One Year Later

Last year's front page headline read, “Tested?” We probably expected we'd be in a better place by now. The column suggested local options for testing. Now we're asking if masking will become a part of our everyday life.

We travel to Michigan quite often and many if not most folks have put the mask aside. Restaurants servers are not wearing masks in many of the restaurants and you only see a few people wearing masks in places like Menards or grocery stores where the employees are required to wear them and they ask the unvaccinated to mask also.

On a positive note is that the Chicago Thanksgiving Parade returned this year to provide us with the usual representation from our diverse ethnic communities plus the high school marching bands from Iowa, downstate Illinois and Chicago area. See photos on page 16 and 20.

And for many of us, we were sad to see the Grail Café close but it did provide us with a bright spot during a difficult year. Sheldrick Holmes had a dream to make a community space where goodness could be found. It was not your usual fast food eatery. You had to allow enough time for Sheldrick to work his magic and for us, his creations never disappointed. Fresh ingredients, farmers market berries and herbs grown in the flower boxes out front. Even if you ordered something you liked the day before, it was just a little different the next time around. It's the closest thing to a French restaurant we've had here.

Al Hippensteel
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!

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

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

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

**Www.Southloopneighbors.org**

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**South Loop 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
Heidi Stevens, a Chicago Tribune Columnist (among other things) had this to say on Facebook about last week’s Rittenhouse verdict: “This country keeps finding new and endless ways to break your heart.”

Ain’t it the sad truth. I have nothing to say about that matter that hasn’t been written. Like everything in today’s United States, the verdict and Rittenhouse’s actions are starkly polarizing.

I don’t have anything against responsible gun owners, or responsible gun ownership. But a dumbshit, barely pubescent kid shouldn’t be able to even pick up an assault weapon, let alone parade around an inflamed situation with one. That he could do so is symbolic of how ridiculously stupid this country has gotten about firearms.

This has all happened in my lifetime—it wasn’t always this way. I still have hope that we can get back to sanity, largely because of sentiments expressed by a couple of lifelong gun enthusiasts who feel like I do about America’s gun insanity, and who are trying to do something about it.

One is a Montana resident named Ryan Busse. He’s written a book called “Gunfight, My Battle Against the Industry that Radicalized America.” Full disclosure: I haven’t read it yet but I intend to after hearing him interviewed on today’s edition of “Fresh Air.”

In truth, Busse had me at the title. Because the current state of non-regulation does represent the victory of a radicalized minority.

Busse grew up loving guns, and that led him to become a very successful executive at a firearms manufacturer. He was present when things went haywire. When the NRA morphed into a hate and fear vendor, and funder of campaigns. It wasn’t always thus.

Anyway, whether or not you read the book, I urge you—however you feel about the 2nd Amendment and guns in general—to listen to the interview.

I also recommend visiting the Gun Owners for Responsible Ownership website. From the Who we Are section at the site:

We are gun owners, outdoor enthusiasts, and veterans who seek reasonable and responsible solutions to preventing gun violence.

We envision an America where all are safe from gun violence, and where responsible gun owners take the lead to promote safe gun ownership and sensible laws and regulations.

Our commitment to change arose from the December 2012 shooting at the Clackamas Town Center in suburban Portland, Oregon. Two people were killed and a third wounded. All were strangers to the shooter, but to us they were family, friends, and neighbors.

We believe our Second Amendment rights come with responsibilities. We also believe in common-sense efforts to reduce gun violence and promote gun safety across the country, including background checks on all gun sales, and safe and secure storage of firearms to prevent access by children or any unauthorized individuals.

The site is chockfull of solid data and information about advocacy. There are tons of seemingly smallish measures that are doable, and have been proven to make a difference.

God knows we need something different than we have.
Safe & Sound Blog
by Beth Finke
Senior Class: Karen’s Sex Education
November 20, 2021
http://Bethfinke.com/blog

I am pleased to feature Karen Fontaine as our Senior Class
guest blogger today. A Professor emeritus in the College of
Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing at Purdue University North-
west, Karen has retired after a long successful career as a
nurse, scholar, therapist, author, lecturer and educator. She
maintains her private practice in counseling, and somehow
finds the time and energy to participate in the memoir-
writing class I lead at Admiral-at-the Lake on Wednesday
afternoons, too. The essay she wrote when I assigned “Rules I
was Supposed to Follow as a Kid” helps explain her lifelong
interest in all these fields, and I was delighted when she
agreed to let me share her “rules” essay here with you Safe &
Sound blog readers.

Rules I Was Supposed to Follow
by Karen Fontaine, RN, MSN

Sex: not to be talked about, not to be done.

At 4 years of age I awakened from my afternoon nap and
decided to put lots of scotch tape on my genitals. When my
mother walked into my bedroom, she freaked out. “No, no,
no, no, no!” I didn’t know what was wrong, but I knew it
was serious. “We don’t do that kind of thing!”

What kind of thing? Was scotch tape only to be used on pa-
paper? What’s wrong here?

About the same age, I walked in on my father as he was put-
ting on his underwear. When he saw me, he leaped into the
walk-in closet. “He has cow udders!” I thought. Growing up
in Wisconsin, I’d seen lots of those. “BUT why is he jumping
in the closet? How strange.” I wish now that I could tell the
confused child that she’s okay.

These incidents illustrate my family’s pejorative approach
to sexuality. Don’t look, don’t touch, don’t call it by name.

Sex education in my family was negative and shame-
based. The rule was no sex until you are married. But they certain-
ly never said or implied anything positive about enjoying
sex in marriage. So, the question became, “If it’s so awful,
why would I save it for the person I loved?” I decided to find
out for myself: I became sexually active when I was 16. Sex
was okay, just okay.

“What’s the big deal about sex”, I wondered. Of course, I
wasn’t orgasmic in my teens. After that scotch tape episode,
I was convinced it was bad to explore my own body.

Fast forward to my 24th year of life. I am in the
basement of the church
getting dressed for my
wedding. Minutes prior to
walking down the aisle,
my father turns to me and
says: “I guess I don’t have
to tell you about sex,
since you are a nurse.” I
was stunned. “My father
said the word “sex?”” I
thought. “My father thinks
I am a virgin? This is a
hell of a time to be trying
to do sex education.” I
muttered something and
tried to smother my look
of shock.

So no wonder I spent 40 years as a sex therapist trying to
help others cope with destructive family, religious, and
social messages about sex. Over the years I have also be-
come an advocate for positive sex education — for peo-
ple of all ages.

Karen Fontaine is a certified sex therapist and has served
on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Couple
and Relationship Therapy since 2000. Her private practice
in Chicago specializes in Sex Therapy, Relationship Thera-
py, and Individual Therapy.
US journalist jailed in Myanmar for nearly 6 months is freed

By GRANT PECK and DAVID RISING

In this photo provided by the Richardson Center, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Bill Richardson, right, poses with journalist Danny Fenster in Naypyitaw, Myanmar, Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. Fenster, sentenced only days ago to 11 years of hard labor in military-ruled Myanmar, was freed and on his way home Monday, a former U.S. diplomat who helped negotiate the release said. (The Richardson Center via AP)

BANGKOK (AP) — American journalist Danny Fenster, who spent nearly six months in jail in military-ruled Myanmar and was sentenced last week to 11 years of hard labor, was freed Monday and began his journey home. Fenster was handed over to former U.S. diplomat Bill Richardson, who helped negotiate the release, and the two landed in Doha, Qatar.

“I’m feeling all right physically,” a bearded Fenster, in baggy drawstring pants and a knit hat, said on the tarmac in comments carried by the Al Jazeera network. “It’s just the same privations and things that come with any form of incarceration. You just go a little stir-crazy. The longer it drags on, the more worried you are that it’s just never going to end. So that was the biggest concern, just staying sane through that.”

While still jailed, Fenster told his lawyer that he believed he had COVID-19, though prison authorities denied that.

Fenster, the managing editor of online magazine Frontier Myanmar, was convicted Friday of spreading false or inflammatory information, contacting illegal organizations and violating visa regulations. Days before his conviction, he learned he had been charged with additional violations of terrorism and treason statutes that put him at risk of an even longer sentence of life in prison.

He is one of more than 100 journalists, media officials or publishers who have been detained since the military ousted the elected government of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi in February, and his was the harshest sentence yet.

“This is the day that you hope will come when you do this work,” Richardson, a former governor of New Mexico and past ambassador to the United Nations, said in a statement emailed by his office. “We are so grateful that Danny will finally be able to reconnect with his loved ones, who have been advocating for him all this time, against immense odds.”

Fenster has been in detention since he was arrested at Yangon International Airport on May 24 as he was headed to the Detroit area to see his family.

“We are overjoyed that Danny has been released and is on his way home — we cannot wait to hold him in our arms,” his family said in a statement. “We are tremendously grateful to all the people who have helped secure his release, especially Ambassador Richardson, as well as our friends and the public who have expressed their support and stood by our sides as we endured these long and difficult months.”

The exact allegations against Fenster were never clear, but much of the prosecution’s case appeared to hinge on proving that he was employed by another online news site that was ordered closed this year during a crackdown on the media following the military’s seizure of power. Fenster used to work for the site but left that job last year. CLICK BELOW FOR REST OF STORY

https://apnews.com/article/business-aung-san-suu-kyi-middle-east-bill-richardson-myanmar-dbb813081c248f1c12bf893b2e0c1c25
Lauren Groff, MATRIX
Riverhead Books

It is 1158, and seventeen-year-old Marie de France rides alone, banished by Eleanor d’Aquitane, queen of France, for being a bastardess with the royal blood of her father but with the aspect and prowess of the Amazon woman he raped. Thirty hours by horseback from the pampered comforts of her Norman castle, Marie was to become prioress—then Abbess—of the “piteous abbey” adorned with “burn piles of last year’s weeds and fourteen fresh black graves for the dozen nuns and their two aspirants who’d succumbed to a disease that turned their flesh blue as they “drowned in their own lungs.” Marie was typical of the leaders of convents of the Middle Ages: multilingual; intellectual; fierce; either despised or unfit for marriage; and, with luck, in love with the Lord. Marie was not a lucky girl. But she had “the power to bend nature to her will….a too-huge woman on her war horse, one-time crusader,” and led the most influential Abbey in the country, at a time when Abbys were often run by women since most of the men—and many women: including her own dead aunts, Queen Eleanor and her son, Richard the Lion Heart—were off on failed Crusades to recover the Holy Land from the Saracens. Groff sets Medieval royal tables with stuffed peacocks, gateau and wines imported from burgundy, while sisters and serfs survived on thin porridge and thinner prayers. Medieval prisons were filled with queens and princes who rebelled against their royal fathers—and with peasants whose eyes were plucked out for stealing fowl from the King’s lands. It is a tale of the times, replete with oft-ignored lessons from history: “the final apocalypse would likely be the stone and the soil in the waters of the Earth itself, through human frailty and greed, made too hot for it to be willing to bear anymore life upon its back;” the “Moslems” were “fighters too great” for the pale warriors of the West; and that “there had been rumors of witchcraft. But such rumors were irrepressible when it came to powerful women.” And it is a story of one woman, Marie of France, a real woman whose poetry in French was the first published by a member of the second sex, whose real or imagined experiences were either commanded by mystical visions from the Virgin Mary that would guarantee her a place in heaven—or they were selfish ambitions that would cause her flesh and her soul to be devoured by the dogs of hell. Either way, this cross between The Sword and the Stone and Saint Teresa’s Interior Castle is an original and beautiful read.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park
November, 2021

Casino Proposal Presentations
THE CHICAGO CASINO
Date:    Thursday, December 16, 2021
Time:    1:00—8:00PM
Location: The Isadore & Sadie Dorin Forum at UIC
(725 W Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, IL 60608)
Attendance:  Please indicate your interest in attending at
CHICAGO.GOV/CHICAGOCASINO
Capacity will be limited due to Covid-19. Additional details will
follow. The event will also be livestreamed on the Chicago
Mayor’s Facebook and Twitter.
Presentation by:
• Ballys-Tribune, Ballys-McCormick, Hard Rock
  Rivers-McCormick, Rivers-78
• Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and City Council Aldermen will be in
  attendance.

Browsing Sandmeyers for
the Holidays

Children’s Books

Skunk and Badger (Skunk and Badger 1) Book 1 of 2: Skunk and Badger
by Amy Timberlake and Jon Klassen
Local children’s author . Best book of
2020, Chicago Public Library. Jon Klassen
is an award winning illustrator of
Children’s books

Molly and the Mathematical Mysteries: Ten Interactive Adventures
in Mathematical Wonderland
by Eugenia Cheng and Aleksandra Artymoska
Dr Eugenia Cheng is a mathematician,
educator, author, public speaker, col-
umnist, concert pianist and artist. She
is Scientist In Residence at the School
of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Adult Books

At Home in Chicago: A Living
History of Domestic Architecture
by Patrick F. Cannon and James
Caulfield . . . You’ll be accompanied
by an experienced docent. And
you’ll join Chicago’s preeminent
architectural photographer.

Crossroads: A Novel
by Jonathan Franzen
Franzen returned to fiction
with Crossroads (2021), which
follows a family in 1970s
suburban Chicago.

An Elderly Lady Must Not Be
Crossed
Book 2 of 2: Elderly Lady | by
Helene Tursten and Marlaine
Delargy  Don’t let her age fool you.
Maud may be nearly ninety, but if
you cross her, this elderly lady is
more sinister than sweet.
By Marianne Goss, November 14, 2021

By Marianne Goss, November 15, 2021 at 8:34 am

It may be inconsistent for a liberal who supports a government-funded healthcare plan to opt for a private company’s Medicare Advantage plan, but it goes to show that personal interest wins out. Medicare Advantage saves me hundreds of dollars a year.

Medicare Open Enrollment for 2022 continues until December 7. After reviewing my options, I’ll stay with Humana Gold Plus, a Medicare Advantage plan with a $0 premium and dental, hearing, vision, teletherapy, and over-the-counter drug benefits. It was hard to choose between Humana and Aetna’s Medicare Advantage plans, which have better dental benefits. My choice next year may be different.

Private insurance companies are paid by the federal government to offer Medicare Advantage plans, which bundle all coverage into a single plan. Traditional Medicare is managed by the government and necessitates buying a supplemental policy and drug insurance for comprehensive coverage.

Coming up on its 25th anniversary next year, Medicare Advantage is growing in popularity. AARP reports that 42 percent of Medicare recipients choose it, and a majority are expected to by 2030. The appeal comes from premiums as low as $0; more benefits, including dental, hearing, and vision coverage; and the simplicity of having a single plan.

Why wouldn’t everyone opt for Medicare Advantage? Choice. Whether HMOs or PPOs, Medicare Advantage plans steer members to their provider networks. People with Traditional Medicare can see whomever they want. I understand why people in sparsely populated areas would prefer Traditional Medicare. They might sometimes want to seek medical care outside the limited number of local providers.

But in Chicagoland, where top-20 hospitals like Northwestern and Rush are in Medicare Advantage networks, and where huge medical groups like Duly (formerly DuPage) have hundreds of specialists and scores of hospitals in their systems, people can see top doctors for any health problem. Paying for a supplement and a drug plan with Traditional Medicare seems senseless when I get Rush Health with Medicare Advantage.

However, I do not have chronic health problems. People needing ongoing treatments might prefer Traditional Medicare with a supplement to avoid the copays that Medicare Advantage plans charge. They also might want to choose Traditional Medicare from the start because switching to it later might result in higher premiums for preexisting conditions or in being turned down for a supplemental policy.

My main reason for writing this post is not to argue for or against any choice but to remind people to review the Medicare options during Open Enrollment. Whatever your current insurance, it’s not advisable to automatically stick with it for next year. Plans change. Annual Open Enrollment gives you an opportunity to find the best one for you.

If you like a Medicare Advantage plan, be sure to check that your providers are in its network before signing up.

Filed under: Consumer and money matters, Health and fitness, Uncategorized

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

Click here

MOST RECENT
EPISODES

NOV 26, 2021

How the Cassette Tape Helped Create the Internet
Did Cassettes Help Bring Down the Iron Curtain?
The Tapes That Sparked the Iranian Revolution

Cassette tapes mostly gather dust these days. But back in their heyday, they fundamentally changed how we communicate, in ways we’re still making sense of today. On this week’s On the Media, hear how the cassette tape fueled the Iranian revolution, helped pierce the Iron Curtain, and put human connection in the palm of our hands.

1. Simon Goodwin on his innovation to broadcast computer software over the radio back in 1983. Listen.
2. Computer programmer Fuxoft explains his role in ‘Sneakernet,’ which saw pirated material of all types smuggled into 1980s Czechoslovakia via cassette tape. Listen.
3. The role of cassette tapes in the Iranian Revolution. Listen.

This episode was reported, produced, scored and sound designed for Radiolab by Simon Adler with original music throughout by Simon. Top tier reporting and production assistance was provided by Eli Cohen.
A History Lover’s Guide to Chicago (History & Guide)
The History Press
Paperback and Hardcover
By Greg Borzo, local South Loop author

Founded next to a great lake and a sluggish river, Chicago grew faster than any city ever has. Splendid department stores created modern retailing, and the skyscraper was invented to handle the needs of booming businesses in an increasingly concentrated downtown. The stockyards fed the world, and railroads turned the city into the nation’s transportation hub. A great fire leveled the city, but Chicago rose again. Glorious museums, churches and theaters sprang up. Explore a missile site that became a bird sanctuary and discover how Chicago’s first public library came to be located in an abandoned water tank. Follow the steps of business leaders and society dames, anarchists and army generals, and learn whose ashes were surreptitiously sprinkled over Wrigley Field. Combining years of research and countless miles of guided tours, author Greg Borzo pursues Chicago’s sweeping historical arc through its fascinating nooks and crannies.

Available at Sandmeyer’s Bookstore and other sources.
Today is kind of the end of the regular year, right? Starting with Thanksgiving and through New Year's should probably be its own unit of time – maybe the year with an appended "H" – since everything shifts into holiday mode, whether it’s how we eat or what we do with our free time.

And how about kicking off the "new year" with a gift for someone or yourself? A monthly print subscription costs $5, which is less than a Venti Pumpkin Spice Latte at Starbucks, and far healthier for your body and soul. So if you have not done so yet, please consider one fewer latte and help us realize our goal of 100 new members by Thanksgiving. [Print here](https://art.newcity.com/2021/11/19/a-snapshot-of-chicago-buddy-features-art-and-objects-from-over-200-local-artists/), [digital here](https://art.newcity.com/2021/11/19/a-snapshot-of-chicago-buddy-features-art-and-objects-from-over-200-local-artists/).

With gratitude to our staff and contributors, our readers and advertisers,

*Brian Hieggelke*

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**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](https://www.chicagocooks.net/) has continued pursuing his passion for music and high quality sound. [Carol Montag](https://www.chicagocooks.net/) 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.

Available at Sandmeyer’s and Amazon.
Sun-Times: Two Sloop Locations Front-runners for Downtown Chicago Casino

More chatter on the casino and the money looks to be on two Sloop sights (via Sun-Times):

some insiders believe the casino competition boils down to Neil Bluhm versus Neil Bluhm.

The head of Chicago-based Rush Street Gaming and owner of the lucrative Rivers Casino in Des Plaines, Bluhm is behind two proposals, either of which could benefit from few complications and a quick start. With the firm Related Midwest, Bluhm wants a casino on vacant acreage in the development site known as The 78, running southwest from Roosevelt and Clark.

It’s close to downtown, and the land is shovel-ready. But Bluhm has hedged his bets, offering on his own a casino plan for the existing Lakeside Center at McCormick Place, the oldest building at the convention complex and the one least utilized. It’s got parking already there and vast floors ready for slots and table games.

We’re pretty cold on the 78 location as it would dramatically change the profile of the Sloop as this land is poised to become a critical, central component of the neighborhood.

That said, the renderings of the 78 casino does look pretty striking and it has a crazy high tower:

For anyone looking for architectural flourishes, the biggest offering is at The 78. The plan includes a 1,000-foot observation tower—its rendering makes it look like a giant circular staircase. It’s almost as tall as 875 North Michigan, the former John Hancock Center.

As part of its entertainment component, the plan promises to re-create Mister Kelly’s, the storied Rush Street nightclub that was a stopover for musicians and comedians traveling from coast to coast. It closed in 1975
Award-winning author Ayelet Tsabari writes fiction that is global in its scope yet as intimate as a frank conversation with a friend. As Spertus Institute continues its Jewish Book Month tradition of bringing our community together to explore Jewish books and meet Jewish writers, Tsabari will be featured in a live online conversation you can join from anywhere.

A world traveler, Tsabari was born in Tel Aviv to a family of Yemeni descent. The characters in her books grapple with love, identity, and the challenges of balancing old traditions with modern times.
Chicago’s only condominium management firm specializing exclusively in vintage buildings. Property managers for Peterson Lofts, Harrison Street Lofts and The Moser Condominiums.

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‘Music is what I am’: Columbia adjunct wins international jazz competition

By Jordan Perkins, Staff Reporter  November 23, 2021

Jazz musician G. Thomas Allen said his venture into music began in the Black church as a child where he sang solos and was a choir member, learning skills such as harmonizing and improvising.

“For me, that experience of the Black church really set the tone to how I’ve been able to soar in different genres,” Allen said. “You can’t think of jazz without thinking about gospel.”

Allen, an adjunct faculty member in the Music Department, won the 10th annual Sarah Vaughan International Jazz competition, also called The SASSY Awards, on Nov. 14 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, New Jersey. Allen said he was excited to even be a finalist and that he was grateful.

Click below for the entire story.

https://columbiachronicle.com/music-is-what-i-am-columbia-adjunct-wins-international-jazz-competition
The Normal, Illinois Marching band waiting in the cold for their turn to join the parade.

Everyone is a photographer these days.

Left, the ladies From Mobile, Alabama
A Korean Group

Left, a photo op with the Ninja Turtles.

Right, Aedeok Lee
Chicago Korean Drum Ensemble
Sing Along Messiah

Sunday, December 12th, 2021
@ 3:30 p.m.
Reception to follow.

FREE Admission!

Featuring:

Tony Krempa, conductor
Michael Shawgo, organist
Sherry Watkins, soprano

Corinne Wallace-Crane, alto
John Concepcion, tenor
Ron Watkins, bass

*Messiah score available for purchase at door.
**Free-will offering will be taken to support our music program.
People aged 12 and older will be required to show proof of full Covid-19 vaccination or a negative test result.

For more information, visit our website at 2ndpresbyterian.org

Diverse ★ Inclusive ★ COMMUNITY ★ Engaging ★ Passionate
2ndPresbyterian.org
1936 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60616
Almost nine years ago, on Dec. 14, 2012, I was sitting in my fifth-grade science class when my school went under lockdown. When I came home, my parents told my older brother James and me to follow them upstairs. I silently cried as I climbed the stairs.

I had heard about what happened at Sandy Hook Elementary that day, and after seeing the look on my parents’ faces, I knew what was coming. I still remember screaming as they told us that our little brother, Daniel, had been murdered in his first-grade classroom.

After that day, I never wanted to think about gun violence again. I didn’t want to be constantly reminded of Daniel’s death. But as I saw more and more families shattered by gun violence, I forced myself to get more involved. I felt like if I didn’t, then more people were going to die.

This time of year is always really difficult for me, as the day that marks my brother’s murder gets closer and closer – but I have to keep working to honor him. That’s why, for Giving Tuesday, I’m asking you to help Sandy Hook Promise protect other children like Daniel from gun violence. A group of generous donors is even matching donations today, but we’re very short of our $755,000 goal. So please, before the midnight deadline, can I count on you to give right now?

Please give $55, or as much as you can, to Sandy Hook Promise right now. Every dollar of your tax-deductible gift will be matched and go twice as far to protect kids like Daniel, James and me.
COVID-19 Vaccinations For Children Ages 5 to 11 Begin This Week

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.

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

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.

Carjacking Prevention Tips

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.

Bp Student Ideas Competition

The Fall 2021 bp Student Ideas Competition at the Chicago Architecture Biennial (CAB) is open now through December 6! This free competition asks students grades 7-12 to share ideas for how to transform vacant city lots into collective spaces. Projects can explore a wide range of disciplines including design, the humanities, visual and performing arts, and STEM fields. This is a hands-on opportunity for young people to create change within their communities and they would love to see students from the 4th ward leading the charge! Learn more about the competition and how to register 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'

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.

311 vs 911—Make the Right Call.

We wanted to share with you a document provided by the City on when to call 911 and when to call 311. 911 is for emergencies that require immediate attention, while 311 is for slightly less urgent matters that still require the authorities. View the complete list for your reference here.
Browsing Sandmeyers for the Holidays

Refugee High: Coming of Age in America by Elly Fishman | Aug 10, 2021
Elly Fishman worked as a senior editor and writer at Chicago magazine. Her features have won numerous awards including a City Regional Magazine Award for

Three Girls from Bronzeville: A Uniquely American Memoir of Race, Fate, and Sisterhood by Dawn Turner Trice | Sep 7, 2021
Dawn Turner is an award-winning journalist and novelist. ... In 2018, she served as Bronzeville Nights: On the Town in Chicago’s Black Metropolis by Steven C. Dubin and Margo Jefferson | Bronzeville Nights brings it

Murder in Canaryville: The True Story Behind a Cold Case and a Chicago Cover-Up by Jeff Coen, The Chicago Tribune Crime and Justice editor.

The Ultimate Chicago Pizza Guide: A History of Squares & Slices in the Windy City by Steve Dolinsky, has won 13 James Beard Awards for his TV,
A 36-year-old driver waiting for the red light to change at Roosevelt and Wabash suffered a graze wound to his back. He drove himself to Stroger Hospital for treatment.

CPD surveillance cameras and CTA security footage both show Davis firing the gun in the victim’s direction, prosecutors said.


CLICK LINK FOR MORE
South Loop: Man is charged with driving stolen car that’s linked to $120K Louis Vuitton heist

November 23, 2021 CWBChicago South Loop

A man on bail for a pending gun case was arrested in the South Loop on Sunday after police determined that he was driving a stolen car used in last week’s robbery of the Louis Vuitton store in Oak Brook, according to prosecutors and a source.

Oak Brook officials said 14 people took about $120,000 worth of merchandise in a lightning-fast raid of the suburban Vuitton store last Wednesday afternoon. The crime was captured on video.

Around 2 p.m. Sunday, Chicago police pulled 22-year-old Jamari Stigler over near Clark Street and Roosevelt Road because the car he was driving had a license plate that investigators linked to the Vuitton heist, according to police records. Twitter user @Kimberl24391237 posted photos of the scene.

During the traffic stop, police learned the car was stolen and they arrested Stigler, Assistant State’s Attorney Sergio Gomez said. Stigler is not accused of participating in the Oak Brook robbery, and Gomez said investigators don’t know if Stigler personally stole the car he was caught driving.

Prosecutors charged Stigler with possessing a stolen motor vehicle and theft.

His private defense attorney argued that there is no proof that Stigler knew the car was stolen. He asked Judge Maryam Ahmad to allow Stigler to post a $1,000 deposit to go home on electronic monitoring.

But Ahmad was even more lenient than the attorney hoped. She decided to allow Stigler to go home without electronic monitoring in exchange for a $1,000 deposit.

CLICK ON LINK FOR REST OF STORY

Dearborn Express
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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

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727 South Dearborn

1180 S Dearborn

600 S Dearborn St
Real Estate Transactions

$236,000
40 E 9TH ST 805
9/27/21

$510,000
523 S PARK TERRACE 104
9/27/21

$301,000
1255 S STATE ST 1913
9/28/21

$295,500
1400 S MICHIGAN AVE 1906
9/28/21

$173,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 303
9/29/21

$345,000
1440 S WABASH AVE 411
9/30/21

$385,000
1143 S PLYMOUTH CT 109
10/1/21

$265,000
41 E 8TH ST 1504
10/4/21

$1,025,000
1423 S PRAIRIE AVE A7
10/4/21

$315,000
161 W HARRISON ST 15F
10/5/21

$548,000
1054 S PLYMOUTH CT 414
10/7/21

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