

As Things Develop

New developments
up the rhythm in
River North

Tree Studios
blooms again

Designing **comfort**
and **beauty**

Neighborhood
hospitality in
world-class
settings

Law firms
set the bar
for service

A guide to the area's
best dining,
shopping and
entertainment

Developments of Friedman Properties



57-59 West Grand Avenue



101 West Grand Avenue

181

Government Center Self Park
181 North Clark Street

353

353 North Clark Street

400-408

400-408 North Clark Street



430-436 North Clark Street

441-443

441-443 North Clark Street

447-449

447-449 North Clark Street



500 North Clark Street

501

501 North Clark Street

506

506 North Clark Street

21

21 East Hubbard Street

22

22 West Hubbard Street



26-30 West Hubbard Street

40

40 West Hubbard Street

59-61

59-61 West Hubbard Street



70 West Hubbard Street

148-150

148-150 West Huron Street

114

114 West Illinois Street

711

711 West Jackson Street



100 West Kinzie Street

50

50 East Roosevelt Road



420 North Wabash Avenue



Boyce Building
500 North Dearborn Street

520

520 North Dearborn Street



Courthouse Place
54 West Hubbard Street



Goodman Theatre Center
60 West Randolph Street



Hampton Inn & Suites
33 West Illinois Street

THE JAMES

The James Hotel
55 East Ohio Street



Courtyard by Marriott
155 East Ontario Street



SpringHill Suites and Residence Inn
410 North Dearborn Street

SpringHill Suites, O'Hare
8101 West Higgins Road



Bloomingdale's Home Store at
Medinah Temple
601 North Wabash Avenue



Medinah Court
12 East Ohio Street



Tree Studios
4-6 East Ohio Street
3-5 East Ontario Street
601-623 North State Street



Tree Studios North Annex
9 East Ontario Street



Tree Studios South Annex
10 East Ohio Street



Reid-Murdoch Center
325 North LaSalle Street

350

Thompson Building
350 North Clark Street



Northfield Village Square
301 North Happ Road, Northfield

670-692

Weinecke Court
670-692 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe



The Suites Collection

Theater District Business Center
60 West Randolph Street



Court House Executive Offices
101 West Grand Avenue



Tree Studios Medinah Temple
4 East Ohio Street

For more details, call 312.644.1100
or visit us online at
www.friedmanproperties.com.

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During the restoration of Tree Studios, I had one directive for everyone who worked in the building—anything that can be saved should be saved.

This maxim aptly characterizes our work as a company over the past 35 years. When Friedman Properties moved into River North in 1970, the neighborhood was considered one of the city's worst slums. But where others saw decay, we saw potential. One by one, we began acquiring and restoring the area's turn-of-the-century buildings, preserving Chicago's history while creating the backdrop for what has become one of the city's most vibrant and desirable neighborhoods.

From our humble beginnings as proprietors of a single building, we have grown into a full-service real estate firm with a portfolio of more than 50 properties throughout the Chicagoland area encompassing more than 3 million square feet of space. In partnership with city and state officials, we have been instrumental in the redevelopment of 12 city blocks, establishing ourselves as nationally recognized leaders in the practice of adaptive reuse and complementary new construction. The centerpiece of our holdings, River North's thriving Courthouse District, is the largest privately owned and managed historic commercial district in the country.

We take pride in forging strategic partnerships with others who share our dedication to the long-term development of the community, and we are privileged to enjoy relationships with many of the city's leading businesses. As you will see in the following pages, our business partners offer services that are as distinctive as the buildings they occupy.

Today, we are expanding our work of urban renewal throughout the Chicago area creating new opportunities for businesses that are committed to the vision of our city as the standard of excellence for municipalities around the globe.

This is an exciting time in the evolution of our company. As things develop, we hope you will join us in building the landmarks of tomorrow.

Albert Friedman
President, Friedman Properties, Ltd.

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Below: The redevelopment of Medinah Temple/Tree Studios is a nationally recognized model for how public-private partnerships can be used to enable preservation. (Photo by Barbara Karant)

Tree Studios blooms again



When a once-celebrated building is replaced with a cement-and-steel skyscraper, the city loses more than a piece of its architectural legacy. Friedman Properties' president Albert Friedman believes "it's as if our collective memories are being erased. You don't realize how much you'd miss it until it's gone."

In his efforts to safeguard Chicago's storied past, Friedman has purchased and revitalized dozens of buildings throughout the city. But of all of Friedman's preservation projects, perhaps the most historically significant—and personal—was a battered building he bought in 2001 known as Tree Studios.

Commissioned in 1894 by art enthusiasts Lambert and Anna Tree, Tree Studios was designed to cultivate an artistic community in Chicago and was home to the nation's oldest surviving artists' studios. Yet despite its enchanting history, the building faced imminent demolition when its owners announced plans to sell the property to a high-rise developer.

The prospect of losing such a unique cultural treasure spurred Friedman to action and prompted the World Monuments Fund to list Tree Studios, along with nearby Medinah Temple, among the top hundred most endangered structures in the world. In an innovative partnership with city and state officials, Friedman developed a plan to save the entire historic block. A five-year labor of love to restore the structures to their original splendor began in the spring of 2000.

Today, both buildings have been sensitively restored for the enjoyment of future generations. At the east end of the block, Medinah Temple has been reinvented as a one-of-a-kind retail emporium featuring the nation's first-ever Bloomingdale's Home Store. On the west end of the block,

Tree Studios' street side retail shops and upstairs studios continue to celebrate the creative spirit of its original founders. In between, Medinah Court adds a contemporary element to the complex with 30,000 square feet of creative office space with French doors opening to Juliet balconies which offer a peaceful view of the Tree Studios lush interior courtyard.

A labor of love

Friedman Properties began its work at Tree Studios under difficult conditions, discovering that decades of neglect and decay had left the structure nearly irrecoverable. Damage caused by decades of inattention forced workers to spend eight months excavating the basement and repairing the building's time-trodden foundation. Structural members throughout the building had deteriorated, and the roof and interior wood detailing had completely decayed.

Determined to return Tree Studios to its original grandeur, Friedman embraced the challenge of bringing the building up to modern safety standards while restoring its historic integrity. For nearly five years, construction workers and artisans labored side-by-side, rebuilding Tree Studios by hand. Architectural details were re-created from surviving fragments in on-site woodworking shops. Windows and skylights in the upstairs creative studios restored the natural light so prized by earlier generations of artists; and the courtyard, a jungle of weeds, was transformed into an oasis in the center of the city. Soon, a creative community again took root as inventive retailers and artistic entrepreneurs began to return to Tree Studios.



The American Institute of Architects honored Daniel P. Coffey & Associates, Ltd. with its Distinguished Building Award for the firm's work with Friedman Properties, Ltd. on the redevelopment of Medinah Temple. (Photo by James Steinkamp)



(Photos by Mark Samuels)

Sharing a creative vision

Visual strategist and painter Anne Smith, a frequent visitor to Tree Studios before the restoration, moved into one of the 26 rehabilitated studios in December of 2004.

"I bring clients to my studio and halfway through a meeting someone will inevitably look around the room and say what a great space it is," says Smith. "I'm inspired every time I open the door. The skylights, open layout and ability to cozy up in front of the fireplace make it a delightful place to work."

About a year after Smith's return to the building, lawyer and painter Danny Grosso moved into a studio just down the hall. Almost immediately, Grosso began to utilize the space for collaboration.

"Most artists work alone and that solitude can get a bit stifling," he says. "Having a great cast of cohorts helps facilitate the flow of creativity."

Bringing the outside in

While Tree Studios' downstairs tenants don't share a hallway, they still enjoy the camaraderie felt by their upstairs neighbors. The retailers—who lovingly present their spaces and products to the public—rely not only on each other, but also on their proximity to their clientele.

Karl Sorenson, owner of P.O.S.H. home décor, moved to Tree Studios in 2004 to reach out to a broader range of patrons and tap into the area's round-the-clock foot traffic.

"Customers immediately recognize this little jewel of a building as a transformative place," says Sorenson. "It brings

character to the neighborhood and serves as a quiet oasis in the middle of the city. I've even had customers tell me my store is 'good for the soul,'" Sorenson chuckles.

Also seeking new business is Tom Verhey, proprietor of Pops for Champagne. After occupying a space on Sheffield Avenue for 25 years, Verhey finally came to a crucial conclusion.

"Rather than expecting the market to come to us," he says, "We decided to bring ourselves to the market."

Verhey believes his addition to Tree Studios' already-thriving community is a perfect fit and he hopes the club will serve as a seamless transition from day to night. "Jazz and champagne are historical products," he says. "Both fit in a space that is dedicated to the preservation of the past."

What's Verhey's personal favorite selection? Appropriately, a 1990 Charles Heidsieck, he says. "When it's aged, the quality really comes through."

And the same could be said for this century-old building. Though shadowed by sprawling skyscrapers, it still shines as a tribute to the city's creative consciousness.

With a little help from Friedman Properties, it, too, is aged to perfection. —Meredith Landry

If you would like to join the Tree Studios community, creative office space is available for lease in the Medinah Court. Please contact Bob Zimmerman (bobzim@friedmanproperties.com) for more information.

If you are interested in Friedman Properties shared office spaces, please contact Lee Dickson (dickson@thesuitescollection.com).

Benvenuto a Ballo



Music, dancing, movies *and* spectacular food—what's not to love?

River North diners are a varied bunch: local condo residents, after-work Loop escapees, gallery enthusiasts and tourists straying a few blocks from Michigan Avenue. But Ballo, the newest member of the Rosebud Restaurants family, welcomes everyone with open arms.

"We go above and beyond the call of duty to make everybody feel special. That's my style and I think everybody else here agrees," says Bobby Hitz, the self-described "all-around guy," whom visitors are sure to see at least once while dining. Hitz knows a thing or two about running an Italian restaurant—he had his own in River North until 2001. And there's nothing he won't do to make sure all is right for Ballo guests.

"I'm not averse to running the dish machine, shaking hands, kissing babies or making some food—whatever it takes," he says. One task he particularly

enjoys is assisting in the music selection. Hitz tries to cater to the crowd's of-the-moment pleasures—including anything from Sinatra to Madonna. The music accompanies the restaurant's sleek décor, which features cavernous crimson leather booths set against dark wood, a disco ball, and flat-screen televisions playing classic Italian films. Each element works in tandem to foster the fluid union of a fine restaurant and a laid-back nightspot. "It's a come-as-you-are, sexy place, where people just want to have a good time," says Hitz.

Of course, the main attraction at Ballo is Italian comfort food, presented with a creative twist. Chef Salvatore Raguso was executive chef at the Rosebud Theater District restaurant for eight years before moving to Ballo to oversee the kitchen.

Ballo's menu features an extensive selection of appetizers, pizzas and

family-style entrées as well as an antipasto menu, which includes cured meats, cheeses and vegetables.

Food preparation takes center stage in the open kitchen facing the main dining room. Guests often watch from nearby tables or even walk right up to the cooking line, getting a glimpse of the action that typically remains behind closed doors in other restaurants.

"I really do like being right out there in the dining room. It gives me a better feeling for what's going on in the restaurant, and I can talk with the customers, which I enjoy doing," says Chef Raguso.

Ballo's menu changes slightly every day, featuring seasonal dishes as well as house specialties. Not to worry though, if you see something you had once and it's not on the menu. "If we have the ingredients, we'll make it for you," says Raguso.

Both Raguso and Hitz have trouble selecting favorites from the kitchen, but

there are definitely items of special note. "I think Rosebud has the best fried calamari around," says Raguso. And both make sure to point out the beloved Mama's Meatballs. Other signature dishes include the 8-Finger Cavatelli as well as Chicken, Veal or Eggplant Parmigiana.

Ballo's extensive selection of wines is the perfect complement to any meal. The restaurant carries more than 100 bottles at varying prices along with a sizeable list of wines by the glass. If you are in the mood for a cocktail, the full-service bar offers a wide selection of specialty concoctions that can be enjoyed in the comfortable lounge located directly off the main dining room.

On Friday and Saturday nights, the kitchen is open until 12 a.m., and the late-night crowd is not afraid of dancing—on the floor or on the chairs. "At night, the place can turn into a rip-roaring disco," says Hitz. "Even if a group is just barhopping in the neighborhood, we're definitely on their list of stops."

Whether their customers are out-of-town families enjoying an early dinner, business executives sealing a deal over lunch or a lively group of friends catching up over drinks, Ballo's staff is prepared to create any desired experience.

"We keep it real here," says Hitz. "We make the food you'd get at my mother's house on Sunday and serve it up in a fun environment. It makes us the perfect backdrop for any occasion."

—*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

Ballo is located at 445 North Dearborn Street. Dinner is served daily; lunch is served Monday through Friday. Valet parking is available. Call 312.832.7700 for more information.

(Photos by Lindsey Hedge)



A hotel with history

The Hampton Inn & Suites offers guests a comfortable stay and a look into Chicago's past

Guests entering the Hampton Inn & Suites on Illinois Street in River North will immediately sense that they've found a place with character. Greeted with a subtle, but distinct nod to Chicago's architectural past, visitors gain a first glimpse into the city's history without leaving the hotel. A piece of ironwork from Adler and Sullivan's Chicago Stock Exchange building rests to the side of the staircase in the Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired lobby. Outside the Daniel Burnham Hospitality Room, a case filled with glass bottles dating back to 1871 reveals the treasures found in excavations in the neighborhood.

Intriguing touches such as these drew General Manager Roger Young to the property four years ago. Young has been in the hotel business for 22 years, working with hotels in Chicago such as The Embassy Suites and The Ritz-Carlton. Young loves the neighborly attitude of River North and knows that first-time visitors to Chicago do as well.

"I tell guests to just make a left out the door and visit the art galleries, antiques shops and restaurants in the area, and then they feel more comfortable about exploring the rest of the city," he says.

In fact, guests can enjoy outstanding cuisine without even hitting a sidewalk—the hotel has a skybridge to Ruth's Chris, one of the city's most popular steakhouses, and Italian hot spot Ballo can be accessed through the lobby or ordered

through room service.

The Hampton Inn & Suites has 5,000 square feet of meeting space and 230 guest rooms including 40 studio suites and 19 double-room suites. The larger suites feature a living room separate from the bedroom and a kitchen with a full-sized refrigerator, range top and dishwasher, making them an excellent option for extended-stay business travelers or families.

Young ensures that visitors will receive exceptional service, and he assists in the staff's training program himself with the goal of empowering each associate to make guests' experiences memorable. "We believe the buck stops with the individual the client is working with; that associate does not need to find me to make things right."

With a friendly neighborhood location, easy access to the city's main attractions and rooms designed to mirror the comfort of home, the Hampton Inn & Suites is an ideal home away from home for Chicago visitors. —*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

The Hampton Inn & Suites is located at 33 West Illinois Street. To learn more or to reserve a room, visit its Web site at www.hamptonSuitesChicago.com.



Adding to the rhythm



A new 45-story office tower will feature state-of-the-art technology and a variety of tenant amenities including an on-site health club and dining facilities.

Walking the sidewalks of River North, with its chic storefront shops, trendy restaurants and bustling streets, it is difficult to imagine that the area was once nearly abandoned. But in 1970, when Albert Friedman founded Friedman Properties, Ltd., with the acquisition and rehabilitation of a rundown 19th-century building, the neighborhood was considered one of the city's worst slums.

Today, Friedman Properties is recognized as one of River North's leading developers and is widely credited with transforming the area into one of the city's most desirable places to live, work, play and visit.

As more businesses and residents choose to call River North home, Friedman Properties continues to expand its vision for the community. Two major new developments—a state-of-the-art office building on Clark Street co-developed with Mesirow Financial Real Estate, Inc. and two Marriott hotels on Dearborn Street—will add a modern element to the historic streetscape that gives the neighborhood its distinctive ambiance.

"These buildings will bring a whole new rhythm to the area," says Robert Lopatin, chief operating officer and director of development for Friedman Properties. "We're taking two underutilized parking parcels and replacing them

with dynamic developments that will add vitality to the area."

Doug Van Tress has co-owned The Golden Triangle, an Asian antiques shop at the corner of Clark and Hubbard streets, for 13 years. During that time, he has seen marked improvements in the neighborhood's atmosphere and pace, and he is looking forward to the further increase in foot traffic that the new developments will bring. "The conversion of the parking lots will give us that sidewalk hustle and density that you have in New York," says Van Tress. "That's magic for business."

Expanding the business community

With downtown vacancies on the decline, Friedman and Mesirow's decision to fill the gap between Clark and Dearborn streets on the south side of Kinzie with a more than \$400 million, 45-story office tower may seem unusual. But River North has developed a special, undeniable attraction for companies—life after the workday.

"People want to be in River North," says Lopatin, "and companies locating here are able to attract top-tier employees because of the neighborhood."

Jenner & Block LLP and Mesirow Financial will co-anchor

Two new developments advance the unique dynamic of one of the city's most vibrant neighborhoods

the building at 353 N. Clark St. when it opens in October 2009, with the remaining 365,000 square feet to be leased by Jones Lang LaSalle. Mesirow Financial, whose employees have been split between locations at 350 and 321 N. Clark St. for several years, is eager to finally consolidate its staff into one collegial space while remaining in the area.

"We looked at spaces all over the city, but we kept coming back to River North because we felt it was the best location," says Jim Tyree, chairman and chief executive officer of Mesirow Financial. The company will locate all of its 750 Chicago employees on floors four through sixteen, with room to expand and accommodate up to 450 additional people.

The building, designed by Dirk Lohan of Lohan Anderson LLC, and A. Epstein & Sons International, Inc., will feature the latest evolving technology for employee safety, comfort and security. The development will include an attractively landscaped plaza facing Clark Street; underground parking, a health club and dining facilities for tenants; highly efficient floor plates; and 25,000 square feet of retail space fronting Clark, Kinzie and Dearborn streets.

The retail space on the northeast corner of the building at Kinzie and Dearborn streets is currently being negotiated with a major dining establishment and promises to enhance the area's reputation as one of the city's best culinary destinations.

Throughout its involvement with 353 N. Clark St., Friedman Properties has remained devoted to preserving the historical character of the neighborhood. The company added to its holdings by acquiring Mesirow Financial's current headquarters at 350 N. Clark St. which it plans to redevelop in the fall of 2009 when Mesirow Financial transitions to its new space. The building will be available for lease in the first quarter of 2010.

Adding more visitors to the mix

Chicago residents are not the only ones finding that River North meets their diverse range of needs—the city's visitors are also flocking to the area. Whether staying in one of the existing hotels, venturing out to a recommended nightclub or exploring an art gallery, out-of-towners feel comfortable with the atmosphere.

"There's always something going on in River North," says Lopatin, noting the plethora of attractions and entertainment venues located in the neighborhood. "It's a fun, safe environment that offers a variety of activities 24 hours a day."

Currently under development, the Marriott Residence Inn and Marriott SpringHill Suites will be located under a single roof at 410 N. Dearborn St. The 27-floor building, which is scheduled to open in March 2008, will have 523 rooms and 14,500 square feet of retail space. The hotel's two distinct brands will cater to business and leisure travelers with upscale studios and one or two-bedroom suites featuring separate living, working, sleeping and eating

areas along with fully equipped kitchens.

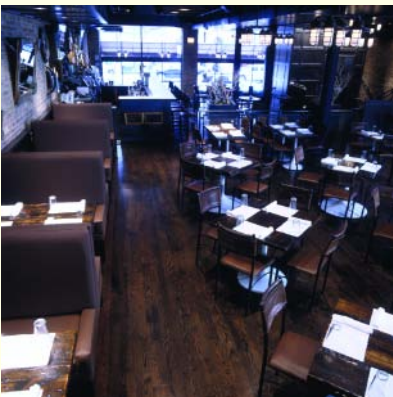
Friedman Properties plans to develop additional mixed use properties in the coming years, creating more hospitality, residential and retail opportunities and expanding parking and office space in the area.

Over the past 30 years, River North has proven well suited for change and revitalization. With new developments adding to the neighborhood's unique urban rhythm, Friedman Properties is solidifying its imprint on the area, ensuring that it remains a sought-after location for decades to come. —*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

To learn more about future development opportunities, please contact Robert Lopatin (robertl@friedmanproperties.com).



Two new Marriott hotels will serve visitors and business travelers with two kinds of accommodations housed under the same roof.



Rockit:

It's a verb, not a noun

Rockit Bar & Grill serves up multiple reasons for River North to rock

Rockit Bar & Grill has quickly established itself as one of Chicago's premier nightlife spots for residents, visitors and celebrities alike since its opening in June 2004. But on a weekday more than 10 hours before the night scene warms up, it doesn't take long to realize that the Hubbard Street landmark is much more than an of-the-moment bar—the first-floor dining area is typically packed by half past noon with a demanding and diverse lunch crowd. Sunday's brunch, beginning at 11 a.m., is one more reason to make a stop at Rockit.

"This place covers so many different types of people, from the business executive who's having a power lunch to the socialite coming out with friends for happy hour to the crowd who's looking to hang out until 2 a.m.," says Rockit Bar & Grill co-owner, Brad Young.

Young and fellow co-owners Billy Dec and Arturo Gomez focused on creating a place that would accommodate a wide range of people and leave the pretension behind. Comfortable design elements such as natural brick, handmade leather chairs, cocktail tables made from tree stumps, exposed beams and custom-made pool tables provide familiarity for a wide variety of patrons. In addition to the attractive interior crafted by design star Nate Berkus, the extensive hours (11:00 a.m.–1:30 a.m. Sunday, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 11:30 a.m.–2:30 a.m. on Saturday) and popular rock music also aid in establishing Rockit as a multipurpose destination.

"Some places try to be ultratrendy and fizzle out after a couple of years—we wanted to make sure our look and feel was timeless," says Young.

Rockit's menu and dining experience aims to fill the void created between white-tablecloth venues and basic pub food spots. At first glance, the menu, created by Executive Chef James

Gottwald, might seem similar to any other bar, but items such as the hot dog no longer seem standard after reading that it is made of Kobe beef and served on a steamed poppy seed bun with cranberry mustard and chimichurri sauce with a side of truffle fries.

Favorite American foods incorporating gourmet ingredients and served in large portions have proven to be a successful equation for Rockit thus far—in 2006, the River North Association voted it Favorite New Restaurant for the "Best of River North" awards. Young notes that opening a restaurant in Chicago is not a task to take on lightly because Chicagoans don't appreciate being told what they should want. "Our menu is based upon what Chicagoans like," he says, "so you won't find 'fussy' here."

Rockit has become a favorite setting for office holiday parties and other corporate events as business executives and colleagues who feel at home there for lunches or happy hours want to extend that atmosphere to an entire organization's celebration. The second level can accommodate up to 300 people, and parties can be semiprivate or completely separated from the first level.

During Rockit's early planning stages, Young focused on Hubbard Street as his desired location. "It has that neighborhood feel even though we're right up against high-rises," he says. In fact, Young and his partners have big plans for expanding in River North, with a new nightclub opening in the neighborhood this fall and an Asian restaurant next year. "We are, without a question, committed to this area," says Young.

—Jessa Brinkmeyer

Rockit Bar & Grill is located at 22 West Hubbard Street. Lunch and dinner are served daily; and brunch is served on Sunday. Valet parking is available. Call 312.645.6000 for more information.

Luxury and comfort to the max



Whether it's a night in or a night out, The James sets the scene

Chicago has been buzzing about The James since its opening last March, but the rest of the world has taken notice as well. In its June hotels issue, *Travel + Leisure* magazine included The James on "The It List." The compilation, dubbed as "the coolest new hotels on earth," featured only four other locations, and The James grabbed the single North American spot.

The James fills the niche between boutique and luxury hotels by presenting a unique style and exceptional service in comfortable settings. Its 297 residential-style guest rooms are equipped with plasma-screen televisions, 100 percent Turkish cotton towels, commissioned art by Chicago artists and stereos with iPod docks among other things. Several different sizes of rooms are available including 26 one-bedroom apartments and two 1,400-square-foot penthouses.

Even though locals might not have an excuse to enjoy the guestrooms, David Burke's Primehouse and J Bar offer excellent reasons to stop by.

"The Primehouse lobby bar has become the neighborhood's 'after-work' spot," says General Manager Patrick Hatton.

Weary travelers can relax and recoup at The Spa, where professional therapists provide a wide range of exceptional spa treatments. In-room services are available as well. For those looking to burn off some steam rather than bask in it, The Gym is the place to be. Created by Danny Errico, Equinox Fitness founder, it provides an ideal setting for guests to stay on top of their fitness regimens or even develop a new plan.

While The James offers guests and Chicagoans a unique and distinctly modern take on hotel, lounge and restaurant options, the neighborhood completes the picture.

"We enjoy the diversity and convenience that our location offers our guests," says Hatton. —*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

The James is located at 55 East Ontario Street. To learn more or to reserve a room, visit its Web site at www.jameshotels.com.



A sea of choices

From seating and lounging options to a diverse menu, Blue Water Grill is sure to satisfy

Blue Water Grill's vibrant exterior, which pays homage to its name, has brightened the corner of Grand Avenue and Dearborn Street for less than two years, but General Manager Misty Beazley feels as though it's been the restaurant's home for much longer. "We were drawn to River North because it has a great metropolitan feel," says Beazley.

The B.R. Guest Restaurants family member has a counterpart location in New York and offers an imaginative surf-and-turf menu that Executive Chef Mark Chmielewski oversees. One of the many favorite entrées consistently chosen by guests is the Popcorn Crusted Halibut, and when it comes to sushi rolls, Chmielewski notes, "You can't go wrong here. Chef Hiroshi Takaishi is one of the most inventive sushi chefs in the city—my personal favorite is the Spicy Rock Shrimp Hand Roll."

Sommelier James Kenna has been engrossed in Blue Water Grill's wine selection since its opening. "We pride ourselves on our extensive wine list, and no one knows it better than James," says Beazley.

Blue Water Grill's sexy yet sensibly comfortable interior, designed by Yabu Pushelberg, offers several different areas for guests to enjoy cocktails and the restaurant's fine dining. The full menu is offered at the sushi bar, the first-floor lounge area and the second-floor Starfish Lounge in addition to the main dining areas. Recently, to much success, Blue Water Grill opened an outdoor café that seats up to 40 people along Dearborn Street. Those looking to host a special event can take advantage of the private dining area on the second floor; with its own bar, restrooms and audiovisual capabilities, it accommodates up to 100 guests while retaining the entire restaurant's sophisticated feel. —*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

Blue Water Grill is located at 520 North Dearborn Street. Dinner is served daily; lunch is served Monday through Friday; and brunch is served on Sunday. Valet parking is available. Call 312.777.1400 for more information.



Ingenuity in design

Chicago home designer fuses art and architecture in Lincolnwood home

Armed with a lengthy wish list and some carefully constructed plans, one Chicago-area couple struck gold when they connected with internationally renowned designer John Robert Wiltgen. Wiltgen and his team helped turn the couple's dream home into reality with an exquisitely understated design that offers a variety of unexpected surprises.

Designing their dream

When a Lincolnwood, Ill., couple began their quest for a dream home, they turned to the starting point for most modern-day searches—the Internet. After weeks of research, the couple happened upon the Web site of John Robert Wiltgen (www.jrwdesign.com), a veteran of the design industry for more than 25 years.

Creating exclusive homes for people with discriminating taste is Wiltgen's passion. In 2003, he won an international award for an 11,000-square-foot private residence in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., and designed the sales center and model homes for Toronto's first downtown loft project. A generous string of luxurious condominium residences with Wiltgen's stamp reaches across the country from Los Angeles' Wilshire Corridor to Chicago's Magnificent Mile. Other prominent Wiltgen projects include the multimillion-dollar single-family homes reminiscent of the city founders' mansions on Prairie Avenue and the sophisticated renovation of the lobby of the historic Ambassador West hotel.

Wiltgen's portfolio and accolades spoke for themselves; the couple hired the designer, confident that he could execute the dream home they envisioned.

After acquiring property in an established, upscale suburban neighborhood, the pair decided that the property's older home would be torn down and replaced. They then began meeting with Wiltgen and his team, armed with a detailed wish list.

Their new house, they insisted, must possess several specific elements: a distinctive exterior; a three-car garage not visible from the street; an interior with a timelessly contemporary ambiance; a spacious family room open to the kitchen to accommodate casual entertaining; a breakfast area, a separate dining room and a signature John Robert Wiltgen Design master bedroom.

Wiltgen and his design team worked closely with the owners throughout all phases of the building process

including planning, permitting, demolition of the existing home, interior design and landscaping.

"What we arrived at is a clean, simple design that reflects the owners' good taste and lifestyle," says Wiltgen.

A house of livable luxury

The spacious 5,000-square-foot Lincolnwood home is a testament to Wiltgen's eye for aesthetic appeal and flair for making small details come alive.

Limestone trim, decorative ironwork and three varieties of masonry refine the appearance of a classic façade reminiscent of the work of 15th-century architect Andrea Palladio. Formal landscaping creates a seductive, yet welcoming, ambiance, and one side of the first floor effectively conceals one of Wiltgen's surprises—a side-entry three-car garage.

But the home's distinctive tenor isn't just confined to its exterior; inside, Wiltgen's design prowess is just as evident. The front door opens onto a gallery leading to a stairhall that nods to a Feng Shui principle mandating that a stairway not be visible from a front door. A glass brick wall commands attention, rising from the foundation to the second floor, flooding the space with natural light. The glass-enclosed custom stairway features an iron stringer, black Galaxy granite treads and open risers.

But it is the gourmet kitchen, located between the dining and family rooms, that the wife deems "the heart" of the house. Streaming with afternoon sunlight, the inviting space encourages guests to socialize around the hostess as she prepares a meal and satisfies the couple's desire to entertain.

"My kitchen is everything I ever wanted it to be," she says. "Not only does it work, but it also boasts the drama and style for which Wiltgen is known."

The kitchen's black-and-cream porcelain tile floor anchors the setting, while black-granite counters cap the flat-panel maple cabinets accented with steel-and-glass uppers. In a refined burst of color, the backsplash is finished with harlequin-patterned avocado-colored glass and Crema Marfil mosaic tiles, which complement the green draperies in the breakfast, family and dining rooms. Four pendant lamps hang strategically at varying heights, illuminating the massive island. A peninsula separates the kitchen and family rooms, concealing a 36-inch television and state-of-the-art entertainment equipment.



Classic simplicity and clean, spare lines distinguish the Lincolnwood, Ill., home. Decorative ironwork and metal window frames meld fluidly with the monochromatic color scheme. The formal landscape plan creates an outstanding residence whose beauty is timeless.

Integrating art with architecture and design is the foundation of every John Robert Wiltgen Design project. The casual, yet sophisticated, family room demonstrates this principle—a Frank Gallo paper sculpture dominates one wall, and a contemporary layered resin triptych adds color to another. An oversized, quilted wool sofa accommodates the husband’s 6-foot–4-inch frame, making it a favorite for occasional napping and watching Sunday-night football.

The home’s features are so well appointed that even television networks have taken note. The opulent master bath and dressing room (the size of a three-car garage) have been filmed for an HGTV presentation, and Playboy Enterprises has used the master suite three times including once in a production featured on “E!” Entertainment Television.

“The bedroom always amazes me,” says the wife. “I never tire of walking in and just admiring it.”

The master bath’s marble floor is equipped with a Warm Floor heating system, and an overscaled, jetted tub sits in the center of the room. Marble slabs, a Wiltgen Design signature, frame the doors and windows, highlighting the fusion of luxury with easy maintenance, and a mirror above the vanity reflects the room’s fireplace and artwork.

The home’s lower level includes a private home office and a fully equipped home theater.

“We never feel crowded or rushed. There are areas where it’s good to be together and other places that are perfect for being apart,” says the wife. “It’s truly a wonderful house to experience.”

The home’s distinctive presence on the block regularly prompts unexpected inquiries. The couple says it’s not unusual for a passer-by to ring the doorbell and ask them about the inspiration for their unique abode.

“The credit goes to John [Wiltgen],” the wife explains. “His ingenuity and vision brought us to where we are today.”

The Chicago offices of John Robert Wiltgen Design employ a staff of eight and have been located at 70 West Hubbard Street, next door to the historic Courthouse Place, for 10 years. Wiltgen calls it the “perfect location—close to the Merchandise Mart, many of our vendors and so many wonderful restaurants.”

(Photos by Hedrich Blessing)



A sleek-lined Macassar ebony cocktail table in the form of a two-tiered cross is a strong focal point in the stylish family room.



The sensuous master suite includes a fireplace, an overscaled jetted tub and a heated floor.



Texture—from the smooth granite counter to the two-tone backsplash—plays a starring role in the spacious kitchen.

Unconventional

Law firm promises solutions that work

The lobby of Krasnow Saunders Cornblath, LLP, features a one-hundred-year-old circus poster that depicts three bicyclists riding gingerly around a circular track suspended above a cage of lions. If a cyclist were to tire and slow down or stop, he would fall into the lion's cage and meet certain disaster.

The poster is intended to be a metaphor for businesses, says founding partner Henry Krasnow. Business owners have the endless job of keeping pace with competitors, staying on top of industry advancements and turning risk into opportunity. Like the cyclists, if they slow down, their fate will be to fall into the lion's den of failure.

The poster's prominent position in the lobby reflects the firm's understanding of the challenges its clients face and is a testament to the partners' business philosophy.

"Business owners deserve to get legal advice from lawyers who understand their problems," explains Krasnow. While this may seem obvious, other lawyers' inability to understand their clients' world was, in fact, the impetus for Krasnow to start his own law firm with Lora Sanberg in 1993.

"I had been frustrated for years by the tendency of many good lawyers to think that all businesses find the same kind of advice equally helpful," says Krasnow, noting that the type of advice a privately held company values is often dramatically different from advice that is useful to a publicly held company.

With this in mind, he surrounded himself with senior attorneys who were knowledgeable about both business and law. Fifteen years later, Krasnow Saunders Cornblath now houses thirteen attorneys, seven of them partners. Each of the partners is involved in the business of running the firm, allowing them to "appreciate and understand the challenges and rewards of being a business owner," says Krasnow.

This innovative business model provides more efficient and practical services than the traditional pyramid structure of many law firms that encourages work to be filtered down to a pool of less experienced lawyers. "Oftentimes, in this traditional model, the clients are paying to train a large number of young lawyers whose ambition is to move on to bigger clients," says Sanberg.

The partners have been pleasantly surprised by the receptiveness of the market to the firm's unconventional style. Partner Glen Cornblath notes that while the firm's small size sets it apart, it is the partners' approach to practicing law that is the firm's distinguishing characteristic.

"Even estate planning requires recognizing the special needs of a family-owned or entrepreneurial business," adds partner Francis Beninati. "Wise succession planning can preserve the value of a family business better than a narrow focus on tax savings."

As part of its commitment to providing practical advice that meets its clients' needs, Krasnow Saunders Cornblath operates under the maxim, "There are no small matters, only small lawyers." The firm believes that a good lawyer treats all matters with care, regardless of how many dollars are involved.

"From the client's point of view, most matters are large matters. So, even though they may not involve a lot of money, they are still vital to the client and require the attention of skilled lawyers," says partner David Saunders.

Just as you shouldn't expect to deal with lawyers-in-training at Krasnow Saunders Cornblath, don't wait for meaningless advice either. While many lawyers view their jobs as merely identifying risks, business owners need help fashioning solutions to legal problems.

"Telling a business owner that there's a risk is not very difficult, or very helpful, because business owners face risks every day. The difficult part is to minimize the risk without destroying the opportunity," says partner Fred Kaplan.

A focus on using good business judgment to nurture opportunities keeps clients coming back. And, while the philosophy of the firm was originally geared toward serving small entrepreneurs, not surprisingly, the firm has attracted large publicly held businesses that have an equal appreciation for practical advice and analysis, efficient service and a very personal approach. Today, more than 50 percent of the firm's business is generated from large, publicly held companies.

Advancing certain business opportunities may sometimes require litigation, but the process is never entered into lightly at Krasnow Saunders Cornblath. "Litigation is a way to resolve



A one-hundred-year-old circus poster graphically illustrates the challenges that business owners face.



This witty collection of misspellings displays the lawyers' wry sense of humor.

wisdom

business disputes, not some sort of romantic war,” says partner Charlie Valente. “The goal of litigation ought to be to come to the best practical business solution. Litigation is not a test of moral courage or simply a matter of winning or losing.”

Krasnow is eager to find solutions to avoid litigation and acknowledges that sometimes other experts can solve problems more efficiently than lawyers. He once represented a toy manufacturer who was selling a product using a parody of a well-known celebrity’s name. The celebrity, not wanting his name to be used, sued for an alleged violation of his rights. Although Krasnow felt that his client had a better than 50 percent chance of winning a trial, the expense seemed pointless since the product was not generating much revenue. He suggested that his client’s marketing department develop a promotion with the celebrity.

“We had a joint press conference at a children’s hospital where we gave away the toys. The client got press, the celebrity got press, and we each got more than winning the fight,” says Krasnow.

While vindication is often a client’s initial wish, Sanberg says the firm works with its clients to help them understand that “winning” is not always the best business solution. “It’s amazing how people find that being told, ‘You’re right’ by a judge isn’t nearly as satisfying, or as profitable, as they originally thought, nor was it worth the tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees that it cost,” she says.

Of course, choosing a lawyer can be difficult—it’s hard to immediately determine the future effectiveness of a lawyer/client relationship. Furthermore, it is challenging for clients to figure out whether a particular firm operates in a manner best suited to the client’s interests since distractions can often come in the form of well-publicized names or even sleek offices.

“The key to choosing a good lawyer is to understand that your relationship is complicated and long term—like a marriage,” says Krasnow. “When that relationship isn’t working, the business owner needs to take responsibility for making it work by changing the lawyer’s behavior or by finding another lawyer.” In 2006, Krasnow consolidated his advice in a book published by AgatePro Press. The book, titled, *Your Lawyer: An Owner’s Manual*, serves as a business owner’s guide to finding, managing and motivating attorneys.

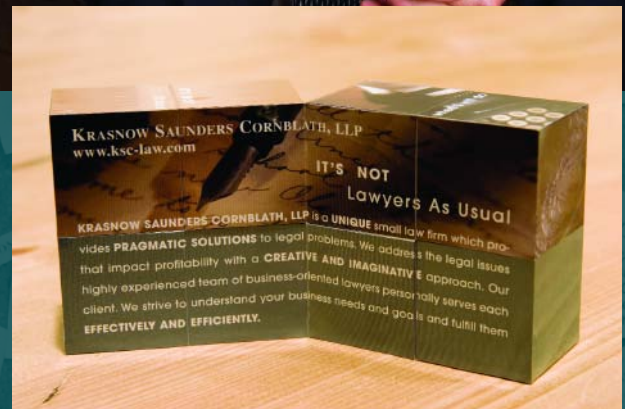
But, for Krasnow, Sanberg and their partners, motivation comes from a deep-rooted interest in business owners’ distinct challenges—a dedication easily seen by their clients.

“I asked one of our clients what they liked about us. They answered, ‘You guys really care about our work and worry about it as much as we do.’ To me, that’s just my job,” says Sanberg. —*Jessa Brinkmeyer*

Krasnow Saunders Cornblath, LLP, has been located in the River North neighborhood at 500 North Dearborn Street since 2000. More information is available online at www.ksc-law.com.



Henry Krasnow with one of the firm’s many alphabet posters collected by firm co-founder Lora Sanberg



An inventive brochure demonstrates the firm’s unconventional approach.

Three ways to get more from your lawyer

1. Avoid thinking that the goal is justice.

Litigation, while exciting drama on television, is, in reality, a means to resolve a dispute. Your only goal should be to make as much (or lose as little) money as possible.

2. If you have no alternatives, you have no problems.

You need a lawyer who will not only identify risks but also outline alternative courses of action to help your business prosper. Insist on honest and creative cost-benefit analysis.

3. Pay less for the same.

Encouraging competition is usually a successful way to get good service for less money, even among lawyers.

*Henry Krasnow’s new book, *Your Lawyer: An Owner’s Manual*, contains more advice on how to get more out of your relationship with your lawyer. It is available through Agate Publishing and online at www.amazon.com.*

(Photos by Lindsey Hedge)

Fostering productivity

office (r)evolution redefines the office workspace



Modular Cabinets by Teknion



Contessa by Teknion



Knepper often tours clients through the company's own office at Courthouse Place to demonstrate how furniture and effective layout can transform a space. (Photo by Lindsey Hedge)

Leverage by Teknion



The everyday office is changing. As studies continue to prove that an office's design affects employee productivity, retention and morale, employers are opting for updated versions of antiquated "cubicle villages."

Since 2001, Chicago-based office (r)evolution has provided businesses with alternatives to that timeworn floor plan. Owners Mark Knepper and Bernie Donaldson offer services including state-of-the-art furniture procurement, furniture space planning and move coordination.

"We're not the 'everything-must-go, overstocked, clearance' type of furniture guys," says Knepper. "We get to know our clients and hope to work with them each time they have furniture needs."

Nearly 80 percent of their clients are companies undergoing a move. "If clients are relocating, the first step is to evaluate their existing furniture, then determine their needs in the new space. Depending on the length of their lease, we try to plan accordingly," says Knepper. "For example, if they have a five-year lease, we ask them how they see their business growing or changing within those five years so we can ensure that they have the space and flexibility to do so."

Unlike the average furniture dealer, office (r)evolution can coordinate several aspects of relocation, from moving the fur-

niture to installing new phone lines. Several businesses on their long list of clients include IBM, the Wrigley Company, 3Com Corporation and Citibank.

office (r)evolution recently outfitted Evanston-based Acquirent LLC with an improved layout and updated accessories such as dry-erase boards within each cubicle and movable stools that double as storage bins.

"We wanted an open environment and culture where people can see, touch and feel the momentum of others around them," says Pete Kadens, CEO of Acquirent. "Our office layout has proven to be conducive to that success."

Depending on the individual business' needs, establishing a new layout and design can take anywhere between one week to a year. "Everything is designed specifically for each client," says Knepper.

In addition to major projects, such as installing moveable walls, low-glare lighting or high-tech meeting rooms, office (r)evolution also equips businesses with individual furniture pieces for quick and simple solutions. office (r)evolution's more than 300 furniture manufacturers include Bernhardt, HumanScale, and David Edward.

Whether they're assisting in a move or redesigning an entire floor plan, Knepper appreciates the opportunity to become personally involved with his clients. "I enjoy the chance to work with people seeking a whole new outlook," he says. "We give them the space to grow and change." —Meredith Landry

office (r)evolution is located at 54 West Hubbard Street. You can learn more about its products and services online at www.office-revolution.com.

John Perconti (left) and Steven Levin



Helping hands

Law firm pioneers changes in medical policies and procedures

Since Steven Levin and John Perconti opened their practice in 1992, they have made a difference one case at a time, not only for their clients but also for entire medical industries.

"We want fair compensation for wrongs suffered, and we want the responsible parties brought to justice, but we also want to make a change in whatever practices caused our clients to suffer a loss," says Levin.

One of the firm's many cases that led to a significant change in the medical industry involved testing for cystic fibrosis. "We discovered, through the course of litigation, that a certain test was basically ineffective in diagnosing the disease, and that people were being given this test and, on that basis, were being told inaccurately that they either did or did not have cystic fibrosis," says Levin. "As a result of the lawsuit, our client received compensation, and the test is also no longer used."

Levin and Perconti pride themselves on their firm's ability to dig as deeply as necessary to develop a firm grasp on the medical knowledge required to win a case.

"What sets us apart from other law firms is our ability to obtain favorable

deposition and trial testimony. We've been repeatedly successful because of our special attention to medical knowledge," says Perconti.

Perconti's commitment to understanding the medical nuances of each case, along with his genuine enjoyment of the learning process, has even earned him the nickname of "the doctor" around the office.

Setting new standards in nursing home care

Levin & Perconti's expertise ranges from cases involving personal injury to medical malpractice. The firm was a pioneer in the area of nursing home neglect when other firms were reluctant to take on such cases, and it has become a national leader in reforming the industry through litigation.

"Unfortunately, the nursing home industry operates below acceptable levels of care in many cases," says Levin.

In one of the settlements the firm negotiated, they were able to force a major nursing home corporation to institute policy and procedural changes that have drastically reduced the incidences of residents leaving the facility undetected.

The firm's Web site (www.levinperconti.com) even features a blog (www.nursinghomelaw.com) about nursing home abuse that contains information on legislation, lawsuits and other relevant topics. "It is meant to be a clearinghouse of information for the long-term care advocacy community, attorneys, assisted care residents and others who are interested in these issues," says Levin.

It is this kind of commitment to long-term change that assures clients that their cases will be handled with extreme care. "We try to limit the number of cases we take on so that we can be highly focused on each client throughout the course of litigation," says Perconti.

"Oftentimes, we encounter individuals in their worst possible circumstances, so we go to great lengths to treat them with the dignity, respect and importance that they deserve," says Levin.

—Jessa Brinkmeyer

Levin & Perconti is located at 325 North LaSalle Street in the Reid-Murdoch Center, a landmark Chicago building overlooking the Chicago River.

(Photos by Lindsey Hedge)

dining • shopping

Bake for Me Bakery and Cafe, 350 North Clark Street
312.644.7750

www.bakeforme.com

Bake for Me Bakery and Cafe serves up fresh pastries, baked goods and breakfast daily. Come here and experience what it tastes like when someone bakes just for you!

Ballo, 445 North Dearborn Street
312.832.7700

Ballo offers a fresh dining option with its contemporary twist on Italian comfort foods and upbeat ambiance—complete with disco ball, lively music and Italian-themed films playing on flat-screen televisions. The restaurant is part of the Rosebud family and offers some of the group's signature dishes on its menu, which changes daily. Selections include made-to-order pizzas, family style entrées and Ballo's signature dish, Mama's Meatballs. A full wine cellar and full-service bar make Ballo the perfect juxtaposition of a great restaurant and fun loving nightspot.

BATON **Baton Show Lounge**, 436 North Clark Street
312.644.5269
www.thebatonshowlounge.com

For 38 years, this River North establishment has hosted Las Vegas-style revues, featuring characterizations of celebrities from Joan Crawford to Madonna. Don't be surprised if you see someone famous seated in a nearby aisle as well. Professional athletes and Hollywood hipsters are known to stop by for a show—the longest running revue of its kind in North America.

BEN PAO **Ben Pao**, 52 West Illinois Street
312.222.1888
www.benpao.com

The name means fireworks, and culinary excitement is just what this restaurant delivers. Ben Pao's recipes bring together China's five traditional flavors—tart, sweet, spicy, salty and bitter—to create pan-Asian cuisine prepared using both traditional and contemporary cooking styles. With its black-and-red bi-level dining room and granite-backed waterfalls, the restaurant's beautiful décor completes this exotic dining experience.

blue water grill **Blue Water Grill**
520 North Dearborn Street
312.777.1400
www.brguestrestaurants.com

Recently named Best New Seafood Restaurant by *Chicago* magazine, Blue Water Grill serves up fresh fish and savory steak dishes in a seductive setting. Watermarked steel, antique mirrors and sculpted wood panels form the basis of Yabu Pushelberg's sexy, yet comfortable, design. Executive Chef Mark Chmielewski's surf-and-turf menu and Sushi Chef Hiroshi Takaishi's imaginative creations are sure to satisfy any craving.

BRASSERIE **Brasserie JO**, 59 West Hubbard Street
312.595.0800
www.brasseriejo.com

This traditional brasserie offers specialties from the charismatic chef's native Alsace. A wide variety of French and Belgian beer as well as French wines are available from behind the stunning zinc-topped bar.

Corner Bakery Cafe, 56 West Randolph Street
312.346.9492
www.cornerbakerycafe.com

A favorite of downtown lunch crowds, this popular counter-service deli specializes in sandwiches, pizzas and salads. Take home the café's fresh-baked breads and desserts.

David Burke's Primehouse, 616 North Rush Street
312.660.6000
www.davidburke.com

David Burke brings his signature New York style to The James Hotel, offering a wide variety of gourmet food and creative flavors in a luxurious setting.

Einstein Bros. Bagels, 682 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe
847.835.9885

www.einsteinbros.com

Famous for their bagels and baked goods, Einstein Bros. Bagels offers healthy options for every meal.



Frankie Z's Clark Bar, 435 North Clark Street
312.329.0500

Before there was a River North, there was Frankie Z's. Open at 435 N. Clark St. for almost 30 years, Frankie Z's offers casual drinking and dining in a relaxed atmosphere. Open for lunch and late-night dining Monday through Friday with daily food and drink specials. Saturday opens at 7 p.m.

Frontera Grill, 445 North Clark Street
312.661.1434

www.fronterakitchens.com

Attached to award-winning Mexican restaurant Topolobampo, Frontera Grill is a casual dining room serving lunchtime fare.

Fulton's on the River, 315 North LaSalle Street
312.822.0100

www.levyrestaurants.com

Fulton's on the River presents the finest prime-aged steaks and the freshest seafoods served at a remarkable riverfront location. Find exceptional service and an extensive selection of wine and cocktails.



FEATURED ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION

Howl at the Moon
26 West Hubbard Street
312.863.7427
www.howlatthemoon.com

It's a singing, clapping, stomping, dance-on-the-piano, rock 'n' roll, dueling piano show! Part piano bar, part sing-along, Howl at the Moon's entertainment centers around two baby grand pianos and a show format that ensures audience participation. It's a place where you'll find "friends you have not met yet," and once you've visited its location in Chicago, you may find that Howl at the Moon becomes your hangout away from home, too. With 10 locations around the country, Howl at the Moon is the perfect place to unwind for the frequent flier. Check out Howl at the Moon's one-of-a-kind dueling piano show Sunday–Thursday at 7:45 p.m., Friday at 5:45 p.m. and Saturday at 6:45 p.m. Howl at the Moon also specializes in corporate parties of 10–400 people with full-service catering packages, customized company songs and the most unique experience your co-workers have ever had. Contact April Wolcott at 312.863.7427 to plan your next event.

India House, 59 West Grand Avenue
312.645.9500

A dazzling array of traditional Indian dishes, wines and authentic Indian beers is sure to please both the experienced epicurean adventurer and the first timer.

Maggiano's Little Italy, 516 North Clark Street & Maggiano's Grand Banquets, 111 West Grand Avenue
312.644.7700

www.maggianos.com

The flagship original that launched a national franchise, Maggiano's is a Chicago family tradition known for huge portions, extensive menu options and a bustling crowd.

NAHA, 500 North Clark Street
312.321.6242

www.naha-chicago.com

Contemporary American dishes with whispers of the Mediterranean and an elegantly understated décor combine to create a winning restaurant that consistently receives rave reviews for its fresh fare.

entertainment

Outback Steakhouse, 8101 West Higgins Road
773.380.0818

Conveniently located by O'Hare Airport, the Outback Steakhouse offers tasty family fare at great prices.



FEATURED DINING DESTINATION

Petterino's
150 North Dearborn Street
312.422.0150
www.leye.com

Named after Arturo Petterino, the longtime maitre d' of Chicago's famed Pump Room, Petterino's pays homage to past, present and future Chicago legends. Chicago's premiere theater dining destination and lunch club, Petterino's menu features an extensive list of "comfort foods" and Chef Marc Bernard's newest creations. In addition to the regular lunch and dinner menu, the restaurant offers pretheater and after-work specials as well as power lunches for the downtown business community.

"Right around the corner" at 50 W. Randolph St., Petterino's Parties offers private dining facilities just minutes from "Loop" businesses, State Street shopping and Millennium Park attractions. Petterino's private dining facilities offer guests a flexible environment, perfect for business, political and social events with group sizes ranging from 6 to 300 and everywhere in between.

Petterino's is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday and dinner only on Sunday. Call 312.422.0150 to make your reservation or inquire about private dining.

Pops for Champagne, 601 North State Street at Ohio
312.266.7677

www.popsforchampagne.com

Located in historic Tree Studios, Pops for Champagne offers over 100 bottles of champagne and sparkling wines in a uniquely designed "champagne bar," along with an intimate, live music club featuring the best of Chicago's live jazz entertainment.

Potbelly Sandwich Works, 508 North Clark Street
312.644.9131

www.potbelly.com

This cozy restaurant offers a vibrant, fun atmosphere and serves made-to-order toasted sandwiches, shakes and home-made desserts.



Rockit Bar & Grill, 22 West Hubbard Street
312.645.6000

www.rockitbarandgrill.com

Rockit—it's a verb not a noun. The place to see and be seen in Chicago, Rockit offers an unconventional twist on favorite bar foods in a relaxed but highly trendy setting.



Ruth's Chris Steak House

431 North Dearborn Street

312.321.2725

www.ruthschris.com

This luxurious steakhouse has become a favorite destination for business people and those looking to have a special evening out on the town. From the U.S. Prime steaks, broiled to perfection, to the unforgettable desserts and award-winning wine list, this is the steakhouse to which others aspire.

Shaw's Crab House, 21 East Hubbard Street

312.527.2722

www.shawscrabhouse.com

Shaw's Main Dining Room offers an à la carte menu serving

more than 40 fresh seafood entrées as well as chicken, beef and pasta dishes. An adjoining oyster bar features Pacific Northwest and Atlantic Northeast oysters shucked to order and served on the half-shell.

Singha Thai Restaurant, 350 North Clark Street
312.467.0300

Enjoy the culture and cuisine of Thailand right in the heart of River North. Combining ancient recipes with modern flavors, Singha Thai Restaurant serves inventive and delicious food at low prices.

Starbucks Coffee, 430 North Clark Street
312.670.3920

Located on one of the busiest corners in Chicago, this Seattle-based coffeehouse sets the standard for designer drinks and great coffee. This location now serves light breakfast and lunch items for those on the go.

Three Tarts Bakery and Café
301 South Happ Road, Northfield
847.446.5444

www.threetartsbakery.com

This high-quality neighborhood bakery serves everything from breakfast pastries to café lunches; afternoon tea items to wedding and special-occasion cakes.

Topolobampo, 445 North Clark Street
312.661.1434

www.fronterakitchens.com

Rick Bayless' seminal restaurant provides some of the finest Mexican dining in the city in an elegant, but relaxed, setting. Authentic regional cuisine is served by a knowledgeable staff that helps diners navigate their cross-border culinary adventure.

RETAIL COMMUNITY

Active Endeavors, Glencoe
Bloomington's Home Store, Chicago
Canvassback, Northfield
Champagne Furniture Gallery, Chicago
Citibank, Chicago
Design Within Reach, Chicago
Epoch Floral, Chicago
FedEx/Kinko's, Chicago
Fit To Be Tied, Northfield
Hana K, Glencoe
Hildt Galleries, Chicago
Hooray Array, Northfield
Hubbard Street Hair Studio, Chicago
LaSalle National Bank, Chicago
Le Magasin, Chicago
Lehman School of Dance, Northfield
Lori's Shoes, Northfield
Mecox Gardens, Chicago
Metropolitan Capital Bank, Chicago
Michael Anthony Salon, Chicago
Nicchia, Glencoe
North Bank, Chicago
North Shore Soccer and More, Northfield
Oil & Vinegar, Chicago
P.O.S.H., Chicago
Peachtree Place, Northfield
River North Travel, Chicago
Sherwin's, Northfield
Staples, Chicago
The Equinox, Chicago
The Golden Triangle, Chicago
The Travel Oasis, Chicago
Thomas Moser Cabinetmakers, Chicago
Ursula's Hair Salon, Northfield
Walgreens, Chicago

Join us...

...as we work to preserve
the landmarks of the past
and build the communities
of tomorrow.

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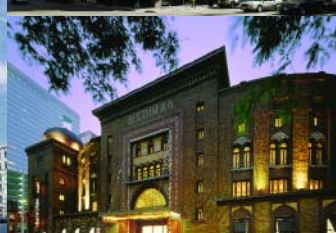
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Building the future