Mid-South - Community development signals new hope for Bronzeville

A coalition of community organizations is calling for "The time has come for us to organize." Set for Saturday, June 28th, over 15 lead organizations from around the Bronzeville community have been focusing on the new development in the communities they serve with the Jobs Campaign, targeting on the land issue as a prominent issue for jobs.

Organized under the name of B.O.S.S. (Bronzeville Organizing Strategy Session) since August of 1996, the groups have been studying and planning steps on how residents would benefit from the jobs that are being developed in the communities.

Current and proposed projects that B.O.S.S. is targeting are the City of Chicago New Central Police Headquarters, $65 million; Illinois Institute of Technology, a small million dollar plan for new student residences and construction of a new residential faculty, and a major organizer for N'COBRA's convention.

The rally will be held on the yard between May and 48th Streets, with representatives from each CHA application.

Current and proposed projects that B.O.S.S. is targeting are: the City of Chicago New Central Police Headquarters; and B.O.S.S. would direct the course of the leadership in the community.

George Low representing the Lake Meadows Tenant Control said B.O.S.S. are calling for "The time has come for us to organize." Jeel EuiLe of Metropolitan Baptist Church.

"We will be addressing our concerns to the contractors and Union for a fair share of the jobs," LeRue went on to say. "We want to awaken the community regarding potential and proposed jobs in our community."

"We are calling for the residents and take action."

Howard A. Peters III, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor of Illinois, shown at the podium during his keynote address to business leaders and politicians at a forum on the revitalization of Bronzeville sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Center's Strategic Advisory Board and Business Councils, to the left are Jessie D. Madison, President & CEO; Abraham Lincoln Center, Darrell Farnham, Director of Development; Abraham Lincoln Center, Angela Geocaris, Co-Chairman of the Center's Strategic Advisory Board and John Geocaris, Chair of the Center's Business Council.

"Pay Said Erline Arikpo, the Chicago co-chairperson of N'COBRA who had been forbidden to even read and write, "as guinea pigs in a syphilis test; Black At 213 East 55th Street, the Chicago Chapter of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America." Century."

Reparations seems more real than ever. The evening session will feature Congressional National Co-chairs: Johnita Scott Obadele and Babu Hanmilik Afrl. The Chicago Chapter of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America will host its 8th Annual Convention which opens Friday, June 27th with a Pre-convention Symposium on the Genocide Initiative, conducted by Dr. Imari Obadele, at 700 E. Oakwood Blvd. at 2 p.m. The evening session will feature Congressman Black Caucus members John Conyers and Danny Davis. Professor Conrad Worrill of National African American Heritage Week. This week, with representatives from each community serving in greeters and guides. Participants will see landmarks, museums, visit cultural centers and museums, explore shopping areas, and taste local cuisine from the many neighborhood churches.

"We are pleased to be the hosting location for the tour. It is one way of saying we are part of this community's growth and item is our way of saying we are part of our community," said Erline Arikpo, co-chairperson of N'COBRA's convention.

"The tour will include a garden party at the home of a community resident on Prairie Avenue, where refreshments will be served."

"There should be no question that massive damage and harm have been inflicted upon us since the invasion of Africa." Century.
June

Sat. 14

Readers 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. 28

New Structure Organization's weekly meeting begins at 6:30; at 5669 S. Indian Ave. Call John Thomas at 324-5290.

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Sun. 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.

Mon. 30

Employment Discrimination committee of Rainbow PUSH meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. 50th and Drexel in the Evans Chapel.

CHA Youth Tee OH With Tiger. PGA champ Tiger Woods will teach Chicago Housing Authority youth golfing techniques at the Jackson Park Driving Range, 63rd & South Shore from 2-3pm. Following the exhibition Tiger will demonstrate his winning swinging techniques at the South Shore Cultural Center.

July

Wed. 2

Task Force for Black Political Empowerment meets every Tuesday, 6:30 am at the Inner City Studies, 700 E. Oakwood.

Saturday: 5

Minister Tony Johnson, Sr., of Stitich 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.

Tues. 8

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

Thur. 10

Jazz at Jewel with its featured band Savoy Jazz Trio performance at the Jewel food store at 443 E. 34th Street

Sat. 12

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

Wed. 16

Washington Park Advisory Council meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Washington Park Field House 55th and King Drive.
Smith-Haymarket, Hayes Center Get State Grant

Formerly known as the Times Square and the Packing House, the Charles Hayes Center, located on 46th and Republican will receive a $250,000 state grant. The Charles Hayes Center, located on 40th and Michigan, will receive $1 million for substance abuse counseling and treatment.

Springfield—State Senator Margaret Smith (D-3) announced that the Charles Hayes Center will receive a $250,000 state grant for substance abuse counseling and treatment, while the Haymarket House, with an office at 48th and Michigan Ave, will receive $1 million for substance abuse counseling and treatment.

"The Charles Hayes Family Investment Center", Senator Smith noted, "is a newly remodeled facility which, by the end of the year, will provide day care services, a medical clinic and a job training—jobs placement program, as the center will contain a 45-station computer training center with a satellite downlink for distant learning. The center will also house a credit union.

"With welfare reform upon us, it is more important now than ever that we have programs in place to assist the poor, as families will be limited to a five-year lifetime on general assistance", Senator Smith said. "The Hayner Center certainly fills a void on the South Side."

The state grant to the Hayman House, which is owned and operated by the CHA and located at 4859 S. Whaba, comes on the heels of a $2 million grant from HUD and a $1.2 million from the city's Empowerment Zone Program. The CHA will also locate all of its job placement and economic development programs in the new facility which was a former packinghouse.

Haymarket House also fills a void on the near South Side, as it operates various substance abuse counseling and treatment facilities throughout the Chicago area, including a facility at 4500 S. Michigan.

"Haymarket is essential to our community", Senator Smith said, "as it offers counseling and treatment for pregnant women. This is critical in order to reduce the number of premature babies and low birth weight associated with cocaine/crack addiction and alcohol abuse.

Senator Smith noted that Senate Democratic Leader Emil Jones Jr. (D-14) was also instrumental in her fight to assist the Hayman Center and Haymarket.

Before you buy your Spring Fashion and SALE OFFERINGS, FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY, Suit, Sport,wear Spring coats, Dresses, Trousers, Slacks, Shirts, and All-Spring Fashions, A FOR THE MAN OF DISTINCTION

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507 E. 47th St.
773/624-1176

BLACK METROPOLIS
Heritage Tourism Review

The Battle to Restore the Supreme Life Building

Far from over.

By Harold L. Lucas

Executive Director

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) has been a guardian angel to the Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council (BM&TC) in our grassroots struggle to preserve and redevelop landmark buildings associated with the "Black Metropolis Historic District" in Chicago.

Affectionately known as Bronzeville, this south side neighborhood 10 minutes from downtown has developed a community revitalization strategy that links historic preservation to tourism in a community-based campaign called "Restoring Bronzeville." NTHP is a supporter of the long-term struggle to save the Chicago Bee Building, which is located across the street from the Stateway Gardens public housing development.

Residents of this public housing complex have a average per capita income of less than $3,000 annually.

Today, the Chicago Bee Building is operational as a Chicago Public Library and literacy center. And, also was a recipient of an architectural restoration award from the NTHP.

In regard to the BM&TC’s development plan for the restoration of the Supreme Life Building as the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center supported by a telecommunications component and other tourism related businesses, NTHP again stepped up at a critical moment and provided us with an interim loan.

"NTHP, working closely with staff of the Community Partners Program, BM&TC received an emergency loan from the NTHP to pay back taxes and liability insurance. This loan is to be repaid from a Chicago Empowerment Zone grant of $100,000 to the BM&TC.

Had not NTHP provided the loan assistance to BM&TC, our organization would have lost the landmark structure to a developer who would have demolished it. NTHP actively negotiated with the Chicago Empowerment Zone staff to insure BM&TC was able to get a fully executed and signed EZ contract in a timely fashion. BM&TC with technical assistance and national advocacy support from the NTHP was one of the first 10 community-based organizations in Chicago to receive a EZ grant.

The battle to restore the Supreme Life Building as the "crown jewel" of the Black Metropolis Historic District is far from over.

Powerful developers aligned with corrupt politicians are exercising undue pressure to prevent BM&TC from fulfilling its public trust, by delaying repayment of the NTHP loan. Jim Mann, director of the Chicago office of the NTHP has been supportive in helping BM&TC and other local affiliates have built a strong relationship with the NTHP over the past decade based on trust and cooperation. BM&TC is a loyal partner in the Inner-City Ventures Fund program.

We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with the NTHP, as we overcome obstacles and help low-income people create what we perceive to be the premier African-American Heritage Tourism destination in America. Contact BM&TC at 773-548-2579.
**Organization Matters**

Focusing on Organizations and Agencies serving the people of Mid-South

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**Community Developers take on Education as the Next Frontier**

Non-profit sponsors Tackle Local Initiatives

St. Edmond's Redevelopment Corporation in Washington Park was one Community Development Corporation (CDC) winning approval for a Charter School reopening a parish that had been closed for years. On June 3rd, leaders of CDCs, known for their work in housing and economic development, discussed how their organizations can be involved in new education options, such as Charter Schools and Small Schoools, as a component of their neighborhood revitalization strategies.

A gathering jointly sponsored by the local initiatives Support Corporation, the nation's leading non-profit family of community-based development, the Illinois Facilities Fund, and...

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**Firmian Ribbon Cutting**

Grand Blvd. - In May, Firmian Community Services had ribbon cutting festivities to celebrate its first phase of its new play lot for Day Care West (37 Firman Community Services).

Ms. Marie Ellis from the Department of Human Services attended to help.

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**Community Renewal Society Presents Non-Profit Start-Up Workshops**

The Community Renewal Society will hold work shops for new community based nonprofit organizations. Two sessions will be held on Thursday, June 19, 1997. Session A - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Session B- 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the COMMUNITY RENEWAL SOCIETY, 322 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60604. The telephone number is (312) 427-4830, fax number 312-427-6130.

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**Let's March Again**

By Brian Kenner

"Leadership Development"

The march, from an historical standpoint has always been a tool that popularized the concept. Martin Luther King Jr. did it with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to bring attention to the problem of segregation in this country. Jesse Jackson Sr. did it, although their marches were more like elaborate parades that brought attention to his Universal Negro Improvement Association, a movement that popularized the concept.

Both movements were successful at creating an atmosphere of change, laws, add or subtract from existing constitutional guidelines, but leaders of any generation are stuck with someone that will.

So let's march again; to see our elected demonstrate the opportunity to tell us, what we as citizens can do to protect ourselves. Yes, let's march again, this time to express to the elected our...
WARD REMAP

Old Mapping of Minority Wards Upheld By the Courts

The old mapping of minority wards in Chicago was upheld by federal court in June 1997. For more than six years a case had been sitting in federal district court here in Chicago involving the fight by blacks and Hispanics to stop gerrymandering of their wards, giving them equal representation at City Hall.

Judge Daniel Duff ruled in Barnett v. Daley—the Chicago Ward Re-map Case—is one of the worse scenarios of a court verdict coming down from a judge, especially of the magnitude of Judge Duff, many are saying.

The Committee to Preserve Voting Rights (CPVR), on December 24, 1991, filed a new map that would create twenty-two African-American wards, eight Hispanic, and seventeen white wards, along with three wards having no racial majority.

The Chicago Tribune would support the judge’s verdict, ignoring the blatant racism involved in such a decision on his part, CPVR said. The whole case was upheld by federal court.

The old mapping of minority wards in Chicago was upheld by federal court in June 1997.

The appointment by President Clinton of Attorney John Schmidt as Assistant U.S. General, as the number 3 job in the U.S. Justice Department overseeing civil rights, as well as William Daley to Secretary of Commerce, the department that handles the U.S. Census, which is instrumental in making population count, will and has had a great impact on who or what controls City Hall and Chicago in the future.


duty would be to reject the conviction of Toni Preckwinkle, 4th Ward Alderman, who was instrumental along with Ed Smith ( 28th), who originated plans for drawing up lawsuit, along with 16 African-American Aldermen and three white Aldermen, who challenged the present mapping of city wards that permit gerrymandering and Jim Crow, said, “This is no brainer, Judge Duff to reach a decision as he did it incompromising. It is only a decision by the court to keep white wards in the majority in the city and at City Hall.”

Crosby of the CPVR said that “The court took too long to render a decision on a case that took six years, when it could have been ruled on in nine months. 1981 proved to us that racial gerrymandering is very much alive here Illinois and Chicago. This case must be appealed and will be one political representative who wish not to be mentioned stated, “The black community would be surprised of the black elected officials who say they support the Ward Remap, but actions say something else.”

Crosby of the responds with outrage at this developments in the much awaited decision in the Chicago Ward Remap Case. “It’s unbelievable that U.S. District Court Judge Brian Duff would look to his decision on the case to the public before even notifying any of the parties, including the attorneys on the case.”

The judge had previously promised a decision in the City of Chicago Ward Remap Suit entitled “Barnett vs. Daley, and the City of Chicago et al” by the end of May, 1997, this decision had not been rendered.

But later, Crosby met with Judge Duff at 1:00 p.m. on June 9th to request a copy of the decision. Crosby reported that the judge exclaimed in an insulting, rude and arrogant manner that “the opinion hasn’t come back from the printer, nor have the attorneys been notified.” Yet, Friday, June 6, an WMAQ TV Dick Kay reported that the judge would rule in favor of the City against African-American and Hispanics interests and the Sun-Times reported the same on Sunday, June 8, 1997.

Crosby says that if the media reports on the decision are true, the CPVR is calling for African-American and Hispanic citizens interests in previous Chicago voting rights cases is now betraying former clients by representing the City which they helped prove racially discriminated in the drawing of ward and legislative maps in the past.

Mr. Crosby says the CPVR, and the other lawyers at Jenner recognize the clear conflict and should have declined to represent the City, but instead opted to make $11 million to represent the oppressors of minorities voting. And now Ally. Colman wants the further reward of a U.S. District Judgeship.

Crosby said “I urge all minorities and other fair-minded citizens in the City of Chicago to say no to this blatant unethical teacher.”

Under the 14th and 15th Amend

(Continued from page 1)

Reparations Convention

The event, which will be reported on The Campaign to Cash the Check and the Escalating Call for Reparations with distinguished guests Bob Brown and Dr. Tom Jefferson.

On Saturday, June 28 the convention will assemble at Chicago State University’s Robinson Center from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Attendees will participate in the following workshops:

Legal Strategies for Reparations, The Church’s Role in Reparations Campaign, Youth Organizing, Information and Education, Political Action, Police Brutality and Genocide, Economic Development, International Relations, Coalition and Chapter Building. Entertainment will be provided by Steve Cobb and Chavernuda, Ally. Geiger, Marce, and Youth Artists. That evening a Townhall meeting will be held with Ally. Adora Ayetora, Ally. Cliff Jeffries, Dazed Muhammad, Dr. Imet Obadele, and Rep. Bobby Rush as panelists. A question and answer period will follow.

On Sunday, June 29 we will have our Business/Brunch Meeting at the elegant Solinar Restaurant, 700 W. 79th Street from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Final remarks and projections will be heard. As we depart we will receive our Benediction from Minister Ishmael Muhammad.

"Let us give our NCOBRA Warriors from across this country and throughout the Diaspora a Great Chicago Welcome," stressed Arlipo.

"It should also be clear that our progress in the future will not be what we wish without apologies for ancient wrongs, without reparations, without restitution, and without systems to ensure that what happened to us will not be repeated," said Mr. Arlipo.

"We must press our claim for what is rightfully ours."
ETA Prepares For "Crossing Over Into The Millennium"

ETA Gala Committee members prepare for "Crossing Over into the Millennium," the theme for GALA '97 to be held on Saturday, September 6. Preparing for the journey are (bottom row, l to r) Adjoa Denise Blalock, Abena Joan Brown, president / producer of ETA, Shelley Hoyt Anderson, Coordinating Co-Chair, Barbara Kenney and top row, l to r) Willie Taylor, Sherry Williams, Sarreta Robertson, Nefertari Cutler, Johnnie Burke, Rose Williams, and David Atkins. For more information, call ETA at 773/782-9958.

After completing DuSable Museum's 19th Annual Sole Walk June 7th, some participants prepare to replenish themselves with refreshments contributed by Jewel-Osco. The Walk-A-Thon is intended to unite the African American community in Chicago and raise money to help support the museum's continual role in education, history, art, and culture of African-Americans. All proceeds from the event will be used for educational and children's programming.
**Business Matter Briefs in Mid South**

Create Community Jobs

The family Entertainment and Recreational Learning Complex, a Wellness work project at 3700-3900 South Pershing Rd. and Wabash, offers a year round jobs program that includes construction jobs, no experience required. The Inner City Youth Foundation had a job fair held June 6, 1997 at Lorenzo’s Restaurant, 2201 South Lake Shore Dr., McCormick Place, East Building, Level 1. The Levy Restaurant at McCormick Place is looking for individuals to join their team of cashiers, counter workers, bussers, restockers, grill cooks, line cooks, bakery, stewarding and warehouse jobs. In 1995, the Inner City Youth Foundation hired 500 jobs for people in Mid-South, bringing in millions of dollars to the community, represented the organization.

For more info, contact Christine Perkins at the Inner-City Youth Foundation at 4500 S. Michigan Ave., (773) 371-3929.

47th Street Merchants Association.

After a period of inactive activities, the 47th Street Merchants Association met in the month of June. The meeting was held at South Street Journal's office, and discussions pertained to the strip's issues of out bursts of robberies, violence and crime.

Many of the merchant's also complained about the doreopsect exhibited by some of the area residents, who loiter and congregate in front of their businesses. If you are a business or property owner on or near 47th Street we need your support at the 47th Street Merchants Association meetings. Please contact Ron Carter, at 773-924-0461.

**Community Business Loans**

The Harris Bank located at 4671 West, will be providing micro-loans to service areas businesses. This initiative has not been formally announced. Additionally, micro-loans are supported by Faith Coop Fund, a project of Partners in Community Development, located at 2922 S. Wabash. Interested parties may contact Mr. Guy Pratt, Ph D. at (312) 674-2333.

**Black Mac Operators "Showed Some Sole" at DuSable Museum**

The black McDonald’s Operators Association (BMOA) were sponsors of the 18th Annual DuSable Museum Walk-A-Thon. A donation of $1,000 to DuSable supports the museum’s ongoing efforts in African-American history.

**Atch's Restaurant Honors "Dream of the Crop"**

Chicago Housing Authority recently honored its "crop of the crop" during their first annual Resident Employment Development initiative program (REDI) dinner held at the Cultural Center. REDI helps residents start their own business, which provides service and products to the CHA and the private sector. In its first year, more than 62 companies were created with contracts exceeding 35 million.

**Business meet on Human Services Reform in Bronzeville**

Douglas—Howard A. Peters III, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor of Illinois, was the guest speaker at a recent forum on the revitalization of Bronzeville sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Centre, and attended by over 100 business and community leader. Peters, appointed in January by Governor Edgar to head the new Department of Human Services, was recently selected as the first Chicago Housing Authority economic development program (REDI) dinner held at the Cultural Center.

**Blacks & Computers**

by Nichelle Manuel

Use computer technology to educate young people and prepare them for a new technology culture in schools, universities, and the workplace as well as provide high-tech skills for those who do not pursue a higher education but want to enter the work force immediately.

Tory Brown says it is important that blacks become computer literate.

"It is important because the 21st century will not be an era of blacks and whites. It will be the haves and have-nots. The haves will have a computer and the have-nots will not. The technology will be out of this world, and blacks should be ready for the work force of 1963. American schools are a generation behind in technology and computer use with what they will create wealth and the have-nots won’t. We are now facing a gap. Already we have an existing gap between blacks and whites in socio-economic standing and a member of other areas. The computer will simply exacerbate that. It’ll make it wider.

But, notes Mr. Brown, the educational system in America is not yet responding to the need to teach technological skills.

"American schools are training young people for a work force of 1963. Most American schools are a generation behind in technology, and the system is not technologically equipped. It didn’t plan 20-years ago for today. If it had computers today, the teachers wouldn’t know how to use them. They’d have to take another ten years to train the teachers. Every family has to do this for itself. Families have a TV in their homes because they perceive a need for a TV. Once they understand what the new world is all about - computers and technology - every family will have a computer because every family will perceive a need for a computer."

**The Watchful Eye**

Whose knows of the watchful eyes, waiting for the beginning of a New Day?

Or the pain and sorrow of the empty hearts, when they and their love one’s are far apart - The nights are filled with loneliness, void from any Tenderness.

**Letters to the Editor**

Letters to the Editor are welcomed and encouraged.

Mail them to SSJ, 4655 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60653. They can be faxed in by calling (312) 924-0356. They should be typed or print written, accompanied with a return address and a daytime phone number. Letters may be edited for space or clarity, and we assume no responsibility for the accuracy of facts stated in any letter. Names may be withheld. We seek suggestions for improvement and invite you Red South Street Journal should address.

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The Book Within

Recently Reading Is Fundamental in Chicago (RIF) celebrated its 25th Annual Poster & Essay Contest. This year's topic was "A World in Which There Are No Books." Winners were honored at a ceremony held at the Field Museum. Chereb Elbery, (1st Place Winner) a 13 year old 7th grader from Washington Park attends Carter Elementary. Chereb is a Scorpio and said "I got almost all straight A's in school so I hope to go to Whitney Young, Currie or Hyde Park for high school." This is her award winning entry entitled, The Book Within.

PAST

Once upon a time, in 1823 to be exact, there lived a girl name Brittany. She loved books, in fact she had her own personal library. But when she became bored with all the other books she always read her special book, for which she said "I truly love this book, for it is the most powerful thing I have encountered." Although she lived in Chicago and went to a public school, she was very different from the rest of the kids. When all the other kids would go out to play for the afternoon on weekends, she'd grab her special book and read for hours. She had heard old folk tales about how all books would be destroyed one day. She didn't believe it until something extraordinary happened. It woke her up in the middle of the night; the earth trembled, the weather got extremely cold. The wind was so fierce it knocked down trees and blew out windows. Being a 13 year old girl, this sent her screaming to her mother. When she got to her mother's room, she saw that her mother and father were frozen with fear. She got into bed with them in an instant, and watched out of the now broken window. The room was in a state of confusion, air blew around, papers, cosmetics, and even lamps! Then they heard explosions like someone was dropping bombs, and the three of them saw a meteorite. The meteorite blew up the library section of the house, along with all the public libraries all around the world. It all took about 5 seconds. But, the only thing the meteorites didn't destroy was Brittany's special book, which she kept beside her bed on her night stand. When Brittany and her parents moved 6 years later, her book; the only book left in the world, was left behind. Now the year is 1997, and the world is a disaster. Back in 1823 there was an alien conspiracy to brainwash, and reprogram the human civilization by eliminating the written word as we know it, it worked. Without books everyone is illiterate. Teachers can't teach because they have any books to guide them. No one really knows about God because there are no books. The aliens re-educated humans with a whole new alphabet and language. Humans learned to hate, distrust and fight each other, and the aliens conquered the world.

The house that Brittany lived in years ago was bulldozed to the ground, and her special book was buried in the dirt.

FUTURE

The year is 2030 and the world is a very different place. Jennifer is a pretty light skinned 10 year old with freckles, and is fascinated with computers. Since she saw her father with one, she would sit and watch him type some strange language she never knew. It looked like it was from Outer Space or something. She asked him to teach her and he said "you are only 10 years old, wait until you get older." Now she was 15 and learned the once "thought strange language" her father knew.

One Saturday, she was tired of working on her computer, and decided to take a walk. She lives in a small quiet town, who's population is about 500. This day she walked farther than she'd ever walked and noticed that in this particular part of town there were holes in the ground, as if there were bombs set off a long time ago. She walked on the old vacant lot among all the deteriorated houses.

There is a caterpillar in the lot so she decided to catch. When she reached the caterpillar it was crawling over something. A book of some sort, with strange writing on the cover. She said to herself, "What is this?" Being the computer wiz she is, she took it home, showed it to a very elder. He helped her translate it, and typed the whole book up and put it on the internet. It was Brittany's special book, The Holy Bible and Jennifer sent it all over the world.

People began to revert back to the old ways of love, sharing and peace. She was glad that there were people that knew about the Bible. The world got better, because people would read it and do as it said. Eventually the aliens fled because they couldn't understand it or control it. They gave up, got in their ship and ran away, to overthow some other world.

"To be continued some where in the galaxy."....

PUSSING the China Principles

Those of us who grew up in a South, segregated by law harbored conflicting feelings about the northern investors. On the other hand, we wanted them to invest in the South, if they would integrate hiring and provide equal opportunity. We needed the work. The integrated workplace would be beacons in the apartheid South was needed the work. The integrated workplace was providing incentive for change. We wanted the flag of justice held high. We prized the investment that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the investments made that challenged local practices, and the 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Gracious and elegant turn-of-the-century gray and brownstones are being painstakingly restored to their former glory by owners and returning pioneering professional singles and families. An explosion of historical landmark designation application, and the determined sweat equity of news and long-time homeownersboosting both neighborhood pride and home values throughout the Mid-South communities.

Much of the credit for the resurgent interest in Mid-South communities must be given to the fervent preservation efforts of a wide range of over 200 community organizations, community activists, political leaders and just plain old, everyday neighborhood residents who shared a common vision and love for the community and its history. Kudos must also be given to those public and private-sector quintles who recognized the vision.

In fact, the vision and its future, who is its benefit and who will control or is the boss to the future directions to this up-and-coming area.

The Mayor and the city administration has made a claim on Bronzeville, reframing the area from 22nd to 39th Street attempting to leverage responsiveness to constituent demands while respecting ward boundaries and local aldermanic control.

Another power move was the control of the federal Empowerment Zone program, currently the source of vigorous debate as well as both outward and behind-the-scenes maneuvering by various forces. Where the “Bottoms Up Program” and various “Government” slogans is like Bull fans cheering “Da Bulls”. The excitement of getting part of $100 million, but how many low income residents has actually benefit from the Bull.

The fate of being in the right place at a time when the spotlight of development shines on Mid-South communities with close proximity to the Loop and the future success and failure will most probably parallel that of other Chicago neighborhoods which have suffered persistent dis-investment and neglect for over generations: the near west side near the United Center, and the near north side “gold coast” area where Cabrini-Green now sits. The supreme challenge for all of community organizations is a difficult, yet a potential feasible one: How to integrate others willing to embark on the fervent community revitalization while maintaining an economically and socially diverse balance of people from various educational and income levels?

On the other side of the elegant wrought iron fences a series of politically sensitive land mines avert. Public housing residents sing the now familiar “hard grab” refrain, while HUD and the CHA offer Section 8 certificates designed to “encourage residential choice” for those now living in Jda B. Wells, Robert Taylor and Stateway Gardens. The CHA is also faced with the task of controlling to the public who have rehabbed homes upwards into the $200,000 plus range that scattered site housing is feasible in the community. It’s an increasingly hard sell.

Today’s organizations and the residents that they represent have to confront a host of urban ills. Given these and other concerns, perhaps the most important issue facing the community activists is that they must endeavor to touch common ground and develop a meaningful dialogue with elected officials towards a common goal: a mutual respect must be the order of the day. (For example, were they invited to the June 28th rally. And if not do they have to be invited.) Should this not occur, the political fallout could be detrimental to the entire community. That’s something none of us should be willing to settle for.

Then there is also the possibility that while this political standoff simmer, others will step into the void to take control is very real.

In the final analysis, the communities of the Mid-South various organizations of Mid-South to the jewels of once was. The future generation depends on who is the BOSS and the entire city are watching. Let’s give them something glorious to see!

The Joy of Volunteerism

The team, composed of ten freshmen, or sophomores, and one senior, we are building to our once glory by just plain old, everyday neighborhood residents who shared a common vision and love for the community.

The freshmen became place winners in East St. Louis Relays, Palatine Meet, the Frosh-Soph Team placed a close second, the 3200 meter relay, and the ever popular 400 Meter Relay, the 800 meter relay, its never a dull moment. Its like a clock, you watch them play, run, jump, rope, play ball and my eyes just sing with joy. The happiness they bring to town, says Ms. Forney can you help me with this. The pleasure they give me is when they are acting silly and you look at them and you don’t know what to say.

The fun I have with them when we play games. Its very educational for me too. I learn more each day as I volunteer at Morrison Elementary School, its another trade for me and I love it with all my heart and soul. I wouldn’t trade it for nothing in the world.

I also love each and every teacher at Morrison, they also give me excitement and joy. I’ll always be there for all the teachers, there still so nice to me. I like to help them all with any thing they ask me to do.

I love working with Mrs. J. Brown in room 202, she’s wonderful and good to me. I love her to death. I also love to work with Mr. Brownstein he’s a great guy and loves teaching. I also learn a lot from him when I work with him. He taught me everyday thing it was to know about school work and a lot more. He’s my idol.

I like working with Mrs. M. McClendon doing office work, and other school activities. She gives me sensation each day. I admire her very much and it a delight to work with her. I also get a thrill out of working with the school staff, they’re all so terrific and great. I’d love to keep going on, but to end it all I must say being a volunteer really built my confidence and I can do anything I want in life.

Ms. Renee Forney Volunteer at Morrison Elementary School

The Watchful Eyes

Who knows of the watchful eyes, waiting for the beginning of a New Day?

Or the pain and sorrow of the empty hearts, when they and their love ones are far apart – The nights are filled with loneliness, void from any Tenderness.

With Fear and Despair everywhere, you have no one to hold.

Your emotions are awakened by the sweet memories of a sweetheart that you were denied, but like the Wings on a Sparrow; Wishing that you could fly and seek out the Love that your arms have longed to hold.

To find happiness before you grow old—blinded with hatred not able to see the sacrifice that others were willing to make, as you contemplate on how to escape—condemned to a life, in which you have no rights, to make up for the crimes you committed one day. But time itself holds the key that unlocks the freedom that you seek—like endless harvest of golden wheat, time yield slowly to the years. As your watchful eye’s wait and wait, contemplating on how to escape from a city of iron bars and stones, with your luck this will be your only home. For most of your life things hasn’t gone right, there are time when you couldn’t tell day from night. But you would be more then willing to mend your ways, and turn your life over to the Lord today; Just to be free, from this man-made pin, where your life seems to end!!

Ron Young
Former Resident R. Taylor Homes
THE HOMES OF BRONZEVILLE

Few urban areas afford the convenience and history of the South Side. Nestled in the heart of historic Bronzeville, this new community combines landmarks of the past with a vision toward the future. The Homes of Bronzeville are located just South of 35th Street between Indians and King Dr.

Only minutes from Lake Shore Dr and major regional highway system, and the newly renovated transportation of the El Greenline offers quick and easy public access.

Fall of 1998 will see completion of newly announced restoration of the 8th Army Armory with its new magnet school and community center.

Major institutions: Illinois Institute of Technology, Mercy Medical Center, as well as community institutes and churches in the area help make The Homes of Bronzeville a very nice and livable community for the family.

There is a rich tradition in the Homes of Bronzeville, not only in their elaborate construction, but they represent all that is wanted in a rich family living environment.

A Brief History of Bronzeville

Bronzeville—the name coined by a black newspaper editor working for the Chicago Bee newspaper in the 1900’s reflecting on the neighborhood bordered by 22nd Street on the North, 51st Street on the South, Lake Michigan/Cottage Grove on the East and the Dan Ryan expressway on the West. During the 1920’s King Dr. The “Grand Boulevard,” was the pride of Bronzeville.

The people of Bronzeville created an era of pride, ownership and a strong sense of community by developing their own cultural institutions, constructing their own buildings and establishing their own businesses. At the forefront of that effort stand a few leaders showing outstanding contributions to economic development. Jesse Bonga founded the Bonga State Bank; Anthony Overton built a small cosmetics firm and went on to found a bank, an insurance company and the Chicago Bee Newspaper; Frank L. Gillespie opened Liberty Life Insurance, which became Supreme Life, the first African American owned and operated insurance company in the North. Musician and songwriter Joseph Jordan erected the first African-American commercial building. Dr. Daniel Williams, a pioneer in heart surgery, founded Provident Hospital.

The cultural history of Bronzeville is very impressive in names like Duke Ellington, Dinah Washington, Louis Armstrong, Scott Joplin, Nat King Cole, Muddy Waters, Redd Foxx, Richard Wright, Ida B. Wells, Jesse Owens, Joe Louis, John H. Johnson all call Bronzeville home.

Bronzeville Pointe is the newest idea inspiring a continuation of Bronzeville and what has been.

SOUTH GAP HOMES

"Homes of Bronzeville" extend development of South Gap

Ahkenaton/Omnibus and First Chicago partnership in Mid-South Redevelopment Plan

Douglas—The first of 71 houses in "The Homes of Bronzeville" development are ready for occupancy along Prairie Avenue south of 35th Street. The residential development project is providing local jobs and helping to fulfill redevelopment goals set out in a community plan.

The Homes of Bronzeville is a joint venture of Ahkenaton Community Development Corporation and the Omnibus Group, a community revitalization organization. Ahkenaton community Development Corporation is a part of Centers For New Horizons, located on 42nd and King Drive. The partnership was formed in 1994 to address redevelopment goals established by community leaders for housing, land use, parks and schools.

The project has received backing from The First National Bank of Chicago.

Priced between $128,500 and $216,400, the units feature master bedroom suites, 2-1/2 baths, land-scaped front yards with concrete stoops and ornamental iron gates, private backyards, exterior maonry on all sides, oak flooring, carpeted bedrooms, large windows and many other amenities. Options include a rear deck, two-car garage, wood fending and gas fireplace.

Ahkenaton/Omnibus will have additional units available in the fall of 1997 and in the spring of 1998—most of them between Indiana Avenue and King Drive, from 35th Street to 37th Street.

Omnibus Group managing member Steve Ballis noted that The Homes of Bronzeville was designed to meet the goals of the Strategic Development Plan. The partnership may extend that redevelopment to 28 nearby Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) townhomes.

The townhomes are (Continued on page 11)
Corporations invest $300 million in Affordable Housing Development

Many Say That They Are Unable to Benefit From CAPP

At a time when public resources, for the nation's poor are diminishing, several dozen of America's leading corporations have announced that they will invest $300 million to produce affordable housing in Chicago and other cities across the country. Their commitment will be fulfilled by the National Equity Fund (NEF), an affiliate of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), which uses the Low Income Housing Tax Credit to create annual corporate investment funds.

In addition to Chicago, with approximately 50% of 1996 funds committed, other cities where nonprofit developers will invest in affordable housing developments in other cities.

This year's NEF and CEF investors from Chicago are Citicorp, City National, Home Savings of America and TCF Financial Corp.

NEF is the nation's leading nonprofit syndicator of Housing Credits, having raised and invested close to $2 billion in ten years and helped neighborhood nonprofits build nearly 38,000 affordable homes and apartments.

The Housing Credit which has helped to produce more than $900,000 units of housing since it was created in 1996, is responsible for 95% of all affordable housing being produced nationwide, creates more than 80,000 new jobs each year, and annually generates at least $2.8 billion in wages and $1.3 billion in tax revenue. For information contact Marilyn Katz or Kim Grimschau of NEF at (312) 822-0505 or Susan Anderson or Dana Mayhew of LISC at (312) 250-9950.

(Continued from page 10)

South Gap

part of the CHA's scattered-site housing program. While any changes to scattered-site housing requires court approval, the court-appointed receiver has agreed to co-sponsor a petition to allow improvements to the South Street Journal.

On the block of 43rd and Champlain, where almost half of the block is city owned, Jake Williams came into the SSJ office reported that he had "waited more than a year to buy city property that was up for sale, and no one wanted but himself, or at least were trying to buy it."

By Frank Otman

...continued from page 10

Many Say That They Are Unable to Benefit From CAPP

by Frank Otman

staff writer

Chicago—Some irate residents of Mid-South have voiced their feelings and opposition to the Chicago Abandoned Property Program (CAPP), saying it discriminates and is biased towards prospective black homeowners.

CAPP was enacted into law in 1990. Matter of fact, the current Mayor, Daley, when he was a State Legislator, sponsored the bill that would see the restoration of abandoned buildings and property in Chicago, enabling the community residents to buy property, as well as that the city had taken over. CAPP is not the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), but a city program by the city of Chicago.

Alderman Arenda Troutman's (20th Ward) press secretary said, "We give each person who comes to us to buy CAPP property a list of CAPP property around the city. They must fill out forms and apply for it. There are no exceptions."

This is not what Jake Williams who came into the SSJ office said. He reported that he had "waited more than a year to buy city property that was up for sale, and no one wanted but himself, or at least were trying to buy it."

He had and has the resources to buy property with, but even after talking to his Alderman, Yoni Pekdewinkle (4), he still got the run-around on obtaining city property.

Williams' case sounds like many other residents who want to buy CAPP property, only to be given the run-around as to what was available and why some of them had to wait two years before being told they could not purchase the property they wanted even though it was up for sale by the city of Chicago.

Alderman Madeline Haithcock (2) said that "If Williams had the money, he or anyone else could obtain city property under CAPP that was up for sale."

On asking how much property the city has under CAPP for sale, Alderman Haithcock said she didn't have those figures and to check with the Chicago Department of Housing.

Chicago Department of Housing (CDH) said, "Roughly, about 30 to 40 buildings and properties are up for sale each month under the CAPP program. Thelma Agustin of the CDH said "CAPP is Chicago property and belongs to the city. It is for anyone who can buy it, and that final decision is not made by the Alderman but CAPP Committee."

Ms. Betty Shemard of CAPP, director, said, "120 units of houses last year was purchased by residents here."

These bring denied ownership of CAPP property are simply doing something wrong as far as filling out application forms and should contact us," Ms. Agustin said.

For further information contact:

Chicago Department of Housing 747-4000; Dave Doleg, CEO at the Chicago Department of Housing: 747-2570, CAPP: (312) 747-1670 (FAX)
Bronzeville—For the past several years a major effort has been going on in the Mid-South communities, straight from 12th street to 69th Street, where in the New South community Mayor Daley has moved on 13th and Indiana all the way south on 69th Street. The Woodlawn Organization has begun new construction on 69th and Dante. In between the other Bronzeville (the area between 12th and 71st Street, Dan Ryan to Cottage Grove, SSJ ) to restore the community to the Bronzeville of old and stop the demolition of buildings and homes in the area. Many in the Mid-South community have come together to preserve the community during its heydays of the 40s through 60s. But still there is that faction of the Bronzeville community who would like to see a great deal of the community demolished for outside developers to come into the area. Of the more than 40 buildings on court dockets to be demolished, no date was given to when these would take place or would at all. Kathleen Walsh, Press Secretary at the Demolition Bureau (DB) said, “Fast-Track demolition of two-story or less has been halted by the courts. In the past three months there have been court orders to stop the demolition of these kind of homes.” According to DB, across the city about 5,000 homes have been razed over the years. In the Mid-South communities other than Hyde Park, the area has been number one in demolition with thousands of properties demolished. These homes and buildings had to be demolished because of and safety of them. The DB, Ms. Walsh states, “It does not destroy any home without proper court orders. These are lawsuits filed by people and communities to stop the demolition of homes.” Sam Wright of the Chicago Black United Communities (CBUC), Building Engineer, since 1989, said “Demolition of buildings in Bronzeville is out of proportion. From 37th Street to 43rd Street. “Many of these buildings can be renovated, rehabbed by the community. In the last 20 years, 43rd Street is a good example of homes being demolished from east of King Dr. De-population of blacks is Daley’s goal to keep blacks from having anything in Chicago.” Wright continued to say by 2002, thousands of units will be torn down, leaving blacks with little. Already, about 5,000 homes and buildings have been demolished in Bronzeville since Daley has been in office.” Aldermen Tony Preckwinkle (4), Dorothy Tillman (3) and Madeline Haithcock (2) all support restoration of Bronzeville as outlined in their programs for the community that consist of renovating and preserving as much history of Bronzeville as can be done. Now many organizations such as the Urban League, Chicago Black United Communities, Neighborhood Preservation Alliance and Block Clubs are uniting together as a political bloc to preserve the Bronzeville of old and stop demolition. Mary Stewart of Neighborhood Preservation Alliance said that “my organization called for a moratorium on the demolition of homes and buildings in the Bronzeville area. The reason is simple, Bronzeville is a historic community— unlike any you’ll find in the city, as far as architecture and unique buildings.” Ms. Stewart, who is also board member of Mid-South Planning and Development, went on to say that “people like Nat King Cole, Lou Rawls, Harold Washington, Sam Cooke and many others, carry the history of Bronzeville and preserving it.” “The community has been raped by outsiders over the years, jobs and shopping malls should be built here and not giving out money to outside shopping centers.” Pat Cerasoli of the Mid-South Planning and Development was very supportive of all initiative to build businesses in Bronzeville and (Continued on page 13)
Another Bronezville Story

By Frank Ottman

between 4844 S. State Street and Robert Taylor - B complex located at Washington Park - The nation's largest and most densely populated public housing project, Chicago State Street Corridor, stretching for four miles, including the Robert Taylor Homes (RTH) is now in the process of being demolished in part and renovated as plans call for of the housing complexes. The overall plan is under the HOPE VI Urban Revitalization Demonstration program stating that the residents called home. You may ask, how could anyone be so callous. Don't they care? What ever happened to compassion? It appears that caring and compassion collided with callous greed resulting in the destruction of housing for the poor who were in the way. Public housing came to Chicago during the early years of World War II. The purpose was to provide decent housing for low income working class families. The term family had the traditional ring, meaning married with children or widowed. Not until thirty years at the housing project and members of the Local Advisory Council at RTH said, "Many of the buildings at RTH are in good shape and don't need to be torn down. I feel like cattle being moved around. It's the HUD that families lived in those buildings. Had the plans for the obsolescence card about those buildings, they would not have stopped the funding for maintenance and upkeep way back in 1971, allowing public housing to self-destruct.

But they did not care—they facilitated the destruction of those buildings that the residents called home. You may ask, how could anyone be so callous. Don't they care? What ever happened to compassion? It appears that caring and compassion collided with callous greed resulting in the destruction of housing for the poor who were in the way. Public housing came to Chicago during the early years of World War II. The purpose was to provide decent housing for low income working class families. The term family had the traditional ring, meaning married with children or widowed. Not until thirty years at the housing project and members of the Local Advisory Council at RTH said, "Many of the buildings at RTH are in good shape and don't need to be torn down. I feel like cattle being moved around. It's the HUD that families lived in those buildings. Had the plans for the obsolescence card about those buildings, they would not have stopped the funding for maintenance and upkeep way back in 1971, allowing public housing to self-destruct.

Thus far the building at 39th and Federal is presently being demolished at a cost reportedly at $600,000. The residents of the building were told they were making room for a dormitory for DuSable high school students.

Robert Taylor Homes
Another Bronezville Story

By Frank Ottman

Staff Writer
Washington Park - The nation's largest and most densely populated public housing project, Chicago State Street Corridor, stretching for four miles, including the Robert Taylor Homes (RTH) is now in the process of being demolished in part and renovated as plans call for of the housing complexes. The overall plan is under the HOPE VI Urban Revitalization Demonstration program stating that the residents called home. You may ask, how could anyone be so callous. Don't they care? What ever happened to compassion? It appears that caring and compassion collided with callous greed resulting in the destruction of housing for the poor who were in the way. Public housing came to Chicago during the early years of World War II. The purpose was to provide decent housing for low income working class families. The term family had the traditional ring, meaning married with children or widowed. Not until thirty years at the housing project and members of the Local Advisory Council at RTH said, "Many of the buildings at RTH are in good shape and don't need to be torn down. I feel like cattle being moved around. It's the HUD that families lived in those buildings. Had the plans for the obsolescence card about those buildings, they would not have stopped the funding for maintenance and upkeep way back in 1971, allowing public housing to self-destruct.

But then lo' and behold, time passed and the offsprings of the babyboomers had more than enough of ticky-tacky living. Moreover, they found that the grass was much greener in the city and particularly on the land where public housing was built. Engs, Cabrini, Taylor, Homer, Wells, Washington Park have met the same fate. This is getting way back in 1971, allowing public housing to self-destruct.

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Cabrini Green, Unit VI

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strategy to relocate blacks around the city and country.”

In one meeting with the residents HUD offi­
cials did in fact offer to move residents to anywhere in the country and even pay their moving expenses. Under HUD’s guidance, residents cannot be relocated in their state or city that has HUD funding.

"Black’s are only being moved to lose what little they have," one resident said. "There is really no reason to move tenants here under the Section 8. The fact is CHA officials did in fact offered to move residents to a community has a good reason and not for their moving expenses. Under HUD’s guidance, residents cannot be relocated in their state or city that has HUD funding."

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