



CHICAGO BUSINESS
— POWERED BY CRAIN'S —

[Print Story](#)

Printed from [ChicagoBusiness.com](#)

[Home](#) > [This Week's Crain's](#) > [News](#) >

From this week's In Other News

Shops and SWATs on Mag Mile during summits

By: [Shia Kapos](#) January 09, 2012

[ShareThis](#)

[Tweet](#) 22

[Share](#)

[Print](#) | [Email](#) | [4 comments](#)



SHIA KAPOS TAKES NAMES

When the world's most important leaders converge on Chicago for the G8 and NATO summits, the most elite marksmen will, too.

State and local SWAT teams have been surveying buildings around Michigan Avenue, the Loop, McCormick Place and O'Hare International Airport looking for the best views of streets, sidewalks and nearby buildings.

"They'll be able to shoot the head off a nickel from 500 feet," according to a source close to planning the events.

"It's natural for us to take a survey and to pinpoint where a threat may come from," adds a U.S. Secret Service spokesman who says the agency has started walk-throughs of building locations that will be used for the conferences. The agency is overseeing law-enforcement details for the events.

Sharpshooters are necessary for the many motorcades packed with heads of state going from meeting to meeting—and party to party, a source says.

At least 28 countries will be represented at the NATO (May 15-22) and the overlapping G8 (May 19-20) gatherings. But often, many more countries attend.

Given the thousands of protesters expected, too, it seems a logistical nightmare for law enforcement. There will be hundreds of personnel from the U.S. Secret Service, FBI, Illinois State Police, out-of-state law enforcement agencies and the military, along with the officers assigned from the Chicago Police Department's 13,000-member force.

Those behind the badge say the same state-of-the-art camera network used to bag speeders will help keep track of the crowds.

"It's a valuable asset," a law-enforcement official says. "It's one of the many tools for law enforcement to use on a regular day or for an event of this size."



Love art? There's an app for that

Husband-wife entrepreneurs **Russ Rosenzweig** and **Lucy Liu**, above, have created an app for art lovers intimidated by the heady gallery scene.

The ArtBarcs app allows users to scroll through pictures and click their preferences—much the way Pandora works

' They'll be able to shoot the head off a nickel from 500 feet.'

for music.

The couple came up with their high-tech venture after hosting an artist-in-residency program at their home, the Florsheim Mansion in Chicago's Gold Coast.

After artists worked in the couple's guest house, "we'd invite friends and neighbors and have a Friday night meet-and-greet with the artist. These were people who appreciate art," says Mr. Rosenzweig, who last year made a small fortune when he sold his Round Table Group expert-witness search company to Reuters.

In those gatherings, Mr. Rosenzweig came to realize "people with plenty of money are intimidated by going to art galleries."

So, just as he did with his Round Table business—connecting experts with lawyers for court cases—Mr. Rosenzweig found a way to connect individuals with art through their iPads or laptops.

Ms. Liu, an artist with a business background, "curated" the program by finding artwork from the top living artists in the world.

► [Read more of Shia Kapos on her blog.](#)

© 2012 by Crain Communications Inc.

ShareThis

Tweet 22

Share

Print | Email | [Comments](#)

What do you think?

Ryan W. wrote:

"They'll be able to shoot the head off a nickel from 500 feet."

This is a much friendlier quote than "They'll be able to shoot through the skull of a Chicagoan and also kill anyone standing in a straight line behind him."

1/9/2012 9:01 AM CST

[Recommend \(1\)](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

[Permalink](#)

Ida J. wrote:

Jeff B. @ 8:02 AM,

ROTF! Very cute u-tube! Crayon Tubek must be the actress's stage name because I can't imagine parents naming their baby girl "Crayon".

In the same vein, albeit a bigger and more serious production is the old movie, *Guarding Tess*, with Shirley McLaine playing a fictional former First Lady who treats her Secret Service detail like the hired help. It's filled with humor and sorrow, the lead actors both have their consciousness raised in this comedic thriller. Nicholas Cage, Special Agent, chafes and has to have his ruffled feathers soothed by the fictional current President who keep reminding Cage about the importance of keeping Tess safe and happy. There is also a Hitchcock-like suspense/mystery narrative that keeps you interested and entertained until the story's plot is revealed. McLaine and Gage make a fine couple, the script and the acting are inspired, the direction and cinematography are first-rate.

Pass the popcorn!

1/8/2012 5:35 PM CST

[Recommend \(1\)](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

[Permalink](#)

Ida J. wrote:

Hosting this event will set a precedent for that high-level conferences, both here and abroad, can work.

I think we need a GOOD COP-Bad Cop approach to dealing with security for the G8 and NATO summits. I completely agree with the extraordinary law enforcement protocols being put into place. World leaders need this increased protection because they are viewed as the enemy of the middle-class and all it takes is one mentally-ill malcontent to ruin an event. I think of Gabrielle Giffords and the tragedy where so many were killed or injured by a solitary madman.

I want the definition of security for the G8/NATO meeting broadened to include making sure that the protestors have a way to be seen and heard.

I suggest we prepare a WELCOME PROTESTOR'S CENTER. Similar to the Chicago Visitor's Center (located on Randolph across from the Library) but tailored to the needs of protestors who are legitimately wanting to be seen and heard. I recall when white supremacists marched on Skokie they were met with tables of lemonade, iced-tea, and cookies. Bringing out the snacks did alot to diffuse the anger and tone down the rhetoric. Tthe protestors went home, sated.

The national and international business community, the participating governments, should fund this effort. I don't want broken windows and molotov cocktails on Michigan Avenue. I don't want workers, shoppers, students and other visitors to be afraid or threatened.

1. Organizing should begin immediately. Fundraising, finding a location for the Welcome Protestor's Center, deciding what services the Welcome Protestor's Center will provide, and training personnel (mostly college student volunteers), media relations.
2. I suggest that at least a month before the first summit, approximately April 15, the City begin sending out press releases to the national and international media about Chicago's "Welcome Protestor's Center". I suggest also using the social media networks to announce and update about Chicago's Welcome Protestor's Center.
3. I suggest that we open the Welcome Protestor's Center at least 24 hours before the first summit and stay open 24 hours after the summits, to make sure that people coming to Chicago to protest arrive and depart with ease.
4. The Welcome Protestor's Center would coordinate with law enforcemen and the ACLU to ensure that those who have come here to protest know they can exercise their right to protest if they follow a few basic rules beginning with respecting the rights of others to conduct their daily business without interference.

I want to be hired to do this job. Because that's how I know it will be done professionally and successfully without political gamesmanship. Team Emanuel can contact me. Rahm was my Congressman and I believe he remembers me, because we worked together on passing some legislation that I wrote.

Shia, thanks for the info, I sent Flip an e-mail. I'll keep you posted.

1/8/2012 4:38 PM CST

[Recommend \(2\)](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

[Permalink](#)

Jeff B. wrote:

Some will call this more Big Brother, but I'm fine with these steps as natural aspects of the protection of the president and visiting foreign dignitaries that is required regularly. But it is worth noting, these aren't the only Secret Service agents in Chicago doing less sexy grunt work, as this funny YouTube video shows. It basically asks, "When the President is away, will the mice play?" Enjoy: <http://tinyurl.com/6sevqsj>

1/8/2012 8:02 AM CST

[Recommend \(3\)](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

[Permalink](#)

You must be logged in to leave a comment. [Login](#) | [Register](#)

Submit

(Note: Your first name and last initial will appear with your remarks.)

Advertisement