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Your South Loop Neighbor and Chicago Real Estate Specialist



Happy Spring!

I guess it is finally safe to say that (the spring part). The usual signs of spring *were* becoming obvious with the trees blooming in Cottontail Park and all over the South Loop, the tulips in Grant Park and planters along Michigan Avenue and State Street. But the temperature didn't seem to want to cooperate until just yesterday. That's life in the Loop...

Speaking of the Loop, or more specifically the South Loop, I remember a time when I used to have to drive to the Dominicks on Ashland and Archer to buy groceries. Not the case anymore. We have our pick from Whole Foods, Dominicks, Jewel and pretty soon Trader Joes. I might have to cook more!

The good news is, despite the economy, we continue to grow. More businesses are investing in our neighborhoods, and that is a great sign. If you would like to further investigate not only the South Loop and the West Loop, but many Chicago Neighborhoods as well as Suburbs click [ChicagoNeighborhood.info](http://ChicagoNeighborhood.info). This will give you an abundance of information about neighborhoods or cities, regarding market history, current pricing, schools, maps and links to other websites that contain valuable information. I will warn you, it may take a while to read through all of this great information.

Have fun with all that comes with this time of year, such as graduations, 1st communions, weddings and plans for summer vacations. I



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**Just Listed**  
 1242 S. Federal Unit D  
 Open House Sun. May 15th 12-2PM  
 Townhome  
 2b/2ba  
 \$467,000

[1242 S Federal D](#)  
[Chicago IL 60605](#)

- Brand new kitchen
- Stainless steel appliances, granite counters
- Built-in desk
- Enjoy the outdoor spaces with the deck off the kitchen
- Master BR with 3 closets
- Living room with FP
- Family Room accessible to outdoors
- Yard overlooking the park

will see you around the neighborhood.

Terri



SOLD !!  
Single Family Attached  
3b/2ba  
\$499,000

[61 W 15th 201 Chicago IL 60605](#)

- Duplex with views of the city from every room

- Parking \$35K

- 20 Ft. ceilings in LR/DR

- Heated slate floors throughout 1st level

- 400 SF terrace on east side of home

- Balcony on west side off of family room

- MBR w/ WIC

- Brand new kitchen

- New powder room

- Overlooks Cottontail Park and the Chicago skyline

### Market Trends

Below are market trends for the first quarter of 2011 in the South Loop and West Loop. For more information about your area sign up to receive our [Market Snapshot](#) report.

#### Near South Side

Detached Single Family

|          | New Sold Avg. Sale Price Avg. Days |   |             |     |
|----------|------------------------------------|---|-------------|-----|
| January  | 3                                  | 1 | \$710,000   | 177 |
| February | 2                                  | 1 | \$1,395,000 | 269 |
| March    | 1                                  | 0 |             |     |

Attached Single Family

|          | New Sold Avg. Sale Price Avg. Days |    |           |     |
|----------|------------------------------------|----|-----------|-----|
| January  | 127                                | 24 | \$273,084 | 374 |
| February | 94                                 | 30 | \$299,117 | 383 |
| March    | 128                                | 37 | \$313,714 | 172 |

#### Near West Side

Detached Single Family

|          | New | Sold | Avg. Sale Price | Avg. Days |
|----------|-----|------|-----------------|-----------|
| January  | 6   | 3    | \$65,666        | 100       |
| February | 3   | 2    | \$315,000       | 268       |
| March    | 4   | 2    | \$172,000       | 234       |

Attached Single Family

|          | New | Sold | Avg. Sale Price | Avg. Days |
|----------|-----|------|-----------------|-----------|
| January  | 181 | 33   | \$292,574       | 193       |
| February | 167 | 25   | \$279,516       | 187       |
| March    | 201 | 42   | \$275,397       | 189       |



RENTED  
Single Family Attached  
2b/2ba  
\$1,900/mo

[51 W 15th A1 Chicago IL 60605](#)

- End unit
- Garage parking additional \$125/Month
- SS appliances, granite counters & an island large enough to seat 4 people
- MBR suite w/ 2 closets & a bath w/ sep shower, soaker tub and 2 bowl vanity
- 2nd bedroom with great useable space
- FP
- Private outdoor space
- Close to Cottontail Park



RENTED  
Single Family Attached  
2b/1.5ba  
\$1,575/mo

[901 S. Plymouth Court Unit 604 Chicago 60605](#)

- Available now
- Views north of the Beautiful Chicago Skyline
- Ample living space
- Great location
- Convenient to loop, lake, restaurants and several universities
- Well run building with pool, bike room, party room, night doorman,

## Weekend Getaway

By Molly Heyen

When was the last time you took some time away from the city to explore the forests of Illinois? Approximately two hours away from Chicago is [Starved Rock State Park](#). With over 13 miles of hiking trails in 2,630 acres of forest the most prominent sport in the park is hiking.

Starved rock boasts 18 canyons, each of which has a waterfall. The sites are beautiful, the air is fresh, and the activities are rewarding. Aside from hiking one can also enjoy canoeing, fishing, or horseback riding.

As it is so close to the city the park can be enjoyed on a day trip for a picnic or overnight for a weekend trip. When staying over there are many choices for accomodation. Camping is a popular activity and there are a variety of rooms to choose from at the Starved Rock Lodge. If you prefer to stay further out the surrounding town has small hotels and bed and breakfasts.

We recently stayed at the [Brightwood Inn](#). It was a well-appointed, relaxing, and remarkably clean inn that served both breakfast and dinner.

If you are taking a weekend trip this spring we would love to hear about where you are going and share your reviews with our other subscribers. To contribute please email [Terri](#).



exercise room & common outdoor areas

- Parking available in area, waitlist for parking in building



RENTED  
Single Family Attached  
4b/3.5ba  
\$4,000

[57 W 15th D](#)  
[Chicago IL 60605](#)

- End Unit TH
- 2 car garage & 2 car pad
- Kitchen w/ 6 burner
- Wolf oven, Bosch dishwasher, Sub Zero Fridge, pull out drawers
- Hardwood flooring throughout
- MBR suite with 2 walk-in-closets
- MBR on same level as 2 other bedrooms
- Bath on every level
- Family room
- Den
- 3 balconies
- private fenced-in-yard overlooking landscaped courtyard
- Flat screen & wine cooler stay



## Keller Williams Red Day

All of the Keller Williams Realty offices across the country devote May 12th (Red Day), to give back to the communities in which they live. Our office has teamed up with [Vital Bridges](#) to collect canned goods and non-perishibles for the [Lakeview Pantry](#)

Vital Bridge's Mission:

*" Vital Bridges' mission is to help people throughout metropolitan Chicago impacted by HIV and AIDS to improve their health and build self-sufficiency by providing food, nutrition, housing, case management and prevention services."*

. To help donate to this great cause, stop by Jewel Food Store Thursday, located at the corner of Wabash and Roosevelt.

### Chive and Cheddar Biscuits

makes 6 biscuits

2 cups flour, plus more for dusting  
 2 tbsp. baking powder  
 1/2 tsp. baking soda  
 1 tbsp. baking soda  
 1 tbsp. sugar  
 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt  
 8 tbsp. cold unsalted butter, cut into thin pats  
 3/4 cup plus 2 tbsp. buttermilk  
 1/2 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese  
 1/2 cup minced chives  
 2 tbsp. heavy cream

1. Heat the oven to 450°F. Whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, sugar, and salt in a bowl. Using a pastry cutter, work the cold butter into the flour mixture until the butter is the size of small peas.

2. Add the buttermilk, cheddar, and chives to the flour-butter mixture and stir with a fork to form a loose dough.

3. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and gently pat into a 6 x 9-inch rectangle. Fold into thirds as you would a letter and pat into a 6 x 9-inch rectangle again. Dip the edges of a 3-inch round biscuit cutter in flour and punch out 6 biscuits from the dough. Transfer the biscuits to a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. (Form and cut the dough scraps into another biscuit or two, if you wish; they won't rise as high, though.) Brush the tops with heavy cream and bake until lightly browned, 14–16 minutes. Serve warm.



From: [Saveur The New Comfort Food Home Cooking from Around the World](#)

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