

### THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

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#### Dearbornexpress.net

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

#### <u>Crain's Checks In on the Health</u> of Columbia College

If your a perceptive Sloop resident you will notice that Columbia College has an extensive physical presence in our neighborhood. Beyond the physical presence the College brings a youthful, eclectic vibe as well.

Some complain about noise or the influx of pizza joints catering to this crowd, but it's undoubted that it provides a unique elements to the Sloop. For instance, Columbia College created the <u>Wabash Arts Corridor which is by far one of</u> <u>the most interesting</u>, new elements within the neighborhood.

Anyway, it's good to keep tabs on how Columbia is doing and we recently stumbled upon a Crain's article getting at this issue. It's been a rough decade for Columbia (and other colleges), but it appears that they're confident with their newish strategy:

Columbia College Chicago, which counts "Saturday Night Live" star Aidy Bryant, Oscar-winning cinematographer Mauro Fiore and Chicago Children's Museum CEO Jennifer Farrington among its graduates, is struggling after a decadelong decline in student enrollment.

The South Loop arts and media college will report a \$3.7 million annual operating budget deficit next month—the first in recent history for the 129-year-old school. It would have been worse without a faculty buyout program and staff cuts last spring.

Columbia's enrollment peaked at 12,000-plus students in 2008 and has been sliding ever since, pulling down tuition revenue. It's shrinking partly by design after the private school ended its practice of accepting all applicants, but it also stumbled in adapting to more competition in higher education. President Kwang-Wu Kim is plugging Columbia's unique arts niche and revamping its curriculum in hopes of an enrollment revival this fall as the school opens a new \$55 million student center. CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

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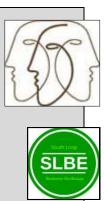
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### COMING TO THE JAZZ SHOWCASE

Sat, Jul 20, 8pm & 10pm Quintet
Sun, Jul 21, 4pm, 8 pm & 10pmTrumpeter Wallace Roney Quintet
Mon, Jul 22, 7:30 pm Project
Tues, Jul 23, 8pm & 10pm WDCB 90.0 Presents: Redd Holt Trio
Wed, Jul 24, 8pm & 10pmSax Isaish Collier & the Chosen Few:Fellowship Jam Sessions
Thurs-Sat, Jul 25-27, 8pm & 10pm <u>Jazz Organist Pat Bianchi Quartet w/ Joe Locke-vibes,</u>
Paul Bollenback-guitar, Byron Lanham-drums
Sun, Jul 28, 4pm, 8 pm & 10pmJazz Organist Pat Bianchi Quartet w/ Joe Locke-vibes,
Paul Bollenback-guitar, Byron Lanham-drums
Mon, Jul 29, 8pm & 10pmGuitarist Luciano Antonio & Saxophonist Greg Fishman Duo
Wed, Jul 31, 8pm until <u>Sax Isaish Collier &amp; The Chosen Few:</u> Fellowship Jam Sessions
Thurs-Sat, Aug 1-3, 8pm & 10pmSax Pat Mallinger Quintet 'August is Charlie Parker Month'
Sun, Aug 4, 4pm, 8 pm & 10pmSax Pat Mallinger Quintet <u>'August is</u> Charlie Parker Month'
Tues, Aug 6, 8pm & 10pmBig Band
Wed, Aug 7, 8pm & 10pm Quartet
Thurs-Sat, Aug 8-10, 8pm & 10pmAlto Saxophonist Sharel Cassity Legacy w/ Richard
Johnson-piano, Alex Claffy-bass & Charles Health-drums 'August is Charlie Parker Month'
Sun, Aug 11, 4pm, 8 pm & 10pm Alto Saxophonist Sharel Cassity Legacy w/Richard
Johnson-piano, Alex Claffy-bass & Charles Health-drums 'August is Charlie Parker Month'
Mon, Aug 12, 8pm & 10pmEuropean Guitarist Greg Lamy Trio
Tues, Aug 13, 8pm & 10pmPianist Bethany Pickens Trio
Wed, Aug 14, 8pm & 10pmFlugelhornist Steve Schneck Quartet w/ Peter Saxe-piano,
Scott Mason-bass & Greg Artry-drums
Thurs-Sat, Aug 15-17, 8pm & 10pmTrombonist/Shellist Steve Turre Quintet
Sun, Aug 18, 4pm, 8 pm & 10pmTrombonist/Shellist Steve Turre Quintet
Mon, Aug 19, 8pm & 10pmSaxophonist Brian Gephart Quatet w/ Karl Montzka-
piano, Kelly Sill-bass, Eric Montzka-drums, Brian Gephart-saxes
Tues Aug 20, 8pm & 10pm WDCB 90, 9FM TBA ERFE CONCERT

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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:

 $\Box$  Ensuring high-quality, reasonably-sized real estate development as well as infrastructure improvements that respect the unique character of our community

 $\Box$  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

Jim Wales- President Benjamin Cottrell- Vice Pres. Dorothy Miaso- Treasurer Rob Degnan- Secretary Dennis McClendon- Director of Planning and Development Roger Marsh- director Christine Hunt- director Sat, Jul 20 | Dearborn Park

#### **Grills Night Out**

#### Time & Location

Jul 20, 7:00 PM

Dearborn Park, Dearborn Park, Chicago, IL 60605, USA

#### About the Event

Bring your own meat (or veggies) and join your neighbors for a midsummer's night of good food and good times. South Loop Neighbors will provide the grills, drinks, chips, and dessert.

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

#### Even Kamala Harris' father hates her pandering behavior

So there she was on the radio a while back, on <u>The Breakfast</u> <u>Club</u>, and one of the hosts asked Senator Kamala Harris, candidate for president, if she smoked pot.

She giggled. And giggled. And giggled some more. All the giggling got under my skin. As did the phony accent she drifted in and out of during the interview to make herself more "black" for the listeners.

Yes, <u>she smoked pot</u>, she said. Coyly. And she made a point of saying *she* inhaled.

A long time ago.

She said pot brings people joy. And she remembered how it felt to get high.

She also jokingly referred to her roots. "Half my family's from Jamaica; are you kidding me?"

Her father, Donald Harris didn't like what she said. Mr. Harris is a professor emeritus of economics at Stanford,

where he began in 1972. And <u>before that</u>, he was a professor at the University of Illinois, Northwestern University and the University of Wisconsin--and is <u>known as an expert in applying post-</u><u>Keynesian principles</u>. He was born and raised in Jamaica. (He admits being descended from slave-owners.) And he has consulted with the Jamaican government as an economist during the terms of two prime ministers.

Kamala Harris' Jamaican economist father and Indian mother, a highly regarded medical scientist who <u>passed away in 2009</u>, met when both immigrated to the US in the early 1960s to get advanced degrees at the University of California, Berkeley. Kamala Harris has a sister, <u>Maya</u>, who is a political analyst at MSNBC and a former Hillary Clinton policy advisor, among other things.

When Mr. Harris heard what his daughter said on the radio program, he took umbrage. Or as the Daily Mail put it, <u>he slammed</u> <u>her</u>. He was very upset and made this statement via <u>Jamaica</u> <u>Global Online</u>:

"My dear departed grandmothers (whose extraordinary legacy I <u>described in a recent essay on this website</u>), as well as my deceased parents, must be turning in their grave right now to see their family's name, reputation and proud Jamaican identity being connected, in any way, jokingly or not with the fraudulent stereotype of a pot-smoking joy seeker and in the pursuit of identity politics. Speaking for myself and my immediate Jamaican family, we wish to categorically dissociate ourselves from this travesty."

Sounds like he didn't like his daughter's pandering very much. In fact, it sounds like he doesn't like *her* very much.

She was also asked by "<u>Charlemagne tha God</u>," one of the hosts on the program, who she listened to when she smoked the pot.

Tupac and Snoop Dogg, she said.

Later, someone did the math and pointed out that Tupac and Snoop Dog albums came out <u>when Kamala was already a prose-</u> <u>cutor</u> in San Francisco. She became deputy district attorney in 1990. The albums came out later in the 1990s.

<u>Her campaign says she misunderstood the question</u>. You know, just like <u>she was saying she misunderstood the question</u> <u>on debate night</u> and mistakenly raised her hand in favor of taking away private health insurance. Which <u>she'd already</u> <u>said she was for doing months before the debate</u>.

#### It's all very dizzying!

And I thought, Holy Hell. And others figured it out, too. She apparently bought the pot she smoked--or someone she knew did (where else could you get it back then?) while she was putting a ton of young black men in prison for selling it. Maybe even for life under the <u>Three Strikes law</u> that started in 1994-and was in effect during much of her career as a prosecutor. It got squelched in 2012, a year into her tenure as attorney general.

I saw a pattern the other night when she suddenly stole the show by laying into Vice President Joe Biden for being anti-busing decades ago--while she was a little girl being bused to a really good school in town. It's a pattern of fudging and pandering. In an era of scripting phony messages and money-raising tactics that make fools of us all, she's quite the expert.

<u>Kamala's dig</u> at Biden turned into a picture of her as a little girl on a t-shirt the next morning, being sold by her campaign to those who also bought her performance at Biden's expense. She proved her lack of spontaneity and genuineness with that one.

Both black and white children were bused back then--riding in both directions in Berkeley. But <u>Segregation in the schools was</u> <u>worse</u> in Berkeley in 2010 than it was when Kamala Harris starting riding the bus as a little girl 40 years before. And <u>Biden</u> <u>was 100 percent correct when he pointed out no one ever liked</u> <u>court-ordered busing</u>, not the parents or the kids, or anyone--and that it was an utter failure.

Her pattern has led to her insulting her father. And it led to her insulting Barack Obama's vice-president. And it led to the fact that she betrayed the people of San Francisco: they trusted she wouldn't be a criminal while prosecuting criminals.

And when I heard from a good source that she was out currying the moneyed money-raiser corporate donors for her current presidential run within days, or even hours after Hillary Clinton lost--and Harris herself won her first term in the senate--she insulted *me*.

Anyone <u>out to replace</u> the current president in this economy and on the heels of his administration's <u>revolutionary criminal jus-</u> <u>tice reform act</u>, among other things, better dump the cheap shots, the phony self-righteousness (not to mention the accent) and the heavy duty insult behavior. And be real. Not to mention, stop <u>calling ICE the Ku Klux Klan</u>.

We've got plenty of that craziness coming out of the White House already. We don't need another round of the same thing.

Without good judgment, human kindness, clear forthrightness, abject honesty and emotional intelligence, Kamala Harris, we have no need for *you*.



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



# **OPINION**

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#### Mondays with Mike:

by <u>mknezo2014</u> | July 1, 2019

#### RATIONAL, HUMANE IMMIGRA-TION POLICY IS WITHIN REACH

Some Sunday reading brought me back to last week's topic of immigration.

This Sun-Times piece, <u>about White Sox pitcher Lucas</u> <u>Giolito</u> being outspoken about his opinions, illustrated how his personal experience shaped his views on immigration, legal and illegal.

Giolito grew up in affluence—<u>his mother</u> a successful actress and his father an executive at a big video game company. He grew up under the care of his parents and a nanny named Berta. Berta crossed the border to Texas illegally from Mexico, and found her way to Southern California, where she landed with the Giolito family. From the article:

"There were reasons she basically had to escape El Salvador," Giolito said. "She basically was on foot all the way up through Central America and across Mexico. Her story is unbelievable. She had to go through hell to get over here and make a better life.

"Sometimes when I see the stuff about 'illegal immigrants are bad,' da-da-da — especially with the current [presidential] regime — I just shake my head at it because you don't know what these people go through. My family was lucky enough to find her. She was lucky enough to find my family. She lived in our home and had a huge part in raising me from when I was a tiny baby until probably 12 or 13."

Berta eventually became a citizen.

Now, I know that some would say that's heartwarming and all, but illegal is illegal. And we have to enforce immigration laws and manage illegal immigration.

#### And I agree.

But what we're doing is, without question, unnecessarily cruel and not even effective. So, leaving the personal realm, let's move to the cold hard policy realm, which Steve Chapman of the Chicago Tribune covered in another Sunday article. Chapman points out that when Democratic Presidential candidate Julian Castro proposed decriminalizing illegal border crossings during Wednesday night's debate, he was accused of advocating for open borders. Upon closer examination, Castro is doing nothing of the kind. Chapman writes:

When Julián Castro advocated repealing the law making it a crime to cross the border without permission, he confirmed that in today's political environment, there is no safe harbor for common sense. Republicans gleefully accused him of favoring "open borders," as though he were going to eliminate all checkpoints and border agents.

Here's the deal: Making it a criminal offense allows authorities to separate children from their parents.

"If it were a civil offense," Chapman explains, "migrants would not be jailed, only fined and deported — removing the pretext for tearing kids away."

So, we'd still have the same system that apprehends illegals, but we wouldn't have to house them for long periods of time, we wouldn't cruelly separate children from their parents...hmm, seems like a decent enough idea.

As Chapman points out, in addition to being unnecessarily cruel, the current policy isn't working.

Castro's critics believe criminal penalties serve as a vital deterrent to lawbreaking. To which Ur Jaddou, director of DHS Watch at America's Voice, a pro-immigration group, replies: "Has it been working?" The answer: no. This administration, she told me, "inherited the lowest number of border apprehensions in 46 years, and all we have seen since is a massive increase."

Toughness is a failure. A 50% rise in prosecutions over the past five years has not dissuaded Central Americans from coming. The number of southwest border apprehensions has tripled since Donald Trump became president.

Central Americans who flee face an arduous journey of 1,500 miles or more. They often pay criminal smugglers thousands of dollars to help. If the expense and the prospect of robbery, rape and murder on the way don't stop these migrants, the chance of being arrested here certainly won't.

I hope you'll <u>read the entire piece</u>. (BTW, Chapman is hardly a bleeding heart.)

Like him, I don't know how anyone formulates or abides by the current policy. It's hard to describe how it makes me feel that it's being done with my tax dollars in my nation's name.

Actually, come to think of it, it's easy.

Ashamed is how I feel.

<u>Leave a Response</u>



#### Monday, July 8, 2019 <u>Excavator Means Roots Pizzeria Ready to</u> <u>Breakground?</u>

Some construction movement at (what we think will be) the new Roots Pizzeria at northwest corner of Dearborn and Polk. An excavator is at the site:

As a reminder, there has been a lot of questions whether or not this was moving forward. Last we heard - in June - all signs pointed to yes!

Hopefully they don't hit any more snags and get this one going.



#### http://www.sloopin.com/



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# **Book Review**

#### The Most Respected Woman in America: Becoming by Michelle Obama (Crown 2018)

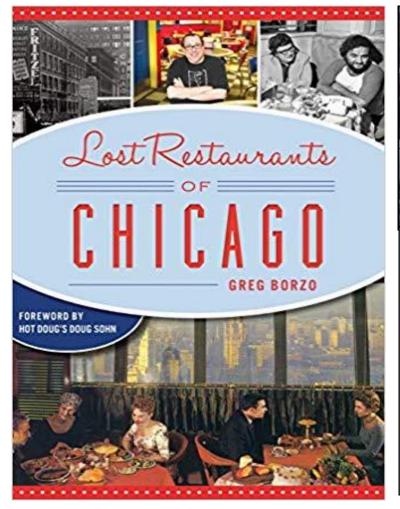
There is no better read around Independence Day than Becoming. The former first lady's memoir/history/ marriage-and-mothering manual is prolix but provocative. It may be prosaic (though a source of pride) for those readers who count themselves among our country's minorities, especially African-Americans. But it is eye-opening for those seventy percent who consider themselves white. It is the surprising story of a little black girl who grew up in the predominantly black South Shore, "a starting-to-fail neighborhood," in Chicago: and lived there for most of her life, even after she married the man who would become America's first black president. She and her brother, her stay-at-home mom and her blue-collar dad, who worked at the city filtration plant until MS felled him in his mid-fifties, rented a four -room, upstairs apartment from the crabby auntie who taught piano to all the neighborhood kids, whose husband mowed the lawn in a white shirt and wing-tips. Michelle didn't hang at Wrigley Field or Montrose Beach. She stayed and played on the South Side with her multitude of cousins (who asked her why she "talked white") and her quirky grandpa who trusted no one. Becoming offers an intimate look at the American presidency, where the world "brims with chaos," and where "disasters unfurl without notice;" at the difficulties of remaining one's self and raising children in an international fishbowl guarded by the Secret Service; and at the things Michelle did for love (of country and spouse)--- supporting her husband's ambition and unbridled hope in ways that took him from her and their kids. But it is

unapologetically about Race. Michelle became an "angry black woman" when she said she had never felt prouder of her country than when her husband was elected; she "obviously benefitted from affirmative action," although she got straight A's at Whitney Young, got accepted at Princeton and graduated from Harvard Law School. She confesses less connection with "John Quincy Adams" than with "Sojourner Truth." She "was humbled and excited to be first lady," but didn't presume she'd "be sliding into some glamorous, easy role. Nobody who has the words "first" and "black" attached to them ever would." She recognized a history of sacrifice so that she could live in "a [white] house built by slaves," whose only black residents before and since the Obamas were servants, both enslaved and free. She bemoaned her "birds eye view of our country's leaders, an ocean of whiteness and maleness," where the absence of diversity "was embarrassing." She observed the same at the inauguration of her husband's successor. But Michelle remains optimistic: "Becoming isn't about arriving... or achieving... I see it instead as forward motion, a means of evolving... to reach continuously toward a better" end. Let's hope.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park, July, 2019







Susan Bass Marcus writes and illustrates fiction, essays, and reviews. Her Dragonwolder fantasy novels, Malevir: Dragons Return and Where Dragons Follow, offer a world of dragon clans, an enigmatic menace the Malevir, sprites, goblins, questing humans, and magical giants. Her musings appear weekly on her blog, "About Susan Marcus," <u>https://susanbassmarcus.net.</u> Both paperbacks are available at Sandmeyer's Bookstore.

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### Writing Out Loud

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

### **Beth Finke**



#### <u>Little Squirrels</u> <u>Storytime</u>

Every Saturday, AWM welcomes preschool-age children in its Children's Literature Gallery. Read books, play with other children, and hear

a story from the museum's dedicated volunteers.

Every Saturday at 10:30am July 20 July 27

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

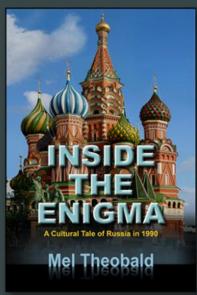
https://americanwritersmuseum.org/



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#### by Mel Theobald

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> Gerald de Jaager Author of The Million-Dollar Parrot and three other books

### Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke



#### http://Bethfinke.com/blog

### GET YOUR MEMOIR OFF THE GROUND AT NORTHWESTERN THIS SUMMER

As writers in <u>the memoir classes I lead</u> master the art of writing about their lives, they find themselves with a new challenge: assembling finished stories into book form.

Many of my students have met that challenge. Some collected their essays into self-published books for their families, a few worked with an online company called blurb.com to assemble their essays and photos into a hard-cover book, and one couple in class is combining the essays they've written for class with scrapbooks they've assembled in their 50+ years of marriage.,

And then there's this: one of my writers, Anna Perlberg, had her memoir, *The House in Prague*published in 2016 by <u>Golden Alley Press</u>, an independent publisher in Pennsylvania. Now <u>Regan Burke</u>, a writer in another class of mine who many of you know from her guest posts here on our Safe & Sound blog, has arranged her work into book form, too. Her forthcoming memoir, *How I Want to Be in That Number*, will be published early next year by <u>Tortoise Books</u>, an independent publisher here in Chicago.

I am busy now combining all I've learned from the successes of writers in my classes with my own experience in memoir writing to put together a memoir workshop for <u>The Northwestern University Summer</u> <u>Writers' Conference</u> this year on the university's Chicago campus.

In its 15th year now, the Summer Writers' Conference is a three-day extravaganza of workshops, panels, keynote speakers, networking events, and literary readings. One very cool thing about the Northwestern Summer Writers' Conference is the personal attention writers get there: as long as six people register for a workshop by the time registration closes on August 11, 2019, it's a go, and each workshop is limited to 18 participants. "Learn how to escalate your plot, write a gut wrenching story, motivate your characters, and turn your nonfiction into narrative," the web site says. "Hear keynote presentations from award-winning authors, including Rebecca Makkai (The Great Believers) and get advice from publishers, agents, literary editors, critics, and published authors in all genres." The conference starts August 15, 2019 and runs until August 17, 2019. My 90-minute workshop, called *Getting Your Memoir off the Ground* meets from 2:00 p.m. To 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 17, 2019, and the web site describes it like this:



### **Getting Your Memoir Off the Ground** with Beth Finke

Attendees of this 90-minute workshop will take away something useful to help them start, continue, and finish their memoir project. We'll talk about the benefits of getting personal stories down on paper, do a short in -class assignment, and discuss techniques to get past whatever it is that is stopping us from getting our work done-from finding time to write to facing issues that come with writing about people we love...and those we don't! The overall emphasis will be on craft and on overcoming the barriers that keep us from writing and assembling our stories. The session will end with a Q&A session focusing on what to do when we feel ready to publish-everything from agents to marketing and the merits of self-publishing vs. finding a traditional publisher.

You can <u>learn more about tuition cost and registration</u> <u>here</u>, and good news: if you register before July 12, 2019 you'll get the early bird rates!

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



#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I thought for once Bonnie (McGrath) had written very nice article without nasty criticism until I came to the end where she put down Rashida Tlaib. Why ruin an uplifting ending. Well, at least it wasn't another Rahm put down.

On another note, I share Mike's frustration. Using taxis more because they know where they are going.

Fran Dennis Dearborn Park I SX Sky Bar, the new South Loop restaurant and lounge along Chicago's Cultural Mile. invites visitors and guests to experience its craft cocktails, shareable fare, and whimsical space. While taking in sweeping views of Grant Park and Lake Michigan from retractable glass windows, guests can enjoy an assortment of sushi and small plates with Californian and Asian flavors, such as Pork Belly Lettuce Wraps with crispy pork belly, house kimchi, Bibb lettuce, and fermented pepper aioli and the Hamachi Sashimi with Dried miso, scallion, and horseradish. Summer sippers include the refreshing Femme Fatale with Beef-



eater Pink, Lillet Rosé, St-Germain, lemon, and seltzer or the sweet and spicy Big Heat made with Casamigos Blanco, passion fruit purée, lime, and firewater bitters.

Happy hour at SX Sky Bar takes place Monday-Friday, 4-7 p.m., offering discounted glasses of wine and dishes like Spicy Tuna Bites, Baja Fish Tacos, and \$2 oysters. Happy hour lasts all day (4 p.m.-midnight) on Tuesdays with new menu items, such as an \$8 rotating cocktail and chef's special. To learn more or make a reservation, visit <u>sxskybar.com</u> or follow on Instagram at @sxskybar.



Todd Probasco and Kay Wong from Lakeside Bank hosting a client appreciation night at the White Sox game. Todd is also President of South Loop Business Exchange.







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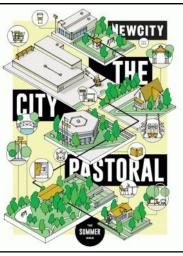
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#### Editor's Letter: July 2019 June 21, 2019 by Jan Hieggelke

As an editor and publisher, I spend a lot of time listening, reading and watching—to plays, films, speeches and interviews of all sorts of creative people. And sometimes there is a magical serendipity when you receive a message that resonates over and over across time and art forms.



This week, the message was about empathy, about recognizing the value of each and every person as an individual, rather than forming opinions based on preconceived notions or cultural stereotypes. And about the power of story to share that empathy and to ensure that people are not forgotten. On Monday, we attend Steppenwolf's new play, "Ms. Blakk for President." It's a true-life tale of a drag queen from Chicago, who, after running for mayor of Chicago, decides, in 1992, to run for president on the Queer Nation ticket as inyour-face activism. During the performance, Terence Smith, the real-life Ms. Blakk, talks about the power of being remembered, and knowing that his life mattered and in hopes that others like him who had been "forgotten" might also now be remembered.

On Thursday, Alex Kotlowitz, author of "There Are No Children Here" and "An American Summer" is honored at the Harold Washington Literary Award and talks about how listening to people and their stories makes us understand and relate on a human level. He talks about encountering a man in a wheelchair at the hospital who has been shot in a robbery while at work. Because of what happened, people leap to the assumption that he must be a "bad" guy. As he was about to be wheeled away, he asked Alex, "Don't forget about me." He wanted his story told, to be remembered. On Friday, at the press opening of his show at the MCA, Virgil Abloh talks about his early life as a black kid in Rockford and his own preconceived notions that architects and fashion designers did not look like him. But then he graduates from architecture school and rapidly rises as a fashion designer from his own brand into the helm of the storied French luxury brand Louis Vuitton, where he is now artistic director of their men's wear collection. Abloh's story would never have been told if he'd let those preconceived notions hold him back.

In the interview that Sadaf Ferdowsi has with Sasha Hemon in this issue, he talks about his parents' migration from Bosnia. "Even before this Ellis Island mythology, refugees and even immigrants in general have been represented as this faceless, zombie-like mass with no lives, no individuality, no complexity; they are just driven by a hunger to 'get what we have.' But this is not really the case: Everyone is a person and everyone has a story."

We're living in times where empathy is given little or no value, at least by our national government. And it's in these times that storytelling that recognizes the humanity of every single person around us is more important than ever. *Jan Hieggelke* 

#### In this issue, SUMMER 2019 The City Pastoral:

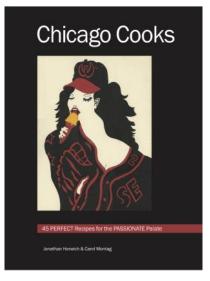
A Myco-Adventure Communing in Chicago's Japanese Garden Falcons, Coyotes, and How to Re-Wild Downtown Chicago Have You Seen A Kirtland's Warbler? How to Meditate in Public Painting Outdoors. Like It's 1899 Repairing the World Saved by the Cottonwood Spokesman for Outdoor Enjoyment Summer is a Johnnie's Italian Beef Sandwich Take Me to the River Town Ten Songs for Summer The Floater The Summer Parade Begins Update From the River

<u>"East Garfield Park Bull Thistle (after Hugh MacDiarmid)"</u> by Roger Bonair-Agard <u>"The Bra I Saw on Michigan Ave"</u> by Jennifer Karmin <u>"Chicago is not a good place to fall into the river"</u> by Marcy Rae Henry <u>"Chicago Wilderness"</u> by Robbie Q. Telfer <u>"From Our Porch I Gaze at Our Lush Garden"</u> by Jacob Victorine <u>"Looking at a Tulip with Lydie"</u> by Chris Green

# NEWCITY <u>newcity.com</u>

In Chicago Cooks: 45 Perfect Recipes for the Passionate Palate, the basics are covered for any kind of meal.

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 pal-



ate, 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.

https://www.chicagocooks.net/ Available at Sandmeyer's and Amazon.

### We are seeking tutors for our fall semester tutoring sessions.

Every Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. students in grades 2-8 are offered help with homework and development of reading skills in a structured, fun atmosphere. For those who would like to volunteer and for more information, please contact the church office at 312.225.4951 or email secondchurch1936@comcast.net.

#### Who: Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago

#### What: Seeking tutors

Where: 1936 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616

When: Wednesdays starting September 11 -December 18, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Why: Part of our continual effort to connect with our community

The South Loop Village will host a monthly Memory Café on the second Thursday of each month, 2:30—4:30 p.m. at **Second Presbyterian Church,** 1936 S. Michigan Avenue. The first South Loop Memory Café will be held on August 8.The theme will be "Experience India."The South Loop Memory Café is a monthly social gathering for persons living with dementia and their care partners.This event is free, you may register at <u>southloopvillage@gmail.com</u> or call (312) 225-4406.All are welcome.

### Harbor restaurant aims for a fall opening in South Loop

#### By <u>Phil Vettel</u>

| Chicago Tribune |

Jul 12, 2019

Four restaurant veterans with a passion for sailing plan to open Harbor (1312 S. Wabash Ave.) this fall in the South Loop.

Chef/partner Anthony Bernal (formerly of Mastro's Steakhouse) will oversee an American menu that "pays homage to the Great Lakes and local rivers," but will



Partners Joe Taylor, from left, Chris Parth and Adam Ellis in front of the Harbor restaurant space, which plans a fall opening in the South Loop. (Harbor)

expand enough to include a raw bar of oysters, shrimp, crab and clams.

Harbor will move into the old Gioco space, inheriting that restaurant's wood-fired hearth. Plans call for a charcuterie room as well. The beverage program will include a global wine list and regional beers.

https://www.chicagotribune.com/dining/phil-vettel/ct-restaurant-harboropening-0712-20190712-erkzjvfatvg37h4xcqnj6gr6fq-story.html



9ROUND is opening soon at 777 S State St ...next to Devil Dawgs and across from the Harrison red line stop. Construction starts early April and should be complete mid-to-late May.

#### What is 9ROUND?

9ROUND is a kickboxing fitness club that incorporates cardio and resistance training in a circuit format for a complete full-body workout in 30 minutes.

#### What to expect:

Show up at your convenience; there are no class times Nine exercise stations; three minutes per station

Workouts change daily...new workout every day Trainers are there to guide, motivate and push you to get the most out of every workout.

PULSE heart-rate monitors and in-club displays give you real-time data on effort, heart rate, calories burned and work out time.

Charter Member information and sign-up... https://www.clubready.com/getstarted/8959/453474



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#### 6 YEAR'S AGO IN THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

#### Award for Papermaker's Garden

The Center for Book and Paper Arts staff member April Sheridan (Studio Technician and Special Projects Coordinator) was in attendance to receive the <u>Friends of Downtown</u> 2013 "Best Public Space" award for the <u>Papermaker's Garden</u>. The ceremony took place at the Cliff Dweller's club on Tuesday, June 3. This award shows that the Garden has been recognized by the public as an important site for community dialogue about interdisciplinary arts.

The Papermaker's Garden features a variety of plants grown to be used as papermaking fiber and art material in the Center for Book & Paper studios. This garden supports deep hands on engagement with the process of fiber production as well contemporary ideas in interdisciplinary practice related to art, science, the environment and social practice. Friends of Downtown, founded in 1981, focuses on intelligent planning and urban design for downtown Chicago, and directly influences



planning and development decisions through debate, public advocacy, and cooperation with other civic organizations.

Papermaker's Garden at 8th and Wabash Chicago's only condominium management firm specializing exclusively in vintage buildings.Property managers for Peterson Lofts, Harrison Street Lofts and The Moser Condominiums. All located in Printers Row



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South Loop Entrepreneurs

will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next formal gathering with peer coaching will be **August 13th**, **6pm at Lakeside Bank**. 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.





#### WHAT IF FITNESS WAS FUN?

Clark Street CrossFit welcomes EveryBody into our community.

This is a great community for CrossFit, expecially if you are new to group fitness. There are lots of friendly people here at Clark Street Cross-Fit, from all walks of life and from all over the world. Everyone is very welcoming and encouraging. It is what we are known for.

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Mention our ad in Dearborn Express at time of inquiry we'll take 20% off your first month.



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#### Author Erica Williams Simon Discusses You Deserve the Truth with Luvvie Ajayi

Tuesday, August 13, 2019 Add to Calendar

6:00PM – 7:15PM

Harold Washington Library Center

<u>Erica Williams Simon</u> joins <u>Luvvie Ajayi</u> to discuss Simon's recent book, <u>You Deserve the Truth: Change the Stories That Shape Your</u> <u>World and Build a World-Changing Life</u>. This is sure to be one the liveliest talks of the summer!

Grounded in her story as preacher's kid turned award-winning political wunderkind in Obama's Washington, Simon's first book shares the lessons she learned when she walked away from it all--frustrated, afraid and unfulfilled--to build a better life.

In her typical authentic style, grounded in personal experience and thorough research, Simon discusses the new ideas about work, dreams, money, fear, identity and more that her generation must believe to rewrite the future--and introduces the idea of "narrative intelligence" as a tool to help people see the untrue stories hidden in plain sight.

Part memoir, part masterclass, *You Deserve the Truth* uncovers how the beliefs and narratives that have shaped a generation are being rewritten to produce radical change and better lives.

Luvvie Ajayi is an award-winning author, speaker and digital strategist who thrives at the intersection of comedy, technology and activism.





Doors to the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium open at 5:30 p.m., and seating is first come, first served. Books are available for purchase, and the author will autograph books at the conclusion of the program. (Pictured above: Erica Williams Simon (left) and Luvvie Ajayi.)

#### **Critical Mass**

Friday, July 26, 2019 at 5:30 PM -10:30 PM CDT

Next Week · 70– 84°F Partly Cloudy

Chicago Picasso

Chicago, Illinois 60601

Photo by Dearborn Express June 26, 2019

Every Last Friday of the month.





Everything You Need To Bike Chicago



# **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**

#### Soccer prompts thinking about immigrants

By Marianne Goss, July 9,, 2019

#### Leave a comment

Last Sunday afternoon was a bad time to walk to the grocery store. Crowds swarmed out of the Roosevelt Road el station to go to Soldier Field for the Gold Cup game between the men's national soccer teams of Mexico and the United States. A sea of green shirts and Mexican flags overwhelmed me as I tried to find an opening to cross Roosevelt. In their postgame stories, two *Chicago Tribune* reporters wrote that Mexico's fans vastly outnumbered those cheering for the supposed home team.

"Is this pro-Mexico exhibition wise?" I wondered, considering that a rap against Mexican immigrants is that they don't want to assimilate as European immigrants did.

I confess to also feeling a little offended, a contrast to my usually liberal bent.

Scenes like I witnessed have happened whenever El Tri, the Mexican team, plays the United States on US soil. El Tri essentially enjoys home team advantage in US stadiums. Anti-immigrant forces predictably respond to the pro-Mexico fervor with comments along the lines of "If you like Mexico so much, go back there."

But not only bigots wonder, in the words of *Los Angeles Times* columnist Bill Plaschke, "[I]s it really right for folks who live here to boo and jeer as if they don't?" Plaschke watched as the US team was "smothered in boos" at the 2011 Gold Cup final between the US and Mexico at the Rose Bowl.

"Most of these hostile visitors didn't live in another country," Plaschke wrote. "Most, in fact, were not visitors at all, many of them being US residents."

Plaschke's feeling that he "was in a strange place" is a good description of how I felt Sunday. It was like going to Wrigley Field and seeing the opponent's colors everywhere instead of Cubs blue.

Plaschke resolved his uneasiness by taking pride in America's diversity and freedom of speech. Rather than burying my non-pc reaction, I decided to make it a learning opportunity.

Mexican assimilation *is* slow; that's not just a perception of the right. Studies have found that the third generation still identifies as Mexican, marries Latinos, and can speak

Spanish. Some scholars say that huge numbers hinder assimilation: it's easy to remain in a homogeneous neighborhood and find a spouse within the community.

There are explanations other than that Mexicans don't want to assimilate. Mexicans arrive poor and poorly educated, qualifying for only low-paying jobs. Those here illegally can't get certain jobs or services. The educational level of succeeding generations lags behind the national average.

It would be preposterous to think that any group chooses to stay on the low rungs of the economic ladder.

Some suggest that maintaining pride in being Mexican is a reaction to feeling unwelcome and stigmatized. The more Donald Trump disparages Mexicans, the more foreign they are made to feel, the more they identify with Mexico rather than with the United States. A Mexico-US soccer game is an outlet to express frustration with the adopted country.

Many millions of people of Mexican origin live in the United States. How can it be in the country's interest for them to be a large disaffected subculture? The solution has to be immigration reform that offers hope rather than retribution. That would be an achievement to earn cheers for the US.

ANTI-TRUMP QUOTATIONS: 70TH IN AN ONGOING SERIES

"We don't really believe [Trump's] administration is going to become substantially more normal; less dysfunctional; less unpredictable; less faction riven; less diplomatically clumsy and inept."

—Sir Kim Darroch, British ambassador to the US since 2016

http://www.chicagonow.com/retired-in-chicago/

#### (FROM PAGE 1, COLUMBIA COLLEGE)

"The crisis was five years ago—it's not today," says Bill Wolf, a Chicago financier who is chairman of Columbia's board of trustees. It was "irresponsible" of the school's administration to let Columbia's student population climb so high a decade ago, he adds. "At some point, the board did the right thing and said we're going to be more selective."

The article is pretty in depth so we certainly encourage you to check it out if this is your sort of thing. The new student center is certainly looking to be a jewel in the crown of Columbia and it will be curious if that's a physical sign of their reinvigorated strategy. Time will tell.

#### http://www.sloopin.com/



#### Alderman Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward

http://www.dowellfor3rdward.com/

### Alderman Dowell Experiences Taste of the South Loop

Alderman Dowell stopped by the annual Taste of the South Loop event at the Glessner House (1801 S. Prairie). Many of the restaurants of the South Loop neighborhood in the 3rd Ward showcased their food both savory and sweet, and craft beer and wine was served by Motor Row Brewery and the soon to open Moody Tongue Brewery. Kudos to Tina Feldstein of the Prairie District Neighborhood Alliance and all the volunteers for their work.

#### National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement by offering a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Local events on **August 6th** will include prizes, food, and entertainment for all ages!

#### **1st Police District**

Tuesday, August 6th 5:30 pm to 8:30 Chicago Riverwalk (between Wells and Franklin) 312-745-4381

#### CPA\_

Valero & Associates, Inc. Marlene P. Valero, CPA, MST 47 W. Polk Street Ste. 100-273 Chicago, IL 60605 (773)592.0472 Marlene.p.valero



### ALDERMAN \* 4TH WARD SOPHIAKING email address is ward04@cityofchicago.org

#### Alderman 'On the Block'Community

On June 3, 10 & 24, our office hosted Alderman 'On the Blocks' at Leona's Pizzeria, Bulldog Ale House and our 4th Ward Service Office. These 'On the Blocks' are an opportunity for residents to come out and meet one-on-one with Alderman King and staff. We plan to have three 'On the Blocks' in July, on the 15th, 22nd and 29th. The time and locations of these meetings are still being determined. Although walk-ins are welcome, we strongly urge anyone interested in coming to call our office (773) 536-8103.

Large Motorcycle Groups Our office has heard from numerous residents regarding the prevalence of large motorcycle clubs riding through the ward. Our office has been in contact with the Chicago Police Department who is aware of this issue and is working to mitigate the situation. Due to CPD's official chase policy, they arenot allowed to close streets, initiate chases, get in front of riders, block riders, or place barriers that would impede movement. This makes controlling this issue quite challenging for law enforcement. Nevertheless, they have assured us they are devotingspecial attention to this matter and will continue to monitor the situationmoving forward.



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### **Go Down Moses** Jul 18 — Sep 29, 2019

The exhibition Go Down Moses is guest curated by Teju Cole. An acclaimed writer, photographer, and critic, Cole is the former photography critic of the New York Times Magazine and is currently the Gore Vidal Professor of the Practice of Creative Writing at Harvard University. This is his first major curatorial project.

Go Down Moses presents a reinterpretation of the MoCP's permanent collection that can be understood as a visual tone poem of contemporary America, exploring elemental themes of movement, chaos, freedom, and hope. In doing so, Cole uses the photographic archive to interweave the past and present, suggesting an aesthetic approach to understanding the current psyche.



Columbia College Chicago 600 South Michigan Av **Chicago, IL 60605** (312) 663-5554



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# Summer Dance at the Spirit of Music Garden Grant Park, 601 S. Michigan Ave.

Saturday, July 20, 6–9:30pm - BRAZILIAN SAMBA Casuarina (Samba) + Edilson Lima (Samba)

Sunday, July 21, 4–7pm - BALLROOM Teddy Lee Orchestra (Ballroom) + Arthur Murray Dance Center (Foxtrot, Rhumba)

Thursday, July 25, 6–9:30pm - CUMBIA (((Sonorama))) DJ Collective (Cumbia) + Latin Rhythms (Cumbia)

Friday, July 26, 6–9pm - HOUSE DJ Duane Powell (House DJ set)

Saturday, July 27, 6–9:30pm - ARGENTINE TAN-GO Tango 21 (Tango)

Sunday, July 28, 4–7pm - BACHATA Reverie DJs Papi & Just Jacob (Bachata DJ set) + Jonathan Rivera from Latin Street (Bachata)

Friday, August 9, 6–9:30pm - BALLROOM May I Have This Dance (Waltz, Tango)

Saturday, August 10, 6–9:30pm - BLUES The Cash Box Kings (Chicago Blues) + May I Have This Dance (West Coast Swing, Hustle)

Sunday, August 11, 4–7pm - SALSA Carpacho y su Super Combo (Salsa) + Dance Academy of Salsa (Salsa, Cha-cha)



Photo Dearborn Express June 26, 2019

Friday, August 16, 6–9:30pm - BLUES Morry Sochat and The Special 20s (Chicago Blues with Swing & Rock-n-Roll) + Big City Blues (Blues Dance)

Saturday, August 17, 6–9:30pm - STEPPIN' National Steppers Society (Chicago Steppin') + Ken Watkins (Chicago Steppin') Sunday, August 18, 4–7pm - FLAMENCO

Clinard Dance's Flamenco Quartet Project (Flamenco) + Wendy Clinard (Flamenco)

Friday, August 23, 6–9pm - HOUSE Dee Jay Alicia (House DJ set)



Past Issues . . .

Archives at:

#### http:// dearbornexpress.net/



#### 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

www.dearbornexpress.net

### South Loop Memory Café

The South Loop Memory Café is a monthly social gathering for persons living with dementia and their family, friends and care partners.

Meeting Place: Second Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall 1936 S. Michigan Ave. (corner of Michigan and Cullerton) Chicago IL, 60616

**Registration:** Please register For more information or to register, please visit: southloopvillage@gmail.com Or call: 312.225.4406

Loop Vi

Meeting Time: 2:30 pm-4:00 pm (second Thursday each month)

Sing Reimagine

couth Loop Villa

Activities: Art Hands-On Activities Easy Yoga Lectures Movement & Dance Music Live Performance

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Supporting Healthy Aging

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2019 Meeting Dates \*Aug 8 Experience India In development \*Sep 12 Oct 10 Sing-a-long **Cooking Demonstration** Nov 14 Dec 12 Holiday Music Program

South Loop Farmers Market dates plan to stay a while after the meeting and shop!

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### **PARKING SPACE FOR RENT**

Location -801 S Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60605 - Lower Level



Space P-134 - Indoor, Secure and Clean

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Contact Georgeanne (owner) for more information.

Call or text 312.231.6145

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One parking space P141 for rent is located in the lower floor of the basement garage of 801 S Plymouth Court. Asking for \$225/ month on a yearly basis, available immediately.

The garage is heated, which includes car wash stall, air hose and video security.

If interested, please contact Vinay:

217-377-7987 through text.

### Barbara's Basement



Mission Shop

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Printers Row Farmers Market Saturdays runs through October 25th, 7am-1pm

Federal Plaza Tuesdays now open Daley Plaza on Thursdays now open.

Open Wednesday, July10, the NEW S. Financial Place City Market , 425 S Financial Pl.

#### **PARKING**

#### 801 S. Plymouth Ct P#344 - Offered at \$37,500.-

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Dearborn

See past issues . . .

Archives at

60647

http://dearbornexpress.net/



#### Looking at the New Apartments at the Old Ebony & Jet Building on Michigan Avenue

The Crusader checks-in on the new apartment building that took over the historic Ebony and Jet building at 820 S. Michigan:

The avant garde-designed test kitchen on the tenth floor is gone. Now, on all 11 floors are many, many kitchens, complete with brand-name, stainless steel refrigerators and ovens. And the front yard is still Grant Park.

Johnson Publishing Company may be gone, but its former headquarters in the South Loop lives on.

Vacant for nearly a decade, the historic landmark is humming again with a new purpose after a soft opening earlier this year. Reincarnated as a luxury apartment building, the house that John H. Johnson built to produce Ebony and Jet magazines is now called 820 South Michigan Avenue. It's the address of a building that made history when Johnson was the first and only Black man to build his empire on Michigan Avenue.

So how much does it cost:

The monthly rent for a studio apartment at 820 South Michigan ranges from \$1,499 to \$1,575 depending on the size. For a one-bedroom apartment that is 494 square feet, residents pay \$1,735, according to the website. The monthly rent for a two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment ranges from \$2,395 to \$2,495, for units as small as 692 square feet to as big as 795.

The neighborhood is flush with apartment units and the competition seems to only be increasing. While the rooms look nice and modern, they also look sort of cramped by the pictures. Some likely have unobstructed beautiful views of Grant Park and Lake Michigan, but is that enough to beat the competition?

Maybe - we'll see.

#### http://www.sloopin.com/

#### Next CAPS Meeting Aug 14, 2019

6:30PM at 525 S. State St.

(Every 2nd Wednesday)



http://home.chicagopolice.org/

#### Beat 123

Sun, 16 Jun 2019 08:00 POCKET-PICKING Wed, 19 Jun 2019 13:50

THEFT ATHLETIC CLUB

1100 S State St CTA Platform 800 S State St

Wed, 19 Jun 2019 21 0 E 8TH ST AUTO THEFT Parking Lot

Sat, 22 Jun 2019 11:16 0 E Roosevelt rd AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Sidewalk

Sun, 23 Jun 2019 17:50

STRONGARM ROBBERY

Wed, 12 Jun 2019 18:00 THEFT \$500 AND UNDER 800 S State St Athletic Club 0 E Roosevelt Rd

1100 S State St

CTA Platform

Wed, 19 Jun 2019 09:15 POCKET-PICKING Sun, 23 Jun 2019 14:37

CTA Train 1100 S State St

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT CTA Station Sat, 15 Jun 2019 15:00 1100 S State St THEFT OVER \$500 CTA Train

#### 131

Fri, 14 Jun 2019 18:30 1300 S State St AGGRAVATED ASSAULT HANDGUN Street

Sun, 23 Jun 2019 13:30 2100 S Wabash Ave BURGLARY Apartment

Sun, 23 Jun 2019 06:301200 S Michigan AveAUTO THEFTStreet

Fri, 21 Jun 2019 17:30 1600 S Michigan Ave AGGRAVATED BATTERY HANDGUN Apartment

Sat, 15 Jun 2019 19:30 AGGRAVATED BATTERY

Fri, 21 Jun 2019 09:20 AGGRAVATED BATTERY

#### 132

Mon, 24 Jun 2019 08:20 BURGLARY

Sun, 23 Jun 2019 00 AUTO THEFT 200 E Cullerton St. Apartment 1800 S Calumet Ave Street

2000 S State

1200 S Michigan Ave

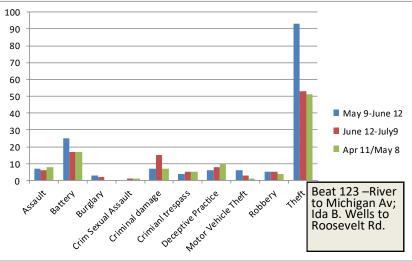
Apartment

Restaurant

Sat, 15 Jun 2019 08:50 1400 S Lake Shore D AGGRAVATED ASSAULT : HANDGUN Street 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, Aug 14, 2019



# Chicago shootings at four-year low through first half of 2019: police

Overall crime citywide has dropped by 9% from Jan. 1 to June 30 compared to the same period last year, police said.

By Sun-Times Wire Jul 1, 2019, 2:34am CDT

Chicago police said shootings and murders in the city were down from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2019, compared to the same period last year.

Murders, shootings and other violent crimes in Chicago through the first half of 2019 have decreased compared to the same period last year, according to data collected by Chicago police.

The 236 murders reported from Jan. 1 to June 30 was a seven percent decline from the same period last year, police said. This marks the lowest numbers of murders in Chicago since 2016.

The Sun-Times has counted <u>241 homicides</u> this year within city limits.

In a news conference about the statistics Monday morning, Chief of Detectives Melissa A. Staples said the department's clearance rate for homicide cases is currently 51 percent.

"Two and a half, three years ago, when I became chief, it was 33 percent," Staples said. "To date we are up approximately 19 percent over where we were a few years ago. I think it's great progress and I think we'll continue to increase our clearance rate as the year progresses."

Shootings in the first six months of the year came in at 978, an 11 percent decline from the same period last year, police said. They are at their lowest levels since 2015.

June saw 242 shootings, a decrease from the 257 reported in the same month in 2018, police said. Murders in the same period decreased from 57 to 47.

"Every officer, from myself down to the young officers working their beats throughout Chicago, is fully committed to keeping our neighborhoods safe," Police Supt. Eddie Johnson said in a statement.

Meanwhile, more than 5,200 illegal guns were seized by officers in 2019, putting CPD on pace to surpass the nearly 10,00 illegal guns seized over the same period last year, police said.

Other crimes — robberies, burglaries and vehicle thefts — were at a 20-year low, police said. FOR THE RESTO OF THE STORY:

https://chicago.suntimes.com/news/2019/7/1/20676793/chicago-shootings-fouryear-low-through-first-half-of-2019-police-crime-stats

#### Real Estate Transactions

\$285,000 520 S STATE ST 715 6/11/19

\$250,000 910 S MICHIGAN AVE 517 6/10/19

\$420,000 1168 S PLYMOUTH CT 2NE 6/7/19

\$265,000 899 S PLYMOUTH CT 109 6/7/19

\$260,000 1101 S STATE ST 903 6/7/19

\$340,000 161 W HARRISON ST 301 6/3/19

\$424,500 8 E 9<sup>TH</sup> 1304 5/29/19

\$517,500 100 E 14<sup>™</sup> 1502 5/28/19

\$190,000 732 S FINANCIAL PL 719 5/28/19

\$780,000 1211 S PRAIRIE AVE 1202 5/24/19

\$228,500 740 S FEDERAL 210 5/23/19

\$430,000 1111 S WABASH AVE 601 5/21/19

\$270,000 600 S DEARBORN ST 1306 5/20/19 Selling your home in the Chicago area?

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Cynthia Bauer • RE/MAX Premier 312.882.8267

1530 S State St, Unit 14L 2 bed, 2 bath, 1689 Sq Ft \$419,900

Brian Murphy • Century 21 S.G.R., Inc. 773.550.1045

1001 S Plymouth Ct, Unit B 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2200 Sq Ft \$529,888





Matt Laricy • Americorp, Ltd 708. 250.2696

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Mario Greco • Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices KoenigRubloff (773) 687-4696

5 E 14<sup>th</sup> PI #502 1 bed, 1 bath \$289,900

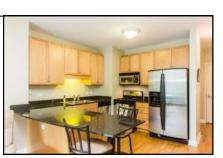
<u>Jessica Reddick</u> • Redfin Corporation 312.827.6305

SHORT SALE 901 S Plymouth Ct #1604 1 bed, 1 bath, 866 sq ft \$215,900

Michael Kosich • Coldwell Banker Residential (312) 316-2314

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