

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

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## 5266 S. State St

### CHA residents face with uncertain in housing protest to stay

by Frank Ottman  
SSJ Staff

Washington Park - Four additional Robert Taylor Homes buildings are scheduled to be demolished. More than two-hundred tenants were told that they had about two weeks to move or face eviction from the sheriff's office, tenants reported to South Street Journal.

Phillip Jackson, Chicago Housing Authority's (CHA), CEO, and a former tenant from Taylor at 52nd and State Street said his new leadership team of CHA have been working with the tenants on arrangements for relocating by giving residents five (5) option for relocating by November 15. However, he did not confirm it was mandatory

that the residents must leave by the date. Other options will include, to move residents down state as well as out of state all together in order to find suitable housing.

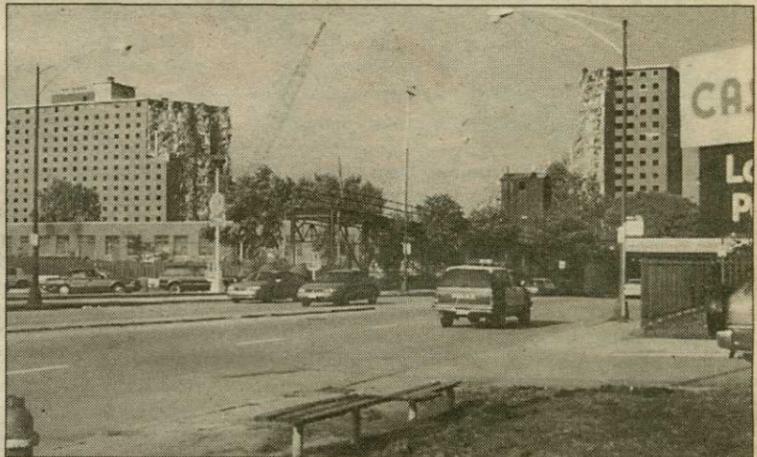
Jackson did not say the rush to relocate residents was to meet the five year deadline to demolish all Taylor homes, but to a \$47 million gap in the 1999 budget effecting the year 2000 budget short fall. He disputed the short fall was the fault of the former management of HUD, but due to the unexpected problems of the winter of 1999. And the rush to relocate residents was for the safety against the cold weather, and to consolidate tenants to move from buildings 4331 S. Federal, 4844, 4352, 4500 5266, and 5100 S. State St.

With the winter season approaching, residents expressed their concerns regarding heat problems in buildings that never had any such as 5266 S. State. Accussing CHA of creating the problem.

In an effort to learn more about CHA's plans tenants from 5266 are making a case to stay com-

mitment not to be removed. In a community meeting headed by their building president Ms. Barbara Moore she said, tenants will fix up the building themselves and will not be removed if CHA will not treat residents fairly regarding their rights throughout the redevelopment process.

"The man (Jackson) at the CHA in charge of relocation who came by the building, intimidated us by the way he talked to us." Other residents said, "Richard Daley heart is cold, using the Willie Lynch letter (an 1800 Slavery manual)



Robert Taylor Homes, 5266 S. State is next on the list to be demolish tenants are organizing attempting to keep their homes at odds with the five year deadline to demolish all Taylor homes

strategy on Jackson. The 5100 S. State building reported that they presently have heating problem in their building as they did last winter. As a result tenants say the

(Continued on page 3)

## The Master Developer for contract of the Lakefront

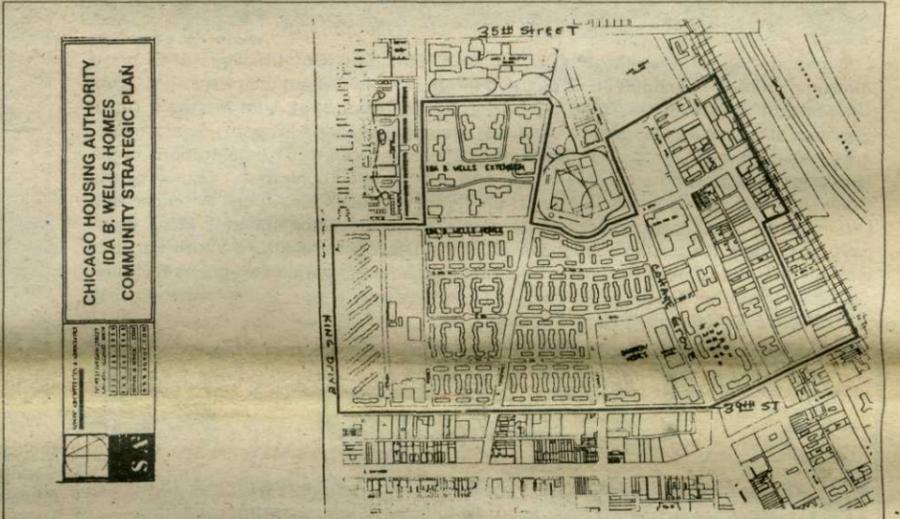
### Hope VI Program, residents question the selection process

Douglas/Oakland/Kenwood - Over \$200 million of redevelopment resources is on line for the Lake Front area of Douglas targeting Chicago Housing Authority's Ida B. Wells and Madden Park developments, extending south to 47th Street... A project that has been debated on and discuss since the Washington Park Homes on 40th and Lake Park

was closed down. The concern now is who will be the Master Developer for the area, as a national search by HUD is at olds with residents of Ida b. Wells.

HOPE VI is to revitalize public housing developments bound from 37th to 47th, Cottage Grove to the Lake. Public funds of up to \$35 million will be granted to begin the project. It includes substantial rehabilitation of existing public housing and/or tearing down and replacing it with units that blend with the surrounding neighborhoods.

(Continued on page 7)



## the election of Herb Kent, Mayor of Bronzeville

1930 TO 1945 AND 1999 ONWARDS

The Bronzeville Merchants Association and the Chicago Daily Defender joined forces to conduct a citywide campaign to restore the "Mayor of Bronzeville" community election. Over 2,000 votes were cast, and Herb Kent the "the Cool Gent" was elected the Mayor of Bronzeville.

The Bronzeville Merchant Association also conducted the Double Duty Dollar for Discount goods when consumers shop in the Bronzeville Business District. The Duty Dollar was applied against the purchase for goods or services at participating Bronzeville stores.

"Well, it means that the Bronzeville Merchants Association is promoting business in the community by putting the Mayor of Bronzeville, an old established African American community event back on the map and the Double Duty Dollar to this historical community." said



(Continued on page 9)

BRONZEVILLE HIGHLIGHTED

## Return to Bronzeville

Part 1 of 2

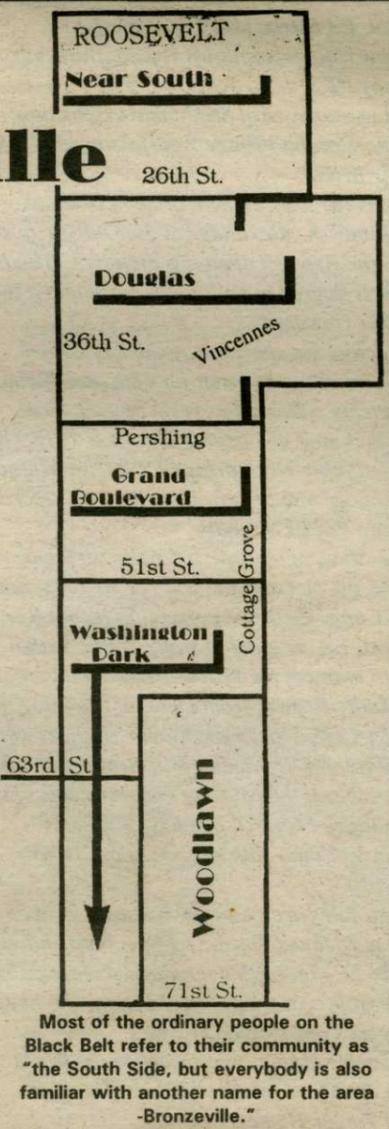
By Nathan Thompson  
Featured Writer

This September will mark the 65th anniversary of the election of the first ever Mayor of Bronzeville, an honored tradition that would spanned some four decades as a constant in Chicago's Black Experience. And through the years, scores of Bronzeville's most respected players would compete for the honorable post including such notables as pioneer cosmetologist Marjorie Joyner, boxing great Joe Louis and jazz legend Tiny Parham.

The name Bronzeville has been around since before WWI, but the neighborhood began to come of age 65 years ago in 1934. The city was in change and bearing the fruits of the sweeping election victories for the Democratic Party of 1932 and '33. It was a year and-a-half into FDR's New Deal and the country was in the grip of the Great Depression. But on Chicago's Southside in a place known to ethnic Whites as the Black Belt for its Negro population, upward mobility was taking place- socially and philosophically. To those who lived there, and to their friends and family abroad, it wasn't called the Black Belt; it was called Bronzeville, a rising and thriving mecca of social, economic and political power.

In 1934, it was the year that then PWA Administrator Harold Ickes announced a \$7 Million dollar plan to build what is known today as the Ida B. Wells Homes, and the year that an obscure little organization known today as the Nation of

(Continued on page 10)



Most of the ordinary people on the Black Belt refer to their community as "the South Side, but everybody is also familiar with another name for the area -Bronzeville."

## Ald. Burke reinstatement as Finance Chair 50-0 vote

by Frank Ottman  
Staff Writer

There were many city aldermen in Chicago calling for the resignation of Alderman Ed Burke as Finance Committee chair, saying that he wasn't the man for the job due to his unethical business transactions, reportedly conflicts of interest to supposedly taking money illegally. Even questioned by Mayor Richard M. Daley, a big turn around came when the mayor appointed Burke to become finance chairman once again.

Previously, Burke had been appointed to the top financial post in 1991 and 1995. By a vote of 50 to 0, Burke was back in business once again in May of this year. Mayor Daley appointing him as finance committee chairman, but not to the dismay of the 50 aldermen who wanted him at that position.

Alderman William Beavers of the 7th Ward said, "The decision was a political one. Those who backed Burke's appointment were simply backing the mayor who is "Boss" at City Hall.

"I was actually voting for myself to get elected to my position as chairman of the Police and Fireman Board.

(Continued on page 4)

## Law Firm Gets Down and Dirty for Children



Grand Blvd. - About 40 volunteers from Kirkland & Ellis, one of Chicago's largest law firms, transformed Firman Community Services' Day Care West facility into a brighter and vivid environment for its children. The firm painted classrooms and planted perennials at the Day Care facility, located at 37 W. 47th. Street. The attorneys and summer associates of the law firm painted classrooms, planted shrubs, and flowers to brighten the children's daily environment." They are looking forward to doing the project again next year. Firman's President and CEO Marguerite Young said, "We truly enjoyed having the volunteers from Kirkland & Ellis transform this facility into a brighter place. The children were so excited as they arrived to see this wonderful change at the day care facility."

## Funds for AIDS



photo: Pat Cummings

Englewood - Isiah Crawford, Ph.D., the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) grant making committee chairperson, is pictured (left) with AFC grant recipients Rev. Alma Crawford of Church of the Open Door and Lynnette Stamps of Aunt Martha's Youth Services at a special recognition breakfast recently held for AFC grant award recipients. More than \$1.1 million in grant awards were awarded to 57 organizations in the largest grant allocation ever awarded in one year by the Foundation. Church of the Open Door will use its grant to support prevention services for African American and Latino youth on Chicago's Southwest side and the development of a Black lesbian/transgender leadership roundtable on HIV/AIDS. Aunt Martha's Youth Services will use its grant to assist in supporting peer education prevention programs for lesbian/gay/trans and other South Suburban youth in high-risk areas. For information, call 312.558.1770

### African-American Child Welfare Act is a Petition

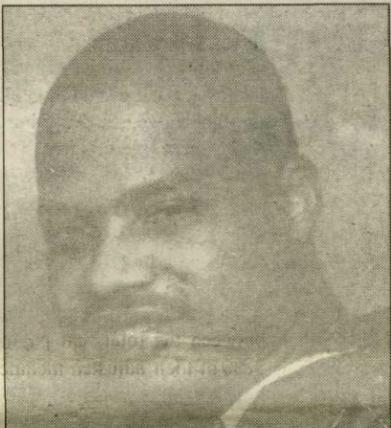
The State of Illinois will mandate that the best interest of African-American children be met when making foster family of adoptive home placements, and in juvenile court and guardianship cases by giving due consideration to their culture, which includes extended family, community and ethnic lineage. The petition asks that Governor George Ryan and all Illinois state legislators support the immediate passage of House Bill 1913, also known as the "African-American Child Welfare Act."

### Marian Carrington to Head 100 Black women.



Marian H. Carrington, co-owner of Carrington & Carrington, Ltd., has been elected President of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. Carrington & Carrington, with billings of \$3 million, is one of the nation's largest and oldest executive search firms specializing in the placement of African American and Hispanic executives in Fortune 500 Companies. The coalition of 100 Black Women, an advocacy organization that seeks to empower Black women by networking programs with the corporate and political sectors.

### March for Justice.



took place on the doorsteps of the Cook County Jail, 26th and California for Kelsey Hogan, 26, (pictured with his child). Hogan was shot 11 times by an off duty Cook County correctional officer on August 14, 1999. Marchers protested that Kelsey's life was taken in cold blood and no charges have been brought against the officer. In addition to all victims and their families who have been killed or harassed by law enforcement. Supporters of the Kesley family meets at the Fernwood Methodist Church, 100th and Wallace.

### Angela Davis forum on police brutality



SSJ photo/Armadell Hicks  
Angela Davis

Internationally respected social justice activist Angela Davis, was joined, at the second annual Ida B. Wells Memorial lecture, at the Woodson Library, 95th and Halsted, Sept. 9, by local activists Susan Esther, co-founder of Justice is Blind/Mothers Against Injustices, and Atty. Stan Willis, president of Chicago Conference of Black lawyers, exploring the epidemic of police brutality, the influence of racial bias on criminal sentencing, and the dehumanization of people of color with and outside of the prisons.

### 2nd District March:

Commander Marianne Perry and Sgt. Melvin Powell of the 2nd District Chicago Police Dept. sponsored the 16th Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 3rd, marching against drugs and gang violence. The march stepped off at 6:15 pm at 51st and Indiana, proceeded North to 46th street, 46th street to Michigan, on to 47th Street. Joined by community representatives the march express residents feelings about drug dealing, gang-banging and crime.

# Meetings & Dates

## On-going

"Settlement in A New Homeland" presented by the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, located at 1801 S. Indiana, is an exhibit providing insight into the success of the Vietnamese who survived the Vietnam War, and began their new lives. The exhibits is opened now through Oct. 4, 1999. For more information, call 312.326.0270.

### Friday 17 - 19

An opening reception for Bank One, Bronzeville Loan Center 3500 S. King Drive, featuring jazz music, raffles, refreshments, and other entertainment, from 5-7pm. For RSVP or more information, call 312.528.4382.

The Harambee-Festivals, sponsored by ANCWL and People of Africa's Int. & Descent Children Education Fund at Jackson Park, Field House, 6300-S. Stony Island Ave., 7pm. Featuring: Laurence Walden Jazz Ensemble Quartet and the All Mighty Serendipity Drummers with African Descent Children Dancers, The High Priest of the Timbuktu Temple of Chicago, Chief Khalilu of Mosololo.

### Saturday 18

Immunizations and back-to-school physicals will be offered to children 5 to 18 years of age on Saturday, from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Komed Holman Health Center, 4230 S. Greenwood Ave. Medical staff and practitioners will provide physicals on a first come/first serve basis to the first 75 children. The Outdoor Health Fair also features live entertainment, games and refreshments for the entire family. for info call Marilyn Katz, Brian Berg 312/822-0505.

### Tuesday 21

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

### Wed. 22

SBA Small Business Financing Seminar, Will be held at Chicago State University on 9501 S. King Dr., at the Business and Health Science Building in Room 102, at 9:00-12:00 noon to offer business owners and entrepreneur information on Loan Programs, One Stop Capital Shop, 504 Bonding Program...and more, there will also be free counseling, Loan Packaging, Business Training/Business Plan Development...and more. Sponsored by: U.S. Small Business Administration - Chicago District Office. Co-sponsor: The Illinois Small Business Development Center at Chicago State University.

### Friday 24

47th Street Business Association meets at Harris Bank, 47th and Drexel. 8:30 pm. For information call 773/684-7175.

### Saturday 25

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

South Street Journal and Washington Park Advisory Council office warming at the Harambee House, 128 East 58th Street. for information call 773/684-7175.

### Monday 27,

United American Progress Association's Million Dollar March. Meets every 4th Monday, 6:30 pm at 7606 S. Cottage Grove. call Webb Evans 773/268-1873. Persons involved in discrimination cases meet every Mon. at 6:30 pm at Rainbow/PUSH, 50th and Drexel.

### Sunday 26,

N'Cobra meeting at Washington park Field House, 55th and King Drive. meeting are held every 4th Sunday.

# The UnZip



Calling Chicago's Police & Fire Committee hearings with talk show host Jerry Springer a stupid publicity stunt, says police brutality opponent Chris Geovanis.... community activist Wallace "Gator" Bradley charged that it would later be known that Ald. Ed Burke (14) has stock in the Springer Show...Reports are the show ratings are down since...Burke also is still trying to keep Tina Olson's Baby "T".

Doreen Taylor the former advertising manager of SSJ, came to Chicago from Atlanta, giving a party for seniors at the Village Apartments on 63rd Michigan. Taylor is also an investor in SSJ.

National-Louis University announces the appointment of its new senior vice-president for administration, James A. Alexander at the University's new Chicago campus, 122 S. Michigan Ave. just open this month. Alexander holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a jurist doctorate from Yale University.



Mingo

Zambia Johnson Black is not short to say the CHA sponsored, Charles Hayes Investment Center on 48th and Wabash is getting little investments with an uncertain budget...But, Cong. Danny Davis may be opening an office there. On the next block: DuSable High principle Charles Mingo is leaving the school. Maybe now he will go on record about the Chicago Public Schools.



Rev. Al Sampson

Corrections from the last Unzip: 3rd Ward resident, Myra Penny says the election she will run in 2003, not 2004, and from Cong. Rush the correction is that Rev. Stan Watkins, was acting chief of staff. We hope that does not apply to many of the Mayor's appointed staff...Such as Kathy Brown, from Dept. of Planning to CHA as other top staffers from the Mayor's office Two Presidential candidates, Democrat Bill Bradley and the

Republican George Bush Jr. have received the working endorsements of two community leaders, respectfully, Wallace "Gator" Bradley and Paris Thompson, but the two will still not work nor talk to each other. (Willie Lynch at his best).

Rev. Al Sampson and the Soul Slant folks are gathering petition for a candidate to run against States Attorney Richard Devine as he is being hosted by St. Sabina Church pastor Father Michael Pfleger, which some members of the Black Task Force calls some of his recent political actions the likes of a Rev. Jim Jones. Some Black churches are included as well.

Black Panther Beauty Turner of Taylor Homes was awarded the Black Pearl Award by the Black Men on the Move, in recognition of her outstanding work with the residents of Taylor Homes.

If you have any call 773/684-7301 or Fax at 773-9536 E-Mail SSJ. Hotmail.com

All UnZippers must provide name, address and telephone.



SSJ Photo/Armadell Hicks

## A time to pitch in for the fall clean-up.

What is now a vacant lot, youth at 47th and St. Lawrence gather to help in maintaining a garden they began early summer for beatification of their block.

# South Loop Development



By Gina Leyba  
Staff Writer

Near South -A study conducted by the Center for Urban Real Estate at the University of Illinois at Chicago shows a downtown real estate marketplace with a growing problem: premiere office space is shrinking. Compounding the problem is the fact that the space crunch, which is making it difficult for tenants to find office space in newer, more prestigious buildings, is also sending rental prices for older properties spiraling upward.

Given this type of market outlook, more people and new businesses move into the South Loop, the economy for the area has boomed. The recent renovations has a potential to move south to the Bronzeville neighborhood and beyond.

The South Loop borders between Congress Parkway to approximately 16th Street. The anchor of the investment is the Printer's Row area. It began the expansion of Dearborn Park from industrial to residential in the 1970s.

Most recently, Columbia College bought four buildings within the block of 8th and Wabash, including Buddy Guy's Legends, which was donated by an anonymous source. Management is planning to move the business near the House of Blues on North Dearborn.

The recent move by the college has brought on mixed emotions among the community and business owners. The Fish Hut owner, Charles Mosley, was shocked when he heard of the college's decision and only had one thing to say, "God will take care of me." The city had no choice but to shut down the Fish Hut because of numerous health code violations. According to Circuit Court records the business had several violations ranging from failure to remove debris to rodents on the premises. The violations go back as recent as October of last year.

The Pacific Garden Mission is one building that area businesses will not miss when it is closed down by the city. The managers of many nearby building and students in the area complain that the residents of the mission harass cus-

(Continued on page 17)

# African Festival of the Arts bring wealth to Bronzeville

By Harold Lucas  
Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council

Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council (BMCTC) answered the call of duty by operation the hospitality booth at the 10th Annual African Festival of the Arts. From our location it was evident from the start of the first night performance by Bamboleo, a hot Cuban salsa band, this was going to be tremendous 4 day cultural heritage event.

Kahil el 'Zabar, talent curator for this year's festival brought together an all star lineup of musical talent that has skyrocketed the African Festival of the Arts from a neighborhood-based festival into major international tourism attraction. All day and every night our main responsibility in the hospitality booth was to act as neighborhood ambassadors for the event sponsors. We also passed out tourism literature and sold "ice cold" Bronzeville's Blues, water. From the hospitality booth we could see and hear perfectly, every magnificent performance by great



artists like Pharaoh Sanders, Nona Hendrix, Archie Sheppkl Gill Scott-Heron and a host of other prominent local and international musicians.

African Festival of the Arts, over the past 10 years has evolved into a international cultural heritage event that anchors the "Black Metropolitan Historic District" as a historically significant National heritage tourism destination.

With a reasonable admission fee, some people told us they loved to save money all year long to buy things at the festival. As I read Patrick Woodtor's editorial in the the festival paper, about the event not being held next year at its current sight, I become alarmed. By day 3, concerned people were coming up to the hospitality booth asking what was the problem. To this concern BMC&TC drafted a petition that was signed by hundreds of people.

Patrick Woodtor, had already agreed with the Chicago Park district and DuSable Museum that after this year the festival would move to another location. Chuck Bowen, special assistant to the Mayor confirm the agreement. Conrad Worrill, Oscar Brown Jr., Don Rasheed stood in support of Woodtor. In which if community leadership wanted the festival to remain on the front lawn of DuSable Museum Woodtor would support them.

The Festival of the Arts in its 10th year, is worth millions of dollars to the African American community of Chicago. Internationally, tourism is a \$5.2 Billion industry. The State appropriates \$44 million annually to promote heritage tourism development in Illinois. This year governor Ryan earmarked an additional \$9 million in state funds, targeted towards attracting international visitors to Illinois. State Rep. Coy Pugh, progressively circulated another petition at the festival to advocate for a legislative initiative that would provide state funding annually for the festival.

At the dawn of the new millennium, the time has come for the African American community of Chicago to unite with Africans throughout the Diaspora around preserving the African festival of the Arts as the anchor event to the "Restoring Bronzeville" summer tour season. The potential of the African Festival of the Arts, DuSable Museum, Chicago Park District and the City of Chicago working in a collaborative partnership with community leadership, could very well lead to the development of an international African American heritage tourism destination in Chicago's Bronzeville community that would generate well over \$200 million annually.

(Continued from page 1)

# Residents eviction

Department of Children and Family Services are accusing tenants of causing harm to their children living in the buildings. "5100 problems and issues are the same as other buildings", said Janice Washington, its building president. "We are ready to fight with you (5266) to save our homes.

Last June when CHA announced the budget shortfall at the first meeting of the newly-appointed Board of Directors, officials said they will close the gap with cuts in overhead and capital programs of the \$600 million agency. Cuts were projected to be identified in the next six weeks at the same time Jackson has been informing tenants they must relocate.

CHA held a public hearing on the 2000 budget Tuesday, September 14.

"None of the tenants at 5266 S. State were given Section 8 vouchers, which is a normal procedure" according to Ms. Moore. "Nor were they met by CHA people to discuss their abrupt moving. This is really sad and we are going to hold protest demonstrations until we find out just what is going on."

HUD public housing Chicago Management Assessment Program CMAP, 1996 and 1998, says once a year CHA certifies that all apartment were inspected in which Jackson reported to SSI, 1999 inspection is at a cost of \$9,000 per apartment. Other reports were at \$7,000 per unit. An inspection tenants of 5266 said they did not receive.

Sixteen high raise buildings in the Bronzeville community have been demolished representing over 2,560 family apartments. The vouchers have a maximum 120 day time to be utilized by the people living the units targeted for implosion which is a "nice" synonym for demolition.

Mrs. Dudley, operation of manage-

ment of housing at 5266, was coercing tenants to move to the holding building or "cluster" housing units if they were behind on their light bills according to some tenants. "Scare tactics are being used to get about 10 families moved so that other can follow," according to Tracy Townsend. "We haven't been given Section 8 vouchers, but a man at relocation at the CHA intimidated us with being thrown on the streets if we didn't move soon."

Section 8 subsidizes the difference between the total rent payment and 30% of their adjusted income in new housing. The vouchers take months and have been known to run into years with tenants having to sleep out in the streets or wherever. "Many tenants are scared, not having a Section 8, or insurance there will be somewhere to live. "All of this coming at them so suddenly," Ms. Moore said.

The homes currently being build in Mid-South are significantly over the median income for the majority population, according to the Mid-South Planning and Development Commission (MSPDC). More affordable home ownership opportunities need to be made available, however site selection would be critical.

One recommendation is to identify community organizations to assist in the relocating and the option to stay in the community, according to Cecilia Butler of the Washington Park Community Coalition. "Washington Park is report as the number one community in Chicago to have lost of 3/4 of its housing stock. With five public housing building being demolished.

MSPDC voiced concern that many Section 8 recipients did not have access to housing in the Mid-South (Bronzeville) community. Reporting

that, the number of Section 8 recipients exceeds the number of available housing units.

CHA residents pointed out they have good reasons to be concern pointed out that there are landlords in the area that have Section 8 rental units available but no effective method of communicating that information to the people who need it.

HOPE VI funds were to be used to create social and physical structures for residents of three buildings at 53rd and State Street that were raised. They were to serve the residents over the long term with a range of incomes to achieve social and economic empowerment of residents and as broad an income mix as possible. Jackson unaware of the agreement reported that CHA will report of its status in about two weeks.

In September of 1995, the U.S. Congress voted to cancel laws passed in 1937 that had guaranteed that no unit of public of housing could be torn down without a replacement unit being built.

Another law passed in 1996 put 19,000 units of Chicago's public housing in danger of being torn down without providing new units for the residents who would be forced out of them. 42,000 family members stand to lose their homes. And there are 40,000 more families on CHA waiting list.

The Coalition called for several actions from CHA: A moratorium on demolition until there is guaranteed housing for all residents; support for congressional hearing to be held in Chicago, and the implementation of the CHA Leaseholder Housing Choice and Relocation Rights Contract.

Among promises Jackson made to the Coalition: To review the CHA Leaseholder Housing Choice and Relocation Rights Contract with CHA legal advisors: to provide CHA's position and response to the Contract: to provide CHA's procedures for no-

tifying residents of relocation and to allow CPPH to monitor and to report to Jackson when CHA's procedures for notifying residents are not followed by CHA personnel.

# Verbal conflict and ex-offenders of CHA subject to new law

CHA residents and the Coalition to Protect Public Housing (CPPH) demand failed to get Governor Ryan to veto the House Bills 2103 & 2042 last July.

The bills gives Chicago Housing Authority the power to evict a tenant for as minor reason as a verbal conflict with a neighbor and will make it harder for ex-offenders to receive access to public housing.

The law was passed by the House last June by the Senate and signed by Governor George Ryan August 14th 1999.

"The laws go into law effective by Jan. 1, 2000. If it may already in effect." said Brendan Shiller, program organizer of the Metropolitan Tenant Organization.

Shiller charged the two laws will create homelessness, while putting low-income families against each other.

"The Bills very well be unconstitutional," stated Dr. Calvin Morris of the Coalition to Protect Public Housing. "Both bills threaten the rights of public housing families statewide The bills shorten the eviction notification process, giving the tenant less time to fight an unjust eviction.

HB 2103 will make it harder for ex-offenders to receive access to public housing requiring law enforcement agencies to notify of "red flag" to CHA when an ex-offender gives a next address that is owned, managed, and/or leased by the CHA.

For information call: John at 773/292-4980, (312) 243-2853 or Deidre at 312/ 280-2298.

There are 62,000 Lawyers in the State of Illinois and Cook County, but there is only one.

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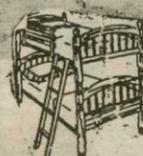
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## Success Lab Learning Centers- Private business handling the education of the students

South Shore - When the starting bell rang for the 1999-2000 school year, no one was more excited than Ken White, founder of the Success Lab learning Centers. The six-year-old company, which provides individualized prescriptive instruction for elementary through high school students, is having the best year of its operational life.

From Wednesday, September 15 through Saturday, September 18 parents, students and community are invited to visit the new facility, located in the South Shore Cultural Center.

"This year, we're experiencing significant expansion. It is a validation of what we've known all along," explains White. "that is, we're very effective at improving the reading skills, the performance and achievement of students."

The expansion that Success Lab Inc. is experiencing is an almost 300 percent growth from 8 learning centers to 22 in Chicago's public and parochial schools. although, this is the first year the local company will operate its distinctive labs in a parochial school, four Catholic schools have joined the growing number of believers.

"This year, we will have more than one Success Lab in a school; and, believe it or not, it's in a parochial school," says White. "We will have two Suc-

cess Lab Learning Centers—one handling 120 primary students and another handling 90 upper grade or middle school students at Holy Angels."

In addition, to the company's growing reputation for success, White, believes another factor for the increase in learning centers in parents and educators are confident that Success Lab Inc. will live up to its claims. Recent polls shows that education is the number one issue in America, and parents want results.

"I'm proud of the fact that our success is performance-based. Consequently, if we want to be back in a school the following year, we better do what we say we're going to do," explains the entrepreneur. "I believe that Success Lab is here at this time because the public is saying. "Our children are more important than any of the policies and politics of education."

This year, Success Lab Inc., will have opened seven centers in community-based locations. By late winter, White, plans to spread the unique instructional system for teaching students to three learning centers on the city's South Side, three on the North Side and one community learning center in the western suburbs.

For information call 373-3860

## Empowerment Zone Funds Available

by Frank Ottman

Mid-South - In July, the City of Chicago released a series of Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for Chicago's Economic Empowerment Zone funds.

Information meetings that were held throughout Mid-South to the EZ area helped prepare persons and organization to submit proposal(s) to the Empowerment Zone and other funding sources.

September 30th of this year is the deadline for getting those funds. Request For Proposal (RFP) are now available and can be obtained from your alderman or the city's Empowerment Zone office.

In the Mid-South (Bronzeville) area, meetings were held in Oakland Woodlawn, at the Washington Park Field House, the Grand Boulevard Area, at the Chicago Urban League.

The meetings are sponsored by the South Side Empowerment Zone Cluster, Inc., and the Grand Boulevard Federation, in collaboration with neighborhood organizations.

The South Side Empowerment Zone Cluster, Inc. serves Fuller Park Grand Boulevard, Kenwood/Oakland, New City, Washington Park, and Woodlawn

Brief history of South Cluster and the EZ/EC initiatives, Karen Bozeman-Gross, SSEZ, Inc. executive director, targeted EZ/EC initiatives for 1999, public safety, Youth Futures (\$2 million), economic empowerment - (\$21

million), affordable housing, - single family preservation (\$2.5 million), One Stop Capital Shop/Investment Partnership (\$3 million plus), Greater South Side Small Business Development Center (AT & Referral)

Technology initiatives - Doug Gills, Steve Frailer, Digital Divide Coalition, Chicago Technology Learning Network

Technical assistance workshops for cluster members will be held through November 30, 1999. Main Sister - Nes Galilee Technology -Outreach-Advocacy Center, 5001 S. Wabash - 773/536-2108 or 536-2194 (fax).

For up-to-date information about meetings, release of RFP's, assistance etc. listen to WVON - "You're In the E-Zone" - Saturdays - 12-noon - 1PM - 1450AM - Call in number is 773.591.5990.

Persons that have a creative idea to make your neighborhood safe, started an informal home business but want to become a certified MBE/WBE/DBE. Have ideas for child care services or constructive activities for youth (13-17 years) or an idea that will employ people in your community, for your home, organization, school or church, should attend the meetings for information about thousands of funds and resources available to their community.

For information about the meetings or any other EZ progress call: 773.548.6622 or 773.947.9815

## From the office of 5th Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston



I want to thank the South Street Journal for the opportunity to address its readers on matters in the Fifth Ward. As many of you may know, I was elected to my first term in a run-off election in April of this year. I took office on May 3rd, and it seems I haven't slowed down since. This is a busy and challenging time in the Fifth Ward, and I am proud to be able to play a part in the revitalization of our communities.

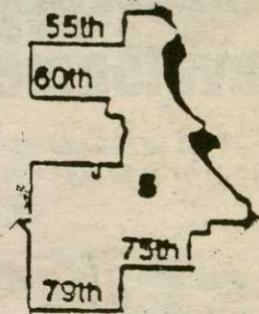
The summer has been a busy time filled with block club parties, community events, and other such activities. I'm native of South Shore and went to school in Hyde park, so these events have been a great opportunity for me to meet my constituents in the Greater Grand Crossing areas of the ward. Although I travelled all throughout the ward during the election campaign, this summer's parties and events have enabled me to meet people in a more relaxed setting, and I've appreciated the hospitality that I've been afforded in each part of the ward. I've also enjoyed the food that everyone has shared with me — there are a number of very good cooks in our ward.

There have been a number of issues that have come up in my term already that have affected people in the Fifth Ward and beyond. I've been ex-

tremely disappointed with the number of times that the 63rd St. beach was closed this summer, especially in light of the money that the Park District and the City put into repairing the historic beachhouse. The Park District found unacceptable levels of contamination in the water, making it unsafe for use. By the date of this writing, the Park District had still not uncovered the source of the contamination, and they seemed to be dragging their feet until the North Side beaches were similarly effected. I called on the Park District to close the beach until the source of the contamination was positively identified.

I am also trying to get the Park District moving forward on repairing the steps at Grand Crossing park. These have been left in disrepair too long, especially for a park that holds such a central place in the community.

Finally, I have worked closely with Alderman Fredrenna Lyle (6th) and Lorraine Dixon (8th) on a redevelopment plan for 71st St. Our goal is to revitalize the area as a viable, attractive mixed-use shopping district. We are requesting that the City's study of the area look at shopping patterns and the



percentage of African-American dollars going to retail, and that an analysis be done to determine the percentage of dollars spent by zip code. We will hold a meeting with the existing businesses in the area, and then schedule a joint community meeting.

The City has also begun work on the street repaving, alley resurfacing, sidewalk and curb repair requests that I made at the beginning of my term. I have pledged that my office will work to ensure that all areas of the ward receive the same level of services, and that we do not fall behind the other wards in the city in terms of the essential work of providing safe streets and sidewalks for all residents of the ward.

(Continued from page 1)

## Burke

Those that would have voted "No" would have simply been opposing the mayor, risking their own political future and whatever. Democrats monopolize City Hall and it was more of a partisan vote than a non-partisan one."

It brings back memories of the boy who cried wolf too many times. Alderman Lorraine Dixon (8th Ward) said, "I supported Alderman Burke. His credibility as an alderman is fine with

me. Many of the things put out by the news media are only hearsay, and until a person is proven guilty in our courts, he or she is considered innocent. I support Alderman Burke now as I did in the past and feel that he is well qualified for the job"

Alderman Burke's office could not be reached for a comment.

Burke became Finance chair after the death of Harold Washington and ran for Mayor against Mayor Eugene Sawyer, later dropped out throwing his support to Daley.

Daley questioned Burke's conflicts of interest handling city finances to the press, but did not push any actions against him.

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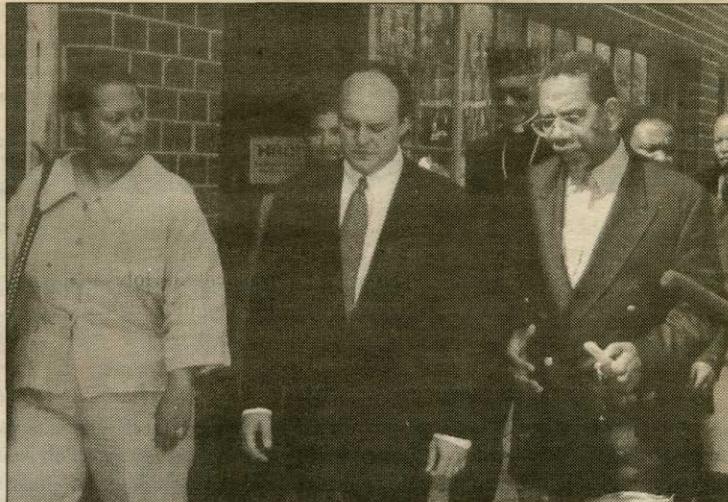
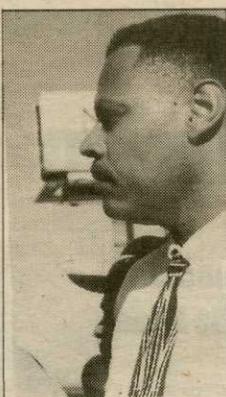
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# The Rush Race for the 1st District



Top, Sen. Barack Obama, left Anthony Oliver of StreetWise, with Sen. Donnie Trotter have made interest in the 1st Congressional Dist..



Political observers have said that Mayor Richard M. Daley was after Congressman Bobby Rush (1) seat long ago. But Rush will probably declare his opponent and anyone else who directly or indirectly enters the race.

Rush stress no real concern viewing his prospective opponents as just political aspirations for national office. The 7th District Congressman Danny Davis stress the same position, telling South Street Journal that Rush has done a fine job in Congress. "However, the race can be the driving force and the tension only grows."

Rush has had any real competition since he won of Congressman Charles Hayes, but enthusiasm is growing in the race as three known interesting candidates has made their interest known for Rush's seat.

As young State Senator Barack Obama was noted as the next Black mayor of Chicago, his political relationship has been questioned in his position of supporting progressive Black candidates.

Community activist in Mid-South, Paris Thomas is leaning towards State Senator Donne Trotter, saying Trotter has supported many programs to help his work with youth. The latest to announce their interest to run is Street Wise, newspaper, Executive Director, Anthony Oliver.

The election could dramatically change the dynamic in the upcoming race for congressman by giving Rush a heavy primary challenge. In which many are view Rush not doing well in his committee ward, receiving only 28% of the vote in his Mayor's bid..

The same factors that elected Rush are still at work today. The district represents a predominantly African American constituency of Chicago's South Side. A longtime political observer says Rush is still the "800-pound gorilla" to beat for the Democratic nomi-

nation. Regardless of his low turn out, he still has a solid base, which includes the 11th and 19th wards.

Observers say Sen. Obama has focus to capture the liberal white voters. Obama who was elected in 1996 told South Street Journal, "It is true people discuss with me, my potential as a congressional candidate. At this point, I am in the process of discussing the possibility with a wide range of the community. I will make a final decision before Labor Day." However, the decision has not been confirm by his office.

Senate Senator Don Trotter said that Rush has not bought home the resources to the district, the district needs someone who can.

Trotter, who reported at the Task Force for Black Power Empowerment he will not receive the support of Cook County Commissioner John Stroger, but he will receive the support of the Mid-South aldermen of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 20th wards.

Oliver who lives in the Beverly community point to his interest by saying, "We face big challenges as we prepare for the next century. It will be a time of many and great changes."

Oliver stressed technology and vast economic and social changes will propel forward at a grueling speed.

"For all of us to thrive in the 21st century, we will need leadership that understands the future, has a plan to meet challenges, which will act upon those challenges and has the determination to lead."

"The would be candidates would be better servicing the community by remaining in Springfield." Rush said.

In relationship to Daley's agenda to get remove Rush, Rush in a press meeting did not want to focus on the congressional race, but wanted the media to be concern with the programs that Chicago received from congress,

but the citizens only sees the Mayor implementing what he produce..

Reached in Washington, D.C., Robin Wheeler, communications director for Cong. Rush said, "as an incumbent, Congressman Rush's record of over seven years of service speaks for itself and can stand firmly against any opposition".

## State Comptroller Hynes Fact Finding Meetings on Cemeteries and Funeral Homes

The Mount Greenwood Cemetery has been cited for mismanagement which includes graves being removed, roads paved over gravesites, no records of removal.

Cedar Park, now under receivership by African American businessman to takeover ownership, has been cited for eroded caskets of cheap boxes causing exposed human remains, because of flood and poor maintenance of the land.

Evergreen Cemetery, 87th and Western

had graves filled with water and no concrete wall that the casket is placed in..

The magnitude of complaint calls prompted Illinois State Comptroller Daniel W. Hynes to launch a series of statewide hearings in response to the highest volume of cemetery care and funeral calls within the state. Hynes addressed and listen to South Side community concerns on Monday, August 30, at Thornton Township Hall in South Holland, whose office have attorney over the cemeteries in the State of Illinois

Over Memorial Day Weekend, a time when many people traditionally visit loved ones at cemeteries,

Hynes' office set up a special "cemetery hotline" for consumers to call and report problems. The hotline received several hundred calls from around the state over Memorial Day Weekend and continues to receive many consumer calls.

The community meeting in Thornton is part of the effort to learn more about local cemetery and funeral problems while boosting public awareness of the problems within the industry..

Later this year, Hynes will develop a legislative agenda of cemetery and funeral home industry reforms based on the scope of problems and programs discussed at regional statewide meetings.

In addition to the launch of a cemetery care and funeral home hotline number (887) 203-3401, the office of the comptroller has landmark the statewide hearings with a website address, [www.ioc.state.il.us/cemetery](http://www.ioc.state.il.us/cemetery).

Aggressive been addressing Mount Greenwood, but its has been taking an active role in addressing the problems.

Furnel homes making fortur off people graves

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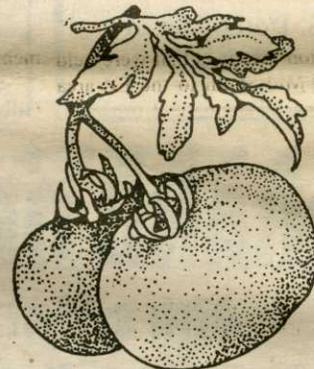
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# Chicago Hailed For Welfare - To - Work Program

**"Hard to place clients still a concern"**  
Eddie Read



The public have heard much about the Welfare to Work agenda as put forth nationally and locally. Reports indicate a substantial reduction of people from the welfare rolls. However, debate rages on as to the success and the feasibility of the existing Welfare-to-Work programs.

The U.S. Department of Labor praised Illinois for its outstanding performance in helping move people on

public assistance to jobs in the private sector. It reported that Illinois achieved the highest number of welfare-to-work enrollments and placements in federal program aimed at placing clients who face significant employment barriers.

The Departments praise was highlighted with President William Jefferson Clinton visit Chicago supporting more efforts of the City of Chicago in it role to reduce the number of persons on welfare.

Chicago provides the State with the lion's share of successes. The Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (MOWD) contracts with 11 agencies to provide welfare recipients services.

In the first seven months of the City's welfare-to-work program, MOWD and its network contractors have enrolled 3,300 Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients and placed over 1,300 people in jobs.

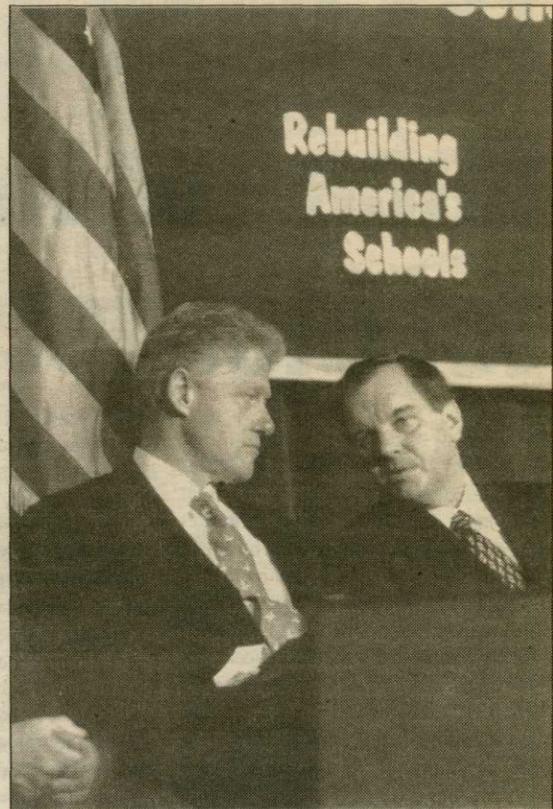
MOWD's welfare-to-work programs

provide participants with the tools and resources necessary to live independent lives while also expanding the job applicant pool of entry level worker filling a critical business need.

MOWD reported through its recruitment effort, with contractors, are working closely with homeless and substance abuse service providers, as well as supportive housing and Head-Start agencies, have "bound the pavement" informing welfare recipients of services available.

Central to MOWD's success is its approach to removing the roadblocks welfare recipients encounter. It makes support services available to participants for two years into their employment—increasing retention and success rates.

President William Jefferson Clinton with Mayor Richard M. Daley, visit Chicago supporting more efforts of the City in it role to reduce the number of persons on welfare.



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Eddie Read, of the United Services of Chicago agrees that in the inner city of Chicago since 1991, "we have observed the various implementations and changes in the governmental system devised to successfully move people from public assistance programs to gainful employment."

However, he reported that in some parts of the Black community unemployment can be accounted for as high as 50%.

Read stressed services providers acting as intermediaries on behalf of the welfare participant seeking gainful employment, and must work closer together and strengthen its relationship in order to enhance the successful transition of individuals from welfare to work.

"A careful review of most remaining welfare recipients indicate that the people remaining on welfare since the

institution of the welfare reform act, are people that can readily be classified as hard-to-place clients," said Read. "Many have serious drug problems, poor self esteem, little or no employable skills, or poor employment history, literacy aforementioned findings.

"The key is not only helping people to get a job, but removing obstacles so that they keep their job", said MOWD Commissioner Jackie Edens." By partnering with transportation entities, child care providers, among others, we move toward long-term success."

United Services are initiating a program concept aimed at directly addressing those recognizable problems. The program concept is the Gift of Work, an Employment Mentor Protege Work Initiative, where United Services seeks employers to join them in.

United Services can be contact at 773-451-1080.

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# Lincoln Centre' Bridge to Work



Sharon Tenard, computer instructor for the Bridge To Work Program, pictured students in one of her classes. Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS). IDHS recently awarded the Abraham Lincoln Center Bridge to Work Program two new contracts to serve less-than-job ready TAF recipients: \$1.8 million to help 250 people on Chicago's South Side, and \$1.2 million to open a Bridge to Work office in South Suburban Harvey which will serve 164 people.

Douglas - The Bridge to Work (BTW) (IDHS). IDHS recently awarded the Program is the only welfare to work Abraham Lincoln Center BTW provider to receive new funding out of over 50 groups contracted by the Illinois Department of Human Services \$1.8 million to help 250 people on

Chicago's South Side, and \$1.2 million to open a Bridge to Work office in South Suburban Harvey which will serve 164 people. The Centre' reported, of the 12 Chicago area organizations funded by IDHS to provide Illinois Job Advantage Bridge to Work received this new funding in recognition of its success in making TANF recipients employable, placing them in meaningful employment, and maintaining a high retention rate of 85 percent or more.

Abraham Lincoln Center proud of the work they have done for a comprehensive program that helped more than 200 TANF clients into jobs, says, IDHS Secretary Howard A. Peters. "I am pleased that they have accepted the challenge of working with clients who need extra assistance to become employed."

In slightly less than a year, the Bridge to Work Program (BTW) has achieved the best performance of the more than 50 programs funded by IDHS to move people from welfare to self-sufficiency. The Centre' reported, of the 12 Chicago area organizations funded by IDHS to provide Illinois Job Advantage (IJA) services to people receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), BTW continues to excel far above the rest.

The program opened its doors on March 5, 1998, with a \$699,000 IJA contract to serve 200 less-than-job ready TANF recipients who were referred to the program from five Department of Human Services (DHS); offices on Chicago's south Side: Auburn Park, Kenwood, Oakland, Pershing, and Roseland.

Under the leadership of BTW Executive Director Margo Christian Brooks, the program proved that with the right development and training, TANF recipients could be placed in meaningful employment, with ongoing support from BTW, participants would stay employed.

Last February, BTW had assisted 798 referrals from DHS to provided direct services to 400 people who were determined by DHS to be less-than-job ready.

The Abraham Lincoln Center over a 12-month period from 1996-1997, involved a committee of Center employees and consultants who developed the foundation for structuring the program. Ms Brooks was later retained as a consultant to refine the program and to develop it into a marketable approach to welfare reform. Having a history of working with nonprofit organizations who served welfare clients, Ms. Brooks developed a sound model to successfully transition not just individuals but families from welfare to a life of self-sufficiency.

Four months after submitting the Bridge to Work proposal to the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Abraham Lincoln Center was funded \$699,000. In February 1998, Ms. Brooks was selected to head the program; and in a strategic move, located the program in the facility of Northeastern Illinois University's Center for Inner City Studies at 700 East Oakwood Blvd. in Chicago.

The Abraham Lincoln Center is a social service organization headquartered in the Douglas Community under the leadership of Jesse D. Madison, the fifth executive to head the 94 year old center, before the Center, served as the Executive Vice President of the Chicago Park District.

(Continued from page 1)

## Master Developer

Ald. Toni Preckwinkle (3) who is a member of a nine member panel will select one Master Developer, in which CHA/HUD will make the final decision. The panel consists of three public housing residents, community organizations and government officials

Two of the bidders are from the Mid-South communities, The Woodlawn Organization in partnership with the New England Builders and Wade Enterprises, and Centers for New Horizons and the Abaham Lincoln Centre in partnership with developer Allison Davis as All Urgan Teng. The third is the Lakefront Developmet Corp. with St. Louis-based developer Mc Cormack Baron & Associates with Mesirow Stein Development Services Inc (MSDS).

The partnership is to ensure create social services with a focus on housing, creating jobs and relationships with Empowerment Zone Boards, and businesses.

According to the new *Lakefort Outlook*, the Kenwood Oakland Community Conservation Council (CCC), a governing body for the Oakland/Kenwood communities, (appointed by Mayor Richard M. Daley) voted for the St. Louis group, because the project would be best serve by an outside group. McCormack Baron & Associates was identified as one of the best developers in the Country.

Questions arosed because of MSDS close relationship to Julia Stasch, Cheif of Staff for the Mayor. She was employed by McCormack Baron & Association prior to her positon as Commissioner of Housing. Ms. Stasch nor a representative of MSDS returned telephone calls for comment.

"The developer the CCC has identified, maybe able to build as good as people say. But, we are going with

what we know," said Lawrence Pipkins, a residnet of Ida B. Wells.

Pipkin joined other residents of Wells presenting petitions with 900 signatures to CHA, for The Woodlawn Organization to be their Master Developer.

Dr. Sokoni Karanja, of Centers for New Horizons agreed that developers from the community can serve the community just as well. Emphaised his organizations long history in the Douglas area working with the Abarham Lincoln Centre.

"Residents should have a fair say in the development," said Karanja, "However, the project do extend outside of public housing and their concerns must be shared".



Lawrence Pipkins (L) and Elsie Herd of Ida B. Wells, petition CHA, with 900 signatures in the selection of Master Developer for their community questioning the process selection of the North Kenwood Oakland Conservation Community Council.



Dr. Leon Finney, of TWO, who was noted for making a grand presentation for their bid, declined comment on the selection process, did say that the concerns of the residents should be taken into consideration.

Elsie Herd who supported the petition for TWO, says the process should be more on how low income people can be in empower up front on job creation and econoic self sufficiency.

"How are we going to achieve resident self-sufficiency and provide comprehensive services that empower resi-

dents if developers in our community cannot be part of us moving up and out of public housing."

Lorraine Muse who lives on 36th & Calumnet agreeded stress I am a resident as well as non-public housing residents.

This process concerns me as well."

Because of the Gautreaux law, the program area for low-income will not exceed 30%, according to Ald. Preckwinkle. She stressed pleasure over the process in that it will lessen concentrations of poverty promoting mixed-income communities where public housing once stood alone.

Harold L. Lucas, President/CEO Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council involved with the de-

velopment of the Surpreme Life building questions what support will government provide on the Surpreme Life Center project related to economic empowerment for low income people in Bronzeville.

"The community needs full disclosure on the program from elected officials and HUD, as it relates to the Bronzeville TIF and the 50% development of market rate housing within the Hope VI initiative.

Thomas Worthy who seats on the panel representing Mid-South Planning and Development Commission would not give any comments on the selection, but agreed with Lucas that there are many questions on the process residents are concerned about.

"Looking at the term Master Developer, a clear direction from the Hope VI initiative must fit into the community's vision clearly stated within the Restoring Bronzeville- Mid South Stagic Plan, for quadrant 7"

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### 5th Anniversary of Pastor Darrell L. Jackson Third Generation of Liberty Baptist Church

Rev. Darrell Lamar Jackson was born in Chicago, June 4, 1952 to the late Pastor Abraham Patterson Jackson and the late Harriet Coskrey Jackson. He succeeded both his father, pastor A. Patterson Jackson and grandfather, Pastor Durmon Zollie Jackson as the third generation to pastor Liberty Baptist Church. Thus, the Jackson family dynasty has prevailed for over 73 years. Pictured with Pastor Jackson is his wife Michele Jackson and son Maurice.



(Continued from page 1)

### Bronzeville Mayor

Ester Barnett, an officer of the Bronzeville Merchant Association.

The Mayor of Bronzeville is a prominent community role model that represents progress and unity.

Following the election there was an inaugural celebration to showcase the new community Mayor on Bud Billiken Eve August 13, 1999 where a Mayor of Bronzeville float was in the Bud Billiken Parade on Saturday, August 14.

The Inaugural Ball attire affair was from the 1920, 1930, 1940 or Black Tie held at McCormick-Place on South King Drive in Bronzeville. The BMA, formally the 35th Street Business Association renamed itself to include Bronzeville as far as 51th Street, State Street to Cottage Grove.

"We are dedicated and committed to preserving and promoting existing business, while seeking to develop new commercial and residential investment



The Bronzeville Merchants Association and the Chicago Daily Defender conduct a citywide campaign to restore the "Mayor of Bronzeville" community election. Over 2,000 votes were cast, and Herb Kent the "the Cool Gent" was elected the Mayor of Bronzeville. Background is Frank Bacon, lower is Mayor Kent, Pearl Griffin Martin "gus" Gage and Elgn Maize Feffrey.

in the area." explain Ms. Barnett. "We are dedicated and committed to the continued efforts of establishing links and utilization of business resources available through City, State, and Federal resource programs." Continuing BMA community networking the organization host a regular Jazz-Out For information call (312) 842-5120.

### Little Black Pearl

By Gina Leyba Staff Writer

Youths between the ages of 10-19 have a way to express their artist abilities. The Little Black Pearl Youth Training in the Arts' program is underway.

Recruitment began at the end of May by distributing flyers around the community through churches and with the help of Chicago Public Schools.

The attention has also grown throughout other communities because of the elaborate tent that participants created at 4200 S. Drexel Blvd. This summer's theme is named "Let's Face It," which is a self-portraiture of the students. The paintings and banners explore how the youths see themselves. One of the main projects for the summer will be to paint a CTA so that the entire city may see their talent.

Although the current slots are filled for the summer with over 100 participants, interest has been flowing in to the program director, Jacqui Johnson. "We have taken in some people who drive by and see our tent," she said. There was also recent city-wide attention when the center was profiled on the "WGN Morning News."

There will be many creative outlets throughout the summer generated by the youths, from water color, pictures and clay figures. This is the program's second year in operation. Last summer's program was held at Malcolm X College. This is the first year it has been held outdoors.

There are three programs during the fall, funded by a partnership with Chicago Public Schools. The in-school and after school programs are two six-week workshops that supplement or in some cases solely provide art programs within the schools.

The Renaissance program is or-

ganized during the fall and spring for high school drop-outs to provide art education. The program is also run by Chicago Public Schools.

All year-round the program focuses on at-risk youth throughout the community to teach the arts as an outlet of expression.

- more - According to Michelle



The Little Black Pearl Workshop director Monica Haslip stands over the work of children who are part of thier classes creating art work work.

Lawrence, Director of Finance, The funding is receive by a project to project basis. The "Let's Face It," program is funded with the help of the following contributors: The Chicago Public Schools, Will Davis & Company, The Millennium Group, and McCoy Security Services. There is an annual operating budget at approximately \$1,000,000.

The summer has a staff of a core of volunteers and six interns from neighboring high schools. There are eight full-time and two part-time staff. There is a plan to expand the center with a new building that will open at 47th and Greenwood. Still no word on when the grand opening of the new building will be.

The Little Black Pearl is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday during the summer and regular hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (773) 285-1211.

### Washington Park Children's Clinic

In response to a lack of healthcare services in Washington Park, the Washington Park Children's Clinic (WPCC) opened. Clinic coordinator and medical student Jennifer Lamb explains, "If you look at the health statistics, Washington Park is a community in need of health attention. We are interested in helping to make a positive contribution to the community." Dr. Joel Schwab, Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Chicago Hospitals, continues, "The University needs to be in the community and the community needs to know that the University is interested in helping."

The clinic has three primary goals. First, WPCC provides free healthcare services to infants and children in the community. Medical services, provided by an attending physician, pediatric interns/residents, and medical students from the University of Chicago will include acute care, well-baby and well-child checks, back-to-school physicals, immunizations, and health education workshops. Secondly, the clinic will facilitate access to longitudinal primary care through referrals to medical, dental, and eye services. Finally, WPCC will help enroll patients in Social assistance programs as

needed to pay for future healthcare costs and prescriptions. Social services, provided by social workers and students from the University of Chicago School of Social Services Administration, include help enrolling in KidCare, Well-infants-and-Children (WIC), and Medicaid. The clinic is located at the Church of the Good Shepherd (5700 South Prairie) and is operated by the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine Community Health Initiative. The clinic is open every Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 and patients are seen for free on a walk-in basis.



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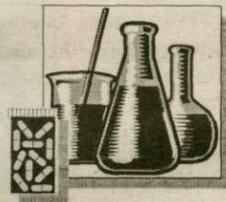
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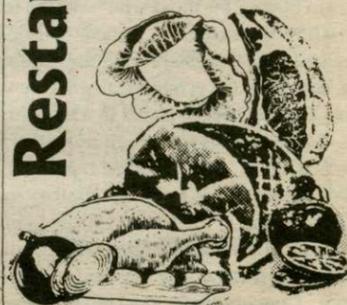
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# The Return to Bronzeville

(Continued from page 1)

Islam moved its national headquarters here. Bronzeville was the land of socioeconomic prosperity for the 71-year-old emancipated African American and becoming a center of Black Nationalism.

The whole "mayor" idea was the brainchild of one of Bronzeville's most beloved sons- James "Jimmy" Gentry, a local Chicago Defender writer and club promoter who since 1916, or thereabouts, bankrolled the annual Miss Bronze America beauty pageants. In fact the name Bronzeville is rooted in those very beauty pageants which gave rise to common expressions like Bronze- beauties of Bronze-ville. In 1930, while employed at the Chicago Bee Newspaper as an editor, Gentry tried to launch a Mayor of Bronzeville campaign as a promotional gimmick to sell newspapers but it didn't work. Soon after though, Gentry left the Bee for the Defender right at a time when "things" were happening in the neighborhood. The infamous Policy business (numbers racket) was growing by leaps and bounds with one particular man as the front runner.

### LOTTERY, created by Bronzeville Business Man

The Mayor of Bronzeville idea was believed by many old enough to remember- re-born out of several "handles" bestowed upon one Ed Jones who controlled Chicago's rich Policy racket with the blessing of the county's political machine. One of those affectionate nicknames was "Boss of Bronzeville". Through common repetition and recycling of catch phrases, Boss of Bronzeville turned into Mayor of Bronzeville and with that, Gentry's idea was reborn.

With the blessings and backing of Robert Sengstacke Abbott- founding Publisher of the Chicago Defender Newspaper, and Ed Jones- the King of Policy Kings, the new Bronzeville was born. As framed in its charter mission statement, the Mayor of Bronzeville was conceived to elevate an outstanding citizen to heights beyond imagination and to make of him a symbol for the city.

The Mayor is the most important figure in the community, a person who has his hands on the pulse of every major development or situation affecting the area. He inspires his fellow citizens and elevates them as a mass. He is the servant of the community."

Gentry set up shop in suite #7 in the Liberty Life Insurance Company building at 35th & South Parkway (King Drive) to run the campaign which was to coincide with his annual Miss Bronze America beauty Pageant. Posters and ballot boxes were set up in every drug store, restaurant, boutique, barber shop, garage, church, grocery store, newspaper stand and Policy station in Bronzeville and nomination ballots ran in the Defender. The campaign was all the rage. Everyone took to the idea like a fish to water. Scores of community activists and ward



Saturday night September 22, 1934, behind the walls of the Eighth Regiment Armory on Giles Street, Tiny Parham's Orchestra rocked the house as Pullman Porter-turned-leading businessman James E. Knight was elected as the first ever Mayor of Bronzeville, hall-marking a new era in "race progress". Knight was known affectionately as "Genial Jim",

Photo courtesy of Gerrie Oliver



As Mayor of Bronzeville, Jim Knight would add his voice to the issue of jobs for the black man in the construction of what was to become the Housing Development in the honor of Ida B. Wells (Homes), on 37th and King Drive.

precinct captain took to the streets of Bronzeville to hype the campaign. And it wasn't long before the mailroom at the Chicago Defender was flooded with nomination ballots.

Notable among the finalists were Savoy Ballroom announcer Eddie Plique, controversial union boss J. Levirt Kelly and Thomas Smith, owner of Smith Transportation Company.

But on Saturday night September 22, 1934, behind the walls of the Eighth Regiment Armory on Giles Street, Tiny Parham's Orchestra rocked the house as Pullman Porter-turned-leading businessman James E. Knight was elected as the first ever Mayor of Bronzeville, hall-marking a new era in "race progress".

### JIM KNIGHT, elected as first Mayor of Bronzeville

Known affectionately as "Genial Jim", Knight was a ranking member of the Masonic order, a top Policy King and one of the architects of the "new downtown Black America"- East 47th Street. Knight was the founder of the world-famous Palm Tavern at 446 East 47th Street, a Bronzeville landmark still open for business today and for decades a key social and civic center. Knight went on to found the Knight-Young Shoe Stores with Defender sportswriter Frank "Beans" Young and was the first African-American representative at the national shoe-store owners' convention, then held annually at the Palmer House.

Below, Capturing the imagination of African Americans everywhere, the Black Belt for its Negro population, upward mobility was taking place- socially and philosophically. To those who lived there, and to their friends and family abroad, it wasn't called the Black Belt; it was called Bronzeville, a rising and thriving mecca of social, economic and political power.

Photo courtesy of Chicago Historical Society



height of the social season and well attended by the highest levels of city government and the biggest stars of film and stage. Through the years, lending their support to the cause were names like Lena Horne, Duke Ellington, Etta Moten and Sammy Davis Jr. The 1935 events kicked off with a 100-car parade through the neighborhood capped off with the main event held at the famed Savoy Ballroom featuring Earl Father

Hines and his orchestra. The following year the bash was moved to Chicago's Navy Pier. In 1938 back at the Savoy the bash featured the first ever Chicago appearance of aspiring jazz legend Billie Holiday and the first Southside appearance of jazz great Artie Shaw. The whole experience created an electric vibe found nowhere else in Black America- not in Harlem or on Tulsa's Black Wall Street. In later years the annual gala moved to venues like the Parkway Ballroom and the famed Club DeLisa. All of the money raised was dropped into the Chicago Defender Good Fellows Fund that paid for Christmas baskets of clothes, food and gifts for the underprivileged and disabled war vets.

Capturing the imagination of

At the inauguration party held in Bacon's Casino, Knight handpicked "cabinet members" from a "Grand Table of 100". Among the chosen was Edith Sampson- the first decreed woman from John Marshall Law School, who went on to accomplish many noted firsts in her own career.

### CONSTRUCTION OF IDA B. WELLS HOMES

As Mayor of Bronzeville, Knight would add his voice to the issue of jobs for the black man in the construction of what was to become the Ida B. Wells Homes.

Accomplishments of this coveted office can't really be measured in a tangible sense. On one hand the post was clearly a paper tiger with no official city status. The Mayor of Bronzeville could probably fix a parking ticket but couldn't get a law passed. However, the post was highly respected in that the Bronzeville Mayor was chosen by popular vote of the people, void of political party influence. As such, when the Mayor of Bronzeville talked issues with outside business and political leaders, his words were taken in a sense that this person truly spoke for the concerns of the community. And over the years many of the community's most respected people would have the privilege of serving, including 2 noted physicians and a top radio personality.

PROMOTING the Cultural Arts  
The great Mayor of Bronzeville Ball was always the very

African Americans everywhere, by 1938 the Bronzeville spirit moved into Lake County Indiana with the election of J. Dolton Smith as Gary's first Mayor Bronzeville; and by the late 50s would spread into Brooklyn, Cleveland, Detroit, Memphis, New Orleans, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. But Chicago's Southside was still the rage.

### BLACK FLIGHT

Throughout the 1940s while social issues and political regimes came and went, the Mayor of Bronzeville spirit remained constant and strong. It wasn't until the 1950s that this all anticipated event of the season began to wane. During the 5-year period between 1950 and 1954 there were virtually no elections for the post. Some historians old enough to remember cite Black Flight as the reason. By 1950 many of the neighborhood's then longtime upwardly mobile residents and business owners began to move south of Bronzeville into neighborhoods like Park Manor, Chatham, West Chesterfield and Lillydale (notwithstanding restrictive covenants, blacks with money traditionally caught more breaks). This particular migration created a vacuum that would eventually suck business and culture right out of the hood resulting in a gradual loss of community interest. In 1955 however the Bronzeville Mayor-ship was restored, though short-lived.

Return of Bronzeville continues Next issue:  
**The Set Back of Bronzeville**

## The Nixon Report

# Urban Mining

## The Housing Community Development Matrix



By Lionel B. Nixon.

In 1999 the Chicago Housing Authority high-rise buildings have become Copper mines as the financially profitable implosion and salvaging of the raw materials by a few well connected construction and demolition companies haul their valuable treasure cargo from the buildings, undetected by the general public.

The copper and iron in these buildings represent millions of dollars in bounty for those who have the technological capacity to mine it. The fixtures, gravel, cement blocks, doors, wiring, elevators, heating systems, compactors, window frames, pipes and other raw materials constitute the economically elastic surplus material for the largest man made hardware stores in the history of Chicago.

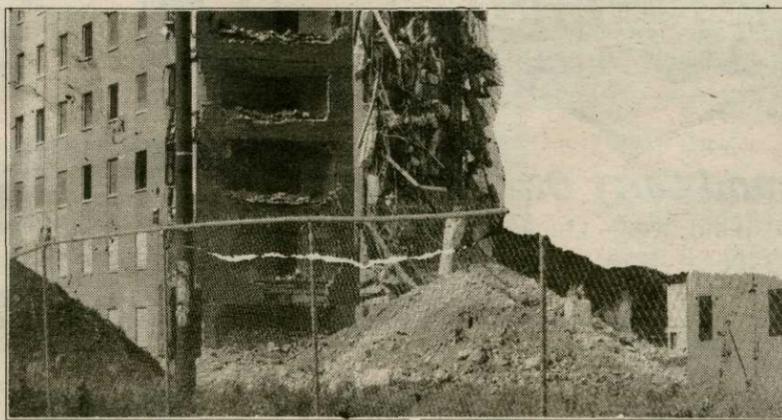
The buildings were built primarily in the 1960s. They were financed by 40 year municipal bonds. As part of a sophisticated late 20th century "land banking" strategy to recapture some of the most valuable land in the city of Chicago land currently occupied by Public Housing High-rise "PROJECTS" parallel to the Dan Ryan and Eisenhower expressways on the west and south side and along the lake front. Concomitantly working in conjunction with the various Tax

building structures by eminent domain, such as the 47th Street Redevelopment Plan which calls for the involuntary displacement, acquisition and demolition of almost every business on 47th street from St. Lawrence to the Green Line elevated Train.

This scenario presents the potential for the greatest American land grab and involuntary displacement of citizens from housing and small businesses, since the removal of American Indians from their tribal lands during the 19th century.

The recycling of the raw materials of these smaller building structures is a lucrative and profitable proposition for high technology demolitions and salvagers as well. The new vacated parcels of land create new development opportunities consistent with the current City of Chicago Comprehensive Plan which was first created in 1909 as the Chicago "Master Plan".

Section 8 Existing Housing Vouchers holders in the inner city of Chicago will find that they will be forced to move to what I call the, EXURBS, a 15 to 30 mile circular perimeter distance, (North, West, and South) from the core of the inner city of Chicago.



Increment Financing (TIFs) and other Redevelopment Plans that utilize acquisition of other

The only hope for this group of Chicagoans is the presence of the new CHA Administration and the exit of the former HUD policy makers from Washington who preceded them.

There is nothing wrong with economic development if it is balanced and done with the required public hearings, accommodation for citizens to provide "alternative plans" and the "right to object" to currently proposed plans in accordance with Federal and State, laws, rules and regulations.

Without appropriate government intervention and responsible community participation by residents from both public and private housing and the small business community. Urban Mining will be the impetus for a modern development process that will treat native Chicagoans of which I am one, just as the Native Indian Americans were treated during the 1800s.

Lionel B. Nixon, former twenty year United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Official He served as a Co-Chairmen for the Housing Task Forces of both Congressmen and Mayor Harold Washington and Charles Haynes. Served as President of the Coalition to Save South Shore Country Club Park. President, of HUD, AFGE, Local 911.

Other options will include, moves to mid or down state Illinois or out of state all together in order to find suitable housing and the land lords accept their vouchers.

As HUD which I predict will soon be abolished in two years, after years of internal fraud, waste, mismanagement and material complicity, with the Urban Miner Developers. The people of public housing need help with relocation, not symbolic gestures.

Editorial

# The Master Developer

**S**hould we vote now to see who needs to be persuaded or discuss it more to find some common interest before the vote.

From the corner of 47th and St. Lawrence Ave., the vote came from residents upset that developers on the block who are building a new condominium for the past eight months would not hire community tradesmen.

They weren't looking for a story, they were looking for some leadership in action, for jobs, "If we don't work, no body works".

I later had a conversation with a developer, considering advertising in South Street Journal. He asked, "You all don't like developers, do you?" I looked out of his construction trailer window, and saw the non-Black workers; keeping in mind residents of Mid-South complaining, getting so damn tired of grown men standing around doing nothing. I then thought of residents of Lake Meadows complaint as they looked out of their high-rise windows looking down to the new homes being build with little Black workers on the job. I said to myself; "No."

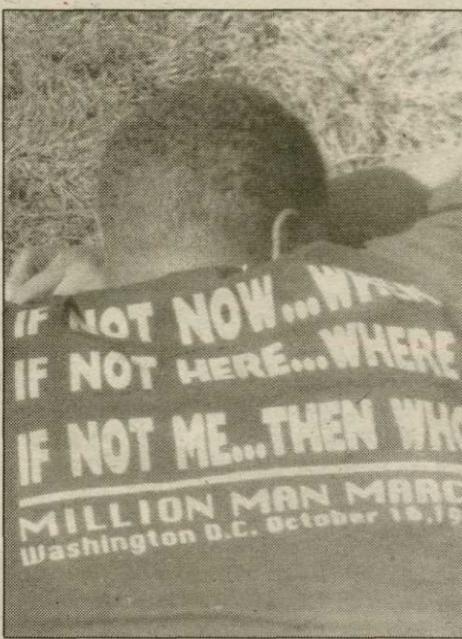
On the same corner a 12 year old boy ran a-

way from home, sleeping in vacant buildings with one of those men that hang on the corner. The street smart kid, justified himself because of the drug problems of his parents.

Speaking to his mother she confirmed my suspicious the child was lying somewhere, and she was not telling the whole truth. With over an hour talking to her, she said he is a con artist, a young genius which was evaluated by counselors and psychiatrist.

Addressing the war on poverty and the Master Developer, what image does the little boy need to identify with at and in the community. Would this family be ready to vote and do they even care. Their interest on who is developing their community should be easy.

As for the Hope VI programs in the Ida B. Wells area it calls for economic and social development for the future as well as for present interest. With the old theme of, "Save the Chil-



SSJ Photo/Owen M. Lawson III

dren", replaced with "It takes a Village to Raise a Child," The Master Developer for the Hope VI program, is to bring prosperity and property especially those who have remain here when it was merely called the "low-end" and the ghetto, considered a place to avoid.

What the men on any corner want is the same as the Master Developer or what the Empowerment Zone benefactors and all others developers want with public funds. Money. But some want it to help the communities, and others for their families.

So from the government's mouth comes the words of "citizen participation." One of two things will happen: 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 interest to "Save the Children" or "It takes a Village to Raise a Child" will not be broken. This was the position of congressman Danny Davis at one of his townhall meetings and residents of Ida B. Wells.

Who will build it and reap the jobs? As businesses on 47th street and 63rd street are complaining of a lack of information to know where there future will be in order to create jobs. And others have the fortune to plan to produce jobs.

Any vote or decision must look at pockets of the community, such as the 12 year old boy and men on 47th and St. Lawrence. Most suffer from a thirst for fair representation.

Just as former Taylor residents on 53rd and State on their Hope VI program.

As development is prospering in many areas of the community. One community leader/developer said, get with the program the deals have already been made." The question is ask. "Do you want the community developed now, or wait and hope the community obtain the know how to do it on its own. For the Hope VI program of Ida B. Wells two of the bidders are from the community with a solid track record. But the process is attempting to push them to the side.. However, residents of Ida B. Wells are not whispering what they want. "We want our own to be the Master Developer.

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. All share the common goals of economic development.

What length will the community go to ensure that the 12 year old and the men on the corner will recognize "Bronzeville" not by shiny four color pamphlets with pictures of former residents, but by working families and thriving small businesses owned and operated by people in similar to communities like Hyde Park and Chinatown. That is not much to decide on as it is done by many parts of Chicago, other than Black Chicago.

From Hollywood Video to Kat Video and Warhead Video on 47th Street, it matter who help develops the community, create the most jobs and profits the most.

It matters whose friends, families and associates benefit from this new version of political patronage. Business is business, but don't be bull S—ing around with citizens participation and the so-called best interest of the community when some outside source reaps the profits of it.

## Letters to the Editor

### The Chicago Committee for a Bill of Rights

Dear Editor;  
Ever wish we had a little more democracy in Chicago?

Here's a way to make it happen. Over the past several months, a broad based coalition has come together out of frustration with the lack of democracy and community control over public business in the city and community control over public business in the city of Chicago. Through discussion of shared concerns and common vision of a just and livable city and what it will take to realize that vision. Taking the name The Chicago Committee for a Community Bill of Rights, the group prepared drafts of a list of grievances, a preamble, and a bill of rights.

Attached you will find the CCCBR draft lists of grievances and the preamble and Community Bill of Rights prepared over the past few months. These are DRAFT documents, and will be further refined and improved as we build this movement.

We are asking individuals and organizations to sign on to this important work in progress. Please look the documents over, share them with others in your neighborhood and organization, and consider joining the Chicago Committee for a Community Bill of Rights. *We would like as many people and groups to sign on to this movement. Won't you join us?*

We the people of the city of Chicago, in order to form a more just and livable city, establish social justice, ensure neighborhood empowerment, provide for the defense of civil liberties, promote the welfare of all communities, and secure participatory democracy and the benefits of civic services and institutions for the people of the city and our posterity, do ordain and establish this community bill of rights

*This 5th day of February, 1999*

### American Heart Association

Dear Editor;  
Every 53 seconds, someone in the United States experiences a stroke. Every 3.3 minutes, someone dies of one. Stroke, also known as a brain attack, is the third leading cause of death behind diseases of the heart and cancer, and is the leading cause of serious, long-term disability. About 4 million families in America are not living with the effects of stroke within their

household. Although many of us may know someone who is now living with the devastating effects of stroke, it is largely preventable by practicing healthy lifestyle habits that reduce the risk—such as controlling high blood pressure, maintaining healthy blood cholesterol levels, eating foods low in saturated fat and cholesterol, being physically active, maintaining a healthy weight and stop smoking.

The AHA, the largest voluntary health organization fighting cardiovascular disease and stroke. Our purpose during Stroke Awareness Month was to raise public awareness about the risk factors and warning signs and what to do if a stroke occurs. The theme for 1999 is "Stroke is a Medical Emergency—Call 911!"

The AHA recently affirmed and strengthened its commitment to the fight against stroke by establishing the American Stroke Association, a division of the AHA devoted exclusively to stroke.

There are several local AHA volunteers and spokespersons that can offer important information on stroke and the preventive measures that can reduce risks. For more information, please call us at 312.346.4675.

Karen Trannel,  
Communications Director, Chicago  
Jennifer Polovick,  
Field Communications Manager  
Northern Illinois & NW Indiana

### Our youth and the violence

Dear Editor;  
One of the most horrifying scenes that occurred on a high school ground, took place at Columbine high school in Denver, Colorado. The two high school students labeled as, "The Trench Coat Mob" allegedly blamed their rage and shooting spree on peer pressure, harassment by students and faculty. Blood baths as such has occurred for centuries in the life of the African-American race.

Many ancestors can reveal a more horrific nightmare than the Columbine high school shooting spree. Presently, the tragedy of teen violence is being speculated by the entire world. The House of Congress is holding hearings on youth violence. Talk shows speculate on teen violence. Youth Community Forums groups have been formed

In the minds of parents, do we take teen peer pressure too lightly? Are we coddling teenage assassins? These are questions that have been plundered in the minds of parents of violent

teens. When will these unanswered questions become pathways to us saving our children?

Excessive violence in movies and video games are vehicles being particularly blamed for the excessive violence that influences our children. Concurring details of grueling murderers by the TV news median can be a "rush" for sick individuals who have no value or respect for human life. One magazine touched basis on the aforementioned subject, "Are Journalists guilty of actively encouraging crime in an attempt to make front-page news.

Listed below are situations that can possibly contribute to a child/teen becoming a violent individual.

- Background of neglect/ abuse - Someone pays the price
  - Excessive Physical /Verbal abuse by parent/guardian
  - Violent children if not corrected, become violent adults, have violent children..
  - Lack of Family structure / Financial support-(quick money - feels society owes what he/she didn't have)
  - Drug / Alcohol Abuse
- Families need to be more "family-oriented". More than ever, families huddle off to habitual places of comfort in the household, usually away from each other. Dinner tables no longer are used for meeting media when the dinner table was filled with chatter and siblings agitating one another.
- With school about to begin, I ask that each parent take the time to hug their child. Talk to your child/teen.
- Ask the questions that may otherwise be asked by a trained physician or the law enforcers. Each child is an individual and should be treated as a unique person. It is said that children are "little" people. So what hurts you, hurts them. Moreso, realistically, what a child sees and learns about himself and life, greatly shapes who/what that child will be. Our children are a product of what our soul is (attitude, spirit, persona, views, habits, temperament).
- Congratulations to all Seniors who strived to make through high school, and against all odds, continue to succeed!*

Crystal Smothers  
Grand Blvd.

### Journey of Hope and Push America

Dear Editor,  
The cyclists and crew of the Journey of Hope cross country cycling team recently paid

a visit to Chicago on their way to Washington D.C. During our stay, we were greeted with utmost kindness and support. Our entire team would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the people of Chicago for helping make this year's Journey of Hope a great success.

The 1999 Journey of Hope team, along with corporate sponsorships from Superior Bank, KRG Capital Partners, Saturn Corporation, White Cap Inc., Diversified Electronics, Bank of America, and AT&T Wireless Services raised over \$300,000 for Push America. This funding will be a great asset to Push America's projects and programs, which provide service, education and awareness for persons with physical and mental disabilities.

While in Chicago, the participants of the Journey of Hope were able to establish volunteer relationships with several local organizations. These efforts, which helped raise awareness for people with disabilities, are the heart and soul of the Journey of Hope and Push America.

The support given by these volunteers was instrumental in making this project a success. The cyclists, crew, and project managers of the Journey of Hope would like to send their sincere thanks to the people of Chicago. We hope to involve you in all of our future efforts to serve and raise awareness for people with disabilities.

Sincerely,  
Lyn Wright  
Project Manager  
Journey of Hope 1999

## South Street Journal

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Portrait of a Musician  
**WORD**

**"BIRD"**

by John E. Woodson  
August in Chicago is affectionately referred to by many, especially musicians, as "Charlie Parker Month."



This tradition, embraced by musicians from coast to coast, had its inception in the late 1950's memorializing the birth month of the one man since Beethoven who single-handedly turned the music scene around. Joe Siegal, Chicago's own jazz promoter of Jazz Show Case fame, can be credited with getting this now institution off the ground.

Charlie Parker, despite his death in March 1955, is still being acclaimed, as the person responsible for having the biggest influence of jazz instrumentalist since the second World War. The late bassist Charlie Mingus said after Parker's death, "Most of the soloists at Birdland (a jazz club in Manhattan, New York, dedicated to Charlie) had to wait for Parker's new record to find out what to play next. What will they do now!"

Bird's career started at an early age back in Kansas City, Missouri, where he played baritone horn in the school band. He switched to alto saxophone at the age of eleven. Parker gained much of his formal training while playing in the Old Lincoln High School Band. He dropped out of high school at age 15, in 1935. That same year, Bird played his first professional "gig" on Thanksgiving Day, earning \$1.25 for that evening.

The next few years found Bird working with many local bands including Jay McShann, George Lee, Lawrence Keyes, Buster Smith and Harlan Leonards. He met young Dizzy Gillespie in 1939 at the Booker T. Hotel in K.C. Shortly thereafter, he made his first trip to New York where he worked as a dishwasher and occasionally gigged for peanuts. The following excerpts from *The Legend of Charlie Parker*, by Robert Reisner, Da Capo Press, N.Y., contains Bird's own words about this period:

"I played at Monroe's Uptown House. Nobody paid me much mind at first at Monroe's except Bill Moore, one of Count Basie's trumpet players. He liked me. Everybody else was trying to get me to sound like Benny Carter. There was no scale at Monroe.

Sometimes I got forty or fifty cents a night. If business was good, I might get up to six dollars. I remember one night I was jamming in a chili house (Dan Walls) on Seventh Avenue between 139th and 140th. It was December, 1939.

Now I'd been getting bored with the stereotyped changes that were being used all the time, at the time and I kept thinking there's bound to be something else. I could hear it sometimes, but I couldn't play it. Well, that night, I was working over "Cherokee," and, as I did, I found that by using the higher intervals of a chord as a melody line and backing them

with appropriately related changes, I could play the thing I'd been hearing. I came alive."

In 1940 Bird rejoined the Jay McShann band and made his first recordings for Decca. Tunes, among others, included the classic "Hootie Blues." When the McShann Band returned to Kansas City, Parker remained in New York and became associated with various other musicians including Dizzy Gillespie who participated in "Jam-Sessions" at 'After-Hours-Clubs' in Harlem, notably *Mintons Playhouse*. Describing this period in musical history, "The Golden Encyclopedia of Music" reveals:

Jazz in the 1940's continued the period of swing. But it also saw the beginnings of the new sounds of "Bop" and a revival of interest in Dixieland Jazz. Many jazz musicians grew tired of playing the same style of music night after night. Such as Charlie Parker and Lester Young on saxophones, Charlie Christian on electric guitar, Thelonius Monk and Bud Powell on piano, and Dizzy Gillespie on trumpet experimented with dissonant chords, unusual phrasing, and an attempt to get away from steady 4-beat rhythms. As they played they often used a phrase that sounded like the word "Bebop." This was shortened to "Bop" and used to describe the new jazz.

The years 1944 through 1948 are considered to be Parker's most creative. During this period that Bird formed various small bands that became legendary. The groups included such giants as Miles Davis, Max Roach, Al Haig, et al. The following years brought forth awards from numerous jazz magazines throughout the world, regular appearances in many U.S. cities, and tours in Scandinavia and Europe.

The end of the line came for Bird in March 1955 after several tragic unsuccessful attempts to commit suicide. Charlie Parker played his last engagements at "Birdland" in New York on March 4th and 5th, Friday and Saturday. He had been acting erratic and quarreling violently all week with the musicians on the stand including Charlie Mingus and Bud Powell. Bud walked off the set. Several days later, Bird obviously a very sick man, dropped in to see his longtime friend and patroness, the Baroness (Nica) De Rothschild in her luxurious suite at the Stanhope Hotel on New York's Fifth Avenue. The Baroness called her own physician who recommended that Parker be taken to a hospital immediately. The Baroness admitted later she didn't have the heart to send him, instead bedded the Bird down. He died there nearly four days later of lobar pneumonia due to visceral congestion.

Accounts of his death stated that seldom has there been a more tormented soul than the Bird. He was constantly ill, always tortured by the grip of the dope habit, drowned in a sea of booze and enmeshed in a tangle of women. Twice he attempted suicide. The autopsy on his ruined body estimated his age as 53 when Parker was actually 34 years old.

But in his short life, Charles Parker, Jr., managed to influence the world musically.

**Entertain**

**Beltway to Bronzeville**

In April 1999, composer Ernest Dawkins was commissioned to write a large-scale work based on the rich musical and social history of the Chicago neighborhood popularly known as Bronzeville. Once a Mecca for jazz music and musicians -- Louis Armstrong, Cab Calloway, Ray Nance, Milt Hinton and countless others made a home and living there -- it was also the landing place for many who moved to Chicago in the first Great Migration from the South.

The Jazz and Heritage Program, a collaboration between the Chicago Park District and the Jazz Institute of Chicago, was joined by the Chicago chapter of the American Composers Forum to create an exciting new program called the Chicago Composers Project. The idea is to offer the opportunity for community members to work collaborative either a composer -- each influencing the creative process of the other.

Ernest Dawkins is an internationally acclaimed saxophonist, leader of the group New Horizons and president of the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM). Dawkins' compositions have been distinguished by his lyric glance and his virtuosity in drawing upon jazz languages of

past, present and future. He composes with his musicians in mind, and Beltway to Bronzeville will no doubt provide some exciting challenges for the young Gallery 37 players.

The South Shore Cultural Center Gallery 37 Youth Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ron Carter performed *Beltway to Bronzeville* with guest soloists tenor saxophonist Ari Brown, trombonist Steve Berry and trumpeter Orbert Davis.

The celebration of community included a free reception catered by the Bronzeville Market and Deli, an exhibition of photographs of the neighborhood and its families by children from the Elliott Donnelly Youth Center, plus paintings and sculptures by the Little Black Pearl Workshop. The reception and exhibition was held at Donnelly Youth Center, 3947 S. Michigan Ave.

Beltway to Bronzeville also performed at the 21st Annual Chicago Jazz Festival September 5, at the Jackson Stage.

The Chicago Jazz and Heritage Program, now in its second year, is an innovative music education program that traces the evolution of Swing, Bebop, Latin-Jazz and Free-Jazz highlighting Chicago's rich historical jazz legacy with legendary local musicians. Through oral history, workshop, concerts and the new Chicago Composers Project, the Chicago Jazz and Heritage Program seeks to reconnect Chicago's communities to their own jazz history and America's own art form.



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# On Video

By David Schultz

## THE KING AND I (\*1/2)

Inferior animated rendition of the 50's action musical based on the Broadway play. The western idealism reaches the Far East. When an American school teacher sent to educate the children of the King of Siam who has a threatening rival aiming to kill him for his throne. Abbreviate and Cheapen version that kids won't care too much for and parents would rather stick with the 1956 version of Yul Brynner Deborah Kerr  
G 80 min. Warner Home Video

## DOWN IN THE DELTA (\*\*)

Afred Woodard heads a solid cast in this mild domestic urban family drama. To get Woodard and her kids away from the drugs, alcoholic and violence of the big city, her mother (Mary Alice) pawns her prized family heirloom to send her down south to her brother's (Al Freeman Jr.) home to work at his chicken restaurant. Woodard's rural journey leads into a self revelation that gets her in touch with her heritage and future. Wesley S. snipes plays Freeman's estranged younger brother who reluctantly returns home for a family reunion with their mentally ill mother (Esther Rolle in her last screen role.) Poet laureate Maya Angelou in her directional debut provides a descent human drama with some insight and predictability, but not enough depth  
PG 112 min. Available

## THE OUT OF TOWNERS (\* 1/2)

Lame and inferior Neil Simon remake with Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn as beleaguer married couple being thrown every obstacle in their trip to N.Y. Energy and acting level from Martin and Hawn can't cover up weak script. Go to the original version with Jack Lemmon and Sandy Dennis  
Rated: PG 90 min. Paramount Home Video

## THE THIRTEEN FLOOR (\*\*\*)

A "Matrix" wannabe that isn't half-bad. As the scientist that discovers another dimension where he is murdered. His assistant travels back and forth to find the culprit that turns out to be himself.  
Rated: R 97min. Paramount Home Video

## THE OTHER SISTER (\*\*1/2)

Director Garry Marshall's human dramedy involves a retarded daughter (Juliette Lewis) who wants to be treated with respect and normal by her overprotective mother (Diane Keaton). Descent yet overdrawn.

## MY FAVORITE MARTIAN (\*1/2)

Ho-hum remake of the late 60's TV series revamps the premise with TV reporter (Jeff Daniels) befriends a real life Martian (Christopher Lloyd) visiting Earth who moves in and disrupts the reporter's private and personal career. Slim script and wasted cast goes out of orbit.  
Rated: PG 90 min. Walt Disney Home Video

## TWIN DRAGONS (\*\*)

An old Jackie Chan film import gets repackaged for the big screen after already being available



previously on video. An action comedy of mistaken identity, Jackie Chan doubles the pleasure with modest results as an orchestra maestro and a martial artist who get mixed up with the mob.  
GOD SAID, "HA!" (\*\*1/2)

Ex-SNL regular Julia Sweeney's one woman Broadway play provides heart and humor detailing life when her parents move in with her who was already coping with terminally ill brother. Humor does come out the strangest life experiences.  
DOUG'S 1 MOVIE (\*1/2)

Uninspired movie version to the Saturday morning cartoon series in which our hero somehow must convince his friends about the presence of a mobster in their lake and exposing its pollution problem.  
Rated: pg 90 min. Miramax Home Video

## CHILDREN OF HEAVEN (\*\*\*)

A genuinely warm and honest film. Set in the

# HOLLYWOOD

## AT THE FLICKS

by David Schultz, SSJ Entertainment Writer

### AT THE FLICKS

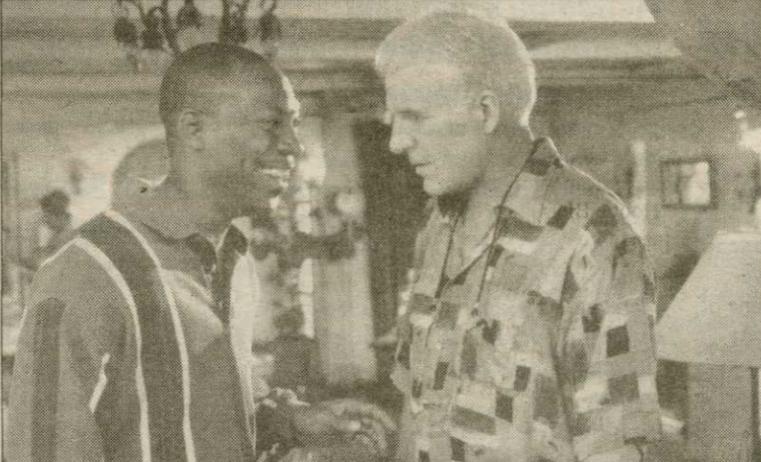
By David Schultz

#### BOWFINGER (\*\*\*)

At long last, a genuine comedy hit movie that succeeds without having all the juvenile toilet humor and vulgarity that seems to have dominated most comedies of this summer season. "Bowfinger" offers the comedic talents of Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy in screen roles that bring out their hilarious best as we like to see them. In a shrewdly funny and satirical script written by Martin himself, under the sharp and energetic direction of "The Muppets" alumnus turned director Frank Oz (whom Martin first worked with in 1988's "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels"). "Bowfinger" is an insanely hilarious movie that spoofs the imagery (both fake and real) of Hollywood filmmaking through its inhabitants and wannabes and their paranoia.

In the kind of characters that best exhibit their comedic ranges, Martin plays a smooth talking con-artist under pressure. He's Bobby Bowfinger, former child star, has been actor turned struggling independent movie producer. Until he receives a sci-fi script he feels worthy enough to be filmed, that could save him from his life of mediocrity, and hopefully fulfill his life long dream to have a FED EX mail delivery stop at his bungalow with a letter of opportunity that could lead to more lucrative and legitimate movie offers.

However, Bowfinger (Martin) needs a major star to front his film that would help insure a studio distribution deal. So Bowfinger poses as a wheeler-dealer to enter a trendy Hollywood restaurant that is frequently pa-



Steve Martin plays an aspiring movie producer and Eddie Murphy is an eager nerd

troned by studio executives and agents making deals over lunch. Bowfinger eavesdrops on such a conversation by one such studio head (Robert Downey Jr.) whose seeking the services of Kit Ramsey, the top black action star (played by Eddie Murphy) to star in his next film project. Bowfinger cons his way into a deal with the studio executive (Downey). If he can deliver Ramsey into Bowfinger's movie. The executive would agree to distribute the film.

Through its humor and situation, art imitates life in several instances that we recognize, such as some actors with box office clout let their egos and big money get them into movie projects that suffer from a bad script. Remember Murphy in "The Golden Child" or Arnold Schwarzenegger in "The Last Action Hero" and "The Villain". As the examples of big stars in major movie flops.

After stalking for him outside his mansion, Bowfinger catches Ramsey

leaving in a limo. He tries to get Ramsey to read his script to star in his movie. By passing himself off to have the same interest in a mind therapy treatment called "Mind Games" that Ramsey subscribes to, but a fast talking error makes Ramsey reject the script, pushing Bowfinger to the curb. Still determined and desperate after this setback, Bowfinger decides to mislead his cast (Christine Baranski is wonderfully funny as a so-called method actress) and crew to believe Ramsey has agreed to participate in the movie. But under different filming condition, Bowfinger has his cast and crew filming the movie around, rushing in and out doing their lines at the unsuspecting Ramsey at various locations.

(True film buffs should recognize the refurbished Griffith Observatory that was so prominently featured in the 1955 James Dean classic, "Rebel Without A Cause."

But when Bowfinger's actors recite

their sci-fi dialogue to a beleaguer Ramsey, incidents begin to trigger Ramsey's secret phobia against aliens that leads him to be treated underground by his "Mind Game" guru played by Terence Stamp, leaving Bowfinger unable to complete the final scenes when he can't find Ramsey. Bowfinger is fortunate enough to run across a nerdy look-a-like, Biff (also Murphy) who while working on the film, finds self worth and the family unity he misses from his twin brother--Kit Ramsey!

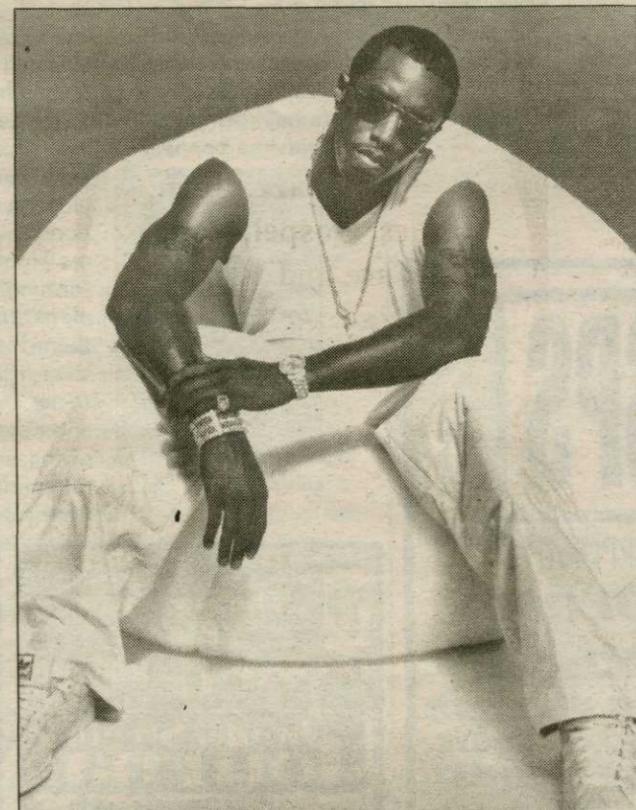
Like Martin, this is the type of role playing within the character that best suits Murphy's true creative and comedic abilities as achieved in "The Nutty Professor" and "Doolittle." Not the wise-cracking, hyper-energetic, more-or-less-playing himself, Alex Foley clones or the one dimensional roles with nothing much funny in the scripts as were in the case with "Metro" and "Holy Man."

Obviously, Martin's script offers familiar territory as well fertile terrain for humor and insight. It's apparent some characters and situations have some connection to real people that we may know that Martin himself would publicly never admit to (If he wants to keep working in Hollywood.) Not to mention some of his own trails and tribulations in getting Martin's script along with the film's own chemistry retains a freshness that makes you laugh out loud and often. With "Bowfinger," Martin and company does to Hollywood what Mel Brooks did to Broadway in 1968's "The Producers." "Bowfinger is a delightful comedic gem from start to finish.

Rated: PG13 97min. A

# On CD

By David Schultz



## Forever - Puff Daddy (Bad boy) -

Sean "Puff Daddy" Combs' latest CD entry proves mostly that its more about who you know and how to do it. Not so much how well you do it on your own. Combs' new CD lacks the fortitude and fearlessness to fully connect as serious papper. his rap is more formulaic than substance. "Forever" lacks the momentum to carry through as well as his previous CD "No Way Out", that was a little more ambitious and passionate.

This entry here tends to be less memorable because it lacks

enough depth and balance. Combs seems to be striving more for a rock-edge to further his universal appeal as in "P.E 2000". But at the same time, Combs loses some of his R&B roots which might be the secret behind the current "Black" lash with urban radio that has limited the aforementioned track's airplay rotation. And there's yet another tribute to Notorious B.I.G. that seems to be trying to keep the heat alive of an already dim flame and belabors the point. There is no doubt Combs is a talented complex individual who should have taken more time and thought into making this CD better and deeper than it is.

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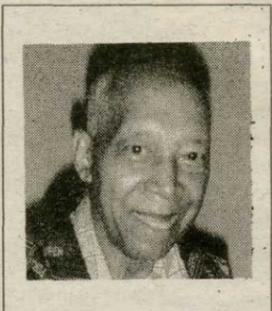


## Someone to Think About

By Web Evans

The United American Progress Associated sponsored a Birthday Benefit program for Silas K. Brown, February 19th at the Civic Center of the Israel Church, 7606 So. Cottage Grove. We did so because Mr. Brown has been one of the most active persons in Chicago bringing about changes in the African American Community.

He was one of the organizers of the African American Progress Association in 1961 and served as their first Recording Secretary. He is past Master of Mount Hebron Masonic Lodge No. 29 Prince Hall affiliation; member of Saint Lames United Methodist Church; served 8 years as board member of Chicago Legal Service; 3 years as a board member of the National Consumers Law Center in Boston, Mass; served as president of the George Altman Baseball League; developed 12 courses in Consumer Education, some of which are still being taught, in school; and, signed up as an organ donor over 40 years ago. Before the United American Progress Association was organized, he and myself served with the Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce as membership recruiters. He organized the Community Thrift Club. Though the Thrift Club, he set up a program "Know Your Community." "Know Your Community", is an educational program which enable people to learn about their community. He was organizer and supervisor of what was know as the Private Eye. Through the Private Eye, many businesses were exposed to how they were cheating the public. He has conducted many workshops and seminars on consumerism and appeared on many radio and television talk shows. Since he has been ill, he has had 14 operations. This Birthday Benefit program is to let him know that we haven't forgotten him and we appreciate all that he has done for us in the past. For further information, call 773-269-1873



## McDonald's manager graduates from its Hamburger University

Sandra Turner, of the McDonald's at 1344-48 East 53rd Street and Mariam L. Bland, of the McDonald's at 6900 South Lafayette has been awarded a bachelor of Hamburgerology degree from McDonald's Hamburger University (H.U.) for graduating from the University's Advanced Operations Course.

McDonald's is the leading food service retailer in the global consumer marketplace, with more than 22,000 restaurant businesses in more than 109 countries. About 80 percent of McDonald's restaurant business are locally-owned and operated by independent entrepreneurs.

## Woodlawn Business Association regenerate with plans for 63rd

Woodlawn businesses have renamed themselves from the Woodlawn Businessman Association to Business Association to funnel reconstruction for future of commercial redevelopment for assurances of small business growth.

"The reconstruction of Woodlawn is meant to become the process of providing the community local consumer needs," said Terrence Miller, president of the Association. The Association opened their new office at 616 East 63rd Street to begin rebuilding the association after the lost of many 63rd Street businesses.

The association reported 63rd

Street infrastructure damage isn't that, leading them to conduct an economic analysis of the area, said Miller.

## Case No. 99C2457 - Judge Manning Lawsuit filed against Phone Companies, State & County

A class-action law suit was filed in the United States District Court on behalf of the thousands of family members of State and Cook County prisoners. The claim is a result of a series of illegal an unconstitutional kick-back contracts between four major phone companies, the State of Illinois, and Cook County, that callers have been forced to pay exorbitant phone rates and special surcharges in order to receive phone calls from inmates in prison.

The suit alleges that the State of Illinois, through Central Management Services, entered into exclusive contracts with AT&T, MCI, Ameritech and Consolidated Communications, giving a different phone company sole power to control the phone service and rates in each prison. In return for such control, the phone companies agree to give the State a huge monetary "signing bonus," in some cases up to \$500,000, and up to half of the revenues generated by prisoners' calls.

In 1997 they exceeded \$25 million.. A similar agreement was entered into between Cook County and AT&T.

The attorneys for the class are Michael E. Deutsch of the Center for Constitutional Rights, Stephen Seliger of Stephen Seliger Ltd, Jan Susler and John Stainthorp of the People's Law Office and James Bradtke of Soule and Bradtke.



Terrence Miller



SSJ photo/Armadell Hicks

200 people from Block Clubs of 72nd and Ridgeland, Rebeckic S. of 1300 E. 73rd place and 73rd and Tony Wells of East End Debra Threats of South Shore for 13 years said "Bring wealth and economic development in the community"

## 47th Street still moving ahead, but unclear to the residents



SSJ photo/Armadell Hicks

Alderman Dorothy Tillman was capture by camera touring 47th street with developer Wendell Campbell and his associates. Ald. Tillman displeased with the photographer reconsidered her orders to have Armadell Hicks arrested for unknown reasons.

With the opening of Dollar Junction and as 47th Street Plaza on Lake Park is targeted to open in October, plans west to King Drive are still in question with letters mailed to property owners from St. Lawrence to Calumet (L), informing them that the City of Chicago plans to rehab businesses, or demolish them for replacement businesses. Still not clear if the City will place a statue of entertainer Quincy Jones on the corner of 47th and King drive. The City nor Ald. Tillman is giving any status of the Lou Rawls Entertainment Center, now labeled the 47th Street Culture Center.



Quincy Jones

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# Loans a-plenty in Mid South's Bronzeville

Lenders targeting residents in the South Shore and Mid-South communities,

By Frank Ottman  
SSJ Staff Writer

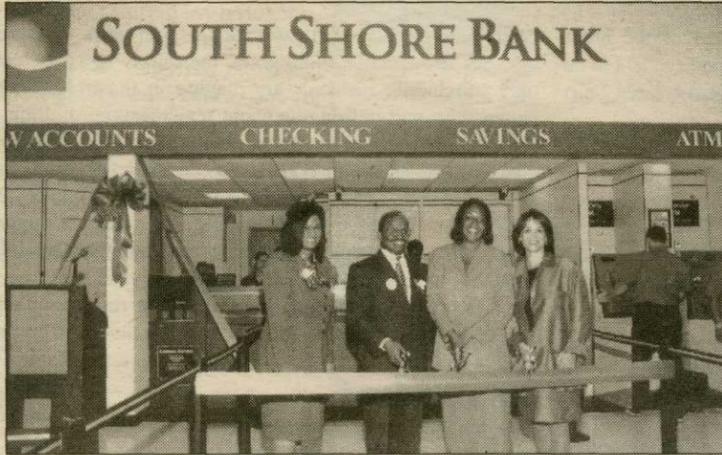
The grand opening of the new Bronzeville Center of First Chicago on 35th and King Drive in no surprise with the many financial institutions opening up their serves in Mid-South.

When other banks and loan companies were not giving loans to low and moderate income families (\$12-\$18,000), the South Shore Bank (SSB) made available small black businesses and residents of Mid-South real estate loans, as well as personal loans on cars, houses, home renovation, and consolidate debts, according to Weedy Baird, vice president at the bank.

Kevin McVey, assistant vice president at SSB business office said, they have specifically, over the years catered to blacks on the Southside and Mid-South, in helping low income families obtain these loans when no one else was helping out. "SSB has helped Southside low income families to start businesses, get loans for their families. SSB bought out Drexel Bank and since taking over, a number of loans have taken place," said McVey.

The five banks in the Chicago which provide the highest proportion of their loans in lower-income neighborhoods (more than 30%) all have under \$1 billion in assets and maintain a significant branch presence.

The banks conduct more lending in



Continuing to build on its base in the Shore Shore community, South Shore Bank has opened its first grocery store bank branch with Ald. Leslie Hairston cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of the new \$250,000 banking center located in the Dominick's on 71st and Jeffery Boulevard (left to right) are Cynthia Perry, Branch Manager of the Jeffery Plaza Banking Center, Ron N. Johnson, Senior Vice President - Retail Banking at South shore Bank, Ald. Hairston, and South Shore Bank President and CEO Margaret A. Cheap.

lower-income neighborhood than many banks that are much larger. Conversely, the five largest bank holding companies in Illinois have focused almost exclusively on higher-income areas, with only 11% of loans going to lower-income neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Institution, an affiliation of SSB, stand firm on their claim of years loaning to low and moderate-income families in Mid-South's Bronzeville..

Harris Bank (HB) said that their focus is on helping black businesses to secure loans and have been doing so over the years. At First Chicago Bank (FCB) consolidate debts, personal loans are made, up to two-and-half gross can be obtained at FCB. Ron, an employee at FCB business office said, "Loans can be secured at bank rates and interests." All one needs to do is apply by filling out application papers. It is not that area

General Manager, Hyde Park Cooperative Society, Inc. Lucas said, "None of his 11 trainees at KOCO have been interviewed or talk to by any staff at the Cooperative Society, and a failure to do so is only undermining what progress that has already been made."

Ernie Griffin, spokesperson at HPCSI, told SSJ, "HPCSI sent out 36 letters to various organizations in Kenwood/Oakland for job applicants. KOCO wants the bulk of the jobs, leaving the other organizations out in the cold."

"This is unfair and violates both federal and city ordinances on hiring low income people to job positions. There are 120 job openings that will be available at the new store, 50 of these jobs are considered skilled jobs such as management, office personnel that usually require some kind of previous work skills. The remaining 75 jobs are to be filled by people of the community."

Griffin said Lucas has sent out over 700 applicants for jobs since 1995 to the Co-op store. "It would be unfair for us to say that we can fill them all with so many people in the community and other organizations that are trying to get them jobs. We are trying to spread them around as evenly as possible."

"Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (4th Ward) has been very helpful and have

spent much time on the project."

The new plaza is expected to open in October and it will house 11 stores store, providing over 150 jobs.

now banks are aggressively lending in all neighborhoods."

In 1974, CIC reported it was the first providing single-family rehab loans in Douglas and Grand Boulevard communities, leading to the community's two residential landmark districts as well.

Mortgage companies also have a presence. Since inception it' 1990 the Advantage Mortgage Company (AM) has enjoyed quite a success in the Mid-South and targeting the Washington Park community. Of the many mortgage and realty companies that have folded over the years, the AM has prospered in the inner-city communities.

Jeff Harris, president of AM says, "Rehab loans are the hottest things going in the Mid-South right now. We have helped out quite a few people in the Mid-South with these loans. If you own a building, it doesn't call for that much extra effort to keep it up and the cost of fixing it up is only a fraction of what it will bring back over the years"

Advantage finances mostly residential mortgages and businesses that have multi-units-apartments, condos, townhouses. A private finance company, it finances Housing and Urban Development (HUD) loans; Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and Veteran Administration (VA) loans.

An area needing improvement is business loans. Most large banks neglect small business lending in lower-income neighborhoods. A recent Woodstock study, "Getting Down to Business", uses new CRA data to show that large banks make few small business loans in lower-income neighborhoods.

The report raises concerns of increasing consolidation and merger activity in the banking industry and documents the importance of branch presence in small business lending patterns.

## KOCO upset at new 47th st. Plaza jobs

by Frank Ottman

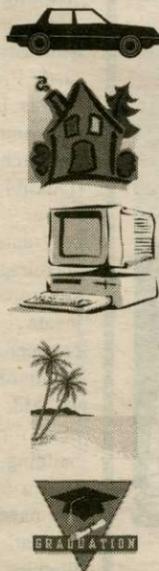
Staff Writer

Kenwood - None of the 11 jobs positions pledged by Co-Op Food Store, (Hyde Park Cooperative Society, Inc.HPCSI) have been placed by Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization (KOCO). People who had been trained by KOCO were to be given priority as stated by city ordinance called the Conservation Plan, October 1992, to assist low income people in the North Kenwood-Oakland area. Due to past economic deprivations they would be given a chance at a decent job. Before Co-Op opens its door, there had been this pledge to KOCO to have jobs available for the people of the neighborhood who would be given priority.

Bob Lucas, executive director of KOCO voice his discontent, being upset that the Co-Op failed to honor their agreements. In a letter to Dick Fisk,

"A bank that knows how to say..."

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# City Offers Grants to Residents for Home Improvements

Private/Public venture targets \$2 million to low and middle-income in Mid-South

Bronzeville/Woodlawn - Homeowners in Bronzeville and Woodlawn can now receive non-repayable grants from the City of Chicago for exterior improvements to their homes, through a pilot program. The City will provide at least \$2 million in Neighborhood Investment Program. Exterior improvements involve any work on the outside of a house including painting masonry and/or siding, security enhancements such as lighting and fencing, roof repair and porches and windows.

Grants are available for residents who have lived in their occupied single-family home or apartment with up to four units for at least three years. The owners can have incomes up to 120 percent of the Chicago Metropolitan Area Median Income, adjusted for family size. Maximum grants for those owners range from \$10,000 to 17,500, depending on the size of the building.

Owners of buildings with five units or more are also eligible for grants if their tenants earn less than 80% of the Chicago Metropolitan Area Median Income. Grants for large apartment buildings can be as large as \$5,000 per unit, up to a maximum of 50,000. Owners of those buildings must adhere to limits on how much rent can be raised over a 5-year period.

This private/public venture is Chicago's first use of TIF funding for home improvements. If the program is successful, it may expand into other

neighborhoods and grow in Bronzeville and Woodlawn. Because these are grants and not loans, no repayment is required of the homeowner. The City will recoup its investment in this area through overall tax revenue increases generated by the TIF.

Alderman Arenda Troutman, whose 20th ward includes, Woodlawn, emphasized that this program is not a handout. "This is a sound investment in two communities that have the will and the know-how to reach new heights," said Troutman. "This program simply provides some of the capital, and ultimately, the benefits the entire city will receive as a result of two more thriving neighborhoods are exponentially greater than \$2 million."

This innovative public/private effort should prove to be a model for other neighborhoods in Chicago and ultimately for revitalizing urban areas throughout the country," said Andrew Mooney, Senior Program Director of LISC/Chicago, the Chicago branch of the nation's largest nonprofit financier of affordable housing and community development projects. "The City is working with groups from the financial, nonprofit and community development sectors to foster home improvements through a loan program with negligible risk. Homeowners rehabilitate and refinance their homes, neighborhoods improve and the entire city benefits. This is an in-

spiring testament to what these partnerships can accomplish."

Alderman Dorothy Tillman (3th), whose ward includes Bronzeville, highlighted the role long-time community residents are playing in those partnerships and in bringing about revitalization. "Bronzeville is going through a period of growth unheard of since World War II. People and businesses are starting to move in and the future is very bright. But they are not coming into a vacuum. There are people living in this community who have been working toward this day for years, even decades. This program ensures those residents will be able to more fully enjoy the fruits of their labors."

### Deadline Nears

Single-family homeowners interested in learning more about the program and receiving an application should call Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) at (800) 4560982. Owners of multi-family apartment buildings should call the Community Investment Corporation at (312) 258-0070. All applications from Woodlawn residents must be fully completed and turned in by Friday, September 17, 1999. All applications from Bronzeville residents must be fully completed and turned in by Friday, October 15, 1999. Grants will be awarded on a first-come/first served basis. However, if there are more eligible applicants than grants available, a lottery will held. Those not picked in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list.

If the TIF Neighborhood investment Program is successful, the program is expected to expand to other areas in the city that have been designated TIF districts with predominantly residential land uses. There are 1,459 eligible parcels in Bronzeville and 1,524 eligible parcels in Woodlawn.

The money for the program was loaned to the City by eight financial institutions, and LISC/Chicago has guaranteed the loan. The \$2 million will be divided equally between residential dwelling, that have one to four units and small multi-family buildings that have five or more units. The grants with one to four units will be administered by Neighborhood Housing Services. The grants for buildings with five or more units will be handled by Community Investment Corporation.

The financial institutions involved are Allstate, Bank One, Cole Taylor, Harris Bank, LaSalle Bank, The Northern Trust and South Shore Bank. LISC/Chicago will guarantee repayment of 25 percent of the interest and principal if tax revenues don't generate enough money to pay off the loans.

Since its inception in 1980, LISC/Chicago has invested more than \$150 million in revitalization efforts for Chicago communities, which in turn has leveraged nearly billions in public and private sector investments in neighborhood development.

The City reported its Department of Housing is committed to the revitalization of city neighborhoods through the preservation of the existing housing stock, and through the development of safe, decent affordable housing in richly diverse communities which improves the quality of life for Chicago's working individuals and families.

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## Illinois Africa Trade Bill Passes

Springfield-What can support Ald. Dorothy Tillman's (3) ward plans to include the Old Metropolitan Insurance Co 45th and King Drive for restoring the Park Palladium ballrooms and to establish an immigration office for African/Caribbean and the African Diaspora, H.R. 1466, "Illinois Africa Trade Program" passed the Illinois House of Representatives by a unanimous vote of 114 to 0, and is currently working it's way through the Illinois Senate.

The bill was cosponsored by State Rep. Charles Morrow and Connie Howard and written and submitted by Ron Watkins, president of the Heritage International Trade Association and chairman of MABDEC, (Chicago's Annual Midwest African/Latin American Business Development Conference & Globes Awards Dinner), and the author of "Doing Business in Africa, Myths and Realities."

This initiative, says Mr. Watkins, makes Illinois the first state in the U.S. to officially adopt a policy on doing business with nations of Africa."

The bill utilizing funds to establish an Illinois Africa Trade Program for the purpose of assisting small and medium-sized businesses and manufactures in exporting their products to African nations and assisting companies from

Mr. Joseph Hannon, and Charlie Reed, International Marketing Representative, DCCA. They discuss how the various aspects of the bill could be implemented, should it pass the Illinois Senate in its present form.

One aspects of the bill that was left out was dealing with the establishment of "The African/Caribbean Business Pavilion," says Watkins. "The Pavilion would offer African and Caribbean countries the opportunity to open trade and commercial offices in an incubator type facility that would service Illinois and the entire Midwest region."

"Many states, including Illinois, are planning to open offices in Africa, but our Pavilion proposal seeks to bring African governments to Chicago." Similar, but, not confirmed to Ald. Dorothy Tillman's plan in securing the Imminent Domain of the Metropolitan Building on 45th and King as part of the 47th King Plan.

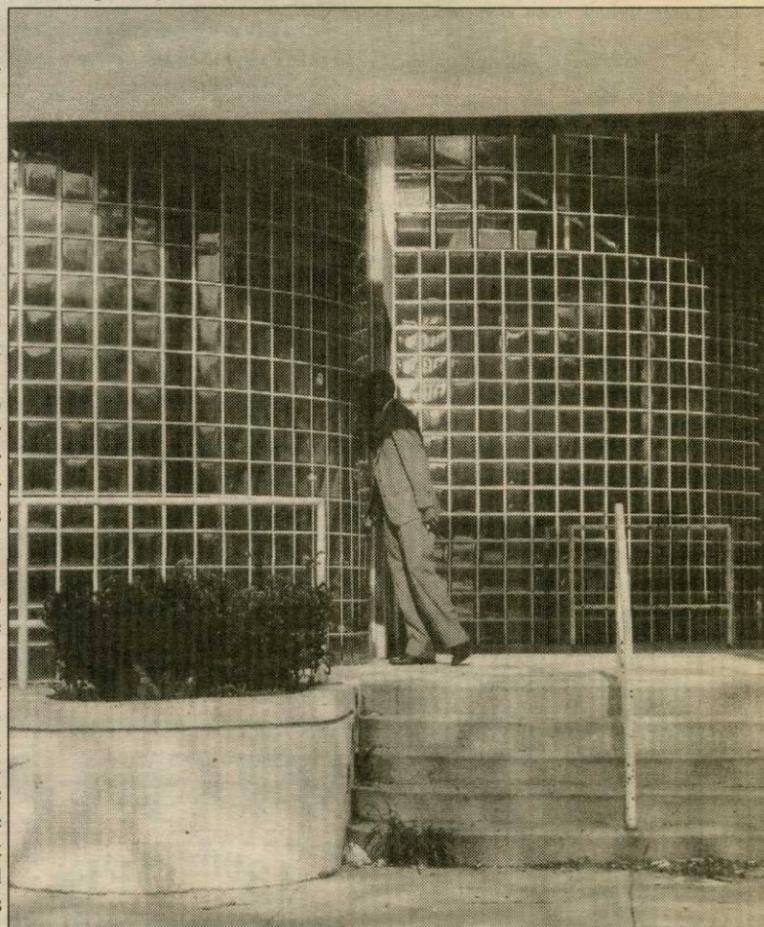
Mr. Watkins says that he is involved in continued discussions with DCCA and members of the Illinois Senate. He is hopeful that they will see the benefits to the Illinois small business community of the Pavilion and include it in the senate version of the bill.

For additional information call 773-768-5757.

African nations interested in exporting to or investing in Illinois.

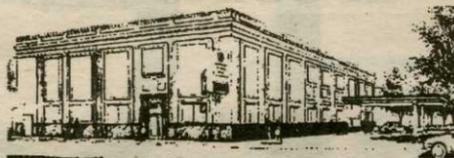
In conjunction with administering Trade Program, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA) shall pursue incentive programs that encourage African governments to locate trade or commercial officer in Illinois. Similar to Ald. Tillman's plan for the Met. building.

As a follow up to the passage of the legislation, Mr. Watkins reports that he, Rep. Morrow, and Rep. Howard, with Att. Jack Childs met with the new director of The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA), Ms. Pam McDonough, the Managing Director of the Internal Business Division,



SSJ Photo/Armadell Hicks  
Ald. Dorothy Tillman's (3) ward plans to include the Old Metropolitan Insurance Co 45th and King Drive (viewed by Ron Carter of SSJ) for restoring the Park Palladium ballrooms and to establish an immigration office for African/Caribbean and the African Diaspora,

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# Example of Developers in Bronzeville

The Bronzeville area know that it has become one of Chicago's most sought after neighborhoods. Not only because of its history and culture, but the lakefront amenities, transportation options and close proximity to downtown have all contributed to the area's growing popularity.

While there are many developers in the area focusing on areas of affordable housing, senior housing and rental units, the following developers believes that to create a true balanced community, market-rate housing options must also be a part of the initial development plans. Buyers of market-rate housing help attract a stronger diversity of goods and services but more importantly, they are the usually the entrepreneurs that create new business opportunities that in turn create neighborhood employment and helps build the taxbase.

## Harold and Dyeatra Williams Team-Up at Communitas

South Park Boulevard (now Dr. Martin Luther King Drive) is where South Park Place derives its name. Dyeatra Williams, President of South Park Place L.L.C., along with her husband and partner, Harold, have sold real estate and rehabbed properties and built new homes for more than 25 years.

They also live in the Bronzeville community as the Williams family realized that there was not enough existing housing stock to meet the demand and acted on the opportunity to develop new construction of single & two family homes, townhouse and condominiums. "We're proud to be supporting the community's vision for a mixed-income neighborhood," said Dyeatra Williams. "We know that there are numerous options for the market-rate buyer in the suburbs, downtown and on the north side. Our strategy is to offer unmatched quality and demonstrate value" adds Williams.

The Williams runs Communitas Real Estate Sales Property Management, (CRESPM) a real estate company. The CRESPM has been in business since 1974 and is enjoying success around the Mid-South. The husband and wife team have four

Dyeatra Williams, President of South Park Place L.L.C., along with her husband and partner, Harold, have sold real estate and rehabbed properties and built new homes for more than 25 years. Ms. Williams (R) is shown with Jerry Blake, a new owner of South Park Place, a new development of the Williams..

SSJ Photo/Armaddell Hicks



children but it doesn't keep them away from the family's business and their successful real estate business..

Mrs. Williams graduated from DePaul University where she received a bachelor of arts and is currently working on her master's degree there. Mr. Williams attended Ohio State University and is a certified broker.

At the present the couple is working a construction project on South Park Place. This project is a five single-family homes, condos and townhouses. "These are homes that blacks can afford," Mrs. Williams says. "Bronzeville property is up from about three or four dollars per sq. ft., to roughly seven to ten dollars per sq. ft. over the years."

South Park Place is big on space, the masonry and frame construction homes are being built on 30 foot lots, while the standard lot size is 25 feet. This makes for a "wider" house span of 24 feet. To accommodate for the increase in interior space, the developer replaced the standard wood beam with a steel beam construction.

Williams believes that once you design a house, the feel of the interior has to be able to touch the buyer. "That's what Realtors mean by a house "selling itself," when the buyer to be attracted to Mr. William, sees a rejuvenation in the property in Mid-South. "Integrated neighborhoods should be a future tax base. In a capitalist society, money dictates the actions."

Both William's participate in community and church activities with their family.

South Park Place is more than 80% sold in Phase One. The sales center for South Park Place located at 457 E. 41st Street provides buyers with Bronzeville history and information on schools, churches, shopping and cultural institutions. The Center is open Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays by appointment. Interested buyers are

welcome to contact the sales agent, Communitas Realty, at 773/288-7400 for a brochure or to arrange for a tour of the model homes.

## Otis & Sharon G Eubanks-Pope

### Thrives On Hard Work and Success

Sharon G. Eubanks-Pope was born in Chicago. It would be years before she would be heading her own real estate development company bearing her name and her husband's, Eubanks-Pope Development Company, (EPDC) located on the southside of Chicago. Like many a black women aspiring for a goal, the doors of success and achievement would be difficult, sometimes almost impossible to obtain. It was enough that you were a woman living in a male dominated society, but you were also black, a Richard Wright's "Black Girl," trying to overcome every obstacle that Jim Crow placed at your door steps. Then, there was also your own people who at times gave you more discouraging words than encouraging you on to success. The paradox at times started to look like a conundrum of nightmares that surfaced on your chaotic road to success. But you went on to hold



Harris Bank hosted it's first Community Heroes of Innovation, Courage and Excellence(Choice) Awards program at its Kenwood branch.. Co-honorees were Otis Pope and Sharon Eubanks - Pope, owner of Eubanks - Pope Development Construction Company

your head up high and persevere towards that goal you dreamed about. This was still America and they told you hard work and a strong will would pay off in the end and it would.

Sharon Eubanks-Pope sounds and looks like the teacher she was for years at the Department of Education. Having graduated from Englewood High School, not far from the neighborhood she grew up in, Englewood, she attended Chicago Teacher's College, graduating with a master's degree. She would later teach both private and public school children. Those that knew her said she was a good teacher who wanted the best out of her students.

The mother of five children, Rebekah, Aimee, Adrienne, Elliott, and Larry -- "taking him under her umbrella," as she puts it, is joined by her husband Otis Pope.

Otis Pope has been a licensed Realtor for almost fifteen years and active in the real estate business since 1975. Educated at Eastern Illinois University and Governor's State University, he majored in business and public service administration. In 1977 he and his wife founded Redel Rentals that rehabbed buildings. Currently he is working in the Kenwood/Oakland community. His ambitions are to see the neighborhood return to its "hey days" of yester-years. Otis, like his wife Sharon, is a devoted family man and does much community work, being a regular church goer.

Eubanks-Pope Development Company, 4344 So. Drexel Boulevard, (773) 373-7673.

(Continued from page 3)

## Near South



SSJ Photo/Armaddell Hicks

The expansions of Near South (South Loop) are becoming more prevalent, with talk of a new Bears Stadium and the fact that Mayor Richard Daley who lives in the area adjacent to Soldier Field.

tomers and cause violent incidents. No word on when the Pacific Mission Garden Mission and Buddy Guy's are scheduled to move, but the Fish Hut's lease was up earlier this month. The managers at several businesses strongly believed that the mission did little to aid or rehabilitate the homeless.

The buildings cost the school over \$20 million to modify the area and create a more campus-like environment. This was brought on by student complaints that there was no more recreation centers for the students like other universities have. Buddy Guy's Legends will be renovated for that purpose.

"Students attract business," said Dominic Pacyga, Chicago historian and professor at Columbia. "As more money and people move into the area, more types of amenities will grow."

Pacyga explained that the south loop has had a checkered past, from being the red-light district at the turn the century to the industrial changes through the decade because of the growth of investments.

The neighborhood has grown and will spread south into nearby neighborhoods. "The growth will bring money to neighboring communities," Pacyga said.

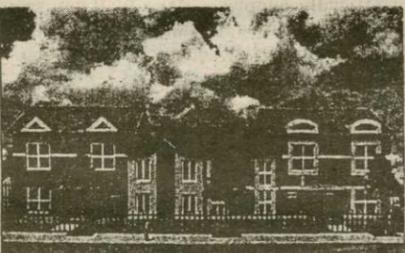
The expansions are becoming more prevalent, with talk of a new Bears Stadium and the fact that Mayor Richard Daley lives in the area adjacent to Soldier Field.

As for the next five years, schools around the Loop such as DePaul and Jones High School, will make more renovations to the area and those investments will continue to be the anchor for more south side developments.

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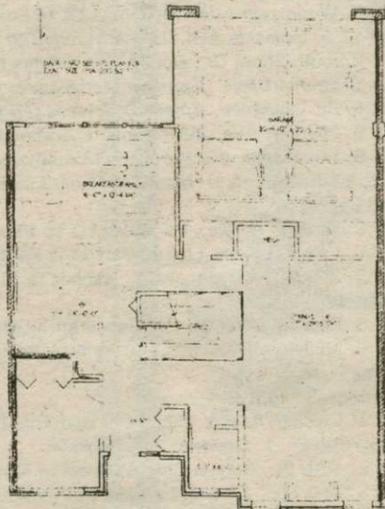
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## Washington Park Community, Under new construction with opposition

Washington Park - A coalition of African-Americans are charging that the Washington Park community have been systematically shut out of construction market through years of institutionalized discrimination against. The coalition consist of the Crusaders of Justice, Washington Park Community Coalition, and the Workshop Coalition.

On 56th and Prairie Ave., the coalition reported 56 units development community and Black construction workers are not allowed to bid on major trades because of "No Bid deals" work such as: plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning, and masonry. Mr. Richard Scrintino, a developer in the Washington Park Community for years, is responsible for the community receiving less than 1.5% of the jobs. The coalition said Scrintino is a recipient of Empowerment Zone funds, which he did not have to go through the R.F.P. process.

With hundreds of signatures supporting an

African-American developer in the Washington Park community members of the coalition demanded a hold on the project. They reported as an example, if 50% of this project came off the backs of poor people, "We want a 50% workforce. Therefore we demand that the books on where the money came from and who is doing the work, be open to the public." said Rev. M. Earle Sardon, of the Crusaders of Justice.

Projects the coalition is targeting, are those receiving public funding/grants ie; Empowerment Zone. According to the Chicago Defender, Ald. Arenda Troutman (20) reported that the project funding, includes federal, state, county, and city funding from the government.

For info on the petition contact: Rev. M. Earle Sardon, 773-924-0203, Cecilia Butler 773-667-0464, Omar Johnson - 773-291-2207



On 56th and Prairie Ave. looking west to the 55th street L station, a developer of a 56 unit housing project is being charged of blocking Black construction workers on major trades because of "No Bid deals" said protesters at the site.

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Alvin B. Baker  
President

## Chicago's Real Estate market - no end in sight

According to statistics released by the Chicago Association of Realtors (CAR) the Chicago real estate market is still going strong, despite a slight increase in interest rates.

A comparison of the first six months of 1997, and 1999 show increases in units and median prices for all three residential housing types (single family detached; single family attached; 2-,3-and 4-flats). According to John Andrus, CAR President, he noted that, "These numbers indicates that prices are stable in the market, and that the growth in units sold is still outpacing the increase in median prices over the years studied."

Condominium sales are leading the pack again (type 2, single family attached) for the number of units sold and the growth in median prices. "Traditional" condo neighborhoods (i.e., Near North, Lakeview, Edgewater) all showed increases over the past year (compared to 1997 to 1998). Andrus noted that "...the condo boom may able starting to level off in these areas, because the inventory of product may be decreasing."

"Newer" condominium neighborhoods (such as Near South, Near West, Lincoln Square & West Town) again reflected the most explosive

growth in the condo market, showing triple-digit gains over the two year period. Andrus explained, "These statistics indicate that the residents of these newer-closer-in neighborhoods are still strong in their desire for proximity to work downtown."

Single family detached housing is still holding strong, with neighborhoods like Asburn, Belmont Cragin, Norwood Park, Portage Park and West Lawn showing the greatest levels of activity in number of units closed.

What is new is the 15% increase in the number of 2-, 3-, and 4-flats sold throughout the city. This segment of the market is often viewed as an affordable option for homeownership, i.e., live in one half of the building & rent the other. It showed very little growth between the first halves of 1997 and 1998, but increased 15% from 1998 to 1999. Although 2-, 3- and 4-flats are only 20% of the Chicago residential market, this type of housing often dominates certain neighborhoods, such as Brighton Park, Humboldt Park, North & South Lawndale. Andrus predicted, "The activity and increases in this segment bode well for rejuvenation of these areas."

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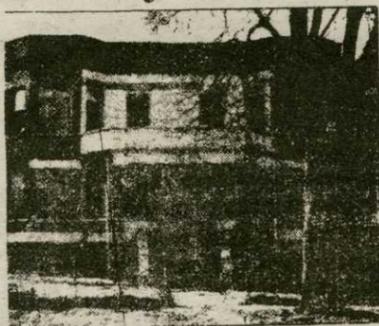
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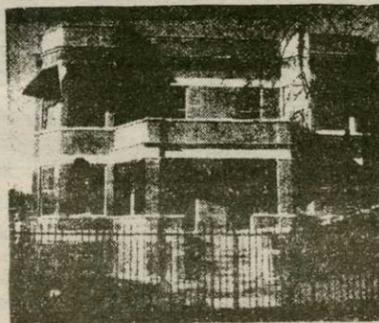
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## Real Estate Transactions in the Mid South Area



Readers: Listed below are property transfers in South Street Journal's circulations area according to the latest report released by the 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 issue.

Community Address	Rec'd Date	Price
<b>Hype Park</b>		
724K E. 54th St., Cosmopolitan Bank & Trust to P. & C. Rasmussen	7/15	360,000
1170 E. 54th St., Unit 3, L. J. & M. Warren to A. Loria & R. Sulistyowati	7/15	87,000
1700 E. 56th St., Unit 1103, V.B. & Shenoy to Konstantinos I. Fradelos	7/15	60,000
1507 E. 56th St., S. A. & J. Altman to M. A. & J. C. Parks	7/16	337,000
5200 S. Dorchester, #3, M. Hannerfeld & P. Lanihan to J. & T. Rowley	7/19	125,000
5710 S. Dorchester Ave., M. A. & C. J. Weiss to D. Johnson & J. Parzen	7/20	1,115,000
5428 S. Harper Ave., Frank Lenmon to A. Waentroob*e	7/21	375,000
5333 S. Hyde Park Blvd., #2, Jason & Susan Umans to David & S. Glick	7/22	379,000
5471 S. Ingleside Ave., Unit 3W, Judith Weiss to Linda K. Kueck	7/22	60,000
945 Hyde Park Blvd., Unit 2, Marilyn Broadnax to Cynthia Caldwell	7/22	94,900
1354-3 E. Madison Park Develop. Corp. to Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Schwallie	7/16	145,000
5634 S. Harper Ave., Edwin Taylor to Barbara Cronin	7/26	310,000
5331 S. Drexel Ave., Martin W. Rimes to K. E. & J. Snapp	7/26	300,000
5401 S. Hyde Park Blvd., # 604, Sammie Dortch to Darrin Edwards	7/27	83,900
<b>Woodlawn</b>		
6049-51 S. St. Lawrence Ave., Abron Morgan to Nathaniel Smith	7/15	155,000
6630 S. Champlain Ave., Carl A. Mason to Angel Allen-Belcher	7/15	70,000
6543 S. Drexel Ave., Southwest Investment Co. to Charles Hicks	7/15	130,000
6127-33 S. Woodlawn Ave., Unit D,	7/15	205,000
6148 S. Woodlawn Ave., Musoma LLA to Les Stanczak	7/16	102,600
6210-12 S. Ingleside Ave., Lousie Howard to Zarko Krtnic	7/21	225,000
6852-2 South Shore Dr., Doris Harris Gayles to James Smith	7/22	115,000
6526 S. Eberhart Ave., Southwest Investment Co., to V. Harris	7/22	130,000
6622 S. St. Lawrence, Amelia D. Owens to Phoenix Inv. Group, Inc.	7/22	88,000
6141 S. Eberhart Ave., Alex Scott to Anthony Graves	7/28	115,000
6127 S. Woodlawn, #C, Woodlawn Commons, Inc. to Annazette Collins	7/28	205,000
855 E. 64th St., L. & D. Moore to Roger Lewis	7/28	155,000
<b>Grand Boulevard</b>		
4759 S. Forestville Ave., Ex Sites LLC To Dwight Jones	7/16	130,000
4003 S. Calumet Ave., Emma Watson to Budimir Radojccic	7/22	55,500
4526 S. Prairie Ave., Richard A. Thomas to Richard E. Peck Jr.	7/22	180,000
<b>Washington Park</b>		
5728 S. King Dr., Unit 2B Cosmopolitan Trust to Zennie Lynch	7/15	109,000
5852 S. Michigan Ave., Estate Dorothy L Britton to Edward T. Lawton	7/22	130,000
<b>Douglas</b>		
<b>Kenwood</b>		
4800 S. Chicago Beach, # 270 Chicago Title Land Trust Co., to F. Burns	7/14	75,900
416 E. 48th Pl., L. Dover to L.Y. Jackson	7/14	75,000
1414 E. 48th St., Rory & Cheryl Gilbert to Mark & Bridgette Amett	7/14	327,500
4940 S. East End, # 15-A, La Salle Nat'l Bank and Trust to Barbara Davis	7/15	145,000
4461 S. Ellis Mark Fenzel to James Palmer.	7/15	260,000
4345 S. Berkeley Ave., Y. Davis to B. D. Wade	7/26	185,000
<b>Fuller Park</b>		
5542 S. LaSalle St., Inter City Acquisitions, LLC to Alma J. Freeman	7/22	60,000
4073 S. Wells St., Lloyd Norman to A & A Midwest rebuilders Supp. Inc.	7/22	40,000
<b>Armuor Square</b>		
<b>Near South</b>		
<b>Oakland</b>		
501 E. Oakwood Ave., Curtis Dathie S. House to Felicia Fortenberry	7/14	160,000

Community areas with no listings will be updated in the next issue.

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<p><b>Alan Thompson's Home Improvement Services</b> New construction or Total Rehab Free Estimates Call for an Appointment 773.846.8162 Voice Mail</p>	<p><b>WERLON CONSTRUCTION CO.</b> 8050 S. King Dr. Chicago, Ill 60619 General Contractor L. Brown, President 773-994-7701</p>

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**References:**

1. T-Landers Construction.
2. Provided services for Saint Vincent DePaul Daycare Center and was recently awarded their grant for subcontract.
3. Community Bank of Lawndale.
4. Lawndale Restoration (responsible for rehabbing over 2,000 units)

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