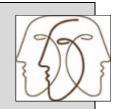


THE DEARBORN EXPRESS

SPONSORED BY THE
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SERVING PRINTERS ROW AND
DEARBORN PARK

AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR
JANICE KOERBER. ASST. EDITOR

Dearbornexpress.net

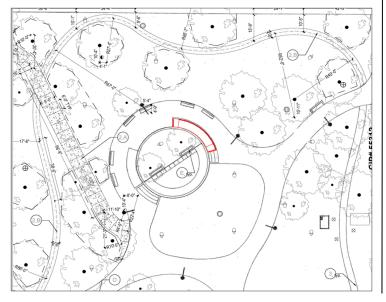




Proposed Improvements for Dearborn Park from the Chicago Park District

Thank you for your attention to Dearborn Park located at 865 S. Park Terrace in your Ward. Following conversations with your office, the community and our staff, the Park District recommends the following park improvements. A visual of the capital improvements proposed is attached. We are seeking approval of the proposed improvements as we as a decision on whether we should remove the east set of stairs at the central plaza and replace with an access ramp. - - - - - Trim trees (completed) Improve grass landscape (underway) Construct a new 9-foot concrete pathway coming from the northwest corner to the center of the park where there currently exists a dirt desire path Build/refurbish the 4-foot wide walking trail in the park with crushed stone Improve drainage near the southeast side of the park Install new bench on concrete slab in center plaza area Remove the existing east stairs at the center plaza and replace with an access ramp in concrete We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to the approved improvements for Dearborn Park. A plan of the proposed improvements is attached for reference. Thank you, Beth Tomlins Deputy Chief of Operations

The Printers Row Advisory Council which (see page 6) has now adopted Dearborn Park responded to this proposal with their own suggestions and corrections.



June 20, 2024

Vol. 12, No.9

In this Issue



Beth Finke

Taking some time off.



Marianne Goss: Is it ageist to be concerned about Biden's age? Page 7



Regan Burke: The Big Freak Out Page 5 It's Not Lucky to be almost Assinated. Page 18



Mondays with Mike: Mike will be back.

INDEX

Printers Row Advisory Council	page 6
Lorraine Schmall Book Review	page 8
Newcity	page 11
Printers Row Art Fest	page 13
Lou Malnati's robbery	page 15
Police Blotter	page 24 & 25
Real Estate Transactions	nage 24 & 25



Thu-Sun, Jul 18-21, 8pm & 10pm, Sun. 4pm & 8pm......Alliance CD Release Sun. 4pm & 8pm — Colleen Clark & Sharel Cassity Mon, Jul 22, 5:30pm.....Chicago Jazz Orchestra featuring

John Campbell & Friends

Tue, Jul 23, 8pm & 10pm......Saxophonist Jarrard Harris Quintet

Wed, Jul 24, 8pm & 10pm.....Julia Danielle Quartet – CD Release

Thu-Sat, Jul 25-27, 8pm & 10pm.....Jalen Baker Quartet

Sun, Jul 28, 4pm & 8pm.....Jalen Baker Quartet

Mon, Jul 29, 5:30pm.....Chicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Scott Burns

Tue, Jul 30, 8pm.....WDCB 90.9fm

Wed, Jul 31, 8pm & 10pm.....Michael Dease – CD Release

Wed, Jul 31, 8pm & 10pm......Michael Dease – CD Release Thu-Sat, Aug 1-3, 8pm & 10pm......Charles McPherson Quartet Sun, Aug 4, 4pm & 8pm......Charles McPherson Quartet Mon, Aug 5, 5:30pm.......Chicago Jazz Orchestra

Tue, Aug 6, 8pm & 10pm.......Kyle Swan Trio featuring Brian Lynch

Thu-Sat, Aug 8-10, 8pm & 10pm.....Dee Alexander Quartet Sun, Aug 11, 4pm & 8 pm......Dee Alexander Quartet

Mon, Aug 12, 5:30pm......Chicago Jazz Orchestra

Thu-Sat, Aug 15-18, 8pm & 10pm.....Stu Katz/Eric Schneider Quartet







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SEATING POLICY:

All tickets sold are General Admission, which means table/bar seating are on a **first-come**, **first-served** basis. Buying your ticket online in advance guarantees admission (not seating). We recommend arriving early for seating.

PHOTO/VIDEO POLICY:

No professional photo/video equipment will be allowed without a media pass.

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:

- \square Ensuring high-quality, reasonably-sized real estate development as well as infrastructure improvements that respect the unique character of our community
- $\hfill\square$ 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

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Vice Pres. Jack Chalabian
V.P. of Planning & Development – Dennis McClendon
Sec. – Benjamin Cottrell
Director & Chair of Membership—Roger Marsh

Treasurer – Dorothy Miaso

Director - Sarah Breedlove

Director – Roger Marsh

Director - Greg Borzo

Director - Rob Hard

Director— Susan Zinner

Development update presentation

A roundup of what's proposed and underway for the South Loop was the program at our annual meeting in January 2022. 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

The Big Freak Out

July 4, 2024



Metaphors have frittered away from me. To be fair, they hadn't much choice. In conveying messages to contemporaries over the past few years, whether speaking, emailing, texting or DM'ing, I've developed a necessary plain spokenness, lest the meaning be misconstrued, misunderstood or confusing. Fallout from this mind-bending prosaic language is living at a level of plain thinking, another aspect of old age (I'm 78) that I wish I'd been warned about. While watching Joe Biden perform at the nowfamous CNN debate in June, I came unstrung in the grip of knowing that Biden's plain-thinking, plain-speaking style was killing any chance of beating Trump in the November election.

"Oh. my. god. He's like my neighbor Ray," I thought. Ray, who used to converse like a college professor and remember your name like you were his student, but now he talks only sports and weather. Ray, who cannot grasp metaphors unless they're baseball sayings he's used all his life, like "on the ball" or "step up to the plate" when he motions for you to exit the elevator before him.

On an unsually quiet afternoon, that is to say, no sirens, no gas-powered lawn mowers, no garbage trucks beep, beep, beeping as they backed out of the alley, I was studying David Montero's new book, *The Stolen Wealth of Slavery: A Case for Reparations.* My book group decided to read two chapters at a time in order to absorb a history none of us had ever known. The premise that the intellect is stimulated through awe and wonder has proven true in this group, with this book. Montero's research thoroughly tracks how the free labor of Black people in the South became the basis of the entire US economy and her dominance over world markets. His writing is loaded with similes and metaphors.

"The energies of three million enslaved people were organized into an industry, industrial enterprises were increasingly fertilized by slavery, and the output of the system was shipped across the world."

(All of a sudden, a swift "click-clum" in the room interrupted my reading. I turned and saw a ragged chunk of dried-up old paint on the floor, fallen from the ceiling. Surely there's a metaphor here. Chip off the old block? Chip on your shoulder? Paint the town red? Naw. Nothing. I got nothing.)



In the chapter, "The Union Must Perish," Montero included a white abolitionist's account of his travels to the slave market of Virginia. Published in the *New York Daily Tribune* in 1850, part of it reads:

"...this was the most heart-sickening sight I ever saw. I involuntarily exclaimed, "Is it possible that this is permited in my own native country—the country I have loved so well, and whose institutions I have exultingly pointed to as an example for the world. If this is Christianity, don't call me a Christian."

The emotons expressed are precisely what I feel now that the Trump-appointed United States Supreme Court ruled that the President is unbound from the rule of law and can freely engage in criminal activity. Our Christian Nationalist Supreme Court looks forward to the next president closing the borders to anyone but White Christian Europeans, slashing gay rights, civil rights, and women's rights, and requiring biblical education in public schools. Echoing the 1850 abolitionist, if this is Christianity, don't call me a Christian.

There ain't no metaphor for that.

COMMENT

by Regan Burke In That Number: One March From the Streets of Protest to the Halls of Power (And Beyond)

Available at Sandmeyer's Book Store and other places.





Left to right, Janice Koerber, secretary; Doug McConnel, Treasurer; Jim Rice, president; Sam Clark, vice President; Mary Ivory, member; Pat Methven, member Missing board members from picture: directors Colleen Wales, Greg Borzo

New Parks Adopted

At last night's meeting (Thursday, July 18, 2024) of the Printers Row Park Advisory Council, the motion to adopt both Dearborn Park (the park), and Roosevelt Park was passed unanimously. The park advisory council works with the Chicago Park District on improvements of their respective parks. The group is reaching out to residents who live near and use those parks to join so they can offer input and influence what improvements will be made. The group has already communicated with the park district their suggestions on the proposal for Dearborn Park (See page 1). The Printers Row Advisory board was very successful in raising funds to rehabilitate the Printers Row fountain and currently holds about \$10,000 in their treasury.

District 001 District Council Meeting Tuesday, August 6th at 6PM at Glessner House.

Pursuant to MCC 2-80-070(e)(1), the district council holds public meetings, at least monthly, where residents can discuss safety issues, community concerns and priorities. Residents can also raise awareness and work to address concerns about policing in the 1st district and increase accountability.

The district council will set aside at least twenty (20) minutes to provide an opportunity for public comment at each meeting. Anyone may submit written public comment by delivering it at the public meeting or by emailing Javon.Lewis-Brown@cityofchicago.org.

Adrienne.Johnson@cityofcicago.org or 312.989.5160

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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.



Sincerely, Marianne

Is it ageist to be concerned about Biden's age? July 9, 2024

By Marianne Goss

Amid all the discussion about whether Joe Biden would or should drop out of the presidential race after an unsettling debate performance, I was surprised to not have heard "time to go, Joe" Democrats attacked as ageist.

Well, Biden's decline is an acknowledged, visible fact, not necessarily a biased view. Yet I wondered whether there are any voices on Biden's side who are alleging ageism, even if they don't use the term.

The headline of Sheila Callaham's <u>article</u> in *Forbes* — "Demanding Biden Step Down Because He's 'Too Old' Is Wrong. Here's Why" — could have substituted "ageist" for "wrong." The wrong, according to the cofounder and executive director of Age Equity Alliance, is thinking that an 81-year-old is categorically unfit to be president. Everyone ages differently.

That's not exactly a defense of Biden, but Callaham also said that she was not shaken by Biden's debate performance, calling it "a very natural cognitive response to a stressful situation." The opinion was echoed by a couple of other gerontologists who blamed Biden's poor showing on factors other than his years.

MSNBC columnist Kavita Patel, a doctor, <u>said</u> that "anyone over the age of 40" who was suffering from a cold and lack of sleep might have had slow response time, confusion, and difficulty finding words.

Social gerontologist Jeanette Leardi <u>wrote</u> on LinkedIn that Biden was up against a number of challenges in the debate: his stutter, a cold, and a ceaselessly combative challenger.

The "real questions" in this election, Callaham said, are not about age but about a candidate's vision and plans, trustworthiness, and monetary support. Leardi noted that debates don't predict ability to do the job of president, which requires careful deliberation, not quick thinking. "Age brings experience and wisdom," Patel reminded her audience.

I agree that a poor debater might still make a good president, and that character and ideas should count more than sprightliness. But I don't think cognitive decline is irrelevant. A president should be up to the rigors of the job.



"The presidency is a physically and mentally demanding job," wrote a responder to Leardi's post. "It's good and proper for the American electorate to assess a candidate's physical and mental suitability for the job. And if age is the cause of some unsuitability, well, that is just a fact of life."

It is wrong — ageist — to brand someone as too old without evidence. But, since age is the primary reason for cognitive decline, it's naive to expect that an old person will remain sharp.

Another factor in an elderly politician's refusal to step aside is that he blocks the way for younger generations to assume leadership, as Northwestern University professors Rachel Jamison Webster and Jillana Enteen wrote in an <u>op-ed</u> published in the *Chicago Tribune*. "The survival of our democracy depends on the participation of younger generations," they said. "The point is not that older statesmen are unfit for their jobs, but that they are failing at the deeper level of democratic legacy." Interestingly, the word "ageist" appears in the headline ("It's not ageist to say that Joe Biden must bow out") but not the body of the piece.

I don't think that Biden should have run for a second term. If, as has been reported, the people close to him hid signs of his decline, shame on them. But here we are, choosing between two oldsters. As I think about ageism, I am aware that the blatant discrimination in this year's presidential campaign has been the focus only on Biden's decline. The gibberish of Trump, only three years younger, is shrugged off as "just Trump being Trump." Let's hope for a course correction so that both candidates' cognitive fitness is judged. I have no doubt who will fare better if people really listen.

COMMENT

South Looper Marianne Goss blogs at https://sincerelymarianne.blogspot.com/

Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange (Alfred A Knopf 2024)

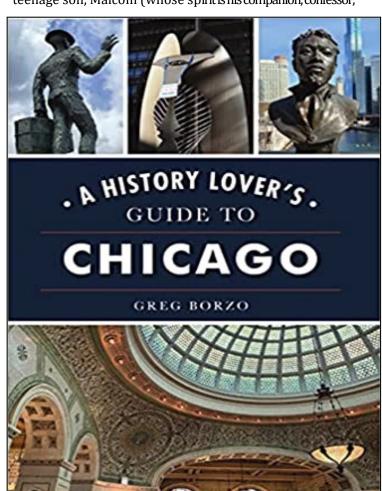
The Devil is Fine, begins and ends with a funeral. The first is classically Christian: corpse draped in church clothes; laid in a box; feet facing east, so the dead can rise to meet their savior from the direction He is said to come; surrounded by family and friends and onlookers, both curious and caring. The second is uncharacteristically but mythically Igbo: unclothed, taboo-breaking, mythical, and almost alone. Between those two events, there is a hella lot of haunting. horror, and (believe-it-or-not) humor. John Vercher's third novel is brilliant, profound, nerve-rattling. The first person narrator is unnamed because, according to Vercher, "he is going through...struggles about who he is, ...as a father,...as a Black man, as a biracial man." He is also a dry drunk with severe anxiety, an arguable misogynist who continues to pine for a woman who doesn't want him, and an academic whose writing may not get him tenure "because people have moved on from the racial narratives [and] it's not 2020 out there anymore." He doesn't have a name because he doesn't know who he is. He may have lost his mind, or be overwhelmed by grief, or be driven by demons, or have finally come to face the truth he learns by talking to, and assuming the lives of, ghosts. Conversations with a queer bartender, one particularly charming and terribly funny barfly, and his own dad offer him the humility he's needed all his life. Vercher's plot is twisted by some unimaginable events that could only happen in real life. He calls it magical realism, where the "fantastic is frequently part of everyday life." His teenage son, Malcom (whose spirit is his companion, confessor,

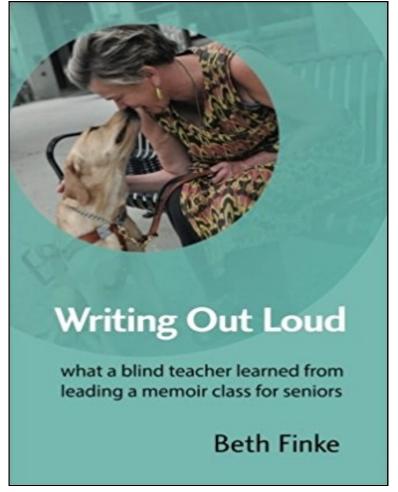
and counsel) always resisted his father's demands that he believe in a white God: "If I got to choose between your God and the devil, The Devil is Fine"--- but was buried as a believer. Another young boy, two hundred years before Malcolm, quoted the devil in Milton's **Paradise Lost**, as his enslaver beat him to death for refusing baptism: "Better to reign...than serve." There's a lot happening here. The narrator's son accuses his biracial father of resenting him because "I am blacker than you," but because of his death, the narrator becomes the owner of a former plantation—on the Delmarva peninsula passed down by the men on his white mother's side of the family. Vercher draws on a long literary history: the narrator in **Native Son** is unnamed; the narrator's workplace problems echo Percival Everett's satirical **Erasure** (the source of the film **American Fiction**); the chilling history of what might have happened on the narrator's plantation remind us of the the brilliant **Yonder** by Jabari Asim, which retells the story of the Igbo tribesmen, who mutinied on the Georgia shores then walked back, chained, into the sea—-in defiance of a Nigerian taboo against suicide—to resist enslavement and return to their homeland; in **These Ghosts are Family**, Maisy Card's spirits, like the narrator's deceased family members, expose long-held secrets about a clan and a country;

and of course, John Milton himself. And then... there are the jellyfish. No beach read, more a tornado thriller, **The Devil is Fine** ought to be on your to-read list.









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The Made in Chicago

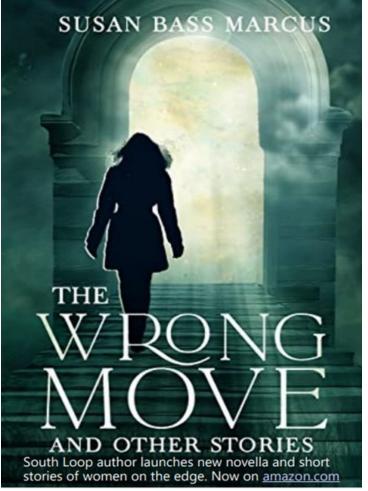
Tour is offered daily at 3:00 pm when the AWM is open. The AWM is open all week (except Tuesday) from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm during the summer. This tour is included with admission. Advanced registration is not required. Tours begin at the museum front desk.

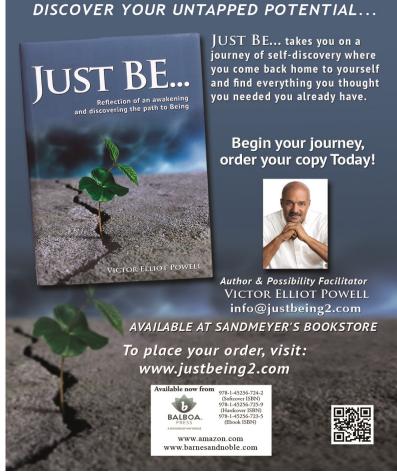
PLAN YOUR VISIT Jul 10 to Sept 2nd.



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

https://americanwritersmuseum.org/







On Thursday, June 27th, 2024, a hundred or more motercycles rode up Plymouth Court under the viaduct at Roosevelt Road at a high speed. Photo of them going through the bicycle opening at the culdesac north of 9th Street.



Grills Night Out with a Bocce Tournament Saturday July 20 7:00 pm

Dearborn (Henry) Park 865 S Park Terrace, Chicago, IL 60605

Bring your own meat (or veggies) and join your neighbors for a midsummer's night of good food and good times. South Loop Neighbors will provide the grills, drinks, chips, and dessert.

PLUS - based on feedback from our membership, we will be holding a bocce tournament during the Grills Night Out! Two person teams - early sign-up via via email with team name and members or on-site!



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Editor's Letter: July, 2024

July 9, 2024 by Brian Hieggelke

Though we were neighbors, living and working in the same building for most of my adult life, I never got to know Vera Klement. She attended a party or two in our apartment, and we went to gallery openings and dinners where she was present. But our connection, sadly, came through others. For them, she changed their lives.

Artists are human beings too, with friends and lives outside the studio. Publications like Newcity tend to profile artists through their creative work, but in this



Cover Art: Vera Klement, "Trace of Day," 2002. 78 x 104" two panels, 84 x 78" + 66 x 20" Klement Studio (detail)

issue, we went to friends and former students, as that was how we knew her.

I must have first heard Vera's name in the mid-1980s, when my brother Brent, who started Newcity with Jan and me while he was in the College at the University of Chicago, took Vera's class. An econ major like we all were, he was especially enthusiastic about his Color Theory class, and thrilled in discovering that she lived in the same building we'd adopted as Newcity's headquarters.

Decades later, we became good friends with our neighbors Anne Ream, Camila Di Mauri and Javier Otero. They all shared a floor with Vera and were close to her. Through them, we got to know Vera better than most.

When Vera moved out of the building she'd been in for almost fifty years, we visited her loft for the first time, for the sale to liquidate her life's possessions. You could feel the everlasting creative energy that filled that space for so long, along with a pervasive melancholy that it was being depleted.

We bought a funky lamp she'd created, as well as a paintbrush and mixing bowl she'd used. I like to think we captured just an iota of her essence. She is part of the story of our home. She is part of the story of Chicago.

—BRIAN HIEGGELKE

Look for Newcity's July 2024 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at Newcityshop.com.



IN THIS ISSUE

Come into My Parlor

Jamie O'Reilly makes a private tradition public

Deployment Nuremberg

A veteran remembers his days running "Hitler's favorite opera house" after the war

Vera Klement, "Trace of Day," 2002. 78 x 104" two panels, 84 x 78"+ 66 x 20" Klement Studio

You Are Beyond

Remembering Vera Klement

- +Touched by an art class
- +For the love of Batman AND ...

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Summer Dance—August

Chicago SummerDance at Spirit of Music Garden — Grant Park, 112 E. Balbo Dr. (Corner of Balbo Dr. and

Michigan Ave.)

Thursday, August 8, 69pm

Theme: Cumbia

• 6pm – Instruction by Karla Galvan/ Teatro Tariakuri (Cumbia)

7:15pm – Music by Money Chicha (Psychedelic Cumbia)

Friday, August 9, 6-9pm Theme: R&B, Steppin'

• 6pm – Instruction by James "Pete" Frazier/ Majestic Gents (Steppin')

7:15pm – Music by Club Crib (R&B, Steppin')

Saturday, August 10, 6-9pm

Theme: Swing (Lindy Hop / Charleston)

6pm – Instruction by Brennan Bowman/ <u>Fizz Swing Dance</u> (Lindy Hop/ Charleston)

7:15pm – Music by **Shout Section Big Band** (Swing)

Chicago SummerDance at Spirit of Music Garden — Grant Park, 112 E. Balbo Dr.

(Corner of Balbo Dr. and Michigan Ave.) Thursday, August 15, 6-9pm

Theme: Zydeco, 2 Step

• 6pm – Instruction by Louie Stallone (2-step, Waltz) 7:15pm – Music by <u>Le Travaillant</u> (Zydeco, Cajun)

Friday, August 16, 6-9pm

Theme: Line Dance

6pm – Music by <u>Shon Roka</u> in collaboration with line dance leaders Fre2Dance (Line Dancing)

Saturday, August 17, 6-9pm

Theme: Salsa

6pm – Instruction by **Denita/ Desueño Dance**, Sarah Najera/ **MOMENTA Dance Company** (Physically Integrated Salsa)

7:15pm – Music by Flaco Navaja & the Razor Blades (Salsa)

Chicago SummerDance at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St.

Tuesday, August 20, 4:30-7:30pm

4:30pm – Creative Activity

5:30pm – Instruction by Gopi Engineer of Meher Dance (Bhangra and Bollywood)

6pm – Music by Funkadesi

Chicago SummerDance at Spirit of Music Garden — Grant Park, 112 E. Balbo Dr.

(Corner of Balbo Dr. and Michigan Ave.)

Friday, August 23, 6-9pm

Theme: Afrobeat

• 6pm – Instruction by Bobbi Ponder (Afro Dance) 7:15pm – Music by Occidental Brothers (Afrobeat, Soukous)

Saturday, August 24, 6-9pm

Theme: House

• 6pm – Instruction by Tre Daniels/ Jus Be Collective 6:30pm – Music by **A Party Called Tribe** (House)



AUG 10, SATURDAY 10AM-5PM

AUG 11, SUNDAY 10AM -5PM

Amdur Productions is proud to announce the return of **the 6th Annual Printer's Row Art**



Fest in Chicago! Be part of a cool vibe art festival in Chicago's up and coming South Loop, a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community. The South Loop is a mosaic of people, neighborhoods and cultures. Taking place alongside the famous Printer's Row Park, this fall festival will be the place to be. The festival showcases the beauty, creativity and culture of the area. Trendy loft apartments and photo studios, upscale apartments and townhomes, on-trend restaurants and bars all make this area the urban destination of millennials, gen-xers and baby boomers.

Held on Dearborn Street, from Harrison Street to Polk Street, the South Loop Art Fest will be a showing and selling opportunity for artists and artisans. Art at all price points is invited at this fall fest. Painters, street artists, jewelers, "upcycling artists", artisans of all kinds, photographers, mixed media artists and more are invited to apply.

https://amdurproductions.com/event/ printers-row-art-fest/



At the Jazz Showcase, the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, Jeff Lindberg, Director, every Monday night at 5:30pm in June, July and August. These photos are from Monday, July 15th, 2024. The featured singer was Bobbie Wylson, female jazz vocalist and former voice teacher at Columbia College.

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SEASON OPENS JUNE 13

June 13 - October 3

Thursdays from 4am-8pm *No Market July 4th*

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(Indoors & Outdoors)
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Market Info



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Restaurant employee held at knifepoint during early-morning robbery in Loop

Story by Gabriel Castillo 1 min read

Story by Gabriel Castillo

CHICAGO — Authorities are searching for the people involved in a violent robbery at a restaurant in the Loop early Sunday morning.

Chicago police say an employee at Lou Malnati's Pizza in the 800 block of South State Street was exiting the back door of the restaurant just before 2 a.m. when two people, a male and a female whose ages are unknown, approached with a handgun.

Officers say the employee attempted to run back into the restaurant, but one of the offenders grabbed him and put a knife to his throat before entering the business.

into the restaurant, but one of the offenders grabbed him and put a knife to his throat before entering the business.

According to police, once inside, the female offender held a second employee at gunpoint and demanded money from the safe.

The employees complied with the demands and the robbers then fled the scene.

Officers say one of the victims was taken to the hospital after falling and hitting his head during the incident.



CHICAGO INTRODUCES NEW FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF PROGRAM



Hey Chicago, let's compost! The City of Chicago is launching its first-ever citywide Food Scrap Drop-Off Program. All Chicago residents are welcome to drop off their household food scraps for composting at one of 15 locations across the city – for FREE!

Composting is one of the easiest ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the climate crisis. Composting keeps food scraps out of landfills and recycles nutrients to build healthy soils.



Scan the QR code or visit **www.ChicagoRecycles.org** to register for the program and learn how it works.







Restaurant employee held at knifepoint during early-morning robbery in Loop © Provided by WGN-TV Chicago

THE PALLBEARERS OF THANKSGIVING



Wisconsin Steel on the south side of Chicago organize a Thanksgiving Day demonstration in 1983 in order to call attention to their plight after the mill was suddenly shut down. Their gimmick is a coffin that the demonstrators will

New Novel by

Local Author

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steelworkers from

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- BookLife

\$14.95 92 pages ISBN: 978-1-7374709-3-9

Available on Amazon

Bike Lane Ticketing Program Still Hasn't Started 16 Months After City Approved It

The Smart Streets pilot program creates a system to mail tickets to drivers caught by city cameras blocking bike lanes and bus stops in the Downtown area. It could begin this fall.

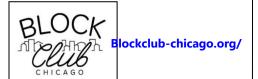
by Quinn Myers July 11, 2024 CHICAGO — A pilot program that would automatically send a ticket to drivers who block bike and bus lanes Downtown has yet to begin — almost a year and a half since the measure was approved by City Council.

In March 2023, alderpeople passed the Smart Streets pilot ordinance, which calls for the use of city cameras to catch and ticket drivers illegally parked in bike lanes, bus-only lanes, bus stops and crosswalks. The program will use cameras on city vehicles and other infrastructure to monitor scofflaws and mail them a ticket for parking infractions.

The pilot area for the ticketing system will extend from Lake Michigan to Ashland Avenue and North Avenue to Roosevelt Road.
Offenders caught on camera would get one warning letter before being issued a ticket by the Department of Finance, according to the original ordinance. City Council last year increased the fine for vehicles blocking a bike lane from \$150 to \$250.

But 16 months after the ordinance's passage, no tickets have been issued under the program. The Council's pedestrian and traffic safety committee on Wednesday approved an extension to the pilot's end date, but no one at the hearing was sure when exactly it would get started. Robert Kearney, chief of staff for

Click here for the rest of the story



Grant Park is at a Crossroads

A presentation and partnership with The Cliff Dwellers, Grant Park Advisory Council, and South Loop Neighbors.

Location: The Cliff Dwellers, 200 S Michigan (Floor 22)

Cocktails 5-6 pm

Picnic Style Buffer 6-7 pm \$45

Presentation at 7 pm (Presentation only \$15)

Reservations Required by July 23rd email: reservations@cliff-chicago.org or call: 312-922-8080

Jim Wales and Leslie Recht will outline the status of Grant Park, provide some of the ideas to improve Grant Park that have been discussed by the council members, and will solicit input from attendees about Grant Park. There will also be some discussion about the art and monument projects that have been suggested for

Wednesday, July 24th, 2024







GRANT PARK IS AT A CROSSROAD



Wednesday

July 24

Cocktails: 5:00-6:00pm

Picnic Style Buffet: 6:00pm - \$45

Presentation: 7:00pm

Presentation only: \$15

The Cliff Dwellers is located across the street from one of the premier parks in Chicago, Grant Park. Grant Park has at least two identities: one as a neighborhood park for the more than 110,000 residents living Downtown and two as a regional park hosting a wide array of programs for the City of Chicago and our region. These two identities come into conflict when the major regional events push out the local and neighborhood park uses. In recent years, an increasing number of large events have been set in Grant Pak, like the NASCAR races, the historic Lollapalooza and many fests. Leslie Recht, CD '03, is President of the Grant Park Advisory Council, which is organized to advise the Park District about Grant Park, and Jim Wales, CD '21, is the Council Vice President as well as the President of South Loop Neighbors. The number of residents Downtown has grown enormously in the last 20 years and it is time for a reevaluation of the 2002 Framework Plan for Grant Park. Jim Wales and Leslie Recht will outline the status of Grant Park, provide some of the ideas to improve Grant Park that have been discussed by Council members and will solicit input from attendees about Grant Park. The Council formed and art and monument advisory committee which includes several members of Cliff Dwellers, including Ed Torrez, CD '17, Walker Johnson, CD '84, and Ed Gordon, CD '00. We will discuss some of the art projects that have been reviewed by that advisory committee and the process that was used for this review.

Reservations can be made by email to reservations@cliff-chicago.org or by calling 312 922 8080. RSVP by July 23.

Discounted parking available at lot located on south side of Adams just west of Wabash. Coupons can be obtained at the Cliff Dweller and used when leaving the lot.



Everyone can benefit from Mr. Boyd's knowledge & life experiences.



Sylvester Boyd Jr. is an expert in history, race relations, an author, movie/TV extra, entrepreneur & motivational speaker.

Mr. Boyd provides a unique perspective to key life issues across cultures and ethnicities based on his life experiences, world travel and knowledge of world history and race relations in America.

For over 20 years, he owned/operated an advertising business. Being semi-retired, he's worked as a substitute teacher for Chicago Public Schools and currently enjoys working as a background actor in a variety of movies and TV series, such as The Dilemma, Transformers 3, Batman, Empire, Chicago PD, Shameless, Chicago Med/Fire and many others. His is also a motivational speaker - having spoken at various churches, businesses and colleges and interviewed on many radio podcasts and TV programs.

As a historian and expert in race relations, Mr. Boyd has authored three volumes in a books series - *The Road from Money*. The series is adapted from family stories - featuring his aunt beginning in 1927 in Money, Mississippi. He has woven in history and the times of Jim Crow in the South, the Great Migration to the north; civil rights, plus music and

historical events of the times. Topics include: Race Relations in America (Black Lives Matter), Business, Education, American and world/military history, world cultures and geography. He also provides a unique insight into the world of the TV/film industry. In addition, as a former substitute teacher, he can speak to the issues facing today's youth.



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More than one presentation at the same location: \$50 discount, on the same day; 15 minute Q&A included.

*Travel expenses will apply outside the City of Chicago – depending on distance.

BOOKING INFORMATION: sylvesterboyd@ymail.com 312-838-0847

Backstory Essays Regan Burke It's not lucky to be almost assassinated



July 16, 2024. She came to me at nine years old with an incomplete backstory. No longer a viable breeder after age five or six, the owners kept her way past her financial contribution to the family. She'd delivered two litters a year, about 100 puppies. "We just liked her," they told me. My inquiry, "I'm an old lady dog-lover, looking for an old-lady dog companion," hit just the right tone. "You're an answer to our prayers." And so I got Elsa.

The day after the attempted assassination of the former president, I hungered for Sunday air. You know, the first day of the week kind of air, where everything starts over. Air that requires nothing. No lofty thoughts, no reflection, no opinions, judgments, or conclusions. Sunday air. I breathe Sunday air when singing a well-known hymn like "It is well with My Soul".

When peace like a river, attendeth my way

When sorrows like sea billows roll

Whatever my lot

Thou hast taught me to say

It is well, it is well, with my soul

And when the preacher elevates my being with no effort on my part, I breathe in the Sunday air of love.

Sunday air was unattainable at church last week, though. It was not well with my soul. Right off, the preacher prayed "for former President Trump, grateful he did not succumb to political violence. This world is in love with violence, a violence that threatens the best in us, so renew in us a commitment to the Christ, who calls us to turn the other cheek, to love our neighbor, to love our enemies." On receiving this, I sucked in a big chunk of we're-gonna-lose and couldn't seem to exhale.

The sermon choked off any puff of relief— a parable about prayer that meant nothing to me. My diaphragm would have swelled during hymn-singing, but the tunes were unfamiliar yawns.

And so, airless, I vamoosed to the outdoors, home to fetch Elsa for a trip to the park to watch tennis players sweat it out. She was too hot to sniff around the edges and lazed in the shade instead. Until a tennis ball bounced toward her behind the chain link fence. She bolted for it and dug into the wire to try to slay that green fuzzy rodent stunt double. She would have broken her teeth to get to it. A tennis player picked up the ball, a good ball, and tossed it over the fence with big Sunday air to Elsa, who received it with the gusto of a kid catching bubbles. She flaunted her prize using all the primal dog moves that delight dog-loving humans. I never knew she was a ball dog.

Echoing Bill Maher, Bulwark podcaster Tim Miller asked his spirit guide and Managing Editor, Sam Stein:

"Can I say Trump is the luckiest dog on the planet?"

"No! You can't say that."



"I can't?" Asked Miler.

"No! It's not lucky to be almost assassinated." Said Stein.

But Elsa. She's a lucky dog.

COMMENT

by Regan Burke In That
Number: One March
From the Streets of Protest to the Halls of Power
(And Beyond)

Available at Sandmeyer's Book Store and other places.



As Chinatown's Ping Tom Park Turns 25, Neighbors Worry Massive Development Could Change Its Identity

Residents fear The 78 megadevelopment, which the White Sox hope to make their new home, could swallow the park and erode the area's culture.

by <u>Ian Gibson</u> and <u>Karishma Bhuiyan</u> July 5, 2024Updated July 8, 2024

Debbie Liu is president of the Ping Tom Park Advisiory Council and has researched the impact of development on Chinatown communities. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

This story was reported by Ian Gibson and Karishma Bhuiyan, who worked as student associate interns with Block Club's <u>The Watch investigative team</u> through a partnership with Northwestern University's Media Law and Government Transparency Practicum.

CHINATOWN — Longtime Chinatown advocate Grace Chan McKibben occasionally spends part of her lunch break strolling through Ping Tom Memorial Park, which straddles 18th Street and is known for its pagoda-style pavilion, annual dragon-boat race and impressive views of the Chicago River and skyline. Until recently, the biggest concern for Chan McKibben and other park users has been that freight trains sometimes block the Ping Tom entrance.

But as the park celebrates its 25th anniversary this summer, visitors and supporters face a larger threat: The 78, an undeveloped 62 acres just north of the park.

The Chicago White Sox are reportedly in talks with developers to build a stadium on the site, and Chan McKibben, executive director of the Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community, worries the massive development could swallow the park and erode the area's cultural identity.

"The property line of The 78 is literally right up against the north end of Ping Tom Park, which is why every time we talk about The 78, I'm like, 'Please, also remember Ping Tom Park,'" she said.

The stadium idea hasn't yet gained momentum with city and state officials, but Chan McKibben and other community leaders are on guard to protect the park and the Chinatown area.

They have good reason to be concerned: Other Chinatown districts around the country have been slipping away because of gentrification and development. Over the past two decades, a basketball and hockey arena in Washington, D.C., pushed up property values and displaced residents of the nearby Chinatown community.

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PING TOM PARK 25 YEARS from previous page BLOCK CLUB

Local rules requiring that businesses there have Chinese in their names failed to protect the area's cultural identity, said Debbie Liu, president of Ping Tom Park's advisory council.

"What we saw was Starbucks with translations in Chinese. Anthropologie: Chinese. Bed, Bath & Beyond: Chinese. Hooters: Chinese. That's not what most people consider cultural distinction," Liu said. "There's only really one or two Chinese restaurants left there in D.C." The result was a Chinatown that maintained its visual character but lost its important role as an ethnic enclave.

Liu said a new stadium in The 78 could have a similar impact on Chicago's Chinatown.

Community leaders note that Chicago's Chinese population has been displaced before: More than 100 years ago, discrimination and expensive rents forced residents and businesses from Clark and Van Buren streets in the Loop to Chinatown's current location in the Armour Square neighborhood.

"Chinatown here is not super close to a convention center." Liu said. "It's not close to a theater district. It's not close to a stadium. It's not close to Downtown. Those have been factors in why Chinatowns in other cities have been more susceptible to displacement."

Chan McKibben would like to see significant investment in affordable housing as a major component of The 78. She also said the development could strengthen educational options to Chinatown.

"Chinatown and Bridgeport have been pushing for a neighborhood high school for the past 30 years,"

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The-revival.com and social media

The Revival - 906 S Wabash Ave, Chicago, IL 60605

Chan McKibben said. "It would be good if the school could be in The 78 because there really isn't any other land to build on."

Ping Tom Park is perhaps the starkest example of Chinatown's fragility and its strength.

In 1962, Hardin Square and Stanford parks — which served Chinatown residents were demolished to make way for the Dan Ryan Expressway, according to a Park District historical account. Residents were promised a replacement park, but neighborhood advocates led by Leonard Louie pushed for



The Chicago skyline as seen from Ping Tom Park in Chinatown on Oct. 17, 2023. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chica-

years to get the Park District to fulfill this promise.

"Louie was instrumental in going to the Park District meetings, every single meeting, and saying, 'Where's our replacement park?" said Ernest Wong, the landscape architect who designed the park. "He just kept on going back and back and back."

CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE



https://blockclubchicago.org/

As Tent Cities Are Cleared, Unhoused Residents Ask Why It Took DNC For City To Offer Housing

"I don't know why it has to take the Democratic National Convention to come here from them to actually do something for the citizens already here," a resident of the encampment near the Dan Ryan Expressway said.

by Mack Liederman July 12, 2024

SOUTH LOOP — Residents of highly visible tent cities near the upcoming Democratic National Convention say local officials have swiftly cleared their encampments and offered them shelter in former hotels through the summer. That includes a small strip of land along the Dan Ryan Expressway at Roosevelt Road and South Desplaines Street, which has been home to unhoused Chicagoans for at least four decades.

The city plans to close and permanently fence off the encampment starting Wednesday, Department of Family & Support Services spokesperson Brian J. Berg said in a statement.

"The goal is to be proactive and avoid last-minute disruption to the living situations of the individuals located at this site in anticipation of the DNC," Berg said.

On Thursday, the longtime encampment was mostly barren of its usual array of tents, with single shoes and piles of personal items, some covered in mud and footprints, left behind.

They're Building Tiny Houses To Tackle Homelessness, But The City Wants Them To Stop Encampment residents told Block Club city outreach workers have been visiting in recent weeks to offer them rooms in coveted city-run shelters, including the former Tremont Hotel, 100 E. Chestnut St. in the Gold Coast, which was bought by the city last year and has only 60 beds.

Those who accept the beds can keep them until Aug. 31, Berg said. The convention is Aug. 19-22.

"Targeted outreach teams have been working with encampment residents on collecting the essential documents, signing up for public benefits, completing housing assessments to determine specific housing needs and making referrals for other services," Berg said.

Brandie Knazze, commissioner of the support services department, told the Sun-Times the call to clear camps was made, in part, to protect people who could be swiftly removed by federal authorities or Secret Service if they're living within the convention's heavily guarded security

Some still at the encampment Thursday said they had gladly accepted the converted hotel rooms but had come back anyway to hang out on the grounds. Some residents took the hotel rooms despite turning down shelter offers from the city in the past, with many living on the street saying the city's old shelter system provided little relief. Others said they had no plans to leave.

footprint.

"I'm going to stick it out. This is where I started, where people know I'm located ... it's peaceful, to get away from the world and walking the street," said La'Ron, who has lived at the encampment for about a year. "I don't think it's right to move people out just for a convention."

A woman, known as "Titi" by fellow residents of the encampment, said she accepted a hotel room but worried others who did not may eventually be arrested for trespassing.

"I don't know why it has to take the Democratic National Convention to come here



A resident who goes by "Titi" poses for a portrait at the tent city along the Expressway in the 1100 block of South Desplaines Street in Near West Side on July 11, 2024.

for them to actually do something for the citizens already here," Titi said. "But I think it is a good thing for them to actually take the initiative to start giving them housing, because people have needed it for years."

Morgan McLuckie, CEO of the Orange Tent Project, a local nonprofit that provides winterized tents for the unhoused at the encampment, said she's kept in touch with about 20 people now at Tremont. She's following the city's next moves with bated breath.

In March, McLuckie and others <u>built a tiny house at the front</u> of the <u>encampment</u> in an effort to urge the city to provide its residents with immediate affordable housing. But the tiny house was simply slapped with a notice and <u>ordered torn</u> down only a few days later.

"They said they're getting people into housing. I can't be mad about that ... it just shouldn't take some big spectacle [DNC] for that to happen, "McLuckie said. "But if they kick everyone out at the end of August, with nowhere for them to go after that, I'll have to put up a stink."

The tent encampment under the Expressway near Canalport Avenue and Ruble Street in Lower West Side on July 11, 2024. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

At another orange tent encampment at South Canalport Avenue and South Ruble Street near Pilsen, resident Henry said city workers have cleared the camp by more than half in the past week by offering shelter in converted hotels.

"They should have made it a little easier transition," Henry said.

William, a former resident of the encampment by Roosevelt Road and South Desplaines Street, said he'll take the Gold Coast hotel room at the Tremont for the summer before he heads south.

"I don't see myself living here again," said William, hanging out on the grounds Thursday of the hollowed-out encampment. "I think it [the encampment] is pretty much over with

... It's about time."

BLOCK CHICAGO

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https://blockclubchicago.org/



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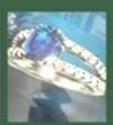




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South Loop Neighbors Ice Cream Social AND . . . Game Night! Photos by Jan Koerber















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Information

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Guest Name(s)

Affiliation___

Girl, 15, charged in string of CTA beatings, robberies

Police say the teen attacked and robbed four passengers on CTA buses and trains starting



Jan. 8. The most recent attack was July 4. By <u>Sun-Times Wire</u>

A 15-year-old girl is accused of attacking and robbing several people on public transit over the past few months.

The girl was arrested Tuesday after she was identified as the person who allegedly robbed and battered four people since January on CTA buses or trains, Chicago police said.

The first attack happened Jan. 8 when a 26-year-old woman was accosted in the first block of East Roosevelt Road, police said.

On May 6, a 23-year-old woman was battered and robbed in the 100 block of West Cermak Road; four days later, a 34-year-old man was battered and robbed in the 1100 block of West Thorndale Avenue. The teen was also charged with robbing a man, 30, on July 4 in the 200 block of West 47th Street.

The girl was charged with three counts of robbery and three counts of aggravated battery.

https://chicago.suntimes.com/crime/2024/07/10/girl-15-accused-beating-robbing-cta-riders-crime-transit-safety-violence-city-hall-attack

4 wounded in Douglas shootout Around 3:25 a.m. Sunday, a white truck approached a group of people on the street in the 3700 block of South State Street when there was an exchange of gunfire, Chicago police said.

Four people were wounded in a shootout July 7, 2024, on the South Side.

Sun-Times file

Four people were wounded in a shootout early Sunday in Douglas on the South Side.

Around 3:25 a.m., a white truck approached a group of people on the street in the 3700 block of South State Street when there was an exchange of gunfire, Chicago police said.

A 41-year-old man was shot in the lower back and in critical condition, police said.

A second man, 31, was shot in the abdomen and left hip and was also in critical condition, police said.

A 35-year-old woman, shot in the buttocks, was listed in good condition, authorities said.

A third man, 30, was shot in the left thigh and also listed in good condition, police said.

All four were taken to the University of Chicago Medical Center, authorities said.

No one was in custody. 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

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

Next CAPS Meeting July 17, 2024 3pm Virtual caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



http://home.chicagopolice.org/

7/01/2024 9:24pm 1400 S State St BURGLARY: Home Invasion in Apt Beat 131

6/22/2024 8:40pm 1400 S Wabash STRONG ARM ROBBERY, No weapon on sidewalk Beat 131

6/18/2024 10:45pm 1400 S Wabash ASSAULT at Apt Beat 131

6/25/2024 12:30pm 1300 S Wabash alley AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun Beat 131 6/26/2024 12:33am 1300 S Michigan Av

AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

6/18/2024 3:55 pm 1300 S Michigan Av CRIMINAL DMAGE TO SCHOOL Beat 131

7/2/2024 11pm 1200 S Michigan Av BURGLARY Unlawful entry (no sign of break-in) Bt 131

6/20/2024 9:12pm 1200 S Michigan Av RESTAURANT ARMED ROBBERY, Knife Beat 131

6/25/2024 10:35am 1200 S Wabash STRONGARM ROBBERY No weapon Food Store Bt 131

7/02/2024 10:25pm 1100 S Michigan Ave BURGLARY Unlawful entry at Restaurant Beat 123

6/16/2024 6pm 900 S State THEFT over \$500 on sidewalk Beat 123

6/24/2024 2:50am 30 W Polk ARMED ROBBERY on Street Bet 123

6/21/2024 6:45pm 600 S Clark
ATTEMPT AUTO THEFT on street Beat 123

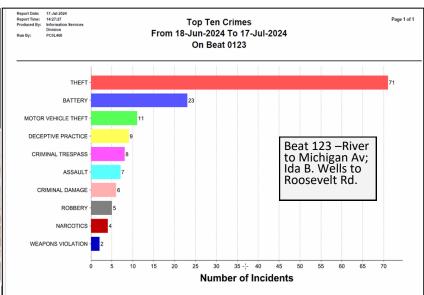
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Man killed, woman wounded in Near South Side shooting

About 11:15 p.m., the man and woman, 26 and 25, were walking on the sidewalk in the 100 block of East 21st Street when a white SUV approached and someone inside opened fire, Chicago police said.

By Sun-Times Wire

Jul 7, 2024, 8:21am CDT

A man was killed and a woman was wounded in a shooting July 6, 2024 on the Near South Side.

Sun-Times file photo

A man was killed and a woman was wounded in a shooting Saturday night on the Near South Side.

About 11:15 p.m., the man and woman, 26 and 25, were walking on the sidewalk in the 100 block of East 21st Street when a white SUV approached and someone inside opened fire, Chicago police said.

The man was shot multiple times and he taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital where he died, police said. The woman was shot in the left leg and taken to the same hospital where she was in good condition, officials said.

No one was in custody.

http://chicago.suntimes.com/

AUTO THEFT

6/24/2024 6:30am 1300 S State St AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131 6/23/2024 10:30pm 60 E 13th

AUTO THEFT on street Beat 131

6/20/2024 11:48pm 1100 S Wabash Av

AUTO THEFT on street Beat 123

6/19/2024 7:20pm 700 S Wabash

AUTO THEFT Non Res Parking lot Beat 123

7/1/2024 6:30am 600 s LaSalle AUTO THEFT on street Beat 123

Real Estate Transactions

\$610,000 978 S PARK TERRACE 610 6/12/24

\$403,000 1111 S WABASH AVE 1310 6/12/24

\$327,000 1515 S PRAIRIE AVE 512 5/31/24

\$475,000 125 E 13TH ST 1005 5/28/24

\$195,000 431 S DEARBORN ST 1808 5/23/24

\$248,000 910 S MICHIGAN AVE 1309 5/22/24

\$250,000 600 S DEARBORN ST 209 5/21/24

\$360,000 801 S PLYMOUTH CT 1001 5/21/24

\$433,500 100 E 14TH ST 1203 5/16/24

\$387,000 41 E 8TH ST 3006 5/15/24

\$600,000 1236 S FED-ERAL ST 5/14/24

\$1,050,000 719 S STATE 5/21/24

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1060 S Plymouth Ct #411 White Townhouses 4 bed, 2.5 bath \$609,900

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1142 S Michigan Ave Ph8 3 beds/ 3.5 bath 3900 Sq Ft Penthouse \$1,500,000

Kevin Snow Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices 312.893.3580



1201 S Prairie Ave #3105 2 bed, 2 bath, 1639 sq ft \$750,000

Nancy Hearon Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices 312.475.4595 520 S State St #1105 1 bed, 1 bath, 1055 sq ft \$315,000

Kate Stephens @properties Christie's International Real Estate 773.472.0200



547 S Clark St #1101 2 bed, 2 bath, 1407 sq ft \$440,000

Blake Smith Epique Realty Inc 630.460.7845



41 E 8th St #3001 2 bed, 2 bath \$555,500

John Montgomery Urbove Realty 708.955.0096



1515 S Prairie Ave #1004 1 bed, 1.5 bath, 900 sq ft \$285,000

Stefanie D'Agostino Redfin 312.650.7914



100 E 14th St #2709 2 bed, 2 bath, 1252 sq ft \$449,000

James Moser @properties Christie's International Real Estate 773.213.6287



1160 S Michigan Av #1206 1 bed/ 1 bath 760 Sq Ft \$284,900

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