

South Street Journal

25th Anniversary

News serving and for: Grand Boulevard (Bronzeville), Douglas, Oakland, Kenwood, Woodlawn, Washington Park, Near South, Gap, Fuller Park, Armour Square

Vol. 2 No. 2

October 13 - 19, 1994

KOCO Plans Demonstration charging Ald. Preckwinkle lack to support low-income Housing

As the Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (KOCO) prepares for their 24th annual community convention on October 22, the 29-year-old organization is leading a demonstration to their commitment to moderate-income housing with a neighborhood march on Saturday, October 15 beginning at 10 a.m. at the northeast corners of 47th St. and Lake Park Ave.

KOCO's Executive Director Bob Lucas said the organization is planning the march because because Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (4th) is not working for the best interest of the people in terms of providing affordable housing for low to moderate-income residents.

Lucas said in spite of Ald. Preckwinkle approving 60 homes (ranging in price from \$139,000 to \$242,000) built in North Kenwood-Oakland



Bob Lucas, Kenwood Oakland Community Organization

(of which KOCO is not opposed) she has repeatedly refused to approve housing proposals for moderate-income housing ranging in price from \$70,000 to \$95,000.

With hundreds of able bodied men and women in Kenwood-Oakland and the 4th ward eager to work, she refuses to make it possible for them to work in their own community and ward, but will allow builders and developers to import workers into North Kenwood-Oakland-not only form the city but in some instances, from out of state, said Lucas.

"Now, Ald. Preckwinkle has cut the moderate-and low income people out of the process, the very people that sacrificed the time for more than a year by first creating a neighborhood plan, then a conservation plan," he said.

Lucas equates that with "helping to make a cake, and when it's done you are told that you cannot have any."

Lucas further stated, "the irony is that Ald. Preckwinkle co-sponsored the much heralded city-sponsored affordable housing and jobs

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Community Wins first Battle to Save Supreme Life Building

The former Supreme Life Insurance Building at 35th & King Dr. is the center of controversy among Grand Boulevard residents, community organizations, Alderman Madeline Haithcock (2nd), and a developer who wants to demolish it to build a store with parking spaces.

Residents and organizations attended an October 12 meeting at Hartzell Memorial Chapel, 3330 S. King Dr. and voiced their opposition to the sale of the building to the developers.

The building, owned by several stockholders including Johnson Publishing Co. CEO/founder John H. Johnson, is under contract to be purchased by Del Ray

Farms. Stefan Kaluzy and Constantine Mihas, owners of Del Ray Farms, want to demolish the



Supreme Life Building at 35th and King Drive was the center of community attention in keeping it an historic building oppose to a

Supreme Building to build an 11,000-square-foot store with parking spaces. The store, which would sale vegetables, fresh fruit, meats, and seafood, would also employ 40 people.

The prospective owners of the property presented their proposal at the meeting and addressed the community's issues and concerns.

Mid-South Planning and Development Commission (MSPDC), which is leading the restoration effort, is calling on Johnson, "to come back home to promote the Restoring Bronzeville campaign." They are also asking that the historic Supreme Life

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21st CENTURY VOTE: Address Media Charge on Gang Activities

by Yohance Lacour
SSJ Writer

21st Century V.O.I.E., (Voices Of Total Empowerment) an organization that has been involved with everything from food drives to drug treatment programs throughout the city and concentrating in areas of Mid-South, has been under heavy fire by the media in recent weeks.

Both local and national coverage has alleged that they are somehow a front for illegal gang

activity and Larry Hoover, incarcerated leader of the Gangster Disciples, (Hoover letter on page 7) is secretly heading the organization from jail as a means of rallying political support for personal purposes.

Wallace "Gator" Bradley, of United In Peace, denies all such charges. "How can Hoover secretly run 21st Century VOTE, it's impossible," he exclaimed.

"The white power structure is upset because he is a powerful voice in the community, and

(he) is telling kids to take the ballot over the bullet. How can they be criticized for that while Oliver North, who has personally been tried for treason, can run for political office with no questions asked. There is an obvious double standard at work here," Bradley concluded.

Peg Wander, director of Public Relations for the Urban League, said, "Our experiences with them has been strictly voter registration and job placement oriented. We've seen no indication of any illegal activity whatsoever." Patrick, a resident of Grand Boulevard feels, "21st Century VOTE is inspiring to a lot of people, hopefully it will keep organizing,

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File Photo

L to r, seated Dwayne Harris, Chairman, 21st Century VOTE, Jerry Washington, Political Consultant; Alderman Alan Street (17); Thomas Harris, Political Consultant, 21st Century VOTE. Standing, 21st Century VOTE members, Ted McNeal, Aesha Muhammad, Patricia Hogan, Charles Kellogg, Derrick McClain and Charles Harris.

Old Bronzeville, the historic South Side African American community, will be remembered and "new" Bronzeville will be envisioned by Mid-South neighbors who walk to benefit 11 community hunger programs on the second annual 10K Mid-South Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 23, 1994.

The walk will begin and end at St. James United Methodist Church, 4611 S. Ellis Ave. Registration is at 1p.m. and will step-off at 2 p.m.

Organizations receiving funds are: First Presbyterian Church soup kitchen, Holy Angels Food Pantry, Hyde Park and Kenwood Interfaith Council hunger programs, Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization Food Pantry, Lutheran Family Services, Matthew House Supportive Service Center, St. Catherine's Catholic Worker House, St. Gelasius Church Food Pantry, and Church World Ser-

Walk Through Historic Bronzeville To Benefit Hunger Programs

vice.

"Bronzeville was a self-contained community," said Timuel Black, a life-long resident of the Mid-South area. "We didn't have to go outside the community to shop, to do our banking, or to be entertained. You greeted such notables as "Duke" Ellington, Louis Armstrong, or Ella Fitzgerald on the street after hearing them live the evening before in the local clubs. It was a wonderfully enriching and educational environment."

Organizers for the walk are the recipient agencies in collaboration with Partners in Community Development. The co-chairs of the event are Rev. Sonya Rickette of Matthew House Supportive Services, 36th & Giles, and Rev. Janet Hopkins, pastor of St. James

United Methodist Church, 46th & Ellis.

According to Rev. Susan Johnson, pastor of Hyde Park Union Church and vice-president of Partners in Community Development, "the Mid-South Hunger Walk is a community-building event which fits closely with PICD's mission to overcome barriers of race, religion, and geographic boundaries."

Each walker will receive an annotated brochure/map which identifies building and sites of structure that no longer exist. Along the route, walkers can identify the home of blues legend Muddy Waters; the oldest building in the community; sites of jazz and blues clubs; the center of the Black Metropolis commercial district; and the oldest African-American churches in Chicago.

highlight some of the planned redevelopment in the area of the walk.

Last year more than 500 walkers raised \$14,000 to support seven Mid-South organizations with hunger programs.

Broad based sponsorship has been received from corporate supporters such as Cole Taylor Bank, Drexel National Bank, First National Bank of Chicago, Hyde Park Bank and Trust Company, and University National Bank. Timothy Goodsell, president, Hyde Park Bank, is the honorary treasurer.

Pledge sheets and additional information can be obtained by calling 924-1126, the offices of Partners in Community Development.

Pat Dowell-Cerasoli, executive director of Mid-South Planning and Development Commission, will

The UnZipped

Many Black activists are saying one of the biggest problems is not racism, but Black fronts. On the CTA Green Line, a Black company has all white carpenters and less than 50% of its unskilled labor is black and Hispanic... Seems he gets his directions from McHugh Construction.

Watch out for Ziff Sistrunk, he has been collecting money in the name of South Street Journal. Could he be going back to his old ways?

Ziff and Tillman?? Last seen, Ziff was meeting with the alderman. Word is Tillman called a few 3rd Ward candidates together to question their decision to run against her. WATCH OUT Tillman, ZIFF might ZAPP you.

Other political stuff.

Maurice Perkins of Inner City Youth Foundation got company in his bid to replace **4th Ward Alderman Toni Preckwinkle**. Black Haitian immigrant, **Kwame Raoul**, Assistant State's Attorney seems he has the backing of activist **Mark Allen**. Raoul ought to be running for State's Attorney with his lofty law credentials.

In the 2nd Ward, It is stated that the People for **Martha H. Palmer** are drafting **Martha H. Palmer** as their candidate for 2nd ward Alderman. Is **Alderman Haithcock** aware of this?

So much for building Black businesses. It has been reported that the 35th Street Plaza is considering demolishing much of its north end.

The last standing store on 55th and King Drive is closing. People who have clothes in this cleaners better get their belongings before they are sold.

Where is Joe Tillman? He's at Operation PUSH.

With 7,000 votes for the young blood **Earl King** for President of the oldest organization- NAACP, has the elders **Vernon Jarrett** and **Rev. Wilfred Reid** reaching out for troops, such as **Rev. Arthur Brazier** and **Rev. Clay Evans** for support. Seems like the oldest organization may stay old.



Community Briefs

Providence Hospital

Opens New Pediatric Playroom.

Representatives from Provident Hospital of Cook County and Marshall Field's opened the doors to the hospital's new pediatric playroom, designed and decorated by the retailer. The playroom was renovated to create a more child-friendly environment for the hospital's youngest patients. Marshall Field's offered to decorate the playroom last June when associates visited the hospital to make a donation of 150 teddy bears to the pediatric department.

Rep. Rush and Reynolds Commended For Support of LIHEAP

The Campaign to Keep America Warm commended the efforts of Reps. Bobby L. Rush (1st. Dist.) and Mel Reynolds (2nd Dist.) in providing adequate funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for this fiscal year.

President Clinton had recommended cutting funding for LIHEAP by 50 percent to \$750 million. The Congress recently approved and the President has signed into law legislation providing \$1.319 billion for the program, which is only a nine percent reduction from last year's funding level.

LIHEAP provides energy assistance grants to needy families and individuals in all 50 states to help them maintain basic utility services. The program provided assistance to more than 5.2 million households last year.

The State of Illinois received \$81,901,740 in LIHEAP assistance last year and will receive \$75,175,969 this year.

Rush and Reynolds were presented with a plaque by the Campaign in acknowledgment of their support of LIHEAP.

Robert Taylor Resident Nominated for Commissioner on CHA Board

Ms. Ida Torry, has lived in Taylor Homes for 22 years, was nominated by the Illinois Statewide Public Housing Residents Coalition (ISPHRC) name Ms. Torry on their meeting on October 15th, as one of the three tenants as a Commissioner on the Chicago Housing Authority board.

ISPHRC was successful in 1991 in getting the State legislature to pass a bill requiring three resident as commissioners on the CHA board. Since that time they have been working with CHA and the Mayor's Office to establish a fair, democratic process to select the

commissioners.

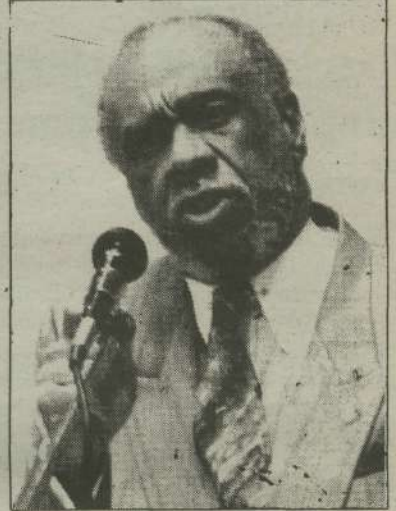
ISPHRC reported that representatives of CHA went to the Central Advisory Council board (CHA official tenants organization) and urged them to nominate two commissioners with out input from the other CHA residents. CAC has said that CAC is the representation of CHA residents and do not need all residents to vote on the nomination process.

Torry has been an active volunteer in her building as long as she has lived there. She is currently the building rep and is on the Tenant Patrol. Ms. Torry is also an active participant in the statewide public housing coalition and went to Springfield last spring to fight for better rights for public housing residents.

Atty Thomas Todd to speak at CBUC/BIPO "Dump Daley"

Rally, Holds Roll call on Black elected officials.

Noted Atty. Thomas N. Todd will be the key note speaker at the Chicago Black United Communities "Dump Daley Rally" on Saturday, October 15th, 2:00 pm at Bethel AME Church 44th and Michigan Ave. CBUC will be directing their attention to Black elected officials in a roll call of accountability based on the presence to indicate their position.



Att. Thomas N. Todd

City Offers Fall Clean-up Tools.

Rakes, brooms, and other tools will be loaned to block clubs and other community agencies for an autumn citywide clean up later this month. "Clean & Green Day" is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 22. In addition to the clean-up tools, the city will provide free paint for covering over graffiti and improving the appearance of light poles, according to Streets and Sanitation Commissioner Eileen Carey. Information on registering for the equipment and supplies is available from the Mayor's Office of Inquiry and Information at 744-5000, a 24-hour number. The TDD number for persons with impaired hearing is 744-8599.

Oct. Calendar of Events



Friday, 14

Dedication of Bill Berry (former present of Urban League) Park begins at 10 a.m. at 31st & the Lakefront. Park was a former president of the Urban League. Friends of the Park, Urban League, Ald. Madeline Haithcock (4th), Mid-South Planning and Development Commission, and Chicago Park District.

Saturday, 15

"Youth Leadership and Reclamation" community workshop from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Parkway Community House. Topics include: Conflict Mediation and Resolution; Positive Male/Female Relationships; and Transformation: From Banging To Community E. werment. Call 568-1243 or 493-1306 for information.

Monday, 17

New Structure Organization weekly meeting begins at 6:30 pm at 5659 S. Indiana Ave. Call J. Thomas at 324-5256.

Tuesday, 18

The Chicago Black United Communities hold their weekly meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. at 330 E. 37th Street.

Mid-South Planning and Development Commission General Meeting at the King Center begins at 6:30 p.m.

Winners of the 1994 U.S.- Africa Project fellowships sponsored by The Ragdale Foundation will present and discuss their works at the DuSable Museum of African History, 740 E. 56th Place. Numerous featured writers from the U.S. and Africa are scheduled to speak. Admission \$3.

The Youth Consortium of Greater Grand Blvd. meets at 3 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 4100 S. King Dr.

Wednesday, 19

The rewards and benefits of being a Foster

Parent can last a life time. Attend the free foster parent orientation meeting at 7 p.m. at 10 W. 35th St., 6th fl. Call 554-4589, a 24-hour hotline.

35th Street-Gateway Citizens Committee weekly community meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church, 3330 S. King Dr. They are open to all residents in the Near South and Grand Boulevard areas. For info. call 548-2000 or 924-0014.

Chicago 3rd Police District CAPS Action Plan meeting for businessmen, clergy, academic administrators, and recreational facility directors begins at 7:30 a.m. at South Side YMCA, 63rd & Stony Island. Call neighborhood relations at 747-7004.

Friday, 21

Internationally renowned jazz violinist and stylist **Sonya Robinson** and special guest perform in concert at the DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Pl. at 7 p.m. She will also conduct free classes for local high school students. For tickets and class information, call 312-947-0600 ext. 223.

Saturday, 22

"Teaching the History of Slavery" at DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Pl. Dr. Arnold Taylor, professor of history at Howard University discusses the significance of incorporating the teaching of slavery and African American life in the antebellum south in the educational curriculum. Call 947-0600.

KOCO 22nd Annual Convention at M.L. King High School, 44th and Drexel, from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Keynote speakers: Con. Bobby Rush and Comm. Joseph Gardner. Workshops, free dinner, and entertainment. For information call 548-7500.

Friday, 28

Budget and Banking" a free adult education

seminar for parents living in the Hillard Homes, 22nd & State. From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at South Loop School, 1915 S. Federal. Call 856-9240 for information.

Sunday, 30

The New Peoples Movement Community Support Coalition **Dump Daley**, Vince Lane, Jim Edgar, & Richard Phelan Community Protest Rally themed "Let's Do It Again: Keep Your Eyes On The Prize" begins at 4 p.m. at 500 E. 51st St. Call Robert Floyd Plump at 820-5695 or 922-5387 for information.

On-going

Ten extraordinary but unheralded African Americans will be recognized as "unsung heroes" as part of the "Chicago Portraits" through October 29) at the DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Pl. For information call 947-0600.

Kennedy-King College, 6800 S. Wentworth holds a series of five lectures from 7 to 9 p.m., the second Thursday of each month until February 1995. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the African World Research Institute. For topic information call (708) 331-3436.

1995 Black Music Festival Showcase - Label Auditions. Audition tapes are now being accepted for the upcoming showcase held February 18-19, 1995 in Chicago. The showcase highlights the country's best blues, jazz, gospel, rhythm, and blues, reggae, and rap musical acts. Contact Spectrum Communications at 268-8286 for information.

Next issue: South Street Journal, Oct. 27. Deadline for material is October 20th. SJ will publish notices of community meetings, events and programs. Any organization or person in the SSSJ circulation area may submit material. We will print others as it relates. Send material one week in advance. h St. Journal 4305 S. King Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60655. We reserve the right to refuse and edit material.

South Street Journal

Photo View

If given the opportunity, what would you say to the Mid-South Community?



"We need to realize that we already have everything we need, to be masters of our own community. Unity will bring it all together".

Dennis Worrix
66th & Marquette Rd.



"I wish people could understand that violence inflicted upon your own people is violence inflicted upon your self."

Greg Harrel, former resident
53rd & State

Police Harassment of Washington Park Area H.S. Student,

What is fast becoming a pattern along the Chicago Transit Authority's Orange Line is the harassment and arrest of Black and Hispanic high schools students. Most of these students attend Curry High School and are regular riders on the Orange Line.

One of the latest victims of harassment is Mid-South Community resident Rashanda Roe. Roe of the 58th block on Indiana told the *South Street Journal*, she was one of 20 Black and Hispanic students arrested for crossing between the cars of a moving Orange Line train.

Roe continued, "We were kept handcuffed together for two and one half hours." While we were being held, an Officer Downing started threatening us saying that we were in KKK territory and had better watch ourselves. Then he gave us the KKK sign (hold up three fingers and hit your chest three times).

A 2nd District Chicago Youth officer acknowledged the allegations made by Roe and stated it was a confirmation of her own suspicions.

The Watch Commander at 63rd & St. Louis (8th District) stated, that although it is not advisable to cross between moving cars, it is certainly not against the law. He also commented on the period of time the youths

were handcuffed saying "while that may be customary for adults (handcuffs) it is certainly not the usual procedure for dealing with kids."

The arresting officers Elliot and Piggott, did not make comments to *South Street Journal*, however, Elliot did say he did not have time to address the concerns.

Dr. Walter Pilditch, Principal of Curry High School was only aware of five students arrested. The students however, were adamant stating that there are at least 20 on a daily basis.

The mother of arrested student Roshanda Roe said, "My daughter has been taught respect since day one, she would not do anything to endanger herself or anyone else. She is an honor roll student."

Ms. Benjamin (mother of one of the children arrested) said, "We need help, there seems as though there is nothing we can do".

However, Ms. Roe has contacted both the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) and the Chicago Police Board to lodge a complaint. She said, "with a little public support she will fight this thing all the way. A police officer that is also a member of the KKK is not good for the city, he should be moved and as citizens we should see to it that this is done."

What Do You Know About Bronzeville?

Sunday, October 23, the 2nd annual 10k Mid-South Hunger Walk will begin and end at St. James United Methodist Church, 4611 So. Ellis Ave. Registration begins at 1:00p.m.

There will be an annotated guide to note the historic sites and plans for redevelopment along the route. Walkers will be provided a guide and a map.

Below are questions about Bronzeville, the historic African-American South Side Community. Test your knowledge of Bronzeville:

1. Which South Side streets were once Indian Trails?
2. Which church was the chapel for the South Side university that was the forerunner of the University of Chicago?
3. What Black-owned bank held the first national charter?
4. What was the name of the African-American newspaper founded by Anthony Overton that was the rival of the *Chicago Defender*?
5. What was the name of the private club for dining car waiters and where was it located?
6. Who was T.K. Lawless?
7. What was the important contribution of Frank L. Gillespie to the Black Metropolis business community?
8. Where is Groveland Park and what

Illinois politician developed it in the 1850's?

9. What is the oldest standing structure on the Mid-South Side?
10. Where is the Victory Monument and what does it commemorate?

- Answers:
1. Vincennes and Cottage Grove avenues
 2. Olivet Baptist Church
 3. Douglas National Bank
 4. Chicago Bee
 5. Quincy Club, now home of Dr. Margaret Burroughs
 6. An internationally respected dermatologist
 7. Founder of Liberty Life Insurance Company, first Black owned & operated insurance company in the North
 8. Stephen A. Douglas developed Grove Park at 34th and Cottage Grove Ave.
 9. The 1864 Soldier's Home for Union Veterans, now called the St. Joseph's Conzelmann Child Care Center located at 35th & Lake Park Ave.
 10. At 35th and King Drive which commemorates the service of the Eighth Infantry Regiment the only Black regiment, commanded by Blacks.

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The Garden of 43rd Street

By Beverly A. Reed

An example of what can happen when the energy of youth and the experience of age are combined to enhance the community.

Weeks ago City Youth Chicago Organization met with the Resource Center's "Turn A Lot Around" project under the careful orchestration of the Mid-South Planning and Development Commission.

The strip located on both the north and south corners of 43rd & King Dr. have been transformed into an oasis of vibrant plants, blooming flowers, and small, delicate trees.

In addition, the boarded-up sections of an abandoned building on the northeast corners - formerly the Tyson Hotel - were painted blue with yellow musical notes.

Dominic Pierce, spokesperson, for the one-year-old City Youth Team said the organization, was originally founded in Boston, provides healthy role models for children and assists in instilling pride in communities through education and creating beauty through gardens.

"The 55-member Chicago team works with the Chicago Public Schools, acting as teacher aides and giving seminars on non-violence," said Pierce. "We also create gardens on otherwise unused and uncared for lots around the city. We are especially proud of the memorial we built for (slain teens) Robert Sandifer and Lindsay Murdock, expressing their concern for the plight of our children."

The City Youth Team consist of youngsters, ages 17-23, who come from all economic and cultural backgrounds.

The program is funded through government grants, and private donations. Part of the funding is used to pay participants a \$125 weekly stipend.

The program lasts for nine months, after which time they are offered three options: 1) A \$4,725 educational scholarship; 2) 4-\$1,000 savings bonds; or 3) \$2,000 cash.

Pierce, who is also a participant of the program, said that he is choosing the educational scholarship because he plans to pursue a career in criminal justice and psychology.

Turn-A-Lot-Around Program

City Youth Team provided the brawn for the 43rd St. project, the "Turn-A-Lot-Around" project provided the expertise and technical equipment. It is an arm of the Resource Center, committed to environmental responsible waste management (recycling).

Jamie Kalven, co-director of the program said the two-year-old program began as a kind of vision to take recycling to a higher ground.

"We wanted to people in the community that are trying to beautify their neighborhoods, but may lack the tools or know-how to create their vision for the area that had been neglected," he said.

According to Kalven the organization has worked with youths from Robert Taylor Homes. In addition, they are discussion plans with Pastor Herbert B. Martin and the Progressive Community Church to build a garden at 48th & Wabash.

Having a helping hand and a cheering section - from a community organization - for the garden boosted the moral of the program's participants.

Harold Lucas, Black Metropolis coordinator for Mid-South Planning and Development Commission (MSPDC), as well as, helped coordinate the beautification. "We all agreed that a project of this nature (where the results can be seen immediately) would do much in terms of bolstering pride and dignity in the community," he said. "The creativity symbolized by the restored garden and future restoration of the Tyson Hotel is indicative of the sleeping giant within the community."

He continued: "It is very important to understand that empowerment is a process and it is by moving forward that we facilitate this process. However, it must be understood that the only real progress must come from the residents themselves."

Lucas said that if the people do not stand up and become involved, it will be displaced.

Pat Dowell-Cerasoli, executive director for MSPDC agreed with Lucas. "We needed a way to enhance the corner of 43rd & King Dr., and the planting of a colorful garden, gives the corner a little bit of spark," she said.

Dowell-Cerasoli said residents employed by

Continue on page 8



On the corner of 43rd and King Drive, it has been transformed into an oasis of vibrant plants, blooming flowers, and small, delicate trees as part of the "Turn A Lot Around" project under orchestration of the Mid-South Planning and Development Commission. In the back ground the old Tyson Hotel also gets a face lift as the boards are painted.

City Closes Three Illegal Alley Shops in Mid-South community

During September, the city closed 15 more illegal and unlicensed alley repair shops, Mayor M. Daley and Consumer Services Commissioner Caroline Orzac Shoenberger announced.

Most of the garages were closed as a result of resident's complaint's and subsequent undercover investigations by the Department of Consumer. Since the beginning of 1994, 112 illegal alley garages have been closed by Consumer Services.

Posing safety and environmental treats to residents and communities, often times, alleyways are clogged with cars in various states of repair. Also abandoned cars and discarded auto parts are left in vacant lots which have to be cleaned up at taxpayers expense, Mayor Daley stressed.

Other hazards related to these garages include the illegal dumping of motor oil and gasoline in sewer systems and the public disturbances caused by the often early morning and late night working hours. The alley garages closed in Mid-South Area were located at: 3637 S. Indiana, 300 E. 24th St., and 4247 S. Coitage Grove Ave.

In addition to being closed, each shop owner was charged with operating without a license and doing business in violation of the city's motor vehicle repair ordinance. If convicted, each owner could face fines up to \$500 per violation.

Anyone with a complaint against an illegal alley garage is urged to call the Department of Consumer Services at 744-9400, TDD: 744-9385 for the hearing impaired.

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A Community on the Lake-

an interview with

KOCO's BOB LUCAS



By Chandra Hooks

Before Bob Lucas, the Kenwood/Oakland communities did have a history. The Oakland community area is a mile-long strip between lake Michigan and Vincennes and Cottage Grove, extending south from 35th Street to 43rd Street. In 1851, a Loop industrialist named Charles Cleaver established the growth of Oakland which was called Cleaverville settlement. North of Oakland, from 43rd to 47th Street is the Kenwood community named by Dr. John A. Kennicott which a great part of the community was his estate.

By 1960's both communities became 84% or more Black. The number of housing units in both areas decreased between 1960 and 1980. The two communities issues and concerns developed at the same time. Housing has been centered as the most centered issue. Is the area residents losing their communities or saving them? That is a question that has been asked by residents since the demolition of Black owned residential housing. Under the auspices of so-called "Urban Renewal," During the reign of Mayor Richard J. Daley (father of our current mayor), our elderly home owners were displaced.

Thirty years later, under the leadership of Robert L. Lucas, Executive Director of the Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (KOCO) and President of Kenwood-Oakland Development Corporation (KOCO) the battle to preserve over communities goes on.

KOCO is a multi-service, multiple million dollar operation, with 60 employees. The focus is social services and community services. KOCO is the sponsor of Komed Health Center at 43rd and Vincennes, and KOCO which is responsible for the rehab and construction of housing in the KOCO service area.

Hooks: KOCO's twenty-second annual convention and 29th anniversary is coming up, why a convention and not a community congress?

Lucas: It's basically the same thing. Elections are not held at a convention however. Elections are held bi-annually (every 2 years) in February. The board is elected at that time and is composed of community resident.

Hooks: What are you attempting to convey at the convention?

Lucas: The convention, which is scheduled for October 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Martin Luther King High School is to acquaint the community with the services and mission of KOCO. Personally my focus is neighborhood businesses as an example of community economics. We must get back to the basis; return to the summit.

Many jobs have left the city and the state. Even the capitol has been exported. The question for the 21st Century is how are we going to make a living? The survival of our people is going to be contingent upon our ability to provide for ourselves.

Hooks: What are KOCO's boundaries?

Lucas: KOCO's boundaries include 2 communities which span from 51st. on the south, 35th on the north, the lake on the east, Vincennes on the west, and include north Kenwood and all of Oakland.

Hooks: Do you have roots in the North Kenwood-Oakland communities?

Lucas: I was born in a small town in West Virginia called Rocerverte on January 10, 1925. My mother and I relocated to Chicago in 1942 as many people did during that time, seeking greater quality of life. My mother was a single parent. My parents divorce after eight weeks of marriage and I was raised by my grandmother while my mother

worked.

Hooks: Where did the two of you live upon arriving in Chicago?

Lucas: The first place we lived was 435 E. 48th Place, one block from the Savoy Ballroom and Regal Theatre. **Hooks: Did you attend Chicago public schools?**

Lucas: I had graduated from high school prior to moving to Chicago. Once here, I took various odd jobs and the following year, 1943, I was drafted into the U.S. Army.

Hooks: What was your Military Occupation Status?

Lucas: I was sent to Camp Wheeler, Georgia for 17 weeks of basic training for infantry. Right after, then Secretary of War, Henry L. Stinson issued an order stating that no Blacks would be allowed to participate in combat.

It is a historical fact that Black soldiers were lynched for demanding equality after World War I. Black soldiers had fought in Europe during World War I and upon returning to the states, some with distinguished honor, demanded racial equality.

Stinson was determined this would not happen again as a result of World War II. Consequently, Blacks were placed in service jobs. Instead of infantry. I drove a 2 and half ton, 6 x 6 truck. We went to France in 1944 and I became a part of the famed "Red Ball Express," carrying ammunition and gasoline to front soldiers.

Hooks: When did you leave the military?

Lucas: November 27, 1945 with an honorable discharge. I returned to Chicago, worked odd jobs and in 1947 I became a full-time college student.

Hooks: Did you complete your studies?

Lucas: No. After 3 and half years I lost interest. At that time a college degree wasn't necessary in Chicago. There were all kinds of jobs. The stock yards, post office, steel mills, freight stations, etc., etc.

Hooks: Were you involved in the Civil Rights Movement?

Lucas: Very much so. I was with CORE (Congress of Radical Equality) from 1956 through 1968. CORE led many demonstrations on the racial injustice here in Chicago.

Hooks: What is the story behind you jumping on top of a car resulting in a demonstration?

Lucas: After reflecting for a moment. That was in 1963 in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement. Benjamin Willis, then Superintendent of Chicago Public Schools reused to allow Black to attend white schools. Even though Black children lived closer to white schools, he instead set up mobile units dubbed as "Willie Wagons." We were picketing this particular school on 64th and Lowe. About 35 to 40 onlookers gathered and I jumped on top of a car to get their attention.. My mission at that time was to induce them to become demonstrators versus spectators.

Hooks: What happened?

Lucas: About half of them joined the picket line and some of them became members of CORE.

Hooks: When did you join KOCO?

Lucas: I've been with KOCO since 1965., I functioned in the capacity of Coordinator for leadership training until 1972. In 1972 I was elected Chairman of the Board of directors. I became Executive Director in 1975?

Hooks: What has been your major accomplishment as director KOCO?

Lucas: The conservation designations. We started fighting for the conservation designation was back in 1969.

Hooks: Do you work in cooperation with any organization?

Lucas: Yes. We offer some of the same programs as The Woodlawn Organization (T.W.O.), The Urban League and Operation PUSH.

Hooks: How does the community feel about you living in Beverly?

Lucas: When I was hired I lived in Englewood and it made no difference. When elected Chairman of the Board, neither my opponent or myself lived in the community. It was at that time the constitution was amended to state that community residing was not required. However, most residents support me and the work I do with the help of the Board, staff and those residents of the community that are involved.

Hooks: South Street Journal has been covering news that tends to view there is a power struggle between KOCO and the Community Conservation Council (CCC). Is this so?

Lucas: We have no problem with city ordinances and developers coming through CCC. The problem we are having is with the enforcement of the Conservation Plan which is a city ordinance. According to the Conservation Plan there has to be balanced development in the conservation area., meaning housing for low, moderate, middle and upper middle income people.

Hooks: How did this all begin?

Lucas: The work actually began after over late mayor Harold Washington kept his campaign promise to re-develop North Kenwood and Oakland. After Eugene Sawyer became mayor, upon invitation of KOCO, then Mayor Sawyer came out and appointed a neighborhood planning committee. The following committee was to be utilized as a development tool to facilitate the conservation designation. This came as a result of a state statute called the Urban Consolidation Act which is a way to preserve a community.

Hooks: How did the Community Conservation Council get involved?

Lucas: The CCC was appointed by Mayor Daley in February of 1991 and approved by the city council in October of 1992. Its (the CCC) first task was to work with the city and the community to create the conservation plan.

Hooks: So who is blocking the enforcement of the plan?

Lucas: Mayor Daley and the City Council. 70% of the land in the Conservation Area is city owned. Two thousand lots are city owned; 50% are vacant in the conservation Area.

Hooks: What does a person have to do to purchase city owned land?

Lucas: First a person must go to the city real estate division, identify the parcel, then make a proposal to the CCC to build. If accepted by the CCC, it then goes to the community Development Commission, then to the city Council for approval.

The community Development Commission (CDC) was re-named in 1992. Formerly it (the CDC) was the Department of Urban Renewal, better known as negro removal. The CDC does the same thing as the Department of Urban Removal. Although the name has changed, the policies and practices remain the same.

Hooks: How does Alderman Preckwinkle fit into all of this?

Lucas: The alderman has approve the purchase of all city owned parcels in this area. She has the power to say yea or nay. Alderman Preckwinkle has not yet stood in the way of any new development. However housing for moderate income people, i.e., affordable housing in the \$70- \$95,000 range has been blocked.

Hooks: Is it true Timothy Evans is still officially Alderman of the 4th Ward?

Lucas: No. He lost although he's consisting the election. IN, fact the primary reason Evans is out of office is due to him being against all new development in North Kenwood. He was in favor of rehab; not new housing.

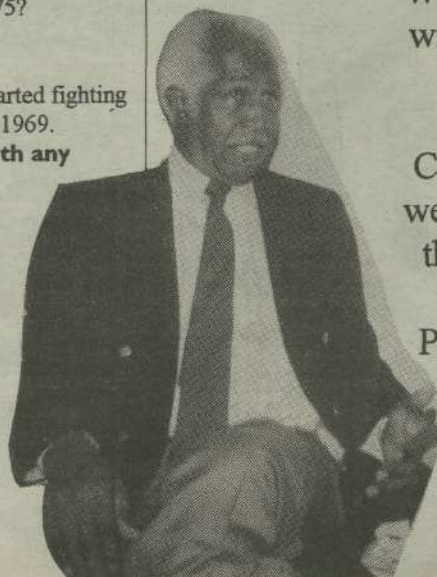
Hooks: What is your message to the community?

Lucas: It was KOCO that made it possible for North Kenwood to be rebuilt and redeveloped by working with previous administrations and now Daley. Now that Ald. Preckwinkle has cut the moderate-low-income people out-people who made the initial sacrifice, its like helping to make a cake and then being denied a slice when its done.

We have no problem with city ordinances and developers coming through CCC. The problem we are having is with the enforcement of the Conservation Plan which is a city ordinance.



About 35 to 40 onlookers gathered and I jumped on top of a car to get their attention.. My mission at that time was to induce them to become demonstrators versus spectators.



Editorial

The issue is not Crime, it's legalizing Drugs

The fruit of drugs on our society,
where do we weigh in



America was and still is obsessed with Al Capone. His memory lingers on long after his death, through crime stories and gangster films. Still, *The Godfather* reigns as the all-time favorite gangster movie. Have seen the movie at least four times. The scene that to be almost prophetic in its delivery (and the only time Black folks had any part), was when the Godfather became disillusioned about the new line of business his counterparts wanted to enter, the drug business. His position was, he did not want to be involved in drug dealing. Since he knew he could not stop the others, he left them with orders: "Just do not sell it to our youth, sell it to the niggers and the grease heads." Drugs will be the death of a people, it will destroy them. He also assured them that if they sold it to his people then there would be a war among the gangs, and there could no peace.

History has proven that when goods and services are deemed illegal there is a greater increase in the criminal activity that provides those goods and services. Prohibition, for example, was initiated in an effort to protect people from alcoholism. Yet there was still a tremendous demand for alcohol, which opened the door for the outrageous behavior demonstrated by the gangsters of the era, (which was famous for drive-by shootings). It also resulted in many accidents and deaths due to the failed attempts of bootleggers to reproduce what could no longer be purchased at the local tavern.

The problem of alcoholism has not been eliminated in this country by the repeal of Prohibition. There are serious social issues yet to be resolved, including the widespread availability of alcohol, evident by numerous liquor stores on nearly every corner in the Mid-South community. However, the element of

criminality has been greatly reduced. And, those that need and want help from alcoholism get receive it without being put in jail.

Now, the issue is drugs, not crime. The issue is organized crime, not gangs. The lengthy distribution chain from the opium field to the street requires considerable business expertise and resources. No, organized crime is not directly involved with the retailing that takes place on the streets of Mid South. The numbers are far too small. The average street dealer is not usually a member of organized crime, but is usually the one with the most arrests. His visibility is high, although his rank on the distribution chain is low. His face is just the one we see in the media and as we scrape our grandparents, mothers, daughters, fathers, and sons off the ground.

Because drugs are illegal, its market price is considerably higher than the resource cost of producing it if it were legal. As a result of the higher priced illegal product, the income required by a drug addict to support his/her habit is much larger than it would be with a legal supply. A typical drug addict needs about \$100 per day to support his/her habit, or over \$35,000 per year (about the same it cost to keep someone in jail). Therefore, illegal alternatives must be considered to generate income sufficient to support the habit. A \$100 a day habit may translate into robbery and theft of \$150 per day. If all drug addicts were millionaires, society probably would not be overly concerned with it, since they could support their habits without resorting to illegal activities. The addict population tends to comprise of the lowest income groups, and is most likely to turn to crime. Drugs and the violent behavior associated with them account for a great percentage of all persons in jail today.



Ron Carter
Publisher/Editor

If the cost of a habit was \$5 per day, most addicts could support their habits without resorting to crime, and so crime rates would drop and the Clinton Crime Bill would be \$333,000 but certainly not \$33 billion. The rest could go to educational and rehabilitation programs. The low price to addicts would tend to eliminate drug-related crime. The only crime they would commit would be the crime to themselves.

The answers to the problem of drugs and drug-related crimes are not easy to produce. However, the evidence shows that the problem in the United States is growing.

An accountant gets caught embezzling \$250,000, the private costs of expected punishment is likely to be much lower than for the high-school dropout caught in a \$100 stickup because of drugs.

There is a definite relationship between socioeconomic class and the offenders that come through the criminal justice system.

Legalizing drugs, our community will be sure that our babies will be less a victim of crime and our other grown babies will be hospitalized instead of jailed. then the Godfather movie will be fiction, and drug dealers and gangsters may change their careers for a more legalize job like Ollie North, and run for political office.

Letters

Hoover Calls For Voter Action and Registration

Dear Editor:

The current state of affairs within minority communities in general and African American, in particular, are deplorable and totally unacceptable. There cannot be one among you that is not dissatisfied with conditions as they exist.

As an elder statesman within the penal system of Illinois, I am acutely aware that there are currently more than 36,000 inmates including approximately 90% or more are Black and Hispanic males serving time. This imposes serious consequences for our communities because, many among us posses the strong leadership abilities so desperately needed in these most crucial of times.

Our woman and children are suffering greatly at the hands of an oppressive, dominate, and racially political system.

From home there is a heart-wrenching cry for help, bouncing off the walls and echoing throughout our incarcerated halls.

As proud Black and Brown men we can no longer afford this forced luxury of non-involvement or non-participation.

As men unable to physically claim our rightful place as Heads of Household, the question remains; How can we contribute within our limited capacities??

Man to Man I say to you, if we accept a partial responsibility for the plight of our own then, we must take an active role in the game of "POLITICS". I challenge each and every one of you to accept the obligation to personally guarantee that each adult member (18 and older), of your family and with your circle of friends register to vote and participate in the November elections. (Not less than 5 people)

For far many years the political establishment has taken us for granted and rightfully so. We have demonstrated time after time our willingness to go to the poles and vote. They foolishly and mistakenly believe that because we never have, we never will.

We possess a great deal of power by the sheer virtue of our members. Collectively these numbers represent enormous change in the lives of our loved ones. We must become more responsive in electing component. Responsible and capable representation for ourselves and for our own.

We have each experienced the power of this unfair and unjust system. We have learned much at the hands of our oppressors. Now we have an opportunity

to beat them at their own game!!!

If you can't become a part of the solution then live with the knowledge that you are contributing to the problem!

GET YOUR PEOPLE REGISTERED TO VOTE AND TO THE POLES!

Respectfully,
Larry Hoover

Inner City Thanks Park Superintendent for Soldiers Field Skyboxes

Dear Editor:

I would like to THANK and applaud Chicago Park District General Superintendent Forrest Claypool and Mrs. Pamela Jackson on behalf of Inner City Youth Foundation, Inc. for giving youth the opportunity to sit in the skybox at Soldier's Field last Sunday, September 27, 1994.

We took several King High School Football players, as well as, students from DuSable, Phillips High School, Dyett, and Murray. They talked about the view from the fifty yardline and the pizza, chicken, nachos, soda, and candy they received.

I would like to say to the superintendent "you have made a lasting impression on these youths of the inner city with your goodwill and love."

It is these types of outings and exposure that will curb the anti-social behavior in our community.

Maurice Perkins
Inner City Youth Foundation

Adventures on Michigan Ave.

Dear Editor:

Strolling down 47th. street trying to navigate the traffic, without getting ran down, this police car turned left against traffic lights on two wheels with siren wailing. Destination, I think, the Robert Taylor Jets, Just avoid hitting me the cop stared daggers at me as though I had broken the law. "Bastard," I said, silently. But I was really grateful for just reaching the curb.

After getting my composure together and continuing my walk a fellow citizen inquired about my health, and in the same breath for a dime and a cigarette. I gave him the cigarette and kept step-

I have plenty of time to walk and reflect about myself since my health has gone south. You see, I am 58 years old with diabetes and need a hip replacement.

I have worked most of my life and served in the Army. I have lived a pretty fast life and now I am paying for it, but I am not complaining...I had a hell of a time.

Before I reached Michigan Ave. I was propositioned twice for sex, begged right out for money, refused to buy socks from three street peddlers; refused to buy coke, crack, and



heroine from a little boy, a girl, and men and women whom creep out of the Rosenwald building with their pockets full of the misery and death they tried to sell me.

I must turn right at Michigan and head home now for it's getting dark. But, I leave a person to wonder what more adventures could be found had I walked to Cottage Grove.

Wm. Hopkins
4700 block of South Michigan

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Perspective

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS HOLDS BRAINTRUST ON "EMPOWERMENT ZONES"

BY BOBBIE JOHNSON Rn
Resident, Washington Park Community



On Friday, September 16, 1994 in Washington, D.C. a Housing and Economic Development Braintrust entitled "Enterprise Zones: Uniting Our Communities for Economic Development, What Can We do Now?" Hosted by Senator Carol Moseley-Braun from Illinois who serves on the Juvenile Justice and Courts and Administrative Practice Subcommittees of the Judiciary Committee and the Housing and Urban Affairs and Securities Subcommittees of the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committees. An illustrious panel was comprised of the elected officials and our own Chairman, Chicago Housing Authority-Vance Lane and Director of Resident Programming, Chicago Housing Authority- Dr. Carol L. Adams.

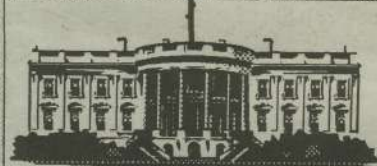
To bring you to date on Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities, Congress passed President Clinton's Empowerment Zones proposal on August 6, 1993 as part of the \$496 billion deficit-reduction legislation, and the President signed it on August 10th. H.U.D. has been directly involved in designing and supporting the Administration's Empowerment Zone Package. This will bring \$1 billion in social services grants and another \$2.5 billion in special tax incentives to nine high priority "Empowerment Zones" and 95 "Enterprise Communities." A total of 521 applications were received by H.U.D. 292 urban communities applied of which 74 were Empowerment Zone (including the Mid South community) applications and 218 were Enterprise Communities applications.

The community-based strategic planning process will engage the energy and imagination of citizens and civic leaders to develop a new vision for their community. It is a chance to unite residents and neighborhood organizations with Federal, State and local governments and the private sector to determine their goals for the future.

Process cannot promise overnight transformation of economically depressed and crime-ravaged neighborhoods. It should establish a springboard for tackling the tough issues each and every neighborhood in this area face.

Mid South is looking to be a designated as one of the Empowerment Zones to receive up to \$100 million. Enterprise Communities which is proposed in Englewood, is targeted for approximately \$3 million that can be used for a wide variety of approaches to economic development needs of the community.

Mr. Roy Priest, Director of the Office of Economic Development, H.U.D. gave an analysis of the long term process and what the administration plans to do to insure that this does not become a one time initiative.



"The way I view it as resident from Washington Park Community from a "Bottom's Up" prospective it is imperative for community residents to understand "What's Going On" as Marvin Gaye so eloquently put it"

The way I view it a resident from Washington Park Community from a "Bottom's Up" prospective it is imperative for community residents to understand "What's Going On" as Marvin Gaye so eloquently put it in his lyrics from his famous album of the Seventies. The question I posed to the panel was; "What is the process in terms of the "Bottom's Up" organizing the community to access the resources if chosen for the \$100 million? What should we be doing now to prepare ourselves? What is the accountability mechanism to hold governmental officials ac-

countable from the top, down in implementing the "Empowerment Zones?"

The panel decided the Mr. Roy Priest could best respond to the questions. Mr. Priest stated that; "The administration of Title 20 funds is defined in the City's application regarding governance." He stated that Chicago's application was one of the most significant grassroots processes that was submitted and that he felt confident that we had defined a mechanism on how we in Chicago are going to administer the funds and have direct decision making, allocation and monitoring of the resources. Some communities are structured where the citizens will have 51% control.

Are you part of that 51% in your neighborhood?

Continued from page 2

Our Local Business Person

"We don't sell anything we wouldn't buy ourselves."

S&H Resale



John Fisher and "Red" Co-owners

The exterior of some resale shops are deceptive where only professional resale shoppers would dare to venture. But, once you enter through their doors, you discover a treasure.

Opened since 1993, S&H Resale is a hidden treasure chest offering an from full-size mattresses, dressers, lamps, couches, and dining room tables. where co-owners John Fisher, 48, and "just call me Red," 56, exude a wealth of knowledge and pride...and excellent

bargains. What makes S&H Resale different from others in the same business? We're cheaper. We specialize in quality, and we don't sell anything that we wouldn't buy ourselves.

Where do you get your stuff? From different places. We look at various places, but we don't pick up any raggedy stuff. We get the best items.

How do you determine what your customers pay for each item? Well, whatever we pay they pay. We don't try to cheat anyone.

How do you know what your customers will buy? I have a good idea what they would buy since I grew up in this neighborhood. (Fisher attended Wendall Phillips H.S. and Red didn't attend high school.)

What are some advantages to having a resale shop in the inner city? We're helping people, which is something that I've always wanted to do. Also, I get a chance to work with my

hands. Disadvantages? Since we've only been here since last year the biggest disadvantage is sitting things outside where city inspectors can't agree on whether the items can stay out or not. On some days the inspectors says it's o.k., but on other days, it's not. They can't agree.

If you could change anything about your business what would it be? I would keep it the same because this is a store for the neighborhood people and our prices reflect that.

Goals for S&H? Right now everything is good. The neighborhood is supportive, and we even get people from other parts of Chicago coming in to buy. Red, it seems like everyone dream of owning their own business. Any drawbacks. No, but the advantages are work when you want, leave when you want, and no clock punching.

S&H Resale, 448 E. 43rd St., is opened Monday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Closed on Sunday. 312-548-0311.

Garden

Green Corp. and children from Stateway worked together to illustrate how the community can work with outside agencies to improve the neighborhood.

"We hope that projects like this garden and hotel will energize the community to work with us on this project," she said.

Tillman Threatened To Dig Up Garden

Although numerous community residents displayed excitement in beautifying the area, Ald. Dorothy Tillman (3rd) expressed outrage at the work of the program.

Seeing the participants planting the garden Ald. Tillman demanded to know who authorized the garden. After project members explained that they "just wanted to beautify the area" Tillman, according to witnesses, threatened to "have someone take it apart because the kale, which she called collard greens, saying it gives a negative image to the community."

"It should have been Black children from the neighborhood planting the garden. The perception of having white youths, when we have many kids from the community could did it," said Tillman.

Dowell-Cerasoli said MSPDC intervened on behalf of the gardeners to convince Tillman from dismantling the gardens.

"The wonderful thing about gardens is that they inspire people to reflect on good feelings," she said. "In order to establish a better relationship with Ald. Tillman, we did agree to remove the decorative kale and replace it with something else."

She added: "However, as a Black woman, I can say with confidence, there is no shame in greens."

Ald. Tillman did not return several calls to her office.

Perspective

The Selling Out of a Community

by Henry Tellis Jr.

In order to make the future better, we must first look at the past, where it all began, we failed to elect strong public leaders. Due to the lack of strong leadership, crime escalated, economics went down, the community became unsafe.

Jobs became harder to find. Decent and affordable housing was almost impossible to find. Most of the housing that was affordable and available in our community was rat and roach infested, unsanitary and badly in need of repairs.

This was all due to a dis-interested, non-caring elected leadership. Instead of putting the collected rents back into C.H.A. to deteriorate even more, the money C.H.A. tenants pay for rent were combined with the money allotted to C.H.A. through the federal government so it could be used to provide jobs to the residents.

This would cause the crime rate to decrease while the morale of the people would be increased with economics. They would have nice apartments and surroundings that they had been hired to fix-up. This would make the people feel better about keeping the property up and this would give them pride in themselves and their nice neighborhood.

C.H.A. has a responsibility to the tenants. The people have a responsibility to themselves with one voice throughout Robert Taylor Homes. In 1995, their voice shall be heard not only in the 3rd Ward but throughout this state. No one can discredit the people unless it is allowed, They must demand and take back their community.

For years the residents of C.H.A. have been the victims of circumstances, denied the rights to live in decent and affordable housing. This is their community where they pay rent, taxes and where they are being denied job opportunities. Over eleven million dollars of taxpayers money was allotted to improve the quality of life in C.H.A. That money must be accounted for.

I find it very hard to believe that those who sit in high places such as the Governor, the Mayor, The Executive Board of C.H.A., also the Congressman, the Senators, the Alderman, the state Representative and the Local Council Advisory board have not monitored the money. The funding that was coming in C.H.A. was not used in the best interest of the residents of C.H.A.

So, once again C.H.A. and the residents have taken another slap in the face by those who only have concern for their own selfish gain.

Henry Tellis Jr., a resident of Fuller Park, is an aldermanic candidate for the 3rd Ward.

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CHICAGO THEATER COMPANY OPENS SEASON WITH WORLD PREMIER DRAMA



Foote family members (l to r) J. Micheal Jones (Cain Loeb), Juanita Wilson (Vera), Rolanda Brigham (Tiny), and Jonathan Wafer (Earl Edward) in a scene from "Roseleaf Tea," a richly brewed drama about modern-day race relation in a small southern town opening at 8 p.m. Friday, September 30 at the Chicago Theater Company Parkway Playhouse, 500 E. 67th Street. For tickets and information call 493-5360.

PARKS OFFER HALLOWEEN TREATS

Haunted houses, carnivals and parties await children this Halloween in Chicago Park District southside parks. The district's newest park, the Don Nash Community Center, will even offer a haunted city! Children will be given treats galore and are asked to wear their favorite costume for each affair. Kenwood Park, 1330 E. 50th, invites you to a screamin' good time at their "Screamin' in the Park Haunted House and Scary Videos", October 28th from 4pm to 6pm, then on October 29th and



31st, enjoy halloween arts and crafts and a haunted house. For plain Old Fashioned Halloween Robert Taylor Park, 41 W.47th street, holds a Halloween Carnival, October 31st. There will be rides, games and children are asked to wear their costumes. Dyett Park, 513 E. 51st, Williams Park, 2710 S. Dearborn. A costume party and haunted house await you at Meadows Park, 3113 S. Rhodes October 31st. For Plain Old Fashioned Halloween Parties stop by Washington Park, 5531 S. King Drive.



Community Services

G.E.D., college, and job training programs. If you are between the ages 16 to 30 and are currently receiving AFDC you qualify to participate in KOCO's free G.E.D., college enrollment, or employment training program. Call recruiter Paul Cleveland at 548-7500 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free shots for all ages. Watch for the Chicago CareVan on the second Thursday of each month at Washington Park Homes, 4120 S. Prairie, Apt. #103, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Chicago CareVan is sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois and the Chicago Department of Health. Remember to bring your child's immunization record.

Trade Union Apprenticeship Program Booklet available with information and listings in the Greater Chicagoland area. The free booklet can be picked up at any of the weekly Sunday meetings of Community of Islam. Call Minister Jamal M. Shabazz at 779-4569.

Adult Learning Skills Program.

Free classes begin every eight weeks at the King Center, 4314 S. Cottage Grove. Enroll in GED, English as a Second Language, adult basic education, reading, writing, and math. Classes are every Monday and Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m., and Tuesday and Wednesday from 4 to 6 p.m. Contact Ms. Adams at 747-2300 evening or Ms. Johnson at 747-2279 days.

Free job training and job placement with GED preparation are still available thru May 31, 1995. Call Chicago's Department of Health at 747-3540 for an appointment and information.

Having Problems In Your Building? No heat! No hot water! Rodents! Lead Paint! You need to do something about it. You need to learn your tenant's Bill of Rights. The Kenwood-Oakland Tenants Association, 1238 E. 46th, meets every 2nd Tuesday of every month. Call Paul J.

Exercise at the Sutherland Hotel Ballroom 4657 S. Drexel Blvd. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6 to 7p.m. Monthly fee is \$25.00 per person. Seniors pay \$15.

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DISCOUNT DOLLAR

Continued from page 1

KOCO

ing ranging in price from \$70,000 to \$95,000.

"With hundreds of able bodied men and women in Kenwood-Oakland and the 4th ward eager to work, she refuses to make it possible for them to work in their own community and ward, but will allow builders and developers to import workers into North Kenwood-Oakland-not only form the city but in some instances, from out of state," said Lucas.

"Now, Ald. Preckwinkle has cut the moderate-and low income people out of the process, the very people that sacrificed the time for more than a year by first creating a neighborhood plan, then a conservation plan," he said.

Lucas equates that with "helping to make a cake, and when it's done you are told that you cannot have any."

Lucas further stated, "the irony is that Ald. Preckwinkle co-sponsored the much heralded city-sponsored affordable housing and jobs ordinances that were passed last December, but refuses to endorse it, even in principle for her own ward. This prompted many North Kenwood-Oakland residents to dub Preckwinkle, "Not-in-my-backyard-Toni."

"This is crap," said Ald. Preckwinkle, told *South Street Journal*. "I'm very supportive of the community planning process for any housing for moderate to low-incomes."

Preckwinkle sites developers/builders participating in the Parade of Housing as proof of her commitment to affordable housing in the North-Kenwood area.

"The developers had (to sign) an agreement the they would be represented by 40 percent minorities, 10 percent female, and hire three community residents," she said. "Out of the 10 that made that commitment, only two didn't comply with the agreement, and we refused to continue the agreement."

Responding to Lucas allegations, Preckwinkle said she is "unsure why he would state such a out-and-out falsehood."

"Since my election in 1991 I have supported various housing programs. Prior to the Parade of Homes even opened," she said. Stating that her office has approved rehabbing in three locations: 44th & Greenwood, 46th & Lake Park, and 41st & Ellis. "KOCO also helped in developing this area," she said.

Shirley Newsome, chairman, Conservation Community Council (CCC), said Lucas' allegations against Preckwinkle are "political because it's so close to an election."

"CCC or Ald. Preckwinkle have not entertained any type of proposal on affordable housing," said Newsome.

She said Lucas, is upset because at an earlier meeting community residents reacted negatively to his plans.

Newsome explained that when Lucas introduced builder Charles Tatum, Charva Realty, the City of Chicago, and Michael Keating, a representative from the Community Home Building to do an affordable housing plan and it was rejected by the CCC.

"Other proposals were submitted and we didn't wanted to give anyone an unfair advantage," said Newsome. "He feels that he was beat out of the deal with Community Home Builders."

Newsome said CCC asked every builder interested in developing in the North-Kenwood to fill out a Request For Proposal (RFP). CCC received 28 RFPs.

Much of North Kenwood-Oakland is impoverished, but the community is attractive to real estate developers because of the neighborhood's lakefront location and nearby amenities.

"This is a hot area," said Newsome.

KOCO representatives say that much of the once thriving community evolved into a neighborhood with many deteriorated buildings and vacant lots because of a combination of discriminatory housing practices of the 1940's, white flight, redlining by lending institutions and neglect by government officials.

Lucas said "it was KOCO that made it possible for North Kenwood-Oakland to be rebuilt and redeveloped by working with the city administrations of (former mayors) Harold Washington, Eugene Sawyer, and Mayor Richard M. Daley.

KOCO representatives also fault absentee landlords who for decades collected rent but failed to maintain their buildings, bleeding them dry and then abandoning them.

These abandoned properties then became owned by the county government, which later was given to the City, which builders-if approved-can purchase for \$1, under the condition that it's for affordable housing, according to Newsome.

"If someone wants to purchase a vacant lot adjacent to the builder they can do it under the Neighbor Lot Program," she said.

Continued from page 1

21st Century VOTE

youth until we can vote (Mayor Richard) Daley out of office."

Autry Harrison, director of the Robert Taylor Boys and Girls Club, 51st & Federal, said, "when I called for someone to speak to my teens of voting age, they immediately sent representatives out to enlighten them as to the importance of their voting power. That is as far as our collaboration has gone, I've seen no evidence of any gang affiliation."

Harrison continued, "I'm focusing on the possible things Blacks are trying to accomplish and as long they can make my Black youth aware of what's going to let the white media tell me what a Black organization is doing."

Harrison said that more than 400 youngsters registered to vote as a result of hearing 21st Century's representatives.

Earl King, president and CEO of the No Dope Express Foundation, who is currently running for President of the NAACP's Southside chapter, has also worked extensively with 21st Century VOTE.

"They have put 100's of kids off of the streets into our youth Delinquency and Life Management Skills Programs," he said.

An admitted former drug abuser, King added: "My job is to work from the inside out, similar to (former Holy Angels) Father (George) Clements campaign for One-Church One-Child. I believe in one church, one gang, and if I can continue to work with the community to bring about a possible change, I will, and any organization trying to do the same deserves the communities support."

Responding to the allegations regarding Hoover, and 21st Century VOTE being a cover-up for illegal activity, King said, "I've seen no such evidence, however, I feel Hoover should be consulted given the fact he has a constituency of 30,000. If Yassir Arafat and Rabin, two well-known middle Eastern terrorists, can break bread and be funded \$2.2 billion at the U.S.'s expense, why can't African American men be assisted in restoring their

communities. Gang members are people too, our people," King stated.

When 21st Century VOTE salesperson Tom Harris was confronted with the allegations circling the groups he said, "it's an absolute. Whenever we make a move, the media says we're up to something simply because we don't reveal who our contributors are and we haven't sought any help from them."

He went on to say, "Our political agenda center's around voter education and registration, as well as, providing a platform for any politician who so desires to speak directly to the community in attempts of receiving proper political representation."

"Ninety percent of the kids in the organization the media negatively labels gangs, aren't responsible for the drugs and killing.

"They simply want protection and often times a sense of family. The media however sells fear to the point that much of our own community has turned its back on us.

"We worked on a host of programs with Operation PUSH filling churches with youth off the streets only to be ignored once funds for mentoring programs were granted. He added: We know those kids whom (PUSH founder) Rev. Jesse Jackson shook hands with (us) and embraced (us, but we) haven't heard anything else from PUSH since.

"As a Black based organization, dealing directly with the community, we expect negative press, but once the results of our work one seen more and more greater numbers of people will respect us for taking back our communities and ending the senseless violence that terrorizes us," concluded Harris.

The 2nd district police watch commander (who wouldn't give his name) said he doesn't have any knowledge of any gang involvement with 21st Century VOTE, and therefore could not comment.

Rev. Jackson could not be reached for comment.



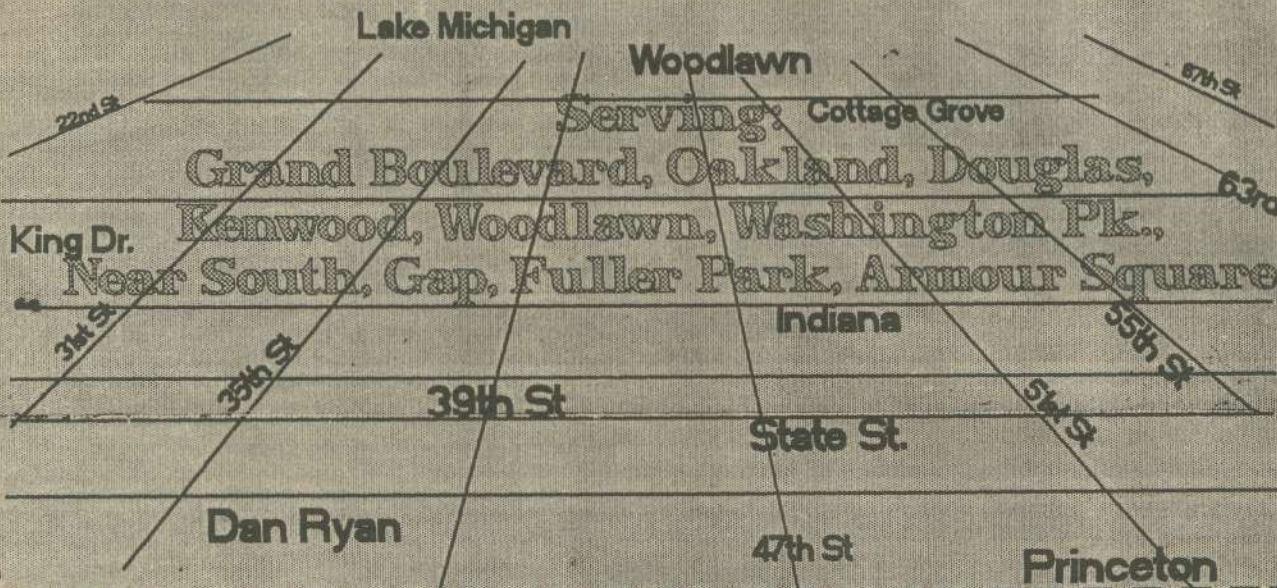
Earl King



Wallace "Gator" Bradley

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Michigan Theatre to be demolished, Plans for new ones on the Horizon



One of the two remaining theatres in the Mid-South Community, the Michigan Theatre, located at 55th and Michigan is about to be demolished. While possible demolition plans for the Met (47th & King Dr.) are being debated upon. Both properties are owned by the City of Chicago.

However, the Lou Rawls Cultural Center (47th & King Drive) has received a 250,000 grant from the State of Illinois which will include a theatre. In addition, a multi-media theatre project is being proposed by the Inner City Youth Foundation on 39th and Cottage Grove as part of the Empowerment Zone Package.

Continued from page 1

Supreme Building

Building not to be demolished and replaced by a produce market franchise.

"Imagine if you will, driving south on King Dr. and approaching the intersection of 35th street," said Pat Dowell-Cerasoli, executive director, MSPDC. "Visualize the construction of a magnificent Black Metropolis Gateway in tribute to the historical contributions of African Americans in Chicago. Do you perceive a produce market anchoring the Black Metropolis Historic District as a National Historic tourism destination?"

MSPDC seeks support from Johnson in turning the Supreme Life Building into a National African American Historic Tourism Destination.

Harold Lucas, Coordinator of the Black Metropolis Project for the Mid-South community made reference to Mr. Johnson's book *Succeeding Against the Odds*, in which he wrote, "the road to the future, depends on ethnic entrepreneurs doing their own thing instead of depending on external banks and financiers who will, out of necessity, force them to do their thing. I believe Black entrepreneurs must participate at every level in all economic institutions. There is a danger, however, in undue reliance on external investors".

According to Lucas the people of the Greater Grand Boulevard community are following his vision and they want to work with him and William Johnson, president of Omni Bank which owns Drexel and Independence Bank.

"In the 1920s and '30s a 3 square mile South Side district was considered the Black Metropolis," said Lucas, "at its peak, the area bounded by State Street, 31st to 39th streets, and King Drive, was the Black mecca of the African-American community, which included millionaires, entrepreneurs, artists, singers, and writers. This building is part of that history and is this why we will continue to win to preserve the history of this community."

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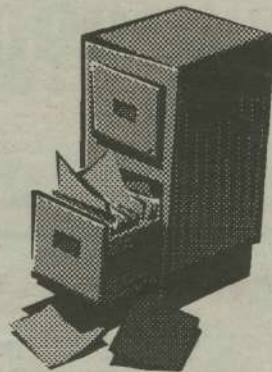
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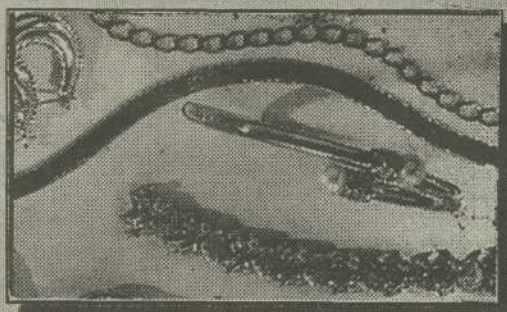
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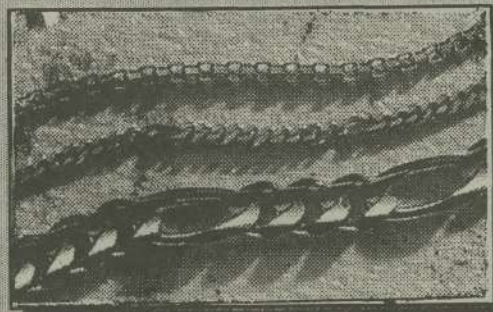
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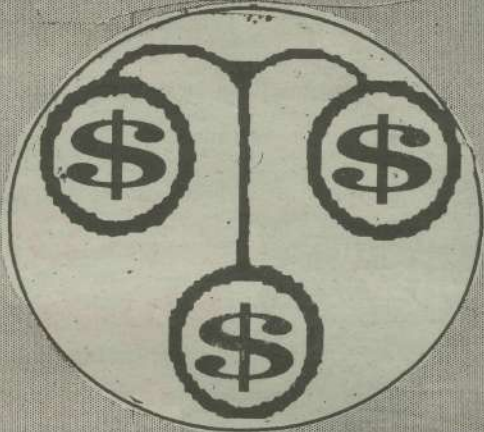
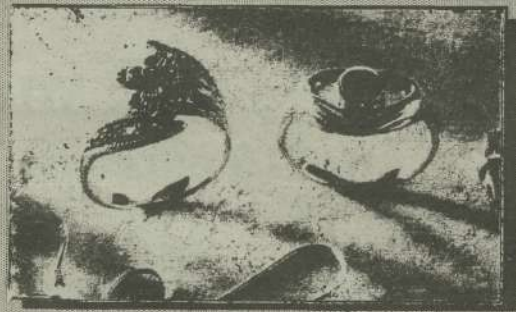


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GOLD RINGS!



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Jewelry & Watch Repair
We Buy
Gold & Diamonds

30% off!
Manufacturers Price
Selko & Citizen

Convenient Parking Lot

CASH CASH CASH

Cash Loans on Most Items of
Value **1%*** Interest on Loans
with this Coupon

*Plus Fee

CASH CASH CASH

Your Place for Halloween Spirits

MIDWAY

5500 S. State St.
684-2990

& Mr. Jack's

5901 S. State St.
667-5900

Food & Liquor

Open Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 2 am, Sat. 8 am - 3 am, Sun. 11 am - 2 am

Open Mon-Thurs. 8 pm - 12 am Fri. & Sat. 8 am - 2 am Sun. 11 am - 12am

HAVING A PARTY? LET US CATER THE SPIRITS.

**Salignac
Cognac**

10.99 750

**Christian
Brothers**



6.99
750

**Crown
Royal**



14.99
750

**Jack
Daniels**



10.99
750

Bacardi
14.99



1/2 Gal

V.O.
7.99



750

**Old
Forester**

6.99
750

**Fleischmann's
Vodka**

4.99
750



2.99

4 Pack

Bartles & Jaymes

12 oz. bottles

3.99 4 Pack

**Jack Daniels
Country Cocktail**



12 oz. bottles

Cold Like Ice!

Your Choice
Miller Genuine Draft
Old English or
Old Style

Case 10.69



**Old
Milwaukee
or Busch**



Case 7.29
12oz.

coupon



99c

GAL. MILK

w/ \$10 purchase

Coupon Expires October 27, 1994



**The Best
BURRITOS
in CHICAGO!**

V. & V. Brothers

at 5907 S. STATE ST

And Roasted Chicken



Whole Chickens \$3.59
Halves and Quarters
also Available!