to \\$37,000](#) apiece. According to the short-term-rental data site [rabu.com](#), Casa Corazón's three listings may earn, on average, close to [\\$45,000 annually](#).

Gentry did not respond to requests for comment.

As of press time, the house is listed as "contingent" on Redfin, meaning an offer has been accepted, but additional criteria must be met to complete the sale. It was listed by @propetries Christie's International Estate, a global network of luxury real estate brokerage firms that claims [\\$29 billion in annual sales](#) owned by Mike Golden and Thaddeus Wong.

A spokesperson for @properties said that over the last two years they've been involved in about fifty real-estate transactions on the Lower West Side. They've represented both buyers and sellers, and the property types include both residential and commercial, the spokesperson said.

The brokerage company @properties was a key driver in the [gentrification of various North Side neighborhoods, including Wicker Park](#). In a 2007 Bloomberg article, Wong talked about what attracts investors. "You have to bring people in with art galleries and restaurants," he said. "That's how people become familiar with neighborhoods."

He also said that people want a good transportation infrastructure, and that communities gentrify faster when zoning laws are flexible. In 2018, Wong [evicted](#) Uptown Underground, a burlesque venue, because tenants could no longer afford to pay the \$12,000 monthly rent. In 2023, he bought an ornate Victorian home in Lincoln Park and ordered its [demolition](#) despite pushback from preservationists.

Between 1970 and 1996, Pilsen fought against development projects to prevent gentrification. But those efforts were challenged in 1996 when alderman Danny Solis was appointed to the 25th Ward by then-mayor Richard M. Daley, who both welcomed gentrification.

Gentry bought the home at 24th and Damen around the time when [some community organizations began demanding Solis](#) push back against development that was driving up the cost of living. In 2004, a network of about two dozen community organizations and local

churches asked Solis to involve residents in all development decisions. Through a [referendum](#), Solis created the Pilsen Land Use Committee ([PLUC](#)), a closed committee of neighborhood leaders that he himself appointed.

The *Weekly* interviewed John J. Betancur, a professor of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois in Chicago who has studied gentrification in Chicago for decades and co-wrote the 2016 book [Claiming Neighborhood: New Ways of Understanding Urban Change](#).

While there was pushback against outside developers, especially from organizations like Pilsen Alliance, other organizations supported "balanced development," which Betancur said was "a nice way to hide the gentrification from the agenda." He said that organizations such as The Resurrection Project, Alivio Medical Center, and Pilsen Neighbors Community Council supported Solis. Despite having a mission of guarding against displacement, they "jumped on the bandwagon of what is called a nonprofit industrial complex and became more interested in building themselves than saving the neighborhood," he added. FOR THE REST OF THE STORY, CLICK

SOUTH SIDE WEEKLY

https://southsideweekly.com/in-pilsen-gentrification-enriches-some-squeezes-others-out/?mc_cid=166bafbc8c&mc_eid=13f51a977c

Join us for an evening of song and reflection in the Taize tradition

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything

Taize Prayer

St. James Catholic Church
21 East 29th Street, Chicago

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Free and open to all

Image: Walk with Me by Sr. Mary Southard, CSJ, www.ministryofthearts.org. Used with Permission.

\$5K reward offered in effort catch people who attacked US Marines veteran at South Loop Jewel Osco

ByABC7 Chicago Digital Team



Monday, May 27, 2024 7:14PM

CHICAGO (WLS) -- A \$5,000 reward is now being offered in an effort to catch the people who [attacked and injured a military veteran in the South Loop](#).

Kevin Qin says he was repeatedly kicked and punched by a group of at least eight people inside the entrance to the South Loop Jewel store.

[ABC7 Chicago is now streaming 24/7. Click here to watch](#)

Qin and a group of Asian-American community leaders are calling on Chicago police to investigate the alleged attack as a hate crime.

"I just feel there had to be a big racial component to it because of what happened and because of what was said," Qin said.

Qin, a former marine who served in Iraq, had to be hospitalized for multiple injuries.

A spokesperson for Jewel-Osco says the store has shared surveillance video with police.

1 day of probation for Lyft driver accused of firing shots during struggle with no-paying customer inside South Loop theater

[May 23, 2024 11:19 AM CWBChicago South Loop](#)

Babacar Mbengue (Chicago Police Department)

CHICAGO — A Lyft driver accused of [firing several shots](#) inside a crowded South Loop movie theater during a scuffle with a juvenile who failed to pay for a ride has been sentenced to one day of probation.

Judge Nicholas Kantas terminated the court supervision within moments of handing it to Babacar Mbengue, according to court records.

Mbengue picked up the juvenile boy and two females early last April and agreed to take them to ShowPlace ICON Theatre, 1011 South Delano Court, for a price, prosecutors said. But when the car arrived at the South Loop cinema, all three passengers bolted inside without paying.

Mbengue chased after them and got into a physical struggle with the boy at the top of an escalator, prosecutors claimed. During the fight, a gun fell from the boy's pocket. Mbengue won a struggle to control the weapon and allegedly fired several rounds into the floor.

Security officers detained Mbengue and the juvenile until the police arrived. Prosecutors said that officers who responded to an "active shooter" alert found seven shell casings at the scene and three or four holes in the theater wall. Police secured a loaded 9-millimeter handgun equipped with an extended ammunition magazine.

Officials said about 700 people were in the building at the time, and much of the incident was captured on video.

<https://cwbchicago.com/>



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!

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

Next CAPS Meeting July 17, 2024 3pm Virtual

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



Police Blotter



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

5/7/2024 4:10pm 1500 S Wabash
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, Apartment Beat 131

5/05/2024 7:45pm 2000 S Wabash Av
AUTO THEFT Non Commercial parking Beat 123

5/05/2024 12:30pm 20 E Cullerton
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

5/11/2024 5pm 40 W 15th St
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

5/06/2024 9:11am 1400 S Michigan
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

5/01/2024 8pm 1300 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

5/12/2024 8:27pm 60 E 13th St
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 131

5/10/2024 7:50pm 2100 S Prairie
AUTO THEFT Hotel Beat 132

4/28/2024 4:43pm 100 E 21st
AGGRAVATED BATTERY on Sidewalk Beat 132

5/06/2024 1:40pm 100 E Cullerton St
ARMED ROBBERY Handgun at residence Beat 132

5/16/2024 12:04 am 400 E 18th Dr
ATTEMPT. AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 132

5/01/2024 11am 20 E Roosevelt
STRONG ARM ROBBERY no weapon L train Beat 123

5/16/2024 10:15pm 1100 S State
AGGRAVATED BATTERY Subway Beat 123

5/13/2024 1pm 1100 S State St
ARMED ROBBERY, Handgun on Sidewalk Beat 123

5/03/2024 11am 1100 S State
ATTEMPT ARMED ROBBERY Handgun Parking garage Beat 123

5/07/2024 4:39pm 1100 S Clark
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT retail store Beat 123

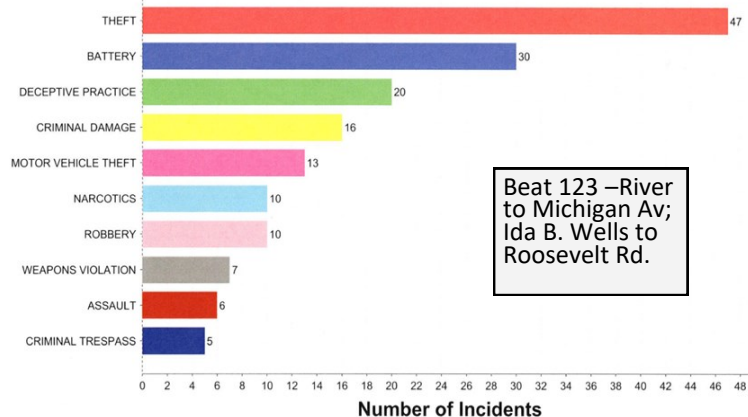
5/16/2024 9am 1000 S Clark
BURGLARY Unlawful entry Apartment Beat 123

5/13/2024 3pm 0 E 9th
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

Report Date: 07-May-2024
Report Time: 14:54:48
Produced By: Information Services
Division: PCIBL/IS
Run By:

Top Ten Crimes From 07-Apr-2024 To 07-May-2024 On Beat 0123

Page 1 of 1



Beat 123 –River to Michigan Av; Ida B. Wells to Roosevelt Rd.

5/11/2024 800 S Plymouth Ct
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

5/03/2024 9am 600 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

5/08/2024 9am 600 S Wabash
BURGLARY: Unlawful Entry Apt Beat 123

5/12/2024 4:45pm 600 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

5/11/2024 5PM 600 S. State
AUTO THEFT Parking Lot Beat 123

5/06/2024 11:25pm 600 S State
STRONG ARM ROBBERY no weapon Beat 123

4/29/2024 5am 600 S State
STRONG ARM ROBBERY no weapon on Subway Train Beat 123

5/03/2024 10:50pm 600 S Dearborn
STRONG ARM ROBBERY no weapon on Sidewalk Beat 123

Girl, 3, and man on bike struck by car in the Loop

A woman was driving east on 11th Street when she turned right onto South Wabash Avenue and hit the man who was riding a bike with the girl. The man and child were hospitalized in good condition.

By [Sun-Times Wire](https://www.suntimes.com)
May 8, 2024, 10:27pm CDT

A 3-year-old girl and a man on a bike were struck and injured Wednesday by a motorist in the Loop.

A woman was driving a Subaru about 6 p.m. eastbound on East 11th Street when she turned right onto South Wabash Avenue and struck the man who was riding a bike with the girl, Chicago police said. The girl was taken to Lurie Children's Hospital, and the man was transported to Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Both were listed in good condition, police said.

The driver was issued a citation, police said.

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

Real Estate Transactions

\$405,000
1101 S STATE ST 1502 & P102
4/29/24

\$505,000
100 E 14TH ST 1202
4/25/24

\$403,500
170 W POLK 908
4/24/24

\$440,000
1111 S WABASH AVE 2403
4/19/24

\$230,000
910 S MICHIGAN AVE 605
4/19/24

\$635,000
1447 S INDIANA AVE
4/17/24

\$200,000
40 E 9TH ST 709
4/17/24

\$270,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 2108
4/15/24

\$320,000
161 W HARRISON ST 1006
4/15/24

\$840,000
1407 S PRAIRIE AVE A-4
4/12/24

\$157,000
899 S PLYMOUTH CT 2207
4/11/24

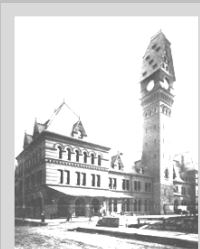
\$455,000
1212 S FEDERAL ST C
4/10/24

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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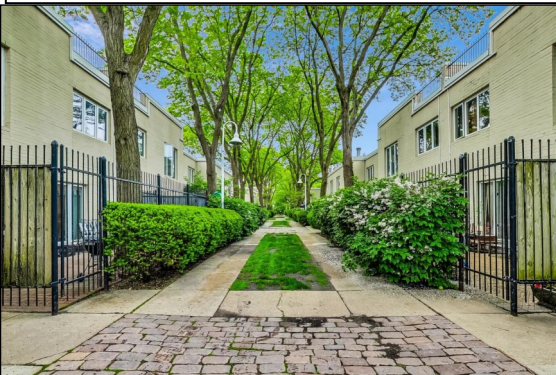
901 S Plymouth Ct #705
2 Bed/ 2 Bath 1200 Sq Ft
\$325,000

Matthew Engle
Fulton Grace Realty
773.698.6648



161 Harrison St #601
2 Beds/ 2 Baths 1461 Sq Ft
\$540,000

Eligah Reese
Serene Realty Inc
312.848.2947
eligah@serenerealtyinc.com

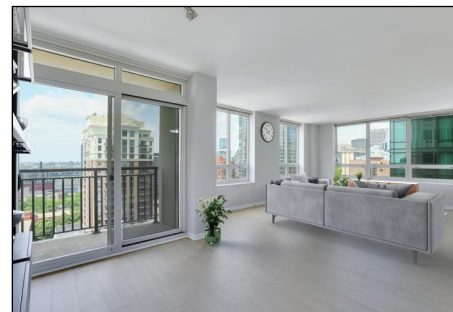


1060 S Plymouth Ct #411
4 Bed/ 2.5 Baths 1650 Sq Ft
\$624,900

Matthew Engle
Fulton Grace Realty
773.698.6648

1111 S Wabash Ave #2106
2 bed, 1.5 bath, 1077 sq ft
\$324,900

Timothy Rhoten
Red Carpet Investment
Group In
312.545.2443



701 S Wells St #3304
2 bed, 2 bath, 1263 sq ft
\$430,000

Lilly Kovacevic
Kale Realty
312.939.5253



100 E 14th St #1001
3 bed, 2 bath, 1667 sq ft
\$715,000

Stehanie D'Agostino
Redfin
312.320.3116



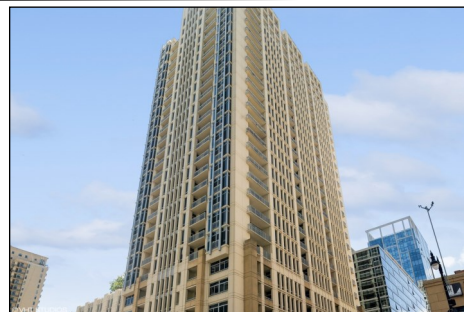
1255 S State Ave #813
1 bed, 1 bath, 831 sq ft
\$249,000

Paul Fortman
@properties Christie's
International Real Estate
773.987.6056



1400 S Michigan Ave
#1305
1 bed, 1 bath, 826 sq ft
\$295,000

Josephine Wang
Concentric Realty Inc.
630.216.9689



801 S Plymouth Ct #1112
1 bed, 1 bath, 741 sq ft
\$170,000

Stephanie Kuang
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International Real Estate
708.369.2834

