

## Heard on the street

It's like O'Hare. You have to figure out where you're going and what you want.

I did it...no, I busted it.

Why is it \$2.67?

That's cheap, what the hell?

The devil is coming!

I'm 67 and I still don't need Viagra.

It was a rearranged marriage.

I'd like a skinny Italian.

Suzanne, nobody eats at Burger King.

Look, sailors!

Wanna give them blowjobs?

So Bob Marley's son gave your friend a ride home?

I'm kind of a delinquent father.

She sounds like Dracula.

These are peeing patrons!

I was afraid if I opened the door, the garage would fall down.

Go there, they speak your language all day.

How many terrorists are there?

I just woke up and I still can't feel my fingers.



**POP ART** Area residents and business owners reacting to popping balloons are part of "Mobile Exhibitions."



## Freight fest

A local artist mounts a neighborhood-focused art exhibit in three moving trucks in Humboldt Park. By **Leah Pietrusiak**

"One morning I woke up and there were three moving trucks on Maplewood, it was like a menagerie of reverse tones and you're like, 'What the heck is going on?'" says John Song, an artist who moved to Humboldt Park about a year ago.

Shortly after the incident, Song decided to organize "Mobile Exhibitions," a show on Sunday 15 that features three 24-foot moving trucks parked in lots around Humboldt Park, each filled with art installations inspired by common neighborhood sights and made from materials specific to the area. Truck 3 will have piñatas of pigeons, rabbits and rats made out newspaper. Truck 2 will feature a plywood bench, column and two pedestals—typical elements of an art gallery—treated to look like someone has blasted graffiti off of them. And in Truck 1 visitors will find photographic portraits of 22 Humboldt Park residents, their expressions captured after Song popped a balloon (to get a "natural reaction"). In the middle of the floor will be a collection of helium balloons containing answers to questions Song asked his subjects about the past, present and future of Humboldt Park. Longtime business owner John Roeser of Roeser's Bakery at North and Kedzie Avenues talked about his "commitment to revitalizing the Humboldt Park community as the beautiful family neighborhood it is,

rather than the negativity brought by an incident 30 years ago," referring to the riots that erupted during the first Puerto Rican Day parade after a young man was shot by police. Chris Furman, a kinetic artist who has a studio on California Avenue, said, "I don't miss the gunshots; I'm seeing more and more baby strollers and dogs...." And Victor Montanez, special-projects coordinator at Roberto Clemente High School at Western Avenue and Division Street offered, "I miss the energy of 1985 to the 1990s in Humboldt Park; there was a real sense of urgency—music, smells, politics. Everything was urgent."

While Song had initially sought out thoughts on the ongoing development of

the area, he discovered residents' sensitivity to the subject, so he stuck with the notion that ultimately drove him to do the project. "I just had this basic idea that I should introduce myself to community members," Song says.

Walk into "Mobile Exhibitions" on Sunday 15. ● Truck 1: 11 am–1:40 pm at 2514 W Division St, 2–4:45 pm at 1301 N Western Ave, 5–8 pm at 1601 N Western Ave. ● Truck 2: 11 am–1:40 pm at 2514 W Division St, 2–4:45 pm at 3000 W North Ave, 5–8 pm at 1601 N Western Ave. ● Truck 3: 11 am–1:40 pm at 2514 W Division St, 2–4:45 pm at 2440 W North Ave, 5–8 pm at 1601 N Western Ave.



**PAPER TAILS** Newspaper animal piñatas from Truck 3 of "Mobile Exhibitions."



## What Would Oprah Do?

Past quotes offer clues to how she'd weigh in on current events

### Should Dusty Baker stay in baseball?

"In the beginning I was just so grateful to have a job. Then I started thinking, 'What is going to work for me? The greatest decision I made was to own myself, so I became my own entrepreneur—the decision to take the show and take the risks that come with ownership, as well as all the benefits that come with ownership.' \*

\* In a September 27 speech to the Women's Business Development Center in Chicago, quoted in the Chicago Sun-Times.