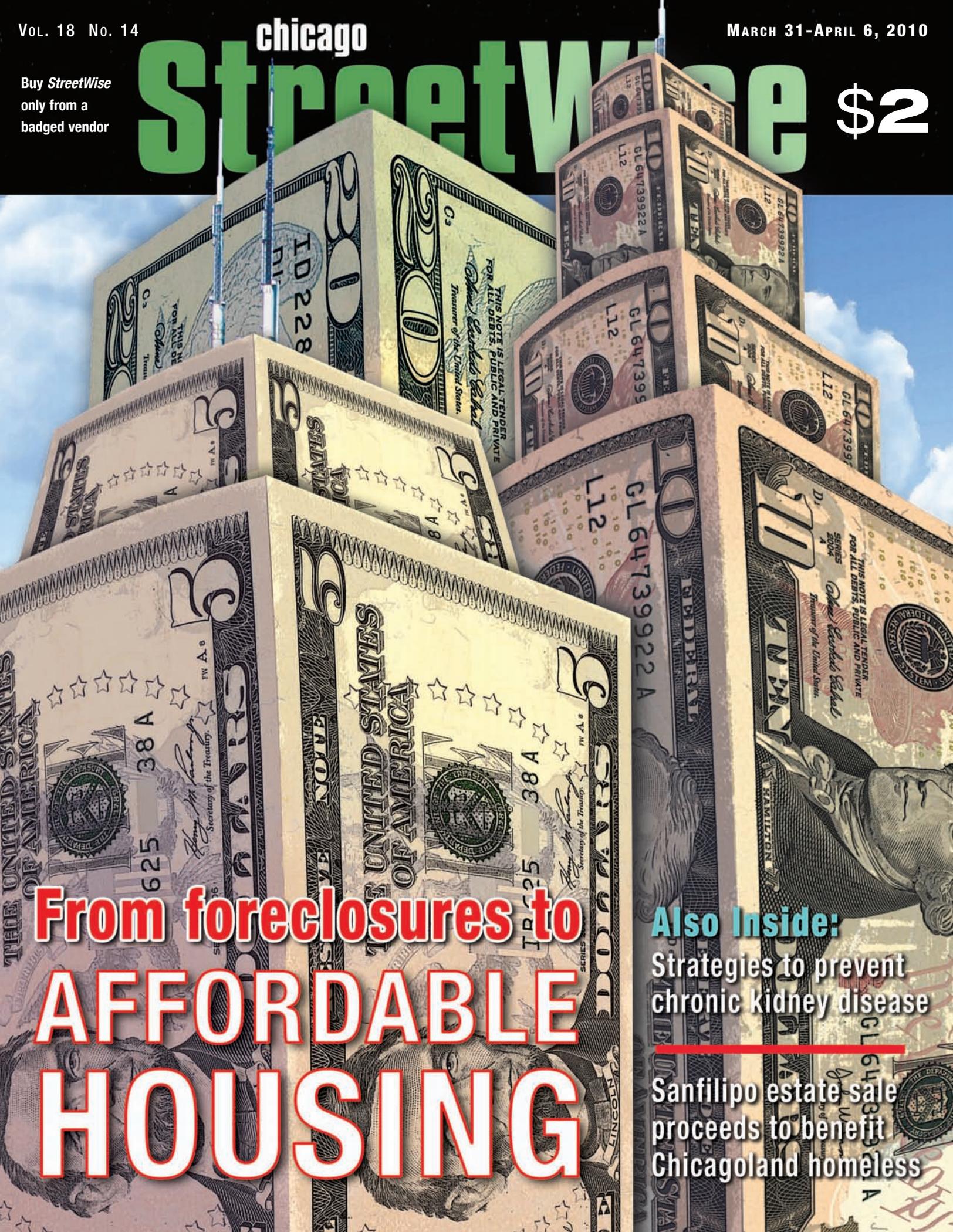


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StreetWise

\$2



From foreclosures to AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Also Inside:
Strategies to prevent chronic kidney disease

Sanfilipo estate sale proceeds to benefit Chicagoland homeless

chicago StreetWise

MISSION: TO HELP PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY THROUGH GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

From the Director



By Bruce Crane
Executive Director

We at StreetWise recognize that there are several linchpins to our vendors achieving economic stability and self-sufficiency. The place

we choose to meet folks at is around the need for gainful employment. Before much else can happen we all need some form of income to meet our basic daily needs. Our mission driven enterprise partners with our vendors to fulfill that need.

One of the other linchpins that our vendors, and indeed all of us, need to create stability in their lives is housing that they can afford. We are not a housing provider and have limited ability to help our vendors access affordable housing. We do, however, support the work of organizations and coalitions around the city whose goal is to create housing that is affordable to people at the bottom of the income spectrum.

Sweet Home Chicago, a coalition of 9 community organizations and 3 labor unions, has recently launched a campaign to preserve and create affordable housing in Chicago. The Coalition has developed an ordinance, with lead aldermanic sponsor Walter Burnett (27th Ward), that calls on the city to commit 20% of yearly Tax Increment Finance revenue (a form

of property tax) to affordable housing. That ordinance was introduced at the March 10 City Council meeting. Eighteen aldermen have signed on as co-sponsors.

Buying StreetWise involves putting your values to work. Buying this magazine means that you are committed to seeing men and women move into economic self-sufficiency. Buying StreetWise is one way to do that. Supporting the efforts of the Sweet Home Chicago campaign is another way to do that.

Earning money means nothing if we aren't able to translate it into helping to meet our basic needs for things such as food, clothing and shelter. Accessing affordable housing is a serious barrier for a lot of our vendors and for other people working long hours for low-wages.

Our city is a vibrant, diverse, creative and exciting place. Ensuring that there is housing available to all the residents of our city is critical to maintaining that diversity.

That's why StreetWise has signed on as an official endorser of the Sweet Home Chicago campaign. We stand foursquare behind the effort to commit the city to spending more money on housing that serves the lowest income residents of our city. We hope you will support the Sweet Home Chicago campaign too!

We thank Eithne McMena min, senior policy analyst with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless for assisting me with this column.

Where the money goes...

Vendors buy *StreetWise* for 75 cents, and the remaining \$1.25 goes directly to the licensed vendor.

Look for the Badge!

Please purchase your copy of *StreetWise* from badged vendors only!

For questions or comments regarding our vendor force, please contact Greg Pritchett at (312) 829-2526 or at gpritchett14@yahoo.com.



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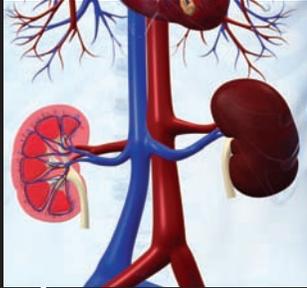
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The Associate Director of the A.K.F.'s Minority Intervention and Kidney Education program discusses how to improve communities' kidney health.

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The Lost Boys of Sudan, Get It Together Again, plus the results of Northwestern's Dance Marathon.



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Vendor Spotlight

Heart attacks can't keep him down

John Aycock, a long-time StreetWise vendor, has had a rough couple of years, but even when his health hits its roughest patches, he can't wait to see his customers again.



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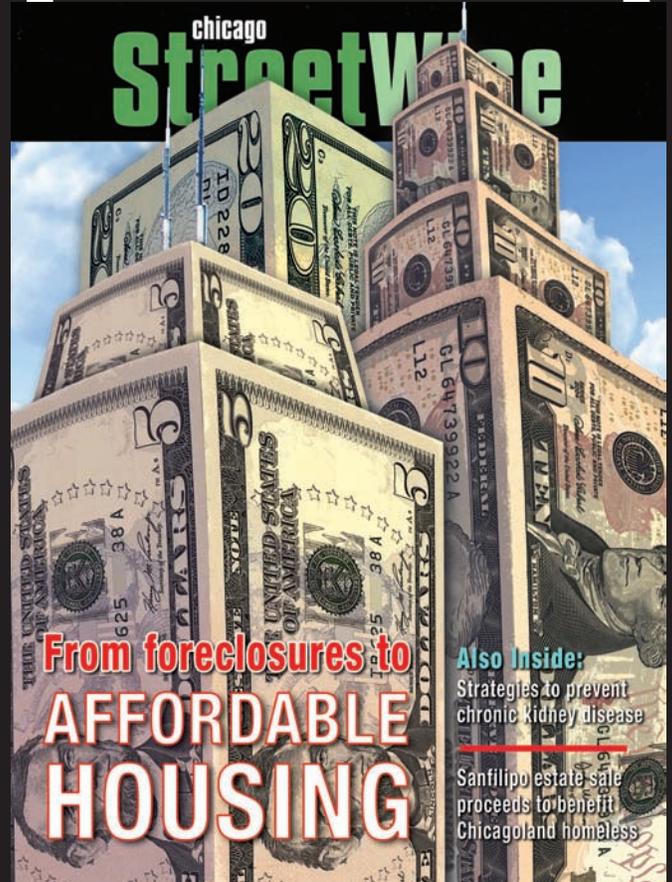
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Chicago's Affordable Housing

Chicago is using Federal Stimulus money to buy foreclosed homes in the hardest hit neighborhoods in hopes of turning the recession around.

Plus, an update on Lathrop Homes.

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Strategies to prevent chronic kidney disease

By Courtney Nicholas

Associate Director, the American Kidney Fund's Minority Intervention and Kidney Education program (Chicago)

Chicago jazz singer Felena Bunn was just 25 years old when she suffered a severe stroke caused by high blood pressure. Three years later she received the devastating news that her kidneys were failing. Now 35, Felena has been on costly dialysis for three years while waiting for a life-saving transplant.

She's just one of thousands in Chicago trying to cope with the enormous expense and daily ordeal of living with kidney failure. She must also live with the knowledge that there's no cure.

An estimated 31 million Americans suffer from chronic kidney disease. It is a health crisis that's taking a harsh toll on Chicago minorities, particularly African-Americans who live in "red zones," the neighborhoods most impacted by kidney disease.

The red zones are predominantly ZIP codes on Chicago's South and West sides. For example, according to the National Minority Quality Forum, between 45 and 55 percent of residents in ZIP code 60624 on the west side suffer from stage 2 chronic kidney disease, which indicates a decrease in kidney function. In 2008 the *Chicago Tribune* reported that some Chicago neighborhoods have kidney failure rates that are more than double the national average and three times higher than the rest of the city.

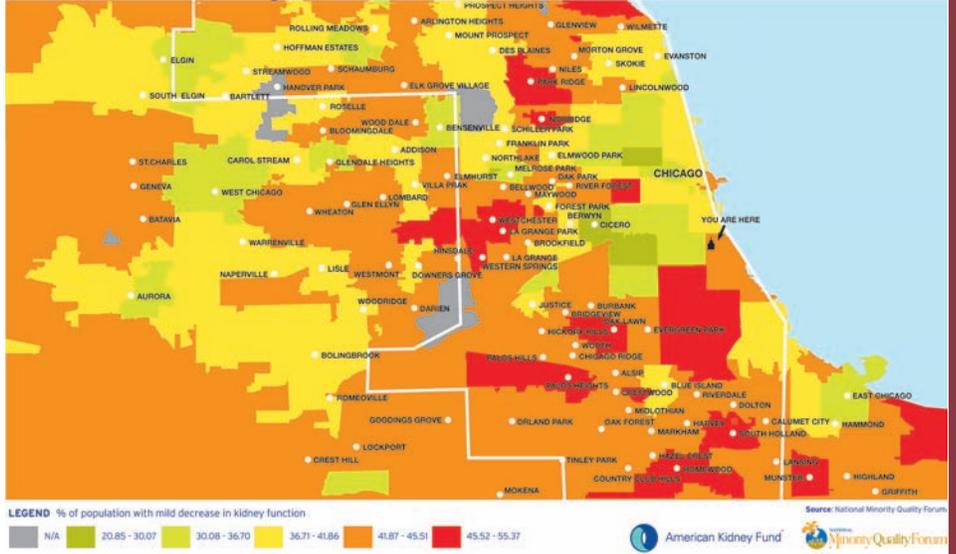
Why are minority neighborhoods impacted the most? Because it's in these communities that you'll find a disproportionate number of people with diabetes and high blood pressure, the leading causes of chronic kidney disease. You'll also find obesity, poverty, lack of access to medical care, and unaffordable health insurance—the root cause of many chronic medical ailments.

The health disparities gap must be addressed, and health care reform is the first step. The goal should be to assure that all Americans, including those with chronic illnesses, have access to high-quality, affordable health care.

Access to healthy foods is another crucial step toward erasing health disparities. Many of Chicago's poorest communities, red zones for chronic kidney disease, are also food deserts where fast food and fried foods can be found on every corner, yet grocery stores with inexpensive fruits and vegetables are nowhere in sight.

"I grew up in Auburn-Gresham, and I remember very well my mother traveling outside our neighborhood to find affordable, quality food," says Felena Bunn. "When I lived in Englewood I had no grocery stores to shop for nutritious food in my area. I had to travel miles away from

Chronic Kidney Disease Red Zones



my home to find healthy choices. It was during this time that my health began to fail and I experienced problems with high blood pressure that caused my stroke."

According to Gallagher Research Group, more than 600,000 Chicagoans live in a food desert. The city's food deserts affect a population that is overwhelmingly African-American: about 478,000 blacks compared to some 78,000 whites and 57,000 Latinos.

Despite the big-picture problem of poverty and the disease paradigm it can create, even people who live in Chicago's red zones can take steps to ensure that they won't fall victim to kidney failure, which is most often caused by diabetes and high blood pressure. In many cases it's a preventable condition.

Early screening, along with prevention, can be a lifesaver. About 25 percent of people who are screened show signs of possible kidney damage; if it's caught early, many will never face the ordeal of costly dialysis and the nightmare of waiting for a transplant.

Earl Singleton learned much too late about his kidney disease. He's suffered from diabetes for 10 years, and in 2006 he went into the hospital for an amputation when doctors discovered his kidneys were failing. The Hyde Park resident and former teacher must undergo dialysis treatment at the hospital three times a week for four hours at a time.

The financial burden alone for people dealing with kidney disease can be devastating. Fortunately, Earl and many others have been able to turn to the American Kidney Fund (AKF) for financial support. Last year AKF provided nearly \$155 million in treatment-related financial assistance to more than 87,000 dialysis

patients nationwide. In Chicago more than 1,100 dialysis patients last year received nearly \$1.4 million in support from AKF for treatment expenses.

Its MIKE program (Minority Intervention and Kidney Education) provides free medical testing, including checks for kidney function, cholesterol levels, blood pressure, blood sugar, and other important health measures. Screenings take place at various locations around the city from March through November.

Over the last ten years the number of people living with kidney disease has increased by 25 percent. It's a silent condition at first, but you don't have to become a kidney-failure statistic—take steps to break free of the cycle by taking responsibility for your health and well-being.

For more information, please call 800-638-8299 or visit kidneyfund.org.

Our Contributing Writers

Ginny Erwin has written nutrition and fitness articles for several local and national publications, such as the *Chicago Tribune* and *On-Health* magazine. She has a bachelor's degree in nutrition science and dietetics and a master's degree in nutrition communications and marketing.

Cindy Kurman Barrie and **Lee Barrie** are the principals of Kurman Communications, Inc., a Chicago-based marketing and public relations agency. For more information, please call (312) 651-9000 or stay in the know by visiting their blog at www.got-buzzatkurman.com. For more DineWise features, subscribe to <http://dineWISE-chicago.blogspot.com>.

Samantha Blaw is senior journalism major at Loyola Chicago and is currently an intern at *StreetWise*. She has worked for the *Loyola Phoenix* for three years with the Diversions section, writing reviews for music, theatre, features, and entertainment. She also has experience in broadcast and spent the last semester at Fox Chicago News.

Silent Footsteps



By Birgit Schweiger

Reprinted from Megaphon (Austria)

In any weather, seven nights a week, newspaper delivery staff are on the go, running upstairs and downstairs, through backyards, alleys, and streets. Birgit Schweiger recently accompanied them on their rounds in Graz, Austria.

The cold wind blows dead leaves across the empty street. Blinds rattle behind dark windows as the newspaper delivery person starts work at 2:30 a.m. Mr. X has already biked through half of the town just to get to work. At one of the dozens of dispensaries in Graz, he loads the big basket onto his bike rack with a huge bundle of various newspapers and sets off again. At a rapid pace he steers his way to the pavement on the opposite side of the street and parks a few blocks up. There is no time to get blockaded.

He reaches into the basket as he counts silently back to the first house on the street. He pulls out a huge key ring with colorful pendants from his left pocket. A quick glance is enough—the correct key is found, and the front door buzzes.

Climbing two steps at a time, he walks up to the second floor, then the third. A small-format newspaper here, a pink one there—they land with a gentle slap directly on each apartment's doormat. Without stopping for a breath, he goes back down again, and on to the next door, the next key, the next stairwell.

The pace stays the same. By the third sprint down a flight of stairs I've received a few dirty looks from Mr. X, who wears soft sneakers. Warm shoes are not only too clumsy for this job, they're too loud.

Daily morning exercise

Mr. X, who's African, is one of hundreds of newspaper delivery persons in Graz. For three years he worked his shift every night, in any weather. By 6 a.m. at the latest, all the newspapers must be delivered. The shift lasts approximately three hours.

"It's mostly like a sport," he says with a crooked smile as we step inside an elevator. I'm happy for the short break.

Depending on the day of the week, many different newspapers in varying sizes are delivered. The delivery persons must hurry: "If I'm not there by 6:01, the phone will start ringing."

After half an hour Mr. X and I reach a silent agreement. Although full of energy and in rela-

tively good condition, I begin waiting on the first or second floor in buildings without an elevator while X goes upstairs. He hasn't got any time to lose: as a person seeking political asylum in Austria, delivering newspapers is one of the few ways he can earn money legally.

X, like virtually all of the newspaper delivery persons, doesn't have a work contract. That is, he himself must take care of insurance and taxes, and he has no entitlement to vacation or paid sick leave. "If I get ill someone else will do my job, but I don't earn a thing [while I'm sick], and I fear I'd lose my job."

Always pinched for time

Ms. Y doesn't see herself as representative of research that's been carried out. "It's 80 percent foreigners who do this job. They should accompany one of us." She's one of the last newspaper delivery persons with a salaried position.

"I've been working for 36 years on the same shift—they can never throw me out," said the Austrian as she loaded her heavy scooter. The delivery area used to be much larger. Time wasn't in such short supply. "Now the paper is finished late and we have many brochures and free papers with us."

To warm up, they go into a couple high-rise buildings: elevator up, walk down, throw newspapers right and left on doormats or over the railings. Loose pages never fall out.

Large buildings are popular because the delivery persons get paid according to how many subscribers live there, not according to time. Once again I can hardly keep up while jotting down notes, and again I trample too loud through the stairwell and get admonished.

"The shoes must not have a tread pattern! Look—mine are completely silent."

Consideration is being capitalized on in the delivery circuits: when we reach the first floor, Ms. Y calls for the elevator again "so that the next delivery person won't have to wait."

On the scooter she goes a few meters to the next village, down through a dark courtyard, up an outdoor stairway, and down an elevator to a different front door again. A whole pile of newspapers will be distributed in a student hostel with narrow corners.

Ms. Y studies her list well. Here the subscriptions change daily.

Tired in the morning

Ingrid Grach also knows her route like the



back of her hand. She's been on the move through the lively university quarter every night for 23 years. She's already a pensioner, but she's kept a small shift.

Shortly before 4 a.m. she starts, and almost two hours later she's done. As colleagues of the 60-year-old will notice, she's not alone when she offers criticism. "If you really want to experience how hard the work is, you have to go with someone who is unemployed."

I feel my limbs aching with fatigue on another shift with Mr. X. Finally, I'm waiting at the bikes, which are of some worth—right in the vicinity of the premises, the danger is that the essential wheels will be stolen. "But people also steal newspapers, my light, or the basket," says X.

All the newspapers are distributed no later than 6 a.m. Then the night is over. The streets are alive, and lights flicker behind many windows.

Ingrid Grach goes to bed very early in the evening. Ms. Y snuggles back into her blankets after work. But Mr. X doesn't need sleep—he rides his bike home and takes a bath, then arrives punctually at 8 a.m. for his second job, just like any other day.

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Turn back your body clock

By Ginny Erwin
StreetWise Contributor, www.ginetics.org



For the majority of Americans, middle age is creeping in. It's happening. Changes we can all feel are beginning: slowly for some of us, more quickly for others. The "middle" in middle age really does exist. Have you ever had to punch a new hole or two in your favorite belt?

It's the center of our torsos that may first show signs of our metabolic slowdown. That slowdown is a normal, natural part of aging. Packing on some extra inches around your waist is only the beginning of the aging process.

The question I get from folks is, "Can the effects of middle age be reversed?" I believe the answer is yes—the physical slowdown that occurs naturally from aging can definitely be postponed! In most cases the undesired changes can be somewhat reversed. All of us can feel and look better tomorrow than we do today.

Many of my clients are over 40. They are well-educated, intelligent professionals. Most do not want to undergo expensive surgery or take expensive medications. It can be done without surgery or drugs.

I have found that the following plan really works with my clients. Stick to a healthy

menu. We should all choose a diet that includes low-fat protein sources, high fiber, and plenty of fruits and vegetables. Exercise most days of the week for at least 45 minutes to an hour. Include strength training at least two times per week. Control stress every day. Good, restful sleep helps round out my anti-aging plan. It sounds simple. It is simple, but for some it is not easy. We must develop healthy habits.

The building blocks for healthy living are also the building blocks of our body composition. Start with a good whole-food diet. That means the closer our food is to the way Mother Nature made it, the better it is for us. Less is "more." Less processed means more healthful. Fresh is better than canned. Raw is better than pre-cooked. Anti-aging foods for any age include fresh berries, green, leafy vegetables, and colorful root vegetables (preferably all or mostly organic). Remember, there is no one special nutrient—we all need a wide variety of foods. Keep in mind nutrients must work synergistically in our bodies and our tissues. Currently the trendiest "super-food" is the Acai berry. It does appear to offer some health benefits. However, this is not the only berry on the bush! Many delicious berries will provide a health benefit to your body.

Remember, aging is not just about graying hair and wrinkles and sagging skin. We must consider our overall health. Our heart, bones, muscles, immune and nervous system must all be kept at the best possible levels. Every one of us can improve ourselves. Every one of us can "turn back the clock"!



Unstuffed Cabbage (serves 6-8)

FoodWise Shopping List:

- 1 lb. of uncooked ground turkey
- 1 clove garlic (minced)
- 1-2 c. cooked Tex-Mati Brown Rice
- 1 egg white
- 3 c. tomato sauce
- 1/4 c. (plain) bread crumbs
- 1/8 tsp. of dried thyme
- 1 baby green cabbage head (cut into long strips)

Ginny's Cooking Instructions:

- Cook rice according to package instructions.
- Place raw turkey, one egg white, minced garlic, thyme, and black pepper in a large bowl. Mix well using hands or wooden spoon. Add bread crumbs and mix until blended. Then shape the meat mixture into "golf" ball-size meatballs; set aside on a plate.
- Heat a large sauce pan on medium heat on stove top. Add a splash of olive oil.
- Gently place turkey balls into pan, browning them on all sides.
- Remove meatballs and place on a plate.
- Add tomato sauce; bring sauce to a simmer.
- Gently place meatballs back into simmering sauce.
- Gently cover the meatballs with the sauce using a spoon (like basting). Cook for 30 minutes; cover with an anti-spatter screen.
- On a clean cutting board, cut cabbage into long strips.
- Just before serving, fry cabbage in a large sauté pan sprayed with non-stick cooking spray until strips look translucent.
- Serve hot with turkey meatballs and topped with sauce.
- Portion onto plates, add fresh ground pepper to taste.

Serving size is 2-3 meatballs, 1/2 c. cabbage, and 1/4 c. sauce.

DineWise

By Lee Barrie & Cindy Kurman Barrie
StreetWise Contributors

Reza's healthful and tasty Mediterranean fare hits the mark for quality and variety

We were enjoying our delicious Mediterranean dinner at Reza's so much the other day that we almost forgot to acknowledge we were also eating quite healthfully. Smart eating is easy when you go for Mediterranean fare. The cuisine is, by design, relatively low-fat but high in good nutrition. Reza's offers the kind of dining experience that lends itself to regular enjoyment. It's not expensive, there are leftovers to bring home and, if you've been at all conscious of your portion size, you won't feel bloated or tired afterward. You can also enjoy a generous lunch buffet on weekdays.

These facts are, of course, nothing new to Reza's large cadre of regular customers. With three locations,

Reza's is an accessible and attractive neighborhood spot in which to enjoy a wide-ranging menu that features many vegetarian dishes in addition to the lamb, beef, poultry and seafood.

Reza's mission is not grandiose, and they don't offer cutting edge interpretations of Mediterranean fare. Rather, the restaurants focus on quality and freshness, offering well-prepared renditions of traditional items that are pleasing to a diverse range of diners. Those who enjoy ethnic food adventure as well as those who prefer to stay with the basics will find much to enjoy here. The emphasis on healthy eating is stated on the menu: no artificial ingredients, additives or MSG are used.

The lunch and dinner menus are similar although there are more dinnertime choices, including family style dining. The salads are straightforward; nothing fancy. The signature salad is the Fattoush, with Romaine lettuce, scallion, cucumber, parsley, green pepper, radish, mint, toasted pita mixed with olive oil and freshly squeezed lemon juice.

The meal gets more interesting with the appetizers. Signature starters include Herbed Roasted Feta Cheese, topped with roasted red pepper, black olives and tomatoes, finished with olive oil; Dolmeh Felfel, a sweet green

pepper, stuffed with choice of spinach or mushrooms, with cheese, in a delicately spiced Persian tomato sauce, then baked; Vegetarian Shami, patties of minced green vegetables, coated with chickpeas and delicately sautéed, served in a sweet and sour pomegranate sauce with finely crushed walnuts, and Kashkeh Bodemjan, a medley of eggplant, curds and whey, flavored with garlic and mint, served with pita bread. The Grilled Mushrooms and Grilled Potatoes are appetizers that also work well as side dishes.

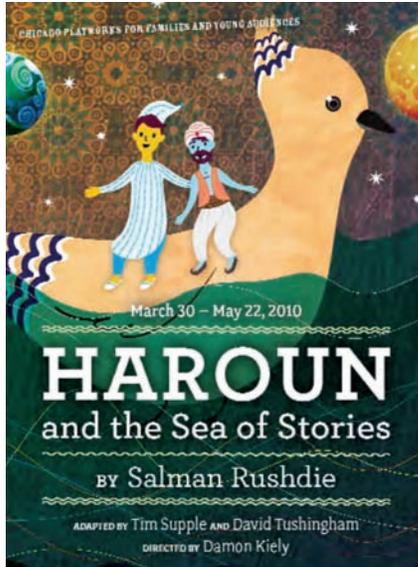
Reza's offers a selection of five lunchtime vegetarian combos; at dinnertime, the vegetarian combos are similar, but there are some additional choices. All are served with fresh Persian bread, soup and a choice of dill or white rice (choose the dill), couscous, grilled potatoes or Persian salad. Veggie combo I features Hummus, Tabbouli, and Baba Ghannouj. Combo II offers Vegetarian Dolmeh, Vegetarian Shami and Kashkeh Bodemjan; Combo III includes Cous-Cous, Reza's vegetarian appetizer and steamed string beans; Combo IV features eggplant steak, hummus and couscous. Combo V presents Stuffed Green Pepper with spinach or mushroom stuffing, Reza's vegetarian appetizer and falafel.

If you're in the mood for a wrap, choose for the kabob-

Haroun and the Sea of Stories

Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences

Presents Salman Rushdie children's novel



Salman Rushdie's award-winning children's novel comes to the stage at The Theatre School at DePaul University.

Adapted by Tim Supple and David Tushingham, and directed by Damon Kiely, *Haroun* is the final installment of the 2009-2010 Chicago Playworks for Families and Young Audiences Series. This production opens runs through Saturday, May 22, at DePaul's historic Merle Reskin Theatre. Performances are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 2 p.m.

There will be no performances on April 3, 6, 8, 10, or May 1, 4, 6, or 8.

This fantastical tale follows Haroun to the mythical moon of Kahani. He joins forces with shadow warriors, mechanical flying birds, talking fish, and water genies in his quest to recover his father's magical storytelling powers. Recommended for ages 7 and up.

Tickets are \$8. Subscriptions and group rates (15 or more people) are available at (312) 922-0999. DePaul employees, alumni, and college students receive a discount (with ID). Tickets are available online at <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu> or by calling the box office at (312) 922-1999.

DePaul's Merle Reskin Theatre is located at 60 E. Balbo Drive at Michigan Ave., in Chicago. For information about parking, please contact the Box Office.

The Assads and Friends: De Volta As Raizes

Part of the Segovia Classical Guitar Series

April 8 show features Lebanese musical roots



Featuring Sérgio and Odair Assad, guitar; Christiane Karam, vocals; Clarice Assad, piano and vocals; Jamey Haddad, percussion.

"Their speed, their gorgeous tone, their uncanny musical memories ... and their ability to play thousands of notes without a single clinker, click, or buzz are the stuff of guitar gods,"

raves the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* of the Assad brothers. In a program that returns to their ancestral Lebanese musical roots, Sérgio and Odair perform new settings of ancient and modern Lebanese texts by award-winning songwriter and vocalist Christiane Karam. Joined by internationally renowned percussionist Jamey Haddad and Sérgio's daughter Clarice Assad, a brilliant musician in her own right, they explore the fascinating rhythmic connections between Middle Eastern and Brazilian music.

The program: Gismonti, *Baiao malandro*; H. Villa-Lobos, *Choros No. 5, "Alma Brasileira"*; R. Gnattali, *Corta Jaca (Chinquinha Gonzaga)*; T. Jobim, *Amparo* and *Stone Flower*; C. Assad, *Quebra Queixo*; H. Villa-Lobos, *Melodia Sentimental*; C. Guerra-Peixe, *Mourão*; S. Assad, *Tahhyiia li Oussoulina*; Rahbani Brothers, *Nahna Wel Amar Jiran*; Abdel Halim El Masloub, *Lamma Bada Yatathanna*; C. Karam and A. Veysel (text), *Dunya Bir Dola p*; S. Assad, C. Assad, and C. Karam, *Suite, "De Volta As Raizes."* The show is at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. For more info call 847.491.5441.

Tickets are \$26 for the general public, \$22 for senior citizens and Northwestern faculty and staff, and \$10 for students.

based Koubideh (seasoned minced beef), Chicken Koubideh, Chicken Breast, Seasoned Ground Chicken, Lamb or Filet Mignon. If you'd prefer a vegetarian wrap, you can order Falafel, Portabella or Eggplant.

Moving on to entrées, fish and seafood lovers have many choices; all dishes are served with the same accoutrements as the veggie combos. Choices include Broiled Filet of Salmon, Broiled Lake Superior White Fish, White Fish Persian style (breaded and sautéed in olive oil), and Shrimp or Scallops (either choice is garlic marinated). A special dinnertime-only entrée is the Chilean Sea Bass Kabob (charbroiled seasoned chunks of Sea Bass).

If you're in a mood for meats or poultry, you will easily find something to fit the mood. Choices include Filet Mignon (charbroiled with grilled mushrooms in a mushroom sauce), Lamb Chops (two double-cut broiled baby spring lamb chops) or Lamb Loin Chops (three broiled loin chops), and Koubideh (seasoned minced beef kabob). The Lamb Shank is simmered in home made tomato-based sauce. Two interesting dinnertime-only entrees are the Fessenjan, boneless chicken breast simmered in a sweet and sour pomegranate sauce, and the Ghamieh Bodemjan, beef and yellow split peas simmered in a

tomato sauce.

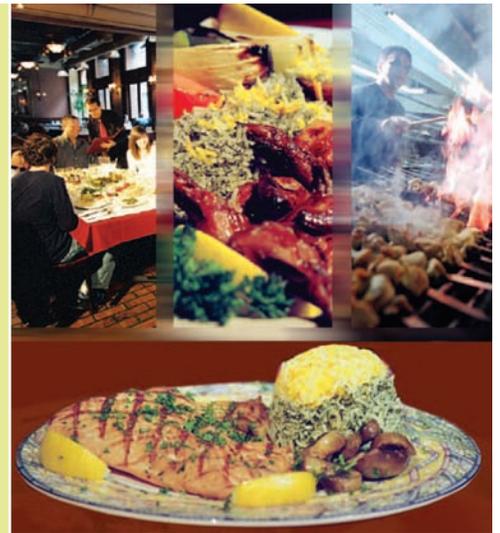
Kabobs arrive right from the broiler. Choose the Lamb Kabob (charbroiled lamb loin on a skewer, served with grilled vegetables), the Chengeh (Filet Mignon shish kabob) served with a grilled tomato, Boneless Chicken (marinated boneless chicken breast, charbroiled with grilled vegetables), the Chicken Koubideh (charbroiled seasoned ground chicken kabob with Persian seasonings) or the Quail Kabob (marinated and charbroiled, served with grilled vegetables).

The family-style dinners are offered as five-course feasts, offered on a per-person pricing. Choose from three appetizers and three entrees. These are also excellent for carry-out.

In addition to the tasty Baklava and Bamieh, there are American-style desserts such as rich Double Chocolate Cake, White Chocolate Mousse Cake, Carrot Cake and Raspberry Cheese Cake. Don't forget to enjoy the aromatic Persian coffee or tea.

Reza's Restaurant

432 W. Ontario, Chicago, (312) 664-4500; 5255 N. Clark, Chicago, (773) 561-1898 or 40 N. Tower Rd., Oak Brook, (630) 424-9900
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Hours: 11 a.m.-midnight, seven days a week

Prices: dinnertime entrées: \$14.95-\$21.95; family style, \$24.95-\$29.95 per person

Events Calendar: March 31-April 6

Wednesday

Curated by Chad Kouri (the Post Family art collective) and Ed Marszewski (Co-Prosperity Sphere), the exhibit **Get It Together Again**, inspired by last year's "Get It Together" show at Co-Prosperity Sphere, features collage, assemblage, and collaborative works from more than 25 local and international artists using paper and mixed media. A collage table adds a DIY element to the exhibition; you can use the materials provided, such as magazines, scissors, and glue, or bring your own. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Chicago Tourism Center, 72 E. Randolph St. Free. For more info, call 312-744-6630 or visit getittogethershow.com. (Be sure to come back Thu 4/1 at 12:15 p.m. for the hands-on collage workshop.)

Thursday

Galleries in the River North (Superior and Franklin streets), West Loop (Washington and Peoria streets), and Fulton Market (Fulton Market and Carpenter streets) neighborhoods stay open from 5 to 7 p.m. and offer refreshments at **First Thursdays**. Free.

Participating Galleries:

River North

Schneider Gallery, 230 W. Superior; Ken Saunders Gallery, 230 W. Superior; Habitat Galleries, 226 W. Superior; Perimeter Gallery, 210 W. Superior; Andrew Bae Gallery, 300 W. Superior; Zg Gallery, 300 W. Superior; Catherine Edelman Gallery, 300 W. Superior; Judy A Saslow Gallery, 300 W. Superior; Printworks Gallery, 311 W. Superior; Gallery KH, 311 W. Superior; Russell Bowman Art Advisory, 311 W. Superior, Suite 115; Addington Gallery, 704 N. Wells; Roy Boyd Gallery, 739 N. Wells; Carl Hammer Gallery, 740 N. Wells; Portals Ltd., 742 N. Wells;

PHOTO BY GRACE FEDERIGHI



Thursday: Select galleries at River North and West Loop are open late. Seen here, Linda Warren Gallery at Fulton Market

Elements, Inc., 741 N. Wells; Vale Craft Gallery, 230 W. Superior; Jennifer Norback Fine Art, Inc., 217 W. Huron.

West Loop

Kasia Kay Art Projects Gallery, 215 N. Aberdeen; Linda Warren Gallery, 1052 W. Fulton Market; Packer Schopf Gallery, 942 W. Lake; McCormick Gallery, 835 W. Washington; Carrie Secrist Gallery, 835 W. Washington.

Come out to a special presentation of the play **The Lost Boys of Sudan** while at the same time help the people of Sudan improve their way of life. The play is the story of a group of young orphaned refugees who escaped war, poverty, and starvation from their ravaged homeland, which still needs our help. A special screening of the play on Thursday,

April 1 at Victory Gardens, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago. Tickets are \$40, which will include a silent auction and appetizers. The fundraising event will generate awareness and revenue for PACODES, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improve the community and help the Lost Boys of Sudan. PACODES' goal is to build a library in their home country which will strengthen the community, reduce violence, and promote education. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the silent auction, the play will begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information visit www.pacodes.org, www.endlesseye.org, or www.libraryproject.org

Friday

Hear funny, true stories from members of the New Colony theater group and special guests, who air their most embarrassing moments at **Walk of Shame: Female Storytellers**. 10:30 p.m., Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. \$15-\$20. For more info, call 773-871-3000 or visit victorygardens.org.

Saturday

See performances by local aerialists, jugglers, and other circus artists at **El Circo Cheapo Cabaret**. (Want to perform? Contact the Aloft Loft at 773-782-6662.) First Saturday of the month, 7 and 10 p.m., 2041 W. Carroll Ave. \$10. For tickets, visit brownpapertickets.com.

Sunday

Illustrating the history of violence against women in Ciudad Juarez, the exhibition **Rastros y Cronicas: Mujeres de Juarez** showcases works by Mexican and Mexican-American artists who are sensitive to the struggles of victims and the survivors who seek justice. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (ends Sun 7/4), National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th St. Free. For more info, call 312-738-1503 or visit nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org.

Northwestern's Dance Marathon Raises \$854,396 for Homeless Youth

Northwestern University's annual Dance Marathon March 5-7 raised \$854,396 to benefit StandUp for Kids and the Evanston Community Foundation.

"The true goal of Dance Marathon is to spread awareness about a philanthropic organization. For the second time in Dance Marathon history, DM danced for a social cause [Stand Up for Kids]," said Ryan Farrell, NUDM executive co-chair. "We were excited to spread awareness across the Northwestern community about an issue many students were not aware. Between street outreach training, hunger banquets, and homelessness weeks, NUDM really spread awareness across NU about youth homelessness."

This year, over 1000 dancers and committee members participated in the 30-hour Dance Marathon. Earlier in the year, students signed up to dance independently, with a partner or an affiliated group. Dancers raise funds by canning, letter writing or creative activities; DM's student staff help through fireside talks with beneficiaries of that year's chosen philanthropic organization as well as

weekly trivia nights, a Top Chef competition and a date auction.

Organizers look to DM as a unifying event on campus, bringing together students from all different groups including fraternities and sororities, dorms, and religious groups. The top fundraising group, Zeta Beta Tau/Delta Gamma, raised \$106,357.67. Other awards were given to the top fundraising independent dancers and the top fundraising committee members.

The DM executive board presented StandUp for Kids founder Rick Koca with a check for \$461,546.73. Evanston Community Foundation Executive Director Sara Schastok also received a check for \$51,282.97. Executive Co-chair Lauren Troy was beaming after the event. "Regardless of how this total compares to past totals, NUDM is going to make a huge impact on StandUp for Kids. We have worked tirelessly all year and are so proud of everyone for their efforts." Since its founding in 1975, NU's Dance Marathon has raised more than \$11 million for diverse philanthropies.

National Public Housing Museum awareness with *History Coming Home*

"History Coming Home," an exhibit that aims to tell the often unheard stories of hope from residents of public housing, is on display at Merchandise Mart through May 7, its first stop on a 24-month tour.

The exhibit will raise awareness and funding for the National Public Housing Museum, set to open in Chicago in 2012. The museum will feature re-creations of public housing apartments from the last several decades using a combination of history, artifacts, and documents to depict the lives of past tenants. It will also explore family ties and community solidarity throughout the history of public housing as well as the violence that earned the projects their stigma.

The "History Coming Home" exhibit includes oral histories and items used by former public housing residents: a trumpet and Boy Scout paraphernalia from former Ohio congressman Louis Stokes, a desk from Richard H. Driehaus Foundation executive director Sunny Fischer. You'll also learn about other public housing alumni such as Chicago restaurateur Dick Portillo, the Boston Celtics' Tony Allen, state senator Mattie Hunter, pianist Reginald Robinson, comedian Bill Cosby, and Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

According to the museum's Web site, publichousing-museum.org, "If all you know of public housing is its tragic side, you'll find there's more to the story."

The exhibit is free to the public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the South Lobby of Merchandise Mart and is designed as a preview of the National Public Housing Museum, which will take over the only remaining Jane Addams Home, at 1322 W. Taylor St. The Chicago Housing Authority will donate the space if the museum raises \$13 million by next year.

—Samantha Blauw

REELFILM

Federighi directs high school comedy

By Ed M. Koziarski

REELFILM

Billy Federighi and Chris Storer grew up making short films together. Eight years ago they moved to Los Angeles, where Federighi became a rising commercials director.

Now they're back in Chicago to make the 35-millimeter high school comedy *Sin Bin*, starring award-winning Canadian actor Michael Seater (the new CBC series *18 to Life*) and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*'s Jeff Garlin, who got his start at Second City. Federighi is directing from Storer's script.

Sin Bin will shoot for 20 days, beginning April 5, in Park Ridge and other suburbs near O'Hare, with city locations including Lincoln Park Zoo and Union Station. The film's budget, which is under \$1 million, was raised from outside investors; Federighi's older brother Dante, a former futures trader and venture capitalist, is *Sin Bin*'s executive producer.

Brian Petsos, who costars as older brother Benny, and Gary Giudice are coproducing. Petsos connected Federighi and Storer to the Gersh Agency, through which Giudice signed on.

"Chris wrote a fantastic script," Giudice says. "I love the fact that it's commercial but not cliché. It had a heart and soul, and wasn't just a mixture of raunch and sex."

He says they're aiming for a prominent festival premiere and distribution deal. *Adam*, the romantic comedy produced by Giudice that centers on a man with Asperger's syndrome, premiered at Sundance last year and was bought by Fox Searchlight, which released it last July.

In *Sin Bin* Seater plays a high school senior whose titular van is the site of friends' romantic rendezvous, until a teen lothario (Bo Burnham, *American Virgin*) blackmails him to use it for his own nefarious adventures.

Jeff Garlin plays the high school principal; Emily Meade (*Assassination of a High School President*), Ben McKenzie (*The O.C., Southland*) and Second City's Brad Morris also star. Kathleen Chopin (*Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps*) is in charge of casting along with Tenner Paskal & Rudnicke.

With directing partner Brett Snider, whom he met at Columbia College Hollywood in 2005, Federighi's commercials are known for kinetic in-camera action. Their "Man Vs. Mouse" spot won the Doritos Live the Flavor contest in 2008 and aired during the Super Bowl, and their spot for Converse, "The Original," won that brand's worldwide ad contest.

The duo, known as Gentlemen, signed with L.A.'s Bandito Brothers early last year, and Federighi moved back to Chicago a few months later. He works regularly for Leo Burnett and for clients including Kellogg's, CiCi's Pizza, and the Kentucky Lottery.

Mark your Calendar

Private Collection Opens Doors to Benefit Local Homeless

"The 8th Wonder of the World Tour" Offers Public Exclusive Access to Renowned Sanfilippo Estate

An 1881 Grant Steam Locomotive. An 1890 European Eden Palais Carousel. The world's largest theatre organ, with 8,000 pipes. Antique music, arcade, and gambling machines. Tiffany lamps, an ice cream parlor, 200 music boxes, phonographs, 65 coin-operated pianos, and a street clock that stands 20 feet tall.

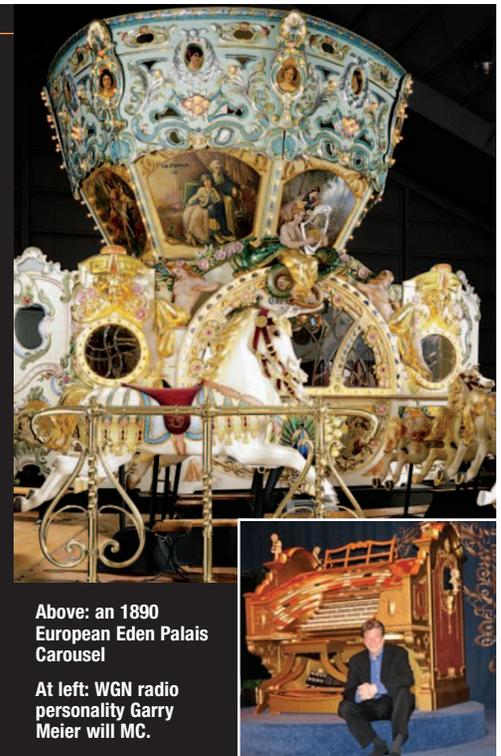
Experiencing the buried treasures of the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington Hills usually requires a personal invitation. However, on May 22 the estate will open its private doors to the public for the 21st annual Hearts for Homeless Families in Transition benefit, a dinner and auction titled "The 8th Wonder of the World Tour." Billed as the number one social event of 2010, the event benefits Catholic Charities Northwest Regional Services and the New Hope Apartments Program, an innovative supportive-housing program designed to help end the cycle of homelessness for local families.

"This event offers the community a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Glenn Van Cura, a representative of Catholic Charities Northwest. "The Sanfilippo family's estate and collection are not open to the general public, but a ticket to 'The 8th Wonder of the World Tour' opens the doors to an extraordinary adventure and an opportunity to help local families beat homelessness for good."

The cost of a ticket, which includes a tour, valet parking, hors d'oeuvres, an open bar and elegant dinner, and auctions emceed by award-winning WGN radio host Garry Meier, is \$160 per person (\$70 tax deductible) or \$1,500 for a table of 10.

Auction items include a pig roast, yacht cruise, private movie-theater party for 100 people, Medinah Country Club golf outing, Cubs and Sox tickets, autographed Blackhawks pucks, exotic vacation packages, and much more.

Van Cura advises that seating is limited, so those interested in attending should reserve a place today. To purchase tickets for "The 8th Wonder of the World Tour," visit catholiccharities.net/hearts or call 847-376-2118.



Above: an 1890 European Eden Palais Carousel

At left: WGN radio personality Garry Meier will MC.

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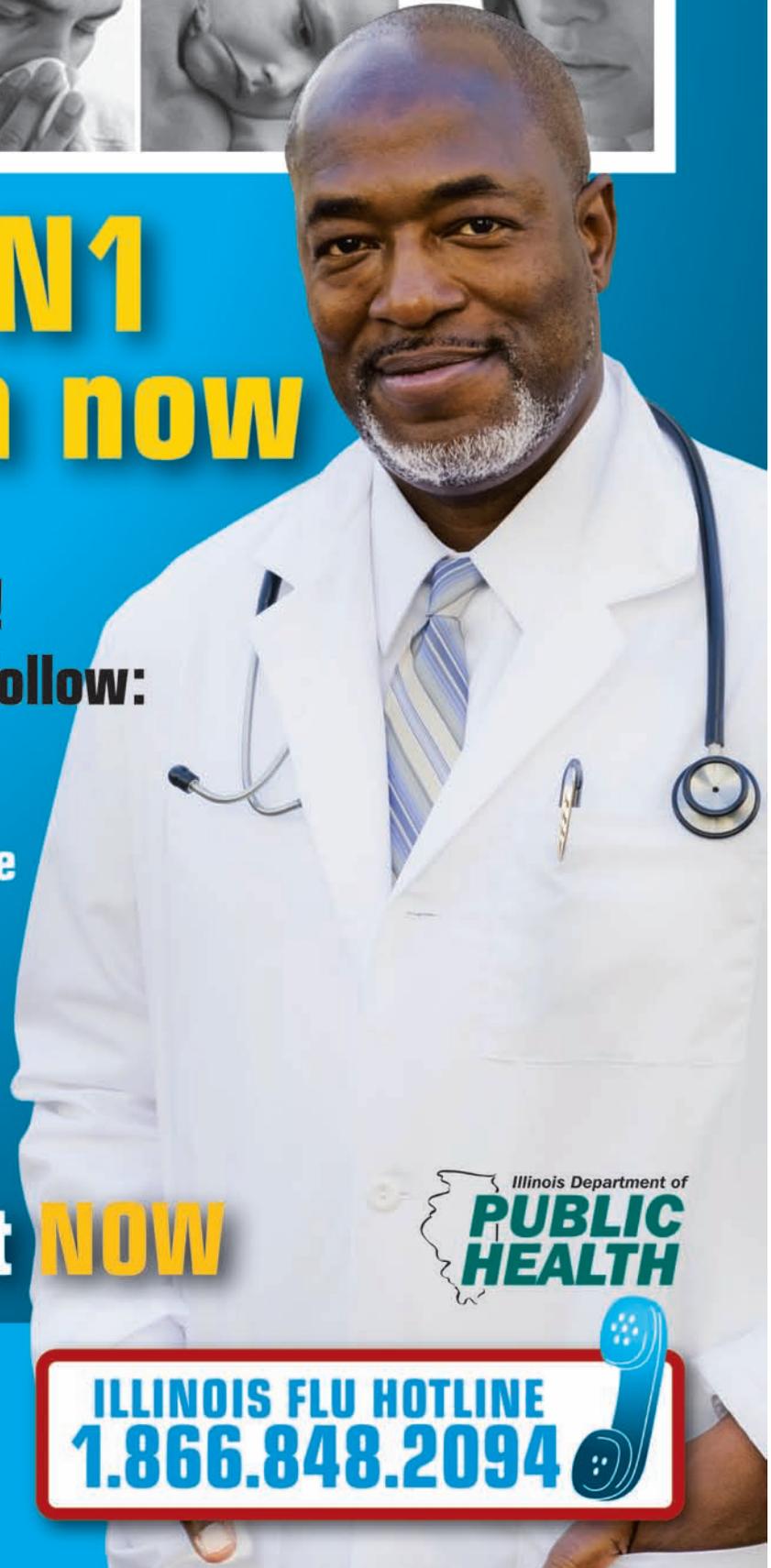
- 1 ▶ Wash your hands**
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Pictured: The nearly-finished Wilson Yard housing & retail project. 46th Ward Ald. Helen Shiller said on her Web site: "This project will have a dramatic impact on the 46th Ward, as well as on the city's North Lakefront area, bringing needed retail space, new jobs, senior and rental housing... Wilson Yard was an extraordinarily complicated venture involving many city departments and state agencies, all of whom worked closely with one another, as well as hundreds of community residents to ensure its success."

The project includes a 180,000-square-foot new Target store, many smaller retail stores and offices, a new senior housing complex, and provides greenspace in the form of a school campus for Stewart School as well as innovative green technology used in the development.



**From
foreclosures to**

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

By **Suzanne Hanney**
Editor-in-Chief

Chicago's foreclosed residential real estate amounts to at least a \$2 billion valuation, so the city is seeking a real bang for its buck—153 million of them, to be exact—from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

In February 2009 Chicago won \$55 million of the nearly \$4 billion authorized by Congress nationwide to purchase and rehab vacant and foreclosed lender-owned properties. In late January Chicago was allocated an additional \$98 million for NSP2.

"It does not make sense to throw people out of their house and board it up," Ald. Ed Smith (28th Ward) said in a March 11 report on NSP1 to the Chicago City Council's committee on housing and real estate.

"I agree—if the banks did more to modify loans we wouldn't have this problem," responded Ellen Sahli, first deputy commissioner of the Chicago Department of Community Development. "People

could pay rent, stay there, have a better outcome."

The NSP projects are true to their name: they take a neighborhood approach to reviving foreclosure-laden areas. The two government programs, started via the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of July 2008, do not assist individual home owners.

Threatening a decade of investment

But the foreclosure crisis has threatened public and private-sector investments made in Chicago as a whole over the past decade, Sahli said. There were 6,118 completed foreclosures in 2007, 9,948 in 2008, and 8,815 in 2009, nearly all of which reverted to lenders. Economies of scale and leveraging NSP dollars around these investments are key to the city's comeback strategy.

"One hundred fifty-three million sounds like a lot, but it is not enough to balance all the vacant properties in the city," Sahli said to Ald. Sharon Denise Dixon (24th Ward), who was upset that despite 1,200 foreclosures—including five or six on her own block—NSP1 had acquired only

six units in North Lawndale, which is not part of NSP2.

But most of North Lawndale's abandoned buildings predate the foreclosure meltdown, according to the Chicago NSP Web site. "Federal program guidelines favor communities that can be stabilized by restoring newly foreclosed dwellings to an otherwise healthy housing stock."

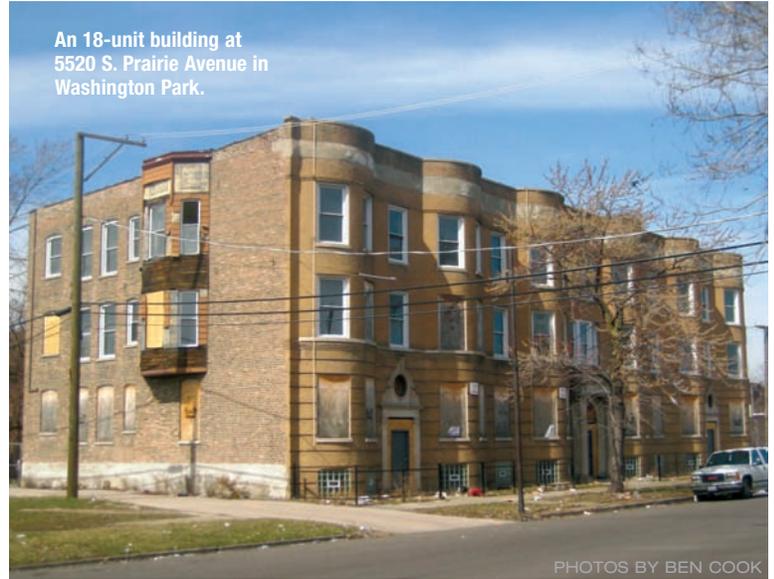
Ald. Freddrenna Lyle (6th Ward) saw NSP-acquired properties nearby in Burnside, Chatham, Greater Grand Crossing, and Englewood—but not her ward. She called the NSP selection pattern "distasteful" because communities were seemingly chosen on the basis of proximity to "external resources" such as the University of Chicago. Such was the case for Woodlawn in NSP2.

Sahli responded that the city acquires properties in neighborhoods where private-sector programs like Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) have made investments that are threatened by concentrations of foreclosures.

Earlier, city officials said they seek to build around infrastructure like schools, police stations,



A 10-unit building at 5615 S. Prairie Ave. targeted toward people making less than half the median income.



An 18-unit building at 5520 S. Prairie Avenue in Washington Park.

PHOTOS BY BEN COOK

or retail development, or job centers like universities and hospitals.

Sahli also seeks “traction”: acquiring all the properties on a given block so that neighbors believe it can be turned around. “A person can drive down the block and see themselves living there,” she said in a video on the Chicago NSP Web site.

An updated report a week after the meeting, for example, showed that the city had acquired nine buildings with one or two units each in the 10700 block of South Champlain in Pullman.

Sahli promised to work with Lyle and noted that NSP1 is still only 48 percent complete. NSP1 funds must be committed by September 27 of this year, with properties identified and purchased, and work must be finished and funds disbursed to the 51 developers by March 27, 2013.

2,000 to 2,500 housing units

The goal of NSP1 and NSP2 will be to rehab 2,000 to 2,500 units of housing over the next three to five years. All of the units are for people making less than 120 percent of the Area Median Income: a family of four, for example, would qualify with annual income under \$90,000. At least 25 percent of the units must be for households earning less than 50 percent of the AMI, or \$37,000.

As of March 10, Mercy Portfolio Services (MPS), a not-for-profit subsidiary of Mercy Housing, had acquired 205 units in 65 properties on the city’s behalf. MPS deals with banks, holds and maintains properties, and works with community developers to resell them.

In addition to those in Pullman, the properties are in Auburn-Gresham, Austin, Chicago Lawn, East Garfield Park, Greater Grand Crossing, Humboldt Park, New City, North Lawndale, Oakland, Roseland, South Chicago, South Shore, and Woodlawn.

The 15 neighborhoods were among 25 chosen for NSP1 due to high numbers of completed foreclosures, subprime lending, and the likelihood of an increase in foreclosures. Washington Park, for example, had 52.2 REOs per 1,000 mortgageable units in 2007, 54.1 percent of all its loans were subprime, and unemployment was 15.1 percent.

Banks do not profit when MPS acquires their REOs, Sahli said. The average acquisition cost per unit is \$19,799, discounted 16 percent from the appraised value. “It’s nowhere near to what they owe.”

But banks have an incentive to participate, she said, because they may have other loans on the same block. MPS has identified 1,522 vacant units for possible acquisition and assessed another 1,087 vacant REOs; offers have been made on 653 units, city officials have said.

Leveraging next set

Rehab and soft costs of \$168,000, when added to the \$20,000 acquisition cost, bring the total cost to \$188,000. A \$60,000 NSP homebuyer subsidy means the NSP program has \$128,000 to invest. The income from NSP1 will help finance the acquisition and rehab of the second pool of homes, which in turn will fund a third pool. There is talk of an NSP3 in Congress, Sahli said, and the city is ready.

Rentals in multiunit buildings will satisfy the requirement that 25 percent of units be affordable to people making less than 50 percent of the AMI. These include 12 units that are already under way in Woodlawn as well as 58 in Washington Park and 6 in North Lawndale.

There are also 17 units being rehabbed for home ownership for people at this income level: four each in Austin and Greater Grand Crossing, three in New City, six in Humboldt Park.

Thirty-four other units will be rehabbed and sold to people with income greater than 51 percent of the AMI. These units are located in Chicago Lawn, Austin, Greater Grand Crossing, Auburn-Gresham, East Garfield Park, South Shore, Humboldt Park, and Woodlawn.

Chicago’s 48 percent NSP fund disbursement outpaces the national average of 35 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Sahli said Chicago’s success rate was the reason it was awarded \$98 million for NSP2, second only to Los Angeles. HUD received nearly 500 applications and awarded only 56 grantees.

Foreclosures could reverse city’s progress

The city’s proposal is candid about the need for NSP2, noting that the value of foreclosed properties exceeded \$1 billion annually the past two years. Nearly all of the properties reverted to lenders. “The magnitude of this problem has begun to reverse much of the progress that the city of Chicago and its nonprofit partners have made over the last decade,” read the proposal.

The city’s population, for example, grew only within NSP2-designated “Green” neighborhoods during the 1990s; over the next nine years, population declined 4.7 percent throughout the city. Subprime loans inflated prices in some neighborhoods, and condo conversions just ahead of the credit crunch created vacancies in other neighborhoods. Among people whose income was less than \$75,000, up to 46 percent of home owners and 45 percent of renters were cost burdened.

The three-tiered NSP2 means “Green” neighborhoods like Albany Park, Logan Square/Hermosa, Humboldt Park, South Lawndale, and Chicago Lawn have the best chance for recovery based on their infrastructure or housing markets. Many of their REOs were formerly owner occupied, but speculators have purchased them and managed them poorly. Market devaluation offers a short-term chance to create affordable housing.

The NSP2 strategy will seek deeper subsidies and affordable units to encourage residents to “stick it out” in “Orange” neighborhoods. These include Grand Boulevard, Washington Park, Woodlawn, Greater Grand Crossing, and South Chicago. Assets here include the CTA Green Line terminus and 420-unit Grove Parc Plaza in Woodlawn, the Gary Comer Youth Center and 90 units of affordable homes in Greater Grand Crossing, and multiple commuter rail stations and mixed-use redevelopment of the former U.S. Steel Works in South Chicago.

Englewood is a “Yellow” community, whose housing market is just starting to find a bottom after 40 years. Centered on affordable housing near St. Bernard Hospital, Kennedy-King College, and the CTA Green Line terminus, its rebuilding could take another 40 years.

Update on Lathrop Homes

By Suzanne Hanney
Editor-in-Chief

The Chicago Housing Authority will choose a developer by early summer, with an eye toward preserving one-third of public housing among 800 to 1,200 total units at the historic Lathrop Homes on the northwest side.

“CHA is only saying that the public housing that is going to be returned will be one-third of whatever is developed,” said CHA Manager of Media Relations Matt Aguilar in a telephone interview. “Everything else is up for discussion and planning. We did specify a range of affordability in there from public housing . . . up to 200 percent of Area Median Income.”

Lathrop’s working group had a March 8 deadline for its request for qualifications. Aguilar said the working group agreed to focus first on securing the services of a developer with experience in affordable housing, mixed-income housing, and community planning. The working group, which includes Lathrop residents, city of Chicago stakeholders, and people who live in the surrounding community, will work out details together as to what will be built and preserved. Also undecided is the percentage of affordable and market-rate housing among the remaining units.

Historic-preservation eligibility is balanced with the need to bring property up to code and the need to meet accessibility guidelines of the Americans With Disabilities Act, Aguilar said. “It’s not at grade, so we will have to work creatively with the architect to meet ADA requirements.” Density is also a matter of concern to the surrounding community, although “CHA is interested in returning as much as possible,” he added.

Residents of Lathrop and supporters such as the Logan Square Neighborhood Association (LSNA), Landmarks Illinois, and the Chicago Rehab Network hosted a press conference in December to protest what they said were the CHA’s plans to demolish the entire development and replace it with 1,200 units divided equally between market-rate housing, affordable housing, and public housing. The residents instead sought to rehab Lathrop’s 925 units and return them to at least 50 percent public housing; the remainder would be equally divided between affordable apartment purchases and rentals.

“We do not need more market-rate housing,” Lathrop Local Advisory Council president Robert Davidson said. “This is already a mixed-income neighborhood.”

Condo conversions have gentrified the neighborhood, which lost 34,000 apartments between 2004 and 2007, according to LSNA board member Ellen Ray.

Many of those condos are still unsold, Ald. Scott Waguespack (32nd Ward) told *StreetWise* recently. His offices are across the street from the row houses, and his ward surrounds the



PHOTOS BY BEN COOK

complex at Diversey, Damen, and Clybourn, although Lathrop is in the 1st Ward.

Waguespack said the layout of the Lathrop Homes complex, built in 1938, is one of the best, from an urban-planning standpoint, but “they [CHA] worked their way away from it.”

The two-story red brick row houses and three- and four-story apartments sit on 35 landscaped

acres, complete with playgrounds, ball fields, and access to the Chicago River. “If you look at the insides, it’s absolutely solid, well-done brick,” Waguespack said. While the interiors might need rehabbing, that would be a “greener” solution than starting from scratch.

“If you build from scratch, you also need a bigger pot of money,” he said.

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Ask Eugene

“all the brilliance
 that will fit”

Dear Eugene,

Why is it that my husband, like so many other men, gets so wrapped up in sports? I try to watch games with him, but I'm nowhere close to his level of caring and I think I disappoint him.

—Reneé

Dear Reneé:

Trying to understand men and sports can be a complicated undertaking as there isn't one stereotype that applies, despite how hilarious a foil that might be. Ultimately, competitive sports are the male equivalent of soap operas, or theatre.

While watching sports can be an exciting distraction, it is the narratives that are woven into the events that make them truly exciting (and marketable). This is much more true with televised sports, with the thundering actual-Vikings-are-attacking-right-now background music and Michael Bay action-movie-style editing. One only has to watch a kid playing football in the backyard doing an epic catch in slow motion over and over again to see how effective this is. The people who bring you sports have their dramatic story-telling formula down to an art. There is always a scrappy underdog, there is always a hero waiting to be born, there is always a villain (usually the poor referees), and plenty of sports announcers ready to shout at the top of their wheezy lungs to let you know just how excited to be.

Plus, there is also the fact that many people live out their fantasies through other more successful people. With men many times it's professional athletes who possess the one-two combo of physical prowess and insane wealth (both are a necessity for access to top-tier ladies). Professional athletes have it all, and our country's men wouldn't want their heroes, temporary and fickle through they may be, treated any other way. So, you are right to feel left out, as no part of the formula exists for your inclusion, except the athlete's tight pants, so try to focus on that.

You can send Eugene your questions at 1201 W. Lake, Chicago, IL, 60607 or e-mail him at supreme_eugene@yahoo.com.

Sudoku

Difficulty: Medium

				7	9				
7								8	
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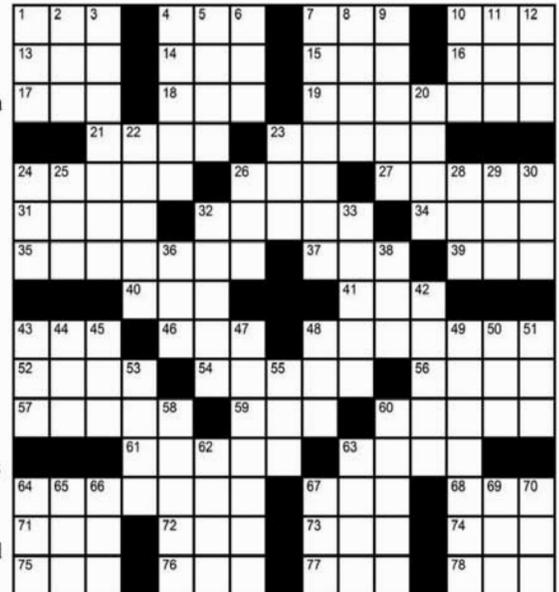
Deadline: must submit 3 Mondays prior to desired publication date.

StreetWise publishes every Wednesday

Crossword

Across

- 1 Average
- 4 Craving
- 7 Boxer's punch
- 10 Shade tree
- 13 ___ de France
- 14 Tokyo, formerly
- 15 ET carrier
- 16 Caribbean, e.g.
- 17 Cushion
- 18 Assist
- 19 Clean-up guy
- 21 Bakery buy
- 23 Employs
- 24 Certain exams
- 26 Dracula, at times
- 27 It doesn't hold water



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- 31 Absorbed
- 32 Rodeo rope
- 34 Remain
- 35 Swiftest mammal
- 37 "That's disgusting!"
- 39 Did lunch
- 40 Chafe
- 41 Authorize
- 43 Newt
- 46 Jack-tar
- 48 Fine
- 52 Film ___
- 54 Direct elsewhere
- 56 Feel concern
- 57 Coffee order
- 59 Small number
- 60 Small change
- 61 November birthstone
- 63 Locale
- 64 Dolomite, e.g.
- 9 Dog treats
- 10 "C" ___ la vie!"
- 11 DiCaprio, to fans
- 12 Deface
- 20 Horned goddess
- 22 Modify
- 23 Owns
- 24 Tolkien beast
- 25 Stadium cheer
- 26 "___, humbug!"
- 28 Greek letter
- 29 Tank
- 30 Needle part
- 32 Toil
- 33 On-looker
- 36 Harbor craft
- 38 Bidly
- 42 Implied
- 43 Conclude
- 44 Adversary
- 45 Twitch
- 47 Happens
- 48 Church bench
- 49 Cries of sorrow
- 50 Three (It.)
- 51 Thumbs-up
- 53 Grade
- 55 Casbah
- 58 Applications, e.g.
- 60 Beaut
- 62 Poker holding
- 63 Go yachting
- 64 Blueprint
- 65 Author Levin
- 66 After expenses
- 67 Romaine lettuce
- 69 Be in arrears
- 70 Bird of myth

Down

- 1 Lulu
- 2 Mode starter
- 3 Bureaucratic stuff
- 4 Time period
- 5 Blue-pencil
- 6 Affirmative action
- 7 Martial art
- 8 Way, way off

Last Week's Answers

6	8	2	4	7	1	5	3	9
3	9	4	6	5	8	1	2	7
1	5	7	9	2	3	6	4	8
7	2	3	8	1	5	9	6	4
5	6	9	2	3	4	7	8	1
4	1	8	7	6	9	2	5	3
2	4	1	5	8	7	3	9	6
9	3	5	1	4	6	8	7	2
8	7	6	3	9	2	4	1	5

M	I	R	A	C	R	O	O	P	S	T	E	M
O	R	A	L	R	I	A	T	A	T	U	B	E
P	I	C	K	P	O	C	K	E	T	A	N	O
S	E	A	R	C	H	I	S	L	A	N	D	
L	E	S	T	R	O	L	L					
S	L	I	P	D	O	E	E	S	S	E	N	
A	M	O	S	S	E	T	T	E	E	A	V	E
M	A	T	E	E	L	A	S	K	F	E	W	
P	S	T	C	A	T	N	I	P	B	E	N	T
S	H	O	A	L	A	N	N	D	A	R	T	
L	A	P	S	E	R	U	N					
F	A	J	I	T	A	S	E	E	D	E	D	
A	G	O	G	I	N	O	C	U	L	A	T	E
M	A	I	N	N	O	V	A	S	N	O	A	H
E	R	N	S	T	A	T	E	A	N	D	Y	

10 heart attacks can't keep vendor John Aycock down

By Ben Cook
StreetWise Staff

"StreetWise helps me out a lot. I've been here since they started," says vendor John Aycock. "At the time I was out of work, and I was looking for something to do after I got laid off from my job. I was working for Shriners' circuses and carnivals as a salesman. I joined up with them and traveled around, and when we got to Chicago I stayed." Originally from Baltimore, John was 28 when he arrived in Chicago, a city he very much likes aside from the fact that "it's cold here."

Because of his health, StreetWise makes it possible for John to take care of himself as best he can. The last time we checked in with him it was October 2008, when he was recovering from nine heart attacks over the course of three years. Unfortunately for John, who's now 57, it's gotten tougher to recover.

"I just got out of the hospital. I was there for eight days. I was in there for a heart attack and a blood transfusion." John's soft voice cracks as he explains, "It makes me feel weak. I can't walk a block. The problems started once I lost 400 pounds [after having gastric bypass surgery]."

"I usually use my van to get around, but right now I need to make some minor repairs on it, so I can't use it . . . I went to a place to find out how much it would cost, and they told me it would be about \$500. I can't wait to get it back."

"As long as I can get out there [and sell my magazines], I'll be there. When I'm sick I can't make it. I'm at 3101 North Broadway. It's the 7-11."

John has been at that location, health permitting, for the past eight years. "I'm trying to get the most out of every day that I can. I enjoy talking with people more than anything—just sitting there and talking with them. I'm hoping they stay there for me. I'm trying to save all the money that I can in case I need it."

"I appreciate what my customers do for me," he says. "I'm sure glad that they buy my papers. It helps me out a lot; it helps me get by, day to day."

And it helps John recover knowing he has a place to go. "I want to get back out there and be with my customers again. Right now I haven't been out there since Christmas, but I'm excited to. I just hope that I don't have any more heart attacks for a while. I'm on 28 different pills every day. Some of them have some side effects, some of them help me, some of them keep me going."

Although social interaction is a big part of what John looks forward to each day at his vending location, there's a close runner-up: dogs. "I'm also a dog lover—I've always been that way—so I look forward to when my customers are out walking their dogs. I have a miniature dachshund that's seven years old at home that I got from the Humane Society."

Meet: John Aycock



Aycock, left with Greg Pritchett, Director of Distribution and Vendor Services



I want to get back out there and be with my customers again. Right now I haven't been out there since Christmas, but I'm excited to. I just hope that I don't have any more heart attacks for a while...

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