



THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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SOUTH LOOP REFERRAL GROUP



SERVING PRINTERS ROW AND
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AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR thedearbornexpress@gmail.com

Jan. 27th, 2014

Vol. 2, No. 2

Report Potholes to 311

Recent snow, salt treatments and thaw-freeze cycles this winter season have led to a significant increase in the number of potholes on city streets.

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) continues to work diligently to keep up with the growing number of potholes. CDOT uses the City's 3-1-1 system to help them identify potholes that require repair.

Please note - in order to report potholes, a specific address is required. A pothole service request can be placed through Chicago's 311 system by calling 3-1-1, visiting the 311 City Services website, texting "311" to CHltext, or emailing Alderman Brendan Reilly's office directly.

The City of Chicago has also launched a new "Pothole Tracker," which allows Chicagoans to monitor a week's worth of pothole patching activity by CDOT.

Pothole Tracker, powered by the City's Open Data Portal at www.cityofchicago.org/potholetracker, gives Chicagoans a snapshot of the potholes that CDOT crews have filled during the past seven days.

On the Pothole Tracker site, each blue dot is a location where a resident has reported a pothole and CDOT crews have subsequently been busy repairing roadways. An information box on each dot provides the service request number, the date of the completed work and the total number of potholes repaired on each block.

Since the start of the new year, CDOT crews have patched more than 50,000 potholes in streets in alleys across Chicago, using 1,000 tons of asphalt patching material. In 2013, CDOT repaired more than 625,000 potholes.



Introducing Our New Chef de Cuisine

Blackie's announces an exciting new direction with the addition of Jacob Sloan, Chef de Cuisine.
(continued on page 5)

ACT YOUR OWN AGE

Our neighbor Beth Urech (from the **Franklin Building**) is going to perform her famous one-woman show, Act Your Age, in her/our neighborhood on

Thurs, Feb. 20 and Sat. Feb. 22, at 7 PM at Daystar Center at 1550 S. State.

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COMING TO THE JAZZ SHOWCASE

WED. JAN 29 - SUN. FEB 2, ANNUAL BLUJAZZ FESTIVAL

- *Aaron McEvers (WED. 29)
- *Guitarist Paul Kogut's Trio (THU. 30)
- *Blujazz All Star Jam (FRI. 31)
- *Vocalist Dee Alexander's Blujazz CD Release Event (SAT. 1)
- *Violinist Diane Delin's Octagon (SUN.2)
- MON. 3 JAZZ COMMUNITY BIG BAND
- TUE. 4 TBA
- WED. 5 "BRADLEY WILLIAMS' NEW 21ST CENTURY REVIEW"
- THU. 6-SUN. 9 SAXOPHONIST BENNY GOLSON QUARTET
- MON. 10 TRUMPETER SCOTT ANDERSON NIA QUINTET
- TUE. 11 THE CHICAGO ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS JAZZ FEST
- WED. 12 "BRADLEY WILLIAMS' NEW 21ST CENTURY REVIEW "
- THU. 13-SUN.16 VOCALIST PAUL MARINARO QUARTET
- MON. 17 TBA
- TUE. 18 SAXOPHONIST MARK COLBY QUARTET
- WED. 19 "BRADLEY WILLIAMS' NEW 21ST CENTURY REVIEW "
- THU.20-SUN.23SAXOPHONIST SHAWN MAXWELL CD RELEASE 'ALLIANCE'
- MON. 24 90.9 FM WDCB NIGHT FREE ADMISSION
- TUE. 25 BASS GUITARIST FRANK RUSSELL QUARTET
- WED.26YALE CLUB OF CHICAGO PRESENTS: GERSHWIN IN BLUE:
A GEORGE AND IRA GERSHWIN ONGBOOK CELEBRA-



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South Loop Neighbors

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

South Loop Neighbors represents South Loop residents who are concerned about:

- Ensuring high-quality, reasonably-sized real estate development as well as infrastructure improvements that respect the unique character of our community
- Preserving and protecting the area's Landmark Districts, including Printing House Row and Historic Michigan Boulevard
- Promoting quality education, recreation, services, retail, community activities, and events
- Maintaining a socially, culturally, and economically diverse neighborhood
- Developing strong relationships with key city officials to ensure they respect, hear, and act on the concerns and ideas of the South Loop community. South Loop Neighbors serves members and residents within the area bounded by Congress Parkway to approximately 25th Street and from the Chicago River to Lake Michigan.

www.southloopneighbors.org

First SLN Meeting of 2014

On **Wed, Feb 19th**, we will meet at Grace Place for the years 1st quarterly public meeting of South Loop Neighbors. Please join us for an evening of information and getting to know your neighbors! We will have a representative from Alderman Reilly's office to let us know what they do in / for the South Loop from the 42nd Ward. We will have a speaker from **Illinois PIRG**, which is a consumer group that stands up to powerful interests whenever they threaten our health and safety, our financial security or our right to fully participate in our democratic society. The speaker will share tips on how to get the best deal on health insurance for all of us who still need it and may be struggling to sort it all out. We will also have speakers from two of our Community Builder Members, East / West University and Proper Balance Health Care.

Grace Place---Okay, My SLN Friends, do you want to spend a feel good morning? Just mark your new calendars for the second Saturday of the month to help serve Breakfast for the Homeless at Grace Place from 8:15am till 10:30-ish.

If you think you'd like to join in, **call Sandi at 773-517-1031 for info and to sign-in.**

Do YOU live in any of the historic South Loop loft buildings (or know someone who does), and are willing to show off your home with SLN for the day? Contact Jaqi at loftwalk@southloopneighbors.org

We are looking for 8-10 lofts – anywhere in our Boundaries, 25th to Jackson, River to the Lake.

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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 the editor or South Loop Referral Group.

Rachel Ray, I got your free dishes (sans the food, of course)

It was everything I could do, but I did it! I got a free set of [Rachael Ray](#) dishes by saving little orange stamps the last few months at Jewel.

I upped my spending at Jewel considerably, never stopping a single impulse buy. Yes, Jewel knew what it was doing by offering a stamp for every \$10 spent in the store, and for every twenty

stamps (do the math) one was able to get a piece of Rachael Ray colorful [Fiestaware](#)-lookalike dishes.

I also depended on the kindness of my friend Carole and my bf Bruce, both of whom didn't want them. And on the serendipitous meeting and generosity of perfect strangers who I met in the Jewel checkout line who gave them to me when I boldly asked if they were collecting them--and they said no. Not to mention the oodles of stamps I found on the floor at Jewel before they started asking the customers if, in fact, they were actually collecting the stamps.

Through all of this diligent effort, I got what I wanted: a full set of Rachael Rays.

I'm very happy. But tired of everyone saying things like, "Don't you have enough dishes?" (Yes. More than enough). And, "What are you going to do with another set of dishes?" (I have no idea but I want them. And they're free.) And last but not least, "Do you have enough room for another set of dishes?" (No. Actually, I am storing them on the floor in the dining room.)

By the way, the last time Jewel gave out stamps, not only were they a lot bigger and easier to keep track of, they were for beautiful and solidly constructed cookware. And I got two magnificent frying pans (in two sizes) that I ended up using **a lot**. So poo-poo to the naysayers this time, I'm sure my Rachael Rays will feel the water of the dishwasher **a lot** in the coming years, too.



So the race was won. I proudly collected enough by the deadline, December 26, to get an entire set--in four nice Fiestaware-like colors of blue, orange, red and lime green.

But the memories of getting there are many. One night over dinner, bf Bruce said he had four for me. But when he opened his wallet for the turnover, they weren't there. I was so mad I wanted to break up with him then and there. (I didn't because we were with another couple.) But later I calmed down because I figured he probably dropped them on the floor at our Jewel anyway, so I probably got them on one of my many scavenger hunts through the store looking for them thar' golden nuggets.

Then there was the night the man in front of me in line--power-wheelchair bound, elderly and quite disabled--was handed four stamps. As the grocery bagger was placing the gentleman's groceries securely on the gentleman's lap, all I could say to myself was this: "He couldn't possibly be saving the stamps. He just doesn't look like he'd be much interested in getting a set--or even a piece or two--of Rachael Rays." And then--as if God heard me as I stood there wondering how I could get the stamps away from him--the stamps suddenly dropped from his hand and landed on his wheelchair wheel.

"Oh my God," I screamed. "Your stamps! Your stamps have fallen down! Let me get them for you!"

He turned to look at me and sort of looked like he thought I was nuts. But I bent over and grabbed them and said, "Here!," adding, "Are you saving the stamps?" Of course, it was no surprise. He said he wasn't. So I asked if I could have them. And he said, "Sure, honey."

Mission accomplished!

Bonnie McGrath



Visit my blog:

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

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. It is our hope that we will be able to expand our features and publish every 20 days. If you have any questions or would like to contribute information, please email us: thedearbornexpress@gmail.com

Next Edition,

Sat., Feb 15, 2014



Continued from page 1, **NEW CHEF at BLACKIES**

Chef Jacob brings many years of experience at prominent Chicago restaurants including Head Cook at Mid America Club, Executive Sous Chef at Ovie Bar & Grill and most recently at the Terzo Piano @ Art Institute. In his new role, Chef Jacob will create menus and supervise food preparation. Authentic homemade menu items receive an immediate new emphasis under Chef Jacob's direction.

"The changes that will be seen at Blackie's are exciting. In February Blackie's will unroll an entirely new menu consisting of an all house made, fresh, made day of, and labor intensive menu that will be unique to Printer's Row.

Continued from page 1, **ACT YOUR OWN AGE**

This show has been performed all over Chicago, and the rest of the country and the world (if I'm not mistaken) and has garnered really good reviews. I have been wanting to see this show for ages--and now we'll have our chance to see it close to home. It's supposed to be FANTASTiC from everything I've heard!



Hope everyone can go! Here are links with more details, reviews, etc. Let's all come out and see our friend and neighbor, BETH!!!

<http://actyouragesouthloop.brownpapertickets.com>
<http://www.bethurech.com>
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/552687>

The Board of Directors of the Near South Planning Board

cordially invite you to attend its General Membership Meeting & Luncheon on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Hotel 2233 S. King Drive Regency C,D, E

11:30 a.m. Registration
12:00 noon - Luncheon & Program
Guest Speaker:
Commissioner Andrew J. Mooney
Department of Planning & Development



Bonnie McGrath

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on the
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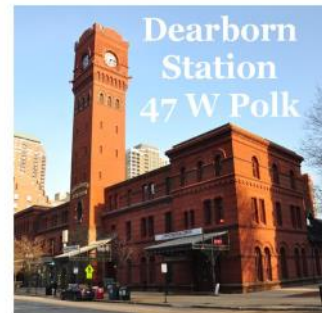
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2014 South Loop Elementary School Open Houses and Tours for 2014- 2015 School Year Enrollment

For Prospective PK and Kindergarten Families

South Loop School Early Childhood Center tours will be one Friday per month from 9-10AM. These tours are catered to parents interested in enrolling their children in the South Loop School tuition-based preschool and/or kindergarten programs for the 2014-2015 school year. Preschool students may live anywhere in the city. Enrollment for Kindergarten students is limited to families who live within the school's attendance boundaries, details of which can be found on the CPS school locator:

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?>

http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0o1tXloPuU6gl8ExU_oNVg2rSrIJUtbtqKJu5L89zxmP4CeEDC8jgsy8TAEVqOmIwomAc25Tn1AUCIUyhQeC4mgRd_IvY4ppRLM3wwo9Xd1T2cQmzq9B5yqVvUZGVK1_yOx92b3_J8x8jwHinXabixx8tLmA-hjACbWuDwx4F4irQ-LU_XZNxTUNcg==&c=7FkxHuKH8glb249RfqzE33inxCKVJQEw7m2KxLfo_Ne3CqVDgxnniw==&ch=xY9G_hNNb_MXLOJSWe5ItH_3XEj7PDJPN-8iko11Vhy5za2Nhc8Ehw==

These tours are held at the South Loop School Early Childhood Center: 1919 South Federal Street. For questions, please email Ms. Maria: mamacnab@cps.edu. The tour dates for prospective PK and K families are: **February 21st, March 21st, April 25th and May 16th**

For Prospective 1-8th Grade Families

South Loop School main building tours, for families with students entering 1-8 grades in 2014-2015, are held the third Wednesday of every month at 9 am. Admission to the 1-8th grade neighborhood classrooms is limited to families living in the school's attendance area boundaries, and to those students who have been accepted to the Regional Gifted Center for 3rd-8th grades for the school year 2014-2015.

These tours are held at the South Loop Elementary School main building: 1212 South Plymouth Court. The tour dates for prospective 1st-8th grade families are: **February 19th, March 19th, April 23rd, and May 21st**

For more information, please visit South Loop Elementary School's website: <http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?>
http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0o1tXloPuU6gl8ExU_oNVg2rSrIJUtbtqKJu5L89zxmP4CeEDC8jgsy8TAEVqOmIwome-yNbGXw-sAMnCKgFAF-KK3oDGEubF3jUx1rNgpeydoWHRoA3fb3Ae1yzkFHTX3ofOv_7qly4CTWrvLoPMyJBjky8rb1t6EiNachL_ZD-16lpIU-Ko7WUlg==&c=7FkxHuKH8glb249RfqzE33inxCKVJQEw7m2KxLfo_Ne3CqVDgxnniw==&ch=xY9G_hNNb_MXLOJSWe5ItH_3XEj7PDJPN-8iko11Vhy5za2Nhc8Ehw==

Music@Grace,

Thursdays at 7:30 pm,

Grace Place, 637 S. Dearborn Street in the South Loop.

Program:

Paganini: Violin Concerto No. 1, first movement (Maya)
Saint Saens: Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso (Maya)
Eugene Ysaye: Poeme Elegiaque, Op. 12 (Jing)
Bach: Concerto for two violins, second movement (Maya and Jing)

Though just thirteen years old, violinist Maya Anjali Buchanan already has won numerous competitions, awards and national honors. A Black Hills, South Dakota-native, she began her classical violin training at age three. Maya made her professional solo debut at age eleven with a performance of the Bruch Violin Concerto and has been the guest soloist for numerous performances with orchestra since that time. In 2012, she was the youngest winner in the history of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Young Musician's Concerto Competition which culminated in three performances of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. She has played in masterclasses for Robert McDuffe, Brian Lewis, David Kim Christophe Bousant and other distinguished violinists. Currently, Maya is a merit scholarship student at The Academy of Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston, a pre-college music conservatory, where she studies with Almita and Roland Vamos. Maya also studies with Paul Kantor at Shepherd School of Music, Rice University, and summers at the Aspen Music Festival.

A native of Sichuan, China, violinist Jing Qiao recently won first prize at Yang Tong Liu China International violin competition and was a semi-finalist in the Carl Nielsen International violin competition in Denmark. During 2012, Jing also was awarded prizes at Northwestern University, where she is a masters level student, in the Thaviu String competition and concerto competition. Jing moved to the U.S. in 2006 to study with professors Milan Vitek and Per Enoksson at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. In 2008, she won first prize in the inaugural Young String Soloist Competition of the Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle in Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina, and the following year made her debut with the orchestra. As a soloist and chamber musician, Jing has been invited to perform concerts and recitals in the U.S, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Poland and China. At Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, Jing studies with Almita Vamos. During summers, she studies with Sylvia Rosenberg at the Aspen Music Festival.

These performances by advanced music students from the Chicago area take place at 7:30 pm in the second floor sanctuary of Grace Place, 637 S. Dearborn Street. A reception with the artists follows each 45-minute performance. For further information, visit <http://gracechicago.org/programs/>.

Please join us for this very special performance by these outstanding musicians and bring friends and neighbors.

See you at Grace!

Safe & Sound Blog

by Beth Finke

<http://Bethfinke.wordsmith.com>



A *New York Times* article called [Why Do We Fear the Blind?](#) quotes everyone from the 18th century French philosopher Denis Diderot to modern essayist Christopher Hitchens to try to explain why Blindness is the [most feared and misunderstood disabilities](#). Well, from a journalistic point of view, I'd say the piece was too long, and I think the headline is not representative of the story. Because the story really describes why sighted people fear blindness -- not people with blindness.

I mean, let's be real. People are afraid of blindness because, well, being blind is scary. Maybe seeing someone like me, who is blind, serves as a reminder: this could happen to you, too.

Odds aren't great, though. Only 1.3 million people in the United States are legally blind. That's not many. We human beings tend to be fearful of things we don't know, though, and with so few of us out here, your chances of getting to know a person who is blind is rare. The woman who wrote the *New York Times* article put on a blindfold to try to understand what it's like to traverse city streets when you can't see. I'm afraid all that does is make her readers more afraid. And grateful that they are not blind. But she can go away proud that she was sensitive enough to try walking around with a blindfold in an effort to simulate being blind.

People who are blind can't take the blindfold off and then talk about how scary it is. We spend miserably difficult months with remarkably dedicated orientation and mobility trainers learning how to do simple things, like walk outside and mail a letter.

I started losing my eyesight in 1984, when I was 25 years old. Before then, I had a job advising college students who wanted to study overseas. The job entailed talking with students, checking out what programs might work for them, phoning different college departments or other universities to arrange for the transfer of college credits. I was sure I'd be able to perform these tasks without being able to see. My boss, however, was equally sure I could not. I tried proving her wrong. At first I didn't use a white cane or a dog. I quit driving or riding my bike, but I could still see well enough to walk to work with a walking cane (Mike and I happened to have bought one as a souvenir during our honeymoon in Scotland months before, when I could still see perfectly well).

As my eyesight got worse, I started making mistakes in the office. One morning I spilled grounds all over the floor on my way to make the morning coffee. I sat inches away from my computer screen to see the words.

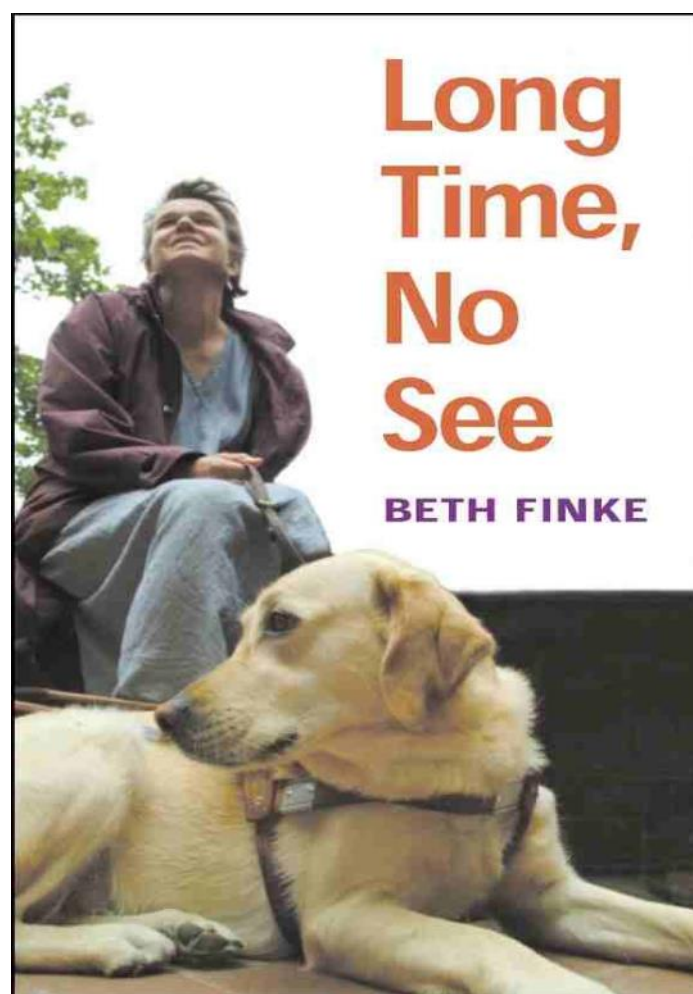
I ran into tabletops. At one point my boss took me aside and told me I wouldn't be going to the annual convention with my colleagues that year. "You'll embarrass the office," she said.

Those were scary times.

By the end of that year, I had lost my sight completely. The Americans with Disabilities Act had not been passed yet. My contract was terminated. My confidence was shattered. How could I have been so naive? Did I really think I was worth hiring? Why would anyone employ someone who couldn't see?

I considered pursuing a Master's degree in blind rehabilitation then, reasoning that if you work helping blind people, being blind would be an advantage, and I might get a job. After some soul-searching, though, I realized that with my personality I might be able to do more for the blind community by getting outside of it. I'm not shy, and demonstrating to people who might not come across a blind person in their daily lives that a person without sight can live a full, creative, and pleasurable life might show them that we're nothing to be afraid of.

Which is not to condemn the writer of that *New York Times* article for trying. I just think, with this article, she failed.



Available at Sandmeyer's

When Custom House at Dearborn and Congress in the Blake Hotel permanently shut the lights on Halloween night 2012,



I was confident it would be replaced by another restaurant because the hotel guests need to eat. My instincts were right; it just took longer than expected. Meli Cafe, the second replication of the posh Greek Town breakfast/brunch/lunch spot (the first is in River North) opened in December. With a dearth of full-service breakfast spots in Printer's Row, I'm not chagrined to say I've been three times already. The interior is spacious, light and bright, with views west to the Stock Exchange on Congress and north up Dearborn. The staff are attentive, and I like the attention to details...fresh-squeezed juice, homemade ketchup, the presentation of butters and jams with toast. What about the food, you ask? That too, is well-prepared and fresh. I'm a vegetarian/vegan, and a section of the menu is dedicated to vegan and gluten-free options, with vegetarian items scattered throughout the menu. I've twice had the vegetarian benedict (Portobello, spinach, tomato and red onions). The Portobello gives it a meaty texture, with rest of the veggies together creating a rich, savory experience. I've also tried the vegan French toast, which was light and fluffy despite no eggs or dairy products. Unlike the other two Meli Cafes, this location is open late for dinner (again, because of hotel guests). Menu pricing for breakfast, lunch and dinner seem to reflect its co-location with a hotel, but the convenience, quality and space is worth putting it in your Printer's Row rotation.

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Book Reviews by Ulrich and Ellen Sandmeyer

The Bird Skinner by Alice Greenway (Atlantic Monthly \$25)
Retired ornithologist Jim Kennoway retreats to a Maine island to be left alone, to drink and to smoke. His solitary life is interrupted by the arrival of Cadillac Baketi, the daughter of Tosca who works with Jim in the Solomon Islands during World War II. A compelling story, beautifully written. (US)

The Luminaries by Eleanor Catton (Little, Brown \$27)
It is 1866 and young Walter Moody journeys to New Zealand to make his fortune in the booming goldfields. Upon arrival he stumbles on a gathering of local men who are perplexed by a number of unsolved crimes in their community. This book won the 2013 Man Booker Prize. (US)

The Long Ships by Frans G. Bengtsson (New York Review of Books \$17.95)

A longtime customer and friend badgered me for years to read this novel, written in 1941. I had no desire to read 500 pages about Vikings roaming and rampaging across Europe in the 10th century. But he was right! This is an extraordinarily engaging saga with a wonderful introduction by Michael Chabon.

For a great review, go to Steve's review on Goodreads.com (US)



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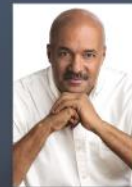
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Urban Re-Design: Will Chicagoans Embrace Their Riverwalk?

The relationship between Chicago and its river is long and intertwined. What was once treated as a sewage and industrial waste canal by nearby manufacturing plants is now predominantly a site for leisure and recreation. However, Chicagoans largely ignore their Riverwalk, which is very poorly designed.

See more Newcity's Top 5 of Everything 2013: Design . . . by clicking the headline above.



REGISTRATION FOR SPRING TERM CLASSES IS NOW OPEN!

Open registration for spring term classes & winter term Music Together classes is open! Register early to make sure you get a space in your favorite class! Classes begin the week of January 13. ... [Read More](#)




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My Florence: Photographs by Art Shay

MONDAY, JANUARY 27 AT 8:00AM TO 7:00PM → MORE DATES THROUGH MAY 24

LIBRARY, 2ND FLOOR 624 S MICHIGAN, CHICAGO, IL

My Florence: Photographs by Art Shay

Columbia College Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Photography (MoCP) and Library present My Florence, a photographic project by renowned Chicago Photojournalist Art Shay on view January 27- May 24, 2014 throughout the Library's 2nd floor. My Florence, in Art Shay's words, "...is the story in pictures of our 67 years of marriage."

The nearly seventy photographs presented in My Florence are primarily candid moments beginning with the first photograph Art took of Florence

the day they met in 1942 as 20 year-old camp counselors in the Catskills. Photographs of raising their family during the mid-20th century are combined with portraits of Florence with their culturally influential friends, such as Chicago writer Nelson Algren, rock musician Billy Corgan and playwright David Mamet. The final photographs in the exhibition were taken immediately after his beloved wife's funeral in August 2012 when both Art and Florence were 90 years old.

For over six decades, Art Shay's photographs have appeared in such periodicals as Time, Life, Fortune, and Sports Illustrated and many other publications and monographs, such as Album for an Age: Unconventional Words and Pictures From the Twentieth Century and Chicago's Nelson Algren.

An opening reception for My Florence will be held at the Columbia College Chicago Library, 2nd Floor, February 13, 2014 from 5-7pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chaz Iajide,
colajide@colum.edu

See article in January's [Chicago Magazine](#), "Life Through a Leica" about Art Shay, page 90



VIOLET

FEBRUARY 12 - 22, 2014
STUDIO 404
MUSIC BY **JEANINE TESORI**
BOOK AND LYRICS BY **BRIAN CRAWLEY**
BASED ON *THE UGLIEST PILGRIM* BY **DORIS BETTS**
DIRECTED BY **AMY UHL**
MUSIC DIRECTION BY **ANDRA VELIS SIMON**
CHOREOGRAPHY BY **LINDA FORTUNATO**

Set in the Jim Crow South of 1964, VIOLET follows the journey of a young woman horribly scarred by her father at age 13. Now 25, she seeks healing from a televangelist and embarks on a bus trip from her home town in Spruce Pines, North Carolina to Tulsa, Oklahoma hoping he will provide the answers. Along the way she befriends a young black soldier who teaches her about beauty, love, courage and what it means to be "different." Based on the short story "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts, VIOLET is a powerful musical.

Tickets

\$10 General Admission

\$ 5 Senior citizens and students from other schools

Free Columbia College Chicago students

Performances

6:30PM Wednesday, February 12, 2014

7:30PM Thursday, February 13

7:30PM Friday, February 14

7:00PM Saturday, February 15

1:30PM Wednesday, February 19

7:30PM Wednesday, February 19

7:30PM Thursday, February 20

7:30PM Friday, February 21

2:00 PM Saturday, February 22

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Sounds of the South Loop at 2nd Presbyterian Church

Sounds of the South Loop kicks off first full season of "live music at its best"

Sounds of the South Loop presents the Chicago Temple Gospel Choir in concert on **Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m.** The choir, under the direction of Reverend Kelly Tiebout, will present an afternoon of authentic music from the African-American tradition. This concert is free to all, in celebration of Black History Month. All are welcome.

For more information, see: www.soundsofthesouthloop.com
The **Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago** proudly announces the 2013-2014 season of the **Sounds of the South Loop** music series. Initiated in December 2012, Second Presbyterian presents a monthly series of curated concerts on Wednesday evenings at 6pm.

Wednesday, February 19, 2014. 6 pm **Chicago Harp Quartet – Power and Grace**

Four world-class harpists join forces to showcase the harp as never before - from the gentle nuances to the punchy muscle of this dynamic instrument. The charismatic group is comprised of harpists Marguerite Lynn Williams, Katherine Ventura, Catherine Litaker, and Emily Ann Granger.



South Loop Referral Group

Meets every other Friday at 7:30 am
At Dearborn Station Atrium

**Next
Meeting
Fri, Feb.
10th at
Blackies**

South Loop Referral Group is a professional organization, made up of individuals with a high level of skill and passion for serving their community. The members all live and work in the south loop area: which means they are well known locally with many resources and testimonials. A referral groups goal is to have only one representative from each category. The quality of their work and the care they provide makes them truly unique, and whether you are looking for a printer, a banker or a contractor, you can be sure whomever you hire from our group, will be attentive, on time, and competitively priced.

The group also serves as a rainmaker, encouraging local business development and supporting a thriving professional community in Chicago's South Loop neighborhood through motivation, communication, and education.

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BENGSTON ENERGY HEALING METHOD® TRAINING WORKSHOP with Dr. William Bengston

Friday, Feb. 14, 2014, 6 to 8 PM; Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014, 10 AM to 5 PM; and Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014, 10 AM to 4 PM \$365, members \$328.50

Thirty-five years of research and clinical experience show that The Bengston Energy Bill Bengston Healing Method® is a powerful, safe energy therapy that can produce remarkable results for both people and animals, from curing (yes, curing) cancer under certain circumstances as well as helping asthma, digestive diseases, allergies, Alzheimer's, cataracts and other ophthalmological disorders, eczema, depression and many other physical and emotional problems. In this two and one-half day, highly experiential workshop, Dr. William Bengston teaches in-depth training in the method that produces tangible results in the laboratory as well in people and animals. The basis of the therapy is a unique process called "image cycling," the key to stimulating the body/mind to restore itself to a natural state of wholeness. No special beliefs or previous training in energy modalities are required, image cycling is a skill anyone can learn to access a deep source of profound healing intelligence. This training weekend includes a comprehensive research review, step-by-step instruction and practice in the Bengston Method, distance healing techniques, and creating and use energy-charged cotton as a supplement to therapy. Dr. Bengston's book *The Energy Cure* (and shipping) is included in the tuition fee, and is the textbook for the workshop. Dr. Bengston requires that you finish reading it BEFORE the workshop begins, as information in the book will NOT be repeated in class. For more information about this method and related research, please go to

www.bengstonresearch.com. Coming in from out of town? Stay at the Hotel Blake, a block away from us, and receive discount room rates, free breakfast coupons, free drink vouchers, and other bonus amenities. To receive special holiday rates available during the workshop weekend (\$92 to \$109 per night compared to the usual rates of \$199 to \$249!), contact Samantha Raisher at 312-344-4923 or email Samantha.Raisher@bluegreenvacations.com and ask for the Equilibrium Preferred Rate. You can also book online for this discount rate at [http://www.ascendcollection.com/ires/en-US/html/ArrivalInfo?](http://www.ascendcollection.com/ires/en-US/html/ArrivalInfo?hotel=IL480&srp=LEQUIL&pu=no)

hotel=IL480&srp=LEQUIL&pu=no. Space is limited, registration and pre-payment are required. Call (312) 786-1882 or go to www.equilibrium-e3.com and click on CLASSES.



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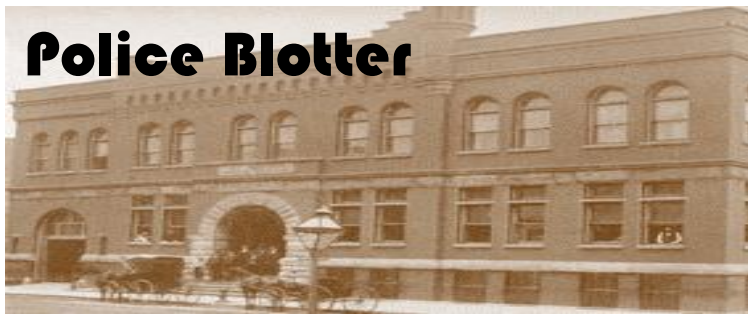
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Police Blotter



THE LOOP — Police think the same man committed four robberies at Loop convenience stores in December and January, demanding cash and Newport cigarettes while threatening workers with bodily harm.

There are nearly 50 7-Elevens within a five-mile radius of the one at 177 N. Wells St. — but the "Newport Bandit" hit that Loop location twice.

Central District police issued an alert Tuesday about a man who committed four 7-Eleven robberies in December and January. He was described as a black man, roughly 30 years old, around 6 feet tall and weighing between 210 and 220 pounds.

He hit one convenience store at 600 S. Dearborn St. around 12:30 a.m. Dec. 16, and another at 180 N. Franklin St. around 3 a.m. Jan. 9, taking cigarettes and about \$120 in the second robbery, employee Ismael Gomez said.

At 4:08 a.m. the night before New Year's, police think the same man walked into a store at 177 N. Wells St. and demanded cash and cigarettes, threatening to harm workers but making no indication he had a weapon, according to Officer Daniel O'Brien, a Chicago Police spokesman.

Around 1 a.m. Jan. 17, the same man walked into the same store at 177 N. Wells St. and made the same demands, grabbing cash and cigarettes before leaving, police said.

Sanaz Maanikhah, the Wells Street store's manager, declined to comment. But Gomez, who works at the other store robbed earlier this month, said employees were briefed by a manager after the robbery.

By [Lizzie Schiffman](#) on January 23, 2014 8:36am
<http://www.dnainfo.com/chicago>



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Wednesday, February 5, 2014
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



1st District Police Station
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Listen and ask questions from convicted burglar offenders who have served time. They are willing to share their stories with the community through the Safer Foundation. Together, we hope that this discussion will provide information that will lessen the chance for residents to become victims.

