

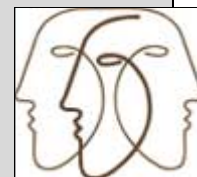


THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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

AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR
JANICE KOERBER, ASST. EDITOR

Dearbornexpress.net



Chicago's Loss

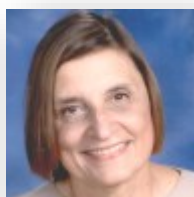
Bruce Sagan passed away Sunday, September 21, 2025. There have been many articles written about his remarkable life. From my perspective, he was one of our own since he and his wife, Bette Cerf Hill, lived in Dearborn Park for a time. In fact, they lived in my building. You can read Brian Hieggelke's appreciation of his good friend on page 11. As for myself, I first heard the name Bruce Sagan when I graduated from college in 1970 and a journalism teacher who helped me line up interviews said, "We'll have you interview with Bruce Sagan's newspaper" (The Southtown Economist). I didn't get the job. When we moved to Dearborn Park, I saw his name on the building's directory and couldn't believe it was the same man. When I joined the condo board, I headed a window replacement group buy for fogged windows. He replaced all the windows in his double unit. And then he says to me, "why don't you do the same for screens? I can't get anyone to come out to replace one screen." So I did. We had 127 new screens manufactured for owners who signed up. And that was 20 years ago and I'm still doing windows and screens. I'll let the articles in this issue impress you as it did me, with all that he accomplished. But for us in the neighborhood, The Printers Row Lit Fest is the crown jewel born from the energy of Bette Cerf Hill and the backing of Bruce Sagan. See articles on page 11-14.



September 30, 2025

Vol. 13, No.12

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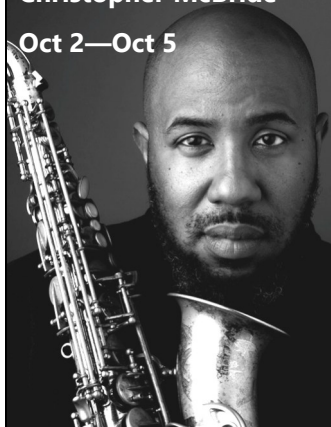
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JAZZ SHOWCASE

Tue, Sep 30, 8pm & 10pm.....Ben Esposito CD Release
 Wed, Oct 1, 8pm & 10pm.....Eric Schneider/Natalie Scharf Quintet
 Thu-Sat, Oct 2-4, 8pm & 10pm.....Christopher McBride Quintet
 Sun, Oct 5, 4pm & 8pm.....Christopher McBride Quintet
 Mon, Oct 6, 8pm & 10pm.....Bob Lark Septet
 Tue, Oct 7, 8pm & 10pm.....Petra's Recession Seven
 Wed, Oct 8, 5pm.....Jazz Links Jam Session
 Thu-Sat, Oct 10-12, 8pm & 10pm.....Pharez Whitted Quintet
 Sun, Oct 13, 4pm & 8pm.....Pharez Whitted Quintet
 Tue, Oct 14, 8pm & 10pm.....WDCB 90.9FM presents Jeremy Kahn Trio/
 vocalist Isabella Isherwood
 Wed, Oct 15, 5pm.....Marques Carroll Quintet
 Thu-Sat, Oct 16-18, 8pm & 10pm.....Chico Freeman Quartet
 Sun, Oct 19, 4pm & 8pm.....Chico Freeman Quartet
 Mon, Oct 20, 8pm & 10pm.....Dakarai Barclay Quintet

Christopher McBride

Oct 2—Oct 5



Pharez Whitted

Oct 9—12



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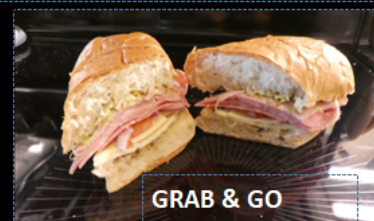
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South Loop Neighbors is a non-profit membership based organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in South Loop's neighborhoods and preserving the area's landmark districts.

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

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South Loop Neighbors has two forms of memberships. A full dues paying membership, and a free affiliate membership.

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Jaqi Green

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Cell 847-542-1340

899 S. Plymouth Ct.

Chicago 60605

JaqiGInt@gmail.com

8th Annual Pub Crawl

October 25, 2025

2 PM – 6 PM

5 Stops

Drink Specials

Awesome Door Prizes

Halloween Costume Contest



See Page 5 for details

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.



How much should you plan retirement activities?

By **Marianne Goss** Saturday, August 20, 2025

Megan, a friend who retired more recently than I, said that a couple of people had advised her to plan what to do post work. "Did people tell you that?," she asked.

It's not advice I would have given to Megan, as active as she is. As I thought about whether retirees need an activity plan, my mind roamed over how various friends approached that new phase.

For some, retirement was an opportunity for new ventures. Giving careful thought to what she wanted before retiring as an insurance broker, Bobbie became one of the most active volunteers in both Chicago Greeter and PAWS. Following a career in nursing, JoAnn worked part time as a tour guide at Driehaus and now volunteers to cook at the Ronald McDonald House, both of which are around the corner from her River North condo.

Sandie moved from Evanston to Streeterville to be closer to the concerts and plays she enjoys. She's one of four of my friends who, like me, moved into high-rise buildings before or shortly after retirement.

My sister Pat, who's still working at 73, intends to retire in a 55-plus community with activities on site. It's a good plan for someone who isn't a joiner.

Some folks don't need to plan because they're already busy. They have even more time for the activities in which they had been involved. For Joan, those include the Bird Sanctuary and the League of Women Voters in Evanston. And time with her grandkids. Kingsley hasn't slowed down his acting, directing, and writing for Chicago theaters.

I already had Chicago Greeter, ushering at the Goodman and Steppenwolf theaters, and a book group on my docket when I departed Northwestern University in 2015. To those activities I hoped to add a cause, which, unfortunately, continues to elude me. After trying out Chicago Scholars, the League of Woman Voters, and the Anti-Cruelty Society for a year or two each, I'm about to begin ESL tutoring. "Maybe you'll have a series of short gigs instead of a long-term commitment," a friend commented when I fretted that I'm a dilettante. "That could be interesting."



Not all retirees I know are as busy as those I've mentioned. I'm not sure what some do all day, but they seem content. Only one of my friends thinks she sits in front of the TV too much. Energy levels and activity preferences vary. Some people like to have a full calendar, others prefer responding to the moment. Self-knowledge can guide how much planning suits you.

If you tend toward detailed planning, it's good to be flexible. You will change over time; the plan you set at 65 may not work at 70 or 80. In early retirement, my goal was to have one thing to go out for every day. Now getting out a few times a week is enough. Stay-at-home activities can also be planned. If there's a hobby you've fancied, retirement is the time to give it a go.

Thinking about being active in retirement, I recalled a long -ago conversation with a woman who was on the go until bedtime every day. I remarked that I felt like a slug next to her. "Don't envy me," she said. "I don't like being alone." Schedule what you enjoy, but leave time for solitude and reflection. You ideally do what you do not just to pass the time but to grow. Constant busyness without thought is avoidance, not growth.

COMMENT

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

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NEIGHBORS

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Pub Crawl Particulars

Come out on a Saturday afternoon, spending time with your neighbors and friends visiting Reggies Chicago, The Staley, Weather Mark Tavern, Vitology and ending at All Star Seafood & Sports. Your registration fee will provide you with discounted drink specials, limited appetizers at the 3rd and the last stop and the chance to win some awesome door prizes! Additionally, discounted food will be available most of the locations.

Costume contest for participants with CASH prizes for Best Costume & Best Couples Costumes, sponsored by All Star Seafood & Sports!

Crawl will start with check-in at **Reggies Chicago**, 2105 S. State St., starting at 1:45 pm. A complimentary bus will be available to shuttle those participants from the 1st to the 4th stop. Map and instructions for each location will be provided at check-in.

This event usually sells out it is suggested if you don't want to be disappointed, register soon!

Cost: Member: \$20, Non-Member: \$25

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For more information contact Jim Wales at president@southloopneighbors.org



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Peter Orner, **The Gossip Columnist's Daughter**
(Little Brown & Co 2025)

She died young, beautiful, naked and strangled in her Hollywood apartment. Glamorous. What more do you want? Jed's mother, the second generation of Rosenthals, still smarting from the pain her own mother suffered at the hands of the Irv and Essie Kupcynets, thus dismissed her son's obsession with solving the murder of Karen Kupcynet, the **Gossip Columnist's Daughter**. It happened in 1963, not long after Jack Kennedy was assassinated. It was news for a while: Karen's father was Irv Kupcynet, self-proclaimed "Mr Chicago," whose gossip column ran in the **Chicago Sun-Times** for 60 years. Irv and his splashy wife, Essie, knew everybody who was anybody, and if you were best friends with that power couple, like Jed's grandparents, Babs and Lou, were before Karen died, you knew everybody too. You laughed with Sammy Davis and danced with Robert Mitchum. You dined with Liz Taylor, and rubbed elbows with Frank Sinatra. You could travel from Rogers Park and have free access to Kup's penthouse apartment at 252 East Lakeshore—the rare Jews allowed to live East of Michigan Avenue. Restrictive covenants in affluent areas like the Gold Coast and many North Shore suburbs allowed owners the "right to refuse any offer" or mandated that "the premises are to be used for residential purposes by Gentiles of the Caucasian race." The Kupcynet's sunken living room was excepted from those rules. Irv had Booth One at the Pump Room, a few blocks away at the Ambassador Hotel, where he entertained all the glitterati who changed trains or planes in Chicago on their way from LA to NYC. A mention in Kup's Column made a difference, when talk shows (Irv also hosted a late night show which nearly everyone over 65 remembers fondly) and newspapers were

the *only* social media. Babs and Essie had been dancing together professionally since childhood, bore and raised kids in tandem, and talked every day on one of the nine telephone lines Irv had installed in the apartment. After the news of Karen's death, Babs ran to Essie's side and lay with her on the bedroom floor, embracing her grief; Lou and his brother flew Irv to California to identify and retrieve the broken body of his only daughter. At the funeral, the couples parted—for good. How and why did that happen? The narrator, Jed, a dispirited professor with a less than stellar career, no love life, and no dreams of a future believes that in solving Karen's murder, he will somehow find the answers, save his life, and bring back the glory of his family, the Rosenthals, buried in infamy by white collar crime, broken marriages, bankruptcy, mob murder, and being "dropped like old shoes" by the gossip columnist and his wife. Along the way, the author cracks a few jokes: "I think everybody's allergic to cats and only the people who don't like cats say so"; does some serious research into the short Hollywood life and death of Karyn Kupcynet; pontificates on the connection between Jewish lawyers and mobsters (like our own Sidney Korshak); explains why a wealthy Jew who never lived in Chicago built Michael Reese Hospital where, finally, Jewish patients were welcome; and quotes Jack Ruby, the son of Jewish Immigrants who was raised in Chicago and openly murdered JFK's assassin, "to show Jews had guts." It's an entertaining novel, and one for the Newberry's shelves. It's not clear if Jed is real, but the rest of the book is true Chicago history, like Oak Street Beach, shallow and safe, offering beautiful views.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park / September 2025



. 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

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Get Lit: Blood Suck-

Sink your teeth into a night of spooky fun at **Get Lit: Blood Suckers**. This vampire-themed event will celebrate the fanged and fearless from your favorite works of American writing.

- Test your knowledge of vampires in film, TV, books, and more in our **Bloody Bloody Trivia Challenge**.
- Put on your best vampire-inspired fit for the **Vampire Costume Contest**.

Visit our friends from the **Horror & SciFi Prop Preservation Association (HSPPA)**, a traveling museum of screen-used and production-made props, costumes, and film relics.

- Flex your artistic side with **vampire inspired crafts**.

Whether you're a *Dracula* devotee, a *Buffy* buff, or a *Twilight* fanatic, this is sure to be a BLOODY good time. **This is 21+ event. Attendees must show a valid photo ID at the door to enter.**

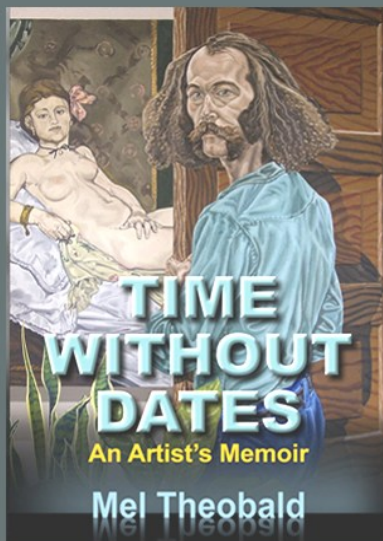


American Writers Museum
 180 N. Michigan Ave, 2nd Floor
 Chicago, IL 60601

<https://americanwritersmuseum.org/>

Time Without Dates

An Artist's Memoir



by Mel Theobald

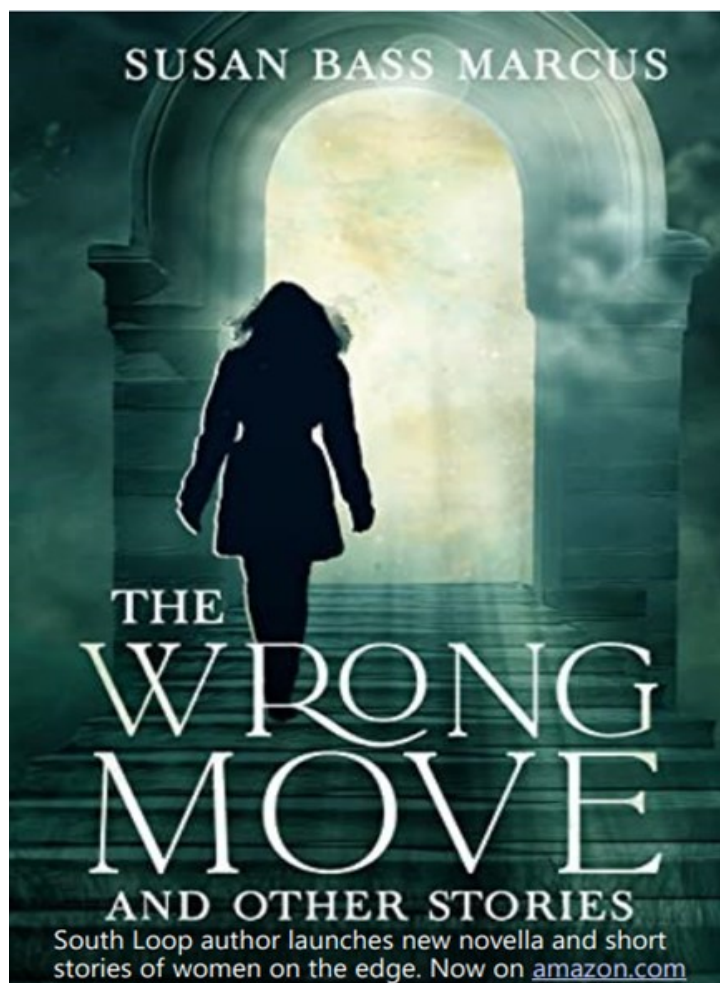
In this candid memoir, the author pays tribute to the mentors and events that inspired him and lays bare the experiences that shaped him as an artist. The Art Institute of Chicago plays a central role in the years he spent as a student, museum conservator, and alumni leader. His struggles with his parents'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



South Loop author launches new novella and short stories of women on the edge. Now on amazon.com

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OPINION

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Regan Burke

Is That a Rat?

September 23, 2025



Summer 2025 came to its 80 degree sunny end on September 22 at 1:19 pm. The autumnal equinox. About that time, the gardener at a building near Whole Foods was exchanging old for new in sidewalk planters. The red summer geraniums and green ferns were dug up, tossed out and replaced with lavender chrysanthemums and those curious purple cabbages. A potted plant gardener myself, I was glued to the gardener's performance as I walked slowly by with Elsa. Two robust rats promptly jumped out of a planter onto the sidewalk so close I think they grazed my shoes (ew!) before scurrying off. Elsa's rat-catcher terrier pedigree neglected to alert us. She was unfazed, didn't flinch. Me? I screamed bloody murder. The gardener laughed. I suppose gardeners meet rats in the city all the time.

Later in the day, on our evening walk, I almost stepped on a DEAD RAT in the park, throwing terror into my dog-walking daydream.

Dear god, what is going on? A rat epidemic? Do rats still carry the plague? Rabies? Do we have vaccines for them? Trump would say don't get those shots. Drink bleach. Take Intersectin. Isn't that for parasites in pigs?

Oh, not again. Can't I have just a few peaceful moments at the end of summer without that guy slamming into my thinking?

Back in a voluntary meditative state to help ward off evil thoughts, I sat on a bench keeping vigil over the DEAD RAT to warn other dog owners.

"Hey, yoo-hoo!" I shouted.

"Yes?"

"Watch out for the DEAD RAT over there by the hydrangeas!"

Ralph the dog was off his leash and just about ready to get a noseful of DEAD RAT. Ralph is a frisky German Shepherd with his senses still in tact. He smells a DEAD RAT a mile away. His grateful owner waved at me as he hurried over to pull Ralph away from the DEAD RAT.



Elsa, still unfazed, never uses her senses. She pretends her sniffer doesn't work so she doesn't have to chase squirrels. Her ears perk up when her name is mentioned but no other sound seems to register. And her eyes? Who knows what comes through those cloudy old pupils. Since she'll eat anything, it's dubious whether or not she still has a sense of taste. She had no sense of the nearby DEAD RAT.

But spatial awareness? Elsa has that in spades. She always knows where her little white body is in relationship to me. She is by my side, unleashed, whether we're walking along a garden path or in wide open spaces.

In other words, she's the perfect dog.

As long as she doesn't cozy up to a DEAD RAT.

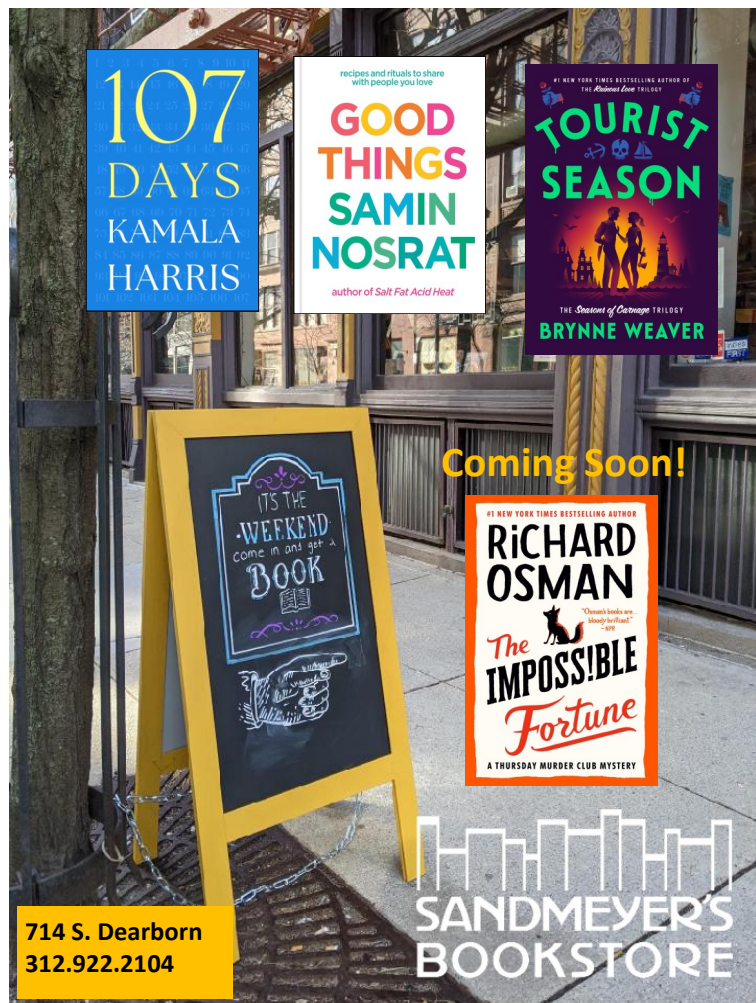
[COMMENT](#)

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.



New Releases



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KAMALA HARRIS

recipes and rituals to share with people you love
GOOD THINGS SAMIN NOSRAT
author of *Salt Fat Acid Heat*

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BY NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE ABANDONED LINE TRILOGY*
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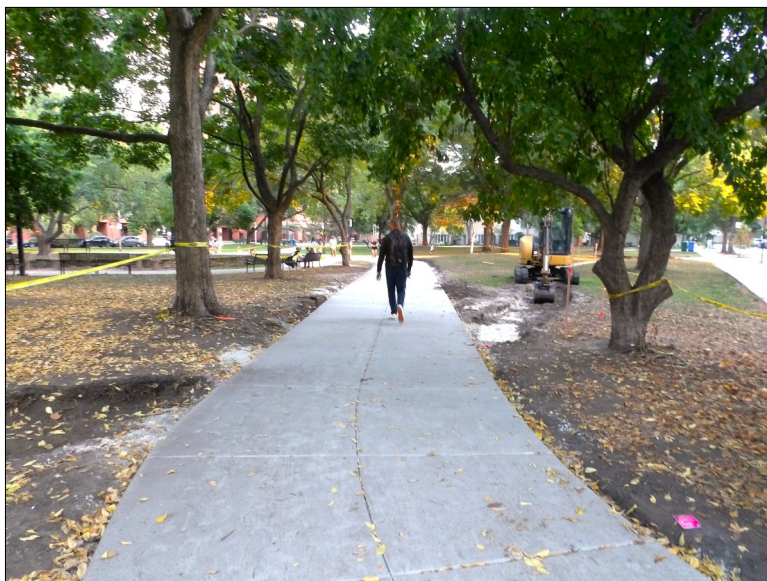
RICHARD OSMAN
The IMPOSSIBLE Fortune
A THURSDAY MURDER CLUB MYSTERY

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Afternoon on La Grand . . . Dearborn Park.
Below, new sidewalk pathway to northwest corner.
PHOTO 9/29/2025




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

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From Newcity Today

September 22, 2025



National Medal of Arts recipient Bruce Sagan with President and First Lady Biden. Photo courtesy of White House

Bruce Sagan, the gentlest giant that Chicago culture has ever known, passed away yesterday, at home with his wife, Bette Cerf Hill, and their family at his side. He was only ninety-six.

I say *only* because right till the very end, Bruce had a razor-sharp mind and an indomitable willingness to do what he could in service to things he cared deeply about. His central role in the success of two cultural icons celebrating milestone anniversaries this year, the Joffrey Ballet and Steppenwolf Theatre, is deservedly celebrated. But he also stepped in and led the effort to save the Chicago Sun-Times less than a decade ago, becoming its publisher *at the age of eighty-seven*.

Bruce was also a key player in the creation of the Printers Row Lit Fest, but in his typical self-effacing way, he never took any public credit for it—it was always Bette's baby. The first time I ever met him in person was not at some fancy cultural gathering, but rather in the early hours of a summer morning in the late eighties, when he was on Dearborn Street moving tables around to set up the book fair. I was fortunate to get to spend much more time with him over the subsequent years, though not enough time.

I am writing this Sunday afternoon, just hours before I will visit the house that Bruce built, the Steppenwolf Theatre, where I will find the plaque acknowledging the role he played in it becoming the institution it is today. I'll join the audience watching this new play, and the ensemble members that Bruce was so fond of, but for the first time in memory, he won't be there in person for opening night. But he will be there, as his spirit will fill the theater.

Brian Hiegelke
Editor & Publisher



NEWCITY newcity.com

And then there's the Fall Arts preview. Just forty-five pages of all the new season has to bring us. Yoko Ono, Billy Corgan and a whole bunch of names for tomorrow's nostalgia.

IN THIS ISSUE

The Garment District's Last Stand

Buddie Miller carries on his father's—and Chicago's once-thriving legacy

How Bronzeville Plays in Peoria

Preston Jackson never got his due in Chicago. So he took his magnum opus—and his guitar—home.

George Grosz in America: 1933-1948

The life of an artist, in art. An extended comic by Ivan Brunetti. Youthquake! Art houses meet a new movie-mad generation

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Bruce Sagan, Hyde Park Herald's Owner Since 1953, Retires After 7 Decades Of 'Thoughtful,' 'Potent' Journalism

HYDE PARK — Bruce Sagan was a teenager when he first saved a community's newspaper.

As a tenth grader at Summit High School in Summit, New Jersey, with three years experience editing his junior high's newspaper, Sagan discovered the paper had folded at Summit High. He set out to revive it — and did just that.

Less than a decade later, in 1953, Sagan would take that experience to a bigger stage. He and his wife Judith scrounged up \$2,500 to save the Hyde Park Herald from an already-announced closure.

The purchase kicked off Sagan's 69-year career at the Herald's helm, as he shaped it into a paper with a penchant for detail, an activist bent and a dedication to the unique community it served.

After more than seven decades in the Chicago-area hyperlocal news business, 93-year-old Sagan retired last week and transferred the Herald to a new nonprofit led by the South Side Weekly.

The Herald and Weekly will remain standalone papers. The merger formalizes a partnership that's put the outlets in close collaboration, including sharing an office, for more than two years already.

The merger can best honor the years of work Sagan put into "Chicago's oldest community newspaper" with one, not-so-simple task — "by being thoughtful about its journalism," he said.

The front page of the Hyde Park Herald recognizes the retirement of Bruce Sagan at the South Side Weekly newsroom in Woodlawn on July 27, 2022.

Sagan first moved to Hyde Park in 1946 as a 16-year-old University of Chicago enrollee.

He entered the university's undergraduate program — "I never finished," he said. He'd later enter its law school — "I never finished," he said.

A sociology professor once quipped that Sagan missed so many classes, it was only by reading Sagan's writings for the university's newspaper, the Chicago Maroon, that the professor could confirm he was an active student there.

Sagan entered professional journalism in 1951 at 22 years old, securing a job as a "copy boy" for the Hearst International News Service.

He then worked about two years as an overnight editor for the legendary City News Bureau. His was a midnight-8 a.m. shift where staffers half-joked that they covered the Mafia assassinations beat, he said.

As Sagan sought a more sustainable reporting job in 1953, he was rejected for a position at the Chicago Sun-Times, where he would later return to serve as chairman.

Shortly afterward, a group of Hyde Parkers approached Sagan, who by then was a 24-year-old "public citizen" of



Bruce Sagan, 93, who retired from ownership of the Hyde Park Herald last week. He purchased the struggling Herald in 1953 and spent the next 69 years establishing it as a paper that would dive into "intimately small" details to keep the neighborhood informed, he said.

the neighborhood who dedicated his time to block clubs and other community initiatives, he said.

The group wanted the budding reporter to consider buying the failing Herald, whose publisher had already announced the paper's demise.

Given the Herald's precarious finances, "the offer of Hyde Park was obviously scary, but very attractive," Sagan said. The 24-year-old Sagan borrowed \$2,500 from loved ones to take over the paper, which ran the next week without interruption.

Under Sagan's leadership, the Herald "went into detail of an intimately small kind" as it covered pressing neighborhood issues, he said.

Hyde Park's burgeoning "urban renewal" project — a controversial, decades-long redevelopment plan that followed widespread demolitions and saw hundreds of millions of dollars poured into the community — received particular attention from the paper in Sagan's early years.

Mary Leonard, office manager of South Side Weekly NFP, Jason Schumer, managing director of South Side Weekly NFP, and Hannah Faris, editor of the Hyde Park Herald, pose for a photo with copies of the Hyde Park Herald that recognize the retirement of Bruce Sagan at the South Side Weekly newsroom in Woodlawn on July 27, 2022. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

The Herald printed the urban renewal plans that would be passed by City Council in 1958 "so the community could see them and discuss them"; wrote about neighborhood crime, "which was high on [neighbors'] list of concerns"; and promoted the Whistle Stop crime prevention program, Sagan said.

"This idea that you could re-plan an existing area, keep people in it and still do things to modernize that community, that was a new idea," Sagan said. "It needed explaining ... and it needed a vehicle which could communicate to the community its details that other journalistic enterprises wouldn't do.

Continued on next page

A Downtown daily newspaper covering the entire metropolitan area was never going to do it,” he said.

The paper also covered race relations as the urban renewal project moved forward, including a 1958 proposal from socialist Ald. Leon Despres (5th) to ban racial discrimination in rental housing.

Hyde Park’s status as an interracial community in the years following urban renewal remains an issue worth covering, Sagan said.

The Herald under Sagan’s watch “thrived on community conflict rather than merchandising consensus, and became a potent force,” former editor Lee Pavatiner said in a statement.

Detailed coverage of major social issues was no small task for a skeleton crew that at some points was just Sagan and an editor, with perhaps one other journalist, he said.

Sagan regularly spent “about 200 hours per week” putting the paper to print, he joked, distributing it and securing advertisements from local businesses and for the classifieds section.

In 1958, five years after taking over the Herald, Sagan purchased the Southtown Economist, which grew into a chain of 28 publications. The papers eventually merged into one daily paper in the south suburbs, which was a predecessor to the modern Daily Southtown. Sagan sold the Southtown in 1986 reportedly for \$40 million and retired from it two years later.

The Lakefront Outlook — a small sister publication to the Herald started by Sagan in 1999 — won a prestigious George Polk Award in 2006 for its investigation into then-Ald. Dorothy Tillman and the Harold Washington Cultural Center. Tillman lost her re-election bid to Ald. Pat Dowell (3rd) the next year.

“His career had such a fundamental impact on newspapers and news in the city, as well as nationally,” South Side Weekly publisher Jason Schumer said. “The man at some point had [nearly] 30 community newspapers. ... He was very interested in experimenting with various markets and how to get people the news they wanted.”

The front page of the Hyde Park Herald recognizes the retirement of Bruce Sagan at the South Side Weekly newsroom in Woodlawn on July 27, 2022. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

Beyond his journalism career, Sagan is an avid patron of the arts. He is one of the Joffrey Ballet’s inaugural board members, having served since it moved to Chicago from New York City in 1995.

Sagan is also on the board of the Steppenwolf Theatre. John Malkovich, a charter member of the theater, feted him with a script reading on his 80th birthday.

Sagan’s primary occupations of journalism and performance art sometimes overlap, with perhaps no clearer example than his ownership of the Harper Theater in Hyde Park.

When the rejuvenated Herald’s headquarters was set to be torn down as part of the neighborhood’s urban renewal project in 1960, Sagan began looking for new office space. He bought the Harper Theater in 1961 and moved the paper to the theater building’s upper floor.

Sagan made wholesale changes to the theater itself starting in 1964, cutting its capacity to 300. Inspired by New York City’s “off-Broadway” productions, he turned the Harper into an “off-Loop” theater where professional actors could perform for more intimate audiences.

The Harper Theater held an annual dance festival organized by the Sagans, hosted the Joffrey Ballet in 1965, and was home to other live theater and dance programs before it reverted to a movie theater around 1970, Sagan said. The Herald moved out of the building in the 1980s.

The staff of the newly merged South Side Weekly and Hyde Park Herald, seen in a group portrait taken Monday. Credit: Provided

A Longtime Partnership, Made Formal

Though Sagan transferred the Herald to the Weekly on July 1, and the merger was made public Thursday, the two outlets have been closely linked for more than two years.

They’ve shared an office since June 2020 at the Experimental Station, 6100 S. Blackstone Ave., which technically makes the Hyde Park Herald a Woodlawn-based outlet. Schumer and the Weekly have overseen publishing and other day-to-day duties at the Herald since October of that year.

The Herald and the Weekly will continue to operate as standalone newspapers.

With the merger, the Weekly is essentially repeating what Sagan did 69 years ago — tagging in to stabilize Hyde Park’s longstanding paper, Schumer said.

“Our version of that is, let’s build an infrastructure to subsidize a lot of the cost and the work that it takes to start up a community newspaper,” Schumer said.

It’s a model he believes could be used to take on other existing hyperlocal papers and create new outlets down the line, he said.

“It’s a much leaner operation, it’s much cheaper, you’re also sharing a lot of resources and expertise — but still, importantly, having editorial independence that’s rooted in the neighborhood,” he said.

Sagan trusts the South Side Weekly with the future of the newspaper to which he dedicated nearly 70 years of his life. “We wouldn’t be having this announcement if I didn’t,” he said.

But this is no clean break. Sagan will remain available from his home in upstate New York, offering guidance and support to the paper’s leadership, he said.

“I’m never done,” Sagan said.

HYDE PARK HERALD

www.hpherald.com



Come for the Candidates!

5:30-6:30pm Casual Meet & Greet with candidates running for the US House in IL's **7th Congressional District**

We're expecting at least half a dozen of the candidates who are currently running to replace Danny Davis. Each candidate will have a small table to collect signatures for their petitions, share campaign literature, and recruit volunteers. This informal setting is a great way to chat with and learn a little more about the candidates.

Stay for the Conversation!

6:30-7pm Postcards, socializing, and order food
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Dear Chicago Public Library Foundation Community,

It is with sadness and deep gratitude that we share the news of the passing of our beloved Board member, **Bruce Sagan**, at the remarkable age of 96. Bruce's relationship with Chicago Public Library spanned decades. Before helping to launch the Library Foundation, he served on Chicago Public Library's Board, where he played a pivotal role in establishing the Chicago Cultural Center and guiding the transition of the central branch to Harold Washington Library Center. His vision and leadership forged the strong partnership between the Library and the Library Foundation that continues to this day.

Bruce's impact extended far beyond the Library. He was a tireless champion of Chicago's arts and culture scene. He brought the **Joffrey Ballet** to Chicago in 1995, helped build **Steppenwolf Theatre's** first permanent home, and nurtured countless institutions that make our city vibrant. At the same time, he remained devoted to community journalism, serving for decades as publisher of the **Hyde Park Herald**.

Just last November, Bruce traveled to Washington D.C., to accept the **National Medal of Arts** from President Joe Biden—the nation's highest recognition for artistic and philanthropic leadership. As President Biden shared, Bruce "sought truth as a public citizen" and "enriched the tapestry of American life and culture."

Whether you knew Bruce personally or through the transformative work he championed, his legacy is one of vision, generosity, and deep commitment to community. His belief in the power of libraries—and the communities they serve—will continue to guide and inspire us.

We are forever grateful for Bruce's leadership and unwavering dedication to building a more connected, creative, and informed Chicago.

With gratitude,

Bob Wislow
Board Chair

Brenda Langstraat Bui
President & CEO

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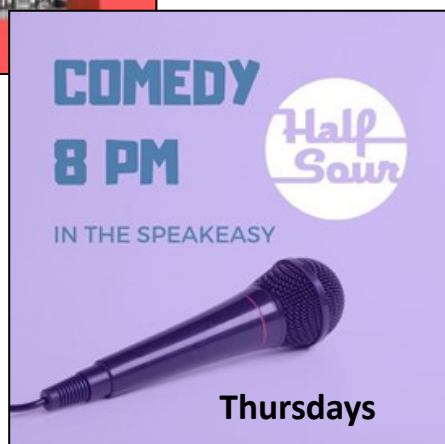
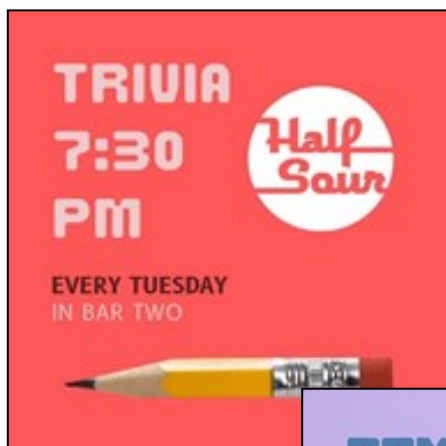
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The Revival

CPS Loses Millions In Magnet School Money Amid Dispute With Trump Administration Over Diversity Efforts

Trump administration officials said \$5.8 million will not be awarded to Chicago in the coming year under the Magnet Schools Assistance Program and \$17.5 million would not be awarded for the remaining years of the district's grants.

by [Becky Vevea, Chalkbeat](#) September 25, 2025



This story was originally published by [Chalkbeat Chicago](#), a nonprofit newsroom covering Chicago schools. Sign up for [Chalkbeat Chicago's free daily newsletter](#) to keep up with the latest education news.

CHICAGO — Chicago will lose millions in federal funding for magnet schools this year due to a dispute with the U.S. Department of Education over how the district serves Black and transgender students.

Trump administration officials said \$5.8 million will not be awarded to Chicago in the coming year under the Magnet Schools Assistance Program and \$17.5 million would not be awarded for the remaining years of the district's grants.

As a result, Chicago Public Schools now faces a \$8 million hole in its current \$10.2 billion budget, district officials said Wednesday. Some of that total is carryover funds from last year.

The federal government and CPS operate on different fiscal calendars, with Chicago's starting July 1 and the federal government starting Oct. 1.

The new multimillion dollar budget hole comes as Chicago continues to be a target of the Trump administration on various policy issues, including diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in public schools.

Despite the funding fight, CPS is continuing to forge ahead with a Black Student Success Plan it rolled out in February and a Black Student Achievement Committee mandated by Illinois law. The district is also maintaining compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act requirements to allow transgender students access to bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond with their gender identity. Both are subject to ongoing investigations by the Trump administration.

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<https://blockclubchicago.org>

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Guest Essay by Bill Gordon

Bill has been a member of Beth Finke's Memoir Writing Class since 2013. When he retired in 2002, he was the Executive Director of the American Library Association, located here in Chicago.

TEACHERS—MY UNSUNG HEROINES

Only ten days remained before school started. Excitement rattled my five year old body to the point I thought I would levitate off the ground. School ! Waiting was finally over - I would be in the first grade. Kindergartens did not exist where we lived. My older sister would no longer be able to refuse to play with me because I was, in her words, "ignorant."

New clothes, a pencil box, a notebook, a box of crayons, a ruler and a red rubber erasure. All the equipment I would need to be a successful first grader at the Cullison Rural School was now in my hands - ready to go.

How this excitement about school was implanted in me is not entirely without explanation. My Mother and Father talked often about the importance of getting an education in order to succeed - to rise to the middle class and to more fully enjoy life. Our household was aspirational - poor, but with a vision of how things could be better. That "how" was dependent on getting an education - all the way through college. But you had to start with the first grade, and I started with great enthusiasm.

The Cullison School building was, as I remember, a large red brick building of eight classrooms - four down and four up with an administrative office on the first floor. When I started school in September, 1942, the building was being expanded and modernized to include a gymnasium and more classrooms. Outhouses were set apart from the rear of the building - one for boys; one for girls. A large cluster of lilac bushes separated the two facilities and a pump for drinking water was located nearby.

By the time I entered second grade the school building was fully "modern" with reliable running water and electric service. A beautifully equipped gymnasium with a stage at one end was added. Rooms for the band, home economics and woodworking were included in the expansion. Best of all, new restrooms.



Miss Baldwin, my first grade teacher, was young and vivacious. Unmarried, of course, since that was the rule at that time and place. When she became betrothed we knew she would be leaving. Nevertheless she kept us engaged and learning from the start to the finish of the school year. Teaching two grades at once - first and second grades were in the same class - must have presented unusual challenges

When she taught the second grade, we first graders were assigned tasks, often related to memorizing lists or poems. The reverse was true when she was teaching the first graders.

My first grade report card shows I got a "B" in arithmetic, drawing, music and social studies; and an "A" in reading, spelling, and writing. We were also graded on "Traits of Pupil": Dependability, Self-reliant, Attention, Promptness, Cooperation, Industry, Health and Neatness. I got an "A" in each of these categories. It was a good year !

My second grade year was equally successful under the tutelage of Miss Kephart, a much older, but equally dedicated teacher. Miss Brenneke, who had a reputation for being strict, was my third grade teacher. We moved from Cullison after only two grading periods with Miss Brenneke. She gave me an "A" in everything but drawing and social studies, so I obviously did well in her class too.

Certificates of excellence were issued at a ceremony at the end of each semester. I received certificates in reading, writing and arithmetic - what more could I have wanted. I also have a certificate from the County of Pratt and the State of Kansas indicating that I have achieved special excellence in reading. The certificate includes a fancy, gold-embossed seal, and is dated May 19, 1944.

In addition to my parents who laid the groundwork for my devotion to getting an education, I must praise the teachers - my unsung heroines, Baldwin, Kephart and Brenneke - from the Cullison School. They set me on the path that led me to look forward to school every fall for fifteen more years, and turned me into a life-long learner.

Bill Gordon

Chicago Fire Stadium At The 78 Clears City Council

Alderpeople approved Fire owner Joe Mansueto's plan to build the \$650 million soccer stadium at the South Loop megadevelopment.

by [Jamie Nesbitt Golden](#) September 25, 2025

SOUTH LOOP — Plans for a Chicago Fire soccer stadium at The 78 megadevelopment are moving forward with the City Council's blessing.

Alderpeople voted Thursday to approve the \$650 million project, clearing the way for Chicago Fire owner Joe Mansueto to build his privately funded, 22,000-seat Major League Soccer stadium on the site of the long-anticipated \$8 billion planned community.

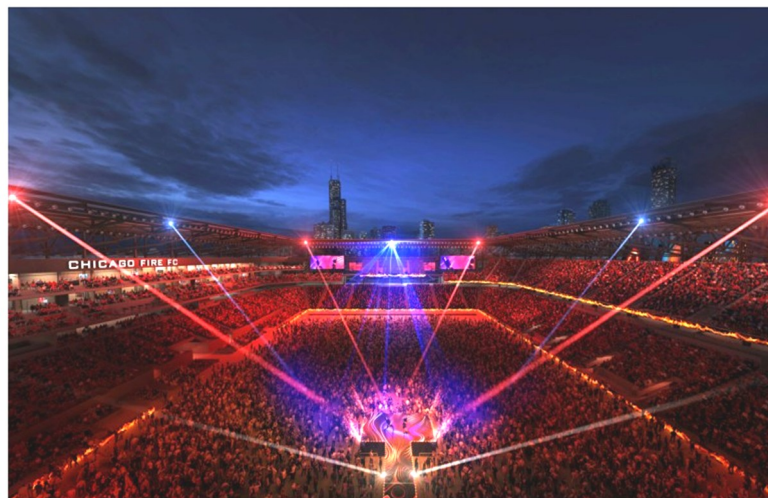
An agreement between 78 developers Related Midwest and Mansueto would allow the Fire to buy nearly 10 acres of land for the buildout. Related Midwest would be able to own and develop the land around the stadium. If all goes according to plan, the venue will be open to fans in 2028.

Results from a recent online survey of South Loop residents found that most are in favor of the proposed stadium, though concerns about logistics remain top of mind for many who shared their thoughts at a plan commission hearing last week.

The team said in a statement it is excited to have the "first major stadium" built in Chicago in three decades.

"Beyond Chicago Fire matches, the stadium will attract global concerts and events, creating thousands of jobs, fueling economic growth, and driving new energy into the South Loop," Dave Baldwin, team president of operations, said in a statement. "This is more than just a stadium – it's a catalyst for the growth of both our club and Chicago."

The soccer team currently plays at Soldier Field, where it is expected to remain until the new stadium is built.



A night rendering of the proposed Chicago Fire stadium inside The 78 megadevelopment. Credit: Provided.

Starbucks Closes At Least 15 Chicago Stores Under Nationwide Restructuring

Stores in Wicker Park, Hyde Park and Lincoln Park are among hundreds closing as part of what Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol called a "turnaround journey" in a message to employees.

by [Quinn Myers](#) September 26, 2025 Updated September 29, 2025

CHICAGO — Starbucks is closing hundreds of stores across the United States, including locations in Chicago.

The coffee behemoth announced this week it is closing about 1 percent of its stores in North America and laying off about 900 corporate employees as part of a restructuring plan, [according to CNN](#). Some of the impacted locations are in Chicago, although a Starbucks spokesperson on Friday declined to provide a list of which ones are closing.

Among the confirmed closures is the Starbucks at 1588 N. Milwaukee Ave. at the busy North/Milwaukee/Damen intersection in Wicker Park, according to a notice on its door. Starbucks [revamped the store in 2017](#) into a Starbucks Reserve location.

"We've made the incredibly difficult decision to close this Starbucks location by the end of the week," according to the notice. "We know many of you will be thinking of your favorite partner, and we're working closely to support our partners through this transition."

A barista at the Wicker Park location confirmed the store's last day is Saturday.

All Starbucks locations and future hours are on [the company's website](#).

In a [message to employees issued Thursday](#), Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol said the closures are part of a plan to revitalize the brand in what he called a "turnaround journey" following a company-wide review this year.

"During the review, we identified coffeehouses where we're unable to create the physical environment our customers and partners expect, or where we don't see a path to financial performance, and these locations will be closed," Niccol wrote.

Niccol is overseeing a plan to "introduce greater texture, warmth and layered design" to more than 1,000 Starbucks stores over the next year, according to the message.

Some baristas at the closing stores will be offered transfers to nearby locations, while others will be laid off.

The closure news comes amid an ongoing unionization effort among Starbucks baristas at hundreds of stores across the country, with em-

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Columbia comedy students watch as Trump targets late-night hosts

ABC will bring back Jimmy Kimmel's show after suspending the late night host indefinitely last week. Columbia students told the Chronicle that even when comedians get censored, comedy will never die.

By [Anna Bitz](#), Reporter
September 22, 2025

Associate Professor Anne Libera tells her comedy students at Columbia that the role of the "king's fool" was never just to make people laugh. It was to speak truth to power. That lesson felt especially urgent for Libera after Disney-owned ABC suspended host Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show indefinitely last week for "ill-timed" and "insensitive" comments he made about the killing of Charlie Kirk, according to a statement made by Disney.

After facing enormous backlash, ABC reversed the suspension on Monday, Sept. 22 and said Jimmy Kimmel Live! will return on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

For Libera, who teaches in the School of Theatre and Dance, the moment underscored how satirists use humor to question authority and challenge boundaries.

"It says something about our current politics that they are looking to get rid of our modern day 'fools'," said Libera, who teaches "Comedy Survey 1" on Friday mornings this semester.

Although the show is being brought back from suspension, comedy students and faculty told the Chronicle that it should not have happened in the first place.

Sophomore comedy major Kathryn Carman said that the cancellation of the late-night show was discussed in multiple classes.

"There's a lot going on with comedy right now that's very important to be aware of," she said.

Kimmel was the second high-profile late-night host to see his show pulled by a network after Stephen Colbert. Colbert's "The Late Show" was canceled by CBS just two weeks after the network paid President Donald Trump a large settlement to resolve a defamation lawsuit.

"I think that maybe the way that comedy is being put out will change, but late-night show style jokes about the news, I don't think you can get rid of that," Carman said.

After Kimmel was suspended, President Donald Trump said TV broadcasters should lose their licenses for negative coverage of him.



[File photo](#)

The remarks drew swift criticism from free-speech advocates and politicians already angry over the suspension, including Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, who told MSNBC that the administration is "using the power of the government to intimidate companies to fire people."

Assistant Professor Grace Overbeke said when the Trump administration censors comedians for saying something subversive, it is an attempt to label all comedy as "toothless and foolish."

"Even in a fascist landscape, subversive comedy will continue. It may move from network television to underground cabarets or TikTok, but it will persist," said Overbeke, who teaches "Comedy: Survey" on Monday and Wednesday mornings this semester.

Sophomore comedy writing and performance major Emily Donmoyer learned about relief theory in Overbeke's class, a concept directly related to late-night show comedy.

"Relief theory is joking about taboo subjects in order to release tension. I think it's really good to bring up topics that are controversial," she said. "No matter how public it is or how people try to oppress it, people will keep on joking and it's never going to stop."

Copy edited by Manuel Nocera

Good news abounds at the PR3PAC...

Printers Row Park, Dearborn Park and Roosevelt Park.

Printers Row Park

From October 3 through November 27, Printers Row will once again host a group of charming, disarming scarecrows in Printers Row Park thanks to generous local businesses participating in the 2nd annual fundraising event for the Printers Row Park Advisory Council (PR3PAC). This year, due to the overwhelming popularity of last year's visit, the community has grown from 11 to 28 cuties, each accompanied by a pumpkin sign with a sponsor's name and QR code directing viewers to the PR3PAC website displaying business logos, info and site links.

Please join us 4-6 pm on Friday, October 3 as we welcome our newest neighbors with refreshments, photo ops, and live music provided by talented local musicians...and plan to come back and visit anytime you need to smile.

Dearborn Park

You may have noticed that planned improvements to Dearborn Park are underway...the Chicago Park District is currently working on:

- o a concrete walkway that connects the center of the park with the northwest corner
- o reconnecting the running track along the north end of the park
- o repouring new concrete at entrances to ensure water does not pool on the sidewalk and is instead redirected towards the surrounding grass for drainage

In addition, [a kiosk has been installed at the southeast corner to display notices of park events and advisories.](#)



Printersrowpac.org

Roosevelt Park

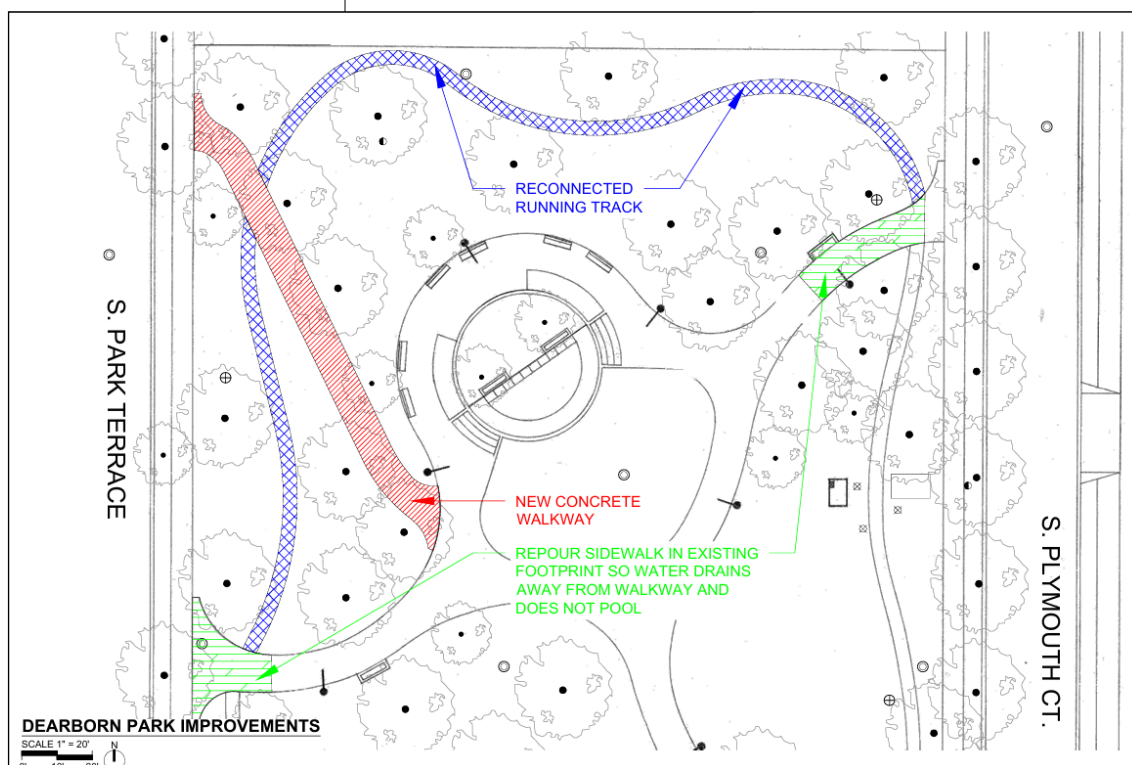
A kiosk has been installed at the northeast corner to display notices of park events and advisories.

All 3 Parks

The PR3PAC quarterly meeting will be held Thursday, October 16 at 7pm at Grace Place. In addition to addressing pending issues and planning future events for each of the parks, an election will be held for Vice President, Secretary and Director at Large, all for two-year terms. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting and anyone interested in a board position, please contact secprpac@gmail.com.

Show your support for the parks by sporting a t-shirt with striking graphics, front and back, showcasing signature images representing each of the parks: Printers Row Park Fountain, Dearborn Station flanking Dearborn Park and Pickleball in Roosevelt Park. T-shirts can be purchased via the PRPAC website or by contacting secprpac@gmail.com.

Printers Row Park Advisory Council now has a website (printersrowpac.org), and Facebook and Instagram pages. Follow us to keep up on all that is going on. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.



They're Back!!!

From October 3 through November 27, Printers Row will once again host a group of charming, disarming scarecrows in Printers Row Park thanks to generous local businesses participating in the 2nd annual fundraising event for the Printers Row Park Advisory Council (PR3PAC). This year, due to the overwhelming popularity of last year's visit, the community has grown from 11 to 28 cuties,

each accompanied by a big ol' pumpkin sign with a sponsor's name and QR code directing viewers to the PR3PAC website displaying business logos, info and site links.

Please join us 4-6 pm on Friday, October 3 as we welcome our newest neighbors with refreshments, photo ops, and live music provided by talented local musicians...and plan to come back and visit any-time you need to smile.



You may have noticed that planned improvements to Dearborn Park are underway...

The Chicago Park District is currently working on:

- a concrete walkway that connects the center of the park with the north-west corner
- reconnecting the running track along the north end of the park
- repouring new concrete at the indicated entrances in order to ensure water does not pool on the sidewalk and is instead redirected towards the surrounding grass for drainage

Illustration of all improvements that will be completed for this project is on the previous page.



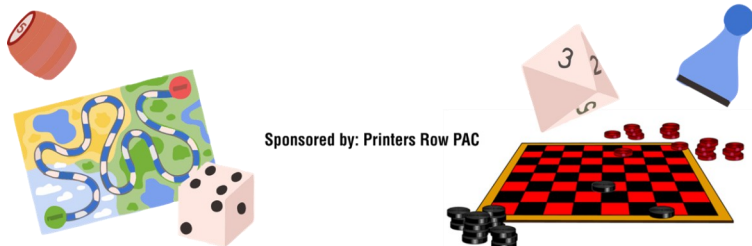
5-7pm

Third Thursday of the Month

Printers Row Park

632 S. Dearborn

Bring your own board (or game)



Sponsored by: Printers Row PAC

THE PALLBEARERS OF THANKSGIVING



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

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.

Transportation changes are coming to the Museum Campus and I'd like to know exactly why

All these meetings asking for neighborhood input about how to make transportation (and other) changes at the [Museum Campus](#)--to make it more user-friendly and accessible and desirable--are driving me crazy.

How about leaving everything the way it is. What's the matter with that? The Museum Campus is already user-friendly, accessible and desirable.

The entire history--and future--of the universe exists in those Museum Campus buildings. How much more user-friendly can you get? And by the way, we don't need [59 Norman Rockwells and a Star Wars Memorabilia collection](#) to round it out. The Museum Campus is fine right now.

There are rumblings that the number of tourists visiting the Museum Campus is down. Well, that's because people from elsewhere are scared to come here because of our people-shootings. To that I say get a Chicago-grown cop to head up the force. We don't need [one from Newark/New York](#). We need a home-grown Chicago cop. Don't change the Museum Campus before changing the top cop, Tiny Dancer.

Then there's all this talk that the transportation getting there is lacking. There's buzz about [trolleys and special trains and boats and gondolas](#) and everything else to get people over there. I think I even heard rumors about helicopters dropping people--for their utmost convenience--right into the exhibit of their choice.

To all of this I say this: add a few more buses. If there's a problem, simply increase the number of 146s; or add a few more 6s and 12s--and extend those two routes onto the campus. Of course, there's already a lovely walk that gets one there, most of which is out of traffic and provides good exercise.

And if the old tootsies give out, there's the [Uber](#) app. And bikes rule at the Museum Campus, too. Not to mention [rickshaws](#) galore. And if one happens to be coming from Navy Pier--unless it's the dead of winter--there's already [wonderful water taxis](#) that arrive in just a few short minutes--complete with a fabulous opportunity to take pictures of Chicago's famous lakefront. But the powers that be seem to think that change is needed.

So, ok, let's follow a little money. Let's just follow a few dollars to see if we can figure out why all the emphasis on new ways to get over to the Museum Campus. I don't really think the pols care about the financial health and visitorship at the museums. Except perhaps the newly proposed Lucas Museum. (Is that because they like [Hollywood big shots](#) who marry local girls?) In fact, studies show--according to [Friends of the Parks](#)--that when tourists visit the campus, they pick only one day to visit and only one museum to visit and stick with it.

So back to the cash. What entity up there right by the Museum Campus needs a little better transportation, a little better accessibility for throngs and throngs and throngs and more throngs? And no, it's not Soldier Field. Which handles its loyal throngs best by letting them have cookouts outside on the backs of their SUVs while wearing Chicago Bears Jerseys.

Ding. Ding. Ding. You got it. It's that crazy, nutty, completely and [totally out of place music venue](#) that backs up against the Museum Campus, the 12th Street beach, Northerly Island, the Burnham Harbor (and the [Burnham Park Yacht Club](#)) and is pretty much disliked by everyone up there other than the throngs that descend on the place to hear the likes of [groups I have either never heard of or who have seen their better day](#).

So watch for trolleys, gondolas and maybe even helicopters, folks. Anything to get the cash flowing into that goofy, creepy and very intrusive music emporium. I think that's what it's all about if you follow the money and the clout. Once you find out who really owns the place and books the acts and has the concessions there, they'd be the ones who really need to make the area more user-friendly.



Bonnie McGrath

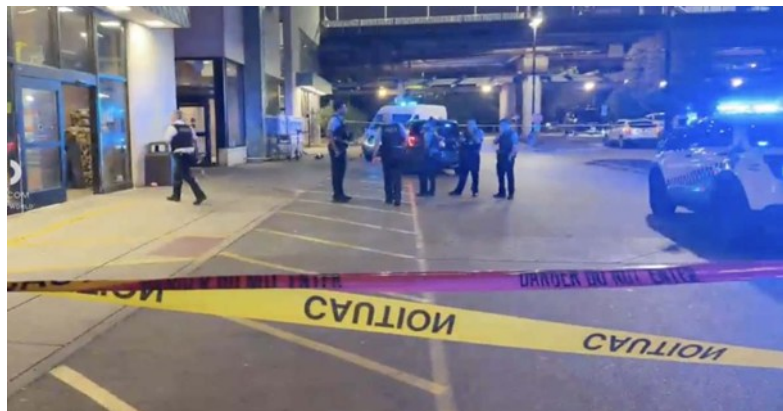
Visit my blog: <http://www.chicagonow.com/mom-think-poignant/>

Bonnie may be gone
... But her opinions remain
From November 10, 2014

South Loop Jewel security guard arrested in shooting of teen girl

The 17-year-old, who was in good condition, was shot Tuesday night outside the Jewel-Osco in the 1200 block of South Wabash Avenue, allegedly after throwing water at the guard, police said.

By Sun-Times Wire Sept 24, 2025, 6:52am CDT



A 17-year-old girl was shot Tuesday night after an altercation with a security guard at the South Loop Jewel-Osco, police said.
Sun-Times file

A Jewel-Osco security guard is under arrest after she allegedly shot a 17-year-old girl during a fight Tuesday night at the South Loop grocery, according to a Chicago police report.

Police were called to the parking lot of the Jewel-Osco at 1224 S. Wabash Ave., about 10:30 p.m., where they found a large crowd and a teen girl shot in her right thigh, according to the police report.

Officers placed two tourniquets on the teen until paramedics got there and took her to Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where she was in good condition, police said.

Officers said Jewel-Osco staff told them an argument erupted between the teen and the security guard inside the store, which then spilled outside where the teen allegedly threw water at the guard. The guard then took out her handgun and shot the teen, according to the report.

Witnesses gave police a description of a black SUV with Iowa plates which sped away east on Roosevelt Road after the shooting. Officers followed the truck and pulled it over at 10:49 p.m. in the 8000 block of South Saginaw Avenue, where the guard was arrested, according to the police report.

No charges have been announced.

The shooting marks at least the second time a security guard from that grocery has been accused in a shooting there. A Chicago police report indicated that the suspect, Alandrias Willis, was a grocery security guard at the store. No one was injured.

Area 3 detectives are investigating.

CHICAGO
SUN-TIMES

<http://chicago.suntimes.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 Sept 10, 2025
5pm, Grace Place
Beat 123

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



Police Blotter



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

9/8/2025 9:06am 20 W Cermak
HOMICIDE on Street Beat 131

9/18/2025 12 Midnight 1800 S State
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

9/15/2025 5:18pm 50 W 15th
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

9/7/2025 4:30am 50 E 16th Street
AUTO THEFT/RECOVERY on street Beat

9/6/2025 12:30pm 1300 S State
AUTO THEFT Non-Res Parking Beat 131

9/4/2025 9:21 pm 1200 S Wabash
STRONG-ARM ROBBERY No weapon Beat

9/4/2025 6:30pm 1200 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

9/1/2025 8:30 am 1300 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

9/1/2025 12:10am 1400 S Special Olympics
AGGRAVATED BATTERY on sidewalk Beat

9/5/2025 9:30pm 1300 S Michigan Av
HOMICIDE on sidewalk Beat 132

9/10/2025 7:30AM 500 s Wells
AUTO THEFT Non Res parking Beat 123

9/3/2025 12:30pm 600 S LaSalle
AUTO THEFT Non Res Garage Beat 123

9/17/2025 5:21am 1100 S State St
STRONG ARM ROBBERY No weapon
subway train Beat 123

9/13/2025 3:40pm 800 S Financial
ATTEMPT AUTO THEFT on street Beat 123

9/10/2025 10pm 1100 S State
ARMED ROBBERY Handgun on subway
train Beat 123

9/10/2025 11:54am 600 S Plymouth
AUTO THEFT/RECOVERY on street Beat

9/10/2025 7:30am 500 S Wells
AUTO THEFT Non Res Parking Beat 123

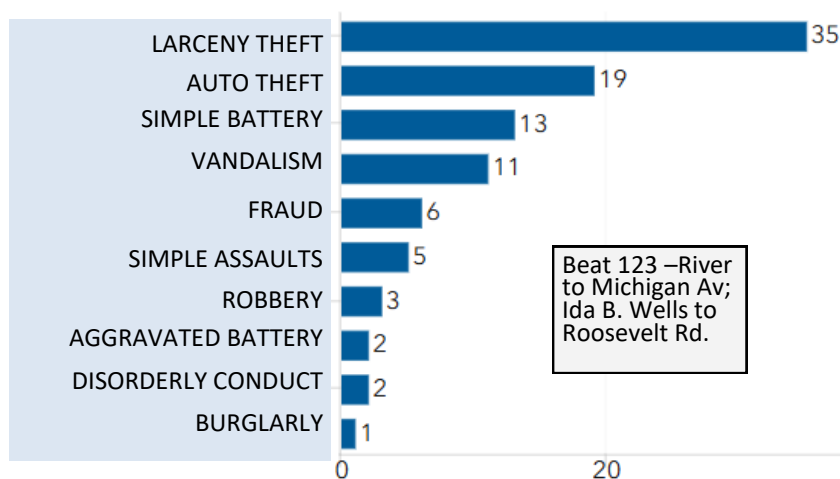
9/9/2025 6pm 600 S State
AUTO THEFT Non Res Garage

9/9/2025 7:28pm 100 W Roosevelt
AGGRAATED BATTERY No weapon Beat

123

Top 10 Crimes

PERIOD SEPT 1 TO SEPT 14, 2025



TOP TEN STOLEN CAR MODELS IN CHICAGO

RANK	VEHICLE MODEL	ESTIMATED THEFTS (2024)
1	Hyundai Elantra	31,712
2	Hyundai Sonata	26,720
3	Chevrolet Silverado 1500	21,665
4	Honda Accord	18,539
5	Kia Optima	17,493
6	Kia Soul	15,000 (est.)
7	Dodge Charger	11,452
8	Toyota Camry	10,000 (est.)
9	Ford F-150	9,500 (est.)
10	Nissan Altima	9,000 (est.)

The top ten most stolen cars in Chicago for 2025 have not been fully released yet, but based on recent data and trends, the following vehicles are likely to be among the most targeted. This list is informed by theft statistics from 2024, which are still relevant as we move through 2025.

Insights on Car Theft Trends

Hyundai and Kia Models: The **Hyundai Elantra** and **Sonata** have consistently topped the theft lists, largely due to vulnerabilities that were highlighted in social media trends, particularly on TikTok. These vehicles are often targeted because of their ease of theft.

Pickup Trucks: The **Chevrolet Silverado** and **Ford F-150** are also frequent targets, reflecting their popularity and the high demand for parts.

Sedans: Models like the **Honda Accord** and **Toyota Camry** remain popular among thieves due to their widespread presence on the roads.



Most stolen cars in 2025 peddle.com

Top 10 Most Stolen Cars in Illinois 1049quadcities.com

Real Estate Transactions

\$339,000
1530 S STATE ST 501
8/15/25

\$340,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 302
8/13/25

\$350,000
1305 S MICHIGAN AVE 1906
8/12/25

\$260,000
910 S MICHIGAN AVE 614
8/6/25

\$285,000
161 W HARRISON ST 406
8/6/25

\$265,000
740 S FEDERAL ST 410
8/6/25

\$610,000
233 W 14th ST 6W
8/5/25

\$177,500
1345 S WABASH AVE 502
7/30/25

\$565,500
1501 S INDIANA AVE K
7/28/25

\$209,000
633 S PLYMOUTH CT 703
7/25/25

\$267,500
732 S FINANCIAL PL 614
7/22/25

\$560,000
1235 S PRAIRIE AVE 505
7/21/25

\$190,000
40 E 9TH ST 614
7/21/25

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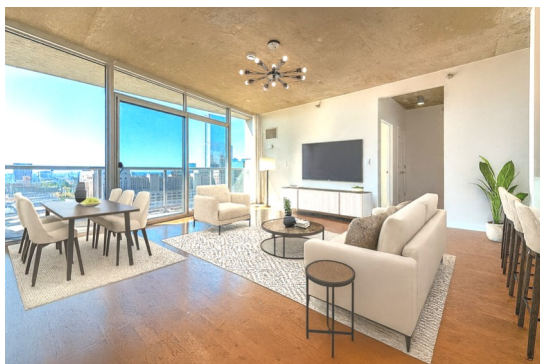
Dearborn Street Realty

Tom Feddor,
312.203.3841

tomfeddor@gmail.com



Anne Rosen
Keller Williams
312.545.7148



611 S Wells St #2406
2 bed, 2 bath, 1350 sq ft
\$409,000 HOA \$822

Koi Tasaniyom
Century 21 S.G.R., Inc.
312.326.2121



1400 S Michigan Ave #2801
4 bed, 4.5 bath, 4800 sq ft
\$1,465,000 HOA \$2300

Ryan Smith
RE/MAX Premier
312.810.9680

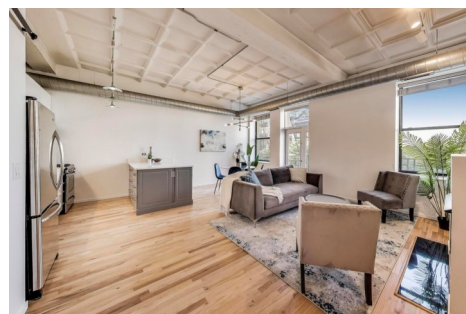


801 S Wells #710
2 bed, 1 bath 1530 Sq Ft
\$360,000 HOA \$673

Debora Burk
Keller Williams Infinity
630362.9832

1307 S Wabash Ave #312
2 bed, 1.5 bath, 1200 sq ft
\$349,500 HOA \$516

Mario Greco
Compass
212.913.9058



600 S Dearborn St #1007
2 bed, 1.5 bath
\$299,000 HOA \$493

Grigory Pekarsky
Vesta Preferred LLC
773.209.9760



1201 S Prairie Ave #403
1 bed, 1 bath
\$349,000 HOA \$488

Benjamin Lissner
Baird & Warner
312.401.9176



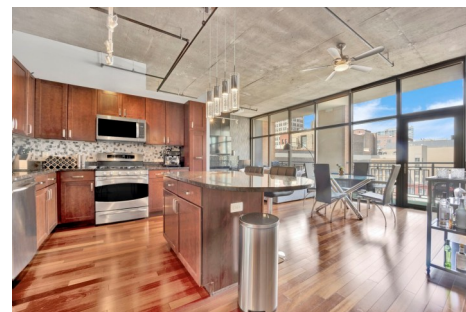
899 S Plymouth Ct #704
1 bed, 1 bath, 1000 sq ft
\$255,000 HOA \$729

Cynthia Soderstrom
Wisteria Real Estate LLC
708.288.2098



520 S State St #1211
2 bed, 2 bath 1265 Sq Ft
\$400,000 HOA \$830

Edli Masud
Compass
212.913.9058



1111 S Wabash Ave
2 bed, 2 bath 1400 Sq Ft
\$430,000 HOA \$745

Timothy Rhoten
Red Carpet Investment
Group
855.510.0218

