

Residents dismayed at Mid-South meetings

Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee report alienates Bronzeville Residents

Douglas- Approximately 80 people turned out for a report by Mayor Daley's Blue Ribbon Committee on Bronzeville at the Illinois College of Optometry auditorium on 32nd and Indiana in mid February.

The committee was appointed last year by the mayor to support community organizations initiatives in restoring the "Bronzeville" community concept. However, many groups in the Mid-South community questioned the need for such a committee when many steps and plans have all ready been developed. Suggestion were that the mayor follow the lead of the organizations such as the Mid-South Planning and Development Commission's strategic plan for the area.

Moving ahead with the Mayor's agenda, the meeting chaired by Mayor's Assistant Charles Bowen opening the with a presentation by Walsh/Higgins Construction Firm on the development of the new Chicago Police Headquarter (to replace 11th & State Street) to be constructed on the corners of 35th, Wabash and Michigan Ave. A demolition of businesses (KFC, McDonalds and Docks) and homes will take place in the Spring of

(Continued on page 13)

De La Salle Expansion financing questioned in Bronzeville

According to the Chicago Sun-Time, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1997, the De La Salle Institute (catholic) 7 million dollar expansion program may be in jeopardy.

Mayor Daley's former high school is asking for tax-exempt bonds to finance construction of a recreation center, computer laboratories, a library, and student non-religious areas.

The irony is that the mayor is asking the city to use tax-empt bonds to benefit a parochial school that will save \$ 150, 000 by issuance of the bond. And opponents of the plan, including the American Civil Liberty Union and City Council would like to see a separation of state and church.

The State of the Empowerment Zone Meeting reflects the bottom's out

For over two years the federal Empowerment Zone project has been looked at as a major tool to rebuilt the Mid-South communities. The \$100 million is to empower the people at the bottom of the economic level to revitalize blighted area through pubic/private partnerships, using tax breads, loans and grants to low-income communities. After meetings and meetings the project has done a flip-flop, favoring those at the top, according to groups. About \$65 million remains for distribution city wide for the next ten years.

Mid-South which represents 1/3 of the communities population has been granted or approved for approximately \$7 million to its organizations of the total \$34

million citywide. Member organizations of Mid South say it's not enough.

Meetings throughout the city has address the "State of the Zone", from the West-side to the South Side.

The Community Workshop on Economic Development (CWED), a city wide organization worked with organizations in winning the national competitive award. It has been part of the process for two years, providing technical assistance and focus implementing the project with many of the organizations.

CWED held the First Annual "State of the Zone Conference, January 31, 1997, at the University of Illinois in Chicago. The following is its summary CWED.

(Continued on page 4)

Washington Pk. Residents seeks Black Developers - outraged over demolition at Troutman's meeting



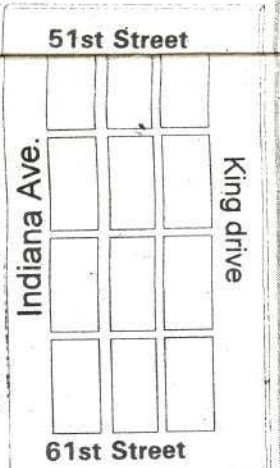
File Photo Mayor Daley's Abandoned Building Program is one that 20th ward Alderman Arenda Troutman says is working her efforts to stop the "Fast Track" demolition of housing units in the Washington Park community. Above, residents of the area stand at one abandoned courtyard located at 6036 S. King Dr. It was demolished early summer as part of the Mayor's program and is an example of the 2/3 lost of housing units in Washington Pk..

Washington Park -The Washington Park community, is the last of the larger Mid-South Communities to get a major shot for redevelopment. The community bound from 51st to 61st street, Dan Ryan to Cottage Grove is number two in the city in demolition of housing units, (2nd to neighboring community, Grand Blvd.) losing over 2/3 of the housing stock in the last ten years. In addition to the present lost it is expected by 1999, Robert Taylor Homes B, located in Washington Park will add to the figure when three building of 800 units will be demolished on 53rd and State Street.

At a community meeting in mid February, at Church of the Good Shepherd about 150 residents attended a meeting sponsored by Ald.

The area bound from 51st to

King Drive has been identified by the city officials as the Stragic Neighborhood Area Plan for the Washington Park community, which Ald. Troutman says is only the first phase of the overall plan for the community



Arenda Troutman (20), address redevelopment for the community.

Cecelia Butler president of the Washington Park Community Coalition called for the end of demolishing property in the Washington Park community. "Because the city felt that they could take the property," stated Butler. "They got demolition crazy, to the point of

(Continued on page 4)



Mid-South Planning calls for moratorium on demolition

Grand Boulevard - The Bronzeville Community is home to not only well known nationally landmarked buildings, such as the Eighth regiment Armory and the Overton Hygienic Building. It is also home, to thousands of

greystones and brick single and multi-family buildings, architectural gemstones, which make up the structural fabric of this historic community. With this history the Mid South Planning and Development Commission

(MSPDC) is calling for a moratorium on all demolition in the community.

MSPDC voices its position at a press conference at the building located at 4733 S. Michigan, which is currently being demolished by

the City of Chicago. Charging that this is one example of a salvageable structure being torn from its foundation.

"The Bronzeville community's housing fabric is being threatened, and system-

atically eroded by the city's aggressive demolition policy," stated a representative of the organization. The group joined by other organizations in the community stated that it is rumored that

(Continued on page 4)

Cutbacks in SSI, 97' The Year everyone talked about, is here

by Frank Ottman
Staff Writer

"No Welfare after two years," said Wisconsin Governor Thompson, "but get out and get a job or do without." This may be difficult for many of 24,205 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) people in Chicago and almost 6,000 drug and alcohol recipients in the

MidSouth communities. With some SSI recipients having been unemployed for ten, twenty and thirty years, and even others have no work record at all.

The United States government has already stated several times that no job programs are available other than those presently implemented; and state and private

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sectors must develop jobs for those losing SSI privileges. Blacks and minorities should be targeted for jobs.

Several years before the stockmarket crash of 1929, humanitarian organizations, along with government "think-tanks" of college professors were drawing up plans for a

guaranteed retirement income for those workers who retired or were unable to work. Taxes taken from working people's checks would help fund the new system to be called the Social Security Act of 1936. When a working person reached retirement age at 65 or before. Such a program would save billions in the long run for citizens having to pay medical, housing, and food costs for taking care of people no longer

(Continued on page 6)

Community Briefs

City Wide Organization in Woodlawn says: Community Policing won't work without Youth involvement

Woodlawn - "Youth must be included in Chicago's Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS)" says Aaron Sumrall, a Woodlawn resident and program coordinator of For The Future, Inc., (FTF) and Sumrall, a youth, who has been a leader in the fight for young people to be involved in community policing. "Over all crime statistics are down, but violent youth crime is on the rise. This has to change for community policing to work."

The report *Youth & Price: Respect, Fear and the Future of Community Policing*, released in January 1995, reveals that youth feel the police have abused their power through harassment based on race, ethnicity and age. In addition to these findings, many youth indicate that they did not know where to voice their grievances when confronted with police mistreatment.

FTF, located at 950 E. 61st St., now works city wide in an effort to improve relations with youth and the police. FTF recommends that the police help recruit youth for District Advisory Councils and neighborhood beat meetings. For info on FTF call (312) 987-9332.



Aaron Sumrall, Program Coordinator of For The Future, Inc.

Benefit Programs for Girl X, Spearheaded by Woodlawn's Beverly Reed

Woodlawn - From the Westside, south, north and east the city of Chicago rallied to the aid of Girl X, raising over \$70,000 in a trust established at Illinois Federal Savings on 46th and King Drive. Word Songs, a multi-creative organization created by resident Beverly Reed, joined with Tranquility Marksman, (An organization formed by the late Marina Stamps) and Partners in Community Development, began the drive for the young Cabrini Green resident who recently came out of a coma at Children's Memorial Hospital from a massive sexual abuse crime. Reed, a victim of sexual abuse herself, pointing out the support for Girl X started with a candle light vigil. Stating the X represents many youth subject to child abuse. For support and donations Ms. Reed can be reached at (312) 674-2331 or Gwana Stamps, (312) 335-8125.



LISC Provides \$2 Million to Neighborhoods in 1996

Mid-South organizations among receivership

Spanning the gamut from affordable housing to Charter Schools, LISC (Local Initiative Support Corporation), Chicago, invested over \$2 million in grants and loans to Chicago neighborhood-based development, including a \$32,000 grant to the Fund for Redevelopment and Revitalization for residential developments in Kenwood, and, a \$25,000 recoverable grant to the Black Metropolitan Convention and Tourism Council for an office building located at 35th and King Dr.

In the last quarter of the year, LISC/Chicago provided an additional \$283,010 to CDCs for work ranging from commercial development activities, to community organizing, as well, broad support for basic operating expenses. For information on LISC call

Committee to preserve the history of Black Firefighters

Former firefighter, Kublai Toure, and Chairman of the Committee to Preserve the History of Black Firefighters and Paramedics, thanked the City Council in passing a resolution is seeking the support of the council to install plaques for the firefighters. One at Engine 19's quarters on 34th and Calumet and the other in the Fire Commissioner's Office in city hall. The tentative date was February 18, during Black History Month.

The Men of Bronzeville came in 2nd place for Fast Break Basketball

The Men of Bronzeville Basketball Team On February 8th and 9th the team represented Mid-South again, coming in 2nd place in the Fast-Break 3-on-3 Tournament at Navy Pier.

The Mid-South Planning and Development Commission are the proud sponsor of the Men of Bronzeville Basketball Team. The team captain, Nakia Johnson and Co-Captain, Torrence Barnes. "We started out with this team in December, our first competition was the Mayor Daley's Holiday Hoops Tournament. We were successful and placed 3rd in our division. Though it wasn't first place, we still did our best," said Johnson.

Committed to improving the community by accepting the responsibility of being positive role models and to enhance the cultural heritage of Bronzeville, individuals wanting to be part of the team, can call the Mid-South office at 773-924-1330. Contact persons, Mark Payne or Naikia Johnson.

Congressmen Bobby Rush and Danny Davis

lead a press conference to announce the formation of Citizens United to Settle the Suit (CUSS) who will launch a petition drive to demand for the city to settle the \$9.5 million Ward Remap Lawsuit. The city of Chicago is fighting the increase of Black and Hispanic ward increases.

IN THE NEWS

But, Bruke, when I ask, "Do you want a Wet Mayor?, People, knew what I was talking about. They didn't think I was going to jump in the water."



Hyde Park/Kenwood Residents meet to fight community Heart Killer

Hyde Park - Hyde Park and Kenwood residents, business owners and employees attended the American Heart Association of Metropolitan Chicago in hopes of reducing the incidence of the area's number one killers- heart disease. In Chicago, cardiovascular diseases accounted for more than 42% of all deaths in 1995 - more than accidents, AIDS and all forms of cancer combined, said Hyde Park resident Almarie Wagner, executive director of the AHA of Chicago. The AHA is seeking to establish a Hyde Park branch to bring cardiovascular disease prevention programs and activities to the area. The AHA supportive staff helps community members get organized. For more information about the branch meeting, call Kate Davey at (312) 346-4675.

ACT Members Picket Ald. Haithcock

Dougals - Members of the Alliance of Congregations Transforming the Southside (ACTS), marched in front of Ald. M. Haithcock (2) residence (401 bldg.) early February. They were protesting her decision to sell city owned land at 29th and Wabash to private developers Eliz Higginbott in cooperation with Rodgers Pontiac instead of community-based organizations for social services and a housing development. The private developers are proposing a business building and the expansion of Rodgers Pontiac.

Four schools in the Mid-south area has been chosen to receive a Mattel "Hand-In-Hand" mini-grant of \$1,000.

South Street Journal is the cooperative partner with Mollison school on 44th and King Drive. The grants are made possible through a Mattel Foundation grant to the Chicago Public Schools for the Mattel "hand-In-Hand" - Parents, Schools, Communities United for Kids Program. The Institute for Educational leadership is a cosponsor with Mattel Foundation to enrich children's lives. Over 51 schools received mini grants, other in Mid-South with their partners includes; Beethoven and Ounce of Prevention Fund Agency; DuSable High and Chicago Cable Access; and King High with Chicago Teachers' Center and McCorkle with Black on Black Love.

MEETINGS and EVENTS



March

Sat. 28

Adolescents Harris YMCA, 6200 S. Drexel 955-3100, ext. 36 This group is for women only and there is no charge. Every Sat.

Crusaders for Justice regular meeting is at 12 noon, at Holiness Temple Church. The new location of the church is approximately 500 East 61st Street; every Saturday.

Mon 3

New Structure organization weekly meeting begins at 6:30, at 5659 S. Indiana Ave.. Call John Thomas at 324-5256

Tue. 11

Mid South Planning and Development Commission general meeting at King Center at 43rd and Cottage at 6:30pm and held every 2nd Tuesday

Sat. 15

Free Home Leading Seminar University National Bank will provides the seminar for those interested in purchasing, refinancing, home improvement, equity and second mortgages. Participants can learn how to qualify and apply for a loan and sign up for a free credit report. University National Bank, 1354 #E. 55th St. at 10:00am. For information call 684-1200

Wed. 19

Washington Park Advisory Council meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Washington Park Field House.

Home Owners Association, The H.A. will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Kennicott Park. Please drop a note on to Sandra Chapman, 1123 E. 45th St., if you would like to be on the agenda.

The Chicago Urban League will host the Minority energy Technical Assistance Program at their office, from 9 am to 1 pm to examine the issues, dissemination of information and discussion about the proposed deregulation of utilities.

Thursday 20

Black Men Pushing meet every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Operation PUSH in the Evans Chapel.

47th Street Merchant Association will hold their bi-monthly meeting at Illinois Federal Savings and Loans, 46th and King Dr., from 6 p.m to 8pm. The meeting topics will address the plans for 47th Street residents and businesses partnership. For information call Ron Carter at 924-0461

Sat. 29

N'COBRA meeting at Washington Park Field House, 55th and King Drive. Meetings are held every 4th Sunday each month. Web page: arm@arc.co.uk.

West Woodlawn Council of Block Clubs meet on the 4th Saturday of each month at the Parkway Community House, 500 East 67th Street.

West Woodlawn Council of Block Clubs meet on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Parkway Community House 500 E. 67th Street.

Minister Tony Hjhosno, Sr., of Stitach master- Global Ethnic Fashion Design Co. at Freedom Now Center. A presentation on "Discover how with a small monthly investment"; financial rewards at the Freedom Now Center 6351 S. Cottage. Every first and 3rd Saturday.

ADOPT A STREET at 54th St



Ronald Mitchell (2nd from left), and Mary Vaughan (holding sign and young Imoni Hayes) represent EMA youth Center, 5440 S. Stste St., as the newest agency to join Mayor Richard M. Daley's "Adopt-A-Street" programs, forming a partnership with city government to keep their block free of litter, graffiti and other eyesores. Also attending the recent installation ceremony were city Inquiry & Information aide Florence... and... and... (312) 744-6430.

The UnZip

Congressman Bobby Rush, friends and supporters of Meigs Field at City Hall, celebrated the re-opening of Meigs Field and to challenge Mayor Daley to spend the \$27 million earmarked for the ill-fated Northerly Island park on neighborhood parks instead.....Regarding Washington Park, it has been reported that there is another park group representing the park... Washington Park Advisory Council president, Cecelia Butler, who's been looking for Pierre Clark, can at least find his articles in the Chicago Defender, writing stories on conducting business properly. -- In other media, Sun-Times reporter/writer, Lee Bey, who is about to be the premiere writer in Chicago, reportedly will be doing a feature on Alderman Dorothy Tillman. No telling which way the Bey will go. -- Now the famous WVON, Former 20th ward alderman Cliff Kelly, still hasn't made it official which public office he will run for. Now Cliff, friends say you have three choices, mayor, alderman, state senator, all others are off limits. -- For State Rep. Howard Kenner who serves Kelly district, may be putting some legislation together to band the Denver Boot. As parking tickets are past time hobby for our Finest on 47th Street.

In other media news, the Chicago Defender will be getting some competition from the Citizen newspaper as it plans to go daily in the near future....Nidgo plans to go weekly, and SSJ plans to expand to other areas of the city, under what ownership it, is not clear....WGN-TV has selected Melody's Service to heighten its visibility and broaden the scope of its minority community initiatives. To this end, the firm will recommend and place advertising in minority-owned newspapers and consult on public relations initiatives to highlight community activities. Well?

Looks like the Freedom Now Center is going enterprising, after the opening of the Grand Ballroom, lead by Dino McNeal, they are about to branch out with the Mecca Program for entrepreneurs to network their services.

Robert Taylor B residents are lining up to move out... As Stateway Gardens residents are being offered to move. Land surveyors are being seen measuring up the building on 35th and State Street. (Which IIT says they have no interest in).CHA has been holding meetings offering Section 8 subsidies for one or two years It seems a seriously problem is happening at Phillips High School. Word is it has been going on way before principal, Jaunita Tucker left three weeks ago.

Word is, major fund raising is needed for the YMCA on 37th & Wabash, about \$250,000. So the ministers in the area are about to

UnZip information is compiled by community residents. If you have any call 773/924-0461

or Fax at 773/924-9536 All UnZippers must provide name, address and telephone.

have some

major fund raising...

Historic REVIEW in Mid-South

During the 1960s," then, Dorothy Tillman



This historical picture was taken of Dorothy Tillman during the height of the civil rights movement in the 60s. Tillman was a freedom -rider, with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King in the South for black freedom. Another event in turning back the clock in people history of Mid-South.

Now, Alderman Tillman of the 3rd ward primary in the Grand Boulevard community of Mid-South, was noted as the Fannie Lou Hamer of today. (A civil rights leader in the south. She was noted of saying, "I'm tried of being sick and tried.)

Ald. Tillman recently returned from Africa with concepts for an Africa Village on 47th Street, Vincennes to St. Lawrence.

If you have historical pitches to share submitted them to South Street Journal. Photographs will be returned.



BLACK METROPOLIS CONVENTION & TOURISM COUNCIL

Heritage Tourism Review

By Harold L. Lucas

Historic Summary of Black Metropolis Bronzeville and its Significance



awareness and self-sufficiency, thereby creating it's own thriving economics. Just before the Great Depression the economics foundation of Bronzeville had become so powerful and prosperous that in 1925, the main bussiness district on south State Street between 31st and 39th, was known internationally a the Black Wall Street of America.

The Black Metropolis Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, a significant landmark destinations of the twentieth century. From the streets of Bronzeville came great leaders like, Earl B. Dickerson, Oscar Depriest, Ida B. Wells, Joe Lewis, Scott Joplin, Etta Moten Barrett, Vivian G. Harsh, Johnny Griffin, Anthony Overton, Robert Abbott, Frank Gillespie, Marjorie Stewart-Joyner, Diana Washington, Quicy Jones and Oscar Brown Jr. All contributing members of Bronzeville's society and great role models for our posterity to study and emulate.

Today local community leadership have created the "Restoring Bronzeville" Strategic Development Plan. Through effective media attention Bronzeville is gaining recognition for its contribution to African American culture, music, arts and society.

Building for the future of Heritage Tourism, Historic Prevention and Communication Technology, the Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council (BMC&TC) is promoting Bronzeville world wide. Working with community leaders we have gained broad based support towards the development of a National Heritage Tourism Destination around historic landmarks and sites located in

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"Discover the South Coast" is the headline of a recent Chicago Tribune advertisement that promotes the redevelopment of South Loop/Near South neighborhoods. The marketing by developers of astonishing new housing expansion on Chicago's south lakefront projects a revisionist perspective that the historic area was once associated with the Gold Coast. The ad highlights housing developments like Printer's Row, Central Station and Bicycle Station, while featuring urban living close to downtown, the Museum Campus, Prairie Avenue Historic District and proximity to Lake Michigan

Authentic Chicago history reveals that the demolished Illinois Central Railroad station at 12th and Michigan, where now stands the upscale Central Station Housing Complex, was the final destination point of the Great African

American Migration to a northern city. Rural southern migrants seeking freedom, prosperity and the promised land first arrived enmasse in Chicago in 1910. The migration into the urban enviroment continued unabated until after the World War II. By then, over 300,000 black people had migrated north to a narrow band of land a mile- and -a- half wide, and three miles long on the south lakefront of Chicago. Over time the area became affectionately as Bronzeville/Black Metropolis.

Segregation of the races had a unintended positive side effect on the people of Bronzeville. Blacks from all economic social classes were forced to live together, depending on each other for survival. Bronzeville residents developed a greater sense of culture

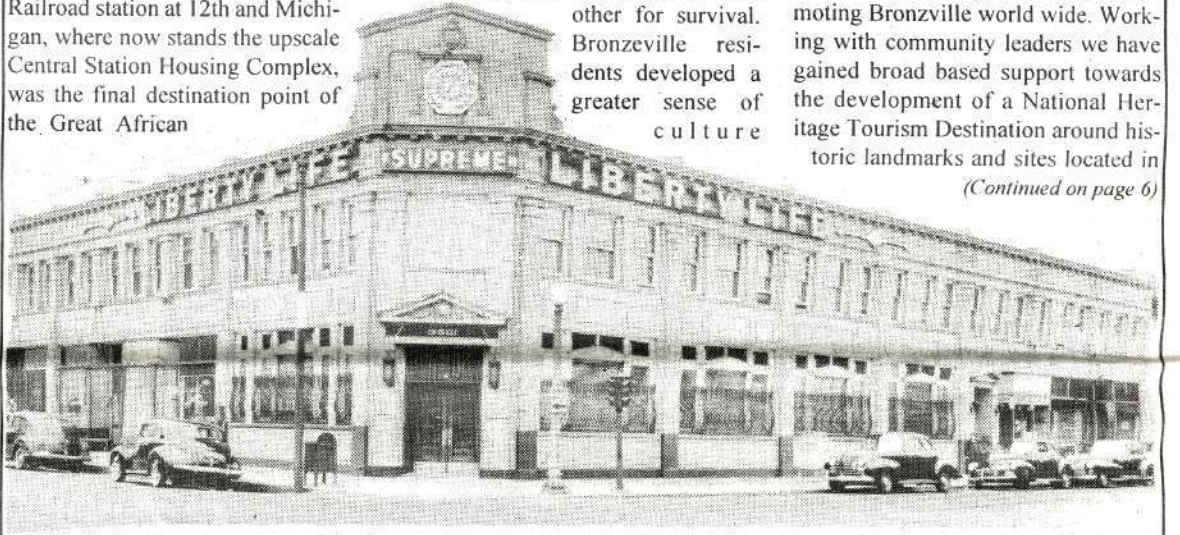


Photo View: The Question is:

Your reflections on 96', moving 97' on.

Compiled by Elaine Norwood

Wanette Stewart: Woodlawn

"I went to a Christmas party in 96 through the Women's Center at a church. We received gifts and the kids saw Santa. This year, I'll have a big move to Madison Wisconsin."



Lonnie Richardson: Woodlawn

Me mostly, South Street Journal did an article featuring me as Volunteer of The Year. Something that sticks out is the write up on me. I'm involved with a lot of things in the community: Christmas give- a-ways, Third District; Freedom Now Center, Grove Park Plaza, Lutheran Child Care Service, and 808 Senior Building. In 1997, more people are going to get involved, leaders will come together and get more resources and I will be getting people out".



Chanda Hooks, Hyde Park, 1996 was a year where many entrepreneurs witness trying times going into business.. They lacked the overall support of government, the people and mainly other businesses that had witness the hard times, now are above stable. But turn their backs on others following in their footsteps..

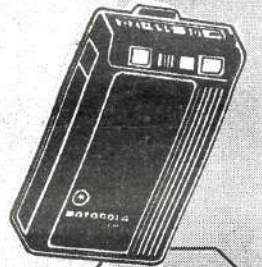
This year it will be different only if we be creative with focus similar to the action that Web Evans has been preaching. It will be better if we did it on our own instead of being forced to. by no choice.



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(Continued from page 1)

Washington Park

mistakenly demolishing a newsstand at 58th and Indiana. The city said they did it by error." Butler said that over 7,746 units have been demolished over the years.

Ms Butler continued calling for the redevelopment of Washington Park, but for black developers and construction workers. She was followed by the cry of the residents attending that its time for community residents to reap the jobs related to housing construction in the community. One black developer Butler called for was Elzie Higgenbottom, (Interview on page 8) of East Lake Management.

Joining the WPCC was several community organizations including Chicago Black United Communities, The Inner City Fund, Crusaders of Justice, Task Force Black Political Empowerment, and Kenwood Oakland Community Organization.

"We as a people must bring resources to our communities. We must train our people and insist that elected officials do the job they are hired to do," said one attendee. Ald. Troutman, informed the residents that the wheels have been in motion for the redevelopment of Washington Park for some time. She continued, "What is need to address the overall process is a market flexibility study that will help guide us to bring in housing support, such as commercial revitalization."

Troutman touch on the superstation for the El at 55th street as an example of commercial and business support for housing development. Stating that this meeting is the beginning of many to involve the resident in the process of rebuilding Washington Park.

Bill Clark, of the city's Dept. of Planning outlined the area for a redevelopment that extends from 51st Street to 61st Street to Indiana. However the area will include other parts of Washington Park.

On the issue of housing moratorium she support the motion to stop all demolition, pointing out that residents were working against her, as they went to the city asking for buildings to be demolished. She said the Mayor Daley's Abandoned Building Program is working against her efforts to stop the "Fast Track" demolition. Our government officials and agencies should follow their example." Ms. Butler continued, "They may have good objectives, but sometimes good intentions fail. Demolition and redevelopment are realities that people live with daily in Washington Park."

The overall position of the residents present was that Blacks should control their communities using African American contractors and developers, and if there are not enough blacks trained to do the work proficiently, using the leadership of Eddie Read, who has organized a new construction union assisting black contractors. "We are the taxpayers," said Ms. Butler, "of this community and we pay the price to know what is happening in our areas and to meet and discuss with our local officials events that will impact our communities. "In 1920 blacks came to the Washington Park area. The



Ald. Troutman



Butler

community started declining in the 1950s. Housing units were demolished and left to deteriorate.

In closing the meeting alderman Troutman stated to the crowd, "Today, in 1997, we are about reaching and renewing the heart of our community."

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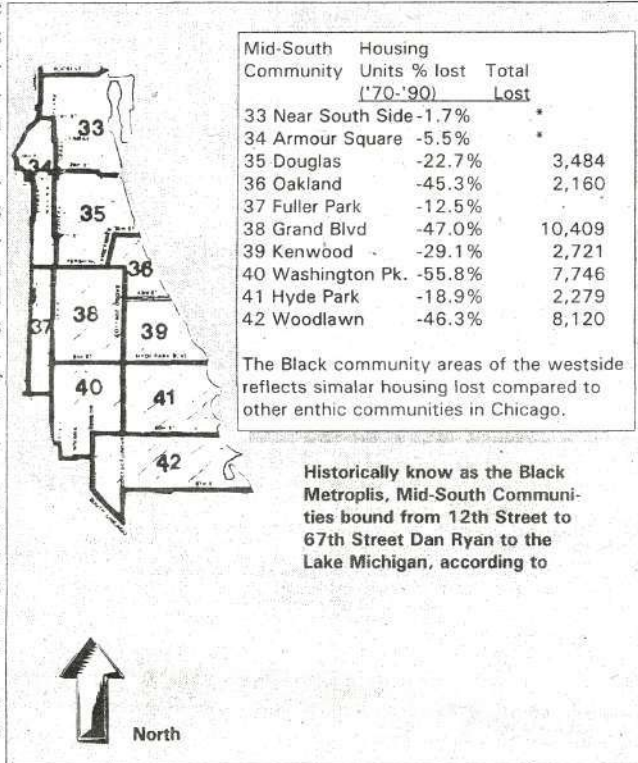
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(Continued from page 1)

Moratorium on demolition

HUD has provided the City of Chicago with a first track grant to demolish large numbers of building in the inner city. Demolition court records reveal that of 40 buildings on the court's docket, 38 were from Grand Boulevard. In addition, in 1996 the City of Chicago only spent \$32,000 of its budgeted \$1 million under the Housing Abandonment Prevention Program.

MSPDC is asking the City of Chicago to place a moratorium on demolition and work with groups to develop short and long term creative strategies to put these architectural gems back on the tax rolls.

The organizations present requesting the following: An inventory of all Bronzeville buildings under construction for demolition and fast track demolition. Support the research being conducted by LPCI on programs in other cities the 1950s." What is now need is, the speaker went on to say, "Mortgage and lease counseling

and financing for current and would be property owners: Support for Empowerment Zone funding for local employment initiatives around housing rehab and new construction: To work with community organizations to establish land trusts in the community to insure development of housing for low and moderate income families.

In many attempts SSJ was unable to obtain. City officials stated that there is no know compiled list of when the demolition will occur for a community area.

"We need a paradigm shift in how we view our valuable housing resource. Vacant buildings and other properties at risk cannot always be viewed as unsafe havens for the homeless or drug addicts. These abandoned buildings should be viewed as opportunities to retain families in the Bronzeville community, enhance the Bronzeville community, and create jobs..

(Continued from page 1)

Empowerment Zone

The Community Workshop on Economic Development Conference Summary

A congregation of over 150 participants gathered; attendees included community residents, organizations, policy and research representatives, academic and community advocates and sponsors from financial institutions. The aim of the conference was to attempt to re-evaluate the current Empowerment Zone/ Enterprise Communities process; to identifying problems and offer solutions. Consequently, attempting to improve the program for the benefit of impoverished Chicago EZ/EC residents.

The recurring theme throughout the conference centered on the notion (as expressed by the participants) that the Empowerment Zone program is a promising initiative, only to the extent that it moves from the rhetoric and noble statements of intent to commitment and full implementation. There was a strong sense of tolerance and hopefulness that the City of Chicago would recognize the significant windows of op-

portunity that it has by sticking to and respecting the full partnership of government with business and community residents to address the city's problem of poverty; economic distress; powerlessness, and alienation.

In terms of policy, in a word, the participants main concern was that the EZ process deal with the City's acute social and economic problems by abandoning traditional approaches to governance and representation and institute shared decision-making, responsibility and accountability "from the bottom to the top." Needless to say, from the community's perspective, the absence of many EZ/ EC Coordinating Council members, including those presenting the City of Chicago, only served to increase the strain on the relation between the "partners" of the Chicago EZ/EC Collaboration.

Though both panelists and attendees of the conference from the participating communities did express a level of dissatisfaction, even betrayal, they also exhibited a sense of pride, hope and optimism based upon the significant success they achieved in the mobilization of citizen and community involvement.

The next round for funding is tentative to start this spring. one focus of the conference is the mobilization of citizen and community involvement and the local collaborating in the development of the Strategic Plan and the design phase of planning in the midst of scattered criticism.

Saluting The Spirit and Celebration of Black History

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Education First

No Short Change, for Change Education

As a school teacher, I have been noticing a trend that makes me feel very uncomfortable. Too many grandparents are raising their grandchildren. In fact, in this newspaper's circulation area, a group of relatives have actually set up a support group just for relatives raising children.

We must stop putting the "me" first. Instead, we must realize we are fathers and mothers first. First, before our jobs. First, before our friends. We have to realize we need to raise our own children. Not pawn them off to others. Not neglect them to the point they have to move in with strangers.

If we have to stop taking drugs to do this, so be it. If we must stop drinking, so be it. If we have to go to parenting classes, so be it.

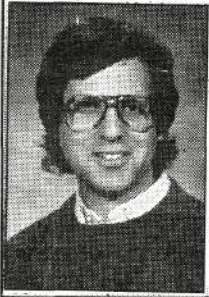
We need to be "change agents" to parents who cannot take care of their own children because they are so selfish, they put "me" first and not their primary business—their children.

We have to make the parents who are not raising their children participate. They have to seek help. They have to discover the self control.

We are blessed. No matter how bad it gets, we are not at war. We are not running from refugee camp to refugee camp. We are not watching our children die from dehydration and forced to leave them behind.

We do have a lot. We have a school system open to all. Those who do not fit, are given alternatives. We must work

Michael H. Brownstein
Educational Columnist



together as teacher-parent-community-friends.

We can find solutions for all of our children. They can learn. There are no bad children at birth. Bad children are taught to be bad. We can stop that. We can find methods to reach everyone. We can make a difference working together.

We have to listen more to the concerns of the students. To the concerns of the parents. To the concerns of the community. Listening by itself will not bring change; but it is a change agent. We need to seek change.

We must understand reading, writing, and mathematics are not just skills to get a job. We must understand they are stepping stones to life-long learning. That's why humans are different from other animals. We can learn new things and we should learn new things. We should always be open to learning.

We must become a community of life-long learners. Parents can model the behavior. Children can imitate the behavior. The community can encourage the behavior.

We can award the children and parents who are working to solve a situation. Award the honor students. Award the parents of honor students. We can support readers. This newspaper can honor a student and a parent of the issue.

And, lastly, I would like to see the spirit of Christmas, Kwanzaa and the new year continue through the year. UNICEF claims the biggest killer of children is dehydration. They have a cure that costs only fourteen-cents. Fourteen-cents to save a life. What a gift! I resolve to put fourteen-cents in a jar everyday.

To put my money where my mouth is, here is my phone number, join in support and become a change agent: (312) 409-6762.

ITT Makes Donation To Douglas Academy



Douglas — Illinois Institute Of Technology (IIT) made a charitable donation of \$10,000 to its adopted school, Douglas Academy, 3200 S. Calumet Ave., last month. The money will be used to upgrade computers and obtain access to the Internet. Pictured from left to right are Sheila Anderson Green, IIT community liaison, Robert Hickman, Local School Council (LSC) representative, Alderman Madeline Haithcock, 2nd Ward, Phillip Jackson, Chicago Public Schools, William Bradford, LSC officer, David Baker, IIT vice-president, external affairs, Tom Gray, LSC community representative, Beverly Blackwood, principal, Douglas Academy, and Leroy Kennedy, IIT associate vice president, community relations.

Phillips High in search of new principal in the mist of problems

By **Donnell Robinson**
Staff Writer

Douglas - As Juanita Tucker retired as principal of six years at Phillips High school, one student informed South Street Journal he is not going back to school because it is a fight everyday. "I'm just tired of it," he said. "The gangs are taking over." Another, admits the same, "Teachers afraid of students, and an overall filling is of tense."

Before leaving Phillips, Ms. Tucker counters the students views, telling South Street Journal, "Things like that don't happen at Phillips. We are fine."

However, it does have its share of problems like many high schools in the black community.

As students stress the plague of crime, the Board of Education is con-

cerned with academic goals and the dropout-rate at Phillips where the students have not benefit from the school reform and teachers salary increases.

In the state of Illinois school rankings in the 1995-96 school year, 78% of Phillips 10th graders did not meet the goals in reading, 74% in math, and 89% in writing. For the 11th graders, 75% are not meeting goals in science, 56% in social science.

In the same school year, 1,522 were enrolled, at the end, 464 dropped out, leaving Phillips with a drop out rate of 30%.

Stacy Admas from Chicago Public Schools, informed SSI, the board is waiting for the Local School Council to interview and select a principal.

On several attempt the LSC was unable to be reach.

The University of Chicago free guide available for selecting a school

Parents looking for the right school for their children will be interested in a free directory to 29 private, non-parochial schools in the Chicago area updated for 1997.

The Schools offer a wide range of programs, including classical curriculums, those based upon European approaches to learning, and those using innovative methods of teachings.

Copies of "A Guide to Chicago - Area Independent Schools" are available by writing, Independent Schools Directory, Room 199, University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, 1362 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637

"Hundreds of families have requested the guide since it was first is-

sued it in 1993," said Alice Haskell, President of the Chicago Area Admissions Directors, the group that publishes the directory. "We feel this guide is useful to parents wanting to explore the wonderful educational opportunities available in the Chicago area."

"Determining which school is best is not a simple task, and this directory is intended to provide some practical help," she added. "It gives advice on judging children's needs and then provides specific information about what each school has to offer. By using the directory, parents will be able to make a better determination of where to send their

children.

The schools listed in the booklet are these schools in Chicago: The Ancona School, Bernard Zell, Anshe Emet Day School, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago City Day School, Chicago, International School, Chicago Waldorf School, The Harvard School, The Latin School, Morgan Park, Academy, North Shore School, Francis W. Parker School, Scared Heart Schools, And The University of Chicago Laboratory Schools.

Other Schools in the directory are within Cook County and La Porte, Indiana.

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McDonald's Remembers Dr. Martin Luther King at the Annual Non-Violence Conference



More than 300 elementary and high school students gathered at the DuSable Museum of African American History for the 5th annual Dr. King "Chill On Violence" conference. A lively panel discussion was held on how to stop violence in our communities, and find alternatives to the negative influences our young boys and girls are confronted with on a daily basis. The Panelist are pictured from left to right: Cong. Bobby Rush, Ayinde Jean-Baptiste, talented young orator; Rev. Jeremiah Wright, pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ; Frances Gutter, executive director of the Black On Black Love Foundation; Rapp'n' Tate Tha Great, a motivational rap artist and, Craigh Huffman, director of youth development for the Chicago Urban League.

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Focus on Literacy
Even Start

Receives Prudential Foundation - RIF GRANT

By **Elaine Norwood**
Freelance Writer

The Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program conducted by Firman Community Services Even Start Family Literacy Program has been awarded a Prudential Foundation grant for implementing services in motivating children to read. The grant, one of many awarded to RIF programs nationwide, will be used to purchase additional books for children.

Through the guidance of national RIF headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Even Start program inspires children to read through planned reading-related activities and provide resources for youngsters to become proud owners of 225 books.

The Prudential Foundation grant will help us to continue providing a wide variety of books that encourage and stimulate youngsters inter-

est in reading. An Even Start staff person stated, "The more children read, the more they improve their skills."

Founded in 1966, Reading is Fundamental is a national nonprofit organization that helps children discover the joy and importance of reading through a nationwide network of 4,700 local projects such as the Even Start Program's. RIF also assists parents who want to encourage reading and oblige their responsibility towards assuming their role in becoming their children's first teacher. The parents and RIF coordinator had their first book event January 31, 1997.

EXCUSE ME

Queen Sister

I have been fortunate to meet a very strong, Black and intelligent young lady by the name of Queen Sister. She is the nucleus and guiding force to bring about her vision and the organization's objectives and goals. It's just not her vision, but a shared vision and their vision too.

Their philosophy is to love and respect each other. Entrepreneurship and commercial endeavor. In her words, "it's time to come out of the

jungle and into the village with unity, cooperation and support for one another. This is where we are going to see who's for real and who's perpetrating. This is where the economic stability should take place".

The Emporium is not just a commercial place, it's a village; a home town. The location is 11444 South



Halsted, the only black mall in the state and in the country. It's geared to uplift people from property into entrepreneurship through education, seminars, on the job training, guidance, nurturing, self-respect and loving yourself as you love others. A special emphasis is directed towards youth to keep them on the right

path. Queen Sister stated, "The village is the home base display purchase place for African-American entrepreneurs struggling and functioning. For the functioning, it would be an outlet without having to deal with the overhead of running a business facility. For the struggling entrepreneur, it would be an incubator geared for welfare reform. Three or four ladies or men individuals can collaborate on a space and select merchandise at whole sale and sell again at a price that would allow them to make a profit."

This is the time and place where African-Americans must come together to support the emporium and the village. The momentum has already started. The village has so much to offer people with different interest. It offers structure for adults as well as youth. Our strength is in numbers and we must unite as Black people and there's no turning back. This is all our responsibility. Queen Sister accepts her responsibility in the love club. They seek strength through the creator; the divine one. My tour through the village was very enlightening. The atmosphere was pleasant. The merchandise was superb. The handcraft, the pottery, literature, clothes was of fine quality. I cannot single out one merchant; they all were excellent. I had a relaxed serene feeling throughout the mall. I felt very good about what I was observing. Queen Sister and the emporium has made a commitment to Black humanity. Lou Palmer has made a commitment to Black humanity. I have made a commitment to Black humanity. Now, I invite you to make a commitment to Black Humanity.

Retired Postal Worker
Concern Citizen
Harlan Hayes

"To Serve or Prosecute"

Should police have authority to order passengers out of an automobile when the driver is stopped for an alleged traffic violation? Does the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantee poor people the right to appeal a criminal conviction?"

How often do law enforcement officials commit criminal misconduct when prosecuting in criminal cases? What should happen to the policemen who were accused of wrong doing in the deaths of Joseph Gould and Jorge Guillen? "These troubling questions brought before State and Federal courts in 1996, may be decided before the end of 1997. However, no matter what decisions are made, the underlining problem which causes cases presently to be as issues repeatedly before the courts will remain. That problem is what should be done about us, the African-American, Hispanics, the poor and other powerless people who are the passengers ordered out of automobiles when police stop the driver for an alleged traffic violation. The defendants who lack the resources to retain an attorney for an appeal; or the victims of prosecutorial misconduct and police abuse. These cases are about us and our troubling presence. Yet, no court

will call us by name when it resolves these questions for that which is politically incorrect. (Just ask those Texaco Executives who were caught on tape.)

Nevertheless, the decisions will impact us directly and in doing so serve as another tool to assure our containment. For contained, we are economically, politically, and socially. kept in our place. But what else can be done with a caste, class or race that outlives it's usefulness and in so doing acquires an outlaw status?

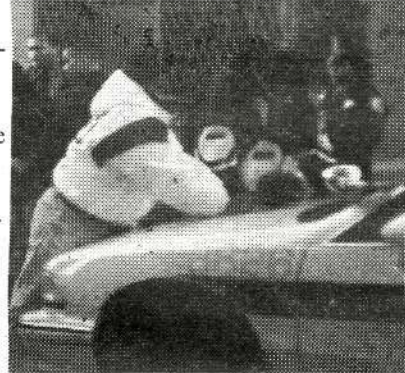
Karen's Kommentary



By Karen Brazil-Breashears

More importantly, what can the outlaws do? One of our great poets, Langston Hughes, grappled with this question a lifetime ago in a poem called, "Dream Deferred." He asked: "What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun? Or fester like

a sore. And then run. Does it stink like rotten meat? Or crust and sugar over like a syrupy sweet? Maybe it just sags like a heavy load. Or does it explode?"



(Continued from page 3)

Black Metropolis

Bronzville. As we rapidly approach the 21st century, students in area high schools can now go on the World Wide Web, linkup academic curriculums on the historic contributions of their ancestors and tours of landmarks buildings. People across the nation have begun to realize the promise of economics empowerment can be realized through effective, creative Heritage Tourism programs and product development in Bronzville. Visitors to Bronzville can

see the reopening of the restored Chicago Bee Branch Library, 3rd Annual Restoring Bronzville Historic House Tour & Housing Workshop, the 5th Annual 43rd Street blues Festival, and the re-establishment of the Mayor of Bronzville Campaign.

Established Chicago Leadership has now discovered how well the presentation of historic, culture and natural resources in the Bronzville combines with the development and marketing of tourism throughout the city and state and can help sustain local economic and constructive ways of life in a more ethnically divers, multi-cultural society.

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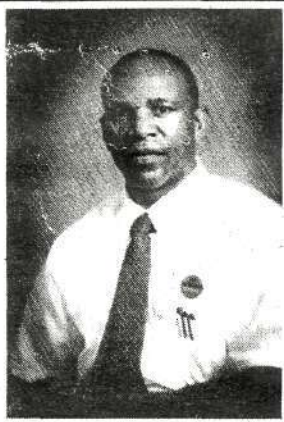
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Cutbacks in SSI,

working and unable to save for their retirement.

Thus, the United States would be unique in social security and SSI. (SSI is not funded by Social Security but the U.S. Treasury Dept.)

Also, under the Social Security Act, those considered disabled, blind, physically handicapped, mentally ill, drug abusers, and alcoholics, would be able to benefit from such a program.

On March 29, 1996, Public Law 104-121, "Contract With America Advancement Act of 1996," was signed into law.

This is no bull. Many in the Black communities in Chicago, especially Mid-South, will be greatly effected by SSI cuts, especially children and the elderly. "I don't know how 'll make it," many of those being cut off in the Mid-South are already remarking.

The SSI program has become overburdened, not what was envisioned by Roosevelt's "think-tank" of most of your tax dollars (75 percent) going to retirees, than the more than 40 percent of tax dollars going to non-retirees, as drug addicts, alcoholics, mentally and physically disabled, widows of workers and divorcees. "Too many are benefiting unnecessarily due to too many loopholes in SSI guidelines, whereby almost anyone can claim SSI

for any number of reasons," a spokeswoman at the Mid-South Social Security office at 47th Street said.

Now many critics of SSI are coming forth and saying the program is doomed if cutbacks are not made. But many of those cutbacks will greatly affect black citizens in the Mid-South and Chicago areas. These areas are high among the disabled and children, many will lose their benefits with cutbacks in food stamps and medical expenses (medicaid).

Of the more than 60 percent of the people in Chicago who received some form of welfare, more than 12,000 will get their last SSI check in January 1997.

You don't have to be a psychic to know the repercussions of such cutbacks with no immediate remedy of jobs or job training, further payoffs.

As in the early 1990s, when welfare cuts were being made in Chicago, jails and prisons in the state started to fill up rapidly.

1997 will look dismal until private sectors in the job market and government ones can be created. Chicago like many larger urban cities across the country can expect more homeless people, crime increase and poverty for the coming year. At least this is the perspective for many in so-

cial services in the city of Chicago.

Onxy Resource Center which serviced more than 500 SSI clients as representatives payee under the 1995 Supplemental Security Income Law, has seen their clientele reduced to less than 200 due to federal cutbacks and new programs to benefit alcoholics and drug addicts.

Crime will skyrocket", says Terence Crisp, a case manager at Onyx. "I'll be afraid to be out after dark in some neighborhoods, especially in Mid-South. People will be doing anything for money now." Two of his clients, Helen D. _____ and Janet R. _____, both say that this will be a very hard winter for them with no SSI check in sight. "I don't think I'll be able to put ends together," said Janet, mother of four young children and has no SSI checks coming in after January 1, 1997, with also reduced monthly food stamps allotments and revision of AFDC policies.

Another SSI recipient, said, "The Federal government is going broke with our jobs going overseas. America is slowly falling and it won't be long before we are not even a third-world power."



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The Museum of Science and Industry Hosts Black Creativity Festival February 1997

Black History Months theme, "The Messengers: African Americans in Media," will celebrate African American contributions to radio, television and print journalism. Through March 9. The museum is located at 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, **DO LORD REMEMBER ME**, a stirring spiritual journey with music, dance and dialogue written by James de Jongh, opens at the Chicago Theatre Company at Parkway Playhouse, 500 E. 67th Street, through Sunday, April 13, 1997. Show times are 8 pm Thursdays through Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$15 with discounts for students and seniors. Call 773-493-5360 for tickets and info.

Totally Caribbean-Black History Month

Activities at The Shedd Aquarium

By land and by sea, the Caribbean culture will be the focus. By land, family arts and crafts, by sea,....The Chocolate Chips Theatre Company, the resident theatre company at Kennedy-King College, will perform "Song of the Shore," an original skit with music based on Caribbean folklore and fish stories. Jazzin' at the Shedd-Caribbean Style. The popular "jazzin" nights have been extended to the second Thursday of each month during winter and spring. Live music by SYDZ, The Chocolate Chips Theatre Company special performance, drinks, dinner in Soundings Restaurants, stroll through the Oceanarium. Information line at 312-939-2438.

The Medinah Shrine Circus The 55th Annual Edition Feb. 28 - March 16. 312-266-5050

"An Expo For Today's Black Woman,"

Celebrated author and poet Maya Angelou Keynotes (right), father and son singers Gerald and Eddie Levert (below), and Ashford & Simpson Performs at 97 Expo



Illustrious author and poet Dr. Maya Angelou will deliver the keynote address at the opening night benefit gala for "An Expo For Today's Black Woman," Thursday, March 13, 1997 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Created by Merry Green, "An Expo for Today's Black Woman" is a three-day exposition of information on careers, education, health care, child care, politics, fashion, beauty, spirituality, and business. Scheduled for March 14-16, 1997, at McCormick Place, 23rd St. at Lake Shore Dr., the expo will feature more than 30 seminars and panel discussions, continuous live entertainment, and a marketplace representing more than 500 small and large businesses, corporations, and organizations.

Visitors will be able to sample the latest products, receive information on current trends and service.

Tickets for the opening night are \$100 per person; \$1,500 per corporation table with partial proceeds from the event going towards the Sadie Waterford Manor, a halfway house for girls ages 9 to 18. V-103' Bonnie DeShong will be joined by Diane Burns and Cheryl Burton of ABC-TV, channel 7 in serving as mistresses of ceremonies. A presentation of Merry Green Promotions Group and V-103, GALA '97 is sponsored by Ameritech, Advocate Health Care and, year, Sears. Reception is at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Joining Dr. Angelou at this black-tie optional event will be the recipients of



the Phenomenal Woman Awards Presentation and duos, husband and wife vocals Ashford and Simpson and father and son singers Gerald and Eddie Levert, illustrating the beauty and power of families working together.

"Maya Angelou represents the highest ideal of this Expo," said Merry Green, Expo director. "We are delighted that she will be joining with us in this celebration of women of African descent.

Dr. Angelou's distinctly melodic voice has become the voice of choice in the African-American community. Author of more than 20 volumes of books, poetry and plays, her universally acclaimed, "I Know Why the Caged Birds Sing and Pulitzer Prize nominated "Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water'Fore I Die" are required reading in many learning institutions across the country.

Ticket are available at the expo, \$8 general admission; \$5 for seniors and students under 14. Call for more information: 312-913-334.

DON'T MISS THESE WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS!

Black Creativity 1997



Saturday, March 1, 2-5 p.m.

Family Day lets you meet award-winning African American film producers, see their films, and learn how they got started in the business.

Saturday & Sunday, March 8-9

Last weekend for the **Juried Art Exhibition** and "The Messengers: African Americans in Media" exhibition.

This month, celebrate African American culture and achievement at the Museum of Science and Industry. Weekend highlights are free with Museum admission. Call (773) 684-1414 for more information.

Sponsored by Citibank*, WGCI, and the Chicago Defender Charities, Inc. With additional support from: Sears, Roebuck and Company, Abbott Laboratories Fund, Pepsi Cola General Bottlers, Inc. *10th year of sponsorship

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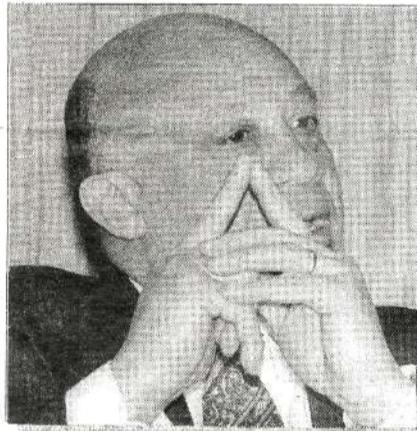
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Questions for Mr. Elzie Higginbottom

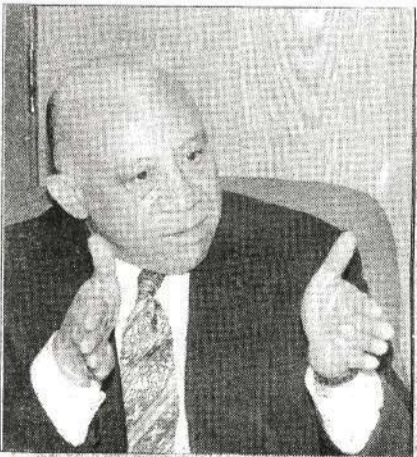
By Beverly A. Reed

Photos by Owen Lawson III

To be a developer requires the solid assets. It also requires a solid belief that where you drop the wrecking ball is right and proper for the future. Black developers in Chicago are a rare breed. They must have an ear and heart beat close to their community while overcoming challenges that would normally cripple the black businessman. Evolving over a long period of time, the weak and unlucky ones are weeded out. Positive associations are formed and kept with the larger business-world. Through such a chemistry comes our black developer. On February 19th, the Lake Grove Village Tenants Association will show up in Bankruptcy Court. They will attempt to



"I supported Mayor Daley and the City of Chicago and will do it again."



acquire one of the buildings on 39th and Cottage Grove that has plagued Elzie Higginbottom and his East Lake Management Association for years. Here, he has had to make a hard business decision. On 47th and King Drive the developer who has his hand in turning the old Walgreens building into a mimi shopping mall is Higginbottom. At a recent Washington Park community meeting [see pg. one], residents voiced their approval for one black developer for rebuilding their neighborhood. That man is a major player in the world of Chicago business, real estate, and banking. A towering, decisive figure and our interview feature Elzie Higginbottom.

L.Dunn.



Reed: Were you born rich?

Higginbottom I grew up with a strong work ethic. I was born in Cook County hospital, in a two parent working class family in Chicago Heights. My mother was extremely religious and my father's-work ethic played a major part of what I am. My father was a man of integrity, a hard working, good American, who played by the rules and operated within the system. He instilled in me a belief that if you work hard the system will work for you

Reed: When did you decide to make a fortune?

Higginbottom: I have a passion for what I do. I try to be a good Christian. I am not lucky. I had to make a decision about wealth. Many people work hard to achieve a certain level. Whatever success I have gained is not just work. I have been blessed. I don't question the whys.

Reed: Why did you choose real estate?

Higginbottom: I got a summer job with Baird & Warner in college. I went to school on a track scholarship at the University of Wisconsin, one of the better universities in the country. It was one of the more liberal and culturally diverse schools with, good business, real estate, and agriculture concentrations. You felt comfortable there even though you were part of a large minority community. So I was an athlete going to school who needed a summer job. Baird & Warner is one of the largest independent real estate firms in the country. The company was family owned by members with a strong work ethic. The real estate field was not too open for Blacks. But John Baird's thinking was that there should be opportunities for all. At his company, along with my strong work ethic, I developed a

good fundamental foundation of the real estate business and how it worked. My first job at B & W was to work on South Commons. Later, after some 15 - 18 years, I was able to do such things as set up a government assisted finance department.

Reed: How does a wealthy Black man make decisions he can sleep with when so much disparity exists for Black people?

Higginbottom It disturbs me. My aunt and cousins lived in Ida B. Wells at 39th and Vincennes. I understand what its like to be poor. What disturbs me most is that the people that live there have resigned themselves to a life of second-class citizenship. Young men and women should use the tools to better themselves through education. Even though they're faced with difficult odds, there is a choice.

Reed: How do you select a General Contractor?

Higginbottom : In business, everything is relationships and confidence. Business people like certainty. That's what makes it difficult for new contractors to break into the circle. I like to determine

my choices dealing with people. Public body, net worth, a whole list that gets into.

Reed: How does the company select sub-contractors?

Higginbottom : We may or may not have contractors with individual trades on the job. The general contractor coordinates all of these. The General Contractor has financial responsibilities over what the sub-

contractor performs.

Reed: Are there many black people today working as good tradespeople?

Higginbottom We lost a lot of tradesmen, a lot of those kids went to college, went to corporate America, hit the glass ceiling. Ma and Pa felt that a career as a professional would provide more stability. What we have to do is change that mindset. Get youth to understand that it's good to open a hardware store and work 12 - 14 hours. It is truly an opportunity to do that in their own community. Get about the business of doing that in a hurry. Other groups are doing this already. Consequently, we lost that entrepreneur. Other groups, if they were immigrants and their background was entrepreneurial, came in and filled that void.

Reed: What aren't Black Contractors doing, is there something they should do?

Higginbottom Good management and conducting of business does not always happen [as it should]. You must have capital that isn't 100% borrowed. Construction business is driven by your labor force.

Reed: What is your plan for Black Americans?

Higginbottom: My thing is that I don't want to come from the group that is everyone's else doormat. I would like for my group to take advantage of the opportunities that are available in America. Stop telling people they don't have to have money. You cannot build successful businesses on borrowed capital. People have to invest. Laborers on a job are selling their labor, otherwise their product is of no value to anyone.

Reed: Explain your support for Mayor Daley the last election.

Higginbottom: Like you got to go with the person who can get the job done. They tell you, you should support the person who is black, but they shop at I. Magnins. I supported Mayor Daley and the City of Chicago and will do it again. Neighborhood redevelopment started by Harold Washington is continuing.

Reed: What should our community be doing today?

Higginbottom : The other thing I see is that the African-American community doesn't rally around to help itself. My neighbor would tell on me or I'll do what's good for me. Any group that thinks individually will have to rethink itself. This is our country and we should try to make our communities safe and prosperous. Other groups should want to live in our communities. It doesn't take much thought to be an obstruction, it takes much more to be positive. We need to change with the children, the future is in our children. We have churches that have been around for years.

Reed: What about the businesses?

Higginbottom Business institutions need to rethink their relationship, provide a platform and positive environment for our youth. Other groups in our society feel there is nothing wrong with being wealthy. If we have wealthy African-Americans it provides a foundation and role model, it will give them goals. If we can take the attitude we have towards sports, we can produce 300 million Michael Jordans or 300 million business men. We need to begin to start thinking about how much we spend. We are the 13th or 14th largest economy in the world.

"Black Wealth/White, a 1995 book by sociologists Melvin Oliver and Tom Shapiro, pointed out that nearly two-thirds of black households have no financial assets and that even most black middle-class families are living on the financial edge." From Color Blind by Ellis Cose (1996, Harper Collins, p 222)

Editorial from the Publisher

Reopen the EI, As it was done on 12th Street

63rd street EI reflects years of concern, participation and organized effort in the Woodlawn community. This is not true of the Green-Line 12th Street stop, just open for the convenience of new residents in the area.

Twenty years ago, Dr. Rev. Leon Finney led more than 200 residents of The Woodlawn Organization, before then, Mayor Jane Byrne's Department of Planning. Their demand was major rehabilitation to the EI. No paint job.



Ron Carter
Publisher & Editor and
The Advisory Board, of
South Street Journal

Today, Rev. Finney maintains the EI has no use. That no viable plan of development has been presented that would bring developers and investors to 63rd St. with the EI standing. With Mayor Daley agreeing, both reports, they are representing the majority of Woodlawn residents, along with prominent community leaders; or of those who submitted written testimony at a public hearing. The city has taken the position that Woodlawn would be better served by terminating the EI service at Cottage Grove and opening up one on 12th street near Daley's home.

Even with the funds in place to repair the EI, as HUD has set forth, the city maintains it will come down. As one city official stated, "No matter how long it takes the city to find the

money to do it."

Opposing groups like the Woodlawn Combined Block Clubs, WECAN, Freedom Now Center, and others, seemly in the shadows of a lost cause, may have just about given in to the dominant organized forces.

South Street Journal concludes that the EI would better service Woodlawn and the surrounding communities by reopening. Since the funds are in place to repair it, it would save tax-payers at least \$13 million in demolition cost. Among many other reasons to keep it in place. To deny the riders an accessible transportation is counterproductive to the economics of a working community, just as the opening of 12th Street. Even for Bishop Brazier, (who takes the position for demolition) church members who would rather drive to church, can take CTA. Once its clean as it is near his church. Or those without an automobile, can add \$1,000 CTA revenue on Sunday alone. And for the residents of the new homes for Woodlawn, accessible transportation and convenience is what's attracting suburbanites to the \$200,000 homes build around 12th Street.

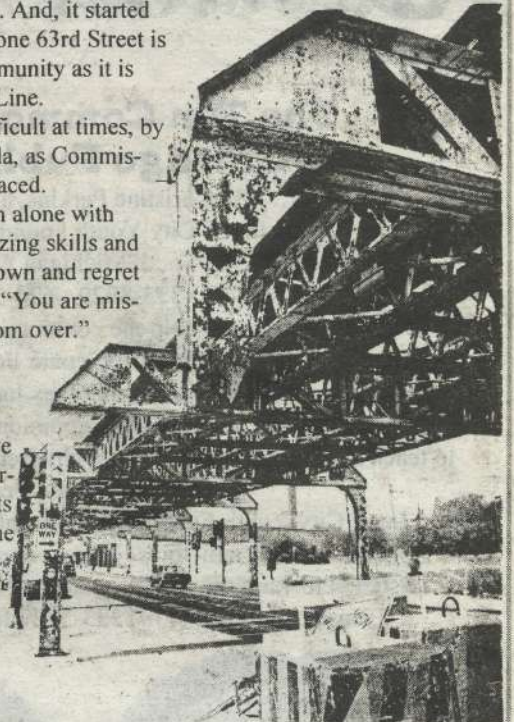
It is very questionable whether the vast majority of residents and riders rallied to the long term plans concluding to demolish the EI. Regardless of how ugly it looks. Just as the closing of

58th Street EI stop, as well as 59th and 61st and even 63rd and Harvard. As the front page implies, demolition of property has been a quiet evil in the Mid-South area. And, it started with 63rd Street. Full EI transportation along 63rd Street is just as important to the growth of that community as it is 12th Street and the building of the Orange Line.

As planning to improve Woodlawn is difficult at times, by both sides of the EI. Perhaps the real agenda, as Commissioner Jerry Butler implies, has not yet surfaced.

However, our position seems to be in vain alone with those that did not plan the long term organizing skills and political might. It sad to see the EI come down and regret it. But as one supporter to keep the EI said, "You are mistaken, the EI isn't coming down. It is far from over."

If you say so, John. The hope is that the leadership in charge can guide the support of Mayor Daley and Alderman Troutman, to be true and sensitive to the convenience of Woodlawn, and fostering affordable housing and jobs for residents already here. Be sensitive to reopening the EI. Be true as Mayor Daley, allowed 12th Street stop to open for his Near-South residents and the other riders in the area.



Letters to the Editor

Outraged on the Living Conditions in CHA

Dear Editor:
I am very outraged and opposed to unfair treatment in CHA. As a citizen and a resident of Robert Taylor Homes, I ask, "Why do we continue to endure in our ignorance concerning whats going on?"

"Why do we continue to ignore the devastating and ill effects that is taking place in CHA?" The building in which I reside darkness engulfs its base. Garbage and debris in vast amounts, ravages our hallways that leads from the first floor to the seventeenth floor.

It seems no janitors have been on the premises since the beginning of my residency. My daughter's room was broken into through the wall from a vacant apartment next door, in August of 1996. I've been complaining constantly for the last five months, but no one has come to fix it yet, being in feared for my family safety. Anyone can enter from there at any given moment.

My toilet was stopped up for about three months before they saw a need to unstop it. Feces ran along my wall like a carpet being laid. Maybe this is their way of getting us out of these apartments.

There are two elevators in this building but only one is working. The other one has been out of order for about 14 years. Why is that? It is because the people haven't been complaining and speaking up.

Young children run up and down the stairs as if they have grown used to the darkness that engulfs it.

The water leaks of lead, plumbing is at it's all time - worse. Is that's because we choose to look away?"

"Cock roaches invade the homes as if they own the apartment. Rodents run track in your living room as if they are in an olympic race going for the gold. It's a private hell created just for the poor.

I ask, where are our icons and civil rights leaders like Rev. Jesse Jackson, Con. Bobby Rush and most of all, our Aldermen, or women like Dorothy Tillman? Are they too busy living in their Ivory Towers in the clouds that they can't see nor smell the foul odors of injustice that has been ravaging our people. I've been complaining but have been ignored. It is unhealthy, unsanitary, unethical, and socially unfair treatment to the people of C.H.A. These are the very people who made your civil rights leaders and now they are faced with a harsh dilemma and a great injustice. We are in very much need of assistance.

This is a call for action, so that we may begin to start a transformation of a Nation. We must begin to fight against injustice." I will strike a

mighty blow by putting one of the biggest lawsuits on CHA, for they have belittled and dehumanizes the people of CHA for too long.

Our civil rights leaders may be sleeping, but I'm no longer sleeping. Beauty, I'm wide awake and trying to enlighten my people!

I see the injustice that have thrused it mighty jaws around us with a mighty lock, but once again, I say, "Let my people go!

God will not let this continue for these are the days of Revelations. God hears his children crying in the wilderness and he will reply!"

If you are interested in this great lawsuit call me at (773) 924-4311 to obtain petition. By doing this, you will aslo strike a mighty blow against injustice.

Ms. Beauty Turner

The Liquor Store on 47th Street

Dear Editor:

I refuse to patronize any stores, where all sales are final, and an employee can sale me a product, but can't ring the money up at the register.

What I am about to say may step on some toes, because, I think some of these places buy large amounts of this newspaper, South Street Journal. And the liquor store at 47th and _____, let some of their customers drink liquor in the back room, and get drunk, creating lots of confusion. Police officers receiving their booty - "free snack," while paying customer have to wait until they receive their gratuity. One patrolman was so obessed that his bulletproof vest covered only his upper body while his belly was grossly exposed. I would bet, he couldn't catch a cold.

"Some of the officer's do a good job keeping professional beggars, prostitutes, and all sorts of peddlers away. But when it start getting dark, they crawl out of their holes and confront the public with the 'give me's,' or do you want to buy," "give me a break." As Dicken's Scrooge asked, "Aren't there any more workhouses?"

47th Street use to be a good place to shop, now it's just a replica of Jew Town with a new kind of Jew. Jan 1, 1997, the only people left on the street will be the squares, beggars, and all sort of peddlers, junkies and whores. Most store owners will be in a warmer climate, counting your 'use to be dollars.'"

Sincerely, Scrooge

P.S. Car 54, where are you?

"A Concern Reader"

Dear Editor:

I have read the November 21, 1996, edition of the South Street Journal. To say the least, there are some interesting articles that

should be of concern to local residents. However, as interesting as your articles may be, it would not surprise me if readers never finished reading the paper after the first story because of the poor sentence structure, misspelled words, and poor punctuation. As an example, lets look at the headline story, "47th Street Set For Community/Business." There are nearly sixty errors (please refer to the attached) that demonstrate my concerns.

The second article discusses fifty years of a planning board. The second paragraph begins, "For over 50 years the Near South Planning Board has been a" — Has been what? Where is the rest of this sentence and why isn't the thought of this sentence completed? I reached for the ending but I'm still dandling. What must a good number of your readers think?

The third article tells readers about the awards which were recently presented by IIT. Please note: your paper misspelled the name of one of the awardees, Soloni. You know, Dr. Karanja. At least spell his name correctly, Sokoni.

Finally, I am inviting you to read, in the same edition, "The UnZip" column on page two, and look at how poorly this "column" is written. The Mistakes are glaring.

The point is, that the SSJ has an opportunity to be a vital and important.

Bob Taylor

Dear Reader:

We would like to thank you for your close reading of the South Street Journal. Your letter reflects our feeling along with many others in our community that we need a newspaper reflective of and concerned with the important issues of the community residents with prove reading.

We ask the writer two things: 1) Stay with us this year and watch the South Street Journal grow in clarity and insight. 2) While staying with us, be with us. Become part of that insight by coming in to do some volunteering, some proofreading and then with us all together, we will grow. And 3) Take out a subscription or ask your local business to advertise their sales, for money cannot cure all. I can help pay to get things done

Thank you for your letter
The Publisher and Editor

Grattiti Blasters"

Seeks Property owners support

Dear Editor:

Chicago's "Graffiti Blaster" program now has cleaned this this type of vandalism from more than 200,000 buildings in the city with no fees charged to the property owners. Initiated by Mayor Daley in mid-1993, it has become one of the most productive of all municipal services.

To be as effective as possible,

"Graffiti Blasters" needs victims of this crime to report the problem immediately and

give us permssion to go onto the property and remove the illegal markings. More than 90 percent of Chicago's buildings remain graffiti-free after only three or fewer cleanings because the taggers go elsewhere when they see their "work" being consistantly erased.

Every penny of funding for this program has been used to expand our removal service so that, unlike some other major city functions, there is no money for paid advertising. We therefore ask community newspapers to

MAYOR DALEY'S FREE GRAFFITI REMOVAL
GRAFFITI BLASTERS
(312) 744-1234
(TTY: 312-744-8599)

Printed as a public service by the South Street Journal

consider printing "filler" ads as a public service. By helping to keep our 24-hour hotline number available to the public, you would be assisting any of your readers suddenly faced with a graffiti problem.

Enclosed are several pages of camera-ready copies of our ads. Commissioner of

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Levin at (312) 744-6430.

Ellen J. Carey,
Commissioner of
Streets and Sanitation

Statement of Congressman Bobby L. Rush Central Loop TIF

Earlier February, the City finance Committee, voted unanimously in favor of creating a Central Loop Tax Increment financing district. This proposed TIF is the latest in a pattern of abuse and misplaced priorities that is draining the city's revenues so that Mayor Daley can continue to ingratiate himself with wealthy developers and provide them with an unending stream of public subsidies.

Tax dollar that should have gone to support schools, colleges, Parks, waste collection and other vital services have been irresponsibly tied up in Daley's TIF subsidies for his developer friends. The loss of dollars to the city's general revenue nearly doubled during the first year of the Daley administration. And each subsequent year, more money has been lost. For example:

- Between 1990 and 1995, 213.82 million tax dollars from local taxing bodies were diverted to TIFs from meaningful public purposes.
- Between 1990 and 1995 The Chicago Board of Education lost \$94.15 million
- Between 1990 and 1995 City of Chicago lost \$49.53 million
- It is struggling property owners in the City of Chicago who must make up the difference in this loss by bearing a \$20 million property tax hike.

This drastic, unwarranted, and unparalleled creation of TIFs in stark contrast to the statutorily stated purpose of using TIFs as economic job stimulus vehicles.

Mayor Daley has clustered TIF's almost exclusively in areas with the most



development potential. In the last six months, there has been an explosion of TIFs. More development and private investment has occurred in the new Loop TIF area than has occurred during an entire year in 69 out of the city's 77 other

community areas.

Clearly, "Voo Doo" economics or perhaps more appropriately, "Daley Doo-Doo" economics are at work here. And the Mayor and his council cronies believe that instead of Tax Increment Financing,—"TIF," stands for nothing more than "Take it, Fat,ats."

All communities in Chicago could use a TIF to help revitalize their areas and promote job creation for local residents. So the question that I and many other Chicagoans ask, is why are only wealthy developers seeing the benefits of TIFs?

After all, the locations of many, may recent TIFs — including the Central loop TIF — already magnets for luxury condominiums, lofts, retail centers and other upscale development projects.

They are the last places that need to be made more attractive to developers. Developers have practically fallen all over themselves to grab a piece of these valuable locations.

There is no doubt that those who really could use a TIF in their neighborhood are last in line to get one. And there is no doubt that the TIFs being handed out by Mayor Daley to his robber Baron Bosom-buddies have cost the city and its citizens plenty.

The Central lop TIF is the latest attraction in Daley-land. And it needs to be shut down before we are all taken for a ride. Today, I call on the City Council to reject the recommendation of the Finance committee

Spiritual Food

The Ten Commandments for Chicago Public Schools

By Christine Perkins, a director, Inner City Youth Foundation, Inc. 4500 South Michigan Ave. (53rd) (773) 373-3929 - 624-5220 fax

We need our churches to help the community. This is how churches can help the community. Inner City Youth Foundation, Inc. has learned through talking with our youth, that they have not been taught the basic rules of life. We are asking all the community churches to join in an effort to teach all Chicago Public School children the **Ten Commandments and The Lord's Prayer.**

We at Inner City Youth Foundation feel that this would assist us in trying to counter-act anti-social behavior among our youth today.

Listed below are the first easy steps to accomplishing this goal: Please call today: (773) 373-3929 for more information.

1. Provide, distribute and teach the Ten Commandments to all Grand Blvd. and Kenwood-Oakland Public School students.

2. Provide, distribute and teach the Lord's Prayers to all Brand Boulevard and Kenwood-Oakland Public School students.

3. Encourage some form of prayer in the school i.e. meditation, moments of silence.

4. Provide Day Care Centers 8-24hrs per day to assist in Welfare Reforms - Welfare to Work Program.

5. Create an Investment Pool for the Indoor Family Entertainment Complex that would create jobs and constructive activities for youth.

6. Open a military Academy - For children at-risk ages 9-13.

Happy Ramadan

Eurel Jackson, Jr.

Ramadan is a special month (January 10th thru February 10th) of the year for over one billion Muslims throughout the world. It is a time for inner reflection, devotion to God, and self-control.

Muslims think of it as a kind of tune-up for their spiritual lives. Perhaps fasting in Ramadan is the most widely practiced of all the Muslim forms of worship. The daily period of fasting starts at the breaking of dawn and ends at the setting of the sun. In between-- that is, during the daylight hours-- Muslims totally abstain from food, drink, smoking, and marital sex.

The usual practice is to have a pre-fast meal (*suhoor*) before dawn, and a post-fast meal (*iftar*) after sunset. The celebration at the end of Ramadan is called 'Eid-ul-Fitr (the Festival of Fast-breaking). It is a joyous occasion, similar to Christmas in its celebration but with strong religious significance. The giving of a special charity for this occasion is obligatory. Muslims dress in holiday attire, attend a special community prayer in the morning, and visit friends and relatives. Greetings of "Eid Mubarak," or "blessed 'Eid," are exchanged.

In some places, children are given gifts or money by their parents and relatives. The celebration of 'Eid -ul-Fitr lasts three days, although the main festivities occur on the first day. Muslims in the United States are trying to gain recognition of 'Eid-

ul-Fitr, one of their two main festivals, as an official holiday. Mid-South community grocery store owner (Minnie's, 5707 So. Prairie), Mike, celebrates Ramadan "because it is a religious order from God.

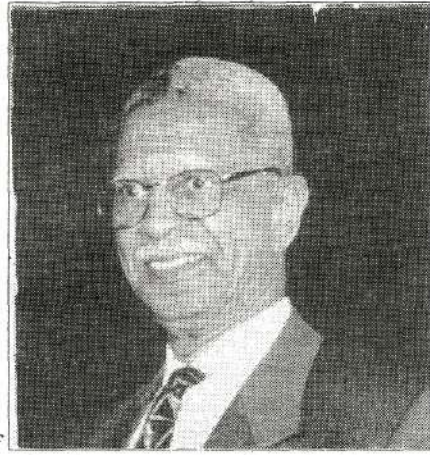
"After sunset, we eat a meal with our families, but because I have to work during this time, I can not eat with my wife and I miss this. After 30 days, everyone celebrates. 'Eid' for three days. Its like Christmas to Americans. We also eat a lot of sweets at this time. We only have two holidays a year and this is the biggest. We eat at relatives and friends homes. One night every one eats at a sister's home the next night at a brother's home, and so on. Also, the Mosque, we have a special prayer after we eat every day."

Ms. Denise (Khaefallah) Lawani and Ms. Rene'e Salahuddin, two Mid South educators. Ms. Lawani: "Another reason for abstinence or fasting is the money you save from not eating, you give to those who are less fortunate in the form of *Zekat*. You free yourself in things that are personally gratifying, material things, sex and smoking. "You are at peace with yourself and others, no arguing and profanity. We dress modestly, a simplistic appearance, no make up. Really, you withdraw from worldly pleasures and devote yourself to *El-Islam*. You should only have one meal, at sundown, and it should be of meager portions and quality, that of a poor man. But that's the way we (my family) eats any way," she

UP CLOSE

Dr. Arthur M. Brazier - 1997 Friend of Community Development Award Winner.

Although Woodlawn abuts a very stable community, Hyde Park, it has suffered from decades of neglect and decay. Dr. Arthur M. Brazier surmounted considerable skepticism about the viability of a market-rate, for-sale development in this community. Plaisance Place, comprised to date of 16 single-family homes, has succeeded in demonstrating that Central Woodlawn is a thriving community worthy of investment and serves as a model of successful mixed income development.



Dr. Arthur M. Brazier, Pastor of the Apostolic Church of God in Woodlawn, 63rd and Dorchester has committed his life to the Christian ministry, but has also recognized the need for being actively involved in the civic life of the city and working for the well-being of African-Americans and other minorities.

12,000 or more. He is a down to earth preacher and spirit filled. Whenever, you come out spirit filled. even tho it is a large church it stills has a small church feeling. Everyone still is on the same accord. You just get that from a church.

Over the past 35 years, Dr. Brazier has committed his time and energy to community redevelopment through his work on a number of initiatives including the Center for Community De-

velopment Corporations in the design and implementation of commercial and revitalization programs, and the packaging and development of major housing projects that received some form of government assistance.

Dr. Brazier is founding Chairman of the Board of the Woodlawn Preservation and Investment Corporation, a community-based group organized for the improvement of the Woodlawn community. It has developed an ambitious land-use plan for, and began development of an 18-block area in the Woodlawn community designed to attract a socio-economic family mix that will insure community viability.

Dr. Brazier is also Chairman of the Board of the Fund for Community Redevelopment and Revitalization. This group of community and institutional leaders has come together to pool their resources to undertake effort over the next five to ten years to rebuild two communities, namely, East Woodlawn and North Kenwood-Oakland.

He has received many honors for his continued efforts to assist community organizations in building new housing and upgrading substandard housing.



Ms. Denise (Khaefallah) Lawani and Ms. Rene'e Salahuddin, two Mid South educators and Muslims think of Ramadan as a kind of tune-up for their spiritual lives. Perhaps fasting in Ramadan is the most widely practiced of all the Muslim forms of worship

said, amusingly. "This is also a time to propagate Islam, to involve others in the worship, or change inappropriate and unlawful behavior. This is a time when Brothers and Sisters go to the prisons, hospitals and shelters, places where people are afflicted. It's almost like Christmas."

Ms. Salahuddin added, "Ramadan celebrates when the Prophet Muhammad received the Holy Q'uran. On each day Muslims read 1/3rd of the Q'uran."

Abraham Lincoln Centre Humanitarian Awards Gala

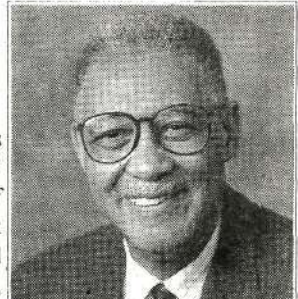
Douglas - Abraham Lincoln Centre, based at 38th and Cottage Grove, will be sponsoring it's annual Humanitarian Award Gala on Thursday, March 6, at the Fairmont Hotel. The event will include a Grande Gala Reception and the Humanitarian Award Program.

During the program, the Centre will honor The Reverend Dr. Kenneth B. Smith, Sr., President of the Chicago Theological Seminary, as the Humanitarian of the Year. Dr. Smith is one of Chicago's most influential leaders whose reputation for fairness and social progress is well known within the public and private sectors as well as the religious community. He is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, having been ordained by the former Chicago Congregational Association in 1960. Dr. Smith has served as president of the Seminary since October, 1984.

Tickets are \$200 each. Other support levels are also available for larger contributions.

The Centre was founded in 1905 and is one of Chicago's most well established institutions, providing services to over 10,000 people annually at 25 locations. For over 90 years, the Centre has served individuals most in need, including the developmentally disabled, the mentally ill, the disadvantaged, the aged and the young. Programs include day care, Head Start, special education for persons with disabilities, in-home client support, off-the-street programs for teenagers, housing for the mentally ill and care for the aged.

For more information call the Centre at (773) 373-6600



The Reverend Dr. Kenneth B. Smith, Sr., President of the Chicago Theological Seminary,

Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

2401 So., Wabash Ave. Chicago, Ill 60616 (312) 791-1846 Fax 791-9418



Rev. P David Saunders, Minister "Love conquers All" Sunday School 9:30 Morning Worship 11:00 Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 pm

Evening Star Baptist Church

4235 South cottage Grove Ave. Chicago, Illinois 60653 Rev O.C. Morgan Sr., Pastor



Palms 133-1 Behold, how good, and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Order of Service Sunday School - 9:00 am 1st Sunday - Communion 3:30 pm 2nd Sunday - Choir's Musical 3:30 pm

The Renaissance Corporation Celebrating African-American History Month

Douglas - The Renaissance Corporation (TRC) a composite of four (4) churches from the Bronzeville community; Apostolic Faith Church, Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church, and St. Thomas Episcopal Church, who have joined forces to rehabilitate the former Wabash Avenue YMCA, "Y" as the birthplace of African American History Month.

The celebration of African American History Month, had its origins as Negro History Week, as created by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, in a meeting at the Historic Wabash YMCA, in 1926. After fifty years, in 1976, the observance of Negro History Week grew into the current month long celebration of African American History Month.

The Renaissance Corporation, commemorate the Historic "Y" as the birthplace of African American History Month, presented a Concert, "Tracing Spiritual & Gospel Music from Slavery to the Present," on Saturday, February 2, hosted by Apostolic Faith Church, 3823 S. Indiana, Chicago, Ill.

This concert served as a celebration of African-American History Month, and combine the talents of the church choirs of the four member churches, each perform a wide spectrum of music, ranging from spirituals to contemporary gospel music.

The historical significance of the messages and meanings of this music from slavery to the present was narrated by Zelda Robinson, Gospel Radio Personality, of the "Sunday Gospel Connection" on WEJM, 950 AM. The live narration further enhance the celebration of traditional African American religious music and history as a vital part of African History Month.

ADA S. McKinley Community Services, Inc. Bring Joy To A Child In 1997 — Being A Foster Parent Today

As we embark upon a new year, setting goals, resolutions and challenges for ourselves and our families, include on this year's list the commitment to foster a child in need of substitute care. Leave your unconfirmed beliefs and fears about fostering and adopting in 1996. Have all those unanswered questions and concerns addressed at a prospective foster parent orientation meeting.

Ada S. McKinley Foster Care and Adoption Services offers these monthly orientation sessions to address the needs of children. Their needs are simple ones we often take for granted such as a loving parent, a nurturing environment, a safe home, and patience and understanding.

If you or someone you know, can provide these qualities to a child, it's worth taking the first step in 1997 to learn more about fostering. The upcoming orientation meeting are as follows:

If you are married or single, are 25 years of age or older, and have space available in your home, you may qualify to become a licensed foster parent. Children in the greatest need of care are children who are developmentally challenged, victims of abuse, health impaired, troubled teens drug and HIV exposed and sibling groups. For further information on fostering and adoption, or to confirm your attendance at one of the above dates, please call: Lynette Stokes at (773) 808-6173



On 37th and Wabash, the Lakefront SRO/Wabash YMCA is the celebration of African-American History Month. The 'Y' had its' origins as Negro History Week, as created by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, in a meeting at the Historic Wabash YMCA, in 1926. After fifty years, in 1976, the observance of Negro History Week grew into the current month long celebration of African American History. Month.

To obtain additional information, call Virginia S. Peoples, Executive Director of The Renaissance Corporation at (773) 268-7500, ext.

HEALTH COLUMNIST

A tidbit of nursing history of Black History Month. February 7, this National Black Nurses Day.

by Bearnetta Pearson

This day is celebrated by black nurses across the country as a commemoration of the beginnings of the history of black nursing. The nursing books refer to Florence Nightingale as the founder of modern nursing. They point to their selfless work in the Crimean War as an example of her dedication and commitment. As usual the facts are omitted about black women who nursed alongside Ms. Nightingale. That woman's name was Mary Cecal. This woman requested to serve in the Crimean War (1853-56). Great Britain, France, and Turkey fought against Russia., Great Britain and the Crimean Fund denied her request. But, she travel 3,000 miles using her

own funds and nursed side-by-side with Florence Nightingale at no pay. At the end of the war she was awarded a medal by the British Government for services rendered to the sick and injured. In 1893, Howard University in Washington D.C. established the first Nursing Program in a university setting -- 16 years before the similar and flagship program began at the University of Minnesota. Some famous black nurses include- Namahyoke Sockum Curtis, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman and Susdie King Taylor. The first black nursing student was Mary Eliza Mahoney. Most books on black history have excluded the nursing profession, most books on nursing have devoted at most a line or two about black nurses education and their contribution to health care. A black nurses education is not complete unless the history of a black nurses is included. Black men and women nurses have served in the Crimean, Civil and Spanish American War.

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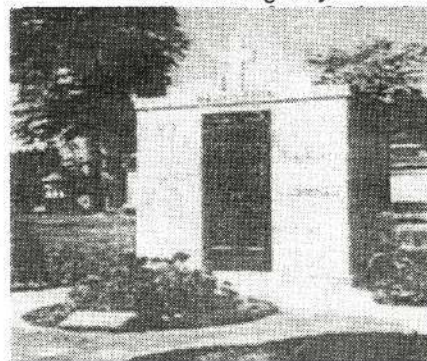
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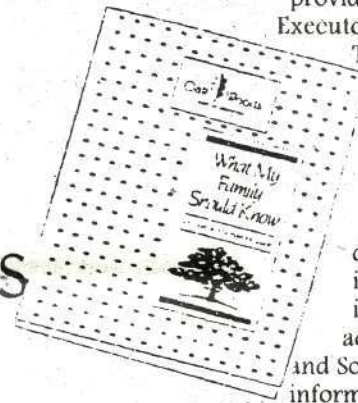
Mayor Harold Washington's private mausoleum at Oak Woods

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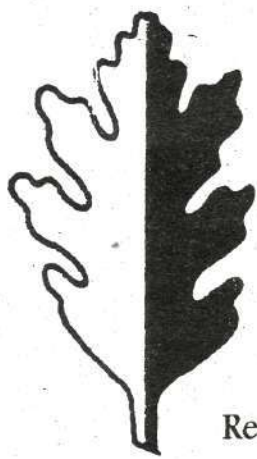
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Consultants Over CTA Riders, CEPA Report

by Gregory Munson, Arthur Lyons, Jason Hardy

Center for Economic Policy Analysis-202 S. State St., Suite 1302,

Every year, the CTA announces a new budget shortfall. One large factor creating these shortfalls is declining ridership.

In the face of these ridership declines and budget shortfalls, the CTA has hired numerous management consultants over the years. These consultants, however, have not increased the number of riders. Figures 1 and 2 show that the amount of money spent on consultants since 1987 has varied somewhat from one year to the next, but the number of riders has continued to decline.

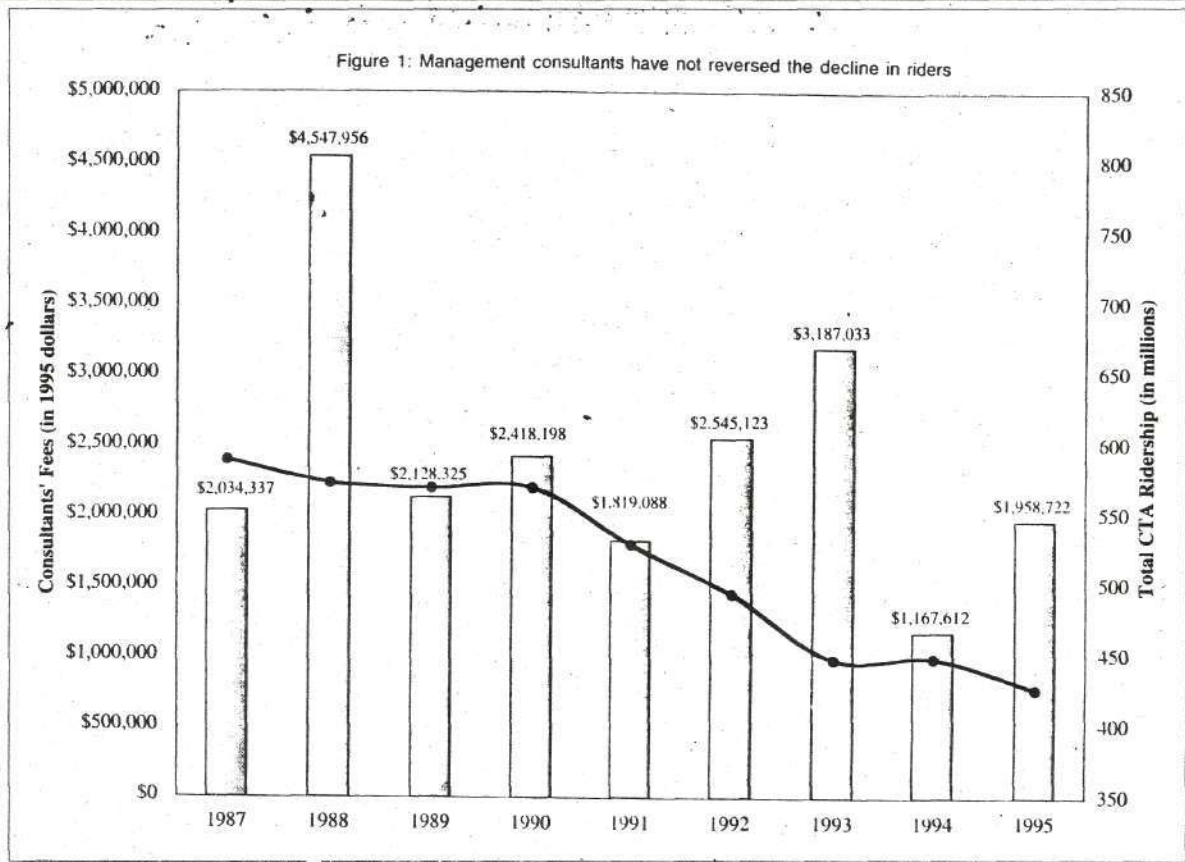
As a result, the CTA budgetary problems also continue, uninfluenced by the millions of dollars spent on the studies.

From 1987 through 1995, the CTA spent an average of \$2.5 million per year on management consultants. During this same period, the number of riders declined by 17.9 million per

year. This is a loss in rides of 27.4 percent since 1987, despite the \$22.1 million consultants. See Figure 3.

A management consultant is any firm hired on a temporary basis to conduct research on and offer improvements to CTA operations.

To determine the amount spent on management consultants, we submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to CTA. CTA would not comply, stating our request was "unduly burdensome and overly broad." We decided on collecting our own data from CTA Journal of Proceedings of the Chicago Transit Board, 1987-1996. But it did not include up to September and October 1996, but only up to August 1996. Through violating the FOIA, the CTA has been able to keep sensitive records of their spending on expert consultants, and just what they are doing with taxpayers money.



AACA secures construction agreement with IIT,

Douglas - Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), African American Contractors entered into Minority Business Agreement.

IIT and the African American Contractors Association (AACA) are joining forces to help the university increase its use of minority and women owned businesses.

Under the agreement between IIT and AACA, the contractors association will help the university identify minority and women owned business enterprises in the Chicago metropolitan area qualified to submit bids for the university's contracts.

The university will provide AACA information regarding contracts for vending maintenance work, printing, and construction, for which IIT is soliciting bids. AACA will identify minority and women owned businesses interested in and capable of perform-



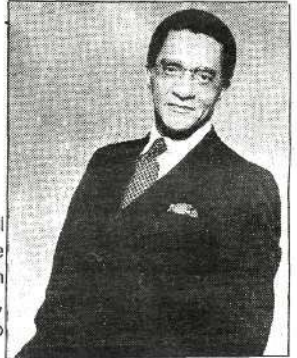
ing, such work and provide assistance to those contractors in submitting bids.

The agreement between AACA and IIT was signed by Joel M. Asprooth, the university's vice president

for business and finance and Omar Shereef, president of the contractors association. The agreement took effect Feb. 1, 1997 and lasts through January 31, 1998. It can be extended for an additional year by mutual

"Building for Our Future Generation," AACA, expands to downstate, prepares for membership Reception

Preparing for its seventh annual membership/awards reception, (left photo) the African American Contractor Association (AACA) was asked by Rev. Earl S. Dotson, President of Progressive West Rockford, to assist the City of Rockford and its African American Businesses in getting their fair share of City Contracts, goods and services



The theme of "Building for Our Future Generation," AACA reception will take place Friday, March 21, at the Chicago Urban League, 4510 S. Michigan Ave. The key note speaker at AACA will be Tony Brown (right). The AACA is an organization of over 250 contractors and related companies, and includes some of the finest minority contractors in Illinois. For further information, contact Omar Shereef, President, at 1350 So. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL. 60605, 312-915-5960, agreement of both parties.

The African American Contractors Association (AACA) was established in 1985 to assist and help develop African American contractors busi-

nesses by creating fair business opportunities for African American owned contractor companies.

Harris, WBDC and SBA Partner to Launch Microloan Program

Kenwood - Two minority - owned businesses are the first recipients of microloans from Harris Bank, Chicago. The 47th Street, Kenwood Branch microloan program developed in cooperation with the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC), and the Small Business Administration (SBA)

The microloans went to Jazz "N Java, a start - up coffeehouse founded by Stephanie Evans, and Perry Printing & Design, a full - service print shop founded by Dan Perry. The unique program was developed to assist entrepreneurs in the Kenwood, Oakland, Hyde Park, Grand Boulevard and Washington Park communities in finding the capital to start or expand their businesses.

The Microloan Program provides up to \$25,000 of working capital to start-ups and small businesses. The loans are guaranteed by the SBA under its Low - Doc program. "We wanted to demonstrate our support for the community by providing financing to businesses that will ultimately strengthen the neighborhood," said Harris Bank's Angela Smith, who runs the program. Jazz "N Java, located at 3428 S. King Drive.

Evans, who lives in the neighborhood, has seen the demographics shift in her community and believes that creates a market for her shop. "I've watched the young, dual - income professionals renovate the greystones and build new housing," said Evans. "King Drive is being renovated with new parkways and benches, and historic home renovation. This area is ready for a coffeehouse showcasing poetry readings and independent film

screenings." Evans' move towards entrepreneurship began when she enrolled and received her certificate in business development from the WBDC training program offered at Roosevelt University in 1989. In 1992, she decided to go into the specialty coffee industry because that environment was where she liked to spend her free time.

"I researched the industry for four years while holding down a full-time job," she said. "The WBDC assisted me with revenue projections, suggestions on the market and industry, demographics."

The microloan has allowed Evans to finish interior construction, undertake more marketing and provide long - term working capital that allows her "a bit of breathing room."

Dan Perry, who had worked in corporate sales for over a decade, didn't even know how to operate a printing press four years ago when he founded Perry Printing & Design. But after seeing his colleagues become successful entrepreneurs, he knew he wanted that kind of success as well. Last spring he relocated to 1950 E. 75th St. after he purchased an entire building

To qualify for Harris' Kenwood Branch Microloan Program, applicants must have expertise in owning a business or entrepreneurial training, and appropriate level of capital, and "a bit of business savvy, including the ability to understand financial planning," says Harris' Smith. In addition, the bank looks for certain advantages that will help a business succeed, such as a market niche and location, she said, corporations and institutions in the Midwest and nationwide.

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South Street COMMUNITY HOUSING

Mayor Daley Unveils New Homeownership Initiative

"Vintage Homes Chicago" program to help working families become homeowners

Mayor Daley unveiled "Vintage Homes Chicago," a new affordable homeownership initiative that allow for the rehab of abandoned single-family properties to be sold to low-and moderate-income families.

20th ward Alderman Arenda Troutman, Department of Housing (DOH), with Mayor Daley, unveiled Vintage Homes in Woodlawn. Also present at the ceremonies were Commissioner Marina Carrott, Debra Robinson of HUD and Woodlawn East Community and Neighbors (WECAN) Executive Director Mattie Butler.

The Department of Housing (DOH) will provide a maximum subsidy of \$300,000 per developer (\$30,000 per building), who is then required to re-



Mayor Richard Daley

hab a minimum of 10 properties. But the total cost of the rehab must exceed the appraised value of the property at sales time to receive the subsidy.

Noting that 1996 was a record year for ownership of homes assistance achieved by the city, Mayor Daley noted that more than 1,000 working families became new homeowners due to DOH homeownership initiatives.

Outlines for the *Vintate Homes Chicago Program* are:

- Improvement in a community through the rehabing of single-family properties;
- Attract and retain low and moderate income homeown-

ers in Chicago;

- Encourage homeownership through subsidies for acquisition and rehab of abandoned and underutilized single-family properties;
- Preserve existing housing stock in our communities;

Private for-profit and not-for-profit developers will be required to acquire the properties, finance the development, complete rehab, and counsel the new homeowners.

Since 1994, it has been the mayor's plans to increase the homeownership opportunities for working families in the city of Chicago. 1996 was not only a record year for home sales in Chicago, but also was a record year for working families looking for purchasing homes.

The *City Mortgage Program* was approved by the city council for \$75 million for this year's mortgaging of homes, last year helped almost 500 Chicagoans purchase homes. *City Mortgage* finances qualified homeowner at a 4 percent loan to help cover downpayment.

Homebuyer Tax Savings Pro gram gives qualified home- buyer a federal tax credit equalled to 20 percent of their annual mortgage interest payments. More than 400 of the Chicagoans who purchased homes last year, benefitted from it.

Both *City Mortgage* and the *Homebuyer Tax Saving Programs* provide a number of special incentives, such as, higher home purchase price and and household income limits, to encourage home purchas-ing in targeted low-income areas throughout the city of Chicago.

Info- Department of Housing-(312) 747-5022.

(Continued from page 1)

Bronzeville

1997 to accommodate the new police facility.

Because of the many construction activities and planned developments taking place in the community, Congressman Bobby Rush called an information meeting last Decemeber, 1996. Rush focus was to address help for residents being displaced by the new 35th Street police headquarters project.

After the police station presentation, Bowen again addressed the audience on discussion of the proposed boundaries of the Bronzeville redevelopment area. The area discussed and referred to as Bronzeville from the committee's perspective was reported generally bounded by 31st Street on the North, 39th Street on the South, the Dan Ryan Expressway on the West and Cottage Grove on the East. Questioned by various community leaders as the arbitrailly re-drawn the boundaries of Bronzeville. Mr. Bowen stated that he thought these boundaries were the only boundaries that encompasses Bronzeville.

The Bronzeville boundaries as defined in 1930, *The Black Metropolis* by St. Clair Drake

& Horace R. Clayton as 12th Street to 71st Street, Wentworth to Cottage Grove. Pat Dowell-Cerasoli of Mid South Planning and Development Commission, Harold L. Lucas of Black Metropolis Convention and Tourism Council and Dr. Sokoni Karanja of Centers for New Horizons. conveyed that the boundaries of Bronzeville encompasses 12th Street on the North, 63rd Street on the South and the Lake Front on the East. This information was documented in the Mid South Strategic Plan.

Mr. Bowen then claimed that the city of Chicago developed the Mid South Plan., Dr.

The Bronzeville boundaries as defned in 1930, The Black Metropolis by St. Clair Drake & Horace R. Clayton as 12th Street to 71st Street, Wentworth to Cottage Grove.

Karanja stated that the Mid South Plan was developed and paid for by the McCormick/Tribune Trust Foundation.

Mr. Bowen acknowledged that the city of Chicago developed the Bronzeville Walk of Fame with a \$10 million contribution. That issue was also challenged by community leaders who stated that the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority paid for the Walk of Fame in Bronzeville. He continued to challenge the Bronzeville community on the misconception of what the city had sponsored in the restoration of Bronzeville; with

discontent of the meeting people than began to leave

Ester Barnett of the 35th Street Merchants Association addressed the meeting and attempted

to maintain order. Consequently, she was verbally attacked by a representative from the Lake Meadows Tenants Association, George Lowe who charged Ms. Barnett with "Sleeping with the enemy", (the enemy being Draper and Kramer Real Estate Company) who has received a contract to develop the ALCO Drug store at 35th and King Drive. Alderman Haithcock, (2) defended the development, therebout a name calling debate ensued between she and Mr. Lowe.

In taking the meeting to another subject matter, Bowen introduced the member of the Blue Ribbon Committee Plans for the redevelopment of the Eight Regiment Armory, soon to become an ROTC project developed by the Board of Education.

Community leaders left the meeting feeling that the Blue Ribbon Committee on Bronzeville are not representing the local residents views. The committee attempted to take over the grassroots effort started by many community leaders involved in the Restoring Bronzeville Campaign.

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Second Round of 1996 Tax Credits Awarded for Low-Income Housing

Progressive Community church among the awardees

Mayor Richard Daley announced recipients in the final-round of the city's 1996 Low Income Housing Tax Credits awards. The tax credits will generate more than \$8.1 million in equity development of 260 units of affordable housing in four Chicago communities.

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit program, created by the 1986 Tax Reform Act, allows private individuals and organizations investing in the development of affordable housing to reduce their

federal taxes each year, over a 10-year period, as long as rents in the buildings in which they have invested remain affordable to low-income development costs for newly built or rehabilitated rental housing.

The four projects receiving tax credits in the second round this year located in the Austin, Ravenswood, Douglas (Bronzeville) and Grand Boulevard neighborhoods. In Mid-South area, they include The National Progressive Institute at 48th and Wabash, for 24 units of annual tax credit of \$228,951 (\$1.2 million equity), and on 37th and Wabash, the Lakefront SRO/Wabash - YMCA-Renaissance Apartments, of 101 units, with an annual tax credit of \$320,725 (\$1.8 million equity).

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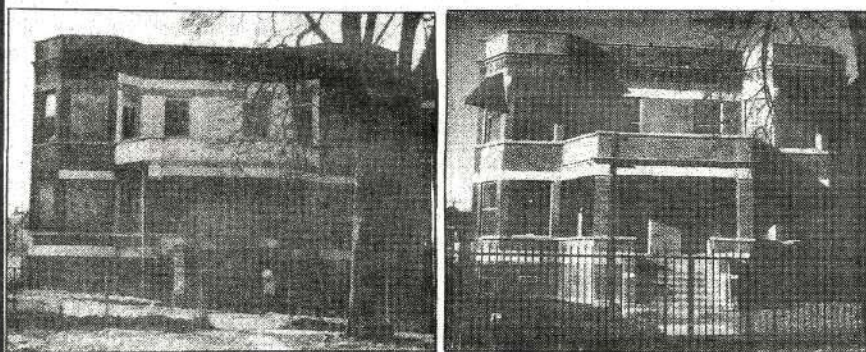
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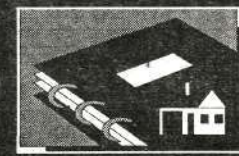
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Real Estate Transactions in the Mid-South Communities



Readers: Listed below are property transfers in *South Street Journal's* circulation area (Generally on page 18), according to the latest report released by Jesse White, Cook County Recorder of Deeds. For your convenience, transfer listings are organized by community. Display of the "*" symbol next to a listing indicates that information supplied on the State Real Estate Transfer Declaration may be incomplete or incorrect. *South Street Journal* will publish this information in each issue.

Community/Address	Rec'd Date	Price
Woodlawn		
6522 S. Kenwood Ave. Woodlawn Homes Joint Venture to Rhonda Williams	1-30	153,245
6549 S. Ingleside McDougal Limited Partnership to Cathy M. Whitehead	2-5	110,000
6400 S. Greenwood Milton and Cassie McGlaun to Quentin Pitiuk	2-5	92,000
6100 S. Ingleside, #2, DZ Realty Services to K. Stell	11-12	\$92,000
6147 S Rhodes, L. Reynolds & G. Tolbert to C.L. & E. Hammond	11-12	82,500
6127 (A) S. Woodlawn, The Chicago Trust Co. to Nellie J. Mitchell	11-13	156,500
6239 S. Champlain, Natalie Puryear to Bryant Ferrell	11-18	65,000
1013 E. 61st St., Renaissance/Thrush Joint Venture to Yolanda M Green	12-10	142,085
1015 E. 61st St., Renaissance/Thrush Joint Venture to Abdul A. Brimah	12-03	137,000
6626 S. Woodlawn Ave. William Bennett to Jonathan C. Manard	12-04	90,000
6534 S. Kenwood Woodlawn Homes Joint Venture to Martha J. Athalone	12-12	122,875
6126-6128 S. University, Park Pl. Investments to Samir Patel	12-18	62,500
6124 S. Champlain, Monewerk Enterprises, Inc. to Timothe Okeke	12-19	104,000
Kenwood		
4800 S. Lake Shore Dr., Uni 1808-S, Myron Miller to Sephen A. Searles	1-2	30,000
4515 S. Oakenwald, B. Vance of Vance and Vance Enterprises Ltd. to E. Charity	1-7	300,561
4800 S. Chicago Beach Dr., Unit 1505 S. Melvin Brown to Lois Waters	1-7	59,000
4800 S. Lake Shore Dr., Unit 605-S, * to Lavern P. Shatteen	1-7	57,000
4800 S. Lake Shore Dr., Unit 211S, Gwendolyn Cannon-Engram	1-8	60,000
4800S Chicago Beach, Unit 2216-N J and R. Karklins to D. Jr. and T Dorsey	1-15	123,000
4577 S. Lake Park Louise Anderson to Janet A. Tolliver	2-5	80,000
4711 S. Drexel Blvd, Unit 2 ... K & K Property to Janis Jones	2-4	160,000
4137 S. Ellis Ave. New Homes for North Kenwood-Oakland to Lillian C. Barnes	2-4	114,380
4343 S. Evans, Community Capital Resources Corp Anita Robinson Griffin	11-4	90,100
4800 Chicago Beach Dr. Unit 804-S, Lula M. Almand and Totafae Green	1-9	53,000
4934- H S. Cornell Ave., Unit D-22 Melk Development		274,900
4934-A S. Cornell Ave., Unit D28, Melk Development to Grady B. Murdock Jr.	11-12	289,900
4734 S. Langley, Imogene Thornz to Anthony Campbell	11-13	40,000
4461 - 63 Ellis, Willie Ransom to Bruce Keller	11-13	37,000
4934 -B S. Cornell, Unit C 27, Melk Development to Linda M. Newsome	11-15	199,000
4940 S. East End, Unit 11C, Frank J & Christine M. Sarich to Gary C. Covino	11-18	120,500
4711-1 S. Ingleside, Ardelia J. Irvin to Cheryl V. Doutharn	12-06	115,000
4721-A S. Woodlawn, Home Savings of America to Kenneth & Diedre Mitchell	12-04	230,000
4800 S. Chicago Beach Dr., Unit 2015-N, Alfred Bodian to Rev. Elmer Fowler	12-03	36,500
4800 Chicago Beach Dr., Unit 1813-N, Agnes D. Lattimer to Camille Lattimer	12-03	65,000
1640 E. 50th Johanna R. Navraine to Ann M. Brecey	12-12	58,500
4800 S. Lake Shore Dr., Unit 208N * to Stephanit A. Davis	12-19	91,000
5035 S. Dorchester, Michael Sheek* to Jacqueline Guest*	12-20	325,000
Hyde Park		
5209 S. Ingleside, Unit 5209-2 Robert Hansen to Kummah Shah Bey	1-14	97,000
5714 S. Kimbark Sherwin Rosen to Owen A. Lamont	2-4	475,000
1700 E. 56th St. Rose Marie Wyatt to Allison L. Wood	1-31	135,000
5451 S. Cornell, Chicago Title to Oscar Hinajosa	1-8	775,000
5648 S. Dorchester, #2E & 2W Robert Sullivan to Steven Kaplan and Carol Rubin	1-9	*
5052 S. Drexel Blvd. Unit 5052B American National Bank to Freeman Richmon	2-4	122,298
5201 S. Cornell, unit 20F Marian Wray to Emmett M. Harris	1-30	125,000
5210 S. Ingleside, Unit 3 Louiza Deaderick to Marcus Martin	1-31	73,500
5232 S. Greenwood Ave. R. and J. Baldwin. to T. Scheiber and C. Mercado	1-10	232,750
1455 E. 56th St., Unit 1E, Kevin & Laura McVey to John & Arlene Crewdson	12-09	77,900
1451 E. 55th St., Unit 525N, Heneryetta Hilton to Yvette D. King	12-05	39,900
1467 E. Park Pl., Ketan & M. Mulmuley to C.M. Ekstrom & R.A. Humanski	12-05	212,000
1372 E. 57th St., Unit 2, John Henley to Laura C. & Kevin McVey	12-09	115,000
1401 E. 55th St. Stephen Dill to Rosa Rice	1-13	32,000
5400 S. Hyde Park Blvd., Unit 6-B, Steel City National Bank to Geneva Ranster	12-10	153,000
5111 S. Cornell Ave., Bennet & Chumel Ho Bronson to Eldred C. & N.J. Ellis	12-04	126,800
1451 E. 55th, Unit 304 N David Invick to Ayatullah Dawoudi	12-13	38,000
1508 -14 E. 54th Pl. LaSalle National Bank to Lake Park Associates, Inc.	1-14	490,000
5225 S. Greenwood, * to Nancy J. Hill	12-13	130,000
Grand Boulevard		
5010 S. Michigan Robert Richardson to D Karen Clark	2-3	90,000
4827 S. Forrestville, Ruth H. Williams to Cory Harper	11-18	70,000
523 E. 41st St. Ernest and Lucille Whitehead to Carolyn Bailey	2-5	62,500
4142-48 S. King Dr., Unit 9, 4142 King Dr. Inc. to K. & S. Richardson	11-19	106,300
4350 S. King Dr. Ajkenaton Community Development to Ora Lee Simpson	1-13	180,000
4432 S. Prarie Lawrence Waller II	1-13	36,000
4827 S. Forrestville, Ruth H. Williams to Cory Harper	11-18	70,000
4634 S. Champlain, Curt Luck to Dwyne Brown	12-10	116,000
616 E. 50th Pl., Richard Golz to Sherman Threat	12-04	73,500
437 E. 46th Pl., Warline Mann to James Spiller	12-03	31,000
450 W. 46th St., James M. Hawes to Michael J. Tagler	12-03	65,000
4353 Indiana/208-12 E. 44th American National Bank to 4353 Indiana Corp.	12-12	40,000
439 E. 45th, May and Robert Monroe Turner to Carla McNuckles-Williams	12-18	80,000
4432 S. King Dr., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity to Llevelyn D. Rhone	1-3	195,100
Fuller Park		
No Transactions during this period		
Oakland		
4135 S. Ellis Ave. New Homes for North Kenwood-Oakland to Ludie Richardson	2-4	108,310
4139 S. Ellis Ave New Homes for North Kenwood Oakland to Paul K. Knox III	2-4	122,298
4051 S. Ellis Ave. MCL Construction Corp. to Trent and Kimberly Verner	1-9	195,000
842-44 E. 40th St., Kent A. Leon Chicago Title & Tr.	11-18	55,000
4141 S. Ellis, New Homes for North Kenwood-Oakland to Adrienne	12-24	106,950
4058 S. Ellis, Arther Bradley to Urban Fsihing CDC, Inc.	12-24	165,000
Douglas		
No Transactions during this period		
Washington Park		
5816 S. Michigan Christopher Huddleston to Mary Beck	1-10	79,900
5224 S. Indiana Ave., Kathleen Coleman to Charles & Catherine Ross	11-18	55,000
5811 S. Michigan, Eric Esreal Camper to Michael Woods	12-16	104,000


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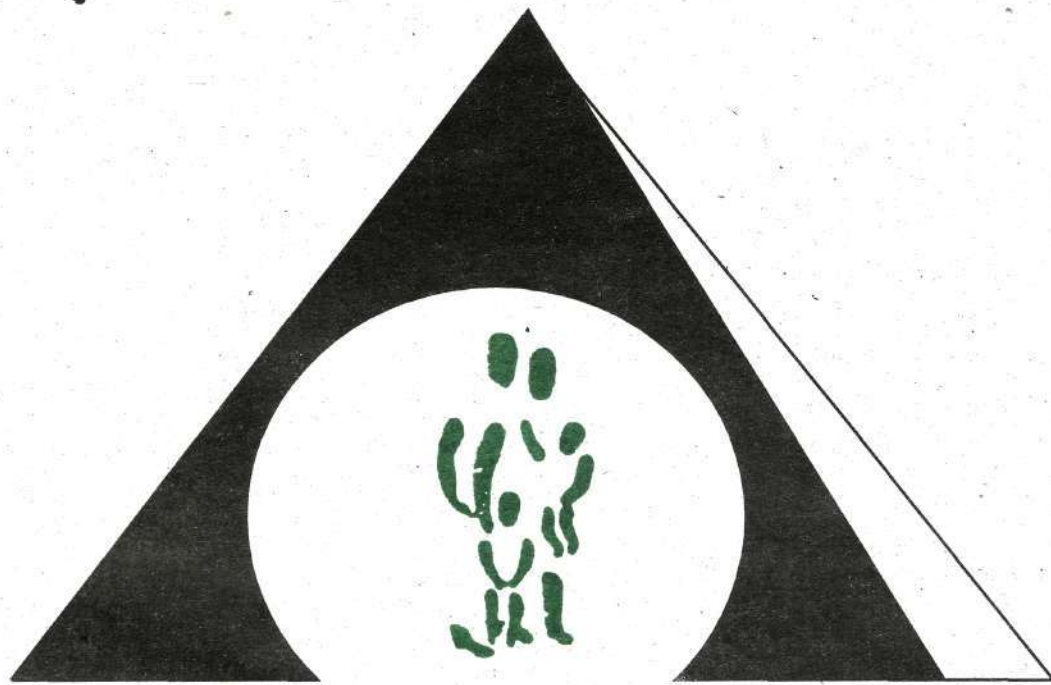
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