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Normal?

Just when you think things might be going back to “normal,” a war breaks out. A bully picking on a small country. We pray for the people of the Ukraine.

Speaking of bullies, it seems like a trend now. What does a civil society look like? A civil society includes music in their life. When we returned from Florida, the first evening we attended the jazz Showcase, an institution in the South Loop. Performing was Orbert Davis and eight additional musicians from the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Orchestra, a group he created.

Another sign of a civil society is literature. We attended the Author’s Night sponsored by the South Loop Neighbors and held at Half-Sour, featuring four local authors. See which South Loop writers were featured. Page 10.

On page 13 is an essay about the last time we ate at the Grail Café.

And Bonnie McGrath’s column reminisces about the time Gloria Steinheim, one of the icons of the Feminist Movement, came to her house for lunch.



Gloria Steinheim posing nude for People Magazine after turning 50.

March 10, 2022

Vol. 10, No.3

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JAZZ SHOWCASE

Thu-Sat, Mar 10-13, 8 & 10 pm.....Columbia College Jazz Ensemble & Saxophonist Tia Fuller
 Sun, Mar 13, 8 pm.....Columbia College Jazz Ensemble & Saxophonist Tia Fuller
 Wed, Mar 16, 8 pm.....WDCB 90.9 FM presents Chuck Israels Sextet
 Thurs, Mar 17-20, 8pm , Sun. 9:30pm . Drummer Winard Harper
 Mon, Mar 21, 7:30pm—9pmRoosevelt University CCPA
 Tues, Mar 22, 8—11pmWDCB Presents Petra's Recession7
 Wed, Mar 23, 8 pm.....The Jeremiah Review
 Thu-Sat, Mar 24-26, 8 pm.....Greg Abate Quartet
 Sun, Mar 27, 8 pm.....Greg Abate Quartet
 Mon., Mar 28, 7:30pm—9pmRoosevelt University CCPA
 Tues, Mar 29, 8—11pm.....Bob Lark Septet
 Weds, Mar. 30 8—11pmVocalist Michele Thoms Trio



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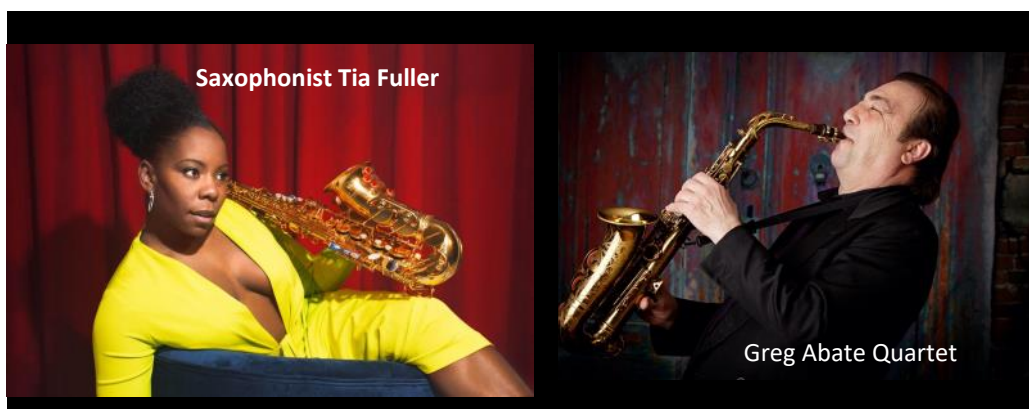
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South Loop Neighbors

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

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

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

Chicago River to Lake Michigan.

www.southloopneighbors.org

South Loop Neighbors

Newly elected board

President – Jim Wales

V.P. of Planning & Development – Dennis McClendon

Vice President/Secretary – Benjamin Cottrell

Treasurer – Dorothy Miaso

Director – Christine Hunt

Director – Roger Marsh

Director – Greg Borzo

South Loop Development Roundup

A reminder: Our January 10th online meeting covered the development and planning issues active in the neighborhood. See the development presentation here on You Tube.

<https://youtu.be/GKAaKzfMK4s>

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

Dennis McClendon

Director of Planning and Development



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Safe & Sound Blog

by Beth Finke

Questions Kids Ask: Is your dog blind, too? February 3, 2022



We're back! This past week my Seeing Eye dog Luna and I visited three different schools in person to talk with third graders about guide dogs and what it's like to be blind. Pretty wonderful to be back with the kids in person, but I gotta be honest: two years without any in-person visits to schools left me a little rusty.

During our first presentation, the one at [Indian Trail Elementary](#), I forgot to give Luna the "Outside" command at the end so they could see how well a Seeing Eye dog maneuvers around obstacles (including 3rd graders sitting criss-cross applesauce on the floor) to guide me to the door to the hallway.

At the second presentation, the one at [Braeside](#), I never took the Braille version of "Hanni and Beth: Safe & Sound" out of my bag to show them how Braille works.

Third time's the charm, though: the kids at [Ravinia Elementary School](#) got the whole show. And here's the good news: no matter what I did or did not remember to do in those three presentations, the questions the kids asked afterwards were as thoughtful and sweet as ever. Here's a sampling from the third-graders Luna and I met at Indian Trail, Braeside and Ravinia elementary schools this past week:

- So is going blind like closing your eyes for the rest of your life?
- Do you remember what colors looked like when you were a little kid and could still see?
- Was it hard to make friends after you were blind?
- You said you only see the color black, but if you got really, really close to a bright light, would you know the light was on?
- How do you swim if you can't see where you're going?
- So if you see the color black, but you can tell close up if something is white, does it look brown?
- Did you ever drown?
- When you drive, do you, like, have to use a navigator thing or something?
- So if you still remember colors, then when you are imagining things, do you see them in color then?
- I know we're not supposed to pet your dog when she's working, but when you pet her, how does she know it's you who is petting her?
- If you don't drive, then, well, do you, like, do you take a taxi?
- How do you get on the plane if pets aren't allowed on planes?
- Where does your dog go when you take a taxi?



As always, lots of questions from the kids.
(photo by Jamie Ceaser)

- Is your dog blind, too, or just you?
- Do you inspire other people?

With all of us wearing masks, some of the questions were hard to hear. Did that little boy just ask me if I inspire people? How do third-graders even know the word "inspire?" Repeating his question out loud gave me time to think about how to answer that.

These schools all participate in a weeklong "Disability Awareness" program, and from what I've observed, it really works.

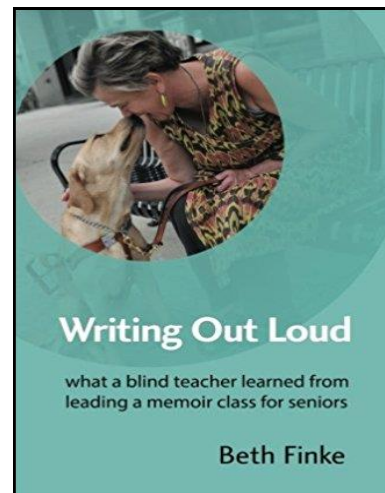
Days before my visit, the kids had met a para-olympian who uses a wheelchair to win track and field medals. During her presentation she showed them how her prosthesis works. "It was awesome!" one of the third-graders told me. After I left they'd be learning to say "hello" and "My name is..." in sign language. "It's pretty cool to meet people with disabilities," one of them said.

That was my cue.

Do I inspire people? "Well, I do a lot of things, you know, like go to concerts and eat out at restaurants and swim at the health club and travel in taxis and airplanes. Maybe getting used to seeing me out and about having fun will inspire people to make friends with people who have disabilities," I said. "Because like you already know, we can be pretty cool."

And you know what? Those kids inspire **me**. They're pretty cool, too.

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



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

Nearly certain diagnosis wasn't good enough

By **Marianne Goss**, January 17, 2022

I suppose a moral of this story is that if doctors say that there's a great likelihood of cancer, don't fold.

Last week my family was told that a CT scan showed a large mass on our mother's bladder. "I'm more than 90 percent certain it's malignant," a urologist told me at the hospital where Mom had been admitted because of bleeding.

At 94, Mom is immobile, has dementia, and lives in a nursing home, so we're prepared for her death. But we were hoping that she can go painlessly.

The urologist and the surgeon who stopped into Mom's hospital room didn't even recommend a diagnostic procedure for a frail nonagenarian. They said that cystoscopy has some risks, though minor. After the conversation with them, I told my siblings that I saw no reason for the cystoscopy if we weren't going to consent to treatment.

The other three wanted proof, however. They had the support of Mom's cardiologist, who I suspected thought that he knew more about others' specialities than they did.

During the couple of days we waited for the cystoscopy, we had a conference call with the hospital's palliative care doctor. We discussed how to talk to Mom about the cancer, what to expect from hospice, and whether life expectancy would be estimated.

As Mom was being prepped for the cystoscopy, one of the urologists upped the cancer prediction to 100 percent. A half-hour later, when Mom was in recovery, my brother texted us that no mass was found. The urologists now say that there might have been a cyst that burst or clots that bled away.

"Do you believe in miracles?" Rick ended the text. "I do now," one of my sisters replied.

I would understand if a cancer patient half my mother's age were to think, "Why is an old woman spared and not me? The universe is unfair."

I'm relating this tale not because I'm rejoicing but because it might be an instructive example.

I didn't doubt the initial assessment, so confident were the doctors who spoke to me. If my siblings, usually more trusting of authority than I am, hadn't insisted on a cystoscopy, we would now be enlisting hospice, informing friends and relatives of the bad news, and watching Mom for signs of decline.

There were more ironies. It seemed uncharacteristic of physicians, loathe to be found wrong, to express such positivity without a diagnostic test. Rick said the incident proves the value of second opinions. If we'd enlisted a second opinion, however, it would have been from another urologist. Our second opinion came unsolicited from a cardiologist who, I found out later, had told Rick there was an outside chance the mass was a cluster of blood clots.

Escaping cancer doesn't guarantee that Mom has much more time. She has multiple ailments and is past her life expectancy. But at least for now she isn't facing a painful death.

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

VOTING RIGHTS GAZETTE Chicago Indivisible Arkansas District Court Flaunts 55 Years of Precedent, Rules Private Parties Can't Sue Under Voting Rights Act

On December 29, 2021, the Arkansas State Conference NAACP and Arkansas Public Policy Panel filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas contending that Arkansas' new state House map diluted Black voting strength in violation of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. **On February 17, that judge ruled there was no private right of action under Section 2, the first time in 55 years that a court has questioned that right.**

The ruling, by Judge Lee Rudofsky, agreed that **there was evidence to suggest that the proposed House map was discriminatory**, but because, in his opinion, Congress had not expressly provided for a private right of action in the Voting Rights Act, **only the US attorney general could bring this kind of case.**

On February 22, **the Justice Department** delivered a filing Tuesday to federal court in Little Rock that the agency **stands by its contention that private parties may bring discrimination claims under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.** The US attorney general's office, however, declined to intervene in the case, thus allowing the disputed map to go forward.

The ruling is now being appealed to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, a move that the lead lawyer admits is risky. **"If we were to appeal and the Eighth Circuit were to rule against us, then it would become applicable in all of the states that are in the Eighth Circuit,"** said lead attorney Bryan Sells.

"No court has ever held that private individuals may not enforce their rights under the VRA," said Holly Dickson, executive director of the ACLU of Arkansas.

The question of **the right to private action** under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, an apparently popular GOP talking point, has **already been tested in two recent court cases.** In December, the League of United Latin American Citizens filed a lawsuit against Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. U.S. District Judge David Guaderrama denied the motion by Abbott's attorneys to dismiss the case on the grounds that no private right of action existed. And the issue came before a three-judge panel in Alabama that had two Trump appointees. It was unanimously rejected.

Rudofsky is a Trump appointee who **has contributed in the past to both Gov. Asa Hutchinson's and State Attorney General Leslie Rutledge's re-election campaigns. Both are on the state's redistricting committee.** He was also employed by Rutledge as the state's solicitor general before being nominated to the federal bench. **Requests for him to recuse himself were turned down.**
<https://bit.ly/3507KAD>

Popular Printers Row Fountain Being Restored In South Loop Park

The 24-year-old fountain will receive lighting upgrades, pipe replacements and other cosmetic work.

[Jamie Nesbitt Golden](#) Mar 3, 2022

SOUTH LOOP — The Printers Row Fountain is getting a six-figure facelift, thanks to the Printers Row Park Advisory Council, the Chicago Park District and Ald. Sophia King (4th).

The park advisory council began restoration efforts in September, launching a crowdsourcing campaign to defray the cost of the project with the goal of raising \$110,000 to upgrade the lighting, repair pump and pipes, replace colored enamel reliefs and polish the fountain's bronze highlights.

The fountain, located inside Printers Row Park, 632 S. Dearborn St., was designed by Edward Winhurst in 1999.

It is unclear if the park advisory council met its goal; members couldn't be reached for comment. But King confirmed that her office would be matching the park district's \$10,000 contribution.

"It was a big priority for the park advisory council, and we're happy to add resources. Beautification is important, and it brings safety and other positive things to the neighborhood," said King.



[Tours With Mike](#) Founder Mike McMains, who hosts virtual tours of Printers Row, views the fountain and the park surrounding it as a symbol of stability for a neighborhood once in decline.

Home to printing companies like R.R. Donnelly and Sons and Rand McNally, Printers Row was the printing hub of the Midwest until technological advancements made it easier for publishers to move elsewhere.

"After the decentralization of printing going out to the suburbs, through the 1960s and 1970s it became Skid Row — all the shorter buildings that were completely barren and dilapidated are all torn down. Some of those buildings were on the site that is now Printers Row Park. When the park was built in the 1980s, it was sort of a 'coming out' party," said McMains.

Formerly Park No. 543, the official name change wasn't finalized [until February 2021](#). Printers Row Park is home to the [Printers Row Lit Fest](#) and a [farmer's market](#).

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Fuller Award: Ana Castillo (In-Person)

Acclaimed author **Ana Castillo** will be awarded the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame's Fuller Award for her lifetime achievement as an author, activist, educator, and scholar. She joins an illustrious list of 11 other Chicago writers to receive the award. This is an in-person event held at the American Writers Museum. **Proof of vaccination along with a valid ID are required to enter.**

Masks that cover your nose and mouth are also required throughout the American Writers Museum regardless of vaccination status. This program will also be livestreamed,

[register for the live online broadcast here.](#)

Castillo (June 15, 1953-) is a celebrated and distinguished poet, novelist, short story writer, essayist, editor, playwright, translator and independent scholar. Castillo was born and raised in Chicago. She has contributed to periodicals and online venues (*Salon* and *Oxygen*) and national magazines, including *More* and the *Sunday New York Times*. Castillo's writings have been the subject of numerous scholarly investigations and publications.



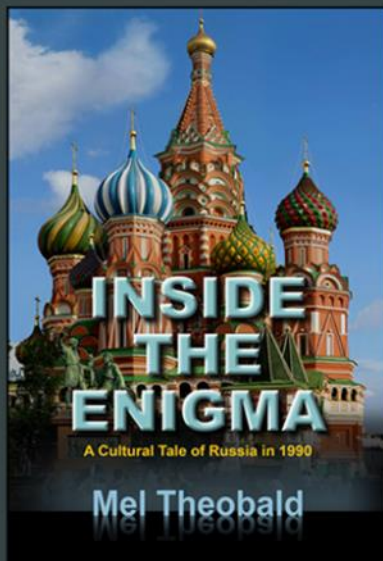
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Inside the Enigma

A Cultural Tale of Russia in 1990



by Mel Theobald

"*Inside the Enigma* sweeps you along like the very best fiction, all the more captivating because it really happened. An ordinary guy becomes caught up in high-level wheeling and dealing during a critical moment in international relations. Along the way he discovers hidden art treasures, gets to know the passionate men and women who create them – and recaptures meaning and purpose in his own life. With those four great themes and an inexhaustible wealth of twists and turns, this book will enthrall you from the moment you enter its unique world."

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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," <https://susanbassmarcus.net>. Both paperbacks are available at Sandmeyer's Bookstore.

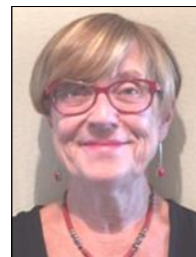
Women's History: We Can't All Be Florence Nightingale. Sarah Penner, **The Lost Apothecary**

Nurses and martyrs and girl reporters and lady astronauts are important, but female poisoners make women's history, too. Heroes to some, horrors to others, they capture our imagination and cater to our need to see wrongs made right. Giulia Tofana who died in 1651 was an Italian professional poisoner who sold a poison called Aqua Tofana (named for her mother) to 500 women who wanted to murder their husbands. French fortune-teller, abortionist, sorceress and poisoner Catherine Monvoisin, burned at the stake in 1680, had multiple lovers she didn't kill – including an executioner, an alchemist, an architect, a magician and a plethora of counts and viscounts, but among the men she did try to poison for other women was French King Louis XIV. Baba Anujka, a Serbian amateur chemist, treated the gynecological problems of farmers' wives, but also sold "love potions" to women whose abusive husbands died painfully, 8 days after drinking Baba's concoctions. In **The Lost Apothecary**, suspenseful, historic, disturbing, Sarah Penner makes us root for Nella Clavinger, the one-woman proprietor of a shop "buried deep behind a cupboard wall at the base of a twisted alleyway in the darkest depths of London" in 1791, and Eliza, the little murderer and magical sidekick who brings an end to Nella's enterprise. While Nella's mother operated "a reputable women's

apothecary shop...that gave a sense of warmth and safety," gently treating "women's maladies" that were ignored, ridiculed or ill-treated by "gentlemen's doctors," Nella's own losses made her turn to dispensing death to those who hurt women. The rapist, the philanderer, the pedophile, the abuser, the unloved suitor or the hated brother were felled by drams of "nightshade and arsenic listed on a register that hid betrayal, anguish and dark secrets." The author gets us to care about Caroline Parcellwell, a 21st century woman who made bad choices, ending up on her second honeymoon alone and enraged after discovering her husband's philandering. "I needed a break from the grief suffocating me...the thorns of fury so sharp they took my breath away." Caroline comes across an old apothecary vial in the Thames River that once held a potion from **The Lost Apothecary**. The story begins. Penner keeps us interested and afraid as she skillfully joins Caroline's first person narrative to Nella's and Eliza's. We must draw our own conclusions about healing through vengeance, and whether this sinister feminism is practiced by sinners — or saints. Grab a draught and dive into this book. You'll be addicted in no time.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park
March, 2022

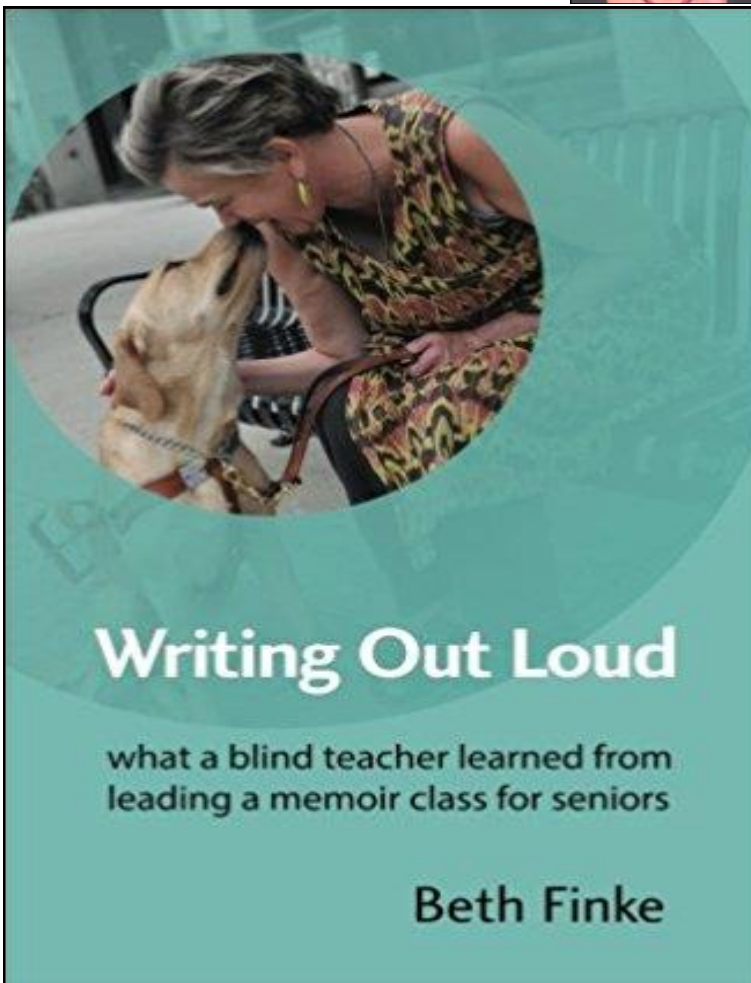
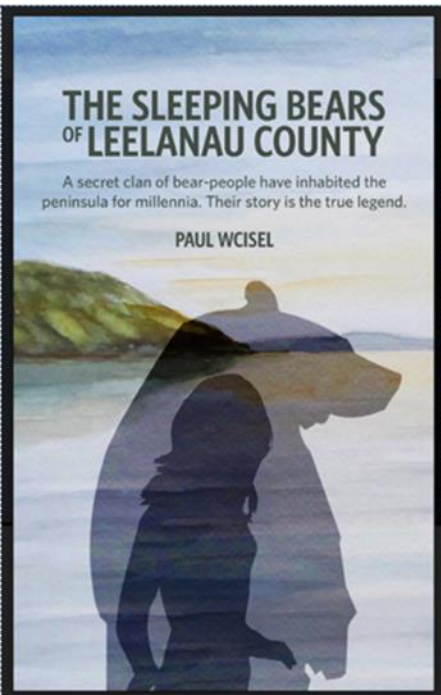


A new novel by local author, Paul Wcisel (paulwcisel.com)

In a remote corner of northern Michigan, the residents of Leelanau County have a secret society that has been living on the peninsula for thousands of years. They are the bear-transforming descendants of tribes who crossed Lake Michigan millennia ago to escape the destruction of their clan.

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Pick up a copy at Sandmeyer's Bookstore today.



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.

The day Gloria Steinem came to my house and I couldn't think of a thing to say

It's true. Feminist [Gloria Steinem](#) came to my house 38 years ago, at the height of her life of being the feminist Gloria Steinem. She would be turning 50 in a few weeks, which she mentioned almost as soon as she arrived. And I thought, wow, that's old.

(I wouldn't be turning 50 for almost 17 years. I didn't tell her that, though.)

Sure enough, on her birthday that year, [she posed naked in a bathtub for People Magazine](#). And everyone made a big deal out of it. And I felt like telling everyone that she told me personally she'd be celebrating her 50th birthday. Although not nude in a tub.

My job the day she came to my house was to make my always well-received tuna fish. I opened a few cans, mixed the tuna with lots of mayonnaise, some lemon juice and a lot of pepper—my mother's recipe. And I put out other things like bread and potato chips and placemats and napkins and soft drinks. And finally, coffee and some coffee cake and cookies.

I did my job. But I couldn't think of a thing to say. Even though I'd always been a big fan of Gloria Steinem. And I always thought if I'd only been more savvy in crafting my own career as a writer, I could have been a contender like she was. I didn't say that, though, I just pushed the tuna closer to her. And the cookies, too.

This is how she ended up at my house: There was a feminist artist/writer living in Indiana who had made a deal to write a book about feminism and feminists, starring Gloria Steinem. But she felt she was getting too old to take on such a task. She was a friend of a friend of a friend of my husband back then, [the outstanding writer Paul McGrath](#). And she decided he should do it.

So she invited me and my toddler daughter Molly and Paul—and one in the chain of mutual friends to come visit her and talk about the project, to see if he would truly be interested.

He seemed to be. And to Indiana we went.

She had a beautiful, rustic home in a vacation area on the water. And we all got along quite famously that day. And Paul agreed to write the book she had in mind. Not ghost-written; he would write it in his own name. She just wanted it written.

And when we left, she assured him that Steinem would be visiting us soon—and she'd make all the arrangements. And interviewing Steinem would get him going, she being *THE* feminist whose interview would put him on the right track for the rest of the writing of the tome, she explained.

Before we left, she piled every book she owned on the subject of feminism into our trunk—and into the backseat of our car, surrounding Molly and I with layers of what seemed like rubble from an old coal mine.

Paul perused the books from time to time over the next few months; he made notes so when Steinem visited he wouldn't sound like a dummy.

Finally, the day came for Steinem's visit to our big two-bedroom apartment on Michigan Avenue, at Randolph Street. Our friend who'd been at the Indiana house with us picked her up and brought her over. (She was to make sure—over the tuna fish—that Paul asked every question he should.)

So I walked Gloria Steinem that day, 49-years-old. And for some reason I went mute and couldn't think of anything to say.

When the interview was over, Paul and our friend and Gloria made small talk and I went into the bedroom to nurse my toddler. As that's what many women were doing in the early 80s: Being throwbacks to the early 50s. Probably a nefarious plot thought up by the Reagan administration to keep a maximum number of women out of the work force for as long as possible, nursing toddlers.

Afterwards, Molly and I rejoined the (now) gaggle at the table.

And I finally thought of something to say to Gloria Steinem. I had a question.

"Gloria," I said. "Do women at [Ms. Magazine](#) nurse their kids while they work?"

Gloria looked sort of puzzled. "Well," she said. "Yeah."

And then she said, "If they have babies and they bring them to work, they do. Not everyone does. But those who have kids often do. If they bring them to work, and if they nurse which we think is fine. So yeah, they do."

And that was that. She sat for a bit longer with us, but I couldn't think of anything else to say. Or ask.

After a while, she left. And since that day, whatever she did or said or got publicity for, I remembered our little back and forth. My question, her answer. And that I made my mother's tuna fish for her.

In the end, the book deal fizzled.

Almost 40 years later, through a divorce and moves and [Paul's death](#), I still have all the books that woman gave us. She didn't want them back and we never saw her again after the day we visited her at her home in Indiana. And I often run across those feminist books from that era, in various bookcases throughout my house, the ones the woman who got everything going piled in the car that day.

And through the years, the day that Gloria Steinem came to visit I always thought of as one of my own life's milestones. Like when I see the plates I served her lunch on, it always comes to mind.

And how I couldn't think of anything to say until I asked my one big question. That, too, was a milestone.

Bonnie McGrath

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





ORBERT DAVIS' 'SOUL MIGRATION' | The Jazz Showcase welcomed Orbert Davis, jazz trumpeter and co-founder of Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, for a special Black History Month performance on February 28 and March 1. Orbert's composition titled "Soul Migration" draws on the stories of many of the 6 million African Americans who took part in what is known as the 'Great Migration', moving from the rural south to the industrial north beginning a century ago. Premiered at the 2016 Chicago Jazz Festival, "Soul Migration" features Maggie Brown and a nonet of musicians from Orbert's Chicago Jazz Philharmonic.

Steve Eisen, Mike Salter, Thaddeus Tukes, Leandro Lopez Varady, John Moulder, Stewart Miller, Ron Hall, Ernie Adams, and special guest Maggie Brown.

Author's Night

Authors Night sponsored by South Loop Neighbors was held March 2 at Half Sour. Social hour was 6-7 pm

Meeting was held in-person and on Zoom.

The South Loop authors featured were **Beth Finke**, Writing Out Loud; **Amy Bizzarri**, 111 Places in Chicago that You Must Not Miss; **Sylvester Boyd**, The Road from Money; and **Greg Borzo**, Chicago's Fabulous Fountains

Sandmeyer's offered autographed books for sale.



On the left Sylvester Boyd and on the right, Greg Borzo introducing Beth Finke on the right.

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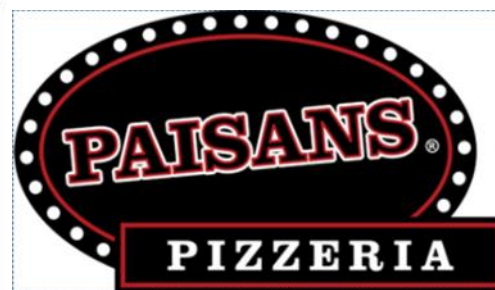
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Editor's Letter: March, 2022

March 7, 2022 by [Brian Hieggelke](#)

This is the ninth edition of Newcity's Design 50, and of the previous eight, three names have dominated the top spot on the list: architects Jeanne Gang and Helmut Jahn, and fashion designer Virgil Abloh have each held the number-one spot twice.

Needless to say, the untimely deaths of Abloh and Jahn in 2021 were devastating blows to the design community in Chicago but also around the globe, because both transcended their adopted hometown long ago.

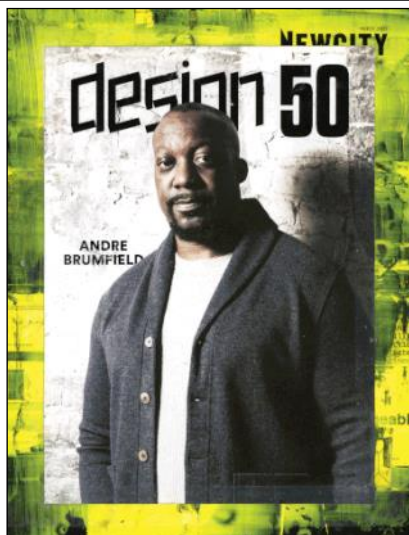
Though neither are with us physically any more, they both live on in Chicago in different ways. After his death, two projects dear to Jahn came back to life with the news that his masterpiece Thompson Center would be saved, and that the construction on his final Chicago project, the apartment high-rise on South Michigan Avenue, 1000M, would resume after an existential financial setback during the pandemic.

Beyond his boundless creative artistry for his own brand, Off-White, or for the menswear line of Louis Vuitton that he oversaw, Abloh not only crushed barriers between streetwear and haute couture, but his very success opened up the profession in an unprecedentedly inclusive manner. That legacy transcends fashion, and can be seen throughout the design world, and is manifest in the makeup of this year's Design 50, whether in fashion, architecture or innovation.

It is because of this that we mourn the loss of Virgil Abloh and Helmut Jahn but celebrate their legacy, which will continue to inspire and fuel generations of Chicago designers to come.

BRIAN HIEGGELKE

Look for Newcity's March 2022 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at [Newcityshop.com](#).



Cover image: Nathan Keay
Cover Design: Dan Streeting

IN THIS ISSUE

Hospital Hell

The psych ward during COVID

The Art of Organizing

The story behind the historic union at The Art Institute and SAIC

Urban Structure

Fifteen Chicago photographs in ten hours

Designer of the Moment

Andre Brumfield reimagines the city

Design 50

Who shapes Chicago in 2022

Poetry

Tense

And so much more...

NEWCITY

newcity.com

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.

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Chicago Cooks



45 PERFECT Recipes for the PASSIONATE Palate

Jonathan Horwich & Carol Montag

NEWCITY

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OPINION

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

Mondays with Mike:

by [mknezo2014](#) February 28, 2022

Making sense of the senseless.



Apologies for dereliction of blog duties the past few weeks. To be honest, I've just felt a little empty, with nothing to say.

Don't worry, not *that* empty. I'm not despondent and no more or less anxious about the state of things than usual. In most ways, my life is as good as it's ever been, save for the part about having more flesh, less hair, and having started my Medicare research. Gulp.

Maybe it can be summed up as broad dissonance. I'm more or less healthy, my work is meaningful and my colleagues are young and terrific. Beth is healthy and going gang-busters with her teaching. Gus is safe. I am fortunate.

Except recent events recall the height of the cold war, when nuclear obliteration was much nearer top of mind than it has been for a long while. And it's been long enough since we lost our friend Janet that it's really sinking in that I won't see her again. That's never going to be right.

A favorite movie of mine is *Grand Canyon*. The cast includes Danny Glover, Alfre Woodard, Steve Martin, Kevin Kline and Mary McDonnell. Kline and McDonnell play a couple whose marriage is teetering—but the movie's about a lot more than that eternal theme—give it a watch.

Anyway, there are several lines from that movie that are etched in my memory. These are three short ones:

*McDonnell's character: **Everything seems so close together.***

*Kline's character: **Hmm?***

*McDonnell: **All the good and bad things in the world. Everything.***

Last Thursday some generous friends treated Beth and me to dinner, followed by a performance of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The CSO is always magnificent but that night, Riccardo Muti conducted Beethoven's 9th. Though Beth and I have been to the symphony plenty, we've only seen guest conductors, so this was a real treat.



Themes of this movie resonate today.

When Muti took the stage, he took the microphone and spoke briefly about the day's news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. I can't remember precisely what he said—it was impassioned and solemn and heartfelt. What I do remember is his point: That the music he and the orchestra were about to perform was the opposite of what was going on in Ukraine. The opposite of hate, violence and war.

And when the 120+ strong chorus belted out Ode to Joy, they made his point

MOST RECENT EPISODES

MARCH 4, 2022

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ON **THE MEDIA**

The Fog of War

Footage captured and shared by Ukrainian civilians is helping the world see through the fog of war. But not every video in your news feed is the real deal. On this week's On the Media, how to sift fact from fiction with our new *Breaking News Consumer's Handbook: Ukraine Edition*. Plus, how journalists and analysts are using OSINT to track the war. Then, how an international white Christian nationalist movement is fueling Putin's views and violence.

1. Jane Lytvenenko [[@JaneLytv](#)], senior research fellow at the Technology and Social Change Project at Harvard University's Shorenstein Center, on how to sort out the real from the fake while keeping up with the news from Ukraine. [Listen.](#)
2. Peter Aldhous [[@paldhous](#)], science reporter at BuzzFeed, on how open-source intelligence is changing how we all experience war. [Listen.](#)
3. Casey Michel [[@cjcmmichel](#)], writer and investigative journalist, on white Christian nationalism—here and in Russia. [Listen.](#)
4. Jason Stanley [[@jasonintrator](#)], professor of philosophy at Yale University, on the anti-Semitic conspiracy theories that plague eastern Europe. [Listen.](#)

The Last Time we ate at the Grail Cafe

Hmmm. Interesting menu. We're at the Grail Café, a new eatery on Dearborn. I first met the owners, Steven and Sheldrick at an Alderman's Meeting. They spoke about their plans. My ears perked up.

We exchanged cards and I explained, as editor of the Dearborn Express, I could introduce them to the community. Then a year passed. Surely they would open in time for the holiday season. In fact, they opened January 1, 2020.

The interior did not disappoint.

Every detail was carefully thought out. A small space, the first thing you might notice is the counter. It ran the length of the room and curved at the front where a large pastry display case drew your attention to an array of French bakery goods. The counter was a rich wood with vertical spandrels creating a handsome texture as it cantilevered under the countertop arching inward. This was an elegant coffee shop, the espresso machine situated near the antique cash register for customers ordering their "to-go" order.

Waiters in long aprons come to our table.

Questions? The menu is simple, sweet and savory items. Some words in French hinted at the influences of the creations. I call them creations because if you enjoyed the egg sandwich so much on Monday, you'll be surprised the next day, it might be different depending on the available ingredients: breads, herbs (hope, love, and courage) or berries. French cooking insists on freshness and creativity. That day, we had quiche, butters and toasts, Hummus bowl, my friends and I.

It's March, 2020. We are fresh from our month in Florida. Anxious to return to the Grail. The staff is young and bright. A mysterious pandemic is encroaching the midlands from both coasts. By the end of the month, it is obvious that measures will have to be taken to "bend the curve downward." April, come she will. Restaurants will close down for a few weeks. How will they survive? They scramble to offer their fare as carry-out and



delivery. But the Grail offers fresh creations meant to be enjoyed there, immediately.

How do you keep the fragile presentations warm and from sliding in the box? Sheldrick's life line is coffee and pastry picked up by very loyal customers.

It's January, 2021. I take my daily walk for coffee and a scone. The government is helping financially strapped businesses. I can see the stress in Sheldricks face. The cold months of January and February are colder this year. His frustration bubbles over. He writes an open letter pleading with local political leaders for help. Where is the help for a black owned, Veteran owned business.? Here is an excerpt from that letter.



Sheldrick Holmes

"I just got this email - you guys are breaking me. (addressed to state and local govts)

*I get an email saying that I will **not** be getting this business interrupting grant. -*

What else do I have to do? Why do I have to fight so hard to be seen. . . .

I am asking to understand why I have begged for my city, my state, to value me, when I have put in the work.

Beg for a human to Look at me and say good job for fighting, I hope this helps.

But no. you give \$150,000 to Trust accounts., and Large Restaurant Groups, and Museums, Starbucks, and Subway.

I applied for this Grant Nov. 3rd 2020.

Grant Closed Dec 15.

Letter of No More Funds Availability - Dec.30 - Almost 45 days for you to tell me. That holding money in a trust account is more important than investing in Vet Own black own businesses. "

Eventually, it comes. But we fear too little, too late.

It's November, after the Delta Variant. Sheldrick is doing everything. Almost no employees. The pastry case is sparse. The warmth and the dream is waning with the bare bones operation. We enjoy lunch for the last time. He closes the restaurant on his birthday, November 16th, 2021.

Al Hippensteel

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Join us as acclaimed *Chicago Tribune* columnist and *After Hours* WGN Radio host **Rick Kogan** chats with retired veteran NBC5 political reporter **Peter Nolan**, author of *Campaign! The Election that Rocked Chicago*. Peter covered Harold Washington extensively over the course of his long television journalism career. *Campaign!* transports you to that tumultuous, historic mayoral election. Be there as Rick and Peter trade memories and share their insights.

Midland Authors was founded in 1915 to create "a closer association among the writers of the Middle West." A century later, the nonprofit group includes about 300 authors from 12 Midwestern states. It holds literary events — which are free and open to the public. The group also connects its members via *Literary License*, its newsletter; the midlandauthors.org website; [Facebook](#); and the Twitter accounts [@midlandauthors](#) and [@BiblioFile SMA](#).

• • • • •

For more information, contact: Greg Borzo: (312) 636-8968; gregborzo54@gmail.com

[Danny Fenster on life inside Myanmar's notorious Insein Prison](#)



After spending almost six months imprisoned in Myanmar, Danny Fenster, a U.S. journalist and 2009 Columbia alum, was released Nov. 16 and returned to the United States.

For his first national television interview since his release, Fenster sat down with Lesley Stahl on 60 Minutes to talk about his arrest, his time in prison and the other journalists around the world who remain in prison.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/danny-fenster-inside-myanmar-insein-prison-60-minutes-2022-02-27/>

THE COLUMBIA
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<https://columbiachronicle.com/>



Thu, Mar 17 Chicago

St. Patrick's Day Meet up at Half Sour

Don your green apparel and shamrock accessories and join SLN for a pint or a bite at Half Sour. This will be an informal gathering and you are responsible for the purchase of your own food/beverages. Feel free to stop by any time.

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THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

We welcome letters to the editor.

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
Dearbornexpress.net/

Successful Chess Tournament Mar 5 2022

The South Loop Chess Team had another very fun and successful tournament last weekend

(2/26) at Rickover Naval Academy. Thirteen students competed in the four age groups and among them were first time competitors, returning veterans, students earning a personal best score, and two trophy winners! Abhishek Kabra earned a very impressive 4 points to take 5th place in his division and PJ McAndrew tied for 7th place as an individual in his division and he is now our first team member to have earned 2 wards! Congratulations to the boys and all of the students who competed, they all did great!

Pawns, Kindergarten-1st Grade: PJ McAndrew, and Martin Uram

Knights, 2nd-3rd Grade: Whitman Gladfelter, Lucca Jones, Gabe Campeau, Alek Gilles, and Hania Fathy **Bishops, 4th-5th Grade:** Erik Keller, and Ella Uram

Rooks, 6th-8th Grade:

Abhishek Kabra, Jacob Denton, Isaac Uram, and Mohamed Fathy



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The 7/8 grade girls basketball team placed 2nd in the CPS Network 6 Invitational!

Post-Championship Game!

Two hard fought victories on Saturday took the SLES Lions to the championship game.

Earlier in the day they had a 10-8 win over Irving; followed by a 13-9 victory over W Brown to get to the Finals. Though the matchup against Burr proved too much, during the playoffs the girls were challenged, yet kept their poise and stayed focused on basketball so gracefully!

The coaches shared that these young ladies are all the most improved players this season and can't wait to see what each of them do in the future!

Coaches: Danielle Campbell (community member) & Arielle Johnson (parent of Dorian)

"These young ladies quickly figured out how to work as a team, how to recognize the strengths of others and how to stand tall in their own! We stressed the importance of professionalism, hard work and poise and the girls did just that." – Arielle

South Loop Elementary School



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OPINION

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

Backstory Essays Regan Burke

The Last Time I Saw Him

March 2, 2022



Regan Burke's new book, "In That Number" is a 2021 finalist for Chicago Writers Association non-fiction Book of the Year. Regan's brief memoirs and personal essays appear in the Christian Science Monitor, Sun Magazine, Chicago History Museum "In This Together" Project, City Creatures, Safe 'n Sound, Easter Seals Blog, Chaleur, Rise Up Review, Bird Garden's Murder of Writers and Writing Out Loud. She lives on Potawatomi land in downtown Chicago. Her main activity is reducing the weight of the here and now. Regan is in Beth Finke's Memoir Writing Class.

The last time I saw my father was in a La Salle Street law office. The confrontation was inevitable but I'd hoped he'd die before I ever had to see him again.

John the lawyer had told me a few weeks earlier that it was time. "We can't put it off any longer."

Herb, my old friend and lawyer, met me in the hotel coffee shop that morning. I'd flown in from Washington to Chicago the night before. My official notice requested a day off for personal business.

Personal business. The words are both too formal and too benign.

Herb flagged a cab on Michigan Avenue because my legs were too wobbly for the short walk to LaSalle Street. Two years had passed since I'd last seen my father. I came voluntarily to confirm fraud accusations against him. The thought of it kicked off spasms in my coffee-filled stomach.

Herb kindly offered to escort me from the hotel rather than risk my running into my father alone on the street or in the lobby or god-help-me in the elevator.

Are these extreme feelings legit? Why was a grown woman so afraid of her father?

He was such a good liar. Forty-five year old me could still remember that twisted smile from behind the cracked door of the upstairs bedroom the first time my mother called the police.

"It's nothing, Officer," he smiled. "Just a quarrel over money. You know how it is."

Years later, after they'd separated, he sobered up. But that smile. The one where his bushy eyebrows turned inward toward his pooled eyes; where his bottom lip turned up but his upper lip remained still, imperceptibly quivering. If you hadn't known him all your life, you'd never know that smile was a dead give-away that he was lying.

Having lived most of his adult life in Gucci loafers and posh apartments, he became desperate for money in his seventies. We'd been close. Until friends of mine let me know he'd approached them to back a questionable business deal. He needed enough money to live comfortably until the end of his life, which was not too long as it turned out. At eighty he died of lung cancer, a diagnosis he never revealed to anyone.

Before I moved to Washington, I'd been in the room many times listening to my father on the phone hustling potential investors.

"Just need a few more thousand," he'd lie, "Then we're ready to go."

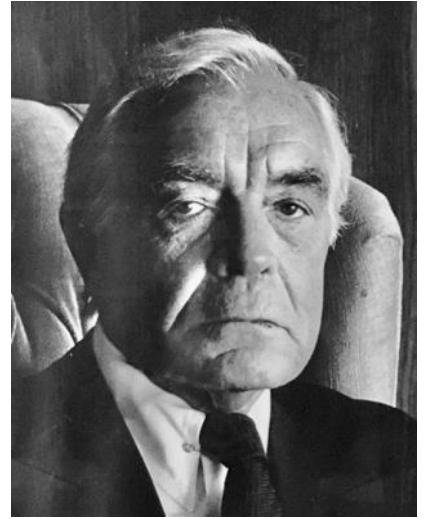
A friend of mine he'd contacted without my knowledge took the bait. He gave my father almost a million dollars. Later, the friend sued.

In the conference room Herb objected to those bushy eyebrows taking a seat across from us. I locked eyes with the lawyer interrogating me. Two weeks before, a crony offered me \$10,000 to not testify. The week before, my father called my boss growling I couldn't be trusted.

After the deposition, I backed away from my oncoming father. Herb stepped between us.

"Don't talk to her," Herb warned.

And he didn't.



by Regan Burke [In That Number: One Woman's March From the Streets of Protest to the Halls of Power \(And Beyond\)](#)

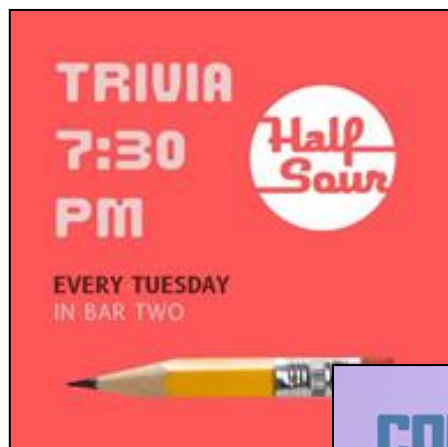
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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Do you have a passion for this city and want to give back to your community through service? Apply to join the Chicago Police Department. To apply in advance online [click here](#) or just show up and register at any exam ses-

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.

Get Vaxxed at Home and Get \$50 Per Dose

CITY OF CHICAGO

The Chicago Department of Public Health's in-home vaccination program, Protect Chicago At Home, is now open to all Chicago residents age 5 and up. To encourage Chicago residents to take advantage of the program, they are offering a \$50 gift card for each dose of the Pfizer vaccine. Call **312-746-4835** to schedule or sign-up [here](#).

Get Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

COVID-19 TESTS

All American households are eligible to order up to 4 free COVID-19 tests online at COVIDTests.gov. These tests will ship within 7-12 days of ordering.

Your health insurance company will pay you back for 8 at-home tests per month for each person on the plan. Find out more [here](#).

[Click here](#) to read the White House statement. [Click here](#) for more information on the program.

COVID-19 Boosters

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COVID-19 boosters are now available for everyone 16+ at CDPH-sponsored clinics and programs. [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.

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](#).

Chinatown Still Struggling Due To Pandemic

[Amina Sergazina](#)

February 11, 2022



Since the pandemic, Chinatown businesses have faced massive revenue loss and xenophobia from people calling COVID-19 the “Chinese Virus.” Two years later, Chinatown had still not fully recovered.

In 2020 former President Donald Trump continuously called COVID-19: the “[Chinese Virus](#)” “[Kung flu](#)” and claimed that it was not racist because it first started in Wuhan, China.

The same year, the United States Department of Justice released the 2020 Hate Crime Statistic, in which 62% of offenders were motivated by race, ethnicity, or ancestry. The statistic also indicates that anti-Asian hate crime increased by 77% across the U.S. in 2020. Chicago’s Chinatown is a historic neighborhood established more than 100 years ago. It has always been a magnet for tourists and a special place for locals with tasty food, karaoke bars, markets, and shops. When you visit Chinatown, the first thing you see is a large gate with symbols that in English translate to “[The World is for all](#).” But because of the virus’s origins, many people across the City were hesitant to visit the neighborhood.

Many businesses were [forced to close](#), and those that stayed open still cannot return to the pre-pandemic revenue. In 2021, U.S. Congress announced a Restaurant Revitalization Fund with the Small Business Administration to help Chinatown businesses that managed to stay open.

“We won some grants, but there was a leaking ship, we had a hole, we’re trying to bail out,” said Spencer Ng, Triple Crown restaurant owner. “These little grants help [but] they’re not going to solve all the problems overnight. Our sales are not back to pre-pandemic.” Triple Crown is a family-owned restaurant that has been around in Chinatown for over 20 years and stayed with the same landlord. While many landlords were giving extensions and discounts on rent during the lockdown, the restaurant was facing eviction.

After receiving seven-digit grants from the SBA, Ng was able to pay off his debt with the landlord and pay staff, but it was still not enough to cover the \$3 million he lost throughout these two years, he noted. The biggest issue that Triple Crown currently faces is a staff shortage, along with many other restaurants.

Click here for the rest of the story

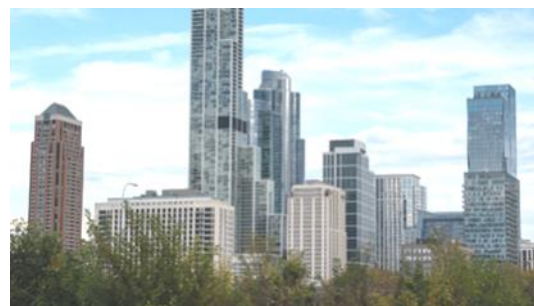
<https://www.chicagoreporter.com/author/amina-sergazina/>

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Neighbors Overwhelmingly Say They Don’t Want A Casino At The 78



Megadevelopment, Survey Results Show

Residents said they were concerned about the casino leading to more crime, traffic, decreased home values and gambling addictions.

[Madison Savedra](#) 7:18 AM CST on Mar 2, 2022

South Loop buildings loom over the vacant swath that is home to “The 78,” which is advertised as “Chicago’s newest neighborhood,” as seen from the Chicago River on a Wendella Chicago Architecture Tour on Oct. 20, 2021. Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

SOUTH LOOP — Hundreds of South Loop, Chinatown and Bridgeport residents are pushing back against a casino proposed for The 78 megadevelopment, saying they think it would lead to more crime in the area, declining home values, contribute to heavy traffic and exacerbate problem gambling.

The 78 Community Advisory Council collected survey responses about the casino from 378 people in February, co-chair Debbie Liu said at a Tuesday night meeting. About three-fourths of respondents said they were highly unsupportive of the casino proposal.

The majority of people said they already did not support the megadevelopment poised to overhaul the 62-acre former railroad yard next to the Chicago River between the South Loop and Chinatown. The prospect of adding a casino there has made the project less popular, according to survey results.

Some people who took the survey said they were from Pilsen or Bronzeville, [where some residents also have criticized a casino proposal near the Lakefront](#). All questions posed in the survey and during the meeting are being collected and will be brought to city officials, Liu said.

Josh Ellis, a member of the advisory council, said the council anticipates the city is working to narrow down [the list of potential casino spots from five to two](#) this month. If The 78 is one of the finalists for the casino, there will be more formal community meetings, Ellis said.

A spokesperson for the city couldn’t immediately be reached for comment about the city’s timeline for choosing a casino site.

Ald. Byron Sigcho-Lopez (25th), whose ward includes the development site, said Tuesday he agrees with some of the concerns neighbors shared about the prospect of having a casino at The 78.

BLOCK Club
CHICAGO

<https://blockclubchicago.org/>

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

[City Makes Final Attempts to Persuade Bears to Stay at Chicago](#)



The super bowl has come and gone. A major storyline from this year's big game was the Los Angeles Rams' brand new \$5 billion SoFi stadium. It is a beautiful building no doubt. Any team would be envious of that palace - especially a local one with a stadium that despite its history doesn't meet the needs of the team and fans.

With that as a backdrop, it seems like the Mayor Lightfoot and the city are changing their tone and trying to make a final pitch to keep the Bears at Soldier Field (via Chicago Tribune):

Mayor Lori Lightfoot plans to present the Chicago Bears with a "compelling financial case" for the team to stay in the city and her administration will "explore" the possibility of placing a roof on Soldier Field, she said in a pair of interviews Friday.

"We're going to continue to do everything we can to keep the Bears in Chicago," Lightfoot said on WSCR-AM 670. "We're working on some plans to present to them that I think will make a very, very compelling financial case as to why it makes an abundance of sense for them to stay in Chicago."

The city can offer the Bears "a tier-one market, a tier-one audience, fan base, and I don't think they can get that in Arlington Heights," Lightfoot said.

Lightfoot did not elaborate on what sort of financial arrangement the city can make that will keep the Bears from building a lucrative new stadium in the suburbs. But some experts have questioned whether anything short of a new building can convince the Bears to stay within the city limits.

Later, in an interview with WMVP-AM 1000, Lightfoot was asked about the possibility of putting a roof on Soldier Field.

"I think that's something we have to explore. We do," Lightfoot said. "My bigger thing is, obviously the roof is an issue, but there are other things we can do to really make the amenities more hospitable" for Bears fans.

The talk of a roof is interesting, but seems unlikely. While that might make the temperature and experience in stadium nicer, there are bigger financial and logistical challenges that likely are more pressing. Essentially how can the Bears make more money - whether that's increasing capacity or finding new revenue streams (stadium naming rights, ancillary businesses and fan experiences).

There are also the challenges of getting to Soldier Field that seems to be a sticking point. Interestingly enough, the massive One Central development seems like it could help on that front. That plan isn't really linked to the Bears, but could the city (and state) use that as an opportunity to sway the Bears to stay? Not sure if it's feasible, but that seems like it could help.

Should be interesting to see how this plays out. If we were betting a person we would put our money on the Bears leaving the Sloop.

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

2022 Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle

SOUTH LOOP

The Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K, 2 Mile, and 1 Mile Walk are returning March 20, 2022, for its 41st year running. Portions of the course will proceed through the 4th Ward. Please find attached a [course map](#) and [street closure information](#) and prepare accordingly.

Spring 2022 Events at the Chicago Public Library

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join the Chicago Public Library as legal professionals lecture on particular areas of law, such as buying and selling a home, starting a small business, and LGBTQIA+ law issues, with an open question and answer session. [Click here](#) to learn more.

The Chicago Public Library is also hosting a series of health events to help residents understand and navigate women's health issues and COVID. [Click here](#) to learn more.

In addition, the Chicago Public Library is hosting naturalization and green card virtual events with USCIS. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction Grants

COOK COUNTY JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Cook County Justice Advisory Council seeks to award \$50 million in grants for programs designed to prevent and reduce gun violence in Chicago & Suburban Cook County. The grant application period is open from March 8 – April 11, 2022. To learn more, including when they are holding information sessions, click [here](#). View their flyer [here](#).

New Community Clinic

SOUTH LOOP

UIC Two-Generation Clinic provides primary care with a focus on postpartum care, primary care, and well-baby care. They also serve fathers. They also provide wrap-around care that includes social work/counseling, psychiatry, lactation, connection to resources, and care coordination. [Click here to learn more.](#)

From KING4THWARD.COM Newsletter

Cops link 4 more crimes to South Loop robbers as pattern grows to 11 cases

February 24, 2022 [CWBCChicago](#) [South Loop](#)

Chicago police on Thursday updated their warning about a robbery pattern in the South Loop after a woman was [robbed](#) of more than \$10,000 by a group of men who also tried to hijack her luxury SUV on Wednesday morning.

It's the third time Area Three detectives have warned about the crime pattern, which now includes 11 robberies. Four of those hold-ups were added in Thursday's bulletin.

Most recently, three men threw a 46-year-old woman to the ground in an alley on the 1200 block of South Michigan and took her purse around 11:04 a.m. Wednesday. A police spokesperson said one of the men took the victim's purse while another tried to steal her Land Rover, but he couldn't figure out how to start it.

The woman told police she had over \$10,000 cash in her purse, according to a CPD report. All three offenders escaped in a maroon 2020 Kia sedan that was recently reported stolen. Police have also linked the Kia to a robbery at the Gucci outlet store in Rosemont, according to a law enforcement source.

Also new to the list of crimes that detectives are linking to the offenders are robberies on:

- the 1100 block of South Wabash at 4:20 a.m. Tuesday, February 22
- the 1100 block of South State at 10:20 a.m. Sunday, February 20
- the 1800 block of South Michigan at 1:50 p.m. on February 14

Police [previously](#) linked these incidents to the pattern:

- At 12:50 p.m. on February 8, a man pushed a victim to the ground and robbed them on the 600 block of South Michigan, police said. Columbia College told its community members that the offender fled in a blue Mitsubishi sedan that headed south in an alley from near 75 East Harrison.
- He pushed another victim to the ground and took their phone on the 1800 block of South Indiana around 11:40 a.m. on February 12, according to the CPD alert.

He returned to the 1300 block of South Michigan with an accomplice around 9 p.m. on February 14, police said. The two offenders blocked the victim's path and robbed the victim while implying they had a gun.

In CPD's [first alert](#) last month, detectives said a man pushed victims to the ground and stole their phones in the 1300 block of South Michigan at 1:50 p.m. on January 20; the 1500 block of South Michigan at 12:40 p.m. on January 21; and the 1200 block of South Michigan at 12:55 p.m. on January 21. Each time, he fled in a car that was waiting nearby.

Area Three detectives are handling the robberies. They can be reached at 312-744-8263 about pattern #P22-3-007B.

<https://cwbchicago.com/>



Did you know the South Loop Neighborhood Watch - Police Beat 123 has a facebook page?

We do!...and we encourage you to use it!

The South Loop Neighborhood Watch – Police Beat 123 Facebook Page is a crime communication tool intended to enable the rapid sharing of crime alerts and crime prevention news specifically for Police Beat 123. This area is the section of the South Loop that is bordered by Ida B. Wells on the north, Roosevelt Road on the South, the Chicago River on the west and Michigan Avenue on the east.

Link to Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1475398529519963/>

Please stay engaged! The safety and security of our neighborhood is everyone's business!

See past issues . . .

Archives at <http://dearbornexpress.net/>



Next CAPS Meeting Mar 9, 2022

3PM on Zoom

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



Police Blotter



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

Fri, Feb 25, 2022 11:09pm 500 S Michigan Av
SEXUAL ASSAULT Hotel Beat 123

Weds, Feb 23, 2022 11:04am 1200 S Michigan Av
STRONG ARM ROBBERY, in Alley Beat 131

Tues, Feb 22, 2022 8:30am 1100 S State St
ARMED ROBBERY Hand Gun on CTA TRAIN
Beat 123

Tues, Feb 22, 2022 4:20am 1100 S Wabash
STRONG ARM ROBBERY on Sidewalk Beat 123

Mon, Feb 21, 2022 10:30pm 1100 S State St
AGGRAVATED BATTERY on CTA Platform Beat 123

Sun, Feb 20, 2022 1:32pm 2000 S Wabash
CARJACKING, on Street, Beat 131

Sat, Feb 19, 2022 2:16pm 800 S Michigan Ave
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, Knife in Alley Beat 123

Weds, Feb 16, 2022 2:42pm 10 E Harrison St
ARMED ROBBERY Knife at Restaurant Beat 123

Weds, Feb 16, 2022 10am 50 E 11th St
SEXUAL ASSAULT at Hotel Beat 123

Thurs, Feb 24, 7am 1400 S Wabash
BURGLARY, Forcible entry Apartment, Beat 131

Thurs, Feb 24, 3:23pm 700 S State St
BURGLARY, Commercial Bus. Office, Beat 123

Vehicle theft

2200 S Indiana Feb 20

2200 S Michigan Feb 11

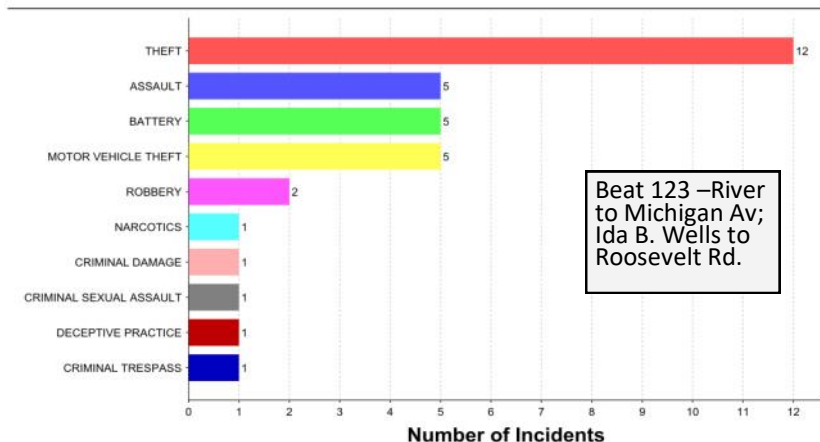
100 E Cermak Feb 20

2100 S Indiana Feb 10

2100 S Michigan attempted Feb 24

Report Date: 10-Feb-2022
Report Time: 16:57:50
Produced By: Information Services
Division: PC08L60
Run By:

Top Ten Crimes From 01-Feb-2022 To 10-Feb-2022 On Beat 0123



17-year-old committed 4 robberies on CTA trains, and one victim was stabbed, prosecutors say

[March 2, 2022 CWBChicago CTA, Loop](#)

Prosecutors yesterday charged a 17-year-old boy with participating in a series of violent robberies on the L system last year, including one in which a victim was stabbed at the Roosevelt Red Line.

Two adults were also [charged with some of the crimes](#) in December.

The juvenile is charged with two counts of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, aggravated battery of a victim over the age of 60, two counts of armed robbery, robbery, and attempted armed robbery. Those are all felonies.

Two of the robberies took place on December 23. The first robbery unfolded on a southbound Red Line train as it traveled through the Loop around 6:08 a.m.

A 49-year-old man told police that he was seated on the train when three men wearing face masks surrounded him and told him to surrender his belongings, according to prosecutors.

One of the offenders held the victim down while the other two went through his pockets and took his wallet and phone. The victim suffered two stab wounds during a struggle with the offenders.

Prosecutors said he tried to hold the train doors open to keep it from leaving the station with the men on board. But the offenders reportedly dragged the man across the platform and fled to the elevated Orange Line tracks.

While police were speaking with the victim, another CTA passenger reported that three masked men robbed him on an Orange Line train near Halsted. The second victim said an offender asked for money, and a second robber took his phone and removed items from his backpack.

After the robbery, the victim stood up on the train and approached the men to ask for his property back. He backed off when one of the offenders turned around and came toward the victim with a knife, prosecutors said.

Police used CTA surveillance camera feeds to locate three suspects at the Western Orange Line station who matched the descriptions provided by both victims. All three suspects ran when patrol cars arrived at the station.

Officers caught Tyree Walker, 26, and Donta Thomas, 23, but the third person — allegedly the juvenile who was charged Wednesday — got away.

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

Real Estate Transactions

\$260,000.00

523 S PLYMOUTH CT 802, CHICAGO,
60605-1
12/30/21

\$345,000.00

1305 S MICHIGAN AVE 1208, CHICAGO,
60605-
12/29/21

\$598,000.00

1416 S STATE ST , CHICAGO, 60605-2505
12/29/21

\$190,000.00

600 S DEARBORN ST 309, CHICAGO,
60605-
12/28/21

\$395,000.00

5 E 14TH PL 607, CHICAGO, 60605-2921
12/27/21

\$239,000.00

801 S PLYMOUTH CT 902, CHICAGO,
60605-
12/23/21

\$178,000.00

801 S PLYMOUTH CT 711, CHICAGO,
60605-
12/22/21

\$314,000.00

233 E 13TH ST 2008, CHICAGO, 60605-
3259
12/22/21

\$505,000.00

1530 S STATE ST 16D, CHICAGO, 60605-
2975
12/22/21

\$430,000.00

1322 S PRAIRIE AVE 1310 CHICAGO,
60605-

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RE/MAX Premier
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611 S Wells, #2509
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\$448,000

Mike cElroy
Center Coast Realty

[\(312\) 561-4080](tel:312.561.4080)



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3 bed/ 2 bath 2870 Sq Ft
\$749,000

Susan Sondag
Baird & Warner

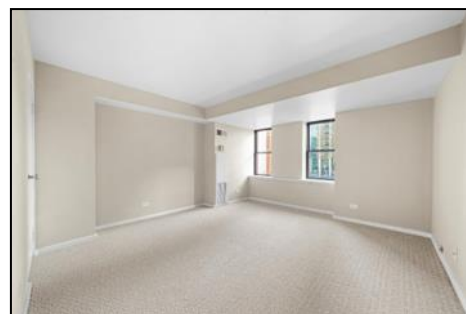
[\(312\) 800-3363](tel:312.800.3363)



1111 S Wabash, #1508
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\$395,000

Nick Kluding
Baird & Warner

[773.255.6072](tel:773.255.6072)



1250 S Indiana Ave #101
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\$450,000

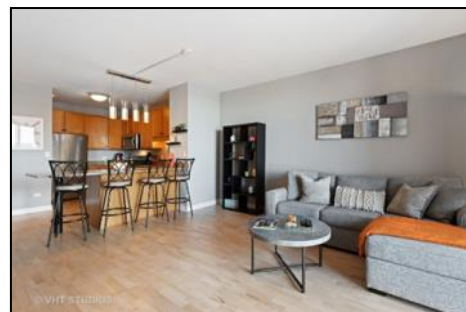
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