

THE DEARBORN EXPRESS



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AL HIPPENSTEEL, EDITOR
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A reader writes:

“As a long term “South Loop” resident (40 years next year), I’m concerned about negative news that identify the location of shootings, for example, as South Loop. My understanding is that the South Loop community’s western border is the Chicago River. Anything across the Chicago River is the near west side or West Loop. Please help us understand how our South Loop neighborhood is defined. Thank you. *Miriam*

The South Loop’s western border is the river on the west, Michigan Avenue on the east, Ida B. Wells on the north and 24th Street on the south. Or so I’ve heard at South Loop Neighbor meetings. In the eyes of the media, it’s fluid. Recently a crime on South Clinton was described as being in the South Loop. According to the 77 Neighborhood map, the South Loop doesn’t exist. . . Officially. Below is a description by the Chicago Loop Alliance. *Editor*

2 MIN READ -- Welcome to the [Loop, Chicago’s official downtown](#) and [everyone’s neighborhood](#). The Loop’s neighborhood boundaries are the Chicago River (north and west), Ida B. Wells Drive (south), and Lake Michigan (east). The southern boundary goes all the way to Roosevelt Road in context of Chicago’s 77 designated Community areas and census demography, but that definition also includes the neighborhood, which locals refer to as “**South Loop.**” There is also an area known as “West Loop” west of the river, but neither locals or geographical maps consider that neighborhood to be formerly part of “the Loop.” <https://loopchicago.com/in-the-loop/what-is-the-loop/>

The best answer might be that for most of us, the area west of the river is the Near West Side. But there seems to be confusion in the area where Chinatown, Pilsen, and the South Loop meet.

Chicago Neighborhoods Map passed by City Council 1993
Click on map to see larger. But not the commonly referred to 77 Neighborhoods. *Editor*



September 10, 2024

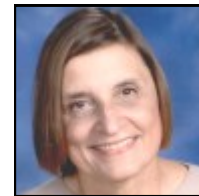
Vol. 12, No.11

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JAZZ SHOWCASE

Tue, Sept 10, 8pm.....WDCB 90.9 presents Marcel Bonfim Group
 Wed, Sept 11, 5pm.....Jazz Links Jam Session
Thu-Sat, Sept 12-14, 8pm & 10pm.....Pat Mallinger Quartet
Sun, Sept 15, 4pm & 8 pm.....Pat Mallinger Quartet
 Tue, Sept 17, 8pm.....Million Quartet
 Wed, Sept 18, 5pm.....Bob Lark
Thu-Sat, Sept 19-21, 8pm & 10pm.....Geof Bradfield Quintet
Sun, Sept 22, 4pm & 8pm.....Geof Bradfield Quintet
 Mon, Sep 23, 8pm & 10pm.....Marques Carroll Trumpet Summit
 Tue, Sep 24, 8pm & 10pm.....Kyle Swan Trio
Thu-Sat, Sep 26-28, 8pm & 10pm.....Terell Stafford Quintet
Sun, Sep 29, 4pm & 8pm.....Terell Stafford Quintet
 Mon, Sep 30, 8pm & 10pm.....Marques Carroll Trumpet Summit



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Geof Bradfield Quintet Sept 19-22



Pat Mallinger Quartet Sept 12-15

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Sep 12, 2024 - Oct 26, 2024

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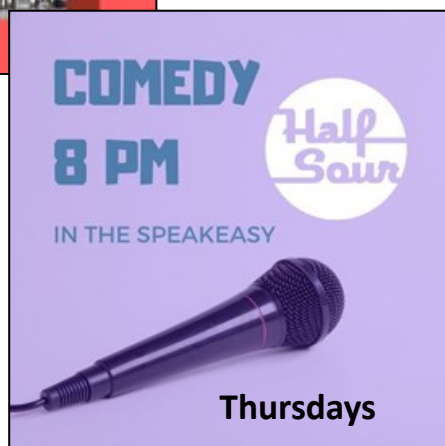
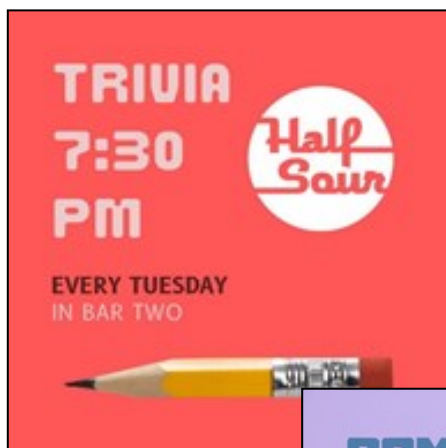
<https://www.the-revival.com/>

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



Clark and Polk Streets

312.224.1772



Bingo with Betty

Last Wednesday of the month

Friday, September 13

Show: 8pm

\$25

[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

Online ticket cut off time is 4:00PM day of show. Tickets are available at the door after 5:00PM

Free Acoustic Set: Mark Ricky – 5:30-7:30PM

Opening Band: Lil' Red & The Rooster – 8:00-9:00PM

Headliner: – Brandon Santini – 9:30PM – Close 21+ After 8:00PM



700 S Wabash Ave

Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials

Ages 21 and up

Saturday, September 14

Show: 9pm

\$25

[Buddy Guy's Legends](#)

Online ticket cut off time is 4:00PM day of show. Tickets are available at the door after 5:00PM

Free Acoustic Set: TBA – 5:30-8:00PM

Opening Band: Nicholas "Lil Hoochie" Alexander – 9:00-10:00PM

Headlining Band: Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials – 10:30PM – Close

21+ After 8:00PM

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:

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

Chicago River to Lake Michigan. www.southloopneighbors.org

South Loop Neighbors

Elected board

President – Jim Wales

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

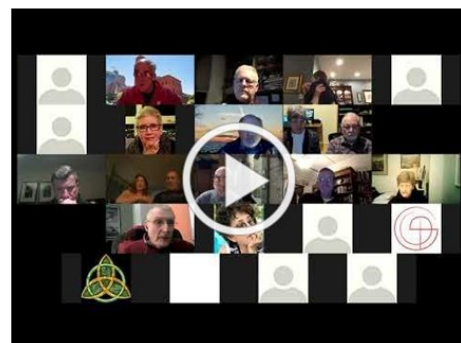
Director – Rob Hard

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. 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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JaqiGInt@gmail.com



Jim Wales

847-815-9459

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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

Great Craic at the Democratic Convention

August 25, 2024



On day two of the Democratic National Convention, I came face-to-face with a tall, long-haired, familiar beauty outside my local coffee shop in downtown Chicago.

“Hi! Are you Kaitlin?”

“I am.”

“You’re at my coffee shop!”

“I love this place; come here every morning,” Kaitlin said.

“Oh, gosh, I wish my friends were here to meet you. We’ve all been gathering for coffee in the Ritz Hotel lobby looking for you!”

“I wish I could meet them too!” She said.

“Well, I can’t speak for them, but I love you. My whole family loves you.”

And so went my encounter with Kaitlin Collins of CNN. Neighborhood friends and I camped out in various hotel lobbies during Convention week hoping to spot famous people. We’re political junkies, more likely to screech at Mitch Landrieu, former mayor of New Orleans, than Golden Globe winner Greta Gerwig. Oh, there are exceptions. I longed to see Billy Porter. Why him? As soon as President Joe Biden announced he was stepping aside for Vice President Kamala Harris, Billy Porter jumped out of the starting gate to endorse her. Also, I love his outfits.

In January 2024, Convention organizers declared they needed 12,000 volunteers. Unenthusiastically, almost reluctantly, some of us registered on the convoluted DNC volunteer website in February, March, April, never receiving acknowledgment or confirmation. My constant refrain to anyone who asked (or didn’t ask) was: sign up—you never know what will happen. When the Biden-Harris Handover came down, the volunteer pool immediately swelled to 30,000, a nascent signal of unabashed support for Kamala Harris for President. Would-be volunteers came from around the country thinking they’d grab a plum “slot” from the AI-driven robot volunteer organizer. A few days before the Convention started, I was called to the basement of the United Center with about 100 others to “unfur!” flags as they rolled in from the loading dock. We were gleeful. Some were called back for various duties at the Convention. Not me. I never did secure a volunteer gig to check credentials, or sort the garbage for recyclables, or greet people at hotels, or direct delegates to buses.

On the afternoon of Convention day four, I received a text, “I’m leaving a pass for you at the desk of my hotel,” from a lovely I’d known thirty years ago in the Clinton Administration. I hiked up my skirt, jumped on my three-wheel ADA electric scooter, and navigated my way through the exterior United Center maze of Secret Service, Chicago



Vivienne—great craic at Democratic Convention

Police, Cook County Sheriffs, metal fencing, magnetometers, hawkers, protesters, volunteers, and a mile-long line of faithful ticket-holders. Vivienne from County Cork and Mark from St. Louis in section 202 texted every few minutes with updated instructions on how to squeeze through the crowds and get to the seat they were defending for my grateful butt.

“I just got in a fight,” texted Mark. “Standing firm. I told them you were waiting for the elevator. Viv meeting you.” Finally, from my cherished seat, I texted David, who I passed outside on the pedestrian line. “No seats.”

Lucky doesn’t begin to describe how it felt to be in Section 202 of the United Center on August 22, 2024, for Kamala Harris’ acceptance speech—the most blessed hurly-burly hoopla in memory.

Or, in the words of Irish Vivienne, “Best craic a’ me life.”

Irish Craic Explained

“Craic is laughing at cellular level, finding the humour in everything and making yourself laugh when thinking about it

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.





PhysioPartners
ACHIEVING FREEDOM THROUGH MOVEMENT



Intro to Pickleball & Mobility Session both free



Saturday, Sept. 21, 3-5 pm

Grant Park pickleball courts

Columbus Dr. at 9th St., courts 1-4; rain date Sept. 22

Signup & mobility sessions start at 2:30.

First come, first served. No registration required.

PhysioPartners Physical Therapist Dr. Jon Artus will conduct mobility sessions prior to pickleball lessons.

South Loop Neighbors will provide lessons, balls & paddles, but bring your own paddle if you can.

In partnership with the Grant Park Advisory Council.

Pickleball is easy to learn, fun to play. Try it out or just come watch!

Questions? Contact Greg Borzo: 312-636-8968; gregborzo54@gmail.com

Intro to Mobility & Pickleball Grant Park Pickleball Courts

**Columbus Drive @ 9th St.
Sept. 21 @ 3-5 pm**

Come out for free mobility sessions followed by free lessons in one for the fastest growing sports!

South Loop Neighbors is seeking 1-2 volunteers for assisting in the event flow for participants. If you like being outside, are comfortable giving directions in events and answering questions, we would love to have you on our event team. Special consideration for those that play pickleball or are eager to learn! Click the button below to contact Sarah with South Loop Neighbors and be considered as a volunteer.

[Volunteer for Pickleball Event](#)



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Necessary and Sufficient is a woman-owned coffee shop in Logan Square. (Grace Wong / Chicago Tribune)

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Sincerely, Marianne

Illinois Democrats help Harris-Walz in neighbor states

August 26, 2024

By **Marianne Goss**

Michelle Obama's rousing speech at the Democratic National Convention must have revved up countless Democrats to answer her appeal "to do something." Her call to action was repeated by speaker after speaker. Don't let the passion of the convention fool you into overconfidence, they said. Harris vs. Trump will be close.

Illinois Democrats live in a reliably blue state. Where can we make a difference?

[Operation Swing State](#), a local grassroots coalition, is mobilizing volunteers to canvass, make phone calls, and write postcards to help the Harris-Walz ticket in Wisconsin and Michigan, two of the swing states that are expected to determine the presidential election.

Even someone like me who's not a regular political activist can feel comfortable writing postcards from home. I signed up with Operation Swing State to write postcards and am awaiting follow-up. If the project is organized as in 2020, the last time I wrote postcards, volunteers will handwrite the cards, choosing from suggested scripts, address them to supplied names, and stamp and mail them on a specified October date.

Since writing postcards for Biden in 2020, I've learned about research showing that postcards make a difference. According to the Progressive Turnout Project, which also has a postcard-writing effort, postcards add 1.3% to Democratic turnout. The impact may seem small until you realize how few votes can mean the difference in a close race. Biden's margin of victory in Arizona, Georgia, and Wisconsin combined was 42,918 votes — or .37%.

It might surprise you to hear that suggested postcard scripts don't mention a candidate or a party. Research has found that the most effective messages aren't partisan. They encourage voting with language such as "Thank you for being a voter. When will you vote in the Tuesday, November 5, election? Please plan ahead!" Left-leaning groups target people who may need a nudge to vote but then are likely to vote Democratic.

Operation Swing State is also coordinating volunteers for the more traditional tactics of phoning and canvassing voters.

[Email This](#)[Blog This!](#)[Share to Twitter](#)[Share to Facebook](#)[Share to Pinterest](#)

Every Saturday vehicles travel from staging locations in Chicago and the suburbs to Wisconsin and Michigan for a few hours of knocking on doors. When you sign up for a date, you can indicate whether you need a ride or have a car and are willing to drive others.

I knocked on doors for Obama in South Bend in 2008 and in Milwaukee in 2012 (or was it for Clinton in 2016?). I may canvass this year as November 5 gets closer. Face-to-face political activism doesn't feel natural or comfortable to me, but when the stakes are high enough, I can make myself do it. More likely I'll participate in one or more of Operation Swing State's phone banks. From 6 to 8 every Tuesday and Thursday evening until election day, volunteers will phone Wisconsinites and Michiganders from anywhere. Phone bank captains will share lists and train volunteers in how to call and what to say.

Of course, there is also the option of giving money, which I'm reminded of by text and email several times a day. It's annoying, but it will be over soon. And then let's hope we feel rewarded, however we contributed.



[COMMENT](#)

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

MOST RECENT

EPISODES August 21, 2024



Echoes of 1968 at the DNC in Chicago

This is an episode from the Vox daily news podcast, [Today, Explained](#). Host Noel King spoke with OTM regular, Rick Perlstein. As a historian of US politics he is often called upon to draw comparisons between today's events and those of the past. This year in particular, the echoes with 1968 are unavoidable: the DNC is again in Chicago, there are protests outside (this time its about Gaza, then it was civil rights).

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Ilyon Woo, **Master Slave Husband Wife: An American Love Story** (Simon & Schuster 2023).

Ilyon Woo is hardly a household name. She's written two books, both narrative non-fiction, and each about people most people never heard of. Her second title, **Master Slave Husband Wife**, sounds like something left behind at a laundromat. *Au contraire*. Ivy-educated Ms. Woo shared—with Jonathon Eig—who wrote the bestseller **King**, about the famed civil rights leader—the 2024 Pulitzer Prize for biography; was one of the NYT's best 10 books; and was heralded by **Time** and the **Chicago Public Library** as a "must read." It is the true story of Ellen and William Craft,—in love with each other and determined to suffer no further degradation, discipline, and violently divided families—who escaped slavery through ruse and resolve. They traveled openly—but not fearlessly— by rail, coach and steamship from Macon to Philadelphia with light-skinned Ellen passing as a wealthy, disabled White man and William posing as "his" slave. Their daring escape made them celebrities (and visible targets), and generated headlines around the country. Once among both Black and White abolitionists, they eschewed safety and repose for the opportunity to continue their crusade against slavery, inspire others in bondage to self-emancipate, and somehow let their families down south know they were alive. All was accomplished, but at great personal cost. Both the Crafts joined the dangerous and rigorous abolitionist lecture circuit with such luminaries as Frederick Douglass, William Wells Brown, and William Lloyd Garrison, speaking to thousands of Northerners in historic lecture halls built by enslaved people and paid for by the filthy lucre earned through kidnapping, selling, raping, beating, killing and subjugating human beings. Writing "Without the guaranteed

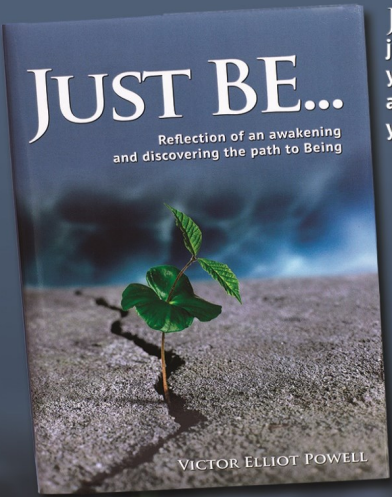
rights to slave ownership... the United States of America would not exist," Woo reminds those of us who forgot that Article IV, Section 2, Clause 3, of the **US Constitution** assured Southern colonies that: "No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall... be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due." She is careful to document the financial dependency of Northern wealth on Southern markets (including the Jesuit and other colleges who educated the sons of slavers) and notes that when Daniel Webster promised to enforce a more rigorous Fugitive Slave Act in 1850 as the US Attorney General, "the markets responded and prices shot up." It was this new law that most threatened the Crafts' peace and ultimately put them on the road again. A refreshing part of the narrative is the inclusion, by name, whenever possible, of Black abolitionists, and by class, where identities were unknown: "Abolition was a 'peoples' movement' stronger in factories and shoe shops than pulpits or colleges, strong among those with their own demands for justice." "These 'foot soldiers in the mobilization' were draymen and domestics, seamen and seamstresses, and 'men of overalls' or men of the wharf: people of labor and action." Jump into this beautifully written, impeccably researched, and hair-raising story. It oughta be a movie.

Lorraine Schmall

Dearborn Park / September, 2024



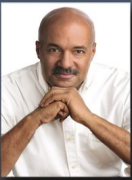
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Reflection of an awakening and discovering the path to Being

JUST BE... takes you on a journey of self-discovery where you come back home to yourself and find everything you thought you needed you already have.

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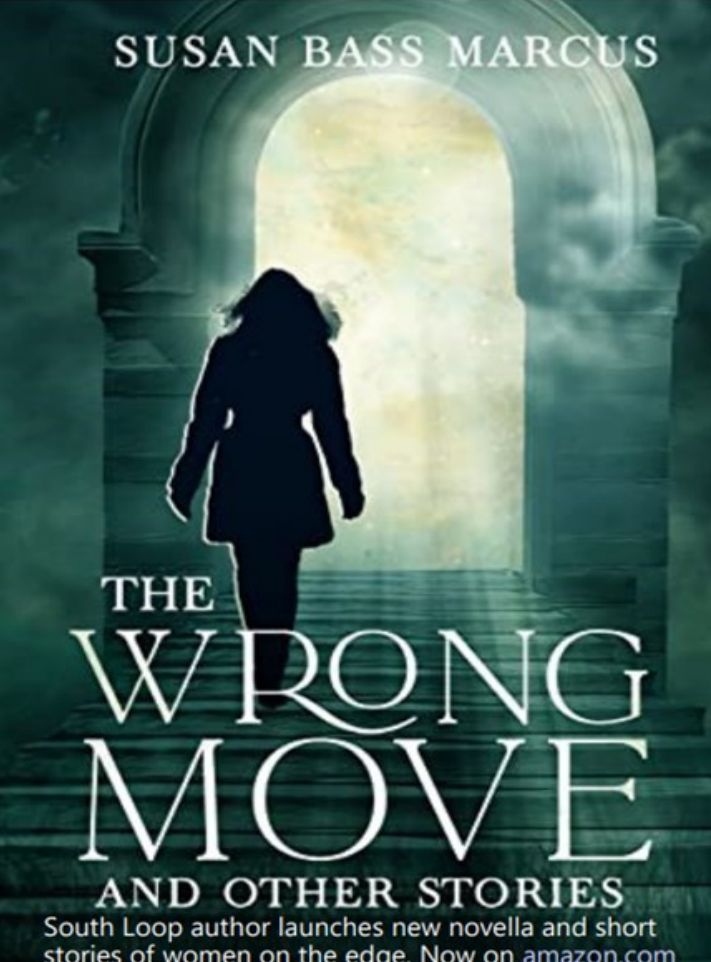
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AND OTHER STORIES

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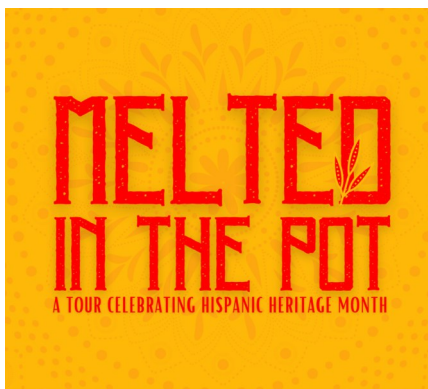
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September 12, 2024 - October 14, 2024
 Daily at 2:00pm; Included with museum admission
 Advanced registration not required



The voices of Hispanic writers have always been part of the American literary landscape. During Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate the incredible writing and achievements of Hispanic writers, from the first Puerto Rican librarian in New York City to the first Latino to win a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. This 15-minute tour introduces you to all areas of the AWM, and following the tour you can explore all of our exhibits more in depth.

Melted in the Pot is offered daily at 2:00 pm when the AWM is open. We are open Thursday through Monday, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. We are closed Tuesday and Wednesday. This tour is included with admission and advanced registration is not required. Tours begin at the museum front desk.

[PLAN YOUR VISIT](#)

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

<https://americanwritersmuseum.org/>

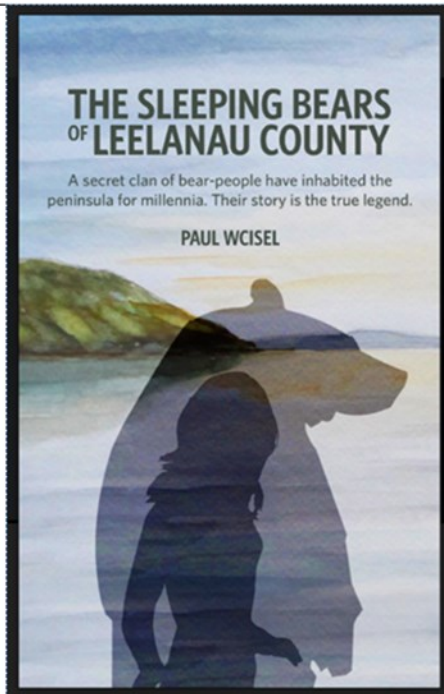


A new novel by
 local author,
 Paul Wcisel
 (paulwcisel.com)

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

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

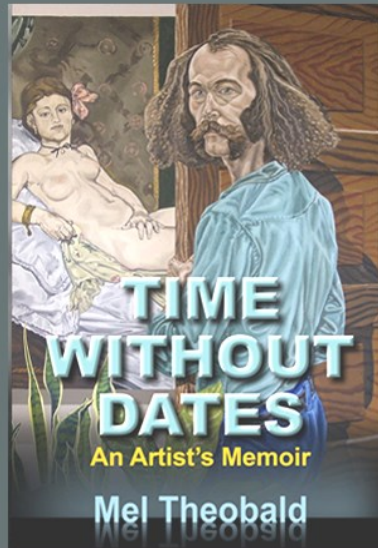
Pick up a copy at Sandmeyer's Bookstore today.



Time Without Dates

An Artist's Memoir

by Mel Theobald



In this candid memoir, the author pays tribute to the mentors and events that inspired him and lays bare the experiences that shaped him as an artist. The Art Institute of Chicago plays a central role in the years he spent as a student, museum conservator, and alumni leader. His struggles with his parents' archaic ideals and his dreams give rise to a thoroughly engaging association with an elite art community.

He became a university professor and graphic designer before receiving an invitation to Russia in 1990. This book is a prelude to *Inside the Enigma*, an intricate account of that transformative year, and defines the complexity of his foray into the inner workings of an art museum, university and the people who represent the heart and soul of his creativity. Art, science and religion are the cornerstones of his belief that creativity, technology and faith in nature will lead man to a higher consciousness.

For more details about the author, go to: www.theobaldart.com

Hardcover, 358 pages, \$30

For ordering information, email: theobaldart@gmail.com

Memories of Dennis McClendon

Everyone is unique. With some people, though, that truth becomes clear sooner than it does with others. That was true of Dennis. Just like his maps, Dennis could be precise and analytical. Just like his maps, Dennis could be warm and quirky. Those traits all blended to make him a singular presence in the South Loop. Our memories of living in that neighborhood are so intertwined with memories of Dennis that it's difficult to settle on just a few. But here goes.

One night Dennis was called on to emcee a boisterous public meeting, replete with alderman. The residents were upset about a proposed real estate development. Dennis didn't necessarily agree with their concerns or conclusions. Yet he courteously ensured everyone who wanted to voice their thoughts had the opportunity to do so – *without* commentary from him. He simply allowed those angry people to be heard. It was a master class in managing public comment.

Other memories: Dennis on his omnipresent bicycle... Dennis showing off the Ikea kitchen he installed...Dennis appearing in a documentary about Chicago's drawbridges...Dennis bobbing around with our six-month-old baby boy in the pool at his apartment complex...

Now that we have lived in both Texas and Chicago, we can see where Dennis got his courteous southern manners... Maybe it was the relative lack of great architecture and the total lack of planning here in Texas that drove how much Dennis loved great buildings and great urban design everywhere in the world--and most especially in Chicago.

Seeing the city through his eyes helped us fully appreciate our time living there. That's why when we think of Chicago, we think of Dennis. We have been, and now always shall be, missing him.

Sharon Watson & Steven Titch



Dennis the historian showing the development of the South Loop at a local fair. Not sure of the date. Photo by Mary Ivory

Other stories (links) below about Dennis McClendon in Block Club and the Chicago Sun Times.

[Block Club Click here](#)

https://paper.suntimes.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=232eb17e-85c3-4774-b629-e00c67133036&share=true

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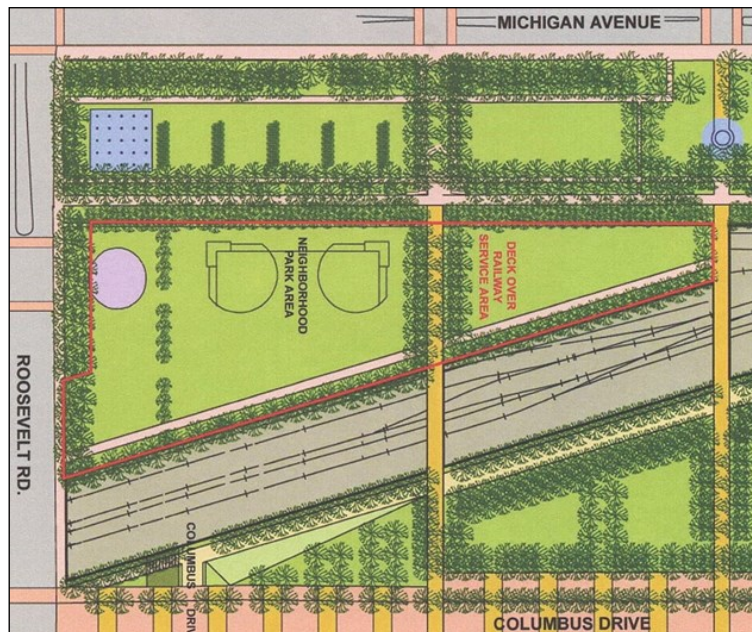
Reviewing Memorabilia
after the service right



At the
reception
following the
service. Left.

Eulogies

- Jim Peters, Preservation Planner
 - Bob Brueggman, Architectural History Professor, UIC
 - Marya Morris, Planning and Zoning Consultant
 - Laurie Petersen, Editor, AIA Guide to Chicago
 - Greg Borzo, Author, Tour Guide, & SLN Board Member
 - Scott Presslak, Transportation Planner
- Also in attendance was Alderman Pat Dowell



Grant Park Workshop TBA

How would you like to see the south end of Grant park developed? Neighborhood park, bathrooms, facility for park district programming, enhanced dog park, decking over of the railroad tracks, etc? The 2002 Grant Park Framework Plan noted pending residential growth in the South Loop and the need to develop part of the south end of Grant Park for neighborhood use. That growth is here and the Framework Plan is in the process of being revised. South Loop Neighbors hosted a workshop to help identify a "wish list" of what South Loop residents would like to see happen in the south end of Grant Park.

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Editor's Letter: September, 2024

September 3, 2024 by [Brian Hieggelke](#)

Print is back.

Almost every day I read a story about a formerly deceased print publication coming back from the dead, albeit often in a different format or frequency than in its earlier incarnation. Finally, the world seems to be realizing how tiring it is to look at a screen every waking hour and, for that matter, how much social media generally sucks.

This tracks with our experience. We play, and play hard, in the digital media space, but our flagship remains this beautiful object you hold in your hands. And the September issue is the ne plus ultra of our efforts; this year it again ties last year for the biggest page count we've ever produced.

You *could* read all these feature stories on a laptop, or a phone. But we have two eleven-page articles, one sixteen-pager and another at twenty-eight pages, plus thirty more stories in this issue. Isn't there a more civilized way to enrich your mind? Like, perhaps, with your favorite magazine in an easy chair or a chaise lounge at the pool?

Plus, you would not see the same ads. Ours are not the ads you've been conditioned to hate, like the pop-up ads on the web advertising miracle diet supplements. No, the nearly eighty ads in this issue are full of relevant information; about art exhibitions, operas, ballets, plays and concerts.

And then there's the poem, which you'll find, as always, facing the inside back page. Our last word, or perhaps our first, depending on which direction you read. You'll find it fires a different set of cylinders in your brain.

That's our goal, really. To help you rewire your mind. You know, so that A.I. can't quite map it.

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—BRIAN HIEGGELKE

Look for *Newcity's* September 2024 print edition at over 300 Chicago-area locations this week or subscribe to the print edition at [Newcityshop.com](#).



Cover art by Edra Soto, "La Casa de Todos / Everyone's Home," 2024, pvc foam boards, aluminum, paint. On location at Comfort Station through November 2024/ Photo: Maria Burundarena | Cover design: Dan Streeting

IN THIS ISSUE Fall Arts Preview 2024

Anonymous Woman

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Caught in the Act

William Frederking's Dancer Portrait Project

Dress For It

Behind Chicago's revitalized Fashion Week

Light Years

The image according to Roger Deakins

Pilgrim Progress

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Anthony's Aria

The curtain falls on the Freud era at Lyric Opera

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Mexican Independence Day Fest Planned Downtown As Police Pledge ‘Zero Tolerance’ For Caravans

El Grito fest organizers were bombarded with questions from Downtown residents Tuesday, just two weeks before the fest is slated to be held in Grant Park.

by [Melody Mercado](#) September 4, 2024

DOWNTOWN — Residents blasted El Grito festival organizers at a virtual community meeting Tuesday, citing concerns over potential caravanning the festival could attract Downtown — an activity police will have “zero tolerance” for, a police official said.

El Grito, a two-day festival celebrating Mexican Independence Day, is slated for Sept. 14-15 in Grant Park and is expected to draw 12,000 people per day. The festival is being organized by the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Mexican Consulate in Chicago in collaboration with city agencies such as the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, the Park District and Choose Chicago.

El Grito is the cry of victory that is traditionally part of Mexican Independence Day celebrations. The holiday commemorates Mexico’s independence from Spain following an 11-year war that ended in 1821.

This year’s festival marks the return of a [city-sponsored Mexican Independence Day event Downtown](#) after over a decade. More recently, events [have taken place at locations around the city](#) while [car caravans have gathered Downtown and on DuSable Lake Shore Drive](#).

During the festival’s second virtual community meeting Thursday, most residents expressed concerns that the event would exacerbate issues related to crowded caravanning Downtown.

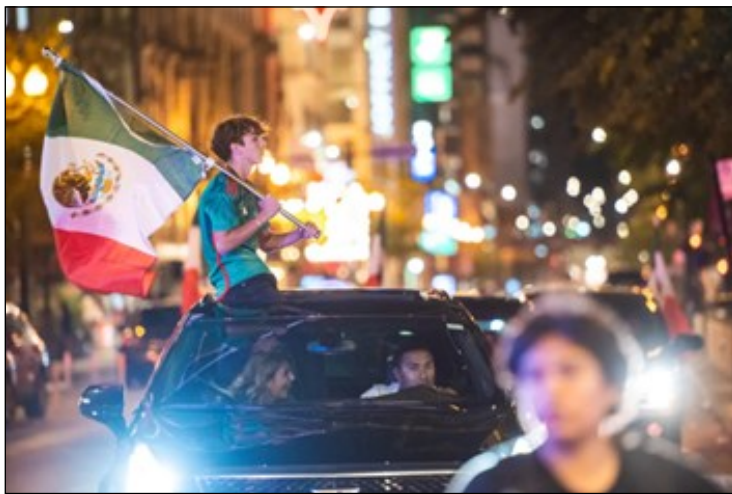
“Do you really think it’s wise to schedule this event at the same time when we see total gridlock in the Downtown area when the First District is already stretched to the max?” said resident James Wales.

Festival organizers stressed that they did not have control over the potential caravans but that a city-sponsored festival in Grant Park could help alleviate the congestion by having people at the festival instead of the streets.

The festival also has a security plan that includes 70 private security officers on-site during the day and 10 at night. Security will conduct bag checks and screenings with a K-9 team and will enforce a list of prohibited items.

Still, many residents raised questions about dealing with traffic congestion and safety, including Ald. Pat Dowell (3rd), who said she found out about Thursday’s meeting “by accident.”

“We want people to celebrate their traditions, have their traditions, enjoy their celebrations, expand their culture. I think the issue is really about public safety. I know from previous caravans that happened on Mexican Independence Day. You know, it’s about traffic blockage and lawlessness, cars being set on fire,” Dowell said.



Hundreds celebrate Mexican Independence Day Downtown Chicago despite the city’s efforts to close traffic to Downtown on Sept. 16, 2023.
Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

Chicago Police respond while hundreds celebrate Mexican Independence Day Downtown Chicago despite the city’s efforts to close traffic to Downtown on Sept. 16, 2023.

Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

Chicago Police First District Commander David Harris detailed potential plans to close down parts of Downtown to vehicular traffic, but said it would be a last-minute decision by the department.

“We will have several police resources in or around this event, and there will be zero tolerance for any caravanning, taking over intersections whether it’s with a vehicle or pedestrian, drinking in the streets, fireworks, any stuff that we’ve experienced in the past,” Harris said.

If police decide to close Downtown, several “access points” will be implemented throughout the neighborhood. Those access points would be at the intersections of Halsted Street and Division Street, Halsted Street and Chicago Avenue, Halsted Street and Washington Boulevard, Halsted Street and Madison Street, Halsted Street and Jackson Boulevard, Division Street and LaSalle Drive, 18th Street and State Street, 18th Street and Michigan Avenue and 18th Street and Indiana Avenue.

Fireworks go off above Wacker Drive while hundreds celebrate Mexican Independence Day Downtown Chicago despite the city’s efforts to close traffic to Downtown on Sept. 16, 2023. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

Not everyone at the meeting was upset about the potential for caravans. Resident Leslie Dimas, who is Mexican American, pointed out that other cultural celebrations Downtown such as St. Patrick’s Day attract “hundreds of thousands” of people who contribute to disorder annually.



[CLICK HERE](#) for the rest of the story

<https://blockclubchicago.org/>

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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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Thursday, September 12

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Exclusive: Forced out of job after nearly 35 years, Columbia librarian remains hopeful college will survive financial challenges

By [Patience Hurston](#), Editor-in-chief
June 20, 2024

Kim Hale only knew three things about Columbia College Chicago before going for her first interview for an acquisitions librarian position in 1989: the name of the college, the address and the interlibrary loan number.

"I had interviewed at other places, but Columbia was just special," Hale said.

After nearly 35 years at Columbia, Hale joined a Zoom meeting from vacation on May 30 and was told she had been laid off, [one of 70 staff members at the college](#) who were let go to help curb the college's \$38 million deficit.

The library lost five people: Hale, the special collections librarian, the catalog librarian, a staff assistant to the director and the director, Jo Cates. There are 10 librarians staffing the space.

The college has not officially released the names of any of the staff who were laid off or offered any kind of recognition for their years of service. Some staff who had been at the college for decades had just days to clear out.

"Losing senior staff means losing experienced mentors and valuable institutional memory," said Craig Sigele, president of the United Staff of Columbia College and an academic manager in the Communication Department. The union, which is currently in the midst of contract negotiations with the college, lost 20% of its members in the latest round of layoffs.

"The college's decision to lay off long-term staff members, who have dedicated years of service, is a significant misstep, showing a lack of respect and appreciation," Sigele said. "USofCC believes that sustainable careers are essential for Columbia's future, whereas the college action shows they prefer a disposable workforce."

When a Chronicle reporter arrived at her office on June 13, Hale was alone. She had just said goodbye to some coworkers on Zoom and was crying. Her office, a museum of Columbia history, was stacked with papers and books even though she had to be out by the end of the day. She said she had filled two large blue recycling bins the day before.

Hale has worked seven positions at the library during her time at the college and has overseen academic engagement since 2020.

"It was just a really good sense of caring and working for each other," Hale said. "I remember the first thing I noticed, especially [in the library], but all across the college is that staff bent backwards to help students."

Hale said Columbia felt different than other schools and under its open admission policy, she recalled seeing "people of all backgrounds, of all ages."

"I would have never called myself a creative," said Hale. "But I was so happy to be able to do the programming, to do the exhibits that we did, to have events of different kinds and to work with the students' providing events."

When initially handed the task of reducing the library's budget by 30%, Jo Cates, the library's director, said she put her position and salary up for elimination first.

Copy edited by Trinity Balboa

[CLICK HERE](#) for the rest of the story

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

<https://columbiachronicle.com/>



Kim Hale, former librarian of Columbia, sits by the bookshelves and smiles on her last day at the library on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

Photo: [Kaelah Serrano](#)



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Chicago Could Be One Of Few Big Cities Globally Without An Intercity Bus Station If Greyhound Closes

by [Quinn Myers](#) August 28, 2024

WEST LOOP — Chicago will become the largest city in the northern hemisphere — and one of only three of the 130 most-populous cities in the world — to not have an intercity bus terminal if its Greyhound station closes next month as planned.

That's the finding of a [policy brief released Tuesday by DePaul University's Chaddick Institute](#), which studies transportation and urban planning issues in Chicago and elsewhere.

The fate of Chicago's Greyhound terminal at 630 W. Harrison St. has been uncertain since FlixBus bought the company in 2021. That deal did not include the station and numerous other properties.

The following year, 33 Greyhound terminals [were bought by a subsidiary of the Alden Global Capital investment firm](#), which has floated plans to redevelop the Chicago site.

FlixBus North America's lease on the Harrison Street property ends in October, and operators will have to vacate the facility by Sept. 20, company vice president Gilda Brewton said Tuesday during a webinar hosted by the High Speed Rail Alliance.

The impending closure has led transit experts and advocates [to urge the city to come up with a suitable plan](#) to offer indoor waiting space for intercity bus riders and an efficient pick-up and drop-off operation — but no proposal has been nailed down.

DePaul professor Joe Schwieterman, who authored the policy brief released Tuesday, said Chicago's intercity bus "crisis" could disproportionately impact a system often used by older people, low-income riders, those with disabilities and people who can't or don't drive.

"We want to make sure everyone knows how unprecedented this is, being a major global city without a bus terminal," he said in an interview Tuesday. "In Chicago, the loss of the station is not getting the attention it deserves among both the city and agencies devoted to transportation."

A spokesperson for the Chicago Department of Transportation did not return a request for comment Tuesday.

The DePaul report used several factors to determine what qualifies as an intercity bus terminal in major cities. Those include having a physical structure to act as a shelter for riders, being located within 10 kilometers of a city center, and having boarding take place "away from city streets."

If the Chicago Greyhound terminal does close, Chicago will become the only city among the 15 most populous cities in the Global North without a facility that meets those criteria. Worldwide, it will join only Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Nairobi, Kenya, as the only cities among the world's 130 largest that do not have an intercity bus station, according to the brief.



Greyhound's lease on its Harrison Street terminal is set to end in October, and operators will likely have to vacate the site by Sept. 20. The city has yet to nail down a plan for where riders and buses will go when that happens. Credit: Colin Boyle/Block Club Chicago

Built in 1989, Chicago's Greyhound station is used by four bus lines and serves around 500,000 riders annually.

Transit experts and advocates have for months been calling on the city to buy the station and lease it out to private bus companies, an option the city said it has investigated but does not plan to pursue.

"The city of Chicago applied for funding from the federal Buses and Bus Facilities Program to purchase the existing terminal, but the application was denied. The city also explored buying the current facility, but found the acquisition financially unfeasible," transportation department spokesperson Erica Schroeder told Block Club in an email earlier this month. "Currently, the city is evaluating alternative options to ensure intercity bus services continue without interruption."

The city of Chicago has suggested Greyhound and other bus companies could offer bus service outside Union Station, potentially at a CTA transfer station or along Jackson Boulevard, while riders wait inside. But Amtrak, which owns the train station, has raised numerous concerns about the viability of that plan.

The best-case scenario for the immediate future would be a lease extension on the current Chicago Greyhound terminal to buy the city and stakeholders more time, Schwieterman said. Amtrak also supports that short-term proposal.

"FlixBus has provided us concepts short on details on passenger accessibility for those with any disability needs, storage and handling of luggage, bus staging areas away from Jackson Boulevard and myriad other items that would occur on what is already a congested street and without shelter," Amtrak spokesperson Marc Magliari wrote in a recent letter to the Chicago Tribune.



[CLICK HERE](#) for the rest of the story

<https://blockclubchicago.org/>

Dawit L. Petros: *Prospetto a Mare*

Through Friday, Dec 20, 2024



A Constant Re-telling of the Future in the Past (Part 3), 2024

Nestled in a green space between Soldier Field and Lake Michigan, the often-forgotten Balbo Monument was gifted to the city of Chicago by Italian dictator Benito Mussolini to commemorate controversial air marshal Italo Balbo's 1933 transatlantic flight from Italy to Chicago during the city's World's Fair. *Prospetto a Mare* is the latest chapter of Eritrea-born artist Dawit L. Petros's long-term investigation of the impact of Italian colonialism and its subsequent imprint on the visual cultures, populations and built environments of Africa, Europe and North America. With particular attention to Chicago's buried links to Italian colonialism, Petros probes the propaganda used to promote Italy's colonial projects in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Libya, and by extension, the newly formed Italian state; the (aerial) technologies used to dominate occupied countries and simultaneously extol the power of the occupiers; and the imperfect ways in which these histories are inscribed in public and private memory through monuments, storytelling, archives, and photography. By incisively deconstructing established narratives of culture, migration, and power, *Prospetto a Mare* reminds us that the tendrils of the past reach into the present, emphasizing that history remains unfixed and unfinished.

Curated by Karen Irvine, MoCP's Chief Curator and Deputy Director.

Visual artist and researcher Dawit L. Petros is currently associate professor in the Department of Photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Petros completed the Whitney Independent Study Program, an MFA in visual art from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, a BFA in photography from Concordia University, and a BA in history from the University of Saskatchewan. A recipient of awards including a Terra Foundation Research Fellowship, the Paul De Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award for Art Photography and a Fulbright Fellowship, Petros's multidisciplinary work has been exhibited at Tate Modern, London; Studio Museum in Harlem, New York City; and the Bamako Biennale, Mali, among other venues.

Dawit L. Petros: Prospetto a Mare is part of [Art Design Chicago](#), an initiative of the Terra Foundation for American Art exploring and elevating Chicago's rich art and design histories and diverse creative communities, and is funded by the Terra Foundation for American Art and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. The publication *Prospetto a Mare* (Mousse Publishing, Italy) is supported in part by the Art Gallery of Guelph.

MoCP Museum of Contemporary Photography

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Police release photos of gunman sought in White Palace Grill shooting

Video surveillance of the attack early Friday shows a man wearing a vest emblazoned with the word “officer” and carrying a badge. He pulls out a gun and shoots a 42-year-old man who was leaving the restaurant.



By [Sun-Times Wire](#)
Aug 28, 2024, 5:12pm CDT

Police released this image from surveillance video showing a gunman who opened fire early Friday at White Palace Grill in the South Loop, wounding a 42-year-old man. The gunman fled the scene in a silver Ford Focus.

Chicago police are looking for a man wanted in connection with a shooting inside the White Palace Grill restaurant in the South Loop on Friday.

Video surveillance shows the gunman wearing a vest emblazoned with the word “officer” and carrying a badge. He is then seen pulling out a gun and shooting a 42-year-old man who was leaving the restaurant in the [1100 block of South Canal Street](#) around 2:58 a.m., Chicago police said.

The man suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Police say a gunman who opened fire at the White Palace Grill on Friday fled the scene in a silver Ford Focus.

Chicago Police Department/Provided

The gunman fled in a silver Ford Focus, police said.

The restaurant was crowded with diners in town for the [Democratic National Convention](#).

Colorado state Rep. Javier Mabrey was enjoying breakfast at the diner when he heard a “very, very loud noise.”

Related

[Colorado state representative witnesses shooting at White Palace Grill in South Loop](#)

“We were just sitting there eating pancakes, and all of a sudden we heard a very, very loud noise and very close gunfire that was definitely coming from inside the restaurant,” Mabrey, 34, told the Sun-Times.

Mabrey, an advocate for gun violence prevention, at first thought it was a mass attack.

Anyone with information is asked to call Area Three detectives at (312) 744-8261.

<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 Sept 11, 2024
5:30pm at Grace Place
Beat 123

caps.001district@chicagopolice.org



Police Blotter



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

AUTO THEFT

8/29/2024 9pm 500 S Wells
AUTO THEFT Non-Res garage Beat 123

8/28/2024 600 S Financial
AUTO THEFT Vacant lot Beat 123

8/26/2024 5:20am 500 S Wabash
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 123

AUTO THEFT Non-Res Parking Beat 123

8/25/2024 4:30am 40 E 8th St
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 123

8/24/2024 8pm 700 S Clark
AUTO THEFT Non-Commerical lot Beat 123

8/24/2024 9am 700 S Michigan
AUTO THEFT Hotel parking Beat 123

8/24/2024 12:20am 0 E 8th
AUTO THEFT Non Res Parking Beat 123

8/23/2024 5pm 800 S Financial
AUTO THEFT/RECOVERY on Street Beat 123

Also 1000 S Clark
600 S LaSalle on 8/18 and 8/19
700 S Wabash

8/15/2024 6:05 am 500 S Clark

8/28/2024 4:30pm 90 E 18th St

8/23/2024 6pm 1900 S Wabash
ATTEMPT. AUTO THEFT Residential garage Beat 131

8/26/2024 9pm 100 E Cermak
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 132

8/22/2024 3pm 1700 S Prairie
AUTO THEFT on Street Beat 132

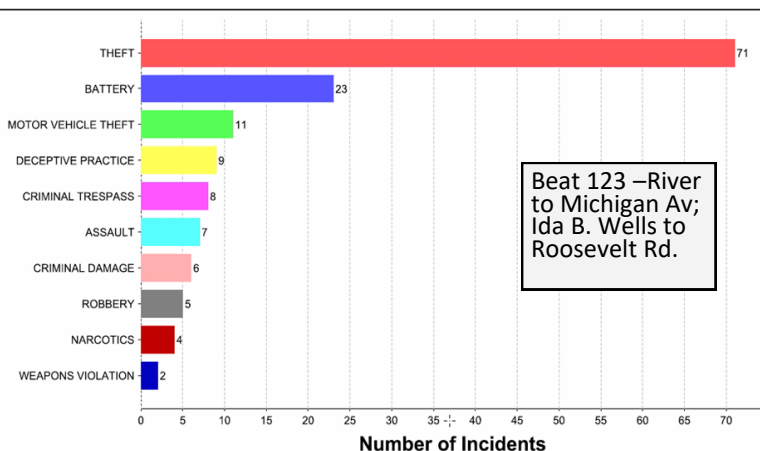
8/28/2024 2am 1800 S Prairie Av
AUTO THEFT on street Beat 132

We only report violent crime and car theft. We don't report the biggest category of crime in Beat 123 which is theft because it doesn't cause bodily harm.

Report Date: 17-Jul-2024
Report Time: 16:22:27
Produced By: Information Services
Division: PCOL468
Run By:

Top Ten Crimes
From 18-Jun-2024 To 17-Jul-2024
On Beat 0123

Page 1 of 1



Beat 123 –River to Michigan Av; Ida B. Wells to Roosevelt Rd.

Thieves are stealing guns from parked cars in the South Loop, police alert says

CHICAGO — An unusual crime pattern has emerged in the South Loop, where thieves have broken into eight vehicles and taken firearms from seven of them. Granted, there are a lot of guns in Chicago, but the odds of finding seven guns in eight random cars seem high. Police said the burglar targets cars parked on the street and enters by either breaking a passenger side window or opening an unlocked door. Exactly how the burglar would know that there would be guns in the cars is unknown, unless the victims left the weapons in plain view. CPD said cars were targeted in:

- the first block of East Cermak at 11:30 p.m. on July 1
 - the 2400 block of South Michigan at 11:45 p.m. on July 27
 - the 2200 block of South Michigan at 2:50 a.m. on July 29
 - the 2000 block of South Wabash at 1 p.m. on August 4
 - the 2100 block of South Wabash at 11 p.m. on August 9
 - the 2300 block of South Wabash between 1 a.m. and 1:54 a.m. on August 15
- the 2200 block of South Wabash at 2:30 a.m. on July 28 and again at 2:30 a.m. on August 4

Police did not release descriptions of the suspects, but they did offer some tips for people who park in the area:

<http://chicago.suntimes.com/>

[Click here](#)

More Crime . . .

8/27/2024 3:13pm Roosevelt Collection
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT Handgun Restaurant

8/28/2024 12:30am 2100 S Michigan Ave
ARMED ROBBERY Handgun on Sidewalk Beat 131

8/13/2024 5:57am 2000 S Wabash
BURGLARY Business office Beat 131

8/27/2024 4:05am 2100 S Calumet
ARMED ROBBERY on Street Beat 132

8/14/2024 1500 S Lake Shore Drive
BURGLARY Unlawful entry of boat Beat 132

8/11/2024 10:24am 1200 S Michigan
STRONG ARM ROBBERY – No weapon on street Beat 132

Real Estate Transactions

\$605,000
1345 S CLARK ST
8/7/24

\$317,500
901 S PLYMOUTH CT 1903
7/30/24

\$272,000
41 E 8TH ST 1104
7/24/24

\$311,000
1111 S WABASH AVE 2604
7/24/24

\$312,000
1400 S MICHIGAN AVE 505
7/23/24

\$202,000
633 S PLYMOUTH CT 1009
7/22/24

\$335,000
100 E 13TH ST 1108
7/18/24

\$322,000
520 S STATE ST 1412
7/18/24

\$257,000
780 S FEDERAL ST 780-309
7/17/24

\$327,000
1515 S PRAIRIE AVE 812
7/16/24

\$540,000
1250 S INDIANA AVE 1206
7/16/24

\$1,049,000
1242 S STATE ST
7/16/24

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124 W Polk St #901
3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2600 sq ft
\$679,000

Terri Buseman
RE/MAX Premier
312.208.5166



1160 S Plymouth Ct #411
4 bed, 2.5 bath
\$595,000

Matthew Engle
Fulton Grace Realty
717.658.0899

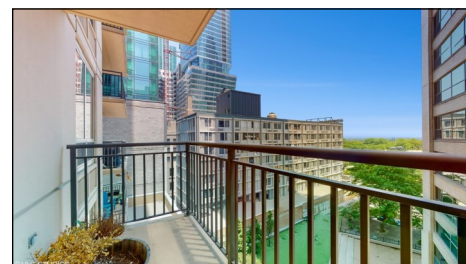


1020 S Wabash Ave Unit 4C,
\$499,000
Est. \$4,023/mo
2 Beds 2 Baths 1,800 Sq Ft

Heather Hillebrand
Dream Town Real Estate
773.758.7509

1111 S Wabash Ave #803
2 bed, 2 bath, 1300 sq ft
\$389,000

Xiaohuang Wu
AiHome Realty Group LLC
833.658.6671



899 S Plymouth Ct #1403,
\$313,000
2 Beds, 1.5 Baths
1250 Sq Ft

Lauren Vula
Coldwell Banker Realty
708.307.1443



40 E 9th St #304
1 bed, 1.5 bath 950 sq ft
\$199,000

Rohit Malik
RE/MAX Premier
312.208.1184



161 W Harrison St #1004,
1 bed, 1 bath 900 Sq Ft
\$275,000

Eugene Abbott
Baird & Warner
847.668.8955



1307 S Wabash Ave #606
1 bed, 1 bath
\$239,000

Rebecca Sexson
Baird & Warner
847.772.0864



780 S Federal St #1108
1 bath, 600 sq ft
\$155,000

Diana Martinez
Realty of Chicago LLC
773.741.0000

