



THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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South Loop Neighbors present an information packed session for their Membership Meeting

Two alderman present, representatives from CMK to talk about their 30 story building on the former Palmer Printing site, and a presentation by Roger Marsh on crime statistics in our neighborhood. And a past alderman (Fioretti) showed up hoping to declare his run for mayor.



Alderman King, left, Alderman Dowell, right

Fourth ward alderman Sophia King and Third ward alderman Pat Dowell related what they feel have been accomplishments these past two years as they enter a new election season. Alderman King mentioned safety, homeless issues, mental health and education as issues she focused on. She is looking to encourage more community involvement by forming committees and sub-committees. She talked about added lights, cameras in Dearborn Park and the viaduct under Roosevelt Rd and cameras added overlooking the Skate Park. Other issues both alderman mentioned were added police cars, affordable units, parking and co-sponsoring the proposal to change the name of Congress to Ida B. Wells Drive. Alderman Dowell pointed to a study on crime by the web news site CWB which showed higher crime in the Loop, North Loop, Lincoln Park but lower in the South Loop. As far as education is concerned, she is committed to bringing a high school to serve the South Loop and Chinatown.

CMK Development came with a team to present to the group the planned 30 story tower replacing Palmer Printing. The proposal is within zoning regulations so they will start soon, as soon as January. The tower will be built on the existing parking lot. The building that housed the printing plant will be converted to office space. The first step you'll see and hear will be the pounding in of the pylons

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Dec 20, 2018

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COMING TO THE JAZZ SHOWCASE

Thur-Fri, Dec 20-21, 8pm & 10pm..... Pianist Robert Glasper Trio
 Sat, Dec 22, 8pm & 10pm.....Vocalist Rose Colella's **Holiday Jazz Party**
 Sun, Dec 23, 4pm & 8pm..... Vocalist Rose Colella's **Holiday Jazz Party**
 Mon-Tues, Dec 24-25.....CLOSED--Happy Holidays!
 Wed-Sat, Dec 26-29, 8pm & 10pm.....Nicholas Payton-trumpet, Ron Blake-saxophone,
 Rodney Whitaker-Bass, Greg Hutchison-drums, Peter Martin-pianist
 Sun, Dec 30, 4pm, 8pm & 10pm.....Nicholas Payton-trumpet, Ron Blake-saxophone,
 Rodney Whitaker-Bass, Greg Hutchison-drums, Peter Martin-pianist
 Mon, Dec 31, Tue, Jan 1 8pm & 10pm.....Nicholas Payton-trumpet, Ron Blake-saxophone,
 Rodney Whitaker-Bass, Greg Hutchison-drums, Peter Martin-pianist
 Wed, Jan 2.....CLOSED
 Thur-Sat, Jan 3-5, 8pm & 10pm.....Brazilian Guitarist Luciano Antonio Quintet w/
 special guest Vocalist Neusa Sauer, Neil Alger-guitar, Geoffrey Lowe-bass
 Sun, Jan 6, 4pm & 8 pm.....Brazilian Guitarist Luciano Antonio Quintet w/
 special guest Vocalist Neusa Sauer, Neil Alger-guitar, Geoffrey Lowe-bass
**Tues, Jan 8, 7pm until.....Jasmine's birthday bash/proceeds benefit Kids in Danger:
 Dee Alexander, Maggie Brown, Miguel de la Cerna, Ari Brown, Ernie Adams**
 Wed, Jan 9, 5 pm.....Jazz Links Jam Session
 Thurs, Jan 10-13, 8pm & 10pm.....Vocalist -Alyssa Allgood Quartet



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Nicholas Payton Dec 26-29

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South Loop Neighbors

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

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

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

www.southloopneighbors.org

South Loop Neighbors

Christine Hunt- President
Benjamin Cottrell- Vice Pres.
Dorothy Miaso- Treasurer
Rob Degnan- Secretary
Dennis McClendon- Director of Planning and Development
Roger Marsh- director
Jim Wales- director

Thanks to all who made the 20th Anniversary of the Loft Walk possible.



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OPINION

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

Mayoral candidates: stop promising tax freezes, a no-kill city and premium education, when some basic housekeeping would do

Tiny Dancer gave up on Chicago after eight years. He just doesn't know what to do anymore with us idiots, so we're on our own. He's done. But before his exit is official, at the last minute [he's going to try to get us a casino and a change to the Illinois Constitution](#)--which he says will kill the debilitating debt that he never reduced.

Tiny always manages to save face after his failures, which he manipulates everyone into thinking are great successes (or at least not his fault) and then he goes on to something better.

His would-be successors--the Chicago 21--are promising tax freezes! And stopping killings in the street! And secret plans for education so everyone will have a Harvard graduate in the house! (More on all this to come in future posts.)

Maybe these promises will stop the [net-156 of us who leave Chicago for somewhere else every day](#).

But, Chicago 21, I have an idea. Instead of feeding us a bunch of hoovey about the wonderful life we'll have in Chicago if we elect you, give us some ideas on how you will handle basic housekeeping. It's really bad.

Starting with the CTA: the stations, the trains, the buses. Ick! How come if you get on a [PACE](#) bus, it's clean and comfortable? The filth that the CTA is wallowing in is despicable. I don't know how to do it, I have no advice, I don't know how keeping it all clean can be done. But I'm not running for mayor.

What about all that dead weight up in the CTA office? Give them an assignment: figure out how to keep everything clean. And if they can't, hand them some rags, brooms and detergent, and let them get out and do it themselves. 24/7.

If a bum sleeps on four seats in a train for a few hours, make sure they make everything spic and span when he gets up. Same goes for excreting things on CTA property. From food and drink before it goes in, till after it comes out. Clean it up immediately. And stop the smoking on the trains. It's unbearable. And stop the irritating noises emanating from all the smart phones.

And while you're at it, tell the bus drivers to quit speeding up before they stop. I can't stand up on a moving bus any longer to get to a door to make an exit. But if I wait until the bus stops, by the time I get to the door to get off, the doors close and we're moving again. I'm always asking if it's the driver, the bus or me? I don't think it's me.

Another thing you can figure out is how to stop smokers from smoking outside on the streets? Why should we walkers walk through outdoor smoking lounge after outdoor smoking lounge when we're out for a walk? Yes, smoke gets in your hair and clothes and lungs wherever you are exposed to it--even if you are outdoors.

And how about not incessantly power washing the downtown streets? Can any of you make that a priority? For the sake of quality of life? You'd save a lot of money on water.

Exactly where does all that filth-filled spray end up after it goes up in the air and blows in the faces of people walking down State Street after dinner, a concert or a play? We have to breathe that in. And our clothes get soft-pelted, too. And the dirt just goes back down on the street anyway, albeit pulverized, so why not leave the dirt there from the start?

And how come street signs are missing everywhere? All over the city. You visit someone in an unfamiliar neighborhood and you can go for blocks not knowing what street you are on or what street you are crossing. How about bringing back the era of two signs going in two directions on every corner?

Yes, as Tiny passes out the last of the TIF money on his watch to developers who love to spend taxpayer cash on their real estate and not their own, there's a lot of cranes and a lot of scaffolding. But the sidewalks in the city are broken, buckled and otherwise worn out. How about spending some TIF money on that? You can't even look up while walking to see what's going on--because you'll get seriously injured in a fall from not looking down.

Walking on a street in Chicago is like walking in a field of land mines.

And the lack of lighting on said streets? Whether it's piercing white, yellowish LED, or incandescent globes--there's no light if there's no bulbs in the fixtures.

It's not like the old days. There was a time when they'd change them before I called. But if I did have to call 311, they'd come immediately, even if it was just for one. Now they wait for a whole block to go out--and tons of calls--before they change them, if they do. And it can take years.

Without light, you can't see the cracked sidewalks, or the crooks plying their trade. Two things that keep people leaving this toddlin' town. Even Tiny Dancer.

Bonnie McGrath

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



OPINION

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Mondays with Mike:

by [mknezo2014](#) | Nov 19, 2018

WONDERMENT NEVER GETS OLD



NASA InSight Mission crew celebrates the successful landing on Mars.

Back in grade school, there were exciting days when our teacher would wheel a battleship-grey cart carrying a big black-and-white TV into the corner of our classroom. The teacher would tune to CBS and Walter Cronkite, or sometimes to ABC and Jules Bergman, and together, we'd watch a manned space mission blast off from Cape Canaveral.

Whether at school or at home, I always, always watched those blastoffs in wonder.

I followed every EVA (extravehicular activity, or space walk as they were more commonly called) and knew that every thing they were doing was designed to test what needed to be tested to go farther—to the moon. I was a heartbroken 10-year-old when my favorite astronaut, Gus Grissom, was one of three astronauts in training who died in a flash fire. Finally [there was Apollo 8](#), when we first orbited the moon and earth got its first selfie, and 9 and 10, which got oh so close. I kept thinking, why don't we just land there already?

At last, my family and I huddled around the TV for the Apollo 11 moon landing and walk.

Years later, the company I worked at put on an employee event and had James Lovell speak about his book "[Lost Moon](#)," on which the movie "[Apollo 13](#)" was based. I usually tune out motivational speakers at corporate events. Not this time. The story about how much a group of people working together can accomplish really resonated.

When I recall the space race days, I tend to use language like, "When we landed on the moon," "when we walked in space." Because, as a kid, it felt that way. "We" as in the USA. "We" as in Americans. "We," as in we all had a stake in it, and all of us (well, our parents) funded this endeavor.

Those were turbulent times culturally and divisive times politically. Each mission provided a kind of a time-out, an oasis. We were all looking in the same direction, and pulling for the same team. Those moments were otherwise few and far between.



<https://youtu.be/RVzzgwVyH4Y>

Interest waned. Ho-hum, space. The Shuttle program, which was wrought with problems from its conception, didn't spark the wonder that the early missions did.

Still, I've maintained a passing interest in our space program, enough that I was tracking the [NASA InSight Mission](#) landing on Mars this past November 26. I got those old familiar feelings: of awe, of pride, of us.

[The landing was a phenomenal accomplishment](#)—the mission launched back on May 5. But in a real way, it was just the latest pinnacle of accomplishment built on the discoveries, curiosity and hard work of humankind. You can draw a line from Mars back to Newton and Galileo. It depends on generations of hard work and steady advancement in a zillion fields.

The InSight Mission goes on, and the data and images roll in. [You can track it here](#). If you need a break from cable news, social media, or the headlines, and you need a shot of inspiration, give it a look and fly away to Mars for a while.

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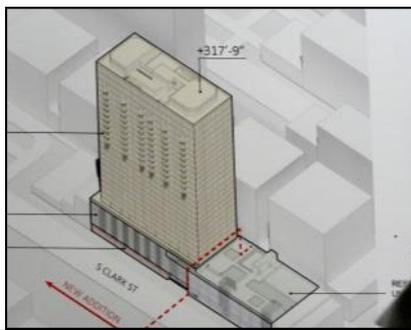
How Quickly We Forget

Dec 7, 2018

The death of George H.W. Bush brought us a week's worth of ceremony, eulogy and wall-to-wall coverage. This week, a look at the choices journalists made when they set out to memorialize the president. And, immigration stories in our media focus on the U.S.-Mexico border — but what about immigration elsewhere in Latin America? Is there a journalistic solution to the scale of global immigration? Plus, a baseball metaphor and a bit of forgotten Hanukkah history.

(continued from page 1)

which will take 3 to 4 weeks to complete. Work days can be long, 8 am go 8pm. They anticipate the topping off in 13 to 14 months. The plan calls for 349 units, 75% of which will be studio or convertible apartments. About 9% will be One and two bedroom units. The height will be similar to other buildings on Clark, slightly shorter than the Burnham Point Building across the street, however, much higher than buildings in Printers Row. It appears that some apartments in Printers Square facing west will have blocked views.



30 story tower on the former parking lot of the Palmer Printing site.

Roger Marsh, board member of South Loop Neighbors presented a view of crime in the South Loop, mainly north of Roosevelt Road. For the statistics he gathered for Jan - Oct. of this year, shows that crime is down 4 to 5%. He pointed out that out of 845 reported crimes, only 45 were in Dearborn Park. The more commercial the area, the more crime.



Roger Marsh

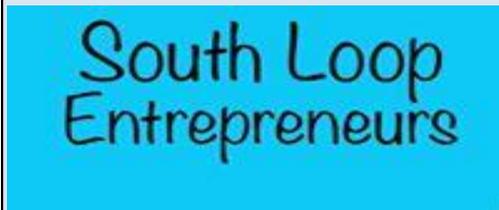
The highest category of crime in the South Loop is theft. He did indicate areas where there are hot spots of more violent crime such as the CTA stations at the Roosevelt L and the gas station at the Southeast corner of Wabash and Roosevelt. The police department is considering making that concise few blocks into its own beat. Roger will be distributing his detailed report at a later date.



Former alderman Robert Fioretti discussing issues with Jim Wales, board member of South Loop

South Loop Entrepreneurs

will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next formal gathering with peer coaching will be Jan. 8th, 6pm at 1600 S. State, room 125, Columbia College. Each evening features a presentation by an entrepreneur in the South Loop, followed by breakouts to consider questions in smaller groups, and "collective wisdom," as we share something we've learned with the whole group. Follow us on facebook.



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If She Were Not a Woman: **She Would Be King** by Wayetu Moore (Graywolf Press)

"**She Would Be King**," says the wind, about the strong and fearless heroine, Gbessa, in a novel that weaves magic and love and slavery and bravery into the story of the birth of Liberia, a West African nation created of equal parts racism, philanthropy and idealism. Author Wayetu Moore was born in Liberia in 1985, during one of its bloodiest civil wars. Her mother spun tales of witches and kings and giants and dragons---both to teach 5-year-old Wayetu her country's history and mythology, and to calm her as she ran with her parents past the dead bodies and burning villages when they fled their homeland for America. Moore drew upon her mother's tales to create three characters through whose experiences we learn about the formation of Liberia---one of the only two countries in the world created for ex-slaves. In 1820, free Blacks were no less despised or victimized than their brothers and sisters still in bondage, so a combination of American-born Blacks in search of a land where they could be truly free; white racists who feared the freemen would cause rebellion on their plantations; and God-fearing abolitionists who thought freed Blacks couldn't survive in a white society, determined to colonize and capitalize a part of West African coast long inhabited by indigenous tribes. Moore's mythical trio: Gbessa, a poor

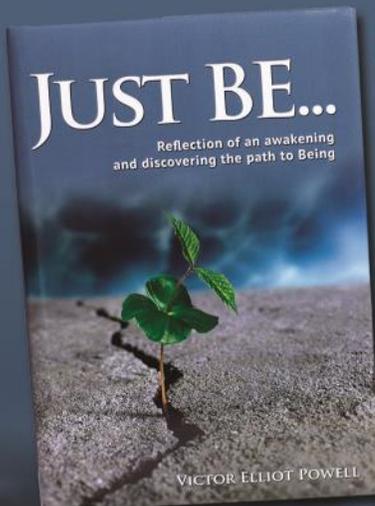
little African girl, whose village deemed her a witch because she was born on an unlucky day and who became immortal when she survived the bite of a poisonous viper; June Dey, the love child of one already-dead and one soon-to-be murdered slave from a Virginia plantation, whose super-human strength and invulnerability to whips and bullets became known only when he carried his dying stepmother from the overseer's blows; and Norman Aragon, the Maroon child who learned how to disappear into nature after he was born to a Jamaican woman who escaped slavery only to be imprisoned and raped by the British scientist and colonizer to whom she was given, combine their gifts in this adventure-story-within-a-history to battle French slavers first, and then ruthless American settlers who treated the natives little better than they had been treated in the New World. Like Gabriel Garcia Marquez in **1000 years of Solitude**; Toni Morrison in **Beloved** and Colin Whitehead in **The Underground Railroad**, Moore employs "magical realism," to turn the "reality" of the oppressors on its head---and to escape the brutal reality of oppression. **She Would be King** is not



Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park, December, 2018

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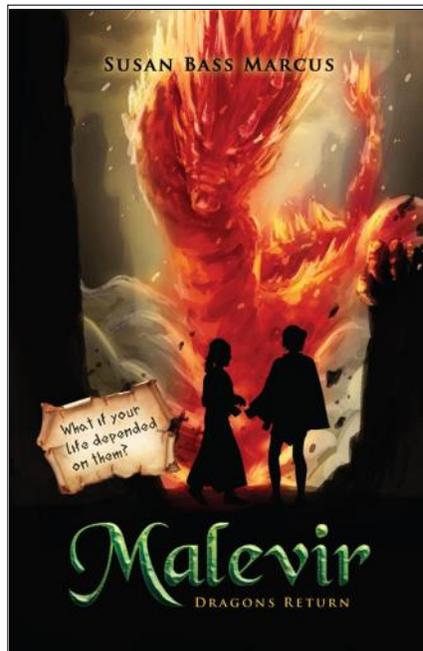
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Dragons have long been absent from their ancestral home in the Veiled Valley. Through spells and deceptions, a mysterious shape-shifter attacked them and now threatens the Valley's hard-won tranquility. With the dragons' strengths and magic apparently gone forever, the lives of the Valley's humans and otherworldly creatures hang in the balance. Will two young dragon-riders help heal the rift between human and dragon?

Malevir: Dragons Return is the first of Susan Bass Marcus' epic fantasy series, a fresh take on classic themes of family,

courage, and sacrifice that recalls the thrills fans find in the work of Anne McCaffrey or J.R.R. Tolkien.

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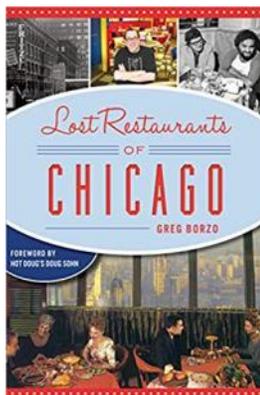
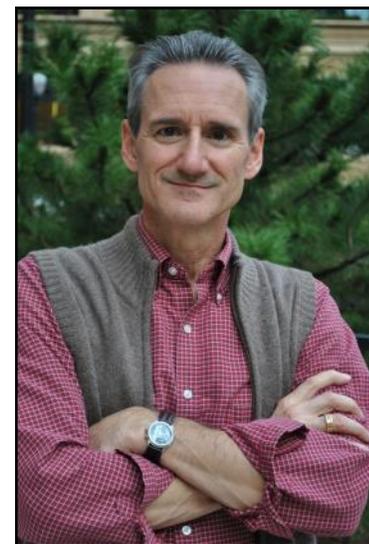
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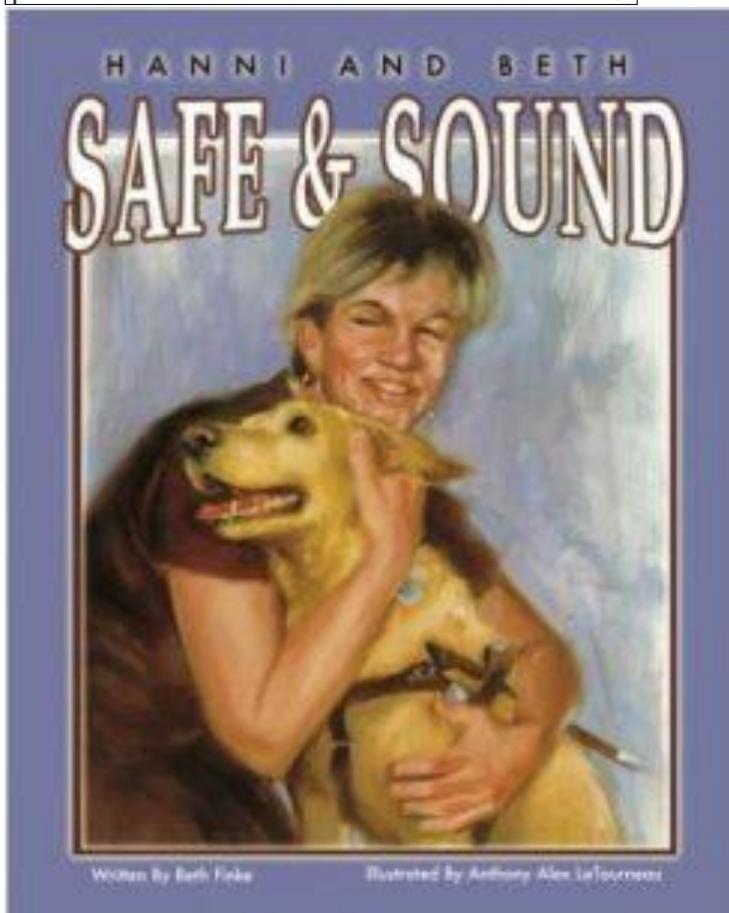
Local author will be interviewed on "Chicago Tonight," WTTW on Dec 27th. 7 to 8pm

Author Greg Borzo will be discussing his new book titled, "Lost Restaurants of Chicago."

Available at Sandmeyer's and Amazon



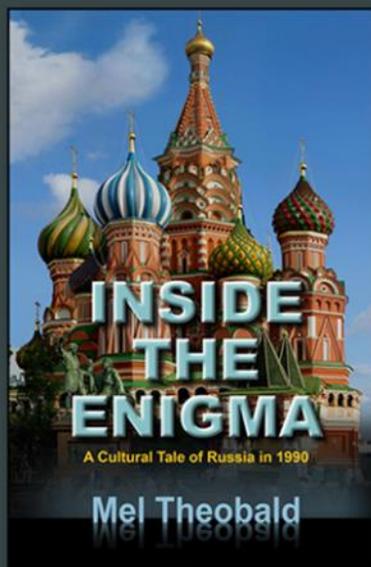
An award-winning writer, Greg Borzo's books include Chicago's Fabulous Fountains, Where to Bike Chicago, Chicago Cable Cars, RAG-BRAI: America's Favorite Bicycle Ride and The Chicago "L." Borzo is an accomplished public speaker and conducts tours for the Chicago History Museum and other organizations. ... [Google Books](#)



Children's Book by Beth Finke. Illustrations by Anthony Letourneau. Available at Sandmeyer's Book Store and Amazon.

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by Mel Theobald



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Safe & Sound Blog

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BAKING BREAD: IT'S THE YEAST I CAN DO

Our son was diagnosed with developmental and physical disabilities when he was just one month old. Gus was immediately scheduled for physical, occupational and speech therapy, and when I confided my concerns about his lack of progress to my sister Cheryl, she introduced me to a friend of hers who had an eight-year-old daughter with severe disabilities. The first thing this woman recommended? "Start going to church." She insisted this wasn't for religious reasons. "You're with Gus every day, it can be hard for you to notice some of the little changes," she said, explaining that people who see her daughter and her in church just once a week notice Susan's progress. "They tell me so, and that can make me feel better."

Worth a try.

I started checking out different churches to see where we might feel most comfortable, and the day I visited a nearby Presbyterian church, the pastor's sermon happened to be a slide show of a construction project the church was sponsoring at a Down's Syndrome institute in the Yucatan Peninsula. Gus and I would fit in well here. I started attending.

A month or two in to our religion experiment, it came time for the church's yearly phonathon. I signed up to help. A fellow volunteer read names and phone numbers onto a tape recorder for me, I made the calls, raised money with the best of them, and we were so busy that none of us ever got around to eating the treats provided. At the end of the night all of us were asked if we'd like to take any treats home. Never shy when it comes to free food, I shouted "Yes!" and brought home a whole loaf of fancy, untouched, homemade bread.

The bread smelled sweet. I have Type 1 diabetes. I was afraid to eat it. Mike wasn't interested in it, either, so I told him to take it with him to work the next morning. "Tell them I made it myself," I instructed. He'd just started a new job, and I wanted to impress his coworkers.

Ah, what a tangled web we weave. The coworkers loved the bread. "Tell her we want more!" One of his new colleagues even asked if she could come over and watch me so she could try making it herself.

Admit my lie, or learn to bake bread? I went with option #2. I called the church secretary to ask if she knew who'd provided the bread the night of the phonathon. "Oh, of course!" she said. "Charlie always bakes bread for the phonathon."

Charlie? She didn't mean Charlie, the Pastor, did she? "Yes," she said. "the pastor."

Lucky for me, Charlie had a sense of humor. I called him, confessed my sin, he laughed and assured me I could bake bread on my own. Bread bakers rely strongly on the



Two loaves of egg braid bread.

sense of touch, he said. Fingers confirm the water is lukewarm, you feel the dough to see if its risen, and you know you're done kneading when the dough is easy to stretch, but not too sticky. "When would be a good time for me to come over and teach you?"

At my first and only lesson with Charlie, we used a recipe for a bread called "egg braid." Charlie guided my hands through the stirring, kneading, baking, and glazing. He even taught me how to separate an egg (crack it in half, keep the yolk in one half of the shell, then just let the white drain into a cup below).

No need to teach me how to braid, though – I wore my hair long back then and had braided it for years. Once we were done assembling the loaves, he reviewed all the steps so I could translate them on tape in my own words.

Ever since the winter Charlie taught me to bake bread, I've baked loaves of homemade egg braid to share with friends and family during the holidays. To my Jewish friends, it's Challah. So here's the transcript of the recipe I recorded on tape back then. You might notice it does not list the ingredients and amounts at the top – Mike recorded it that way because the conventional method requires constant rewinding, difficult to do when your hands are full of bread dough!

(Continued on next page)

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

[It's here! Free audio version of Writing Out Loud now available to people who are blind or visually impaired](#)



Writing Out Loud

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

Beth Finke

(Continued from page 9, Beth Finke)

Egg Braid Bread

Put one-half cup lukewarm water in a large coffee cup. Add one package yeast, stir a bit and let it rise. While you're waiting, get out a large bowl that's safe in the microwave. Put 2 cups milk, 2 Tablespoons sugar, 1 Tablespoon salt and one-half stick butter into that bowl. Place it in a microwave, turn the microwave on for 30 seconds, take the bowl out and blend with a big spoon. Touch the mixture lightly with your fingers, and if it's not lukewarm yet, put it back in. Keep checking every 30 seconds or so, and when the liquid feels lukewarm, take the bowl out and blend three egg yolks and two egg whites into the mixture (save the extra egg white in a small bowl in the refrigerator for glazing later).

In a different bowl, put 4 cups flour, gently push your fist into the middle of the flour to make a well. Put your yeast & water mixture in the well, then add the lukewarm milk mixture. Stir, and once it's blended start kneading it with your hands while it's still in the bowl –this prevents flour from getting all over the kitchen, hard to clean when you can't see!

Once you're done kneading, take the ball of dough out of the bowl, rub that bowl with butter, place the kneaded ball back into the buttered bowl, roll the dough around the bowl so it's slightly buttered, place a dry dishtowel over the ball and set it aside to rise for about two hours. While it's rising, butter two cookie sheets. When the dough is risen, gently deflate it with a fist and then split the ball into six relatively even pieces.

Using both hands, Roll each piece against the counter top into a rope about one foot long. Place three of the ropes side by side on one cookie sheet and braid them. Do the same on the other cookie sheet with the leftover three ropes. Cover each braided loaf with plastic wrap and put them in the refrigerator for anywhere from 2 to 24 hours.

When you're ready to bake the bread, set the oven for 375 °. Take the loaf you want to bake out of the refrigerator. Let it sit for a bit while you make the glaze. Use a fork to stir a Tablespoon or so of water into the cup with the egg white (remember, it's in the refrigerator, too). Use your hands to

lightly brush the glaze over the loaf. Bake it in the oven for 35 minutes, or until it feels set. You can double-check if it's done by thumping the loaf. If you hear a hollow sound, it's done. Remove the bread from the oven, place it on a rack to cool, and then...Eat!

Illustration By Anthony Letourneau from "Hanni & Beth, Safe & Sound." .



Candlelight Christmas Eve

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This is an unusual edition of Newcity. I will explain after a bit of backstory.

At this time of year American culture nar-

rows into a singular focus on the holidays. 'Tis the season when tradition becomes an obsession. When maudlin becomes momentous.

In the media business, where rote is rued, this presents a problem. Most of us cave into holiday-themed issues, full of gift guides and "fresh takes on classic traditions!" all wrapped up in as creative a package as possible. Newcity published such an issue for most of our three-plus decades. Until we just could not do it again.

Whether toys or trinkets, Christmas presents are, in most cases, designed objects. And at their best, presents offer an opportunity to share design at its best, such as when we give a gift that delivers a welcome aesthetic improvement to the world of the recipient.

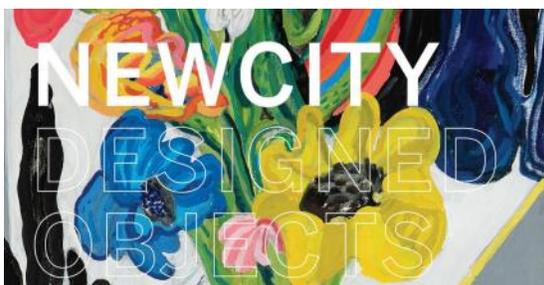
So we decided three years ago to devote our December issue to Designed Objects. Now it's a tradition.

But that's not even what makes this edition unusual. What does is our collaboration with Rick Valicenti and his team at Thirst Studio, wherein we basically turn over the entire feature, from content to design to cover, to his team. This not only outsources the work to an entity of singular expertise, but it shifts the entire POV in a novel direction away from the "usual" Newcity approach. But Thirst took it another step this year, by asking designers they'd featured over the last two years to each choose a different designer to feature and then conduct an interview. This bent the curatorial process even further from the center.

Though I wrote earlier about Christmas presents, few of the objects on these pages fit the bill in a traditional way. The best designers are artists, and the work they're most interested in sharing is sometimes that with the least practical application. But visit their web sites. You might find something more practical. And remember that art, in all its impracticality, is perhaps the finest gift of all.

Brian Hiegelke

<https://newcity.com/2018/11/29/editors-letter-december-2018/>



Designed Objects cover and feature pages design by Anna Mort and Nick Adam/ Cover painting: Michael Jefferson

Designed Objects 2018 (click on links)

[Walking Forward into the Past: A Quest for the Essential](#)

[TJ O'Keefe in conversation with Sung Jang](#)

[Neil Zuleta nominated by Holly Hunt](#)

[Abigail Glaum-Lathbury in conversation with Martin Kastner](#)

[Pete Oyler in conversation with Steven Haulenbeek](#)

[Benjamin Edgar Gott in conversation with Norman Kelley](#)

[Christopher Gentner in conversation with Felicia Ferrone](#)

[Michael Savona in conversation with Tim Parsons and Jessica Charlesworth](#)

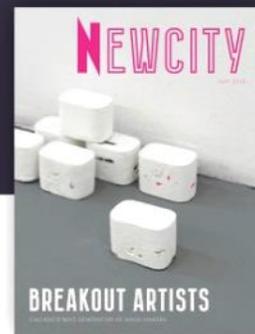
[Luke Wong in conversation with Mark Kinsley and Tamera Leigh Staten](#)

[Jennefer Hoffmann in conversation with Ania Jaworska](#)

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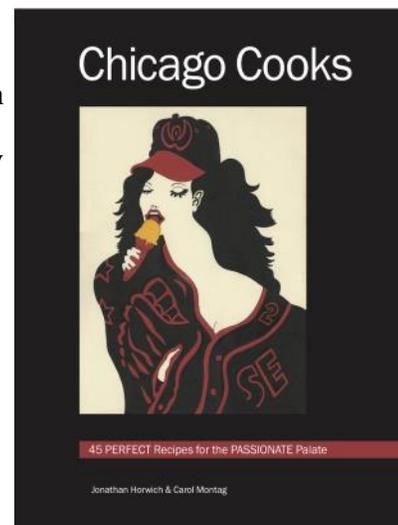
Not every food category is included here, but the ones we have chosen represent a foundation any cook will need to provide for a family or to entertain brilliantly. We hope you will trust us and try these recipes so that you can experience food made with care and passion, food that stimulates your palate, and inspires you to share each recipe with those you love.

The two authors are long-time residents of Chicago.

Returning to Chicago after 40 years in California as a jazz producer and recording engineer, **Jonathan Horwich** has continued pursuing his passion for music and high quality sound. **Carol Montag** grew up in St. Louis, MO and came to Chicago to attend The University of Chicago and never left. She has been an educator for 52 years as a classroom teacher, school administrator, and educational coach.

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Kalin Haydon, American Nest: B I N G O

American Nest: B I N G O is a mixed media installation of photographs, video, and ephemera about the sub culture of the post war Americana leisure game called B I N G O. This exhibition uses B I N G O as a metaphor to examine and explore a meeting place that allows opposing forces such as, technology, age, and spirituality to coexist.

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Friday, December 7, 2018

CPS CEO Com- mits to Strengthening Existing High School Options Instead of New South Loop Neigh- borhood



More news on the future of a neighborhood high school (via [SunTimes](#)):

Chicago Public Schools will come up with another plan to give residents of the Near South Side quality high school options now that National Teachers Academy won't be closed and converted into a high school, CEO Janice Jackson said Wednesday.

"I want to publicly state that we are committed to exploring ways to strengthen the existing high school options in the Near South community and we will be working collaboratively with the residents to do just that," Jackson told the Chicago Board of Education. She did not offer any details.

The words existing high school is likely to rub many South Loop residents the wrong way.

The article goes onto say:

When Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Ald. Pat Dowell had championed the new school, promised to Chinatown residents, they noted how few families in the area considered Phillips High School a viable option for their children, though that's their assigned neighborhood high school. Phillips, home to just about 750 students now, holds CPS' second-lowest rating but has made improvements in the last few years.

Dunbar High School in Bronzeville enrolls just about 300 students in its career and technical programs open citywide. Its building at 3000 S. King Drive could hold several times that number of kids.

We will see.

www.sloopin.com

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<http://dearbornexpress.net/>



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GREG BORZO PHOTOGRAPHS BY JULIA THIEL



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OPINION

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



Retired in Chicago

Having an undecorated Christmas

By **Marianne Goss**, December 18, 2018

December 18, the calendar says. Only a week until Christmas, and I haven't put up any decorations. I may not.

Has a bah-humbug attitude overtaken me?

I don't think so. I've happily gone to the Chicago Greeter and my building's holiday parties. I eagerly read the cards that are arriving and will email holiday notes this week. I think my neighbors Shawna and Joey are awesome for putting up a tall, live tree. The lights on two balconies to the south are welcome sights from my living room. I'm looking forward to going to Zoolights with friends on Thursday.

If I were going to be here for Christmas, not seeing ornaments and lights at home would be depressing. If I'd invited anyone over, I wouldn't want my place to be without seasonal decor.

But on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day I'll be at my parents' house, where I'll help cook two holiday meals. It's there that I did loads of decorating. For many years now, my brother-in-law and I have decorated my parents' home on the day after Thanksgiving while my sisters shop for my parents and themselves. It's all-day decorating: two trees, a creche scene, fireplace mantel decorations, and outdoor lights and bows on bushes. Everything has to be found in the garage and hauled in, and then the empty boxes returned to the garage.

If I'd felt like putting up decorations at home, I would have by now. I'm going to interpret not decorating here as a good sign: Maybe I'm better about not doing what I don't feel like doing, not doing what's expected. With increasing years comes increasing awareness that time is limited and precious and should be spent on want-tos. I'm far from great at avoiding musts, but I'll take this as a sign of progress.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS VIA EMAIL

I don't know what the manners mavens say about them these days, but ecards used to be considered tacky. I admire people who make the effort to send traditional cards through US Mail. But electronic greetings work for me, so I use them, whether or not they're de rigueur.

I send holiday notes from my email address, not an ecard that might go into the junk inbox. The note is dressed up with an image like the happy holidays! greeting (pictured above) being used this year.

Everyone gets a separate email — no group greetings. People I see regularly receive a holiday wish, and faraway people I never see also receive a short update. I think short notes are welcomed; I'm disappointed by cards from distant friends that are only signed, without any update. I want to know whether they're still working, how they're spending their leisure time, where the children I last saw as grade schoolers are now. I understand, however, that writing news by hand in multiple cards is tiresome. E-greetings have the advantage there. Common text can be pasted in, with personalized messages added.

But I don't mean to argue against the old-fashioned way. If you're still sending cards through the post office, more power to you. But if you get an e-greeting from me, please consider it a no less sincere wish for a jolly holiday season.

ANTI-TRUMP QUOTATIONS: 42ND IN AN ONGOING SERIES

"This is the president of the United States calling a witness who has cooperated with his own Justice Department a rat. Say that again to yourself at home and remind yourself where we have ended up."

— James Comey, former FBI director

<http://www.chicagonow.com/retired-in-chicago/2017/08>

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

The Dearborn Express has a new web site:

www.dearbornexpress.net

The purpose of the web site is to house our nearly six years of issues and to provide a way to subscribe. As we continue to develop the site, it will also provide additional content and bios of our contributors. Our email address is

thedearebornexpress@gmail.com

Second anniversary of Newtown tragedy recognized in 'personal reflection'

By [Dylan Stableford](#) December 14, 2014 12:34 PM Yahoo News

Nicole Hockley, whose son, Dylan, was killed in the shootings, wrote an open letter to "[the mom I used to be](#)":

Two years ago, you were happy and whole. You had a plan for life — start a new business, get involved in the school PTA, teach your sons how to ride bicycles and play sports, spend as much time with your friends and parents as possible, watch your children mature, grow old with your husband. You were optimistic — a "glass half full" person who saw the silver lining in every cloud and often felt so much joy you thought you would burst. You always looked forward — never backwards, no regrets. You smiled and laughed a lot. You danced.

You aren't that person anymore.

Two years ago, on December 14, 2012, the world changed and you changed with it. A disturbed young man with access to high-powered firearms went to your sons' school and killed six educators and twenty first-graders. Your eldest son Jake survived, but was changed by the day he discovered some monsters are real. He describes it as the day "when hell came to my school." Your youngest son, Dylan, your beautiful baby boy who you thought of as pure love, with his captivating eyes, infectious giggle and warm deep cuddles, was killed. Shot multiple times, dying instantly in the arms of his special education assistant who also died while trying to protect him.

The tragedy changed every single aspect of your life, not only because of the obvious absence of your child, but because of the constant hole inside you that can never be filled. Your eldest son has been forced to grow up way too fast because of the unfathomable loss of his baby brother. The pain has altered the lines on your husband's face. The way you look at the world has changed. Your interactions with friends and family seem foreign. You've become much harder. No longer brimming with optimism, you are now someone far more realistic and still. And you look back so much more.

This is the fifth year in which the Dearborn Express has run this article in memory of the tragic loss at Sandy Hook.

So far in 2018, 368 people have been killed and 1337 wounded in 337 mass shootings. Updated Dec 19, 2018 <https://www.vox.com/a/mass-shootings-america-sandy-hook-gun-violence>

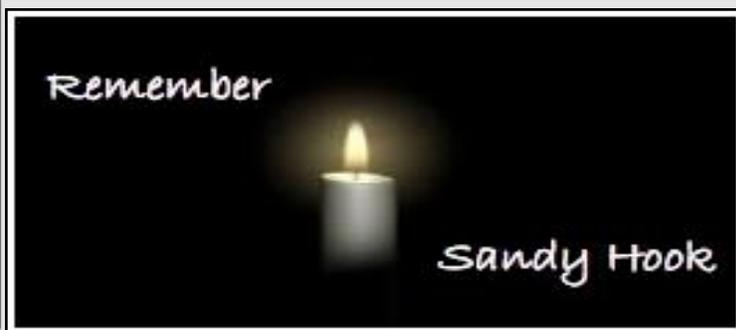
You view life through the prism of "before" and "after." Jake's fifth grade photos came recently. They are still sitting on a table because you haven't put them in the frame that sits next to Dylan's last school photo. It's too hard for you — too soon. Jake is getting older. But Dylan is frozen in time forever. Even after two years, there's this denial that is still very present inside you. You have Dylan's baby teeth and a lock of his hair on your bedside cabinet, beside the urn holding his ashes. That's all you have of your little boy now.

It hurts. It just hurts. You suppress your feelings as much as you can because you fear if you really let it out, you would never recover. If you started truly crying, you would never be able to stop. It would destroy you.

Hockley called on parents to take action to protect children from gun violence.

"For all the Moms and Dads reading this now — this doesn't have to be you," she wrote. "Because every gun-related death is a preventable death. These are not random acts. You can't ever say, 'This will never happen to me.' It can happen to anyone, at any point, at any place. You have to care enough and be insightful enough to do something before it's too late."

<http://news.yahoo.com/newtown-sandy-hook-shooting-2-years-later-173444284.html>



January 8:

FIRST BOOKS: SAMIRA AMED: *LOVE, HATE & OTHER FILTERS*

Tuesday, January 8, 6:30 p.m. In Samira Ahmed's critically-acclaimed YA debut, a Muslim teen copes with Islamophobia, cultural divides among peers and parents, and the perceptions of American identity. *Love, Hate, & Other Filters* was an instant bestseller & an IndieNext "Top Pick."

Readers Hall. General public.

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The venue? Only the oldest and best jazz club in Chicago, [Jazz Showcase](#), located in the historic Dearborn Station. It's right off the Red Line at the Harrison stop, and parking is \$5 after 6pm.

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

7:00-7:30pm - guests arrive

7:30-8:30pm - music (1st set)

8:30pm - brief remarks from Kids In Danger + Jasmine Kwong

9:20pm - raffle drawing

All are welcome: Bring friends + spread the word!

And if you can't make it but would like to make a donation, that would be wonderful too! Please donate at [Kids In Danger](#) and add a memo "in honor of Jasmine Kwong" so we'll know - THANK YOU!

See you there,
 Jasmine Kwong



New railroad and traffic infrastructure improvements planned for South Loop

December 7, 2018

The Canadian National Railway will reconstruct overpasses at Michigan and Wabash Avenues as well as State, Dearborn, and Clark Streets.

By Rick Romano for the Gazette Chicago

Two South Loop transportation infrastructure projects—one to update a longstanding Canadian National rail line, the other to accommodate increased traffic near the Win-trust Arena—will kick off in 2019.

Business and government entities, with input from community organizations, are planning and guiding both projects.

On track for reconstruction

The Canadian National Railway (CN) will complete preliminary utility work and then, in early 2019, will start reconstructing overpasses at Michigan and Wabash Avenues as well as State, Dearborn, and Clark Streets.

Railroad spokesperson Jonathan Abecassis said the bridges in the South Loop that serve freight and passenger trains on the St. Charles Air Line are near the end of their service life. The railroad regularly inspects them to ensure they meet rigorous Federal safety standards.

Abecassis credited **Alderman Pat Dowell** (3rd Ward) for communicating information about the project to South Loop residents and business owners.

Dowell said she held two community meetings about the project, and noted the railroad has been open to community concerns.

"I was surprised to learn that the rail line was over 100 years old," Dowell said. "The investment needs to happen. There will be improvements in the lighting underneath the bridges, and the neighborhood will be more friendly to traffic as well as to pedestrians."

Dowell said that changing the look and feel of the trains as well as the bridges will make the growing South Loop neighborhoods more appealing. In addition to the bridges, she said the railroad will reduce train noise and vibration in densely populated areas by moving an idling station further from residential buildings.

"You have to make sure that this rail line and the residents and businesses in the area can co-exist," she said.

Dowell remains committed to communicating with the community and the railroad about the project's effect on the ward during the construction phase.

"We are working on staging locations, how streets will be closed, and having some of the heavier duty work done at times like weekends and other times that won't affect a lot of the area," Dowell said. "I think it would be a great idea for them [the railroad] to provide a regular update during construction. My office could distribute that."

Dennis McClendon, a longtime member of South Loop Neighbors, said some residents in buildings close to the rail line are not happy with the trains rolling nearby, and he pointed to Canadian National's intention to minimize construction noise and move the idling station as a positive step.

"I was kind of surprised that Canadian National was planning to reconstruct," he said, noting that a community planning document from a decade or so ago said the railroad may cease operations there at some time in the future.

"It wasn't a formal comment or recommendation," McClendon said. "It was a notation."

Ald. Dowell said she has not heard of ending rail service in all the years she has been active in the community.

McClendon also mentioned the advantage of building the new bridges with "generally maintenance-free" Cor-Ten steel, which rusts naturally and does not require painting

Click here for the the complete story: <http://www.gazettechicago.com/index/2018/12/new-railroad-and-traffic-infrastructure-improvements-planned-for-south-loop/>

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Monday, December 17, 2018

Wha?!?!?! Construction on Jane Byrne Interchange - a Major Artery for the City and Sloop - Will Go On For Another 4 Years!

In case you missed this doozy last week...all we gotta say is damn (via [Chicago Tribune](#)):

Drivers, be patient, and find alternate routes if you can. Work on the Jane Byrne Interchange will go on for another four years.

That's the word from the Illinois Department of Transportation, which has been rebuilding what used to be known as the Circle Interchange or, informally, the "spaghetti bowl," since 2014. The finish date for the project had originally been projected at 2019. IDOT now expects it to be complete in 2022.

IDOT engineers warn that the biggest impact to traffic is coming in the summer of 2020, when a major ramp will need to be closed. This is the ramp from the inbound Eisenhower Expressway to the northbound Kennedy Expressway, which sees 26,000 cars a day.

Why is the project taking so long? It involves three different interstates, a constricted urban area, working around the CTA Blue Line, multiple bridges, a city water pumping station and the need to keep traffic flowing in a spot that sees 400,000 vehicles every day, said Steve Travia, engineer for project implementation at IDOT.

<http://www.sloopin.com/>



Windows going in at the single family home at Polk and Dearborn.

Photo Dec 14, 2018

Still looking for those hard-to-buy for friends and family? Here are some local businesses that offer gift cards.

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9. HAX www.eathax.com
10. Half Sour Restaurant and Bar www.HalfSourChicago.com
11. Flacos Tacos www.FlacosTacosonline.com
12. Chicago Bicycle Company www.ChicagoBicycleCompany.com
13. SRB Dental www.SrbDental.com



Photos



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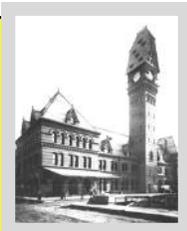
[Tom Bezanes](#)

Real Estate Broker
[\(312\) 622-2850](tel:3126222850)
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COMPASS

Dearborn Express
Next issue:
Jan 15

<http://dearbornexpress.net/>



PARKING FOR SALE

801 S. Plymouth Ct P#223/P#222 - Tandem Parking Space
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Offered For Sale, Huge Front-to-Back Tandem parking space.
Easily accommodates two full-size vehicles. Conveniently located
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801 S. Plymouth Ct P#329 – Printers Row parking
space at The Terraces Condominium for Sale - \$39,950
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el, includes Video Security and free car wash bay. Cur-
rently rented at \$250/per month. Current tenant will-
ing to stay for investor owner. Call or text Georgeanne
at 312.231.6145

Next CAPS Meeting Jan 9, 2019

6:30PM at 525 S. State St.

(Every 2nd Wednesday)

Police Blotter



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

Beat 123

Mon, 03 Dec 2018 21:28 0 W Roosevelt Rd AG-
GRAVATED BATTERY, DANGEROUS WEAPON Sidewalk

Mon, 10 Dec 2018 11:15 1100 S State St -
THEFT \$500 and under CTA Train

Sun, 02 Dec 2018 17:00 800 S Plymouth Ct
THEFT \$500 and under Residential Garage

Mon, 03 Dec 2018 12:35 800 S Plymouth Ct
STRONGARM ROBBERY - NO WEAPON Park Property

Fri, 30 Nov 2018 13:30 0 W Harrison St
STRONGARM ROBBERY - NO WEAPON Sidewalk

Mon, 03 Dec 2018 16:40 800 S Wabash Av-
THEFT FROM RESTAURANT

Sat, 08 Dec 2018 18:13 100 W Roosevelt Rd
STRONGARM ROBBERY - NO WEAPON Target

Tue, 04 Dec 2018 10:30 800 S State St -
THEFT OVER \$500 Athletic Club

Mon, 10 Dec 2018 15:05 0 E Harrison St
STRONGARM ROBBERY - NO WEAPON Alley

Thu, 06 Dec 2018 22:30 100 W Harrison St
AGGRAVATED BATTERY: DANGEROUS WEAPON Sidewalk

Sun, 02 Dec 2018 18:50 0 E Roosevelt Rd
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT : HANDGUN Walgreens

Sun, 09 Dec 2018 17:30 800 S State St
BURGLARY FORCIBLE ENTRY Athletic Club

Beat 131

Sat, 01 Dec 2018 11:20 0 E CERMAK RD
ROBBERY HANDGUN CTA Train

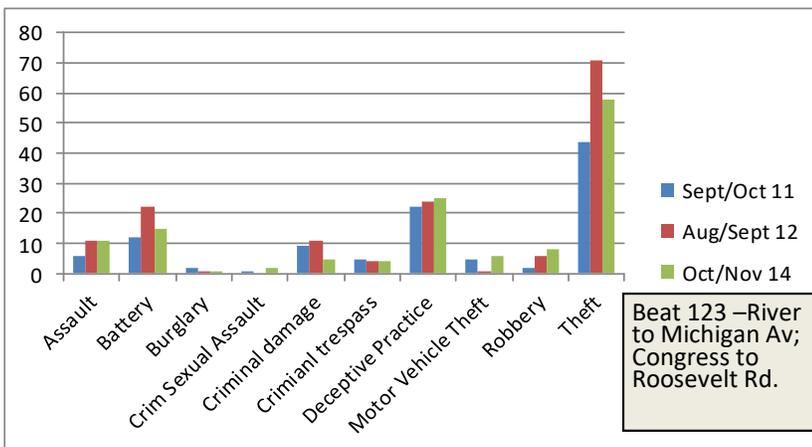
Beat 132

Mon, 03 Dec 2018 15:50 200 E 15th Pl
AGGRAVATED BATTERY HANDGUN Sidewalk

We focus on crime that is violent or may affect your physical safety. If you look at the graph on top of the next column, you will see that the highest incidence of crime is theft, usually on the street or in restaurants (like cell phones stolen from tables). The crime shown on this page is based on Beat 123 131 and 132.

Beat 123 Meeting will be held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. The Meetings are held at University Center 525 S State.

Next Meeting, Weds Jan 9, 2019



A Rogers Park man has surrendered to police after investigators asked him to come in for questioning about his possible connection to a robbery that occurred near Grant Park on Nov. 25th.



Police said the robbery victim identified Charles Jordan III, 49, as the man who struck him repeatedly and broke his left hand during the robbery in the 1100 block of South Michigan Ave. The victim, 33, told police he lost between \$1,000 and \$2,000 in the mugging.

Jordan is charged with felony robbery. Judge John Lyke set his bail at \$10,000.

<http://www.cwbchicago.com/>

@ChicagoCAPS01

Dec 13

A Robbery occurred on Beat 123 Tuesday evening wherein a Victim was thrown to the ground by 4 Offenders. They forcibly removed the Victim's property and fled. The Police quickly responded and all 4 were arrested. Felony Charges were approved for Armed Robbery. Great Job Officers!

Next Editions:
Dearborn Express
Jan 15, 2019
Feb 15, 2019



Real Estate Transactions

\$196,000
720 S DEARBORN ST 205
11/13/18

\$340,000
161 W HARRISON ST 602
11/13/18

\$545,000
801 S PLYMOUTH CT F
11/9/18

\$223,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 609
11/8/18

\$247,500
1255 S STATE ST 1607
11/8/18

\$570,000
1201 S PRAIRIE AVE 2806
11/7/18

\$330,000
124 S POLK ST 202
11/7/18

\$515,000
1160 S MICHIGAN AVE 2405
10/31/18

\$409,000
1115 S PLYMOUTH CT 114
10/30/18

\$187,000
633 S PLYMOUTH CT 603
10/30/18

\$390,000
547 S CLARK ST 401
10/28/18

\$307,500
910 S Michigan Av 1208
11/27/18

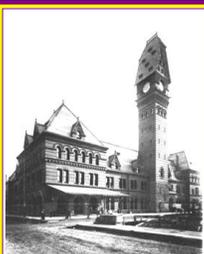
Next Editions,

Jan. 15th

Feb 15th

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2 bed, 2 bath, +
Terrace,
1430 Sq Ft
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732 S Financial Pl #213
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821 Sq Ft
\$215,000

Jessica Reddick
Redfin Corp
312.836.4263



633 S Plymouth Ct #206
1 bed, 1 bath
\$183,500

Stephanie Biederman •
Berkshire Hathaway Home-
Services KoenigRubloff
773.263.0996



1111 S State St #A602
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Berkshire Hathaway Home-
Services KoenigRubloff

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