

Lake Grove Tenants fight to own Housing complex is opened to highest bidder.

By Frank Ottman
Staff Writer

Douglas - Lake Grove Village (LGV) is located next to Lake Meadows' housing complex and Ida B. Wells. It is viewed by its tenants as another case of community renewal with the potential of replacing present residents. Rents can go from \$567.00 to \$891.00 a month if tenants are not successful in their attempts to purchase the complex.

Questionable owners of Lake Grove again filed for bankruptcy, leaving many of the tenants there who submitted a proposal to purchase the housing complex confused and suspicious of developers and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) fair play.

By law, tenants at LGV would have priority in buying the property during foreclosure. But if bankruptcy is filed, the housing



Residents of Lake Grove Village located on 35th and Cottage Grove, (L to R), Dorothy Wellere, Gloria Wise, Dawn Allen and Kathy Wimms are resubmitting a second proposal to the court for residents to be able to own the housing complex.

complex is opened to bid purchasing to the highest bidder.

In 1973 the United Presbyterian African Methodist Episcopal Church (UPAME) started the housing complex with 489 units. Ten years later, UPAME would

file its first bankruptcy proceedings. Due to faulty management at the housing complex, Travis Realty would turn over management to East Lake Management (ELM).

But in the latest bankruptcy proceeding, 1996, ELM, according to Leroy Bannister, Vice President at ELM, has also "filed due to many problems at LGV from vandalism, drugs, gangs, many tenants not paying their rent." This, Bannister says, put ELM deeper in the red, and wanting out of their contract with LGV, they filed for bankruptcy.

According to Gloria Wise, President of Lake Grove Village Tenant Council (LGVTC), LGV has had several owners since its inception. The UPAME, Margaret

Higgenbottom, Travis Realty, Elzie Higgenbottom, Bruce Roset were owners of LGV.

With LGV presently in bankruptcy court under Judge Jack B. Schmetterer of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, several organizations have been bidding for ownership: LR Development, ELM, Chicago Community Development Corporation and LGVTC.

Several reliable sources including Gloria Wise of LGVTC and Leroy Bannister of ELM say that, "CCDC is now the fore-runner in the bid for LGV, offering the best agenda to renovate and run LGV."

After the highly publicized fire in the winter of 1996, only 128 units of LGV were left. The fire cost \$3 million in damages and 4 lives that no one can put a value on. The fire, many of the LGV tenants are saying, could have been avoided by better building design and maintenance of the buildings.

Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (4) said, "I still continue to support LGVTC and Ms. Wise and their right to purchase LGV. The LGVTC has always had my support."

But many of the original supporters of LGVTC, said Ms. Wise, have backed out; namely Illinois Rep. Lou Jones(D), U. S. Senator Carol Mosely-Braun (D) and Congressman Bobby Rush(D).

Ms. Wise said "Rep. Jones sup-
(Continued on page 9)

New rent schedules proposed for Lake Grove Apartments (July 1, 1997)

No. of Bedrooms	No. of Units	Unit Size (sq ft)	Utility Allowance	Total Rent
1	104	550	\$43	\$593
1	54	600	\$43	\$643
2	24	720	\$61	\$781
2	55	750	\$61	\$811
2	105	810	\$61	\$871
2	57	850	\$61	\$911
3	59	950	\$73	\$1,023
TOTALS	488			

Under new ownership new rent schedules were proposed (July 1, 1997), to be implemented at Lake Grove Apartments at an increase of \$25 a month to the present tenant. Lake Grove Village Tenant Council will be submitting objections along with their proposal to purchase the housing complex on August 4, 1997

"Bring It On Home To Me" Roots Fest attracts thousands on 47th Street

The last Fest making way for the ground breaking of the long awaited Lou Rawls Theatre

Grand Blvd - The "Bring it on Home to Me Roots Festival" in its seventh year as a major event on 47th and King Drive took place Saturday July 19 from Noon to 10 pm at on the site of the Old Regal Theatre.

The Fest has evolved into a family day in the African tradition of focusing on the total family unit. With the enjoyment of the fest, many did not pay attention that this is to be the last to be held on 47th and King Drive.

Attracting over 60,000 people, the festival welcomed home Koko Taylor — "Queen of the Blues" — who joined Grammy Award winning singer Lou Rawls and Bobby "Blue" Bland as co-hosts of the event. MCs of the Festival, which is sponsored by the Third Ward Partnership, included radio personalities from V-103 and Dusty Radio 1390 (WGCI - AM).

Famed gospel singer Inez Andrews, whose phenomenal talent has earned her the title, of "High Priestess of Gospel: co-hosted "Gospel Hour," along with entertainment favorite Otis Clay, Jacque Haselrig of Dusty
(Continued on page 5)



Attracting over 60,000 people, the "Bring it on Home to Me Roots Festival" in its seventh year as a major event on 47th and King Drive. This Last Fest on 47th Street is making way for the ground breaking of the Lou Rawls Theatre



Burris Enters Race for Governor

Speculation about whether Roland Burris would make a second bid for governor of Illinois was put to an end when he announced his campaign staff.

Burris, who ran in 1994, lost to his Democratic opponent Dawn Clark Netsch who lost to Governor Jim Edgar. Edgar is speculated to run against Carol Mosely Braun for her U.S. Senate seat.

This time out Burris says he expects to win his party's nomination in the primary. "Four years have passed. The candidates are different and I am putting together a different campaign team", said Burris

So far, Burris has named Hyde Park resident Delmarie Cobb as his director of communications, and political and media strategist Chris Sautter of Sautter Communications. Both Cobb and Sautter have strong credentials.

Most recently, Cobb served as press secretary for the 1996 Democratic National Convention. Before that she was the director of communications for Jesse Jackson Jr.'s congressional campaign in the 1995 special election. In February's special aldermanic, Cobb represented 17th ward Alderman Terry Peterson.

Sautter has advised and provided media services for dozens of Democratic candidates. He has also handle several successful issue campaigns, including the Gateway referendum in Cleveland that provided public funding for the new baseball stadium and basketball arena and several riverboat gambling referenda in Indiana. Before opening his own firm in 1992, Sautter managed the Washington office of Axelrod & Associates, a Chicago political media company.

Sautter says Burris has the best chance of winning against his opponents. "Burris starts his campaign as the most formidable candidate in the field. He is a proven vote-getter," explains Sautter. "He has a remarkable record of achievement and as advocate for the people of Illinois."

Burris began his political career with a cabinet position under Governor Dan Walker. He was the first African-American to win a statewide election when he became the state comptroller. Burris has beaten Republicans for state offices four times: 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1990.

Burris says despite who enters the race, he plans to run against Jim Edgar—the incumbent governor. "There has to be a change in leadership. Illinois is in a holding pattern," emphasizes Burris. "I have the experience, I have the vision to energize and move Illinois into the 21st century."

The gubernatorial hopeful plans to announce his candidacy officially after Labor Day.

Community Briefs

Beat the Heat

In the summer of 1995 one week of brutally-high temperatures in Chicagoland contributed to over 700 deaths, mostly home-bound elderly. Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly, offer the following summer heat emergency tips for the elderly: 1) Get to know your elderly neighbor. 2) Check in on elderly neighbors. 3) In a heat crisis: open the windows, use fans, get into an air-conditioned room if possible; wear loose-fitting cotton clothing. "Cool Off." Take baths, sponge off, put wet cloths on your wrists; drink lots of water and pure fruit juices (sugar, caffeine and alcohol make things worse). "Emergency"—if you start to feel sick or weak, pick up the phone and dial 911. 4) Be sure elderly neighbors have food and liquids. 5) If you think someone is having a heat emergency, Act now—loosen clothes, cool the person. Dial 911. It is better to "butt in" and save a life than to allow a tragedy to happen.

Little Brothers invite new volunteers to "make an old friend." Volunteers receive excellent training and are paired with an old friend for a set period of time. Interested in learning more? Call 773-477-7702 and ask for Gerri Mead.

Ald. Troutman to hold Washington Park Redevelopment Meeting

The third meeting sponsored by Ald. Arenda Troutman (20) on plans to develop the Washington Park community (area 40) is being held on July 26th. The area of development is bound from 51st Street to 61st Street, Indiana to King Drive.

Alderman Troutman has stated that she and the city of Chicago, Department of Planning, have been meeting working out the details for the area for months and is presenting their plans to the community for input. The residents and members of the Washington Park Community Coalition have taken a stand in support of an African-American



Alderman Troutman

Redevelopment Plan only, where they want only Black developers to be part of the plan in construction and jobs. Organizing a petition which partially states, "We live in this community, and we are entitled to develop and benefit from being designated a Redevelopment Area. The present developers have demonstrated their disregard for African-Americans in giving us our fair share. If we don't control the development, we won't be hired or trained for the job".

From Lake Meadows Residents Council Visions:



Lake Meadows Tenants File Law Suit

The 601 Tenants Council Inc. of Lake Meadows has filed a law suit against Lake Meadows Associates, Draper and Kramer, Inc. to prevent a major 340 townhouse development on the grounds of LM. The plaintiffs are tenants (10) in the 601 building. The complaint asks the court for a judgment to prevent the conversion of the 601 building into condominiums.

The basis of the lawsuit is the 99 year lease which states that Lake Meadows is to be a medium income rental property. It also argues that the residents of LM are entrusted to carry out the will and covenant of the 99 year lease until the year 2059.

The *Visions* newsletter also reported that the attorney (s) for Lake Meadows Associates/Draper & Kramer had not filed an appearance or answered the complaint as of Friday July 18, 1997. In support of the townhouse development and the 601 building condominium conversion is aldermen Madeline Haithcock (2) and Toni Preckwinkle (4).

The next meeting of the LMTC will be Thursday July 31, 7 -9 pm at 401 E. 32nd St.

Rush Blasts Clinton Admin. on Drugs

U. S. Rep. Bobby L. Rush charged that the Clinton Administration is being "Hypocritical and racist" in its approach to the

War on Drugs, as exemplified by its position that possession of crack should be considered ten times more serious than possession of cocaine. Rush noted that the discrepancy in mandatory sentences is a severe handicap to the war on drugs since crack is made from cocaine, and large scale dealers in cocaine actually receive leniency under the sentencing guidelines, while low-level crack dealers fill the courts and jails.

The sentencing ratio question raises serious civil rights questions because crack cocaine is more common in the African American community, and powdered cocaine is more frequently used in the white community. The original 100 to 1 disparity was created by legislation enacted by Congress in 1986. The law required Federal judges to impose the same five year minimum sentence for defendants convicted of possessing 5 grams of crack or 500 grams of cocaine.

Another Note on Drugs:

A report indicated that the drug industry is more lucrative than the automobile industry.

MISSING

Tomisha Ware, Height: 5 ft. 4 in. Slender Build Weight: 103 pounds Wears Eyeglasses. Last heard from: 31st and Indiana on Sunday, July 20th, 1997. Wearing : Black blouse and skirt with green stripe down the sides, clear jelly bean sandals. Call 911 if you have any information.

IN THE

NEWS

This is election day, I said, "Roland for your vote," not "Row in your Boat"

MEETINGS and EVENTS



July

Museum of Science & Industry's Ongoing Summer Excitement - 57th & Lake Shore Drive continues to celebrate the renovation of Chicago's beloved Coal Mine with a revamped tour and added features, including contemporary mining equipment and a '90's automated control room. Other exhibits include "CARS", "Super Speedway", "Torino Design", "LEGO Launch Pad" and "Race the Wind". For more information call (773)-684-1414 or Web site: <http://www.msichicago.org>

Comfort Stew Closes out ETA's 26th season July 10th - August 17th A Celebration of Motherhood. For show times and tickets call (773)-752-3955. ETA is located at 7558 S. South Chicago Ave.

Thursday 30

47th Street Merchant Association will hold their bi-monthly. The meeting topics will address the plans for 47th Street from the city. For location and information call Ron Carter at (773)-924-0461

August

Friday 1, 2 & 9

Summer Theatre Series at the Chicago Park District Promontory Point Park, 5491 S Shore Dr. "Livin' Fat", a comical play about a family of modest means confronted by moral issues when they suddenly become wealthy. "Ladies in Waiting" run August 15, 29 & 30. The story of five incarcerated women and how their time is spent waiting for release from prison. For info call (312)-747-6620

Friday, 1

Verta Mae Day. In conjunction with ETA's mainstage performance of Angela Jackson's "Comfort Stew", writer, poet, actress and culinary anthropologist Vertamae Grosvenor, host of the PBS (Channel 11) series, *The Americas' Family Kitchen* will have her day at ETA, for "Talk N' Taste" & Book Signing for *Vertamae Cooks in the America's Family Kitchen*. All ticket-holders for the 8 p.m. show are invited to attend the reception with Vertamae. Forty seats are reserved for season subscribers on a first-come, first-served basis. The reception is from 6-8 p.m; show time is 8:p.m. Call ETA at (773)-752-3955 for tickets and information.

Tuesday, 5

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

Tuesday, 5

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

Saturday, 9

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

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.

2nd WARD MEETINGS are held every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at the Ward Office located at: 449 East 35th Street at 10:00 AM, telephone (773) 924-0014.

The Washington Park Community Coalition will hold its regular meeting at the Washington Park Fieldhouse. 2:00 p.m.

Monday, 11

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

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

Tuesday, 12

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

Saturday 16

The West Woodlawn Council of Block Clubs, Regular Council Meeting, third Saturday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at Parkway Community House, 500 East 67th Street. Call 493-1306.

The UnZip

In the news paper business reliable sources said Southsiders, went to the West Side to find out how to take over SSSJ.

And at Alderman Dorothy Tillman's home on 43rd and King drive there were those that wanted to be mentioned and those glad they were not mentioned. For the first time invited was **Ron Carter** of SSSJ along with Associate publisher **Beverly Reed** and, SSSJ Advisory Board members **Mary Jordan**, Chairperson of **KOCO**, and **Barbara Kensey of Kensey and Kensey**, PR. the **Ms Hermeme Hartman of Indigo**, with **Johnny Brown** of **Brown's Good Year Tire**, **Barbara Adeboyejo**, **Jack Childs** and his wife, the father and mother of Atty. **Jack Childs**, **Murphy Hughes**, State Rep. **Lou Jones**, Branch Head **Daryl Newell of Harris Bank on 47th Street**, **Jackie Gremshaw**, **David Milliner**, **Berry Dolan**, **Wanda Wright**, **Monica Blake**, the Blues special event, **Jimmy Tillman** was there. State Atty. **Dick Devine**, **Chuck Smith**, Dir. of the Goodman Theatre, **Artie "Blues Boy" White**, former state rep. **Monica Faith Steward**, now lives in South African; Also, **Otis Clay**, **Irgam Bregam** from the Defender; and Finance chair of city counsel **Ed Burke** was there; **Rita WHACK**, **WBEZ**, **Tonya Kohn** and **Terry Bell**; and **Ko Ko Taylor**; the media specialist, **Melody McDowell**. and **Barbara Irving** the coordinator of the events.

Beverly Reed is now in Hollywood, Calif. preparing to be on a T.V. talk show. Get ready for major campaign against the "Mack" movie from Ms. Reed.

Other Words on interviewing is that of **Dino McNeal** being interviewed by national press on the Woodland community.

Word is that the City of Chicago may be interested in obtaining the Supreme Life Building on 35th and King Drive from **Harold Lucas**.

Clarence Terry the conspirator from Hyde Park on the Illinois Lottery is still on the case, he found out that **Zip Code 60609** is considered among the poorest zip code areas in the city and is number one in Lottery sales figures for 1996 was \$17,592,292.50.

David Dunlap of the West Woodlawn Council of block Clubs and the Women's Auxiliary is now selling tickets to their prayer breakfast in October.

Former Alderman of the 2nd ward, **William Barnett** said look forward to the real story of activities on 35th Street.

CHA police Commander Trovier on 48th and State Street may be in question of **Rep. Kenner**, whose office is on 55th Street has responded to the growing reports of abuse by CHA police. The public housing cops will soon be made more accountable with new legislation to monitor their policing activities.

The **Illinois College of Optometry** welcomes new director of Institutional Advancement **Leo Hensley** who will oversee the College's fund raising, public relations and alumni affairs programs. Hey Leo, SSSJ is still waiting to do the story on the ONE Mid-South student that goes to the College.

Congrats to SSSJ Advisory Board member **Bernetta Pearson** who will be having here book signing next month on her book on health care.

CHA staff and one resident of Ida B. Wells was meeting a little while back planning the new townhomes to be built on the site where the high raises were. Again for who and who not.

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.

Old Mapping of Minority Wards Upheld By the Courts No increase in Black Wards

The old mapping of minority wards in Chicago was upheld by the federal court last month.

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 Brian 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 thing is no more than racial gerrymandering, giving the whites in Chicago a majority at City Hall and running the city. This is known as "Racial Gerrymandering/Vote Dilution," turning back the clock to Jim Crow days of

yester-years.

This case should be appealed and no doubt will be if blacks and minorities in Chicago are to get their share of the "pie."

The appointment by President Clinton of Attorney John Schmidt as Assistant U.S. Attorney General, to 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.

Toni Preckwinkle, 3rd Ward Alderman said "This is a no brainer, for Judge Duff to reach a decision as he did is incomprehensible. It is only a decision by the court to keep white wards in the majority in the city and at City Hall."

Bruce 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 in Illinois and Chicago. This case must be appealed and will be."

BLACK METROPOLIS CONVENTION & TOURISM COUNCIL

Heritage Tourism Review

By Harold L. Lucas 773-548-2579

Development in Action-The Supreme Life Buildings

The Black Metropolis Convention and Tourism Council (BMC&TC) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate and market the development of African-American heritage tourism destinations in Illinois. Specifically, the Council is dedicated to developing the Black Metropolis Historic District in Bronzeville as a pilot project and premier African American heritage tourism destination; a historic center of African-American business, culture and politics on Chicago's South side.

The BMC&TC has acquired title to the Supreme Life Buildings on the corner of 35th and King Drive. The Supreme Life complex consists of (22,000) square feet, currently configured in 1 main 2-story building (8,800 sq. ft.), in 4 adjacent 2-story- row houses (4,000 sq. ft.), in a 5th, 3-story town home and (3,000 sq. ft.) in 1 two-story rear building. The Supreme Life Center is in a key location at the corner of 35th and King Drive at the gateway to Black Metropolis. Appropriate development of historic buildings is vital to creating a transportation tourism hub and gateway gathering destination to stimulate the burgeoning economics of the growth industries of tourism and telecommunication for the entire Mid South Community.

Development of the Supreme Life Building as an interactive community-based institution will provide an eastern anchor to the 35th Street Tech-



nology Corridor and augment the other technology based institutions like the Chicago Police Headquarters, Illinois Institute of Technology, Overton Hygienic Building/Bronzeville Institute and Chicago Bee Library. In itself, the Supreme Life Buildings are proposed as a Chicago landmark registered designation of the National Trust for

Historic Places, and from 1924 until 1991 was home to the first African-American owned insurance company north of the Mason/Dixon line. The property was most recently owned by John H. Johnson and was also the original home base of Ebony/Jet Publications.

The main goals of BMC&TC has been to complete a series of community outreach planning charrettes to determine the highest and best development objectives for this important space. The resulting objectives are as follows: 1) development of the Bronzeville Visitor Information Center; 2) development of a retail and commercial complex whose occupants will offer merchandise and services relating to heritage tourism and the African-American cultural experience; 3) development of an interactive communications technological site and teleconference center (smart building) to store and disseminate oral histories, genealogical data and tourism information via CD Rom and kiosks.

The design of Supreme Life townhomes will also serve as display spaces for historic artifacts and exhibits related to the history of black business development in the Bronzeville community. In addition, the 5th townhome is projected to be redeveloped as a Bronzeville Historic House Museum.

Implementation of the above mentioned goals and objectives must be augmented by an action plan that will facilitate discussion on collaborative partnerships and the interrelated development of individual components of the institution. Once this plan document is completed, there will be a final colloquium to present the plan to the community and receive public/private input on the whole

development concept. From there, requests for development proposals can be issued and construction can begin.



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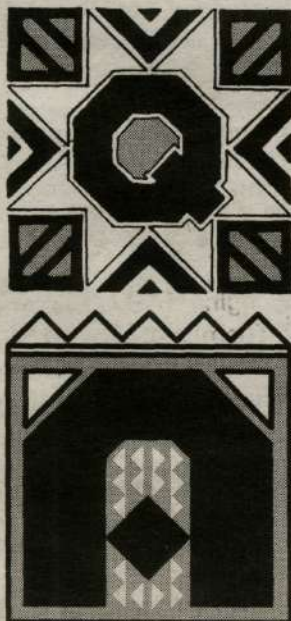
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Phillip Jackson Organizing for Education

I recently had the opportunity to talk with former Robert Taylor resident and now number 3 man to Board of Education CEO, Paul Vallas, Mr. Philip Jackson. Jackson has begun an innovative new program called the Black Star Project. Black Star was started in August 1996. The project is focused around two areas: 1) finance, business and investments. 2) education.

Mr. Jackson stated, "There are extensive monitoring programs in the Chicago Public Schools. We monitor young people in the 6th 7th and 8th grades in about fifty elementary schools."

This program is different because it focuses on parents. Jackson says, "We want to make sure that parents can really raise their children properly." This is the first parent conference. There are forty to fifty different exhibits, support mechanisms and resources to help parents help their children.

Parents need to sharpen their skills in order to help their children learn. Parents must involve themselves in every step of the child's development. We serve the very young children to the very old children. There are learning activities for the child and even airplane trips. This is a great resource for parents.

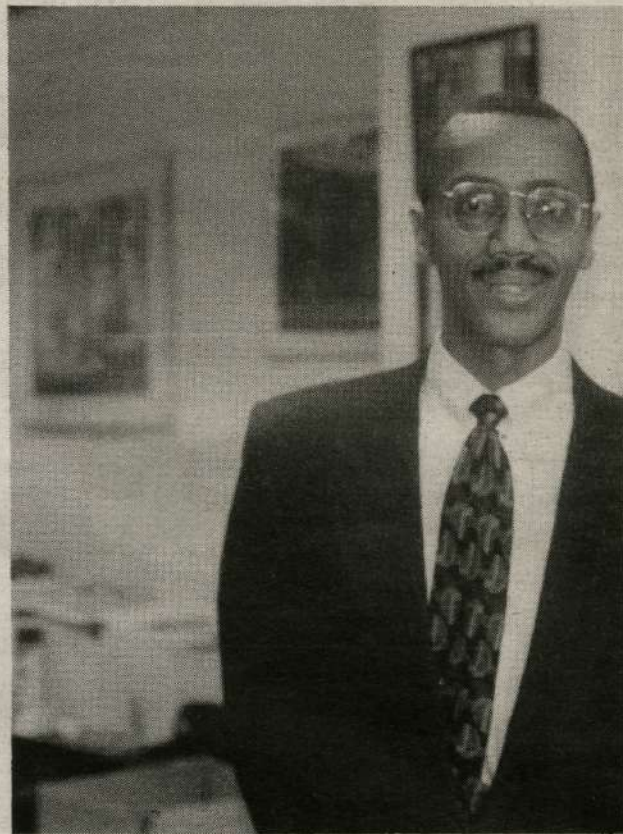
There are also employment projects that can help direct kids to special vocations. We think that schools are starting to improve now under the new management team with Paul Vallas, the CEO of the Chicago Board of Education.

"We want to make sure that parents can really raise their children"

Believing that both parents are crucial to successful child rearing, one of BSP's most important seminars concerns the role of the fathers and men in raising children. "We think the Black men need to become more involved in this partnership in raising children. It is not something that only women should do, it's not something only fathers can do. All Black men have a responsibility to raise children and play a nurturing role, even if they are no longer living in the home" Jackson stressed. "Even men who do not have children should help. For example, I do not have children but that doesn't mean that I'm not responsible in helping children to

receive proper guidance." "There are many ways in which men can play an effective role in raising our children. Many African American youths (particularly young men) believe that athletics is the only way to escape the inner city". Jackson continued, "while it is impressive that these young men are willing to work so hard for a goal. Anyone who practices or studies anything for 25 hours a week will probably be good at that thing. Unfortunately, there are only 300 jobs as basketball players in the NBA and literally millions of young men who think that their only ticket out of poverty and despair is basketball." Reiterating a well known fact Jackson said, "Most of the teachers, principals and crossing guards are women. We need to put some strong positive Black male role models in our children's education. The Black man has not been present in our homes and schools and this is the cause of many of our problems." Jackson continued, "The media contributes by encouraging these young men to invest their time and

energy where the odds of succeeding are a million to one (or higher). There are five billion people in the world and there is only one Michael Jordan. It is better (and probably easier) to study medicine, engineering, law or business than to be like Mike. The chances of succeeding are much better." These young men too often are shown professional basketball



Phillip Jackson, former Robert Taylor President and now #3 man to CEO Paul Vallas and Black Star Project manager,

players as role models instead of African American male doctors, attorneys, business professionals, and entrepreneurs. For the past two months, the newspapers have been dominated with stories about Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Mike Tyson and Tiger Woods, but the truth is that this country is driven by what happens on the business pages, not the sports pages.

Young African American men think that athletics and entertainers will get them "respect and girls!" The media have a responsibility to present a balanced and fair representation of what black men are and can be in this society. The most important thing that young African American males can do with his life is to get a

good education. We must encourage these young men to practice mathematical calculations and scientific formulas much as they might practice dribbling a basketball. The African American Community must make education its top priority, Jackson concluded.

Mid South Agency/Organizations Directory of Services

Grand Blvd.-Mid South Planning & Development Commission: 4307 S. King Dr., 312-924-1330. A community organization composed of area residents, block clubs, community based organizations, institutions and businesses.

Douglas-Matthew House 3610 S. Giles, 312-536-3661. A supportive services agency for the homeless offering programs such as intake and assessment, basic needs & social development, education, employment, benefits assistance, money management, substance abuse counseling, family reunification & follow-up.

Douglas-St. James Church, 2942 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616, (312) 842-1919. Services that are provided to the Community by St. James Church: Food Pantry - Services residents in the 60616 zip code area; Job Bank - Saturday Only; Mentor Program - Saturday mornings; St. James Catholic School.

Grand Blvd.-The Grand Boulevard Federation 715 E. 47th St., 60653 Tel: (773) 548-8140 Fax: (773) 548-6622 548-6622, is a collaboration of community residents, organizations and institutions, whose mission is to improve the effectiveness of the human service delivery system by influencing policies, funding and programs, by empowering residents and by enhancing the coordination of human service resources within the community. Contact Greg Washington, Executive Director, **Grand Blvd.-Inner City Youth Foundation,** 4500 S. Michigan, 773-373-3929 Fax 773-624-5220, provides job placement, job referral, entrepreneurial and building activities for youth, and Empowerment Zone resource information on tax credits for EZ Businesses (employers) that hire EZ residents.

For your organization to be listed in SSJ Organization/Agency listing please call Barbara Jimerson or Elaine Norwood at 773/924-0461

Residents Making Changes to Strengthen Communities

On Friday, August 1, 1997 representatives of five CHA resident groups will receive grant award certificates from Windows of Opportunity (Windows) for the implementation of programs they designed for residents of their neighborhoods. This is a significant accomplishment for the 26 Boy Scout Troop 599, Cub Scout Pack 3599 and Explorer Post 9599 from the Chicago Housing Authority's Harold L. Ickes Homes. It means that they will receive funding to purchase a specially equipped trailer to transport and store all of the camping gear and other equipment they have accumulated in three years of working toward their merit badges for such things as ecology, recycling,

Resources

National Equity Fund \$300 million investment For Non-profit Organization to produce affordable housing

At a time when public resources for the nation's poor are diminishing, several dozen of America's leading corporations 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 receive equity include: New York City; Newark; Boston; Philadelphia; Detroit; Cleveland; Indianapolis; Atlanta; Greenville, MS; Puget Sound; and a number of cities in Minnesota, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The \$60 million California Equity Fund 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 90,000 new jobs each year, and annually generates at least \$2.8 billion in wages and \$1.3 billion in tax revenue.

and wilderness exploration.

Young people from Cabrini Green and the Robert Taylor Homes will also benefit from grants to residents of their communities.

All of these projects are being

funded by Windows of Opportunity's small grants program called CHANGES which provides CHA residents with both financial and technical assistance to help build healthy communities. An official awards ceremony will be held in

the CHA conference room (626 W. Jackson Blvd., 6th flr.) from 12:00-12:45 p.m. A reception and the signing of grant agreements will follow from 1:00-2:00 p.m.



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Mattel Hands on Hands Grant at Mollison

Mattel has generously donated to the Chicago Public Schools monies for parent participation programs with its Mattel Hands on Hands Granting Program. One of the funded programs is Mollison, 4415 S. King Dr.

The parents went on a number of field trips, studied science programming for their children at the school, and were an integral part of the annual family night activities at Mollison.

I felt the parents should have their say on why they feel it is so important to volunteer in the school. Of course, every now and then I'll put in my two cents, but then again it is my column.

Natalie Pascascio, the mother of Tasia, one of the best students at Mollison (Tasia is a consistent winner of a number of awards) wrote: "My volunteer time here at Mollison has been very important. It helped me grow as a parent and a person."

Mary Forney agrees. "My volunteer experience at Mollison has been a very exciting, yet rewarding time."

"I work with Mrs. Garrett, a wonderful teacher," writes Sheila Boyles. "It's fun working with the students and teachers at Mollison."

Denise O'Dell loves helping the students. She actually teaches a small group of readers. "I feel great when I can help those in need. It was remarkable to see the improvement on the IOWA test."

Michael H. Brownstein
Educational Columnist



Veda Trueblood understands this too well. Her daughter, Erica, went up over three years on the IOWA test. A lot of this she attributes to her volunteer work.

"I really never knew how much work it took to educate children" she writes. "I learned that the teachers and educational support staff are very dedicated and hardworking at educating our children."

Dorothy Radfield says she learned there is a lot to discover when you volunteer in a

classroom. "I know now there is a lot more to school than children in a classroom. There are teachers who need extra eyes for field trips."

Renee Forney loves volunteering. "What do I get out of volunteering?" she asks. "I get joy, pleasure, happiness and fun. It's exciting to work with the kids. There is never a dull moment. I learn more each day I volunteer."

"I love working with Mrs. Brown. She is a wonderful teacher and good to me and I love her to death."

Rosemary Beatty has an honor roll daughter. Beatty loves volunteering at Mollison: "I love volunteering at Mollison. The experience makes me feel good and I love working with the children and teachers."

Stanley Carothers, the son of Cheryl Reid,

raised his math score on the IOWA test by nearly two years. Reid writes: "Mollison is a wonderful school. It's very open and everybody there is like a family."

Dorothy Murph not only volunteers, but her granddaughter is a consistent winner of many awards. Why does she volunteer? "I work with Mrs. Ribski, an excellent teacher. Working with her is pure joy."

Deborah Peterson's son gained over two years on the IOWA test. She feels volunteering has helped her a lot. "The field trips I have been on are great. I really enjoyed the Oak Park Children's Museum and the World of Education in Waconda. I never would have been able to go if I had not been volunteering."

These are just a sampling of parents who took the plunge and volunteered to help their child, their school and their community. With help from the Mattel grant, they received awards during family night.

Local businesses including Bud Marlow on 47th were more than generous with their participation.

When I asked if these parents would volunteer again, they almost deafened me with a loud yes. All of them agree volunteering in the school is a great experience and they feel all parents should offer their assistance for the next school year.

As a teacher and a writer I am proud of these volunteers. We'll keep you posted.

These are just a sampling of parents who took the plunge and volunteered to help their child, their school and their community with help from the Mattel grant.

(Continued from page 1)

Roots Fest

Radio 1390 (WGCI - AM) served as Mistress of Ceremonies during the gospel portion of the Festival.

The Bring it on Home to Me Roots Festival has always attracted top-flight blues stylists. This year, the event featured such blues legends as Artie "Blues Boy" White, Roy Hytower and Melvina Allen.

In an effort to pass the torch to the younger generation of entertainers, the much-anticipated Festival provided a showcase for young, up- and-coming talent. Latanya, whose tune "If you Play Your Cards Right," is number one on the charts, joined other up- and-coming talent like Bemaji Tillman, (son of Alderman Dorothy Tillman) and the 514.

The Groovepushers, another group poised for stardom, also entertained.

Jimmy Tillman and LTD Band, as well as a host of other national and international stars, local high school, community and church choirs also performed.

The festival also provided a forum where local business people and aspiring entrepreneurs showcased their products as food or merchandise vendors.

Last year's event featured Lou Rawls and an array of Chicago talent. Lou Rawls' participation in the "Bring it on Home to Me Roots Festival" was made possible through the generous support of Anheuser Busch.

"I am delighted that these artists are sharing their time and talent with the community by participating in the Bring it on Home to Me Roots Festival" said Alderman Dorothy Tillman of the Third Ward. "We are committed to rebuilding and investing in our community, and bringing quality entertainment to the area is one way of revitalizing the heritage of this culturally-rich community."


Alderman Tillman revealed that this is the last festival to be held at the 47th and King

Drive site. In October, building will begin on the multicultural center and theatre, which is part of the bigger vision to restore 47th Street to its

original splendor. The Fest will be held at another nearby location next year.

Alderman Tillman's Comments on page 6

BACON'S



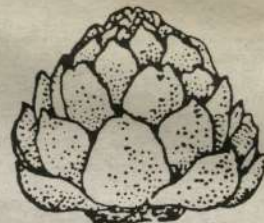
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Alderman Dorothy Tillman: Dreams in Motion Festival, Cultural Center, African Village

Seven years ago, I was deep in thought about how to preserve our culture and our music through a special day of celebration. Out of this brainstorm evolved the "Bring It On Home to Me" Roots Festival, which gives expression to the music that was born and bred on Chicago's southside and was showcased at the Regal Theatre.

I approached Otis Clay about this love-inspired idea and he embraced it and supported it. That first year, the event attracted 20,000 people; today, more than 70,000 music lovers attend. It is, indeed, an event that is unparalleled because it "Brings Home" the pulsating sounds of our musical roots that made 47th and South Parkway a metaphor for good music. I thank Otis for his encouragement and I sing praises to God for blessing us with all of this culture.

The overwhelming response from the "Bring It On Home to Me" Roots Festival prompted the idea of creating a permanent monument to our diversity, a Culture Center, Theater, Museum, Library, Radio, Television Studio, African-American School of Music and more. The Center is destined to become a cultural showpiece and a favored tourism attraction in

Chicago. Most significantly, the initiative will result in the creation of jobs and training for our youth.

We are happy to announce that construction of the Theatre will begin this Fall on the site where the Festival is held. Be assured, however, that the Bring It On Home to Me Roots Festival will continue to delight crowds—but at another nearby area next year.

I want to thank State Representative Lou Jones for being my partner in helping to secure funds for the Theatre.

In addition to the Center, Forty-seventh Street will soon be home to an African Village that will reflect Chicago's rich African-American culture. Chicago is a diverse city where all ethnic groups have an area that is uniquely theirs in flavor and culture. The Village will be OUR cultural shrine.

I recently returned from a trip to Senegal. There I got a firsthand glimpse of the culture. What struck me were the similarities in music, food and spirituality. It became clear the path that our culture took went from Africa, to the South and to the North. We hope to capture the full essence of our African-rooted legacy in the Village.

In recognition of the fusion of cultures, within the Village will be 26 stores whose products and services will blend, meld, and merge the cultures of our brothers and sisters from South Africa, East Africa, North Africa, West Africa, the Caribbean—and those of us who were brought onto these shores.

The music filtering through the African village will reflect everything from the rich tradition of Africa, to the Caribbean sound of Reggae; from the sexy sounds of jazz, to the joyful noise of gospel; from the wail of blues to the gritty street rhythm of rap. The restaurants—a coffee shop and a soul food emporium—will also pay tribute to the uniqueness of our heritage. And, the clothing at the various markets will underscore our cross-cultural fashion savvy.

As founder and producer of the "Bring It On Home to Me" Roots Festival, my mission has always been to bring that vigor back to the South side. To bring it back home to the roots; to its people, young and old. Today is a family day. A day of sharing. A day of passing music's torch to the next generation. That is what The Bring It On Home to Me Roots Festival is about. It's a time for reminiscing, enjoying ourselves, but also a time to reflect on how we can Bring On Home the economic vitality that we had then but vitally need now.

I want to acknowledge our co-host Lou Rawls, who has been a partner in the dream. I would like to humbly welcome our co-host Ko Ko Taylor, "The Queen of the Blues" and honor her as a living legend. I also want to thank our co-host Bobby "Blue" Bland for his support. I want to thank the Third World Partnership for making this possible, and thanks to all of you for your continued support and love.

Alderman Dorothy Tillman.



Ald. Dorothy Tillman



Not a documentary, Only the resiliency, cunning and strength of the captives themselves.

When And Where I Enter:

Perspective

By Beverly Reed
(Oye')

"These ain't no ill gotten gains, everyone of these niggers is bought and paid for." This is the line that spawned the title of a film being released by SPATFILMS. "Ill Gotten Gains" is the story of a group of African men and women held captive on a slave ship docked on the coast of the Motherland.

The writer/director/producer held a free showing of the film recently at the Regal Theater. It was a perfect opportunity for me to push my latest campaign which is a national petition drive to prevent 20th Century Fox from doing a remake of the misogynistic film, "The Mack". But that's another column.

Anyway, the affair was wonderful. There was good food, live entertainment and good vibes. Well, the good vibes were before the movie started; afterwards things got a little less than friendly.

It seems that some folks had come expecting to see a historical documentary



Spirituality and mysticism plus a healthy dose of poetry to boot.

More importantly was the relationship portrayed between the male and female Africans. How the strengths of both were combined in order to change their circumstances. It was awfully clear that there were no white knights charging in to save the poor captives. There was only the resiliency, cunning and strength of the captives themselves. The film showed the gender roles as different but both neces-

sary to the equation (escape). The questions became accusations and the comments were way beyond constructive criticism.

I was amazed at the idea that folks thought this one film, which was not a documentary, should satisfy every aspect of the entire Middle Passage tragedy. Why, it is actually the only film I've seen that addresses this time and these characters don't even leave the coast. One older woman wanted to know why did he (the filmmaker) have to stir up all this mess just when the President was trying to straighten things out.

If we want to know the history of the Middle Passage we should do our own research and if we want to know the land or the language, take a trip. If we don't like the images other people portray of us, insist our filmmakers make the films. But even if that happens we must realize they must also express their creativity.

"Ill Gotten Gains" may not have satisfied everyone but if it makes money I'll bet others will be encouraged to tell the story too.

On Demand in Development

When the word "demand" comes out of the mouth of the government, from the government's mouth comes of "citizen participation." One of two things will happen: either the community gives in to less than what they feel they need or it becomes the task of the community to put it on the line that they are serious and the ranks will not be broken.

The Washington Park community has been redlined, denied, cheated and lied to because of race. Government says its business. Some residents and the Washington Park Community Coalition demand that their community be developed totally by Black developers. This is a hell of a demand, something that has not been done in any part of Chicago. Not in any Black community.

Parts of Washington Park look like a bombed-out ghost town. Abandoned apartment buildings stand scarred and damaged by vandals, junkies, arsonists and brothers are quiet, mood destroying the community. So yes, the community has paid the bill to make the demand. They are in pain when others reap the benefit of development. Fighting for some recognition, the demand of the community should not be stamped.

The city will not put themselves in the position of saying, "Yeah Right." But with a very complex plan and a lot of time for study or evaluation the response is: "Do you want the community developed now or wait until Black developers are ready financially and have the know how to do it on their own. We are just taking care of business for your community." The community continues to say, "We want a Black Developer. This process is "citizen participation." The government is protecting their developer friends who signed the contract nine months ago.

The developers say "If we don't do it, nobody is going to."

John H. Stroger, Jr. The Injustice of Justice Funding

Dear Editor,

As you and our readers may know, Cook County provides a variety of services to the public, largely in the public health care area. But like many other counties throughout the state and nation, Cook County's responsibilities are while its funding remains static. Now more than ever, caused by an increasing number of mandates imposed on government that forces the County to expend more money without financial support.

Moreover, local administrators are not at the table when new laws and responsibilities are developed, which means that changes are made without input regarding their impact on the local level.

As mandated by the State, Cook County government is required to operate the County's criminal justice system. Cook County runs the largest jail complex and the largest court system in the country. We provide sheriff's patrol to protect our unincorporated areas and courthouses cost money. Prosecutors to try defendants and public defenders to defend indigent suspects. We've added 183 prosecutors since 1990, doubling the State's Attorney's budget.

Cook County spends at least \$800 million a year on these mandated costs, two-thirds of which are for criminal justice. In contrast, the State provides only about \$300 million for those costs.

That leaves County taxpayers responsible for over a half-billion dollars in state mandates. And the State adds on millions more in unfunded mandates.

Here are a few examples: * requiring the County to pay for residential placement of juveniles; * mandating juveniles be tried as adults for certain offenses but providing no pre-trial funds to hold them in our county center, often for over a year instead of the usual 60 days; and * a potentially costly new mandate to pay for appeals court cases and another mandate to provide free legal representation for deadbeat parents in child support cases.

In addition, increased penalties for some felony offenses have prompted suspects to seek trial rather than plea bargains, leading to longer stretches in County Jail for those awaiting trial.

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Editorial

Funds for Citizen Participation Developing the Community

do it." Then the call is on for people like Eddie Reed, to chant "If We don't Work, Nobody Works."

So at this stage a committee something like the Blue Ribbon Committee of Bronzeville is formed. The developers may have Eddie sit this one out, aware of what happened to the empowerment of the community. Citizens should make sure Eddie and his troops are present so that the city listens and disseminates all available information on the various plans of the community.

It's the sorry truth that community organizations must demand work in their own neighborhoods and demand they want to be the developers.

The planning agenda by many to redevelop the Washington Park community is nothing new, to the city, the community residents, the developers and the elected officials. They all have an agenda and a plan with special interest and special friends and associates.

The Mayor's Tax Increment Fund (TIF) program has been working for some time now. It is for the purpose of creating development that normally would not happen in certain parts of the city (from the Loop, the Gap area, in Kenood/Oakland, Grand Boulevard and now in Washington Park); to encourage developers that this area needs help and if they invest in the area, the city will give them some tax credit.

Yes, the community needs whatever assistance it can get. That is the job of the city to support the development of the communities and provide the resources to improve them. But at what cost to the community.

There is a fine line between the economic picture and the political picture. The city knew for some time that it was

going to offer the TIF program in the area just as it knew it was going to make way for the new police station on 35th street. Mayor Daley informed his associates of the \$65 million development way in advance of public notice.

The same holds true for Alderman Tillman (3) in the development of the Lou Rawls project, and the homeowner who is about to do some rehab on the house.

Alderman Troutman (20) was aware of the TIF program coming to the area and so was Alderman Preckwinkle (4). Everyone informed their associates (or community residents) of the business proposed on their turf.

When it comes to public funds, it should always be in the interest of the community the funds are supposed to benefit.

There are almost 200 groups in the Mid-South area providing proof of how much there is a need for their services. For most of them their vision will never leave, i.e., Black people working in Black neighborhoods as other ethnic neighborhoods display. All share the common goals of Black economic development. At first glance it is hard to imagine the groups have such a common vision.

So the battle cry is in our own backyard. Because of spiraling priorities of self satisfaction it doesn't matter who develops the community or makes the most profit. What matters is whose friends, and associates benefit. Business is business, but Black business should have some character to it.

Examples of Black developers do happen as WECAN has an all Black construction company working in Woodlawn. Partnering with outside developers is the alternative to getting some development done now, as the Chicago Urban League, Ahkenaton, WPIC and others all have partnered up with non-Black developers to get a piece of their own community economically. It is hoped that they invite them to their community to share some of the profits to be made.

Residents of Washington Park and other Mid-South areas get so damn tired of grown men standing around doing nothing with their lives looking at other ethnics working.

So, the Washington Park community wants a black developer to build the 500 new homes in the area. Well, in that case maybe they should rename the community. If they do not appreciate all that I have done for this country and getting ready to do in their community.

After all I have the money. This is America. I am not responsible for what my forefathers done over 400 years ago.

Call Vince Lane back or ask them guys on the corner of 58th and Prairie to get off their butts and build 500 homes.

Mayor Daley has gave us all the opportunity to be on his side. And for the record I.....



The demand part is organizations stopping to chat with the brothers hanging out on the corners of 61st and King Drive, 58th and Prairie, 55th and Prairie or any other corner to convince them they can not only do the work, but be the developers. At this point real citizens' participation begins to take place as residents talk about making things happen.

A demand is nothing without backing it up. And if the demand is not meant, you only make things worse in the eyes of those that wish it could be so.

Letters to the Editor

But these are only a few examples that deal with public safety. Another costly mandate imposed only on Cook County is the unnecessary Property Tax Appeals Board, which duplicates existing tax reviews, will cost \$3 million to run in 1997 and may delay \$7 billion in revenues to 800 local tax districts.

As the State continues to shift greater burdens on the County regarding public safety and other services, it's reasonable to ask that Illinois lawmakers share State tax dollars with Cook County. Working together, with all parties at the table, will help ensure that the concerns of all taxpayers are addressed.

John H. Stroger Jr. President Cook County Board of Commissioners

must assume it in conducting more seminars, studies, etc. We need to develop factories and make our own product. We must use our talents, or lose them.

Bobbie Warner

A Statement On The Problems of Poverty and Welfare Reform In The State of Illinois

Dear Editor;

As Protestant Christians, we believe that it is our responsibility to be engaged in the debate with our brothers and sisters who suffer material need. Few topics have generated as much recent attention as the current debate over welfare reform. While we acknowledge that changes in our social assistance programs may be long overdue, we seek intelligent reform rather than the destruction of those programs. We present the following statement of concern and response to that debate here in the state of Illinois. I. The Present Crisis. A. The economy of our state and of the nation is limited in the extent to which it can currently make adequately-paying jobs available to all persons. B. The state of Illinois has been facing major budget problems for a number of years. As a result of these problems and of shifting political priorities, programs that provide support to low-income families and individuals have faced serious recent cut-backs. C. On top of these already-existing state problems, expect new Federal welfare reform legislation will decrease future Federal funding to public assistance programs and to Medicaid, providing health care for low-income families and individuals. D. In the midst of these economic problems, Illinois contains a large number of poor families and individuals who are struggling to survive and for whom some of these programs provide the margin of support they need for their families. II. Statement of Principles and Specific Areas of Response. A. We must create and maintain a viable employment strategy, coupled with an ongoing social safety net for those for whom employment is not an immediate option. B. We must be realistic

about the budget implications of these policies. We cannot cut programs and income support and expect poverty to disappear. C. We recognize that government alone cannot provide a solution for the social problems that we face. Both our private sector and non-profit organizations must play an important role in dealing with the crisis that confronts us. D. We affirm the necessity of developing a coordinated and comprehensive strategy to fight the social problems of need that face our communities. E. We affirm the need for broad input in public decision-making about programs aimed at low-income individuals and communities, in particular, the need to consult the communities and the people that these programs will directly affect.

Concerened Citizen

Lost And Turned Out

Dear Editor;

Lost in tAheir own guilt feeling ashamed. Too late to correct the problem for who is to blame? Turned out into a society that is bitter and cold. It's hard finding help for a mother, who's only fifteen years old with shattered plans and dreams for the future wasted in the fraternal school of Life—Lost and afraid of what is to be no senior prom, No college degree. No wedding bells, or being dressed in white for daddy is not in sight. Too late to turn back the hands of time, baby soon due; mom wondering "What shall I do?" Lost and confused, helpless and feeling used, no child should have to pay these kind of dues. For in the age of birth control and contraceptive too!—It's foolish. For a young girl to say I do. Nine months later carrying baby bottles instead of school books, but the burden is not their to carry alone, it affects everyone in her family home. For when you're lost and turned out and only fifteen. Love isn't such a wonderful thing!

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. Psalm 145:14

by Ron Y.

Relationships Between Men, Women & Children

Dear Editor;

Who Better, but Us? To tell our stories and record our history whether through the media, prose, poetry rhymes, dance, or positive rap. We now know what time it is: time out for ignorance.

Just as we know procrastination causes aggravation and excuses elevate to lies, most of us know instead of harmony, confusion and unrest seems to be worsening among people. We are concerned; wondering if it will ever end; what will have to happen before it decreases.

Many problems, are solvable! If we just listen to each other and act, accordingly: "try it," we could benefit from our actions and like it. An exact opposite of how things used to be is the disrespect displayed between adults and children concerning themselves and others. Could migration and intermingling of people all over the world be a causal factor for some of the negative aspects of our society, instead of peace?

More communication is needed. Not only through meetings, but communicative skills of writing by everyone, not just highly educated or talented people. Writing shares what is inside of us more than when we converse, for often we leave out contents. Example: "I meant to say this," or "I forgot to say that."

Let us start changes. The church has a leadership role and

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Mail them to SSJ, 4655 S Michigan Ave. Chicago Illinois 60635. They can be faxed in by calling (312) 924-9536. They should be typed or print written, accompanied with a return address and a day time 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 also seek suggestions for improvement and stories you feel South Street Journal should address.

BUSINESS MATTER BRIEFS IN MID SOUTH

Ban on Billboards

An Ordinance To Ban All Alcohol and Tobacco Billboards is lead by Alderman Terry Peterson (17th) argued before the City Council Buildings Committee the need for an immediate ban to protect the welfare of minor children. Earlier this month, Peterson was joined by Alderman Danny Solis (D-25th) in introducing an ordinance to the City Council that would ban the advertising of cigarettes or alcoholic beverages on billboards, sides of buildings and free-standing signboards.

Peterson calls billboards "24-hours a day drug pushers". Father Michael Pfleger, a long time activist against alcohol and tobacco billboards and a resident of Peterson's wards, agrees. He says African-American and Hispanic communities are inundated with these billboards. Pfleger compares Peterson's wards with that of Ald. Bernard Stone (D-50th). He says Peterson's ward, which is one percent white, has 185 alcohol and tobacco billboards on display, while Stone's ward, which borders Evanston and is 73 percent white, has only 50 alcohol and

tobacco billboards. Peterson. "In Chicago, this is a critical issue affecting the welfare and health of our young people—children are picking up the habits of smoking and drinking everyday". Peterson says he is only continuing the fight started by others. He specifically mentions Henry Brown aka Mandrake, who died last year in a mysterious drowning accident. Mandrake received national recognition for his efforts to get rid of alcohol and tobacco billboards in African-American and Hispanic communities by whitewashing them.

SB 317

Rev. Jesse Jackson Calls on Governor Edgar to Sign SB 317 (SB 317 would Ban Door-to-Door Marketing by Medicaid Managed Care Companies).

SSJ Corrections

In our June 27-

July 10 issue, page 8, Barbara Jones correct name is Barbara Adeboyejo, she is the publisher and historian of the Black Blue Pages. A directory listing black businesses during the early 40's and 50's. The story was also a misprint. SSJ will be Following up with the correct article.

On the Met

In our June 27-July 10 issue, page 1, according to SSJ sources Wendell Granville is not the property owner of the Met Theater site. However, on following up with Mr. Granville is the owner and will be working to restore the Met.

47th Street Merchant Association

With a break in their activities, and with the focus of many planning projects to take place on the 47th Street strip, the business association will be meeting on Thursday, July 31st at 7:00 pm at the office of South Street Journal, 4655 S. Michigan Ave. Interested parties in helping to establish the association are invited to attend. Call 924-0461 for more information.



Barbara Adeboyejo

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IN THE UPCOMING **BRONZEVILLE**



Taylor Homes Learning Center Goes On Line

DIGEX, an on-line service provider based in Washington, D.C., is donating the Internet equipment and providing \$50,000 worth of free on-line service to the Robert Taylor Homes Learning Center for two years. It's chairman, Christopher McCleary, saw CHA Police Commander Michael Tolliver on TV talking about Taylor Homes Learning Center and decided he wanted to help. That resulted in the donation of the Internet equipment to Taylor Homes.

CHA Chairman Edwin Eisendrath and 20 CHA residents joined forces with Mr. McCleary as Robert Taylor Homes Learning Center at 4844 S. State officially went on line, providing access to the information superhighway.

The Learning Center is one of two computer centers. Dantrell Davis Technology Learning Center at Cabrini-Green, opened on March 31st and has the capability of accessing the Internet. By next year, 20 computer centers in family

developments throughout CHA are scheduled to open.

Each learning center is designed for a myriad of activities.

Commander Tolliver said the center has 20 computers operating and plans to have 30 in the near future. He is asking for donation of computers from many sources.

"We are part of the community," explained Tolliver. "This is not the only community service we are involved in with the residents. But, here our goal is to have all of the residents take advantage of what is offered."

The computer learning program offers a safe haven for public housing residents to complete homework; a place for college-level students to complete course work; an educational testing and job-training center for adult residents; and a micro business center for Resident-owned Business Organizations (ROBO) to use business software applications.



Digex Chairman Christopher McCleary, CHA Police Commander Michael Tolliver, Joe Smith CHA Director of Preventive Program and Ald. Dorothy Tillman (3) look on as a Robert Taylor youth demonstrates how the internet works at the Robert Taylor Homes Learning Center.

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The Year 2000 Century Date Change
..will result in the expiration of the computer's internal calendar at **December 31, 1999 and 59 seconds**

Technology Dilemma Presents a Golden Opportunity for Africans in America

One of the major opportunities available at the turn of the century for African Americans who step to the plate is the reprogramming of computer systems for The Year 2000 Century Date Change. Pervasive across all levels of hardware and software, computer programming services will be needed to create and implement a solution across the spectrum of the American business environment. Effected are the businesses of all sizes using computer systems: local and federal government, financial institutional, other businesses, and individual computer owners.

The Year 2000 Century Date Change problem is that computers have been programmed until the year 2000. Their is an absence of the 20th century value within the computer system data records that distinguishes dates as either 19xx or 20xx. This will result in the expiration of the computer's internal calendar at December 31, 1999 and 59 seconds-the second before the year 2000. For more information contact The Tony Brown Journal or the Learning Tree International 3 day workshop at 1-800-THE-TREE.

South Street COMMUNITY HOUSING

Frank Lloyd Wright Tour Expanded



Hyde Park Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House 5757 S. Woodlawn. July guided tours will expand to the following schedule: weekdays at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and weekends from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This will be the permanent tour schedule for the site. Fees: Adults \$8; seniors (65+) & youth (7-18) \$6.

The Robie House is managed by the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation and located at 951 Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL. For tour information, call 708/848-1976.

(Continued from page 1)

Lake Grove

ported tenants originally, then switched her support for acquisition of LGV to ELM. Congressman Rush supports CCDC, and Senator Braun likewise leans towards CCDC.

"Edward Hinsberger, Director of Multifamily Housing Division of HUD, met several times with the tenants and voiced his support for our efforts to purchase LGV. We had originally requested a meeting with Secretary Cuomo, but it was Mr. Hinsberger who met with us at our monthly meetings."

LGVTTC did not secure legal counsel from the start of bankruptcy hearings, but now have Bonheur Development Corporation and Prairie Mortgage Company backing them.

With David Altman and Alex Terras now attorneys for LGVTTC, there is a strong petition drive to obtain signatures. Along with the 3500-3600 King Dr. Block Club, thousands of signatures will back LGVTTC bid to buy LGV.

The tenants have no political muscles or major backing, but the law is clear—and by fighting bankruptcy hearings to buy LGV without an attorney or knowledgeable legal representation, is like going nowhere. A revised proposal with legal profes-

W.E.C.A.N. help potential homeowners in WOODLAWN

Woodlawn — With the support of the city's Department of Housing (DOH) Demonstration Project, the WECAN (Woodlawn East Community and Neighbors) Step-Up Housing: Home Ownership Program has developed a comprehensive approach to building a base of successful homeowners. This program involves the application process, home buyer counseling workshops, financial counseling, support groups and marketing. Each component is designed to provide families with useful information, skills and resources to succeed as homeowners.

The application process is straight forward. Interested parties contact the WECAN housing specialist who will explain the basic features of the pro-



gram. They are given an application form to fill out, which provides basic information and indicates what kind of housing they are seeking. The name and address of each applicant is added to a mailing list which is used to announce home buyer workshops and open houses for the marketing of available homes.

All participants attend home buyer counseling sessions. WECAN partners with the Chicago Rehab Network to provide this service to potential home buyers. The home buyer counselor of the Chicago Rehab Network conducts a series of three workshops which address all facets of the home buying process. Participants receive a certificate when they have com-

plished all three workshops. WECAN also sponsors a shorter version of this program with the goal of familiarizing participants with the basic advantages and disadvantages of buying a home and the method of calculating how much of a mortgage they can afford.

(Continued on page 10)

"CCDC has revised their plans on learning the LGVTC wants to buy into LGV," said Gloria Wise. "Even Judge Schmetterer has given CCDC leeway. We never got the same treatment."

Pat Dowell Cerosoli of the Mid-South Development Commission said, "I'm aware of the LGV bankruptcy, but I'm still in the fact-finding stages, waiting for the tenants to deliver petitions—that tenants will be able to back LGVTC."

Although HUD originally denied LGVTC bid to buy LGV, foreclosure had given them the first right under tenant law to buy, and with LGV under UPAME Church filing for

(Continued on page 10)

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(Continued from page 9)

WECAN help

WECAN also works to create home ownership opportunities for participants through their lease to purchase program, which allows participants some period of time to qualify for a mortgage while living in the home and taking responsibility for it.

Financial counseling addresses issues of credit, income and budget. The emphasis is on how participants can strengthen their application for a mortgage by clearing up past credit problems or saving toward a down payment and closing costs. In conjunction with the Five Year Family Plan, to expand the scope of issues which are addressed in strengthening participants' ability to acquire mortgage financing. WECAN housing specialist works closely with FaithCorp staff to facilitate a successful financial counseling partnership.

The program seeks to demystify the process of buying a home, making the process more accessible and less intimidating. This approach furthers WECAN's goal of promoting home ownership for families who would otherwise have difficulty buying a home.

As such, home ownership becomes a real tool for increasing economic self-sufficiency among families in Woodlawn.

For more information contact William James 773-288-3000

(Continued from page 9)

Lake Grove

bankruptcy, this stopped all of that.

"CCDC and ELM use a couple of tenants in court as concerned tenants," Ms. Wise said. "The majority of the tenants do not support LGV."

Several cities have tenants buying into property they rent, New York City, Philadelphia, Los Angeles to name some, have tenants who were able to buy the buildings they rented, to ownership by them. This has been more of a help than hinderance in tenants purchasing these housing. For one, they take more pride in the building due to the fact they own it; secondly, when a person has something to call their own, they feel more a part of the community and its upkeep. This is according to sociological reports by different colleges and organizations around the country.

"Land (small lawn) between 3515 & 3555 Lake Park, south, is probably owned by the church, UPAME," Ms Wise said. "Is this the land that gives them the right to the deed since no other land could be found in the deed when Bruce Roset sold it back to them?"

Real Estate Transactions in the Mid-South Communities



Readers: Listed below are property transfers in South Street Journal's circulation area 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		
6045 S. St. Lawrence, D. & M. Coleman to C. & R. Looper	7/2	81,900
6127 S. Langley, J Montgomery to C.M. Deveaux,	6/30	88,000
6216 S. Evans, American National Bank, to Neighborhood Homes Assoc.	6/27	34,500
6614-16 S. Evans, M. McCann to T & M. Herrington	6/27	110,900
6017 S. St. Lawrence, Clinton Lavalais to M. & M. Thirus	6/27	160,000
6504 S. Eberhart, Cole Taylor Bank to Moneywerks Enterprises, Inc	6/25	39,000
6444 S. Engleside, Banc One Financial Services, to D. Richards	6/24	57,000
6452 S. Eberhart, Nathan Ferrell to Shanor Mohr	6-20	41,000
6131 S. Rhodes Lorraine S. Purgeson to LaJuene Brown	5/23	60,000
6555 S. Eberhart Marilyn D. Perkins to Llucretia Dennis	5/13	37,000
6629 S. Marquette Priori Builders, Inc. to Phillip A. Jackson	5/12	75,000
6535 S. Rhodes Karry L. Young to Raymond King	5/12	145,000
6802 S. Champlain Ave. YLasmaeen Sturdivant to Nikari L. Hamiton	5/9	139,000
925 E. 61st St., Unit 1 First Bank and Trust and Co to Melvin K. Eilard	5/20	77,625
6622 S. Vernon Ave. Milton C. Stephens to Kelly M. Gray	5/20	82,000
6548 S. Champlain Susie Smith to Michael Maghett	5/16	57,000
6508 S. Kenwood Woodlawn Homes Joint Venture to Carol A. Adams	5/01	104,200
Kenwood		
4826 S. Kimbark, J & C. Berry to J. & C. Love	6/30	410,000
4800 S. Chicago Beach Dr. Unit 1303-N, J. Robbins to H.P. Johnson	6/25	66,000
4072 S. Lake Park Asonica L. * Cox to Angela Adams	5/22	70,000
821 E. Bowen New Homes for Kenwood Oakland to A. Willis & K. Clarke	4/28	109,120
5042 S. Drexel, Unit 5042-C * to *	4/24	23,728
1248 E. 46th St. Ernest Brown *	3/25	265,000
4607 S. Lake Park Wade Enterprises and Associates, Inc. to Willinda Washington	3/21	170,000
4611 S. Lake Park Wade Enterprises and Associates, Inc. to Harriet L. Day	3/04	210,400
1640 E.50th St. Barbara Gushiniere to Thomas E. and Mary E. Bindon	5/15	64,000
4940 S. East End, Unit 2C Lillian sangster to Alice V. Horton	5/15	44,250
4926 S. Kimbark Ave. Pat and Jim Smoot to Renwick A. Paige and Wendy	5/16	587,000
Hyde Park		
5470 S. Cornell, 1G, E.C.M. Wadiei to G. Wilson	7/2	76,000
5441 S. Kenwood, #3, E. Donner to I Arrams*,	6/30	-88,000
1400 E. 55th Pl., Unit 501-S, L Babai to G. & A Morgan,	6/27	68,000
5322-24 S. Kimbark, B. Harrison to ALJ Investments, Inc.	6/27	375,716
1223 E. Hyde Park Blvd., S. Rainey to M. Taylor	6/26	109,000
5450 S. Ridgewood Ct., M. Tienda to R. Wernis	6/26	275,000
5324 S. Hyde Park, Unit 3, B & A Fultz to K & Elling	6/25	130,000
5400 S. Hyde Park, Unit 1E, M. Teller to B. Merriweather	6/23	94,000
5410 S. Kimbark, C. Burgess to JjGrossman and A. Billingsley	6/23	260,000
5201 S. Cornell, Unit 8D, A. Ascher to C. Gonzalez	6/24	120,000
5420 S. Eastview Park, Unit2, J. Grossman to J. Pterson	6/23	187,000
5115-17 Ellis, Unit 5117-2, Chicago Trust Co., to W. Rivers	6/23	182,500
5037 S. Drexel, Romona Rjollins-Muhammad to *	6/20	52,000
5434 S. Blackstone Theodore A. Slaudidan* to *	5/22	315,000
1032 E. Hyde Park Blvd. Suzanne Turner to Antonio & Denise B. McKinney	5/22	230,000
5044-C S. Drexel American National Bank to Lavenia* Galloway	5/22	125,000
5445 S. Cornell, #3 Terry and Michelle Y.n Wells to Donna Rutana	5/7	148,000
5141 S. Greenwood, #3 Henry Richards to Khaled Keshk	5/7	95,000
5100 S. Hlyde Park Blvd., Unit 1B George A. Reisch to Barry A. Thorson	5/2	58,000
5430 S. Blackstone Ron and Leslie Gatton to Daniel and Sharon Hunter-Smith	5/13	242,500
836 E. 52 St. Carolyn Sartor-James to Nghi Thue Au-Yeung and Gerald F. Brown	5/9	186,000
5472-2 S Everett American National Bank to Richard M. Jackson	5/8	117,000
5701 S. Blackstone, Unit 3N D. Blobaum ,L. Wardell to M. Brehm Susan Phillips	5/8	136,000
5555 S. Kenwood Mary Ellen Cowan to Thomas and Barbara Miner	5/20	74,000
5100 S. Hyde Park Blvd., Unit 1B George A. Reisch to Barry A. Thorson	5/02	58,000
5141 S. Greenwood, #3 Henry Richards to Khaled Keshk	5/07	95,000
5445 S. Cornell, #3 Terry & Michelle Y. Wells to Donna Rutana	5/07	148,000
Grand Boulevard		
437 W. 46th Pl. James Spiller to Ricardo Campbell	5/1	150,000
4530 S. King Dr. Chicago Trust Co. to Edgrick C. Johnson	5/2	220,000
618 E. 50th Pl. John M. Lawrence to Shaunda Bradley	5/14	149,000
4421-23 S. Calumet Frederick Mitchell to Earnestine Miles and Jacqueline Gill	5/13	50,000
5832-36 S. Michigan Ave. Erueoto* to *	5/15	114,500
4530 S. King Dr. Chicago Trust Co. to Edgrick C. Johnson	5/02	220,000
437 W. 46th Pl. James Spiller to Ricardo Campbell	5/01	150,000
4734-36 S. St. Lawrence Ave. LaSalle National Trust to John and Sarah Johnson	5/16	65,000
Fuller Park		
No Transactions during this period		
Oakland		
814 E. 42nd St. New Homes for North Kenwood/Oakland to Marion B. Sandle	5/12	114,290
4137 S. Ellis New Homes for North Kenwood-Oakland to Lillian Camille Barnes	2/04	114,380
4047 S. Ellis Ave. Robert Threatte to Richard Maloney	3/27	236,000
4143 S. Berkely Community Capital Resources Corp. to Curtis Hudson	3/04	95,100
Douglas		
3525 S. Prairie, Lkeshor/D & D Bronzeville Joint Venture,	6/27	113,600
3421 S. Prairie, Giles Prairie Properties to Charles and Elaine Downer	6-20	235,000
3623 S. Prairie, Lakeshore and D & D Bronzeville Joint Venture toC. Jackson	6/23	101,925
3609 S. Prairie Lakeshore/* Joint Venture to John A. Cook	5/1	108,465
831 E. Bowen New Homes for North Kenwoo/Oakland to Vicki Igers	5/01	117,600
Washington Park		
5209-11 S. Indiana, C. & I. Crowe to D. & T. Dryebowles	7-1	110,000
5816 S. Michigan Christopher Huddleston to Mary Beck	1/10	79,900
5427 S. Wabash Avenue Carmen Bontemps to Pamela V. Hopkins	4/11	78,500
Near South		
1632 S. Indiana, #107, American Natinal Bank and Trust to C. Hall	6/27	138,990
1632 S Indiana, #108 American Natinal Bank and Trust to R. Obrachta	6/24	130,990
1632 S Indiana, Unit 608, American Natinal Bank and Trust to R. Venit	6/19	159,990
1522 E S. Prairie, #-84 MCL Central Station Ltd Partnership to D. Wright	5/16	275,000
3203 S. Calumet James K. O'Neal to Arthur D. Moore	5/1	45,000
1522-0 S. Prairie MCL/Central Station LTD Partnership to John Berry	5/22	304,660
1632 S. Indiana, Unit 404 Paul Sinein* to Detera Katsulis	5/22	91,490

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WRITERS

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