South Loop Casino?

Monday, November 1, 2021

5 Sites Proposed for Casino in Chicago, Including Numerous Locations Close to the Sloop

It looks like a Casino in (or very close to) the Sloop is a good bet (via Chicago Tribune):

Developers submitted five proposals to operate casinos in Chicago, bringing the city one step closer to a potential big revenue boost and achieving a goal that has eluded local mayors for decades.

Still, the project will have to clear major hurdles in the coming months as Mayor Lori Lightfoot’s administration sorts through the proposals and picks a winner. It’s not clear where all of the proposed gambling venues would go but experts generally believe a new casino should be in or near downtown.

- Bally’s Corporation submitted proposals for two sites and would self-manage the facility, according to the city.
- HR Chicago submitted a proposal for a single site that would be managed by Hard Rock International, according to the city.
- Rivers Chicago at McCormick submitted a proposal for a single site that would also be managed by Rush Street Gaming.
- Rivers 78 Gaming submitted a proposal for a single site that would also be managed by Rush Street Gaming.

There has been a lot of drama and uncertainty about a Chicago Casino, but we are only mildly surprised that many of the submission include spots in the Sloop. That said, a Casino in the 78 development is one that would drastically change the dynamics of the neighborhood and one that we’re pretty lukewarm on. There are a ton of residential units in and around that area and just feels off in our opinion.

http://www.sloopin.com/ See page 21 for Ald. King’s take
Welcome to Jazz Showcase where Jazz lives in Chicago since 1947. Our exclusive 170 seat venue features the best Jazz acts you’ll find anywhere in the Chicago area. Tickets are now available online. Don’t forget to sign up for our e-mail newsletter so you don’t miss out on our upcoming shows!

Dearborn Station
312.360.0234
806 S. Plymouth Court
CHICAGO, 60605
Jazzshowcase.com

Wed, Nov 10, 5pm..................Jazz Links Jam Session
Thu-Sat, Nov 11-13, 8pm.........Antonio Hart Quartet
Sun, Nov 14, 9pm....................Antonio Hart Quartet
Mon, Nov 15, 7:30pm.............Roosevelt University CCPA
Tues, Nov 16, 8pm................Bob Lark’s Alumni Big Band
Wed, Nov 17, 8pm...............Palm, Halim & Friends
Thu-Sat, Nov 18-20, 8pm......Saxophonist Isaiah Collier with JD Allen
Sun, Nov 21, 9:30pm............Saxophonist Isaiah Collier with JD Allen
Mon, Nov 22, 7pm...............Metropolitan Jazz Octet featuring Dee Alexander
Tues, Nov 23, 8pm...............Drummer Greg Artry Trio
Wed, Nov 24, 8pm...............Palm, Halim & Friends
Thu-Sat, Nov 25-27, 8pm......Vocalist Everett Green Quintet featuring Eric Schneider
Sun, Nov 28, 9pm...............Vocalist Everett Green Quintet featuring Eric Schneider
Mon, Nov 29, 7pm...............Metropolitan Jazz Octet featuring Dee Alexander

Isaiah Collier with JD Allen
Nov 18—21

ANTONIO HART
Nov 11—14
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 Development Roundup

A reminder: Our Sept. 16 online meeting covered the development and planning issues active in the neighborhood. If you weren't able to attend, you can view the entire presentation on YouTube.

The latest on all South Loop projects can always be found at southloopupdate.com

Dennis McClendon
Observing dementia and feeling helpless

By Marianne Goss, October 25, 2021

After Chicago Tribune columnist Eric Zorn took a buyout offer, he began a free weekly enewsletter chockfull of his pithy commentary. I almost always agree with Zorn’s liberal political positions and count on him for evidence-backed arguments. But it was the personal item with which Zorn led off his last issue that prompted me to tell him thank you. He wrote about his mother’s dementia.

“Dementia is not mere forgetfulness,” he said, “but a constellation of behavioral symptoms and deficiencies that only get worse over time and try everyone’s patience and stamina.”

I’ve written about my mother now and then — about losing her husband of 72 years four months after they moved into assisted living; the COVID isolation that began three months later; her falls and rehab.

I haven’t used the word “dementia,” however, because the assisted living home does not have a memory care unit, and my siblings and I haven’t wanted to suggest that she needs one. But since her caregivers haven’t said anything about her cognition, and Mom is not a risk for wandering away or acting belligerently, I’m following Zorn’s lead and writing about dementia.

Mom isn’t as severely affected as Zorn’s mother, who doesn’t always remember her family members. Dementia has many types and manifestations. Mom recognizes my voice when I phone. She can converse, although struggling for words. We guess what she is trying to say, and when we fail, she is understandably frustrated and gives up.

Not recalling the names of two neighbors with whom she eats three meals a day, she refers to them as “my friends.” We’ve noticed that she doesn’t say much when they visit her, perhaps because she can’t find words to join in their conversation. We worry that they’ll misinterpret her silence as disapproval and stop visiting and coming to remind her that it’s time for a meal or an activity.

We have to phone her because Mom doesn’t know how to call out even though we programmed and labeled nine buttons for one-touch speed dialing. Her television remains on one station because she can’t use the remote. She knows her birth date but not her age. No doubt the many months of confinement during COVID exacerbated Mom’s memory problems. She coped with isolation by coloring. Now she says that she can’t find the coloring books, which we put within arm’s reach on the table next to her recliner. She seems to have lost interest, a sign of depression.

I’d thought Mom’s frequent falls were caused by osteoporosis and arthritis. Reading about dementia, I learned that cognitive decline may have contributed to her physical problems. Dementia can affect areas of the brain responsible for movement and balance.

About his mother, Zorn said, “[H]er general lack of awareness of what’s happened to her is virtually the only compensatory blessing of her condition.” My mother is aware of what has happened to her. I don’t know what to realistically hope for except that she knows that she hasn’t been forgotten. We visit regularly, my brother every day, although we doubt that she tracks when each of us was last there.

FOLLOWING UP LAST WEEK’S POST ABOUT CHOLESTEROL

Not to make light of memory issues, but my memory has declined, too. I wrote about cholesterol last week forgetting that three years ago I was wondering whether taking red yeast rice had been the reason that my cholesterol numbers had dropped between lipid tests.

Why my memory suddenly reawakened a few days ago is a mystery. I don’t remember, however, why I quit red yeast rice after the encouraging results. Perhaps it was because some healthcare practitioners discourage unregulated remedies, but my then doctor approved.

Maybe my cholesterol numbers would have stayed down if I’d continued to take red yeast rice. Along with the diet changes mentioned last week, I’m taking it again — plus Coenzyme Q10, which red yeast rice depletes.

https://www.chicagonow.com/retired-in-chicago/about/

MOST RECENT EPISODES OCT 14, 2021

A Rift In the Gun World

On the Media takes a deep dive into the "No Compromise" gun rights movement. Its members see the NRA as too amenable to gun control measures. Follow reporters Lisa Hagen and Chris Haxel on their journey to understand how 3 brothers used a network of Facebook pages to grow their following with some startling results.

Part 2: The Facebook Flock. Listen.
Chris Hedges’ recent talk in Chicago brought back memories of my days in jail

Yes, the above is clickbait. But I did spend years visiting all the prisons in Illinois and all the divisions of the Cook County Jail, all the children’s prisons and the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center. With the John Howard Association, a local not-for-profit prison watchdog group.

I was a JHA board member for a long time. And our board duties included making these visits to see what we could see, talking to the inmates, oftentimes right in their cells—for a confidential discussion about what was wrong. What could we do to help? What could we expose in our reports? What needs attention? What needs fixing?

We talked to the newly arrested and the newly convicted, those with long sentences and life sentences and famous inmates such as Patty Columbo, who once served us lunch in the prison dining room. Before the death penalty in Illinois was eliminated, we visited men and women on death row.

Chris Hedges, not only an award-winning writer— but also an ordained minister, spoke at the Chicago Humanities Festival recently. In his hour-long conversation, with moderator Flynt Taylor, which is right here, he discussed his experiences teaching various subjects in the New Jersey prison system. He has written a book about it.

He also said the US has 25 percent of the prison inmates in the world, but only five percent of the world’s population. And that 76 percent of inmates return to prison within five years.

Something is wrong, very amiss.

The talk stirred up old memories about my trips to the prisons—and the Cook County Jail under a consent decree. The people I got to know, the prison teachers that I met, some who were excellent (as I’m sure Hedges is) and some whose teaching was totally outdated and ridiculous.

I was awash in remembering the feelings that I used to have after each visit. I would always return home with a new appreciation for my life. And those feelings have never waned. They are simple and ever present. When I take a hot shower, any time I want to, and reach for a big, soft clean towel afterwards, I am grateful. And always aware of the luxury.

When I sleep in my quiet, peaceful bedroom, in a bed with clean sheets, a good mattress and plenty of nice warm blankets, I never take it for granted. I think of the inmates all over the State of Illinois who don’t have what I have.

Hedges made me think of my neighbor who had an interest in prison reform—and I arranged for her to get a background check so she could volunteer with me. When Ellen and I went downstate, we always stopped at Cracker Barrel and we had a big country breakfast and we bought trinkets for our homes and big comfy sweatshirts, too—because those things added to our everyday gratefulness for the simple comforts and the happy things in life, the things we knew that weren’t where we were headed.

We knew that an inordinate number of people we would meet that day would be mentally ill, or developmentally disabled. And possibly abused at some point. And the vast majority of them wouldn’t have the benefit of a good family support system or a good education.

Because Hedges is ordained, he reminded me of the time Frances Cardinal George came with us to the Cook County Jail. I was incredibly impressed and very much taken with the way he talked to the inmates. He was genuinely nice, not patronizing, and truly concerned about everyone’s wellbeing. He uncovered concerns, complaints—and mistreatment that they said they endured. He seemed to make a huge difference in their moods as they hovered around him. As they talked and he listened.

At some point during my long stint on the JHA board, I began taking my autistic daughter with me to Cook County Jail—and I discovered things she was capable of that I never would have imagined. She would enter the cells of the inmates, sit alongside them on a disheveled bed and ask all the right questions: Is your bed comfortable! Are you warm enough? How are you feeling? What do you need?

And they would tell her.

Once She saw a mouse in another wing of the jail, and asked an inmate in his cell if there were any in his wing.

Another time, she walked over to a mentally ill inmate in the woman’s division who was crying profusely. Molly put her arms around her and asked what was wrong. She got the woman’s tears all over her hands. A female sheriff came running over with an antibacterial for Molly’s hands. Which broke up the beautiful scene. But at the same time I was grateful.

Once, Molly interestingly said one of the divisions of the jail looked to her like a complex of town homes near our house. And in fact, both the division and the town homes were built about the same time in the 1970s.

I used to tell people a fun fact: that Molly was in more divisions of the jail than anyone ever arrested in Cook County, including the biggest recidivists one could imagine. Because so many went back to the same divisions over and over. But Molly was in them all, including the jail’s hospital division, where ironically when we were there, two autistic young men were being incarcerated, which totally freaked me out.

I also used to take my Columbia College courts and law students to the jail every semester, to expose them to a realm I hoped they’d remember forever. Speaking of which, several never remembered to leave their cell phones back in the classroom, and had to hide them in the bushes outside so we could all go in. (No cell phones allowed in the jail, at least back then….)

In his talk, Hedges made some riveting points about the prison system in this country. That very few people actually belong in prison; that a look into a prison is a look into old-fashioned slavery, the plantation politics of our time. And that we got here mostly by the Democrat policies of recent administrations that threw way too many souls behind bars and lost the key.

For money

Policies that let folks get rich on the privatization of providing substandard human services to as many inmates as possible, such as food and medical care, and just about everything.

Three times I was asked by JHA to speak or testify about such things: to the Cook County Board; to a renowned national criminal law group at Northwestern University; and on a panel, ironically for the Chicago Humanities Festival, where there was a heated discussion about Restorative Justice.

But nothing ever changed.

Bonnie McGrath

Visit my blog: www.chicagonow.com/mom-think-poignant/
**Monday, November 8, 2021**

**Spanglish Has Eviction Sign on Door and Looks to be Closed as Retail Space is For Lease**

It looks like Spanglish (555 S. State) might be closed and not reopening:

There’s an eviction notice on the window of Spanglish Mexican Kitchen (State St. between Congress and Harrison).

Regarding the reopening, Mr. South Loop posted that the **retail space is up for lease**, so all sign point to the being the end of Spanglish (at least at this location). We liked Spanglish, but it was never a go-to taco spot for us. For those who are curious, **Spanglish opened back in 2013**, so has had a nice 8 year run.

**http://www.sloopin.com/**

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**Roosevelt Park Clean Up**

Sun, Nov 14

Roosevelt Park

Nov 14, 2:00 PM

Roosevelt Park

Come join the Rotary Club of Chicago Citywide Service and the South Loop Neighbors in a Clean-Up Event at Roosevelt Park. Garbage bags and gloves will be supplied.

**REGISTER NOW**
“Take it,” a friend said about this book written by another friend. “You can read it in an hour.” That might be possible—but only if you can hold your breath for that long. Because Chicagoan annE peck’s 48th Street: prose poems and paintings (a “re-membering”) is breath-taking, like watching a man fall from the top floors of the World Trade Center. 48th Street is not a place; it is a chilling journey back in time to a region darker than many of us can imagine. The prologue in the author’s voice explains that, some years before the writing—when she was three years sober, thrice-divorced, and a mother of three—she finally recognized what happened to her. Maybe because three is a perfect number, the union of body mind and spirit. Maybe it was seeing a movie that jogged her memory. But the first poem in the book is “a fact the first man I ever met, the first man I ever loved was a brutal criminal, a pedophile he was my father.” Thereafter Baby Girl—just a toddler, then a first-grader, then a ten-year-old—shares her childish sensibilities: we see her father carefully drape his suit coat and tie over a dining room chair no one ever used; we hear the hiss of the radiator in the warm room she was brought to every night; we taste the crackle bars and the codeine-heavy cough syrup her father gave her before bed; we feel the strange sticky wet on her thin cotton bunny-print pajamas that came from somewhere. We have glimpses of a sickly brother, a sister who hid in her room, a mother reading at the kitchen sink with her back to her family. Baby Girl’s reflections: “my father was a celebrity to me I believed he was the whole world and he chose ME!” are edited by her adult self: she only thought “she was a princess.” Interwoven with Baby Girl’s stories are paintings by her grown self—both victim and survivor. The paintings seem child-like, devoid of color and dimension, lonely but intimate, including a plethora of images of growing plants and trees and four figures holding hands that hold out hope. annE corrects the record in her “prose poems,” so spare and laden, and lovely. A publisher’s blurb calls the book “an uplifting testament to the power of the human spirit and the power of art to heal any wound.” Even still, it is more like Thelma and Louise than The Miracle Worker. Powerful and painful, 48th Street is a book people will say “should be read.” Yes, it should be read.

Lorraine Schmall
Dearborn Park
November, 2021

Presented in partnership with the Chicago Humanities Festival, join us for a conversation with journalist Nikole Hannah Jones, the force behind the landmark initiative “The 1619 Project”. Register for the event with the Chicago Humanities Festival here.

In a landmark 2019 special issue of The New York Times Magazine, “The 1619 Project” led by journalist Nikole Hannah Jones, challenged our country’s mainstream origin story and founding ideals, to reveal instead a nation shaped by the legacy of American slavery. Out of this project—which garnered Hannah-Jones a Pulitzer Prize—came the 1619 podcast, school curriculum, and a renewed national conversation about race. Now comes a book by the same name: a retelling of U.S. history that foregrounds slavery and the contributions of Black Americans, featuring expanded essays by Hannah-Jones and prominent Black intellectuals, activists, and poets. Join Hannah-Jones and the AWM at CHF for a conversation about how past and present racial inequity affects current practices of democracy, justice, education, and inheritance in our country.

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

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Lost Restaurants of Chicago
Greg Borzo

Foreword by Hot Doug’s Doug Sohn
Mondays with Mike: 
by mknezo2014  November 8, 2021

Doctrine

Bear with me now: He fully understands that racism exists, that we need to address inequities, and we need to take tangible steps to help people who need it. It’s that tangible help that he sees as lacking.

McWhorter is a linguist at Columbia University. He also is Black.

Some excerpts from an NPR interview:

This is a religion where instead of it being about your faith in Jesus, it’s about showing that you know that racism exists above all else, including basic compassion. That’s religious.

And then also, the way we talk about white privilege is eerily consonant with the way one talks about original sin. You have it from the beginning, it’s a stain that you’ll never get rid of. You’re supposed to always think about it. It’s there regardless of the condition of your life, and you’re going to die with it. So white privilege becomes the original sin that you’re supposed to live in a kind of atonement for.

-It’s funny, I’m grappling with this idea that the response to me is to say "he doesn’t know systemic racism exists." I think part of it is that that’s a very clumsy term. Yes, I know that those inequities exist. I think that those inequities must be battled. The issue is, what do you do to battle them? And I say, telling people not to be racist or thinking of those inequities as some abstract version of bigotry doesn’t help people who need help.

-...we’ve gotten to the point that we’re so focused on what people say and how they say it that we’re paying more attention to that than to the perhaps less glamorous work of getting out on the ground and trying to change society.

We have to think about, say, 50 years ago when people who felt very modern were doing civil rights activism in a real way. It would have looked very peculiar to them that we’re so concerned with what things are called. There was a little of it, but not nearly as much as there is now. It’s because, to an extent, policing language is easier. Civil rights activism is not glamorous in terms of what really creates change. ... I want to help people, and I’m very interested in policies that change Black lives. And I’m seeing a distraction from that.

The full NPR interview is here.

While you’re at it, you might also check out his columns in the New York Times (he’s a regular contributor. Here are two:

I’m With Condoleezza Rice About White Guilt

Cultural Appropriation Can Be Beautiful

To me, there’s nothing terribly edgy about his ideas—they make sense.

But I hope you’ll give them a read and judge for yourself.
Join Friends & Family of South Loop School on November 21st from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. for an untimed 5K run and walk experience full of family, friends and fun to raise funds in support of South Loop Elementary School!

SHOW UP FOR THE PRIDE

Each $40 registration supports South Loop Elementary School. (Registration costs for families of 4+ cap at $160)

*Registration link coming soon*

Fundraising provides financial assistance to South Loop Elementary School to ensure all children develop advanced life skills by providing support to programs that fosters student leadership, academic rigor, fine arts integration, social and emotional consciousness, and an understanding and acceptance of diverse cultures in an inclusive environment.

Friends and Family of South Loop School, Inc (FFSLS), is a charitable 501(c)3 Corporation whose mission is to provide supplemental educational resources for South Loop Elementary School. Friends & Family is a volunteer organization and has no paid employees, so that 100% of contributions benefit South Loop Elementary School.

https://southloopschool.org/reminders/important-reminders/lion-pride-fun-run-donation-drive/

From Dennis McClendon. “For several years, the Transportation Building has been complaining about the noise from the aircon units Digital Realty installed on the roof of Printers Square.

The Landmarks Commission asked us a couple of years ago to sign off on new noise walls on the roof of Printers Square, but apparently they didn’t do the trick. My guess is that Digital Realty is using this, at least for the fall months, while they figure out what can be done about the rooftop units.”

From Jim Rice who talked to the Alderman’s office. The chiller on Polk is strictly temporary. It was permitted for 9/13-11/1. It was there in August and it is now 11/10. The Alderman’s office spoke to Digital Realty and it will be gone by Friday, Nov 19.
Personal Best

How do we celebrate a city in the second year of a still-raging pandemic?

This was the challenge we contemplated when planning our twenty-ninth Best of Chicago edition. In normal times, we’ve offered hundreds of recommendations of places to eat, to shop, to experience.

But these are not normal times. Our experience of life over the past year, if we’ve managed to survive, has been collectively so similar—we’ve stayed home, we’ve worn masks, we’ve gotten sick, we’ve gotten shots—but our response to that experience has been so different. Some have dropped out of unfulfilling jobs and changed careers, while others have developed a heightened appreciation of the things they cherish, whether friends and family, the natural world or that little mom-and-pop restaurant on the corner that has managed to make it through so far. Not taking life for granted is imprinted on us all, likely for the rest of our lives.

It’s just so personal.

So for this edition of Best of Chicago, we decided to make a radical break from our usually highly structured format and invited fourteen writers to share their “personal Best of Chicago.”

Writers had complete freedom on how to approach the subject; they could write about one or two dozen places and things, things big, or small, idiosyncratic or obvious. Some wrote childhood reminiscences that still inform their favorites decades later; others shared their favorite things about Chicago. And some wrote longer essays on single subjects of particular personal passion.

Rather than organize the issue around categories like food and drink, or culture and nightlife, we organized it by writer, with stories appearing in the order they were submitted.

We asked our art director, Dan Streeting, to use the same approach to the visual identity of the issue, giving him the charge to express his personal best of Chicago in the imagery he’d create for this edition, including the cover.

What you’ll find within these pages is something special: a collection of voices expressing their city in their own very personal ways, that together offer universal insights into what we all cherish about our life in this place.

But that’s just my personal opinion.

Brian Hieggelke

Look for Newcity’s November 2021 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at Newcityshop.com.

IN THIS ISSUE

Waste Not?
Artists grapple with sustainability at the Hyde Park Art Center

Best of Chicago
This time it’s personal with:
Kerry Cardoza
Ted C. Fishman
David Hammond
Dave Hoekstra
Sharon Hoyer
Scoop Jackson
John Moss
Ray Pride
Vasia Rigou
Robert Rodi
Dan Streeting
Kekeli Sumah
David Witter
Tanner Woodford
Michael Workman
And so much more...

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 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.

https://www.chicagocooks.net/
Available at Sandmeyer’s and Amazon.
The Grail Café will close Tuesday, November 16th, 2021. It opened January 2020. It will continue coffee and tea service after that while Sheldrick Holmes, the owner, looks for a buyer. The Grail will be missed. See page 15.

General Logan Monument Area at Grant Park Clean-Up Event

Sat, Nov 27, 10AM

Chicago, S Michigan Ave & E 9th St, Chicago, IL 60605, USA

Come join the Rotary Club of Chicago Citywide Service, the South Loop Neighbors and the Grant Park Advisory Council in a Clean-Up Event at the General Logan Monument Area in Grant Park. Garbage bags and gloves will be supplied.

Register Now
Who Represents Us?

Andy Warhol’s *Ten Portraits of Jews of the 20th Century* and other highlights from the Spertus collection

**Ground Level Arts Lab Exhibition**

Opening October 17, 2021

Pending health guidelines, we are planning for the Ground Level Arts Lab to be open to visitors. Please check back before your visit.

In 1980, Andy Warhol memorialized luminaries of modern Jewish culture: Sarah Bernhardt, Louis Brandeis, Martin Buber, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, George Gershwin, Franz Kafka, the Marx Brothers, Golda Meir, and Gertrude Stein. Warhol depicted these thinkers, politicians, performers, and writers in his signature pop-art fashion, splashed with color and shapes, blurring of boundaries between art and commerce.

The idea for the controversial series came from art dealer Ronald Feldman, who together with Susan Morgenstein of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, came up with the list of names. The series was warmly received by Jewish audiences despite negative reviews from art critics who considered the works exploitative. Hilton Kramer of *The New York Times* wrote, “The way it exploits its Jewish subjects without showing the slightest grasp of their significance is offensive—or would be, anyway, if the artist had not already treated so many non-Jewish subjects in the same tawdry manner.”

Here at VOA Illinois, we are committed to honoring Veterans not only on Veterans Day but every day through our life changing programming.

Did you know about half of post-9/11 Veterans face periods of unemployment, which can lead to even greater challenges?

VOA Illinois’ *True North Project* provides comprehensive programming for Veterans who are struggling, in crisis or at risk of serious instability in their lives. The program provides Veterans with the support, resources and hope they need to successfully win the “war” that often follows many soldiers home. The True North Project reaches out to Veterans wherever they are in their journey towards healing and stability and offers a full continuum of supportive services and interventions that are individually tailored to meet the unique needs of each Veteran. The program uses a relationship-driven approach to helping Veterans rebuild and transform their lives.

During the month of November, consider joining the Community of Hope, an amazing community of people, just like you, who are making a difference in the lives of those who need it most every single day. Your generous monthly contribution in honor of Veterans Day allows us to continue to provide Veterans with the support they need to achieve their full potential. A notification letter will be sent to the designated honoree or family of the memorial gift as indicated. Click here,

Today, as we think about Jewish identity through a multicultural, twenty-first-century lens, do these Jews represent us? Who does? See this series and other highlights from the Spertus collection as we explore Jews in art.

**Ground Level Arts Lab Exhibition Hours**

[Depending on Coronavirus-related restrictions, see above]

- Sunday 10 am–5 pm
- Monday–Wednesday 9 am–5 pm
- Thursday 9 am–6 pm
- Friday 9 am–3 pm

Closed Saturdays and Jewish and secular holidays.

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https://notjustcookies.com/
with baseball season coming to a close, I asked writers in the class I lead via Zoom to choose a baseball term to use as a title for (and the subject of) an essay. A retired school teacher who was active in her union chose “Strike,” a writer who shoplifted as a kid chose “Caught Stealing,” and many others chose “Safe at home.” Deborah Perry was the only one in class who opted for “Slide,” and I am pleased to introduce her as our Senior Class guest blogger today.

First, some background: Deborah, her two sisters and one brother were all born in America but raised in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) when their parents became missionaries there. Living first at Chikore Mission Station, they later moved to Mt. Selinda Mission Station, a tiny village in the middle of Africa’s southernmost tropical rainforest.

Deborah and her siblings live in different parts of the United States now: Deborah is in Chicago and is a regular in the memoir class I lead here. When we switched to Zoom in 2020, she encouraged her two sisters (one in Maine, the other in Massachusetts) to enroll, too. Lucky for us, they said yes. Now our class gets to hear about life in Rhodesia from three different perspectives every week, and today you Safe & Sound blog readers get to enjoy Deborah’s playful “slide” essay, too.

by Deborah Perry

Laid out in a broad, gentle arc in front of the house, the dirt driveway glistened during a brief interlude from the early morning downpour. The rainy season had begun, and when the rain started up again, globs of deep red African mud erupted from the shimmering puddles like exclamation points.

We loved the rainy season.

Following every dry winter season we’d celebrate the forest’s hydration, the warm air washing over us. Soon the long grass at the edge of the driveway would turn bright green and the jacaranda tree in the side yard would burst forth in ridiculously intense purple waves.

But the color of this day was a deep brick red. The morning crept along, rain pummeled the road, mud splattered in all directions, and the four of us children coopered up inside grew weary of the days-long Monopoly game spread out on the dining room table.

Hitching up the hems of the skirts of our dresses and tucking them out of the way into our underpants, we burst out of the house and ran down the driveway. Our bare feet pounded the road until we came to the longest, deepest mud puddle of them all.

One at a time, we hit the edge and catapulted ourselves into a long skid. Over and over, each slide compacted the red clay mud into a firmer and faster surface. Finally, exhausted, we collapsed into a giggling mass, soaked in Africa’s rich, red, clay mud.

Dry winter season activities could be as much fun as the sloppy mud puddles. On some of those dry, cooler winter days we’d spread out face down along the edges of the road, the sun warming our backs as we stared, mesmerized, into the depths of tiny funnel-shaped indentations in the dirt. Hidden at the tip of each conical trap was a patient ant lion, a miniature compact but formidable pincered insect waiting for its next meal to tumble in.

Soon enough, an inattentive ant would lose its footing and begin a frantic scramble, trying to escape up the slippery-sided slope. Tiny grains of cascading sand would send a signal that lunch was on its way. The intrepid ant lion would start throwing bits of sand up the sides, exacerbating the sliding sand and ensuring the ant would lose its footing and slip down to the bottom, where it would unceremoniously become lunch.

On other sunny winter days, we’d grab a bucket of water and start digging in the dry, crumbly clay along the edge of the driveway to build curvy roads for our Dinky trucks and cars to travel along. The miniature mud and twig villages inhabited by imaginary families came next, complete with lawns made of soft green moss. Lorries and delivery trucks careened down tiny roads, around curves, screeching to a halt in front of ramshackle abodes. We’d sometimes carve a hole near a hovel so it would have its own swimming pool, slicking down the bottom until it was smooth enough to hold water.

That dirt road, our driveway, was our playground, and while I can not claim to be “mwanawevhu” – a child of the African soil — I do feel a deep connection to the African dirt.
The Harsh Collection: An Archival Overview
Thursday, November 11, 2021
6:00PM – 7:00PM
Online event
Register

Description
Have you ever wondered: what exactly is an archive; who started the archives in Harsh; or what brings scholars from all across the country and around the world to do their research here? If you have, feel free to join two Harsh staff members for an evening of answers to these questions and more, as they discuss the archives of the renowned Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection.

How to Attend
This event takes place on Zoom. Register at least 24 hours before the event. Only one registration per household is needed. You’ll receive an email with a link to the secure Zoom meeting about 24 hours before the meeting. By registering for this event, you agree to abide by the Library Use Guidelines.

This event uses a third-party website and may be hosted by an organization CPL has partnered with. We recommend you review the privacy policies of any third-party sites before providing them with any personal data. For more information, please see our Website Privacy Statement.

Questions about attending online events? Check out our Events FAQs.

Accessibility
Automatic transcription is included in all CPL events using Zoom. Need live captioning for this event? Please call (312) 747-4072 or email access@chipublib.org. Requests for live captioning must be made at least 14 business days before the event.

Chicago Public Library

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Drummer Willie Jones III Quintet played at the Jazz Showcase last weekend featuring Renee Neufville. The Jazz Showcase is open seven days a week with live music.
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

Meeting Time:
3:00 pm-4:00 pm
(second Thursday each month)

July 8, 2021        HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA
August 12          CELEBRATE OUR PETS
September 9        FOR the LOVE of FALL
October 14         HALLOWEEN—SCARY!!
November 11        GIVING THANKS
December 9         HAPPY HOLIDAYS

For more information or to register, please visit southloopvillage.org

Find us on Facebook
South Loop Village - Memory Café
Carjacking Prevention Tips
ADDRESS YOUR SAFETY CONCERNS

There have been several instances of carjackings in our community this year, and while we are working with the Chicago Police Department to keep our neighborhoods safe, we hope that you will take heed of these carjacking prevention tips to keep yourself from being a victim.

1st District Beat Meetings

The 1st District's beat meeting schedule is available at your convenience. Email caps.001District@chicagopolice.org before your beat's meeting to receive the link to join.

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) announced today that it will begin offering COVID-19 vaccine booster doses to all eligible Chicagoans on Monday, October 25. Pfizer and J&J booster doses will be offered at all CDPH pop-up clinics and events, including joint flu-COVID vaccination clinics, and through Protect Chicago At Home, the City’s in-home vaccination program. In addition, hundreds of pharmacies and healthcare providers throughout the city are also offering vaccine booster doses. Click here

COVID-19 Small Business Support (CSBS) Program

The City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) will provide funding to non-profit (i.e. 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6)) organizations to deliver free highly specialized business programs/services to business owners aiding in their recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency. Click here to learn more.

Virtual Alderman 'On the Block'

MEET WITH ALDERMAN KING ON ZOOM

More dates will be available soon for Alderman On the Block. To request a meeting with Alderman King, please email ward04@cityofchicago.org with the subject line "AOB Meeting Request" describing your issue to secure an appointment. Call 773-536-8103 for comments, questions or concerns.

COVID-19 Vaccinations For Children Ages 5 to 11 Begin This Week

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

With final approval from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration, all children ages 5 to 11 are now eligible to receive Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines. Click here to find out more about how your child can get vaccinated.

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Beefed-Up Forestry Crews Will Help Shift City To Long-Sought ‘Block-By-Block’ Tree Trimming, Hedge Down Backlog, Officials Say

Backlogs of tree trimming requests have piled up, leaving residents waiting as long as one year to have their trees maintained.

Erin Hegarty, The Daily Line  Nov 5, 2021

City crews cut down trees in the 1400 block of West Summerville Avenue in Andersonville on Aug. 11, 2021. Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

CHICAGO — By more than doubling the city’s brigade of tree trimming crews in next year’s budget, Chicago is set to begin shifting toward a block-by-block or “grid” system to trim its parkway trees, replacing its complaint-based program that has been widely blamed for months-long backlogs.

The change comes years after at least two recommendations — one from the city’s Office of the Inspector General and another from an independent firm hired by the city’s Bureau of Forestry — that the city get rid of its complaint-based system for trimming trees and adopt a more systematic program. Backlogs of tree trimming requests have piled up, leaving residents waiting as long as one year to have their trees maintained.

During this year’s budget process, Ald. Andre Vasquez (40th) pushed city officials to add more tree trimming crews than the originally proposed 11 new crews. Forestry bureau leaders told aldermen during a budget hearing that the department would need a total of 30 crews to move from its complaint-based system to a systematic block-by-block program resembling the grid system the Department of Streets and Sanitation took up for trash pickup starting in 2012.

Vasquez said that despite previous recommendations to change tree trimming, “ultimately nobody was doing the work on the ground to double the [tree trimming] crews,” as aldermen during budget discussions often focus on “big-ticket items.”

The city currently sends out 14 tree trimming crews, each of which consists of two tree trimmers, one driver and one city truck, according to city officials.

Vasquez told The Daily Line on Thursday the shift will offer a “proactive” and “regular way” for the city to handle tree maintenance. He said issues with tree trimming backlogs make up some of the most frequent complaints his ward office fields. To Continue click here.

http://www.sloopin.com/
Night Out In The Parks 2022 Seeks Submissions From Artists, Cultural Organizations

Applicants have until Dec. 8 to submit proposals that highlight the historical and natural areas of the parks.

Sara Badilini  Nov 4, 2021

CHICAGO — The Park District is looking for artists and cultural groups that want to be featured during next year’s Night Out in the Parks.

The proposals should highlight the parks’ historical and natural areas, flora and fauna, according to the Park District. Past projects have included traditional musical performances, hands-on workshops and nature-based programs.

For the 2022 edition, Night Out in the Parks will also consider experiential, walk-through, installation-based and roaming performances while adhering to COVID-19 safety protocols.

The cultural and art event series will run June 1-Dec. 31, 2022. Next year, in honor of its 10th anniversary, Night Out in the Parks will focus on the dance and choreography community and a Queering the Parks initiative to highlight Chicago’s diverse culture and LGBTQIA+ community, the park district announced Wednesday.

Arts organizations and artists can apply here. All proposals are due by midnight Dec. 8.

To be eligible, applicants must be Chicago-based, and they must offer their program or event to the community for free, making sure it’s accessible, inclusive and follows COVID-19 guidelines. Nonprofit status is not a requirement for interested participants.

The full list of requirements artists and organizations must meet can be found here.

The Park District is also accepting submissions for Chicago Onscreen, a local film festival that will be in its ninth season next year.

Entries must be submitted here by Nov. 21. Filmmakers of all ages, skill levels and professional experience are encouraged to submit work.

Selected films will be screened outdoors in local parks Aug. 30-Sept. 3. All selected films will receive an honorarium up to $500.

Subscribe to Block Club Chicago, an independent, 501(c)(3), journalist-run newsroom. Every dime we make funds reporting from Chicago’s neighborhoods.

Click here to support Block Club with a tax-deductible donation.

https://blockclubchicago.org/2021/11/04/park-district-night-parks-2022-seeks-submissions-artists-cultural-organizations/?utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=7be3b0bc46-
From Alerman King regarding the Casino Proposals

For Immediate Release:
November 4, 2021
Media Contact:
Sophia Powers, sophia.powers@cityofchicago.org, 312-282-5577

Alderman King’s Statement on Casino RFP Submissions
November 4, 2021 (Chicago) – On Friday, October 29, 2021, five proposals were submitted to the City regarding a potential Chicago casino. The stated goals of the casino would be to help alleviate the crushing burden of pension obligations from the taxpayers of this City. While I am open to the goals of using this new revenue stream to help Chicago deal with its overwhelming fiscal responsibilities, it should not be done at the expense of our communities, especially marginalized ones.

One proposed site would place a casino within the footprint of the future development area for the Bronzeville Lakefront site, formerly known as Michael Reese. TheBronzeville Lakefront site includes the Marshalling Yards or the “Truck Yard” that is referenced in one casino proposal.

The community has consistently opposed a casino on the overall site, which includes the marshaling yards. Residents and members of the Michael Reese Advisory Committee (MRAC) have advocated for a vibrant mixed-use development, including residential, commercial, and public space in the same area.

“Our community is strongly opposed to having a casino on the former Michael Reese site or anywhere on the South Side and have stated this in many different forums that started in the last mayoral administration. We don’t believe that a casino brings in the kind of economic activity that we want in our community. Every time politicians look at the tax revenue that casinos bring in they never weigh it against the real human costs associated with gambling. A casino in our backyard feels like our assets are being auctioned off in desperation to pay for lots of bad decisions instead of being aggressively marketed as the most desirable developable land in the country with opportunities for our entire community.” – Rena Mason (Lake Meadows)

The Michael Reese RFP was made public five years ago and included the marshaling yards. Since the beginning of this process, the community has been clear in their desire not to see a casino built at the site. Once again, we are making it clear that the community still does not want a casino near this future residential site that can potentially be home to 9,000 new residents once completed. Casinos do not have a net positive impact on residential communities. Instead, these institutions have a deleterious impact on the surrounding communities.
Next CAPS Meeting Nov 10, 2021
3PM on Zoom

http://home.chicagopolice.org/

Oct 3, 2021  7:04pm  50 E Roosevelt Rd
ARMED ROBBERY  CTA L Platform  Beat 123

10/29/2021  10pm  600 S State St
ARMED ROBBERY, Knife CTA Platform Beat 123

10/28/2021  7pm  10 W 14th St
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, handgun, Apt Beat 131

10/28/2021  12:07am  800 S State St
ARMED ROBBERY  Knife  Parking Garage/lot
Beat 123

10/27/2021  9:05am  State and E. 8th
ATTEMPTED ARMED ROBBERY  Restaurant
Beat 123

10/26/2021  8pm  1200 S Federal
ATTEMPTED STRONG ARM ROBBERY  Sidewalk
Beat 131

10/26/2021  2:10pm  1200 S Wabash
AGGRAVATED BATTERY  Grocery Store  Beat 131

10/23/2021  8:50AM  1200 S Wabash
STRONG ARM BATTERY, No weapon  Grocery
Store Beat 131

10/16/2021  7:11pm  900 S State
VEHICULAR HIJACKING  Street Beat 123

10/20/2021  12:15am  600 S Michigan
AGGRAVATED towards Senior Citizen  Sidewalk
Beat 123

10/18/2021  1:25am  500 S State
ARMED ROBBERY, Handgun  Commercial Office
Beat 123

10/15/2021  1:21 pm  20 E Roosevelt
STRONG ARM No weapon  CTA Platform  Beat 123

The Office of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC) launched Smart911 in Chicago in 2018. Smart911 is a free and private service that allows residents to create a safety profile for their household that includes any critical information they may want 9-1-1 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency. This profile is accessible to a 9-1-1 call taker when the number associated with the Smart911 safety profile dials 9-1-1. A resident's Smart911 safety profile can automatically provide the 9-1-1 call taker with any critical information that a resident may want to share, such as information about any existing disabilities, mental health conditions, pets in the home, building specifications, and more to assist emergency personnel when responding to an incident. Click here to learn more.

We focus on crime that is violent or may affect your physical safety. If you look at the graph on top of this 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.
1st photo: 727 South Dearborn Unit 1012 - $1,135,000.00
3 bed, 3 bath, huge skylight and large private roof space

2nd photo: 1180 S Plymouth Court 1NE
3 bedroom Townhome in Dearborn Park 1. 2.5 baths
$375,000

3rd photo: 600 S Dearborn St unit 603—$245,000
1 bed/1 bath 914 Sq Ft

Susan Dickman - Koenigrubloff/Berkshire Hathaway Home
773-627-8176

Susandickman.com
Sdickman@BHHSChicago.com.

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Real Estate Transactions

$197,500
1 E 8TH ST 809
9/24/21

$329,500
1530 S STATE ST 927
9/22/21

$320,000
1516 S WABASH AVE 306
9/21/21

$710,000
100 E 14TH ST 1705
9/17/21

$335,000
124 W POLK ST 607
9/15/21

$360,000
233 E 13TH ST 250B
9/13/21

$145,000
680 S FEDERAL ST 906
9/13/21

$325,000
1143 S PLYMOUTH CT 504
9/10/21

$412,500
523 S PLYMOUTH CT 1001
9/9/21

$235,000
732 S FINANCIAL PL 416
9/9/21

$255,000
1160 S MICHIGAN AVE 1106
9/7/21

$595,000
1201 S PRAIRIE AVE 904
9/2/21

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tomfeddor@gmail.com
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$255,000
Rick Yokogawa (DR)
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1322 S Wabash Ave
#2305
1 bed, 1.5 bath, 925 SF
$285,000
Delilah Walker-Brooks
Baird & Warner
312.753.7136

1322 S Prairie Ave
#407
2 bed, 2 bath, 1305 SF
$419,000
Ryan Cherney
Circle One Realty
630.862.5181

1305 S Michigan Ave
#611
1 bed, 1 bath, 890 SF
$299,900
Jacqueline Colando
Redfin Corp
312.278.3428

1322 S Wabash Unit 506
1 bed, 1 bath
1000 Sq Ft
$275,000
Anne Rosen
Keller Williams
312.545.7148

1305 S Michigan Ave
#611
1 bed, 1 bath, 890 SF
$299,900
Jacqueline Colando
Redfin Corp
312.278.3428

801 S Wells St #1004
1 bed, 1 bath, 1000 SF
$248,000
Joel Miller
Coldwell Banker Realty
312.961.0449

520 S State St #1516
2 bed, 2 bath, 1265 SF
$399,900
Kevin Green
@properties
312.520.8485

40 E 9th St
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2 bed/ 2 bath
$1360 Sq Ft
$310,000
Anne Rosen, Keller Williams

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2 bed/ 2 bath
$1360 Sq Ft
$310,000
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Keller Williams
312.545.7148
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40 E 9th St #1203
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$169,900
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