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Your South Loop Neighbor and Chicago Real Estate Specialist



Happy Heat Wave,

Summer is in full swing and it looks like we have passed the half way mark. Hurry up and have fun outside! Chicago has so much to offer all year long, but the summer months explode with outdoor activities. It is so fun to eat outside whenever you get the opportunity to, because of all those months when that make it just impossible. Speaking of outdoors and food, keep up to date with [Chicago Food Markets](#) throughout, for the rest of the year, with the schedule that Molly has put together. Print it out and leave on your fridge.

If you are in need of cleaning services, I met a woman after one of my showings, who has just moved into the area. Her name is Nikole Tarver. Her phone number is 214-234-5353. check out her website at [www.spicspanprocleaning.com](http://www.spicspanprocleaning.com).

One more plug for one of our South Loop neighbors, who is a college student at USC. Her name is [Caroline Szuiewski](#). She has grown up in the South Loop and is offering her babysitting and tutoring services. Give her a call at 312-636-2033. Now you can have a clean house and smart kids!

Check out what is going on at [Daystar](#), and definitely enjoy a cup of coffee at [Overflow](#), located in the building. Molly is working on starting a [Toastmasters](#) club there.

Molly has included tips for traveling and she has come up with a refreshing drink to sit outdoors and watch the world go by.

I have included a market watch for 2 and 3 bedroom sales in the last 3 months, for the South and West Loop. If you are a recipient of my [Market Snapshot](#), Molly has provided an excellent [guide](#) to determine what the data means.

Have a wonderful rest of the summer, and good luck with all of the details involved in starting of the new school year.



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312-208-5166

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Single Family Home  
3b/3ba  
\$950,000  
\$4,000/mo

[21 W. 15th St.](#)  
[Chicago IL 60605](#)  
Take The [Tour](#)

- 2 car garage
- MBR suite w/ luxurious bath w/ heated marble floor
- Eat in kitchen w/ island & granite counters
- LR w/ FP & Bay window
- Finished basement
- Landscaped yard
- Freshly painted & new carpeting
- New hardwood floors
- New Duro Last roofing system

Terri



**Market Watch**

Below are the results of 2 and 3 bedrooms sales, for the South and West Loop in the last 3 months. I have included the number of foreclosures and short sales, which have become part of life for the time being.

**West Loop**

# Bedrooms	# Sold	# Foreclosures	# Short Sales	Median Price
2	110	18	13	\$290,000
3	36	4	3	\$438,750

**South Loop**

# Bedrooms	# Sold	# Foreclosures	# Short Sales	Median Price
2	82	8	9	\$311,625
3	29	2	4	\$459,000

**New Community Center**

Do you want to learn something new? Make new friends? Help build a community?



Daystar Center  
1550 S. State St.  
<http://www.daystarcenter.org>

Check out Daystar Center, <http://www.daystarcenter.org>. Located just down the street at 1550 South State Street, Daystar Center offers a variety of classes from drawing to language, music, yoga, and for all ages.

The Center is still ramping up on cultural activities. In the future they will add concerts, films, and lecture series. Next time you have a moment to kill stop by Overflow Coffee Bar in the lobby, meet Amanda Neely, owner of Overflow and manager of the Center, enjoy an Iced Nutella Mocha and sign up for a class or program.

They are always looking for new ideas to serve our community, so feel free to leave a suggestion for a program or ask about organizing one!

Their space is also open for groups to rent. When you visit, ask for a tour and think about having your kid's next birthday party or your group's next get-together there.

We are currently working to organize a [Toastmasters](#) club to meet in the space, please email [Molly](#) if you would like to be involved with that.



Residential Rental  
2b/2ba  
\$2,400/mo

[801 S Plymouth V](#)  
[Chicago IL 60605](#)

- Available Sept. 1
- End unit
- Duplex
- N, E, and W exposure
- Huge private terrace
- Side-by-side W/D
- Close to public transit, Loop, Lake, restaurants, and shopping



Parking  
\$175/mo

1212 N Lasalle  
Chicago IL 60610

- Uncovered garage space
- Can rent to non-residents
- Close to Red Line and public transportation



**SOLD!**  
Townhome  
2b/2ba  
\$467,000



## Summer Vacation

Does taking a summer vacation conjure up images of tons of overstuffed luggage, bored children, overcrowded and dry airplanes, long lines at the customs counter and even longer ones waiting for the checked luggage?

Did you know that Chicago City Estates consists of a former flight attendant and a world traveler? With well over 50 combined years of travel experience we have collaborated together to give you the following tips to make your summer travel less hectic and help you reach your destination relaxed and ready for play. *NOTE: These tips will also be useful for helping you beat jetlag so you can return from vacation STILL RELAXED!*

**Packing:** Have you ever taken a three-week trip with only one carry on suitcase and a laptop bag or oversized purse? It's surprisingly easy to do, even with bulky winter clothes! The key is layered outfits and clothes that can be mixed and matched. Unless you are attending a special event and need a specific pair of shoes for that you can save a lot of room in your luggage by bringing only one pair of shoes.

If you are visiting more than one city only bring just enough clothes for the city you will be in the longest. No one will know if you wear anything more than once and if you bring outfits that you can mix and match you won't feel like you are wearing the same thing again.

If you will be gone for an extended trip and don't want to send undergarments to the hotel for cleaning then bring a small pouch of laundry detergent and clean them in the bathtub.

**Airport:** Being organized is the most important part of getting through security quickly and hassle-free. DO NOT bring liquids over 3oz or any sharp objects. Even pieces of a manicure set may be confiscated in some airports.

Always travel in shoes that are easy to slip off. Dress comfortably, but well enough to be at a fine dining restaurant. Be aware of the dress codes in other countries, some look down on exposed shoulders and knees. There are many cultures in the world, but they all accept quiet, orderly, well dressed travelers who remain aware of their surroundings. This will also help keep you safe in the presence of pick-pockets. Also, don't wear a lot of jewelry, pack it or leave it safe at home.

At security keep your passport and ticket in your hand, immediately place your shoes, jacket, and any items that may cause the metal detector to react in a bin. Either remove your laptop or splurge on a bag such as Tumi's check-point-friendly line and ask if you can leave it in the bag.

If you use a clear zippered pouch from a drugstore beauty bag for your liquids be sure to have a Ziploc with you. Some countries, like Thailand, require that the liquids are in a Ziploc bag, they don't care if it's the same size. Always pack your liquids on top and remove them at security. London will tear apart your bag if you don't, Chicago doesn't care so much, but you never know!

[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



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

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

- Duplex with views of the city
- Parking \$35K
- 20Ft. 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

If you travel abroad sign up for the trusted traveler program. With that you can go through customs in the U.S. at a computer kiosk in seconds without waiting through a half-hour line. If you haven't checked bags you can deplane, go through customs, and be on the road home in less than ten minutes!

**Flight:** The best flights to take abroad are evening flights out and daylight flights in. Have dinner before boarding your evening flight, take your seat, ask the flight attendant to wake you for breakfast, use your earplugs and eye-mask, and sleep the whole way. When you arrive you will have "slept" for many hours and, following breakfast and coffee you will be energized enough to enjoy your first day of vacation. You may still want to have a relaxing evening, but by the next day you won't realize there was a time change.

If you fly home during sunlight you will land in the evening, ideally arriving home at dinnertime. Stay awake during this flight. Read a long relaxing book, take in a movie, enjoy the meals and prepare to arrive home ready for a regular night's sleep. The key in this flight is to relax. Don't try to force sleep or you might not be able to sleep when you get home. Just rest and daydream about the wonderful vacation you just enjoyed.

Finally, drink lots and lots of water! Staying hydrated will help you keep your energy up.

### Surprisingly Refreshing Drink

By: Molly Heyen

Unfortunately I don't remember where I found this recipe. I came across it one afternoon when some friends were meeting at my home before we went to Zapatista for dinner. It was a brutally hot day and I knew most of them would need something refreshing to cool off with when they arrived. I didn't want to just serve water so I searched until I found this simple concoction using common kitchen ingredients and fresh mint from my balcony garden.



Fill one glass with ice cubes or crushed ice and water  
Add it to the blender with:  
1 handful of mint leaves  
2 tsp lime juice  
Salt to taste  
1/4 tsp black pepper  
blend and enjoy!

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