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Jones College Prep's Controversial Principal Will Stay After CPS Boss Rejects Vote To Fire Him

PRINTERS ROW — Jones College Prep's controversial principal will remain at the high school after the head of Chicago Public Schools opted not to remove him — despite the local school council's vote to oust him.

CPS CEO Pedro Martinez issued a statement saying he would not go forward with dismissal proceedings against Joseph Powers, citing "insufficient evidence."

Several members of Jones' local school council had been working for months to oust Powers, accusing the principal of ignoring problematic teachers and doing little to disrupt a culture of racial and gender-based discrimination at the school. CPS launched [an Title IX investigation](#) into Jones earlier this year after allegations of discriminatory practices involving the school's athletic teams.

Tensions reached a fever pitch when Powers [reversed a previous decision](#) to allow a budding cross country star to train with the boys' team due to inadequate facilities on the girls' teams.

The school's LSC voted 8-2 last month to ask Martinez to approve written charges against Powers and start the process to fire him after 14 years at Jones. The post-midnight vote came after a tense and combative seven-hour virtual meeting.

Martinez had 45 days to approve or reject the school council's request to take administrative action. Powers could not be reached for comment.

Local school council members Cassie Creswell, Sarah Ma and Leni Manaa-Hoppenworth have accused Powers of failing to prevent discrimination against students and teachers, financially mismanaging the school, and not addressing years of complaints of inappropriate behavior against two teachers, including [a drama instructor who was suspended in October amid a misconduct investigation](#). FOR MORE



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/04/26/jones-college-preps-controversial-principal-joseph-powers-will-stay-after-cps-boss-rejects-vote-to-fire-him/>

May 10, 2022

Vol. 10, No.6

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JAZZ SHOWCASE

Tue, May 10, 8pm & 10pm.....Drummer Greg Artry Quartet

Wed, May 11, 5pm.....Jazz Links Jam Session

Wed, May 11, 8 pm & 10pm.....Sharif Zaben – One Pulse

Thu-Sat, May 12-14, 8pm & 10pm.....**Dee Alexander** & Company featuring Eric Schneider

Sun, May 15, 4pm & 8pm.....**Dee Alexander** & Company featuring Eric Schneider

Mon, May 16, 8pm & 10 pm.....Drummer Neil Hemphill

Tue, May 17, 8pm & 10pm.....Christian Dillingham

Wed, May 18, 8 & 10pm.....Bob Lark Septet

Thu-Sat, May 19-21, 8pm & 10pm.....Trumpeter Keyon Harrold

Sun, May 22, 4pm & 8pm..... Trumpeter Keyon Harrold

Mon, May 23, 8pm & 10 pm.....Gustavo Cortinas Sextet

Tue, May 24, 8pm.....WDCB 90.9 FM presents Dudzienski Quartet

Wed, May 25, 8 & 10pm.....Chicago Soul Jazz Collective featuring Dee Alexander

Thu-Sat, May 26-28, 8pm & 10pm.....Carmen Lundy Quintet



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Kenyon Harrold



Dee Alexander

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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

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

Development update Presentation

A roundup of what's proposed and underway for the South Loop was the program at our annual meeting in January. You can [watch it on YouTube](#).



The latest information on planning and development in our area can always be found at our website SouthLoopUpdate.org



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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

May 6,, 2022

Roe



Long before the Supreme Court decided that a woman's right to an abortion was a privacy issue, I helped a few friends obtain illegal abortions. They had no choice. I almost had one myself, but chickened out on the steps of the abortionist's old row house in Newark, New Jersey.

Prior to the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, most women I knew had a secret contact closeted away in the flap of her wallet or scotch-taped to a page in her locked diary. The Supreme Court ended that phase of our lives. No longer would we meet in secret and whisper in corners about where to go for an abortion.

One year I drove a group of friends from New Jersey to a roadside motel outside of Baltimore. There were two girls to a room. It cost two hundred bucks, paid for with babysitting earnings or waitressing tips. Where did I get the abortionist's name and number? I have no idea. But I do know this: in the 1960s my friends knew I could and would help them.

The Roe v. Wade decision came as a surprise. I had paid attention, written to Washington in support of the decision and sent plenty of letters to the editor. But I never expected Roe to become the law of the land. It seemed preposterous. Born-again Christians had just started flowering in the 1970s. Hell, I was one myself. I even joined a Christian cult. But anti-abortion wasn't the primary cause at the beginning of the Christian Right movement. They took aim at teaching creationism in the schools and working against ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. To the Moral Majority, the ERA was—and still is—a threat to what they call traditional family values. And I call traditional patriarchal values.

"We certainly can't have women exercising the same rights as men!"

In the five decades that the right to choose has been law in the United States, a steady, ever-escalating squall has been battering its shutters. I know women and men who have worked tirelessly to keep abortion legal, as if any day now the Supreme Court would unlatch and reverse their 1973 decision. I never really believed it would or could happen.



It just seemed preposterous.

Well, it's happening.

A leaked memo written in early 2022 by Supreme Court Justice Alito tells us the Court is on the brink of reversing Roe.

"Roe was egregiously wrong from the start," writes Alito.

There are enough conservative judges on that bench to reverse Roe when they vote sometime before the end of the 2022 session. Abortion laws will go back to the states. Contact information will once again be squirreled away in secret places. An underground railroad of frightened teenage girls will stream into Illinois where abortion is legal. And when we send them back home, there's no telling if they'll be discovered and arrested for the crime of having an abortion.

As for me, I will make a bed for any girl who manages to find her way to my door.

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

Available at Sandmeyer's Book Store and other sources.



OPINION

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Mondays with Mike:

by [mknezo2014](#) April 25, 2022

Spontaneity



It's been happening steadily and gradually, and...Beth and I are busy again.

Busy as in going to plays, hearing music, joining friends for dinner—we went to see our son Gus a week ago and stayed overnight in Milwaukee.

We forgot how exhausting being busy can be. Fulfilling, but exhausting. (Play along and imagine that it has nothing to do with being two years older back when we were busy before covid.)

So last week we resolved to commit to nothing for this past weekend. Even if one of us brought up something that sounded kind of good, the other would scold: "We agreed not to schedule anything!"

And we ended up with a very enjoyable and full weekend. On Saturday—the nicest day of the year here in Chicago so far, our friend Colleen drove in from the burbs. We lunched at Roots, a place that opened just down the street from our place right before covid and somehow managed to survive. It was the first time Beth and I sat on the second floor—noteworthy because the place has an honest-to-god retractable roof. And it was retracted. It was glorious.

We spent the lunch catching up and enjoying a stiff breeze and the sunshine. It really is pretty cool up there. During lunch I got a text from our friend Jim. He was headed out to a local park to set up and test out a swell new tent he'd just gotten. But he ran into our friend Shannon, who was in town from the burbs with her toddler.

Toddler isn't quite right. Sprinter is more like it. I saw him flying around at a distance but didn't recognize him. He was bigger and faster. We hung out at our little plaza/park next to our building, and then headed to Dearborn Park, a proper park with lots of grass, to put Jim's new purchase to the test.

Now, you should know that Jim is at least 6'5". When he went looking for a one-person backpacking tent, that dimension was critical. And he found the perfect solution. An especially loooooonnnng one-person tent.



The rest of Jim is in there somewhere.

The best thing about the tent? The name. [It's called the So-Long](#). Get it? Solo. Long. Solong! Turns out the tent itself is as clever as the name. It uses trekking poles for supports. Beth and Colleen and I watched as Jim assembled it, occasionally holding things down in a stiff wind.

I would call it's maiden voyage a success. Hello SoLong! Beth and Colleen headed off for a walk and my backpack and I headed to the grocery store. Everywhere people smiled and laughed. Every outdoor café was full and buzzing with conversation. After what seemed like weeks of grey and cold, we were all liberated.

Some neighborhood friends had tickets to the Sunday 4:00 show at Jazz Showcase; they couldn't use them. But we could! And did. And we heard a fantastic group: the [Tom Harrell](#) Quartet. On the walk in, a sign said that "at the request of the group's management, we ask that you voluntarily wear masks." We did, as did most in the crowd. Turns out that the bandleader, Tom Harrell, has both a heart and respiratory condition. In fact, he never stood up and played. He sat in a chair, bent over with his horn pointing downward. He's 75, and clearly facing challenges. You might think that all sounds sad, but if you'd heard it, you'd have found it both remarkable and inspiring.

So an empty weekend turned, extemporaneously, into a busy and splendid one. There's still a ways to go, but it's fair to say, I think, that Chicago is back. And so are we.

Dearborn Express
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Little Flies Everywhere: Huge Swarms Of Midges Take Over Lakefront During Unseasonably Cold And Wet Spring

The midges, which birds eat, are hatching and mating along the lakefront. The good news? Peak mating season will likely be over by the end of next week.

[Joe Ward](#) May 3, 2022

Swarms of midges have been seen in lakefront communities. CHICAGO — As Chicagoans take to the lakefront and open their windows after a long winter, they're being greeted by an especially noticeable annoyance: swarms of midges. Small flies known as midges have been hatching en masse from the lakefront in recent weeks, causing swarms and blanketing nearby windows and balconies.

The insects are seasonal and are usually seen this time in the spring, when they hatch from bodies of water including Lake Michigan. But this year has been especially productive for midges, said Allen Lawrence, associate curator of entomology at Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

"This year seems to be a good year to them," he said. "We're not exactly sure why."

Lakefront neighbors have certainly noticed this year's population of midges. They've taken to social media to ask about the midges or to post in frustration after being coated by the bugs.

"They were so bad over the weekend it was almost biblical," one person on Reddit posted in response to a Chicago resident's [photo of midges crawling over a window screen](#). "Huge swarms of them just surging outside my windows."

Provided/Wikimedia Commons



Midges, known scientifically as chironomids, are an aquatic insect that live and mate near bodies of water. Their larvae live underwater or in wet mud and hatch every spring. The species is prominent in the Great Lakes area. They are sometimes confused for gnats or mosquitoes. It is prime midge hatching season, Lawrence said. The male midges hatch first and rise from the water into swarms, Lawrence said. The females hatch later and fly into the swarms to mate before laying larvae in water sources. Midges have a lifespan of about 3 to 11 days. Favorable conditions have led to a more successful hatching season this spring, and the cool climate and abundant food sources could keep the midges alive for longer, Lawrence said. Factors like cool temperatures plus a lack of disease and predators could be the reason for the extra noticeable swarms this season, he said. "You'll find them everywhere" during the mating season, Lawrence said. "My window is covered with them even though it's raining."



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/05/03/little-flies-everywhere-huge-swarms-of-midges-take-over-lakefront-during-unseasonably-cold-and-wet-spring/>

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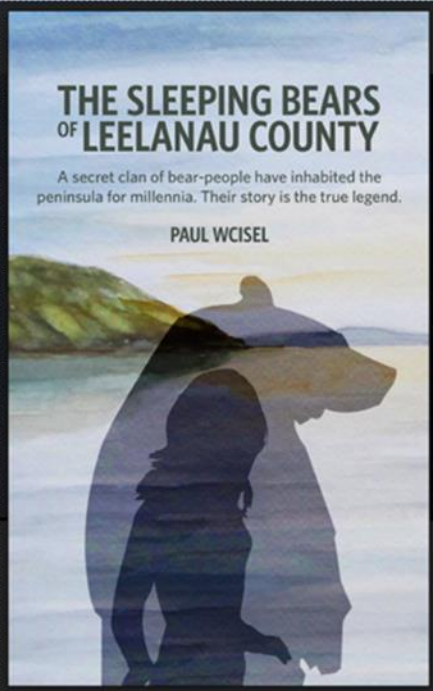
A new novel by local author, Paul Wcisel

(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.

One evening, a traveler has a chance encounter with a spirit bear and discovers he has a hidden history of his own. In the months that follow, he becomes deeply involved with the Sleeping Bear Clan and – depending on your point of view – a murder.

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The American Writers Festival logo features the words 'AMERICAN' and 'FESTIVAL' in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'writers' in a cursive script in between. Below the logo is the date 'MAY 15, 2022' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom, it says 'CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER & AMERICAN WRITERS MUSEUM' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. The entire graphic is framed by a colorful, abstract border of geometric shapes in blue, red, green, and purple.

A circular photograph of a woman with short, light-colored hair, wearing a patterned sleeveless top, leaning over and kissing a light-colored dog on the head. The background is a solid teal color.

Writing Out Loud

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

Beth Finke

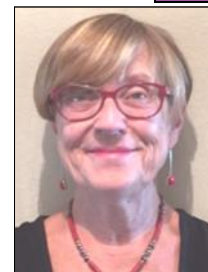
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage
Month: **Burnt Sugar** by Avni Doshi
(Overlook Press 2021).

It was 115 degrees in Delhi on Mother's Day. After the walk from the carpark, the blast of cold air from the A/C was disorienting—almost sickening. Inside, a room full of women dined on elaborate fruit drinks and coconut curries. One mother and daughter were dressed alike. As they spoke in hushed tones, we wondered whether any of their lives were as fraught as that of the artist narrator, Antara, and her mother, Tara—who named her only child after herself in Avni Doshi's first novel, **Burnt Sugar**. This is the story of uneven love, resentment, and selective memory. It's about women's desire to choose their own lives and the costs levied against them and their families as a result of those choices. It's about an old auntie, who wanted to become a Jain nun, and shave her head and climb a thousand stairs to fast and pray to her god, but was beaten and locked in her room by a father who thought ill of such nonsense. It's about a young, blue-eyed blonde from Pennsylvania, a wife and a mother who lost both her husband and her child in a car crash and travelled 10,000 miles to an Ashram in India to become the first paramour of a Baba who would replace her with a succession of other woman. It's about Tara, who no longer wished to spend her days waiting by the door for a husband who loved his cruel mother more than his wife, so

ran away, dragging her tiny daughter from homelessness to neglect to become the Baba's next lover. It's about Antara, a daughter abandoned by her father and often tortured by a mother who still hopes to even the score. It's about the natural course of mother-daughter relationships, where roles are frequently reversed. As Tara sinks into dementia, Antara must give her mother the care she never got: because Tara has no one else, because Antara is a South Asian daughter, because she loves her Ma. Antara's life coach says "her on grasp on reality is being shredded." Both mother and daughter say and do things to each other that make a reader wince. Antara tried to "bring up instances of her [mother's] cruelty, casually over tea," and record the hurt on her mother's face. Tara reminds her daughter, after giving birth to her own daughter, that "you always used to make me feel like shit." This book is either dark humor or stark cruelty. The novel stops—it doesn't end—as Antara clings to the notion that it is "unfair that Ma can put away the past from her mind while I'm brimming with it all the time." Step into the chaos; it may feel familiar.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park/Delhi
May, 2022

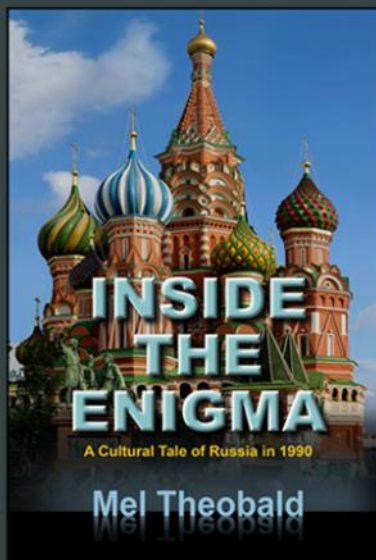


Susan Bass Marcus writes and illustrates fiction, essays, and reviews. Her Dragonwolder fantasy novels, *Malevir: Dragons Return* and *Where Dragons Follow*, offer a world of dragon clans, an enigmatic menace the Malevir, sprites, goblins, questing humans, and magical giants. Her musings appear weekly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

Inside the Enigma

A Cultural Tale of Russia in 1990

by Mel Theobald



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Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke

[Free Online Class: Unlocking Memories and Uncovering Stories](#)

May 5, 2022



Check out this [free online presentation I'm giving next week](#):

Unlocking Memories and Uncovering Stories<

Sponsored by the Oak Park Public Library and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) Oak Park Illinois Network

DATE: Thursday, May 12

TIME: 7 to 8:30 pm central time,

Author, journalist and teacher Beth Finke will lead a discussion on ways writing memoir and first-person narratives could apply –and benefit — the writing you do for children. Presentation is online and free to members and non-members of SCBWI.

Through observation exercises and writing prompts, Beth's workshop will answer common questions about getting started, the difference between autobiography and memoir, exposing family secrets, using pen names and pseudonyms, finding and working with publishers.

A fun and easy-going workshop to discover ways friends, family, celebrations, milestones, moments and place can be catalysts for unlocking memories and uncovering stories.

That's the official invitation. Now back to me about how I got this gig. Children's Book Author and Illustrator Sallie Wolf attended the Memoir-Writing Workshop I presented online for Chicago Public Library last winter and liked it. So much so that she contacted me afterwards to see if I'd do something similar for children's book writers – this one sponsored by the Oak Park Public Library. "I'm hoping you could base it on the exercise you did in the memoir writing class I took," she said.

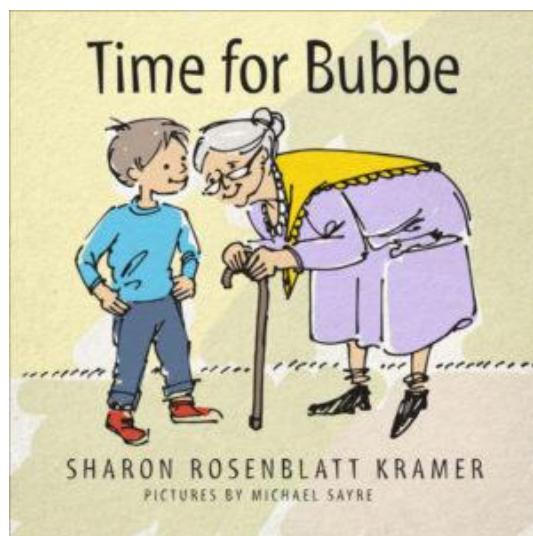
The request was flattering, but a little perplexing. That winter workshop I gave was about writing memoir. Why would people who write children's books want to know stuff about memoir-writing?

And then it came to me. I'll ask children's book author Sharon Kramer to present with me! Sharon Kramer's book [Time for Bubbe](#) was published by Golden Alley Press! Many of you know Sharon from my mentioning her in

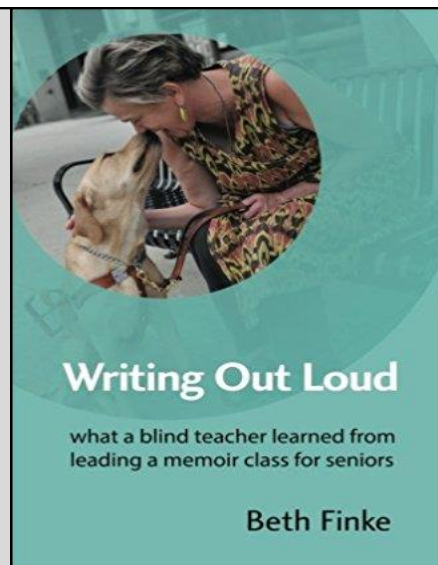
Saturdays with Seniors blog posts here. She was a writer in the *Me, Myself & I* memoir-writing class I taught in downtown Chicago before COVID, and her *Time for Bubbe* book is a perfect example of how unlocking memories can lead to children's stories. When I was still teaching Sharon's memoir class and assigned "Write About a Grandparent" as a prompt, she came back with a story written in the voice of her grandson talking about visiting her mother (his great-grand-Bubbe). We all loved the piece and thought that, with a little revision, it'd make a great children's book.

So Sharon got to work. She revised and rewrote, sent the story to publishers, Golden Alley Press took it on, a Yiddish glossary and Bubbe's recipe was added, illustrator Michael Sayre gave it his special touch, and voila! Sharon's masterpiece, *Time for Bubbe* is now available to order from independent bookstores or on Amazon.

I'll be interviewing Sharon Kramer about her children's book journey during the latter part of my presentation next week, she's smart, thoughtful, witty and we always have a lot of laughs when we're together. Join us! Link to the [SCBWI event page for information](#) on Zooming In at 7 pm central time on Thursday, May 12, 2022.



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



Century And Consumers Buildings, Beverly's Pike House Top List Of Most



Endangered Historic Places In Illinois

The feds plans to tear down the historic Loop buildings as part of a \$52 million demolition. They've sat vacant for 17 years. "It's completely ridiculous," one Landmarks Illinois preservationist said. [Melody Mercado](#) 1:00 PM CDT on Apr 20, 2022

THE LOOP — Two historic Chicago skyscrapers slated to be torn down by the feds top a list of the state's most endangered historic places. The Century and Consumers buildings, 202-220 S. State St. in the Loop, and the Eugene S. Pike House, 1826 W. 91st St. in Beverly, have been named to Landmarks Illinois' 2022 Most Endangered Historic Places list. The list aims to draw attention to historic sites in danger of being destroyed in hope they can be preserved. Statewide, this year's list also includes Elks Lodge No. 64 in Rockford, Gillson Park in Wilmette and the Will County Courthouse in Joliet. The Century and Consumers buildings in the Loop's Retail Historic District have sat vacant for 17 years. The federal government plans to tear them down as part of a \$52 million demolition.

Built in in the early 1910s, the creamy-white terra cotta exterior of the two buildings have been neglected by the federal government who [bought the buildings in 2007](#) for a potential office expansion that never materialized, preservationists said.

The Consumers Building was designed by archi-



https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/04/20/century-and-consumers-buildings-beverlys-pike-house-top-list-of-most-endangered-historic-places-in-illinois/?utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=5894c0fc27-



Sat, May 21
Chicago

Candidate's Forum: 7th Illinois Congressional

Join SLN and GSLA in this 7th Illinois Congressional Forum. We will be joined by Kira Collins (Democrat, challenger), Danny K Davis (Democrat, incumbent), and Navarius Mendenhall (Democrat, challenger).

[RSVP](#)

Time & Location

May 21, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Chicago, 1936 S Michigan Ave,
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Editor's Letter: May, 2022

May 3, 2022 by [Brian Hieggelke](#)

Jan and I went car-free so long ago we never think about that decision anymore, such as when the out-of-shape Fargo man about my age I met poolside at St. Pete Beach last month went on and on in disbelief that anyone could live without a car. His increasing health challenges silently testified to the virtue of a life without cars at its center.

We live downtown, close to every El line, to bus lines, to Metra hubs and Divvy stations, and with taxis, Uber and Lyft rides normally quick and affordable. And when all else fails, there's Zipcar or a family car available nearby. Transportation without car ownership is a normal way of life for us.

Walking and using the CTA are core aspects of our personal mobility. But, since the pandemic, the El lines have become carriages of lawlessness in the evenings, with folks openly smoking on the train as common practice and all more dangerous kinds of behavior adding a tinge of menace to the experience, one amplified by the news of a soaring number of crimes plaguing the system.

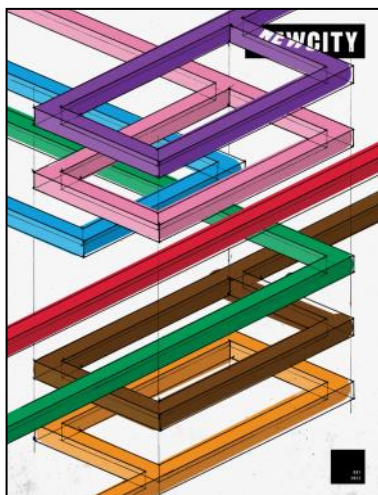
So now, for the first time in our life, we avoid CTA trains after dark. Unfortunately, the once-cheap Uber and Lyft options, now that they've destroyed the taxi system with venture-funded fare undercutting, have raised rates dramatically, to a point where they're usually fifty- to one-hundred-percent higher than the cost of a taxi. But good luck getting a cab using the usually excellent Curb app. It works well from our downtown home, but simply says "not available right now" when you try to return from a location on the South Side or even Navy Pier on a busy night.

So when John Greenfield proposed riding the Red and Blue lines all night and writing about the experience, it was a no-brainer to say yes. What is also a no-brainer is that the city needs to get its mobility infrastructure, especially trains and taxis, working again, and now.

Because we're not buying a car again. We hope.

BRIAN HIEGGELKE

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



Cover design: Dan Streeting

IN THIS ISSUE

Flea Bitten

Waking up at Wolff's Flea Market

Heaven Can't Wait

Equity Arts aims to reestablish Wicker Park as an arts hub

Tattoo You

A mother/daughter cartoon

El of a Night

Twelve hours on the Red and Blue Lines

That Happy Me From Gary

Tina Jenkins Bell's Chicago story

Poetry

Love Poem

A new poem from Travis Nichols

And so much more...

NEWCITY newcity.com

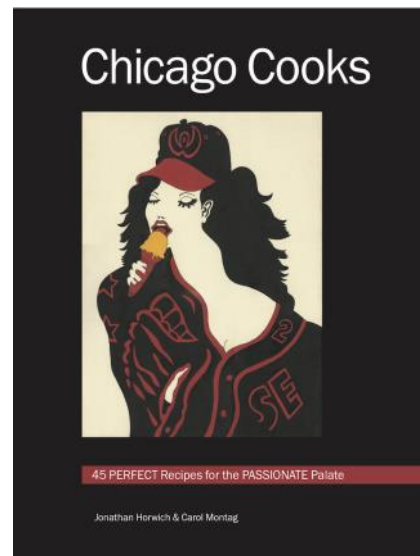
In Chicago Cooks: 45 Perfect Recipes for the Passionate Palate, the basics are covered for any kind of meal.

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.

<https://www.chicagocooks.net/>

Available at Sandmeyer's and Amazon.



NEWCITY newcity.com

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 Still riding the “L”

By **Marianne Goss**, April 18, 2022

Taking the “L” home on a Sunday morning, I watched a woman give \$10 to a man who was begging. The man noticed another \$10 bill in her wallet and asked whether he could have it. She handed it over.

Having just come from church, I remembered Mother Teresa’s famous statement about seeing Jesus in every human. This “L” rider is a better Christian than I am, I thought. When the man moved away, I complimented her on her kindness. “I don’t need it,” she said. “He was lucky. I don’t usually carry cash.”

Chances are, a lot of us wouldn’t miss \$20, but we don’t hand it over so readily. I am skeptical about how it will be spent, so instead I contribute to the Greater Chicago Food Depository and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.

It wasn’t just the woman’s nonchalance about being generous that impressed me. It was also that such kindness happened on public transportation.

Anyone who has been riding the “L” lately knows how unpleasant it has become since COVID. Smoking, sleeping across several seats, and blaring loud music are common. It seems that more often than not, someone is asking for money. Young men strut from car to car. I’ve observed people ranting and waving their arms — one did so in my face when he and I were the only passengers in a car.

“You’re brave to ride the Red Line,” a woman told me. I don’t feel so brave when young people in a group are being rowdy, as was the case when I took the Red Line home from Steppenwolf Theatre at 10:30 the other night. I often feel uncomfortable and even afraid on the “L” or a bus these days, especially after dark.

Fear is warranted; so far this year violent crime on CTA trains is reportedly up 24 percent from the same period last year. But I don’t want to give in to fear of people who are stereotyped as threatening. To put it another way, public transportation is the only place in my life where I’m in the minority, and to avoid it feels racist.

Not abandoning the “L” is as much of a risk as I can handle right now. The CTA recently announced that it would beef up security, especially on the most-traveled Red and Blue Lines. Regardless of whether there’s improvement, I’ll be riding not only because I need transportation but also because it seems like the right thing to do.

Lines. Regardless of whether there’s improvement, I’ll be riding not only because I need transportation but also because it seems like the right thing to do.

I am not excusing bad behavior and hope I’m not being reckless. Some of these “L” riders might be up to no good. But the homeless and/or mentally ill are likely harmless. The man who accepted \$20 from my fellow passenger was gentle and grateful.

If I were consistent, I would stop painting the entire West and South Sides as dangerous and find out which neighborhoods are safe. Despite living here for 32 years and giving tours as a Chicago Greeter for the last 15, I still don’t know most of the city because I rarely venture into vast swaths of it. But I’m not Mother Teresa.

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

MOST RECENT EPISODES MAY 6, 2022

Click here



Crime and Punishment

Across news outlets, crime reporting often relies on police sources and incomplete data. On this week’s show, hear how to spot bias in crime stories and what more nuanced coverage looks like. And, the struggle to protect whistleblowers calling out police abuse. Plus, the story of one powerful tabloid that has stymied bail reform for decades.

1. Laura Bennett, the co-author of “Freedom, Then the Press: New York Media and Bail Reform,” on how to read a crime story. [Listen.](#)
2. Matt Katz [[@mattkatz00](#)] WNYC reporter, on what bad coverage of bail reform looks like. [Listen.](#)
3. Tom Devine, legal director of the Government Accountability Project, on how to protect whistleblowers on police misconduct. [Listen.](#)
4. Tauhid Chappell [[@TauhidChappell](#)], Philadelphia Project Manager for Free Press, on abolishing the crime beat. [Listen.](#)

Past Issues . . .

Archives at:

<http://dearbornexpress.net/>



Jazz Showcase Wednesday, May 18

7:30 pm socialize 8:00 pm start time \$15 members (in advance) \$20 non-members \$20 at door Join SLN for a night of jazz and light bites at Jazz Showcase. Featuring Bob Lark Septet.



RSVP



[Helene Papadopoulos: the Goldberg Variations](#)

May 27 @ 7:00 pm-8:30pm

[PianoForte Studios](#), 1335 South Michigan Ave
Chicago, IL 60605 United States

\$20

piano*forte* **chicago**

1335 S Michigan Av. 312.291.0000

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Alderman King's Universal Basic Income Pilot



Went Into Effect Through Mayor's Budget

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCILS

Last year, Alds. Sophia King (4), Gilbert Villegas (36), and Maria Hadden (49) proposed a universal basic income (UBI) pilot in Chicago rewarding 5,000 families with \$500/month for a year. City Council passed a resolution to support this, which is now in effect through Mayor Lightfoot's \$16.7 million dollar budget for 2022. Applications are now open and will be accepted through Friday, May 13 at 11:59 PM CST. Qualified residents can apply for the program at chicago.gov/cashpilot. Read more about this initiative [here](#)

If you're not already a member, consider becoming a paid member of South Loop Neighbors. Memberships run for one year beginning either April 1 or October 1 of each year. Memberships are just \$20 for seniors and students, \$35 for individuals, and \$55 for a household for the whole year of membership. You can join online on our website: <https://www.southloopneighbors.org/join->

Benefits of paid membership include:

- Your membership supports your neighborhood organization so we can address issues that matter most to you as a South Loop resident.
- Your membership enables South Loop Neighbors to put on events free of charge including speaker's series, meet ups, grills night out, ice cream social, and more.
- For paid events, you receive a discount. Participating vendors offer discounts when you show your card. See our website for a list of participating businesses: <https://www.southloopneighbors.org/partners-and-builders>. (Contact us if you're interested in being a community builder or community partner).
- Monthly newsletter sent directly to your inbox.
- Because we are a 501(c)(3) organization, you might be able to deduct your membership dues on your tax return-check with your tax preparer.



- Brunch
- Daily Specials
- Catering

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*Mention The Dearborn Express
for a neighborhood discount

Empty store fronts on South Dearborn remind us of the pain of the Pandemic, especially local businesses. A "Revoked" food license sign is on the door of the former Caribbean Jerk Chicken. Another "For Lease" sign next to the former Grail Café which is also closed. And a lease sign on the former Dearborn Denim.



"Save the Fountain" at Printers Row Park

Fountains beautify cities and make them more livable, peaceful, and inviting. They soften the edges of the steel and concrete, and they help the passersby slow down the hustle and bustle of their busy lives.



DONATE

The Printers Row Park Advisory Council (PAC) needs your help! Almost a quarter of a century old, the Fountain at Printers Row Park is in serious need of restoration, above and below ground. Help us replace its colored enamel reliefs and polish its bronze highlights, upgrade its lighting, repair its pump and pipes so that this unique civic treasure can, once again, gush forth with its original energy and spirit,

In total, we need to raise \$110,000 to complete the restoration by the spring of 2022. We requested and are awaiting approval from the Chicago Park District for \$35,000 towards the project. Our 4th Ward Alderperson, Sophia King, has not only agreed to provide \$35,000 towards the restoration but has also agreed to match dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,000 in donations that we receive!

That leaves Printers Row PAC to fundraise \$40,000! Please contribute whatever you can to support the South Loop community in bringing the Fountain at Printers Row Park back to its original glory! Visit the fountain before and after the restoration so that you can appreciate the significance of this project.

Contact us: printersrowpac@gmail.com

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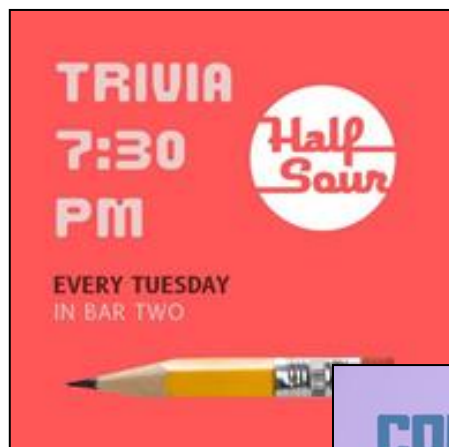
MausHouseofGrooming@gmail.com





Clark and Polk Streets

312.224.1772



Bingo with Betty

Last Wednesday of the month



Printers Row Farmers Market

SOUTH LOOP

The Printers Row Farmers Market will be back on **May 28, 2022** and run through **October 15, every Saturday from 9 AM-1 PM**. It is located on 632-632 S Dearborn St/ 602-781 S Federal St. Learn more [here](#).



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Chicago Food Truck Festival (Season 9)

Sat, Jun 25, 2022, 11:00 AM –

Sun, Jun 26, 2022, 7:00 PM CDT

1700 S. Wabash



Here we go again foodies! Season 9 of one of America's top food truck festivals, the Chicago Food Truck Festival is back!

About this event

Here we go again foodies! Season 9 of one of America's top food truck festivals, the Chicago Food Truck Festival. The last two years we have all endured a global pandemic. So, we will work to regain normalcy. And that means a taste of Chicago culture, food trucks, foodies and safe fun. Join us as we gather some of Chicago's top gourmet food trucks, for a foodie heaven of tasting chef prepared dishes and delighting the palate with a splash of Sangria or some Chicago's best Beers. Also, did we mention games and live music?

Get your free admission or VIP Drink admission tickets now. To expedite registration lines, there no longer are separate Saturday or Sunday Tickets. Tickets may be used on either day for one use only. So, if you plan to attend both days you will need to claim two free tickets or buy two VIP tickets. For more information, head on over to our website and subscribe to receive regular updates.

**Location: 1700 S. Wabash Ave., South Loop Chicago, IL 60616
(Permit Pending)**

**For More Information and to buy
VIP & Drink Tickets go to our
website: chicagofoodtruckfestival.com**



Tall Enough

by Gloria Bond Clunie
directed by Chris Anthony
Every spring, the J.E. Wilkins Science Pack at Hawkins Middle School celebrates the year with a trip to Wild Winds Amusement Park on their annual Physics Day. One problem - their normally fearless leader, Asia, is secretly terrified of roller coasters! For her team to win this year's Wild Ride Physics Challenge, she must ride at least one. A powerful group of friends unite and resort to extraordinary measures in hopes of helping Asia overcome her fears and discover if they all have what it takes to win.

Ages 7 & Up
April 23, 2022 - May 21, 2022
DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre

Chicago Playworks | 60 E. Balbo Dr.

Ticket Type	Ticket Price
Regular Ticket	\$12
3-Play Playworks Subscription	\$24

are reserved seating. Weekday performances are general admission. Call the Box Office for more information about discounts for subscribers, students, seniors, and DePaul faculty/staff/alumni.

DePaul University

Merle Reskin Theater
60 E Balbo Dr.



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Web Site

KING4THWARD.COM

Citizen App

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

The popular app Citizen is not always reliable for police information, and we ask that you call the CAPS office at 312-747-5109 for clarification on anything that you may be concerned about.

CPD District Meetings

ADDRESS YOUR SAFETY CONCERNS

Use the CPD's online [tool](#) to find your district and beat.

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.](#)

If You See Something, Say Something

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

"If You See Something, Say Something®" is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism, terrorism-related crime, and domestic violent extremism, as well as the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement. Informed, alert communities play a critical role in keeping our nation safe. [Click here](#) to learn more.

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.

4th Ward Students Receive CPS Scholarships

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fourteen CPS students each received \$40,000 scholarships and internship offers from Amazon to pursue an undergraduate degree in computer science. Among these students were four students from Jones College Prep: Mahrhoztal Rosier, Benjamin Cole, Lijuan Qiao, Julie Thai, and one from Kenwood Academy, Adam Achebe. Congratulations to the recipients! Your hard work paid off, and we wish you the best of luck in your continued studies. View the full announcement [here](#).

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](#).

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](#).

Man robbed at knife point at Red Line station — fourth CTA attack in less than a week

The man, 25, was on the elevator at the station in the 1100 block of South State Street when four people took his backpack and punched him in the face, police said.

By [Sun-Times Wire](#)

May 4, 2022, 4:00am CDT

A man was robbed at a Red Line station early Wednesday morning — the fourth CTA-related attack in less than a week.

The man, 25, was on the elevator at the station in the 1100 block of South State Street about 12:40 a.m. when four people took his backpack at knife point and punched him in the face, Chicago police said. The suspects fled onto a northbound train and were taken into custody at the Clark and Division stop, police said.

The man refused medical treatment.

Three others were injured in CTA attacks over the weekend.

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/crime/2022/5/4/23056504/man-robbed-at-knife-point-at-cta-red-line-station-fourth-cta-attack-in-less-than-a-week>

The CTA Boosted Security To Battle Violence, Bad Behavior On Trains And Buses — But Riders Say Nothing Has Changed

The CTA has hired four private security firms to try to double the number of unarmed guards patrolling the system 24/7. But even guards say they're ill-equipped to deal with violent or unruly passengers.

[Mack Liederman](#) Apr 27, 2022

A security guard leans against a column at the CTA Jackson Blue Line station in the Loop on Feb. 25, 2022. Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago
CHICAGO — The CTA has added dozens more security guards to the system in recent months, according to the agency — but riders and even some of the guards question if the strategy is making public transportation safer. Seventy unarmed guards have been added to the ranks since early March, when city leaders announced they would [double unarmed security guards from 150 to 300](#), CTA officials said this week. The changes came after [numerous riders said there's been an uptick in unruly behavior](#) — including people smoking and urinating — and issues with crime on the CTA during the pandemic.

And last week, Sen. Dick Durbin and Rep. Jesús “Chuy” García [wrote to CTA officials](#), calling for greater investments to fight crime on transit. The letter said the CTA has seen a 17 percent increase in violent crime over the past year.

But some riders said they haven't noticed more guards — or even if they have, they're not sure it's helping commuters and employees feel safer. Guards stationed at a Blue Line stop last week said the size of their patrol groups has not changed since the city's announcement, and they feel defenseless.

“We're unsafe on the trains because we're just kid guards,” said one guard who asked that their name not be used. “They just gave us a flashlight. What are we gonna do with a flashlight? ... We've been spit on, attacked, all types of stuff.”

There are 200-220 unarmed guards on the CTA each day, with the goal of training and onboarding the rest “as quickly as possible,” CTA officials said in a statement. Unarmed guards are active seven days a week instead of five, and they are “an added layer of trained eyes/ears out on the system for reporting incidents to police,” officials said. **Click below for the rest.**



<https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/04/27/the-cta-boosted-unarmed-security-to-battle-violence-bad-behavior-on-trains-and-buses-but-riders-say-nothing-has-changed/>



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!

A one car outdoor parking space for rent in Dearborn Park
One. \$170/month, with a one month deposit. Payment by Zelle due every month at the 1st of the month. Rental agreement ends when either party requests in writing via email 30 days prior. Write to holthaus@okapikissa.com for more details.

Next CAPS Meeting May 11, 2022

6PM on Zoom

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



Police Blotter



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

4/27/2022 6:30am 1300 S Michigan
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 132

4/25/2022 7:22am 1200 S Indiana Av
AUTO THEFT from residential driveway Beat 132

4/17/2022 4:45pm 1200 S Michigan Av
AUTO THEFT res. Garage

4/26/2022 8am 800 S State St
4/17/2020 4:40pm 20 E Roosevelt
AGGRAVATED battery on CTA Platform Beat 123

4/27/2022 11:06am 1100 S Clark
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY retail store Beat 123

4/27/2022 10:10am 50 E 11th St
AGGRAVATED BATTERY on Street Beat 123

4/23/2022 5:24am 50 E 11th St
CARJACKING on Street Beat 123

4/18/2022 9:40am 1400 S Michigan
AGGRAVATED BATTERY at Restaurant Beat 131

4/29/2022 9:39pm 1100 S Wabash
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, handgun Restaurant Beat 123

4/28/2022 11:30pm 700 S Michigan
AUTO THEFT Parking garage Beat 123

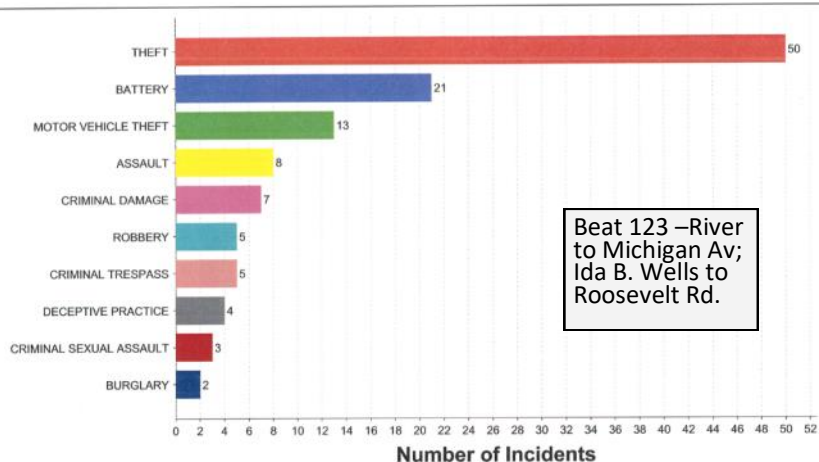
4/29/2022 11:40am 700 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT Beat 123

5/01/2022 7:52pm 1900 S Clark
AUTO THEFT/ RECOVERY on Street Beat 123

Report Date: 08-Mar-2022
Report Time: 17:46:43
Produced By: Information Services
Division: PC08LS00
Run By:

Top Ten Crimes From 08-Feb-2022 To 08-Mar-2022 On Beat 0123

Page 1 of 1



Four wounded when gunmen open fire on SUV in Loop — day after mayor decries growing gun violence downtown

A blue Dodge Durango was stopped in the 400 block of South Wells Street when the gunmen fired from a sidewalk around 1:35 a.m. Tuesday, according to police.

By [Sun-Times Wire](#)
May 3, 2022, 7:32am CDT

Four people were wounded when two gunmen opened fire on an SUV stopped at a light in the Loop. The blue Dodge Durango was stopped in the [400 block of South Wells Street](#) when the gunmen fired from a sidewalk around 1:35 a.m., according to police. A woman, 26, who was crossing the street was hit in the left leg and was taken in fair condition to Stroger Hospital. Three people in the Durango were dropped off at Stroger: A 38-year-old man shot in the back and listed in critical condition; a 31-year-old woman shot in the back and legs and also listed in critical condition; and a 28-year-old woman shot in the left leg and listed in fair condition. The shooting followed [several downtown attacks over the week-end](#).

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/crime/2022/5/3/23054926/four-wounded-gunmen-open-fire-on-suv-in-loop-mayor-decries-growing-gun-violence-downtown>

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/

Real Estate Transactions

\$845,000
1341 S INDIANA AVE D
3/16/22

\$395,000
547 S CLARK ST 701
3/15/22

\$395,000
1305 S MICHIGAN AVE 1902
3/14/22

\$155,000
40 E 9TH ST 1203
3/10/22

\$405,000
233 W 13TH ST 510
3/10/22

\$130,000
780 S FEDERAL ST 1106
3/9/22

\$420,000
170 W POLK ST 701
3/8/22

\$225,000
600 S DEARBORN ST 1205
3/4/22

\$510,000
1111 S WABASH AVE 2801
3/2/22

\$415,000
732 FINANCIAL PL 104
3/1/22

\$494,000
801 S PLYMOUTH CT S
2/28/22

\$1,029,000
1414 S PRAIRIE AVE
2/24/22

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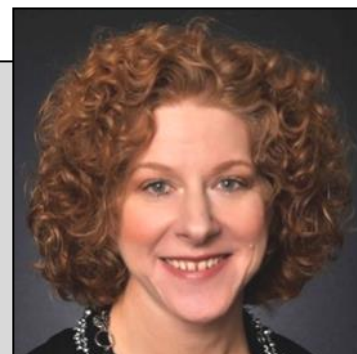
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Dearborn Street Realty
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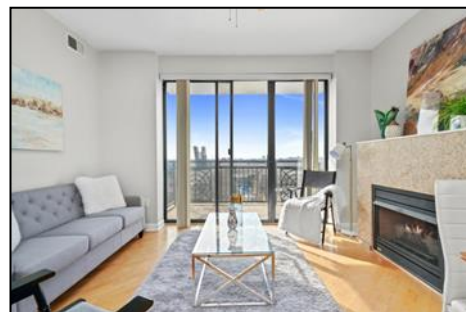


1439 S Michigan Ave #601
2 Bed/ 2 Bath 1500 Sq Ft
\$570,000

Anne Rosen
Keller Williams
312.545.7148

5 E 14th Pl #807
1 bed / 1 bath
\$239,000

Matt Laricy
Americorp, Ltd
773.585.5385



235 W Van Buren St #3113
2 Bed , 1 Bath 809 SF
\$319,900

Xingchen Yuan
EverBright Realty
630.788.0541



1243 S Wabash #605
2 Bed/ 2 Bath 1300 Sq Ft
429,900

Tom Pavljasevic
Coldwell Banker Realty
312.266.7000



1322 S Wabash Avenue #510
Chicago, IL 60605
1 Bed 1 Bath 1,044 sq ft
\$295,000

Serena Phillips
Option Realty Group, LTD.,
(312) 468-0328

701 S Wells St #2705
2 bed/ 2 bath 1263 Sq Ft
\$369,000

Mark Ahmad
Century 21 Affiliated
773.983.1553



720 S Dearborn St #606
1 Bed/ 1.5 Baths
\$385,000

Charles Gullett
Best Chicago Properties,
312.593.1436

600 S Dearborn St #804
1 Bed/ 1 Bath 1000 Sq Ft
\$260,000

Stephen Missirlian
eXp Realty, LLC
847.414.8693



40 E 9th St #603
1 Bed/ 1 Bath
\$200,000

Anne Rosen
Keller Williams Infinity
312.545.7148

