The Dearborn Express

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Dearbornexpress.net

September 10, 2022                                                Vol. 10, No.11

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This Saturday September 10th & 11th.
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https://printersrowlitfest.org/
https://printersrowlitfest.org/speakers/  (Speakers)
http://printersrowlitfest.org/event/2021-program-grid/  (Program grid.)
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Sunday 4pm / 8pm

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Thu-Sun, Sept 15-18, 8pm / 10pm..................Trumpeter Marques Carroll Quintet
Sunday 4pm / 8pm

Thu-Sun, Sep 22-25, 8pm / 10pm...............................Omar Sosa
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South Loop Neighbors is a non-profit membership based organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in South Loop's neighborhoods and preserving the area's landmark districts. South Loop Neighbors represents South Loop residents who are concerned about:

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

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**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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Mondays with Mike:  
by mkneo2014  August 1, 2022

A new scourge

I’m all for electrification. For houses, for cars, appliances, lawn tools, tractors, trucks, you name it. That’s how we reduce carbon and climate change.

But not electric scooters. Or “electric bicycles.” (A motor-powered bicycle is, to me, a contradiction in terms. Hence quotes.) Really, it’s like ill-behaved dogs and other pets—it’s not the vehicles that are the problem, it’s the riders/drivers.

Here in my neighborhood, the use of the electric scooters, electrically-aided bicycles, electric skateboards, and things I can’t even describe—has exploded post covid. And like post-covid behavior on the roads, somehow rules and norms have gone out the window. I live on Dearborn Street, where several years ago Rahm Emanuel in a fit of goodness constructed a beautiful protected bike lane that one can ride all the way from our neighborhood to the River North neighborhood.

But if one does, one must obey the traffic lights and other conventions. Which ain't happening.

It has become a common occurrence for one of our neighbors to yell at bicyclists riding on the Dearborn sidewalk parallel to that aforementioned bike lane, squeezing through passages that have been narrowed by sidewalk cafes.

For those of you who remember “Breaking Away,” I dream of the stick in the spokes scene. He didn’t deserve it. These people do.

It’s totally inconsistent, which makes it hard on pedestrians and drivers. Right now I see bicycles on sidewalks, in traffic even though there’s a bicycle lane readily available, and, hallelujah, others using the bike lanes.

I see scooters in all three avenues, too.

If you look at promotions for these electric things one of the funnier claims is that they’re good for the environment. Um, probably not. Batteries require resources and making them isn’t a pretty, clean process. So we’re doing that instead of asking people to, you know, walk. Pedal. Push off. A little more exercise would be good for all of us.

Anyway, like a lot of stuff I imagine that regulation and legalities will catch up and help remedy the matter. In some states and localities, the rules are clearer than others. And that is as it should be. The suburbs are a very different environment than where I live. But right now I see bicycles on sidewalks, in traffic when there’s a bicycle lane readily available, and, hallelujah, using the bike lanes.

And I wonder, if I’m a pedestrian and I get struck by a bicyclist or scooter, are they liable? Do they have insurance (answer is likely no).

I also see a nice source of revenue here. Just station bike cops all over and start handing out $50 tickets. We’d get a boost and it’d probably fix the problem in 3-6 months.

And then of course, the ambulance—er, scooter—chasers will probably jump in at any time now. And, maybe that’s not a bad thing.
Safe & Sound Blog by Beth Finke

Come see us at Printer’s Row Lit Fest: September 10, at 11 a.m.
Sept 3, 2022

Mark your calendars: the 37th annual Printers Row Lit Fest is next weekend! This year’s two-day literary extravaganza in Chicago takes place on Saturday and Sunday, September 10 and 11. The fest features close to 150 presenters, And I’m one of them.

**Date:** Saturday, September 10  
**Time:** 11am to 11:45 a.m.  
**Location:** Grace Place (637 S. Dearborn St.), 2nd Floor

**Program:** Unlocking Memories and Uncovering Stories

Chicago author Beth Finke interviews two writers from the memoir-writing classes she leads to find out how they managed to get their stories published as children’s books while sheltering in place during COVID.


Bindy Bitterman and Sharon Kramer will sign books at Grace Place after the presentation — Printers Row Lit Fest is sponsoring a short book signing for them right there. Meanwhile, Seeing Eye dog Luna and I will hightail it to a table across the street in front of Sandmeyer’s, our favorite local bookstore to chat with passers-by and sign books for any and all interested bookworms.

Sandmeyer’s first honored me with a spot at their table way back when my children’s book “Safe and Sound” was published and Printer’s Row Lit Fest was still called Printer’s Row Book Fair. This year they’ll have copies of “Safe and Sound” available at our table for Luna and me to sign, along with my memoir “Long Time, No See” and my most recent book, “Writing Out Loud.”

September 10, 2022 (Saturday) noon to 1 p.m.

**Booksigning**

Chicago author Beth Finke  
Sandmeyer’s Bookstore  
714 S. Dearborn St.  
Chicago, IL 60605  
312-922-2104

It can make a person feel downright proud, living in a neighborhood that devotes an entire festival to books every year. If you’re free on Saturday, September 10, 2022 consider coming down to Printers Row and checking out the hood. And our 11 a.m. presentation there on September 10, too, of course.
Yard Sale

**Sept. 10**
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Roosevelt Park

Members Vendors: Free
Non-members Vendors: Free

Buy, sell, or browse. To reserve your spot, email: yard-sale@southloopneighbors.org or reserve on our website.

SLN will have table at the Yard Sale and will accept donations that morning until 11:00am. SLN will sell donated items as a fundraiser and any unsold items will be donated to a non-profit thrift store (not returned to donor).

Lit Fest 2019
You can meet famous people like local author Greg Borzo.
Photo June 9th, 2019

Maybe this young man is an aspiring writer?
Lit Fest 2015.
Photo June 6, 2015

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Kerouac @ 100: The Man vs. The Myth

The Beat Museum hits the road! Jerry and Estelle Cimino, co-founders of The Beat Museum in San Francisco, discuss the life, work, and legacy of Jack Kerouac during his centennial year. Learn more about Kerouac and the Beat Generation from two experts who know it well. This event takes place in person at the American Writers Museum.

Jerry and Estelle Cimino, co-founders of The Beat Museum in San Francisco, discuss the origins and history of the Beat Generation—how it came out of World War II, influenced by jazz, spirituality, and nonconformity. The Beat Generation captured the wayward energy and restlessness of youth in postwar America, and created a renaissance of American art, literature, music, values and ideas.

American Writers Museum
180 N. Michigan Ave, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
https://americanwritersmuseum.org/
It was a chance encounter with a Smithsonian director at a fundraiser in Massachusetts that led Geraldine Brooks — foreign correspondent and investigative reporter-turned-historical-novelist, and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction — to the 147-year-old skeleton of a champion racehorse and sire *nonpareil* named Lexington. When the horse died in 1875, his obituary in *Turf, Field and Farm* — a popular racing newspaper housed in the same building as *The New York Times* — claimed he “was as far superior to all horses who have gone before as the vertical blaze of a tropical sun is superior to the faint and scarcely distinguishable glimmer of the most distant star.” Brooks, a boffo writer and researcher, began to imagine the stories around Lexington, since she always tries “to find something on the historical record that is extraordinary and, if you made it up, would be impossible.” A serendipitous and contemporaneous publication of a book about an almost-famous equine painter and Union soldier, Thomas J. Scott, whose finest work included a painting of Lexington and his groom — rescued from a curbside trash dump by a maintenance man in Maryland — is just the type of literary fodder she needed for *Horse*. Brooks travels across time and territory, and the cliff-hanging end of every chapter, featuring characters from the 1850’s, 1950’s, and yesterday, keeps us glued to the page. Her research is exhaustive: the history of equestrian painting in America; the story of horse-racing in the antebellum south, built on the labor of the enslaved and formerly enslaved people; the art of animal skeleton articulation (or bone-building, which presents terrifying dinosaurs or lovable *Equus caballus* in our natural history museums). Her portraits of the real people in the story — the wealthy landowner who bought and sold Africans and race horses; his fearsome abolitionist son-in-law; his radically feminist granddaughter; the itinerant artist he hired to paint his horses; the devils who abused human beings and animals; the trainers, grooms and jockeys who loved and understood the horses like none other could, are vivid and fascinating. If there is any weakness, it is the fiction she invents over the people she creates: the brilliant, beautiful Nigerian-American-British prep-school polo player and Georgetown PhD candidate; the frumpy yet attractive, Australian woman wearing sweats and working as the manager of the Smithsonian Osteology Prep Lab; and Jarrett, loving son, ever-patient, always caring, strong, handsome and devoted groom and trainer of Lexington and other 19th century thoroughbreds, bound in slavery for most of the novel but ultimately wealthy and free. Brooks employs tropes, some to the reader’s delight, but for the men of color, one reviewer said of *Horse*: “White writer, Black Paragons.” From Frederick Douglass to Colson Whitehead, it’s been argued that no “true portraits” of Africans (or Blacks) are written by white pens. Loving the story of Lexington, and not willing to make “another unconscionable erasure of the contributions of the Black horsemen,” Brooks told PBS she did the “best I could to get it right.” Read it and decide.
More affordable hearing aids coming

By Marianne Goss

In August the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of over-the-counter hearing aids. Adults with mild to moderate hearing loss will be able to buy hearing aids without going to a hearing professional. OTC hearing aids promise to be more affordable than prescription ones, but you won’t get in-person attention.

OTC devices should be mostly a good thing for people who don’t have the $4,000 that an average pair of prescription hearing aids costs, a price that includes appointments with hearing professionals to test hearing and, if hearing aids are needed, to choose, fit, and adjust them.

Not surprisingly, many hearing professional associations oppose OTC sales, and many potential hearing aid wearers may feel overwhelmed without expert help. I understand wanting help, as long as you can trust the specialist to not pressure you to spend more than necessary.

In the six years I’ve worn hearing aids because of age-related hearing loss, I’ve dealt with two providers. Both implied that the more you spend, the better for your hearing. Cost differences, however, are related not just to performance but also to nonessential features such as rechargeability and Bluetooth connectivity to adjust settings with a smartphone. But hearing aids automatically adjust to different settings, and I have never found the need to adjust them. “Bluetooth capability is a convenient extra, but it can add hundreds of dollars to your bill,” Consumer Reports says. “If you don’t think you’ll use it, skip it. Economy hearing aids may provide what you need.”

I’ve also been urged to replace hearing aids well before the five-year life expectancy. At the place I bought my first hearing aids, the audiologist became testy when I said I planned to keep three-year-old devices for another two years. She couldn’t understand why someone with an insurance benefit would not use it to get a new model. The technology improves constantly, she said. By her reasoning, I’d get replacements every year.

I was able to resist her but not the hearing aid specialist who dispensed my second pair of hearing aids. I had not had a hearing test since I got them in summer 2020, so I recently went in for the overdue test and possible adjustment of the hearing aids. I left with an order for new hearing aids.

The selling point was that the test showed that my hearing had declined. He said that with my Medicare Advantage insurance, for a copay of $398 I could get “advanced” hearing aids, two levels above my basic ones, that have better clarity because they have 32 channels compared with the previous devices’ 10. Channels are the regions into which hearing aids divide sound frequencies. The more channels, the fewer the frequencies in each and thus the more precise sounds.

With more than three times the channels of my old hearing aids, the new ones should make sounds super clear. They do, but I haven’t been in an environment yet where I’ve noticed they’re better than the old ones. Since buying them, I’ve read that studies have found that above 8 channels, most people don’t detect an improvement. Maybe I didn’t need to replace hearing aids not yet two years old.

Most people don’t have insurance for hearing aids, including most people on Medicare. Traditional Medicare doesn’t pay for them. The Hearing Loss Association of America supports OTC hearing aids to improve accessibility and affordability for the millions of people who might otherwise not seek help for their hearing loss. According to the National Institutes of Health, nearly one-quarter of Americans ages 65 to 74 and one-half of those over 75 have a disabling hearing loss. Only 30 percent of older adults who could benefit from hearing aids have ever used them. Cost is a major drawback.

There were already OTC devices being marketed illegally as hearing aids prior to FDA approval of the new product category. They use the same fundamental technology as prescription hearing aids and advertise features such as rechargeability, noise reduction, volume control, Bluetooth capability, online and phone support, and warranties.

OTC hearing aids meeting FDA quality regulations are expected to be available by October. In the meantime, potential users may want to educate themselves about types and features. It’s helpful to remember that no hearing aid can reverse hearing loss or stop its progression. The purpose of hearing aids is to help people hear better, so the test of a hearing aid, whether prescription or OTC, is how well it does that. Fortunately, hearing aids come with trial periods. Those who think they have a hearing loss but are put off by the cost of prescription hearing aids might want to try out OTC hearing aids after the FDA issues the regulations. If you find self-service hearing aids that work for you, great. If not, you can return them and go to an in-person provider.

A retired editor and journalist, Marianne Goss lives in the South Loop. She used to blog on ChicagoNow, where this post first appeared.
Pickleball Anyone?

Sept. 25
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Roosevelt Park

South Loop Neighbors will host a Pickleball Clinic for beginners and advanced beginners on Sunday, Sept 25, from 2 to 4 pm. Join us for a fun, exciting afternoon. Come see why there’s been so much fuss in the news about this increasingly popular game, which is very easy to learn.

We’ll have plenty of balls and a few extra paddles. Bring your own paddle, if you have one.

In the case of rain, we’ll try again on Sunday, October 9, same time and place.

Security Dogs Coming Back To CTA Trains Under New $30.9 Million Contract

The CTA dropped security dogs three years ago amid a legal dispute. It’s hired back the firm amid crime problems on trains. Mack Liederman Aug 25, 2022

CHICAGO — The CTA is bringing dogs back to patrol trains and stations as crime continues to plague the transit system.

The agency has signed an 18-month, $30.9 million contract with private security firm Action K-9, according to a Wednesday news release. Action K-9 will train 100 unarmed guards and 50 dogs to patrol the city’s rail system.

Each K9 team will have two guards and a canine, but details on their deployments and shifts have yet to be finalized, according to the CTA. The security dogs will be stationed near turnstiles to deter fare evasion and increase security presence, according to the agency.

Muzzled dogs with handlers patrolled CTA platforms for years before being taken off the job in 2019, when the CTA said two-person teams could better protect the trains, according to the Tribune. But state and court records obtained by the Tribune showed many guards were not properly licensed to work with dogs.

Now, Action K-9 is working with the CTA as the transit agency tries to bolster security across the board.

In early March, the CTA announced it would double unarmed security guards from 150 to 300 — although it’s struggled to recruit.

The CTA has struggled with a variety of problems — including an increase in crime and people urinating and smoking on public transportation — as ridership fell during the pandemic.

Earlier this month, Supt. David Brown announced police will beef up security on trains and platforms by sending out desk cops.

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.
Plan For High School At 24th And State Faces Community Opposition At Tense Bronzeville Meeting

Activists blasted Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Housing Authority for their lack of transparency and demanded the return of public housing units promised to them and that the school’s location be moved to The 78 megadevelopment.

Jamie Nesbitt Golden 9:12 AM CDT on Aug 24, 2022

BRONZEVILLE — Community opposition to a proposed Near South Side high school is intensifying, as skeptical residents rebuffed Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Housing Authority representatives who promoted the plan at a neighborhood meeting Tuesday.

Residents packed into the basement of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 2976 S. Wabash Ave., to learn more about the proposed school at a meeting organized by the Lugenia Burns Hope Center. A similar meeting organized by People Matter was held in Chinatown last week, where representatives from Lugenia Burns and the Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community participated in a panel discussion on the issue.

People at both events blasted CPS and the CHA for a lack of transparency, accusing the agencies of cloak-and-dagger tactics to make way for the open-enrollment high school, which is to be built on the site of the former Harold Ickes Homes at 2400 S. State St. Activists from both organizations are calling for the school to be relocated to The 78 megadevelopment site.

The school would serve 1,200 students within proposed boundaries in the South Loop, Chinatown, Bridgeport and Bronzeville. The students in the area are 39 percent Asian and 31 percent Black.

Kareem Pender, director of Family and Community Engagement for CPS, touted his "homegrown" bonafides as he pitched the school to the audience, telling them the agency had consulted with CHA residents and CPS families before deciding on the South Loop site.

"This high school will represent the most diverse high school in the city of Chicago. African-American and Asian students are traveling approximately to 95 different high schools across the district right now, and the new high school will shorten that distance to approximately 2.5 miles," said Pender. He said the facility would relieve overcrowding at schools like Kelly in Brighton Park and Juarez in Pilsen.

Pender said support for existing high schools would be addressed under the district’s "full reimagine neighborhood high school plan," which would involve CPS working with residents, community members and local school councils to rework programs, resources and dollars CPS is putting into neighborhood schools. The initiative would allow for "additional investments" in Phillips and Dunbar high schools and elementary schools in the area, he said.

Continued on page 20
The trouble with Harry  
August 3, 2022  

“The Trouble with Harry”, a 1955 Alfred Hitchcock black comedy about a dead body, tickled my mother’s macabre sense of humor for years. In the movie, a group of five small-town oddballs try to keep Harry’s dead body hidden. After they bury Harry, they dig him up and re-bury him five separate times to try to solve the mystery of his death. Each has a story about why they think they killed Harry. In the end, a kooky doctor pronounces that Harry died of a heart attack.

I don’t recall my mother ever going to the movies, but she joked around about “The Trouble with Harry” and loved watching Alfred Hitchcock films on TV. The movie isn’t funny by anyone’s standards, except my mother’s. She couldn’t wait to crack open the new issue of the New Yorker every week and show us the latest Charles Addams cartoon. Charles Addams, creator of the Addams Family franchise, concocted neither violent nor diabolical characters. They were ghoulish goofs, like their dark-humored animator. And, like my mother.

About the time I became aware of my mother laughing about dead people, the nuns were teaching my sisters and me the Latin Requiem Mass to sing at Cathedral funerals in downtown Indianapolis. The quaint practice of using children to sing at Catholic funerals developed in the Middle Ages with boy choirs. Females were not allowed to participate publicly in sacred music until the mid-19th century. I attended thirteen Catholic grade schools and the nuns in every single one managed to squeeze rehearsing the Requiem into the girls’ weekly schedule.

At the funeral of the father of triplet girls who were in my third grade class, the eight year-old daughters processed up the aisle behind their father’s casket. White veils shadowed our bewildered choir faces as we peered over the pews and chanted the Requiem in Latin, “Eternal rest grant him, O Lord”.

It’s as if we wished the dead father a deep dark sleep. Leading up to the day of the funeral, the shock of a young father’s death did not escape nervous chatter. I sensed my parents had questions about how he died. Perhaps that’s the case with every death. Like Harry, isn’t the first thing we ask, “how did they die”? And don’t we always wonder if there was something suspicious about the end of a person’s life? All closed-door gossip was put to rest with the triplet’s father in the clearing at the Requiem Mass.

In the 1970’s the Catholic Church decided to celebrate the living dead, shining in God’s light forever, as well as lament the finality of the deceased’s eternal rest. My mother had a low opinion of her Catholic Church, but approved of celebrating souls living forever, perhaps floating around in the light of the cosmos, like Charles Addams’ characters.

I’m no longer Catholic. However, influenced forever by the nuns and my mother, I accept the mystery of the two seemingly contradictory notions in the Requiem.

*Requiem aeternam dona eis: eternal rest grant them.*

And,

*Lux æterna luceat eis: let eternal light shine upon them.*

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 places.
Here’s A Full List Of City Council Seats Likely Up For Grabs In 2023

Several alderpeople are resigning, retiring or running for mayor, guaranteeing some City Council seats will change hands. Here’s a running list.

Block Club Chicago Staff
7:35 AM CDT on Aug 29, 2022

CHICAGO — The City Council is poised for a major shakeup in 2023 thanks to a wave of retirements and challenges to Mayor Lori Lightfoot. All 50 aldermanic positions are up for grabs in the Feb. 28 election, but several are highly likely to see a change in leadership as a long list of council members quit, retire or set their sights on the Mayor’s Office.

Candidates for mayor, alderperson, city clerk and city treasurer can start collecting signatures Tuesday. Nominating petitions are due Nov. 28. Alderpeople can collect signatures for a City Council seat and mayor simultaneously, but they can only appear on the ballot for one of those positions, according to election law. If a sitting council member wants to roll the dice and join the mayoral ballot, they must give up their City Council seat, which could pay as much as $142,772 next year.

No sitting member of the City Council has ever been elected mayor. Here’s more on which wards will or could get new City Council representatives. This list will be updated as the race unfolds. The ward map also has been redrawn for 2023. See which ward you live in here.

4th Ward: Kenwood, Oakland, Parts Of Bronzeville

Ald. Sophia King jumped into the mayoral race in August, opting to vie for the job after two terms in City Council. King took office in 2016 when she was tapped by Mayor Rahm Emanuel to fill the seat left empty by William Burns’ abrupt exit from City Hall. King won her first council election in 2017 during a special election, defeating Ebony Lucas and Gregory Livingston. King won reelection in 2019, defeating Lucas again.

“Violence is not an abstract problem to me,” King said in a campaign video. “I have seen the pain it causes way too many times. There’s no question about it: We have to hold the people who commit violent crimes accountable, and we have to hold our leaders accountable, too.” CLICK TO READ MORE

https://blockclubchicago.org/2022/08/29/these-city-council-seats-could-be-up-for-grabs-in-2023/?utm_source=Pico&utm_campaign=8126622299-99320627&m_cid=8126622299&m_eid=e

Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago


Indivisible Downtown Chicago meets the 3rd Monday of each month at Bar Louie in Printers Row. Join Chicagoans using “Indivisible” principles to protect democracy.

The next meeting is Monday, September 19 at 6:30pm.

All are welcome

https://act.indivisible.org/event/local-actions/167149/signup/

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 enthral you from the moment you enter its unique world.”

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

For complete details, please go to: www.insideetheenigma.com

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All customers must wear a mask when entering this facility as of May 1.

IF YOU HAVE A MEDICAL CONDITION that prevents you from wearing a mask, you do not need to wear one. If you are not wearing one, we will assume this is the case. Due to HIPPA, and the Fourth Amendment we will not ask you about your medical condition.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service!
Printers Row Park Advisory Council has partnered with the Chicago Park District, Chicago Parks Foundation, and the 4th Ward Alderman's Office to repair and restore the beautiful art deco fountain at Printers Row Park. The fountain was built in 1999, well before the park was built in 2009. Nearly a quarter of a century later, maintenance issues and weather have taken a toll on the fountain. It is in desperate need of careful restoration to its original vibrant beauty. Please purchase a personalized tile to commemorate your support of this neighborhood project. Tiles will be installed around the base of the fountain upon completion of the restoration project. This fundraising project will kick off on May 21st in conjunction with Chicago Parks Foundation's "It's Your Park Day 2022."

Contact for questions:
Jim Rice
Presprpac@gmail.com
(312) 961-7514

Please note that Chicago Park District policy only allows donor names. They do not permit poems, sayings, slogans, emojis, or company logos. However, they do permit "In Memory Of" for a loved one, if you so wish. All submissions will be reviewed by Chicago Park District for compliance with this policy prior to engraving.
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Chocolate Chip Cookies  
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https://notjustcookies.com/

Join us for a special Social Justice in Chicago discussion at the 2022 Printers Row Lit Fest with our event moderator, Elvia Malagón, Sun-Times social justice and wage gap reporter, and author Mike Amezcua.

Mike Amezcuas “Making Mexican Chicago: From Post-war Settlement to the Age of Gentrification” chronicles the plight of Latino communities on the city’s Southwest Side, detailing how Mexican residents built communities and homes despite policies intended to push them out of the city.

Saturday, September 10
2:30 p.m. CT
Printers Row Lit Fest

This event is made possible by the generous support of The Chicago Community Trust.

For more information on future events, please visit suntimes.com/events.
High Holidays & Rosh Hashanah Dinner Under The Stars
Join us as we celebrate the High Holidays at the historic Glessner House! Services at Chabad of South Loop are warm and welcoming and feature inspirational commentary and melodies.

The High Holidays are a powerful time of connection and meaning. There is no charge to join, but space is limited so it is recommended to RSVP as soon as possible. Full schedule of services below. Registration is required.

For more details and to reserve your seat, please register at www.JewishSouthLoop.com/HH

Rosh Hashanah Dinner Under the Stars
The annual Rosh Hashanah Dinner Under the Stars has become a real highlight of the community. Join us for an evening of connection, meaning, good food and great company in the delightful evening ambience of the Glessner House Courtyard.

Enjoy a lavish catered dinner that will blend traditional Rosh Hashanah foods with contemporary dishes, all in the festive spirit of the holiday. Registration is required.

For more details and to book your seat, please register at www.JewishSouthLoop.com/HH

Chicago’s Jewish Community Networking Night Returns!
Thursday, November 17, 2022
Doors open at 5:00 pm
Event 5:30-7:30 pm

Back from its COVID-related hiatus, Spertus Institute again presents Chicago’s Jewish Community Networking Night, a free annual event for Jewish community professionals, lay leaders, consultants, and volunteers.

A favorite evening on Chicago’s community calendar, Networking Night brings participants together to mingle, build contacts across organizations, enjoy each other’s company, and learn something new to add to their professional toolkits.

The evening has become known for seeding new partnerships, spurring program ideas, matching qualified candidates to key positions, and fostering lasting connections.

This year’s special guest is Becca Barish, Second City and iO alum, who will add an improv twist to this year’s event.

Reserve your spot below
https://www.spertus.edu/programs-events/networking-night

Thank you to Zelda’s Catering for their generous sponsorship
Ketevan Kartvelishvili: Piano Recital
September 9 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

“I’ve heard her perform in public many times, and each time the audience reacted as I’ve not heard since Horowitz took the stage. Had Ketevan Kartvelishvili lived in any era, she would have been hailed as a keyboard giant.” - Paul Harvey Jr.

Purchase Tickets $20
https://pianofortechicago.com/events/

From NPR and WBEZ Chicago
Wait Wait… Don’t Tell Me!

Comedy
June 9, 2022 – September 29, 2022
Wait Wait… Don’t Tell Me! is NPR’s Peabody Award-winning quiz show. Host Peter Sagal leads a rotating panel of comedians, listener contestants, and celebrity guests through a rollicking review of the week’s news.
Learn More

Studebaker Theater
Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
But the 244 units of public housing promised to displaced residents must be returned before the school is built, said Roderick Wilson, Lugenia Burns Hope Center’s executive director. He said the CHA’s decades of displacing residents to make way for developments has eroded public trust. “It’s not about the high school. It’s about what we were promised,” Wilson said. “There was a systematic moving of Black people using public dollars out of the city ... but we were told people could come back. ... Nine years later, they’ve got some houses almost built, but nobody’s living in it.”

Lugenia Burns Hope Center Executive Director Roderick Wilson address the audience at a community meeting to discuss the proposed Near South Side high school Tuesday. Activists are also calling for CPS to repurpose Jones College Prep to allow more neighborhood students to attend. CHA Chief Development Officer Ann McKenzie told residents the 244 units of housing promised would be returned as part of an adjacent mixed-use development called Southbridge, though she was unclear on whether there would be larger units to accommodate families. There have been 206 units built so far.

If the proposed plan falls through, the land-lease agreement made between CHA and CPS in July says the land returns to the housing agency. After last week’s community meeting, some Chinatown parents started circulating a petition to urge the city to move the site to The 78 megadevelopment in South Loop. It’s collected nearly 200 signatures so far.

Parent Michelle Yang said the petitioners will collect as many signatures as they can to persuade both agencies to reconsider their position. “If the Black, Chinese and Latino communities support the school moving to The 78, what’s the problem?” Yang said. “Why can’t they listen to what the people want? This is going to impact their lives. Give the people what they want because they’re the ones living here.”


The Road from Money, a great American story, explores the life and times of a central character, Estella Reynolds (1925 – 2009), whose journey begins in the cotton fields of Money, Mississippi; and who becomes a millionaire in the North.


Purchase today at: www.boydbooks.net (Autographed with free shipping)

Sylvester Boyd Jr.
Author – Historian – Actor – Motivational Speaker
In 1985, playwright David Mamet’s little girl came to visit my little girl for a play date, and I finally realized that something was very, very, very wrong with my little girl.

I’d known Dr. Mendelsohn since I was a toddler. When he joined the pediatric practice in Chicago that our family used. He saved my brother’s life when he was born prematurely and he was our de facto family doctor for the rest of his life. He also became very famous as a “medical heretic,” writing books and columns—and driving the medical establishment totally crazy.

I became his editor during the last several years of his life. But I was superfluous. He was a perfect writer who knew his subject matter, his readers (and his patients) and he was always the smartest guy in the room.

If Dr. Mendelsohn thought Molly and Willa—both two-years-old—would get along, what could go wrong?

Lindsay Crouse called me to make the arrangements. And we hit it off on the phone. “My new best friend,” I told Paul.

Willa came to our big toy-laden apartment downtown a few days later.

Molly was in a number of play groups back then where the mothers would hang with each other while the kids played. She always seemed to play more on her own than with the others and rarely interacted with the kids. But she was always busy doing interesting things. By herself.

When the kids started talking, she didn’t. Although she was smart, and had terrific concentration on fairly sophisticated activities. But she always insisted on doing things her way. Most people probably thought she was spoiled. She had tantrums if she didn’t get her way.

Molly never seemed to pick up on toddler jargon. I noticed it but I wasn’t too worried because she was so strong in other ways. Our pediatrician, a Dr. Mendelsohn acolyte, thought she was just fine. Independent and smart. The tantrums? Well, she was two, right?

When Willa walked into Molly’s toy and activity strewn bedroom, Molly paid little attention to her. And Willa latched onto me, like a mini adult. “Hello,” she said. “My name is Willa Mamet and I live in Vermont.” Her recitation was perfectly modulated, and she made very strong eye contact. She reminded me of the way my mother’s big family always described me when I was a toddler. Very social, sweet, opinionated and interesting.

And it was at that moment, with Willa at my side, staring up at me waiting for my response upon hearing her basic mini-bio, that I knew something was very wrong with my child. As Willa went deeper into Molly’s space, and invaded her toys, Molly, true to form, had a tantrum—and my fantasy of being Lindsay Crouse’ best friend in Chicago with our little girls stuck on each other like glue evaporated like warm breath on a cold winter day in Chicago.

Willa got sort of sick of Molly ignoring her. And sort of disgusted when Molly had the tantrum—but she kept reaching out to me with all sorts of declarative sentences and questions. But she looked quite happy when it was time to leave.

And.... Molly turned out to be autistic. Initially “diagnosed” a few weeks later via another celebrity, Sly Stallone—when Paul just happened to read a People Magazine article about him and his autistic son, Seargeoh, who was a few years older than Molly. When Paul put the magazine down, he said prophetically, “this must be what everyone thinks Molly has.”

And the rest is history.

And while the the three McGraths did not become best friends with the three Mamets, Molly did become an accomplished artist. And has been part of a studio for accomplished artists with special needs for the last 16 years.

When Dr. Mendelsohn asked how the little girls hit if off, I never told him the truth. (Maybe the Mamets did.) But I felt like it was a bad blind date: why hurt the person who conceived of the fix up? He meant well.

Starting to sound kind of like a Mamet play, huh?

Bonnie McGrath

Thanks for reading Mom, I think I’m Poignant! Subscribe for free to receive new posts and support my work.
Join The South Loop Advisory Council

Are you interested in getting involved, learning more about your Alderman and ward, or do you desire to make a difference in your community? If so, please consider joining the South Loop Advisory Council’s leadership team. Responsibilities include: attending monthly leadership meetings, coordinating subcommittee meetings with committee members, and organizing public-facing events for the community.

For any inquiries about the South Loop Advisory Council, please contact slcac.contact@gmail.com.

Night Out In The Parks is Back!

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Celebrating 10 years, Night Out in the Parks activates parks across the city with robust cultural events – bringing neighbors together to laugh, dance, sing, and engage. The Chicago Park District, in partnership with more than 120 local artists and organizations, presents engaging events and performances to amplify the artistic and cultural vibrancy of our city in every neighborhood and enhance the quality of life across Chicago. Through theater, music, movies, dance, site-specific performances, nature programs, and community festivals, the series supports Chicago-based artists, facilitates community-based partnerships and programs, cultivates civic engagement, and ensures equity in access to the arts for all Chicagoans. Click here to learn more and here to view the schedule for this summer for the 4th Ward and the rest of the city.

Virtual Alderman 'On the Block'

MEET WITH ALDERMAN KING ON ZOOM

The next Alderman on the Block date is June 27. 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.

For more City info, click here

CPD District Meetings

ADDRESS YOUR SAFETY CONCERNS

Use the CPD's online tool to find your district and beat.

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.

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.

Health, Wellness and Know Your Rights Information and Resource Fairs

CITY OF CHICAGO LORI E. LIGHTFOOT

The City of Chicago Mayor’s office will be holding two information and resource fairs on the subjects of health, wellness, and knowing your rights at the Harold Washington Library Center (400 S. State St) Winter Garden 9th Floor. They will take place on Tuesday, July 19, and Tuesday, August 16 2022 from 10 AM-2 PM. Click here to find out what services are being offered and more.
Amid new abortion landscape, Columbia maintains policy of referrals for services

By Olivia Cohen, Managing Editor, August 24, 2022

On the morning of June 25, Americans woke up with the lingering feeling of elation or distress after processing the news that Roe v. Wade had been officially overturned by the Supreme Court the day prior.

The landmark decision lost its constitutional status, leaving abortion access up to each state. Quickly after the ruling, many conservative-leaning states’ abortion bans went into effect or state lawmakers were pressed to draft legislation to do the same.

While some states were forced into the panic-mode of a post-Roe world, Illinois has been dubbed an “island” for abortion access. For college students in the state, the level of abortion access and counseling depends on the school they attend. Throughout the Chicago-land area, many colleges have a health center in some capacity, yet many do not offer abortion services on-campus. UIC — home to the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics — offers the service, but Columbia, along with DePaul University and Roosevelt University, do not.

As of August 24, the Columbia administration has not publicly sent a letter to its community discussing any changes or updates in its support or guidance to students seeking abortion services.

In an email to the Chronicle on Aug. 24, Lambrini Lukidis, associate vice president of Strategic Communications and External Relations, said despite Roe v. Wade being overturned, it will not affect Illinois.

“This is a very important topic for women and all individuals across the country,” Lukidis said. “The college will direct individuals who seek information and options about unwanted pregnancies to local health centers such as Planned Parenthood. Counseling services are also offered on campus for students in need of mental health support.”

Beverly Anderson, assistant dean of Student Health and Support, said OB/GYN doctors or practitioners should provide abortion services and Columbia does not have a medical professional equipped to perform abortions or prescribe abortion pills.

Students seeking abortion consultants and services can find help at Planned Parenthood of Illinois, which has an office in the Loop located at 17 N. State St. https://columbiachronicle.com/amid-new-abortion-landscape-columbia-maintains-policy-of-referrals-for-services

Click below for the rest of the story

Behind the Lens:
Anna Shteynshleyger

Behind the Lens:
Anna Shteynshleyger
Friday, September 9, 12–1 p.m CT
Presented virtually on Zoom
Register here

Beyond the Frame exhibiting artist
Anna Shteynshleyger will lead a virtual studio visit of her portraits, still lifes, interiors, and landscapes taken in the United States and Russia. She has shown widely in exhibitions including at the Smart Museum of Art, Chicago; the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City; the International Center of Photography, New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and the Jewish Museum, New York; among many others. She is an Associate Professor of Photography at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY.

Learn More
Murders, shootings in Chicago down again in August, but carjackings, CTA crime up over last year

Sixty-six people were killed in the city last month, down from 80 a year ago. And 384 people were reported shot, compared to 475 last August.

By Sun-Times Wire

Sept 1, 2022, 4:48pm CDT

The numbers of killings and shootings in Chicago continued their general decline in August, though the numbers of carjackings and crime on the CTA remain stubbornly higher than last year.

Sixty-six people were killed in the city last month, down from 80 a year ago. And 384 people were reported shot, compared to 475 last August, according to data released Thursday by the Chicago Police Department.

Overall, the number of killings is down about 16% this year, and the number of people shot is down about 19.5%, levels similar to what they were in July.

Bucking the trend were the two police districts that cover downtown Chicago.

There have been at least 72 shootings in those districts this year, up from 56 this time a year ago, up about 77%, according to the latest police data. There have been 18 homicides, double from last year.

Two other districts, Deering on the Southwest Side and Albany Park on the Northwest Side, also have experienced more shootings and homicides this year.

Eight of the city’s 22 police districts saw an increase in homicides, and seven saw a rise in shootings.

Despite the general drop in shootings and homicides, every police district has seen an increase in overall crime. That includes sexual assault, robbery, aggravated battery, burglary, theft and motor vehicle theft.

The smallest increase in overall crime was 6% in the Fifth District, where the neighborhoods of Roseland, Pullman and Riverdale have long been victimized by high crime rates. The biggest increase was 94% in the First District, which mostly covers the Loop.

The Loop has been the scene of several attacks on CTA trains and stations this summer. The police data shows CTA crime is up 40% from this time last year, a trend that has prompted the transit agency to hire more unarmed guards and deploy canine units throughout the system. The police department also has deployed more officers.

Carjackings are also up this year, though not as steeply. There have been at least 1,146 carjackings this year compared to 1,072 during the same period last year, a rise of 6%. More than half of those arrested for carjackings this year have been juveniles.

A day before the latest figures were released, the police department announced the arrest of a 17-year-old for 11 carjackings, nine of them in one day.

http://chicago.suntimes.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!

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/
8/17/2022 3pm 1000 S State Street
THEFT   Restaurant Beat 123

8/15/2022 6:55pm 700 S State St
CAR THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/14/2022 2pm 600 S Financial Pl
CAR THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/13/2022 9pm 600 S Wabash Ave
CAR THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/13/2022 1:45pm 40 E 11th St
CAR THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/12/2022 7pm 700 S Clark St
CAR THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/12/2022 8:35pm 500 s State St
CAR THEFT, on Street Beat 123

8/10/2022 9:19pm 1100 S State St
AGGRAVATED BATTERY CTA Subway Train Beat 123

8/10/2022 12:43pm 1100 Wabash Ave
ARMED ROBBERY Gun, on Street Beat 123

8/10/2022 6:15am 900 Park Terrace
CAR THEFT Beat 123

8/27/2022 1am 1100 S State St
AGGRAVATED BATTERY CTA Station Bet 123

8/26/2022 4:54am 1000 S Michigan Ave
AGGRAVATED BATTERY of Senior Citizen on Street Beat 123

8/24/2022 11:54pm 600 S Clark St
ROBBERY, handgun Bar Beat 123

9/7/2022 7:20pm 100 W Cermak
Man shot CTA Red Line Beat 131

http://home.chicagopolice.org/

Man beaten and robbed on Blue Line train in Loop

Reports of robberies are up 50% over last year in the 1st police district, which covers a large portion of downtown, including the Loop.

By Sun-Times Wire
Sept 6, 2022, 6:20am

A man was beaten and robbed early Tuesday on a CTA Blue Line train in the Loop.

An argument turned physical between the 28-year-old man and another person around 1:40 a.m. on a train in the 300 block of South Dearborn Street, Chicago police said.

The man’s wallet was stolen and he suffered bruises to the body, police said. He was transported to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in good condition.

The other person exited the train when it stopped and fled, police said. No arrests were reported.

Crime – primarily theft – has increased dramatically downtown and on the CTA in the past year, according to police data.

Reports of robberies are up 50% over last year in the 1st police district, which covers a large portion of downtown, including the Loop. Overall crime is up 90% in the district from a year ago, according to police.

http://chicago.suntimes.com
Real Estate Transactions

$912,000
1211 S PRAIRIE AVE 4403
8/5/22

$285,000
1250 S INDIANA AVE 1204
8/1/22

$240,000
1440 S MICHIGAN AVE 520
8/5/22

$416,000
1143 S PLYMOUTH CT 510
8/3/22

$240,000
732 FINANCIAL PL 715
8/2/22

$529,000
41 E 8TH ST 2605
8/2/22

$840,000
1201 S PRAIRIE AVE 2802
8/1/22

$200,000
1529 S STATE ST 9D
7/29/22

$360,000
1111 S WABASH AVE 3004
7/27/22

$665,000
714 S DEARBORN ST 8
7/27/22

$1,085,000
47 W 15TH ST A
7/27/22

$184,000
801 S PLYMOUTH CT 1007
7/20/22

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