

ISSUE 08.24

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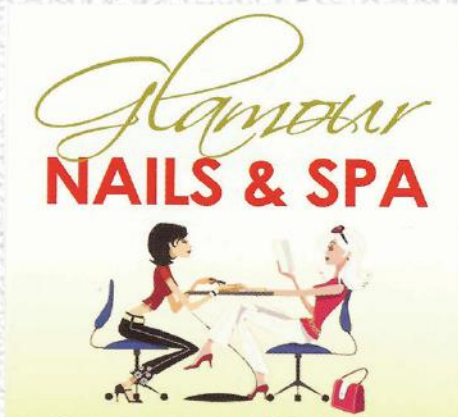


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NORTHALSTED MARKET DAYS CHICAGO ★★ ★★®

SATURDAY AUGUST 10

SUNDAY AUGUST 11

BELMONT STAGE

HOSTED BY DJ RON GERONIMO & DJ LITTLE LISA

- 12PM DJ RON GERONIMO
- 1PM MARKET DAYS DRAG REVUE
- 2:30PM AUGUST HOTEL
- 3:30PM MARKET DAYS DRAG REVUE
- 4:30PM DJ LITTLE LISA
- 5PM KELSEY MONTANEZ BAND
- 6PM LIAM TAYLOR
- 7PM GARELYHUMAN
- 8PM LAUREN SANDERSON
- 9PM DJ CASH ERA

ADDISON STAGE

HOSTED BY GINA BELLE

- 12PM DJ LAURA B
- 1PM WEEKEND RUN CLUB
- 2:30PM ALYSSA EDWARDS
- 3:30PM CHICAGO SPIRIT BRIGADE
- 4PM RADIO GAGA
- 6PM DRAGONETTE
- 7PM ULTRABEAT
- 9PM BILLY PORTER

ALDINE STAGE

HOSTED BY THE MISS TOTO & VERONICA POP

- 12PM GROUP WORKOUT WITH CROSSTOWN FITNESS
- 1PM THE MISS TOTO
- 2PM DAVE ALVAREZ (BIG MINI PUTT CLUB)
- 4PM VJ BRYAN & SASHA LOVE (SIDETRACK)
- 6PM DJ VIRAGO (SPLASH)
- 8PM JAI HO DANCE PARTY (HYDRATE)

NISSAN PARTNERS OF PROGRESS STAGE

HOSTED BY DJ X-TASY

- 12PM DJ X-TASY
- 1PM THE DIVAS
- 3PM IPOB BAND
- 4:30PM CHICAGO SPIRIT BRIGADE
- 5PM ARIANA & THE ROSE
- 6PM TOO MUCH MOLLY BAND
- 8PM ROD TUFFCURLS & THE BENCH PRESS

Viiv DANCE STAGE POWERED BY HYDRATE

- 12:30PM HYDRATE'S DRAGLICIOS SHOW
- 3:30PM JERAC
- 5:30PM DJ SETH BREEZY
- 7:30PM OSCAR VELAZQUEZ

BELMONT STAGE

- 12PM DJ SPEED
- 1PM MARKET DAYS DRAG REVUE
- 2:30PM 3 MARTINI JEANNIE
- 3:30PM MARKET DAYS DRAG REVUE
- 5PM AVA
- 6PM AKENYA
- 6:15PM BODY CONFIDENCE FOR QUEENS
- 7PM COCO & BREEZY
- 8PM MVTE
- 8:15PM JANESITA
- 9PM DJ LADY D

ADDISON STAGE

HOSTED BY MIMI MARKS

- 12PM DJ LAURA B
- 1PM THE GINGERS
- 2:15PM CHICAGO SPIRIT BRIGADE
- 2:45PM BIG FREEDIA
- 4PM DANCING QUEEN: AN ABBA SALUTE
- 6PM FEARLESS: A TRIBUTE TO TAYLOR
- 8PM MAX RAE
- 9PM RaiNao

ALDINE STAGE

HOSTED BY XO CARRINGTON & GINA BELLE

- 12PM SUNDAY FUNDAY FLOW WITH TOO MUCH MOLLY
- 1PM THE MISS TOTO
- 2PM PRETTY THINGS PARTY (REPLAY LAKEVIEW)
- 4PM DJ RILEY YORK (LUCKY HORSESHOE LOUNGE)
- 6PM DJ DARRYL GARCON (PROGRESS BAR)
- 8PM DJ RYAN WILLING (CELL BLOCK)

NISSAN PARTNERS OF PROGRESS STAGE

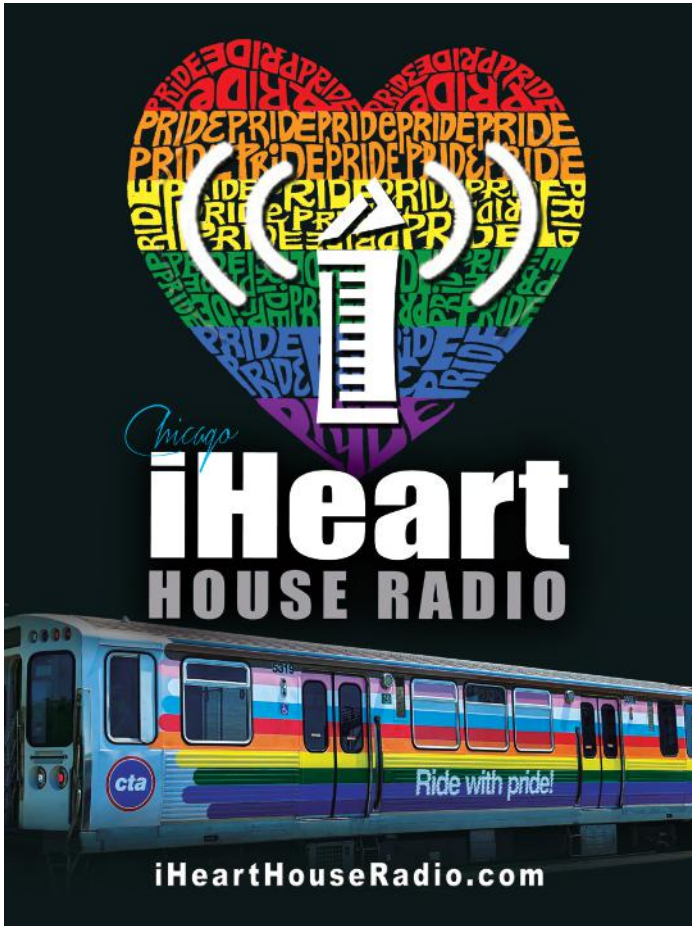
HOSTED BY DJ X-TASY

- 12PM DJ X-TASY
- 1PM CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS
- 2:30PM DISCO CIRCUS
- 4PM FIREBRAND
- 5PM CHICAGO SPIRIT BRIGADE
- 5:30PM HELLO WEEKEND
- 8PM SIXTEEN CANDLES

Viiv DANCE STAGE POWERED BY HYDRATE

- 12:30PM HYDRATE'S DRAGLICIOS SHOW
- 3:30PM DJ NICK STRACENER
- 5:30PM DJ DEANNE
- 7:30PM SURPRISE GUEST PERFORMER





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Northalsted Market Days® is a weekend-long, live music street festival celebrating community in Chicago's landmark Northalsted/Lakeview neighborhood.



The 1/2 mile-long summer festival features all-day lineups of live music on 5 stages, 250+ vendors, food and drink, dance exhibitions, drag performances, and more!

Estimated attendance is 100,000 people from near and far, representing all colors of the rainbow!



Market Days is one of Thrillist's Can't Miss Queer Events, ranked in the top 10 Chicago festivals by BizBash, and a 2023 Best of GayCities Winner for Travel Worthy Festival.

LOCATION

Halsted St. from Belmont to Addison, Chicago IL. See below for gates.

ENTRY

\$20 Suggested Donation – All Ages – Your donation helps pay performers & festival workers and supports charities, non-profits & community programs like the Chicago Pride Crosswalks.

HOURS

August 10-11, 2024 Saturday-Sunday:
11am-10pm

WEATHER

Open rain or shine, please be advised that severe conditions may delay or cancel performances.



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This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY® and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** Your healthcare provider will test you for HBV. If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months, and may give you HBV medicine.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults and children who weigh at least 55 pounds. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- ▶ dofetilide
- ▶ rifampin
- ▶ any other medicines to treat HIV-1

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Talk to your healthcare provider about the risks of breastfeeding during treatment with BIKTARVY.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ Those in the “Most Important Information About BIKTARVY” section.
- ▶ **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that may have been hidden in your body. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
- ▶ If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.





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**#1 PRESCRIBED
HIV TREATMENT***

*Source: IQVIA NPA Weekly, 04/19/2019 through 05/19/2023.



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▶ **BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in certain adults. BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.**

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THE STORY ABOUT JOSE

A SOUTH SIDE CHICAGO BARBER WITH HOPES OF BECOMING A MODEL

Story by Mike At Night

Meet Jose, a young Hispanic man with big dreams. Growing up in the vibrant city of Chicago, Jose had always felt a pull towards the glamorous world of modeling. He spent his days flipping through fashion magazines, imagining himself striking poses and gracing the covers. But there was one small hurdle Jose's English was limited, and he worked as a barber, a far cry from the runway. Yet, he remained determined, finding solace in his passions: the pulsating beats of Chicago-style house music, the nostalgic DJ hot mixes, and the vibrant regional music of Mexico. Little did he know that destiny was about to give him a nudge in the right direction.

One fateful day, a new customer walked into Jose's barber shop. His name was George, a free-spirited individual who had recently relocated from California. George worked at a renowned house music record label in Chicago, but that wasn't all he was also a DJ, a photographer, and self-proclaimed wild "thing".

With a non-binary identity and a love for expressing themselves uniquely, George was a force to be reckoned with. As Jose trimmed George's hair, their conversation turned to Jose's hidden dream of modeling. George, always on the lookout for intriguing subjects, offered to take photos of Jose, sensing a potential mentor-mentee relationship that could propel Jose's aspirations forward.



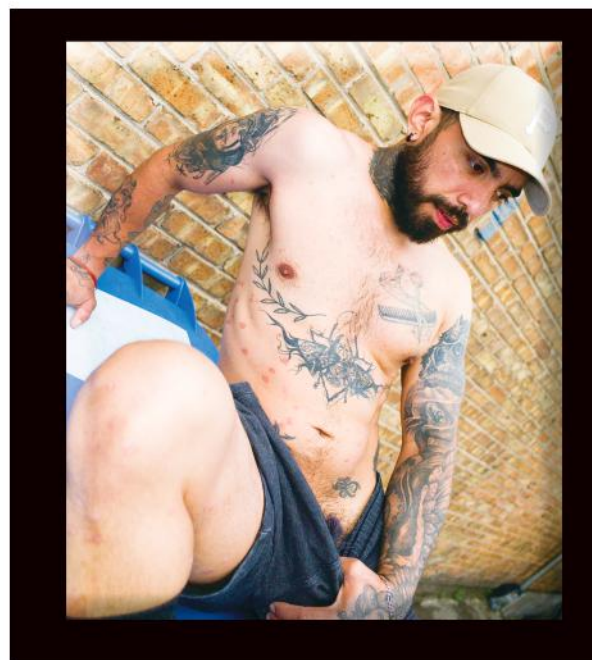


Continued **STORY ABOUT JOSE**

Jose eagerly accepted George's proposal, and soon they embarked on a photo session like no other. George, with his artistic eye, directed Jose to strike various poses, capturing his essence in a way that exuded sexiness and showcased the tattoos that adorned his body. Jose, initially shy, soon found his confidence in front of the camera, feeling a sense of freedom and empowerment. The photos turned out better than they could have hoped, and Jose couldn't contain his excitement. With George's guidance, he began to believe that his dream of becoming a model was within reach.

The day finally arrived, and Jose rushed to the the place closest to him to pickup a copy of the magazine. There it was, his face staring back at him, bold and beautiful. He had made it; his dream of becoming a model had come true.

The feeling of accomplishment rushed over him, and he couldn't wait to show his family and friends. But this was just the beginning. Soon, opportunities began knocking on his door, modeling offers, collaborations, and a chance to inspire others. Jose's story served as a reminder that dreams know no boundaries, and with a little push from destiny and the help of mentors, anything was possible.



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY



by: Dr. Charla Waxman *BS, MBA, EdD*
Director of Business Development at Lake Behavioral Hospital

International Overdose Awareness Day is upon us. Although we take pause on this particular day, August 31, to remember a loved one who has died from an overdose for those of us who have a lived experience of such a loss, every single day without them serves as a reminder.

Although we have all grieved a loss, having someone close to you die from an overdose involves common feelings of anger, denial, and hurt, but also helplessness and stigma. Keep in mind, that while some of us may know one who has died from an overdose, some of us know many. Indifference is not an option.

International Overdose Awareness Day is a stigma-reducing day that allows those in grief to know that they are not alone. In fact, nearly 100,000 children, young adults and adults died from an overdose in the last two years. Currently overdose is the leading cause of death (CDC) for 18-40 year olds.

Since Covid 19's disruption of mental health and substance use treatment services, drug overdose deaths have been on the rise. An increase in the non-medical use of Fentanyl and street-derived Fentanyl has endangered those challenged by substance use, but know that many who overdose are trying the substance for the first time. Some who have overdosed have just left a recovery program; hope-filled, but still unable to staunch the pull of addiction. Addiction is an equal opportunity disease and all of us; any of us, can be at risk.

What does your community have available for those addicted to substances and for the public and those supporting those challenged

by addiction? Here is a continuum of services you can research and speak to your local government about adding to what may already be available.



Prevention creates awareness about substances and offers educational opportunities for the public. Check to see if your area health department or mental health center provides naloxone trainings that can help save lives.

This is important for any community. Harm reduction engages those who are currently using substances without stigma. It equips them with improved choices and options for staying safe and achieving positive health.

Addiction is a very individualized disease. Addiction is different for every person. For that reason, there are many programs that have proven and researched successes.

Most treatment centers tailor their interventions using evidenced-practices for trauma related concerns, substance use, and mental.

Peer Support and other Recovery Programs are programs which provide lived experience pairing and group support for those desiring freedom from addictive substances

Residential Support with living arrangements are substance support in a peer-structured living environment.

As indicated earlier, indifference is not an option. Everyone must commit to helping in some way. Recognize signs and symptoms of use, become trained in using naloxone to save lives and support those you love who are using by knowing the resources in your home community and making those referrals.

On this IOAD, remember the ones lost to addiction, support those who grieve, and make a difference for those who are challenged by addiction right now.

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MARKET DAYS + WILD NIGHTS AT TOUCHE



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SUNDAY AUGUST 11
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IN CONCERT

EARTH, WIND & FIRE

Earth, Wind, & Fire performed last month at the Allstate Arena, in Rosemont, Illinois. Current members include Verdine Adams White on bass, who is the younger half-brother of Maurice White, Phillip James Bailey who joined the band in 1972, on vocals and percussion.

Phillip Bailey also gave us the smash dance single "Easy Lover", a duet with Phil Collins. In 2009, Phillip Bailey's son, Phillip Bailey Jr. (vocals) joined the band. Ralph Johnson on vocals and percussion joined in 1972.



To add, and I was not aware, flute and saxophonist Ronnie Laws joined the band in 1972. An expert jazz musician lasted until he went solo in 1975. It would be time consuming attempting to pick and choose most favorite EWF songs, as they released 23 albums, 8 #1 hits, 62 singles, and the list goes on. My heart goes out to "Boogie Wonderland". Not so much as it being a dance classic, but the meaning, and how the vocals are projected. A very positive, warm which speaks of love and unity.

Overall, the evening performance was breathtaking. One couldn't help but sing along to "Reasons", "Let's Groove", "September", "After The Love Is Gone", "Shining Star", "Fantasy" and many others. The price of the ticket on this evening taking me back to my youth, priceless!

Which are your favorite EWF songs? Don't forget to visit my Out "N" About Facebook group, which is an extension of boiMagazine.

There's additional coverage as well as pics and videos from concerts.

Til next time!

COMMENTARY UNCENSORED



by: Screamin' Rachael
Recording Artist, Entrepreneur, Publisher, Music Mogul, House Music Icon, sometimes Controversial, with a dash of Opinionism for good measure.

The opinions offered in this column are "uncensored" and are intended for "open dialog" and "entertainment purposes" only. Use of this column not intended to replace or be a substitute for any professional, financial, legal, advice or any other professional service. The opinions or views expressed in this column are those of the columnist, and not necessarily those of anyone else.

Chicago Teens need help! I'm a resident of Streeterville and the situation is frightening. My belief is that important programs such as after school activities, all ages shows and mentorship in general has been pretty much eliminated. When you look at the Chicago public School system, and the miss-appropriation of funds it's obvious why organizations that try to help have no resources! What we have now is teens going wild in the streets, and I believe unless we take positive action things will only get worse!

HERE'S THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD

SOAR (Streeterville Organization of Active Residents) is taking aggressive action to stop the teen takeovers in Streeterville, and SOAR's voice has been heard. Yesterday, SOAR President, Deborah Gershbein attended a community leaders meeting with Alderman Brian Hopkins, 18th District Chicago Police Commander Michael Barz, Sergeant Christopher Schenk, representatives from the Cook County Sheriff's Department and other community leaders from the neighborhood.

She informed them that we cannot and will not tolerate hundreds of teenagers taking over our streets and terrorizing residents, workers and visitors to Streeterville. The situation at Grand and McClurg and surrounding area is outrageous and cannot continue. The commander promised immediate action and Alderman Hopkins has responded by initiating curfew laws and is supportive of the residents. This will be a process but know that the authorities who can make a difference are diligently working on this horrific situation.

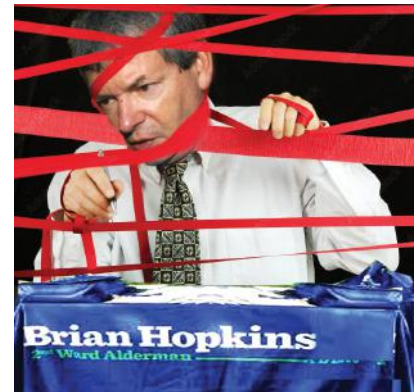


I personally wrote to Alderman Hopkins: on June 26th 2024 and said this in my letter:

"Hello Alderman Hopkins, I spoke to James on Thursday,

about Youth Communication Chicago, a 501 C3 non-profit organization since 1976, about painting the walls of the underpass. As a resident of Lakepoint Tower for over 20 years, I was happy to see the wall whitewashed and clean. This project I propose will be done by students under the guidance of esteemed artist/educator, Arturo Barerra, and the title of the work will be: "Imagine What Your World Could Be."

We have funds, although a donation to further aid our students would be an excellent idea. especially since our neighborhood is having terrible youth problems. They need HOPE and mentors. Please consider this offer and let's be part of the solution. Your help would also be an excellent PR opportunity for our community. Sincerely, -Rachael Cain"



Finally on the 19th, after writing again, on the 17th I received this answer! "Sounds like a lot of red tape to me!"

Wow, that's not the reply I expected, since Aldermen are usually the one you go to, to help cut through the red tape. Boy is Hopkins quick to clamp down on teens, and give them no guidance, outlets or hope!

Apart from that, so far It's been a terrific year for me! I'm so very happy to have been able to connect with a lot of like-minded individuals! Old

Continued >>

TOY *live* with ME



Full Episode:
Pride Edition out Now!



Scan QR Above

Catch us *live* at these
upcoming Summer Festivals

Market Days – Aug 10–11th
3501 W 26th St – Sept 22nd
Love Fest – Oct 6th

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Hello Ms. Cain,

Thank you for contacting Alderman Hopkins' Office regarding the Grand Avenue underpass.

As the site of any potential mural at this location would be on public property, the permitting process is handled by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE). The process involves a community input process from the local neighborhood organization, a budget to be established, and the selection of a pre-qualified artist who is a vendor for the city.

Has your organization worked with DCASE before on public mural projects?

Thank you in advance and have a good weekend!

Best,

Ethan Brady
Chief of Staff
Alderman Brian Hopkins 2nd Ward | City of Chicago
aldermanhopkins.com
312-643-2299

>> **UNCENSORED** Continued



Alderman Lopez with Mayor Johnson

*Alderman **Byron Sigcho Lopez**: CEO of the Mexican art Museum, **Jose Nunez**, former CEO **Carlos Tortolero** and Congressman Garcia At the announcement of the new art community space in collaboration with **Yollocalli** .*

While businesses and neighbors in Hopkins 2nd district contemplate leaving and young people have no guidance or creative outlets, Alderman Byron Sigcho Lopez 25th district is Brimming with hope and excitement. Though I was simply passed off in my area, Alderman Lopez personally took my call and immediately pledged his help.

Youth Communication Chicago, will receive help and our IMAGINE project will be the first of many. I want to point out to all of my boiMAGazine Readers that there are many wonderful, restaurants, shops and festivals going on in Pilsen just about every weekend. Though I've spent 20 years in Streeterville, I must say that I have found new friends and family in this area! It is fantastic to know that there are creatives, and people who really care about each other and their community. Alderman Lopez had many encouraging words and more important he takes action!

Here are some of his words and plans: James Balwin wisely said, all children are all ours.

"Today in our city and across the country we see the inhumane treatment of children, youth, and vulnerable communities. This should never be the way we treat the present and future of our communities. School closures, mental health clinics shattered, greed taking away critical resources for our communities in need.

A new world is possible and necessary, and it all starts locally, in our own block, in our own community, caring for one another, especially our children.

In the 25th ward, we understand the importance of community and care for one another, because that is all we often have. Investing in arts, music, programming for our children and youth is critical to build a new future where everyone can be part of.

The key is, let's treat all our children as ours, and let us not fall for the fear mongering and draconian violent solutions. Time to invest in people, invest in our youth and build together a stronger and safer Chicago. Si se puede!"

The Summer 2024 is officially here! Activating safe spaces & creating community for our youngsters, block by block. Ground-breaking moment this past Friday with Yollocalli's new Little Village Fire House station that will be a hub for all ages.

Historically it is our youth who mobilize and are the leaders of change. Boogie was a leader and a freedom fighter, who was killed 51 years ago, on this day, June 23rd, 1973. He was a disrupter of the system, and his family continues to keep his legacy alive. Visit the honorary street sign at 18th & Throop. Stay tuned for updates at Throop Park".

Continued >>



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>> **UNCENSORED** Continued

friends, and great new people that I met at Pride Fest at the boiBOOTH have supported my music and endeavors for many years.



Im glad to announce that the non-profit organization "Youth Communication Chicago" board of directors has voted **Michael Macharello** their new Director of Development, and as the General Manager of Donor Relations.

WORDS FROM MIKE:

*Thanks Rachael for the great news and to the board of directors. It's a great honor to be a part of such a worthy cause, especially since I don't have to leave Chicago to accept the position! The mission of the organization and the programs already in place, are perfectly set to benefit the youth of Chicago. As many know, I started on my path as a youth, attending many school and community programs that were available to me. They helped focus me and expand on my interests, which has helped me throughout my life. That includes **Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Church programs, after school programs, camp,***

*and **summer activities.** I had no time to get myself into trouble, in fact I was benefiting from "reaping what I sowed," by participating in the programs offered to me. So of course, I'm more than happy to pay it forward, and anticipate the rewards it brings to everyone involved.*

Over the years, I have helped hundreds of non-profit community organizations raise money for their worthy causes. I feel that by doing what I can to help these organizations achieve their fund-raising goals, will not only benefit those they intend to help, but myself as well. By investing in their future, I'm investing in my own future, and the environment I like to live in. I always found the saying "you reap what you sow," to be a logical truth. It's a common quote, and comes from the Bible in Glatians 6: 7-9. You don't have to believe in the Bible stories to know that if you plant seeds, and water them, they will grow. I found that It applies to most things in life, and probably that's why it's been such a popular quot, even today.

So When Rachael mentioned to me that she was the president of the Youth Communication Chicago non-profit organization, and that the programs they offered were there, but still shut down from the pandemic, I said to her, the hardest work is already done, and being in my wheelhouse, it wouldn't take me long to get the programs back up in running again. But first, we need to find a home base to work from and get the programs up and running.

Then one thing lead to another, and suddenly my wheelhouse is in full swing! Ok, that's enough Kumbaya, so, back to you Rachael!

Thanks Mike!

I've tried to give you, our readers and followers an uncensored look at the situation going on with the youth in Chicago and, also bring attention to those interested in helping out. I hope that some of my readers will chime in with suggestions, but even more important actions that they can take! We at Youth Communication Chicago are looking for a space and place to call home, and that can be headquarters for our organization. Where we can work on fundraising campaigns, raise money, and run the youth programs that we offer to the CPD (Chicago Public Schools,) and to the teachers, that work the programs with students one-on-one in small groups, who sign up for the programs that we offer. To know more about these programs, go to: www.YouthCommunicationChicago.org for more information.

We are looking for donations and sponsors to make tax deductible donations. We also need people who are artists, educators, and others, willing to share their time mentoring.

Please contact Mike at: MikeMacharello@aol.com if you want to help. As always I wish you all love!

I wanted to send out a special thanks to **Alderman Lopez, Jorge Cruz, Colby Gallery, Chicago Midwest Made, Irene Michaels, DJ Oliver Fade, Paul Donovan, Daniel DiCriscio,** and all of the many who helped to make our first TRAX FEST on June 15th such a wonderful success!

Out "n' About Chicago

by Jorge Suarez



Located in the heart of Andersonville is Rattleback Records. I dropped by to visit owner Paul Ruffino and was very impressed by this well organized, trendy hotspot located at 5405 N. Clark. It's been decades since my last visit to this area and I couldn't help but notice my old stomping ground Atmosphere, is still around. Owner Paul Ruffino is not new to the music industry as his past experiences include Second Hand Tunes.

Rattleback Records opened it's doors in 2018 and while suffered during Covid as did most businesses, on-line sales kept them afloat and now Rattleback Records is a flourishing business. The record store is well stocked with rock, blues, jazz, hard to find 12" records, including dj remix services, 45's, cassettes, cool swag, music accessories, and memorabilia. As I made my way thru the aisles, I couldn't help noticing the number of limited edition classic rock box sets at 180 grams. Mobile Fidelity



Sound Lab, a company that enhances original recordings to compliment audiophiles in this day and age, have been busy with the likes of ELO, Supertramp, The Cars, Led Zep, Paul Simon, The Eagles and more current, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, Miles Davis, and others. As I continue walking thru the aisles, I gazed upon a Beatles Discography framed poster, as well as a much tempting B-52's colored



vinyl with a self titled LP, framed and patiently waiting to be purchased. Rattleback Records is available on all social media platforms and my compliments to whomever handles the upkeep of these social media platforms. A great job at keeping the public aware of the store's contributions to the neighborhood and the city.

Rattleback Records constantly hosts listening parties, book signing, live performances which includes local talent, and giveaways. You can bring your music collection to them, or they will visit, examine your collection, and make an offer. For those eager to get started or build their personal collection, Rattleback presents the Rattleback Records Club.

There are three levels of monthly subscriptions whereas by filling out a form with your preferred interests, Rattleback

will oblige and ship free of charge picks based on your music preferences. Neatly positioned along the wall are accessories of all sorts including cassette players with AM/FM radio as well as a line of Audio-Technica blue tooth turntables, beautiful Edifier speakers and other well known brands such as Crosley, Jensen, and Ion.



Thanks to Paul for the friendly chat, and a great warm-receptive staff. Nothing beats getting out and supporting these record stores in person.



Join me in the next issue of boiMag for another trip down memory lane. If there's a store in Chicago or suburbs that you'd like to see in boiMag, send me an email @ Jorge@boiMag.com.

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ASK CHAR

The views and/or advice expressed here are my personal opinions, based on my life experience, and don't necessarily reflect the opinions of any other individual or organization. Have a question? eMail me at AskChar@boiMAG.com

Dear Char,

"I'm struggling with a major life decision. How can I figure out what the right path is for me?"

Dear Struggling in Saugatuck,

This is the question of the ages! How do we make sure, when it really seems to matter, that we are making a decision that can be long term, can have positive impact over time and can give us the very best outcome for ourselves and for those we love?

Taking some time to examine some key issues might be the way to give you some confidence that you are making the best decision in the moment. If there is a time limitation, you may want to go through the preparation process with a trusted friend or family member. Putting another person in the process will keep you anchored to your allowed time frame. Here is a list to start the pondering process:

What are the things that you value? Money, time, people, space? You are the expert of you!

Are you facing difficulties in your life at this time that are causing you to make this change? Is this issue going to make you to impulsive? Should you wait for the issue to be resolved first?

Have you been in this position before? What worked or didn't work? Is this a long term or short term decision?

Is there something that scares you about your decision? What can go wrong? Do you have a list of choices for this decision?

Can you create a pro and con list? Is there a decision that you can eliminate right away because it is selfish or just not right for you at this time?

As you review and begin to answer this list of questions, know that this is not an effortless endeavor. It will take time to think and it may test your courage. You will feel better when you know that you have put a good amount of thought into your decision.

Now I don't know what kind of life decision you are considering, but when you create that pro and con list

Consider this list of impact as well: **Personal fit**; behavior, feelings and thoughts **People fit**: family, close friends, future

connections. **Organizational fit**: culture, climate, values. **Location fit**: comfort, interests, future intention

Whatever this decision is, get educated! Don't allow yourself to make a decision that has a lot of "ifs" in it. Learn what you can about the details of this decision. Uncertainty creates stress and can cause anxiety and anxiety can create an unhealthy decision. The goal is to feel excited, but confident when you advance toward a decision. Of course there will still be some "what ifs?". You can't know everything, but you will have a compass that is pointing in a general right direction.

I would advise that you not let old habits or old comforts drive your decision. Being a little scared or nervous may mean you are growing and changing and moving in a good way toward something new and exciting and positively impactful. Comfort + Habit = Stuck. Don't let that formula drive your decision. Stuck is not where you want to be.

Don't let the past direct your decision either. Be confident. Look at today and the future. Even if your decision is not time-limited, you need to set a time goal for your decision. You do not want to waste time over thinking. Talking to the monster of "worst case scenario" is not going to be a big help.

Please don't worry about what other people will think about your decision, but do consider those you love and the impact your decision will have on them.

Now it's time to take action. Be the owner of this decision. No matter what happens, this decision will have value. Every decision you make with confidence will make you better and stronger. **You got this!**

SEXBOT TECH TRENDS

by Jack Santo

INTIMATE TECHNOLOGY

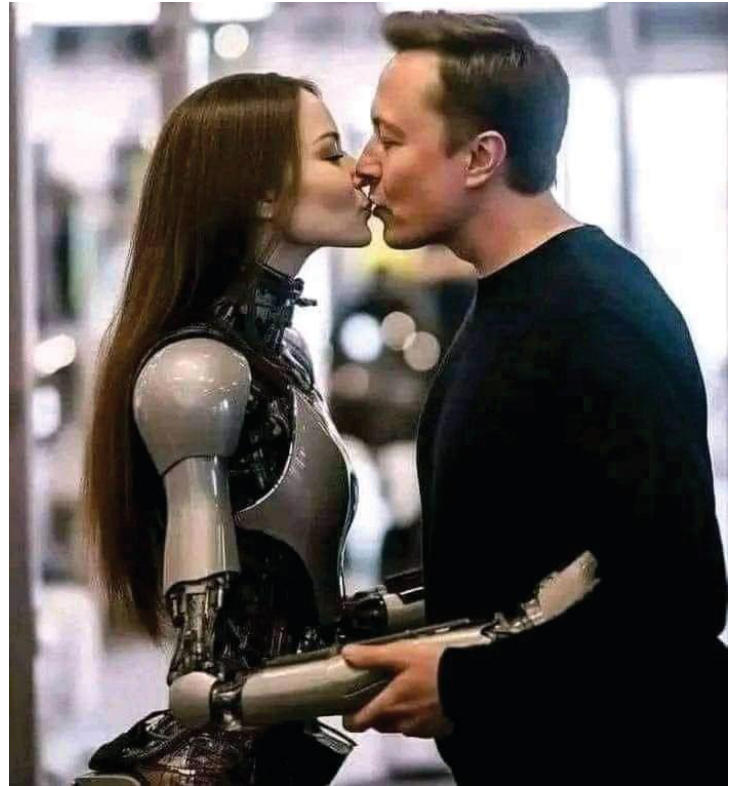
Humanoid sex robots could serve as complementary or supplementary to human relationships.

For those seeking and/or who are unable to find human companionship, such as elderly individuals or those with social difficulties.

One could envision the use of sexbots for this purpose in much the same way humans are currently using AI chatbots. Yes, sexbots, as we've seen, are much heavier, costlier, and far less accessible to the general public than chatbots, but it is possible that rather than being used solely for sexual gratification, they will be used for companionship, which, interestingly, sexbot makers are banking on, and have been shifting to for years now.

They also may be used by those experiencing disability, and let's face it, if we are expecting to live long and happy lives, we are all on a path of disability, or experiencing less ability, as our bodies and minds age. Sexbots could be used consensually in the context of a monogamous relationship in which one or both partners are coping with disability.

Speaking of consensual non-monogamy, it is not inconceivable that committed partners not wishing to conduct an extramarital affair, but who are



experiencing changing sexual needs and desires, would consider the consensual use of a sexbot. This could be envisioned in both human mid-life as well as in long-term marriages as longevity spans 80 or more years.

Sexbot use might also be envisioned in companionate relationships where humans experience an intimate, non-

passionate type of love. "This type of love is observed in long-term marriages where passion is no longer present" but where a deep affection and commitment remain.

In essence, one could consider the consensual use of sexbots to tend to humans' sexual selves as they evolve over time and meet a variety of sexual needs.



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Hanson also suggests they offer an alternative for individuals seeking safe sexual exploration. They might provide a safe space for exploring desires without judgment, which can be very empowering for individuals discovering or exploring their sexuality, early or late in life.



Sexbots can also be used for educational purposes. For example, they could be used in sex education classes, particularly if sexbots that have been developed to ask and answer questions about consent are used.

These sexbots could also be used to improve communication skills in human relationships as they can be programmed to model healthy communication.

There are also potential therapeutic uses, in terms of helping humans who have experienced sexual trauma and are uncomfortable in human-to-human sexual relationships. As the technology improves, as with virtual reality therapy, sexual abuse victims could safely learn to re-engage with their sexuality and heal previous trauma in a therapeutic setting.

If one steps outside one's concerns about the risks (we'll look at this below), there is an intriguing angle worth considering here. Along with Simon Dubé, I'd like us to consider the potential for sexbots to contribute to the co-creation of healthier human relationships. Dubé envisions a future where these advanced technologies, rather than replacing human intimacy, could enhance it by providing safe spaces for exploration and expression.

Sexbots could be utilized as tools for personal and relational development, helping individuals explore aspects of their sexuality and identity in a risk-free environment. This exploration could lead to greater self-awareness and confidence, which are crucial components of healthy human relationships.

Furthermore, sexbots could serve as educational tools, offering opportunities for individuals to learn and practice interpersonal skills, such as communication and consent, which are fundamental to healthy relationships. This aspect could be particularly beneficial for those who face challenges in forming and maintaining connections with others.

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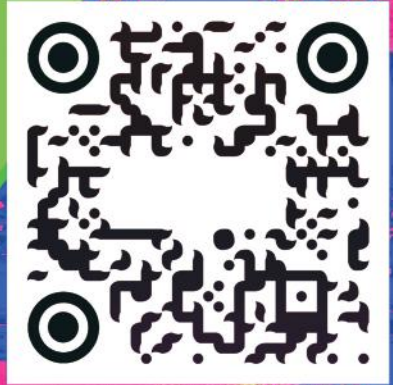
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