

35,000 Arrest Projected by year end Combined effort by City and State officials

The untimely death of Tsarina Powell from the Englewood community sparked the overwhelming response from community and government commitment, to address street crimes, mostly identified as "gang bangers."

However, South Street Journal has learned of a combined effort by government officials planning a number of arrest by the end of the year, which can total more than 35,000. In addition, 90,000 normally detained under the old Gang Loitering Ordinance of Mayor Richard M. Daley, which can lead to arrest, according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

States Attorney Richard A. Devine



State's Atty. Richard Devine



Mayor Richard Daley



Chicago Police Supt. Terry Hillard

in a letter to Chief Justice Donald P. O'Connell, ask for his cooperation in identifying probation violators. Devine wrote, "Given the fact that 48 percent of probationers will commit new crimes within one year, that we accelerate enforcement against those gang members who refuse to be rehabilitated."

In a press reception with the

African America media, Devine would not go into details about the proposed program. Would not respond to questions which represents the 48 percent, nor could his office provide the information. At SSJ dead line Carolyn Barry of the Clerk of the Court responded to SSJ request for probation sentences by stating the data request must be submitted in writing..

However, Rev. Harold Bailey of Probation Challenge who is also chairman of a Cook County Criminal board said he is waiting for those numbers as well. Rev. Bailey did inform SSJ that, "Three years ago there were 75 - 80,000 persons on probation.and it has increased

(Continued on page 7)

"I am an Independent" Alderman "Ted" Thomas Answers Critics

By Everloyce McCullough
Englewood Reporter

West Englewood - Callers on WVON radio's Lu Palmer show August 11th accused Alderman Theodore Thomas (15) of being a rubber stamp for Mayor Richard M. Daley. "I will not vote with the mayor when it goes against the grain of my community. If he has something good, I will support it. I will not oppose him simply to be rebellious," he stated in response to the accusations. Thomas commented further, "it comes with the territory." "referring to the community's opposition to the size of the new library at 63rd and Wood streets. "I didn't want to hold up



construction, since they had already allocated the funds. If we were to turn down funding for this library, I don't know how many years it would take to get

(Continued on page 7)

Property Tax Reform rages Senator Hendon Tax fight

Sharon Dukes
Staff Writer

Within the next few months, every Chicago homeowner will have received a notice of the home's new value and will have 45 days to appeal. For many homeowners on the westside who have already received their notice, the deadline to appeal is September 25, 2000.

Not only an increase in property taxes will be upon the homeowners, the City of Chicago will raise fees and other taxes. At the same time Mayor Richard Daley has urged Chicagoans to appeal out-of-line property tax assessments and take full advantage of exemptions that will lower their property tax bills.

However, Senator Ricky Hendon is doing more than appealing the taxes, they are "waging war on property tax increases on the westside of Chicago".

Being a victim himself in what he says are unfair assessments, and one that has many residents up in arms.



Flanked by alderman, state legislators and community residents, Mayor Richard M. Daley renewed his call for statewide property tax increase. Joining Daley at the event were Aldermen Billy Ocasio (26), Anthony Beale (9), Vi Daley (43), Mary Ann Smith (48), Ted Matlak (32), Jesse Granato (1), Benard Hansen(44), Gene Schuller(47), Danny Solis (25), Vilma Colom (35), Madeleine Haithcock (2), Walter Burnett (27), Joe Moore (49), Mike Zalewski (23), as well as State Representatives Mary Flowers (21), and Monique Davis (27), and State Senators Donne Trotter (16), and Ira Silverstein (8).

Sen. Hendon said. "I've received several complaints from residents whose property tax assessments are in some cases 50% higher than last year."

"This is not an issue to be ignored but an issue to be resolved as soon as possible." Hendon says.

Joining in firm support is Aldermen Michael Chandler (24), and

Emma Mitts (37). Mitts stated that she is "definitely behind Senator Hendon."

Addition support came from Senator Miguel del Valle (2) and Rep. William Delgado (3) with Sen. Hendon and the Citizens for Fair Assessments & Taxes (CFA&T), who have spearheaded a tax reform advisory referendum

to appear on the November ballot as: "Shall the Cook county Board exercise its authority under the Longtime Owner-Occupant tax Relief Act to grant an exemption that will reduce property taxes for long time homeowners faced with substantial assessment increases as a consequence of new development in the community?"

An estimated 20,000 Chicago voters will vote on this tax reform measure.

Eight of 20 wards of the westside, representing 70 precincts, altogether over 5,000 petitions were submitted.

The petition can be challenge. But, Marc Loveless of the CFAT said. "Any evil attorney who decide to challenge our petition must have decided they are going to leave this town."

Sen. Hendon lead a protest Tues-

(Continued on page 11)

4th Ward Petition For Hotel At 39th St.

Oakwood - The resident of the 4th ward will be launching a petition drive in support of a zoning variance to pave the way for construction of a \$16 million, Howard Johnson Hotel and Plaza. The Hotel would be constructed at 916 East Oakwood Blvd on land owned by Anthony Fields an African American businessman.

The planned construction lacks Ald. Toni Preckwinkle (4) support as stated in a letter to Mr. Fields dated February 15, 2000. Preckwinkle noted in sharing the proposal with Shirley Newsome and Nancy Kienan; they agreed that it is not an appropriate development for the site.

James Newborn a representatives of the Black Economic Political Action Network (BEPAN) and a resident of the Kenwood/Oakland community said his organization is supporting the petition.

"We are concern about the lack of support for this project. And

(Continued on page 10)



UnZip-Mail



By the Weatherman,

The Activist picnic Rally in Washington park, sponsored by NCOBRA. Should be aware of the new term for Rally, is Summit, according to "Skip", who was not at the Sunday picnic.

On the construction site of Mayor Daley's Millennium Park, Wallace "Gator" Bradley, may be siding with the Mayor. He was on site as a worker, he said he told Omar Johnson, to stop protesting the site, and for the Westside State Senator to give back the campaign donation from the contractor of the job Walsh Construction Company; if he do not like the way Walsh is hiring Black workers. Saying there's a lot of Blacks on the job. Is it 50% Gator? He answered, its a lot, including himself.



Bradley

Gas stations have being doing some major expansion on the south side, such as the new Citco, 59th and Ashland, the rehab of Shell, 79th and State and Ashland. UnZip could not get comment on the investments in stations to indicated money received from the sells when prices were \$2.49 a gal..Which seems to be going up again.

Dr. Charles F. Mullen, President of the Illinois College of Optometry on 32nd and Michigan, has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO). Dr. Mullen was appointed president of the Illinois College of Optometry in 1996, it is the first college of optometry, and the largest institution dedicated solely to the education of doctors of optometry. However, noted college enroller, Silas Parnell of Ada S. McKinley may note, the school still finds it hard to enroll students from around the area....However, ICO professor Daniel Roberts, O.D., has been awarded a \$10,000 grant to study hereditary patterns in African-Americans that may cause glaucoma. Look for his story coming up in SSJ.



Webb Evans

Webb Evans is doing it again! He has published a book titled "The Other Way" which is being sold all over the country. He is now working on another book titled "How To Get Off The Bottom. Mr. Evans should know, on 79th st. a business selling a A Hot Sauce product name "Homicide" was protested by and ordered to stop selling it by, you know who; Father Michael Pflieger of St. Sabina. So all the hot sauce eating people should protest the Black own product to be name "Suicide". But suicide is a sin too.



Tina Ollison

Tina Ollison was told to get back again, reports are that in most cases like Ms. Ollison, the parent has 18 months to do what The Dept. of Children and Family Services ask of the parent to regain custody of their child. Tina has done all expected but still, the political power of Alderman and Judge Burke is holding on. As now Dr. Rev. Al Sampson would say stole a black child.



Burke

On the slave topic: slave owner, former president Andrew Jackson is known as a Double Saw-Buck on the streets, and Hamilton is, you quest it, is just a Buck.



Jackson

As few surprises were expected from the Republican and democratic national conventions, one that maybe to Charles Williams of the 4th ward is that Spencer Leak Jr. just back from the Democratic Convention is putting together a political funeral for the 4th ward. And no word on his republican dad, Spencer Sr. on who he will be putting one together for.

BRIEFS



10th Annual Senior Citizen Picnics

Tuesday, September 12 through Thursday, September 14. Under the banner, "Neighborhoods Alive with Seniors will challenge their fishing skills by casting their lines into a 16'x24' pool to hook a floating target. Winners will receive a South Bend Panfish Rod and Reel Combo. Two lucky raffle winners will enjoy an evening cruise for two on the Chicago River, compliments of the Chicago Park District. "Senior citizens bring life to the parks through participation in ceramics, line dancing, racquetball, water aerobics and a variety of other programs " said Chicago Park District Superintendent David Doig, "We are proud to celebrate the powerful impact they have made in the parks and their neighborhoods." Mayor Daley's Senior Picnics will be held from 10:00 a. m. -1:00p. m. at the following Chicago Park Districts locations: Tuesday, September 12, Washington Park, 55th & King Dr., McKinley Park, 2210 W. Pershing, Kennedy Park, 11320 So. Western. For information call the Chicago Park District at (312) 747 PLAY, (312) 747. 2001 (TTY) or website at www. ChicagoParkDistrict.com.



The last Hip Hop Wednesdaze

at the 78th and Halsted 6th police district was held with refreshments, games music and more for the youth Back to School event. Pictured rear right in glasses is Abraham Hackman, chair and Helen Shannon vice chair. The Hip Hop Wednesdaze is part of the CAPS program, in which Mr. Hackman ensures other programs will be continuing during the school year for the youth in the area.

E Zone proposals to City Council

Thirty - four Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) projects, representing \$16 million in funding, were sent to the Chicago City Council for approval.

The projects will provide a broad range of critical services- from health care to literacy to day care to entrepreneurial programs- in neighborhoods on the city's South and West Sides. The awards include 18 grants focusing on youth services (\$2.6 million), 13 on economic empowerment (\$13.1 million) and three on public safety (\$354, 000).

"With these 34 projects, the EZ/EC program continues to make a real difference in our neighborhoods and in the lives of thousands of Chicago's," said Wallace E. Goode, Jr., the program's new executive director.

Opening of the Wabash YMCA

Grand Blvd. - The Grand Re-Opening, October 2000. There's something for everyone at the new Wabash YMCA. Members will enjoy access to: State-of-the-art fitness facility including: indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, Life Fitness Equipment, weight room and free FitStart program, Job Training, Computers, Tutoring, School Age Child Care, Kids Programs. Wabash



Goode Jr.

YMCA, 3763 So. Wabash Avenue The Grand Re-Opening of the Wabash YMCA

Francis M. Drexel Memorial Fountain

Hyde Park - Mayor Richard M. Daley, joined by Ald. Toni Preckwinkle (4th) and numerous City officials and neighborhood residents, dedicated the newly refurbished Francis M. Drexel Memorial Fountain in Hyde Park. "This historic structure is really more than a neighborhood beautification," said the Mayor. "It now becomes a community meeting area, tranquil rest stop and place to enjoy a few quiet moments away from the hustle and bustle of urban life."

The fountain, built in 1883, is the oldest public fountain in Chicago. As part of the Mayor's neighborhood beautification program, it was cleaned, received new plumbing, base lighting and landscaping.

The Black*Star Project, goes Back to School with feature guest Mary A. Mitchell

of the Sun - Times, will be held at the Chicago Athletic Association, 12 South Michigan Ave. 5:30 pm. August 31, 2000

August 1, 2000 began the fifth year of The Black Star Project mentioning thousands of 6th, 7th and 8th grade students, encouraging students to attend college, helping students make good career choices and teaching children the value of reading. The Project will also sponsor upcoming Breakfast forums featuring Mary Richardson of the Dept. Buildings Sept. 7, Tom Walker, dept. of Aviation October 11, and Diane Grigsby Jackson, Chief of Staff, Chicago Public Schools Nov. 2. "We are working to make this a "break-out "year." said Phillip Jackson, the director of the project.

South Side Festivals

African Festival of the Arts, September 1-4
10am-10pm Washington Park, 5531 S. Martin Luther King Dr. (773) 955-ARTS (2787)

Jericho Walk, Spirit Fest 2000, The 5th Annual
"Jericho walk, Saturday, Sept. 9. Gathering at the Church of the living god PGOT, 1738 W. Marquett rd at 10:30 - Assemble in front of the Church of God, Marquett Park at 71st and Calif.

4th Annual Chicago Half Marathon,
September 10, 5:30am. Front lawn of the Museum of Science & Industry. (773) 929-5978

57th Street Children's Book Fair September 24
1-5pm, 57th Street btwn Kimbark & Dorchester (773) 536-8103

Aids Walk Chicago, September 24, 8am-1pm,
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New City Residents Empower Themselves Against Police Brutality

Everloyce McCullough
Englewood Writer

New City - A mini workshop was conducted by Presita May, staff attorney for First Defense Legal Aid to educate and empower New City residents fighting against police brutality. Josephine Robinson, Area Director of the Chicago Commons Mary McDowell Settlement House invited



Seated left-right: Lizziestine Wells, Saniah Foster (mother of Chantel Johnson), Atty Robert Sharpe, Josephine Robinson, Everloyce McCullough, John Paul Jones and Presita May

May to conduct the workshop in response to residents outrage in the alleged beating of Chantel Johnson August 1 by 9th district police officers. Police when contacted by SSJ could not comment on the case, since Johnson's case is under investigation. Immediately following the workshop Robinson called a press conference to heighten awareness of an ongoing problem with police brutality.

In the workshop May informed residents of their rights or to have counsel assert their rights when questioned or arrested by police. She stated "the initial phase of the investigation is crucial to the outcome of the case. People sometimes implicate themselves unwittingly without legal counsel." She instructed residents to call 1 800-LAW-REP4 free legal help at the police station any time day or night.

Some services First Defense Legal Aid attorneys provide clients are representing and asserting defendants rights, securing medical attention should the need arise. They may appear in court as witnesses once a client secures an attorney or public defender.

During the press conference, Robinson recounted the reports of Johnson's beating which sparked the charges and mobilization of the community against police brutality. She called for the removal of the officers involved from street duty while charges are pending and the dismissal and prosecution of those officers involved if they are found guilty.

The family and residents are demanding the release of Johnson before her scheduled appearance in criminal court at 26th and California, August 29 at 9 am. In addition

they are requesting all charges be dropped against Johnson. However, misdemeanor charges have been dropped, with felony charges remaining. The family has retained the counsel of Robert Sharpe.

The community in a continuing effort to prove their claims of police brutality by 9th district police officers are calling for a meeting with Superintendent Terry Hillard and 9th district Commander Killaskey. The meeting is scheduled for August 30, 6 pm-8 pm at the Chicago Commons Mary McDowell Settlement House, 1335 West 51st street.

SSJ bought the Johnson case to the attention of State's Attorney Richard Devine. John Gorman of his office reported that in response to questions about the Haggerty case, we are restricted in what we can say in these cases and do not comment ongoing investigations.

Releases Black Leadership Summit Report

With concern by many on the results of the Emergency Black Leadership Summit hosted by Rep. Bobby L. Rush, at a news conference Rush released a report.

The report prepared by Rush, was joined by business and community leaders with recommendations made by summit participants and offer analysis of their findings. The report will also be mailed to each participant for their review, as promised by Rush.



Con. Rush

"It is my hope that they (participants) will find the report helpful as they seek to implement solutions in their neighborhoods," said Rush.

One of the recommendations rendered is the convening of an intergenerational conference between adults and young people in order to breakdown the barrier of mistrust and gain common ground. There was no clear indication that the young people are those causing the crime in the community.

Keith Harris, interim chair of the United Coalition of Political Taskforce pose the summit as a social drive-by and a dog and pony show. "What came out of the first summit. Congressman Rush is well aware of the problems and what it takes to solve these problems." Said Harris.

"President Clinton came to Englewood and pledged millions for distressed and under-served neighborhoods. Where are those funds?"

Rush not available to comment on Harris concerns reported. Rush office reported that the summit's African American leadership is working hard to implement these suggested solutions. "This is ongoing process. There are several approaches that we are looking to take in order to bring safety to our streets and wholeness back to our community," Rush stated in a release.

"We are inviting young people and adults to spend time engaging in meaningful dialogue. Young people's voices must be heard when developing strategies to reduce the violence because too often, their lives are the ones at stake," Rush stated.

The Youth/Adult Intergenerational Dialogue will be held on Saturday, September 9th, 10 am, at Chicago State University.

Other report recommendations include:
1- African American leadership should continue to remain organized and meet again for follow up.

2- Additional discovery is necessary. Troubled homes and streets need to be visited in order to learn what is truly taking place on the streets.

3- Leadership must stay involved

and committed to collective work and empowerment.

4- Rapid Response Teams of volunteers need to be trained and then dispatched into troubled neighborhoods to offer support and organizational training to the residents.

Harris outlining a wholistic programs on the crime in the community stated his organization is tired of fact finding forums when "We have the facts. We want Congressman Rush to do what he knows is the right thing to do."

Harris pointing to the pledge of \$5 million dollars by Mayor Richard Daley for the Englewood community, ask for accountability to the funds for:

A cooperative job training, educational Bootcamps at youth centers throughout the city. Money for recreation centers in communities where there is a need..

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CHA Demolition push residents to the Suburbs

Suburban Mayors to protest section 8

The push to meet low - income housing needs is now carrying over to the suburbs. It has resulted in a clash between Chicago and Harvey Illinois over the transplanting, or "dumping," of Section 8 residents to the South Suburbs. This clash has accusations flying fast and furious.

The Coalition to Protect Public Housing (CPPH) have been rallying that there is simply is not enough low-income housing available in Chicago based on a market study commissioned by Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), which indicated the lack of housing for low income families in Chicago.

With 29,927 waiting for section 8 housing the coalition demand a moratorium on further demolition of public housing until an adequate plan has been developed to insure housing for residents where demolition has taken place as with Robert Taylor Homes and others. Now on the list is Stateway Gardens on State Street where over 1,738 families live, to be replaced by mix use housing.

Harvey, a city in the south suburbs, once a hotbed of crime, is now experiencing a remarkable comeback since the election of Nicholas E Graves as Mayor. And with this recent resurgence there has been a recent flood of Section 8 recipients,



a situation that has Mayor Graves crying foul; and pointing the finger at the CHA.

"Harvey has more Section 8 residents than any other south suburb in Illinois," Mayor Graves, said. "They're tearing down CHA buildings in Chicago and want to disperse the residents south."

Mayor Graves, believes the residents are entitled to housing but not at Harvey's expense.

"CHA residents deserve good housing, but you can't take that many people and throw them into one area," Mayor Graves remarked. "That impact" he states,

"will be too great on our schools and tax base. We will not stand for this. It's just not fair."

Also, according to Mayor Graves, more than 6,000 vouchers have been administered by CHA and the Housing Authority of the County of Cook, (HAAC) to Chicago's 34, South Suburban Towns.

CHA representative Francisco Acute firmly denies these numbers. "Only 31 Section 8 voucher recipients have gone to Harvey," he says. Although, he couldn't give the specific numbers for residents remaining in Chicago, he defended

the CHA by adding. "The majority of the families have generally not gone to far, they choose to stay near jobs, transportation, and immediate family."

Bill Reilly of (CHAC) says, "About 1,800 CHA families have relocated to the private sector with 36 in Harvey."

And as for the influx of Section 8 residents in the city of Harvey, Mayor Graves intends to gain support from every south suburban Mayor and stop Section 8 voucher dumping.

Press Secretary Bob Storman, has stated "They're trying to re-

build, and they don't want anything to spoil the party."

Barbara Moore, former president of 5266 echoes Storman's sentiments saying residents have been left out of the development process "It's all about the land."

Referring to three building of 53rd and State Street which was demolished under a Hope VI plan in which no replacement housing or an account of what happen to the residents coming from CHA.

"There are more than families seeking Section 8 homes with a list that is growing rapidly every year with the city's housing shortage," said Moore.

The population of Chicago is 39% African American and represents 95% population of public housing in Chicago.

CPPH noted the destruction of public housing communities on such a massive scale represents an attack on the poor in Chicago in general but also represents a specific attack on the black community.

The Mayor who has kept his directors of CHA African Americans highlighting key accomplishments of the agency under Phillip Jackson's leadership including reducing administrative costs and closing a \$47 million budget gap; improving safety by bringing the Chicago Police Department in the CHA; hiring private firms to bring property management closer to the residents, a move that many say is a form of private patronage for the Mayor..

Under Jackson, seeking and getting HUD approval of a five-year \$1.5 billion dollar "Plan for Transformation," which guarantees every lease-compliant resident a new or rehabbed, home, greater access to services - that can lead to jobs and economic opportunities, and a commitment to end the isolation of CHA from - the rest of Chicago. This plan offers the CHA and the City "a road map for the next five-years," Mayor Daley said. "It will be an important guide for us all, because there is much more to be done.

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On First Day of School, Overcrowding Problems Persist, New Study Shows Parents call on Vallas to push Federal, State officials for more school construction dollars.

The first day of Chicago Public Schools reported that over 100,000 students did not show up, costing the city money. Ignoring Mayor Daley's Back to school campaign, Moverover, Overcrowding continues to persist as a major problem in Chicago despite almost \$2.2 billion investment by the Chicago Public Schools, a new study by the Neighborhood Capital Budget

Group shows.

New classroom are filling up as soon as they open their doors, the study shows, demonstrating that (CPS) can't keep pace with booming enrollments in many neighborhoods. In fact, 54% of new schools and additions are already overcrowded. Budgetary constraints will make it even harder for (CPS) to catch up.

Without any additional State or Federal legislation to help fund school construction and repair, CPS faces a budget shortfall of at least \$1.5 billion.

"Clearly, there's a lot left to be done, and CPS is fast running out of money," said Alfred Rodgers, a member of NCBG's Board of Directors and a veteran Local School Council member. "Chicago won't be able to fix our schools, eliminate overcrowding, and ensure that our children have a good place to learn unless the State and Federal Governments do their fair share."

At a press conference held on Tuesday, August 22, for the first day

of school, parent and community leaders call on Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas to take the lead on securing more money for school construction by bringing Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, Senator Richard Durbin, and Governor George Ryan to a statewide forum on school construction to be held this October.

The parents leaders will also call on Vallas to endorse a set of legislative principles to guide Congress in crafting an equitable and effective school construction bill that will help Chicago close its budget gap.

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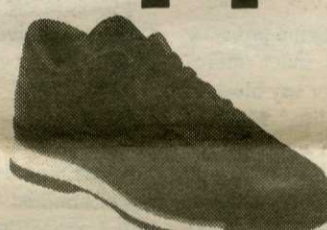
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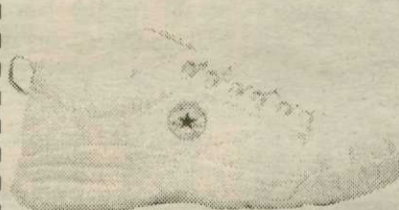
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Westside's Chicago Block Club Union Inc. expands South,

By Alethia Pollard, Editor in Chief.
CHICAGO BLOCK CLUB UNION INC
 West Englewood - In response to the growing needs of community organizations, while stationed in San Diego California, Syron Smith experimented with a community organizing effort in Watts California. With the success of that effort; he was determined it was time to bring those efforts home to Chicago.

The rest is history. Westsider's expanded the Chicago Block Club Union Inc. (CBCU) to the south side. With the concept as a civic organization, CBCU is to bring together residents to address issues or concerns relating to their particular block.

In Chicago, block clubs have been around for a very long time and have been the anchor for many communities. Most block clubs are famous for the once a year back to school celebration, but the CBCU clubs are organized to accomplish a lot more.

One of their first, projects are assisting in organizing a "Shop-In" at Graham's Grocery, at 56th and Hoyne. The CBCU joined in with its newly appointed spokesperson Everloyce McCullough, who spearhead the shop-in.

McCullough who liked the village concept of the union, expressed interest and immediately became a local manager followed as its spokesperson.

CBCU has 18 local managers on the westside and 18 on the southside.

In the Woodlawn community, the Saul Alinsky style of community organizing help develop The Woodlawn Organization (TWO) as one of the most successful in community organizing. It developed a base of Block Clubs building its membership base.

Successful block clubs focuses on



Standing in front of Graham Grocery, at 56th and Hoyne is Syron Smith Chicago Block Club Union, president and founder, the Union spokesperson Everloyce McCullough, and SSJ Advisory Board member, who is organizing a "Shop In" with Ms. Versie Graham the owner and her son Tracy Graham.

safety issues, beautification projects, youth activities, and much more. "The main objective for any block is "improved quality of life," which is something that we all should always strive towards." Smith pointed out.

Carrying the role of Block Clubs a lot farther, the CBCU is a 501 © (3) organization. According to the Internal Revenue Service CBCU is the

first block club organization ever granted the tax exempt status.

Incorporated in October 1998, the union has grown from a network of eight residents to well over seven hundred residents; covering over three hundred city blocks. The union is affiliated with: 24 businesses, 3 Chicago Park Districts, 16 Churches, 2 Mayor Daley's Youth-

net Centers, Illinois Department of Human Services, and the 5th and 15th Ward.

Smith as the founder of the Union is a U.S. Navy veteran, and is from various communities within the City of Chicago he has lived in the Little Italy Community- Jane Adams Housing Complex, the Near North Community-Cabrini Green Housing Complex, and the Englewood Community-63rd Street.

"Upon losing many family and friends to violence in the public housing system I was determined to make a difference," said Smith.

His vision proved to be history. Smith's main objective is to restore the village concept on blocks where everyone is working together to create a wholesome community.

"Many of us have been living in our communities for many years, and we do not know the names of the people that live next door. Unfortunately, most of us are least likely to get involved in a disturbance with a stranger than with someone we are familiar." Explained Smith.

"How do we expect to protect each other if we are least likely to get involved? Therefore, familiarity is essential to the redevelopment in the structure of our communities. When we think of family, we tend to only include blood relations, but family is also defined as a group of like things."

CBCU pointed out its role in helping in the Graham's Grocery "Shop

In" as people coming together seeking ways to better improve their surroundings.

"It's time to have a reunion!" stressed McCullough. "We don't have to share our life histories, but it is important for us to get in the habit of speaking to each other by name. "Good morning, Ms. Smith! How are you, today"?"

McCullough said it is also important for us to pass this habit on to our younger generations. "When you are addressed by your name, there's something special about it. The best way for us to arm our community against trespassers is to know when they have arrived.

"We can only do this by first knowing the people that belong; knowing the members of our family.

"We don't have to share our life histories, but it is important for us to get in the habit of speaking to each other by name. "Good morning, Ms. Smith! How are you, today"?"

A family that consist of people interested in a better and safer way of living. block clubs fun, safe, & exciting for everyone."

As community organizing moves from the 1970's to the 2000's the challenge of organizing is to place in prospective the forces that shape community issues noted Smith.

"Our challenge of the 2000's will be met by continuing to simultaneously organize at both the community and always at the block club level." Said Smith.

"Block clubs from across the city must confront the reality that no one is going to represent their interests better than themselves."

Neighborhood Arts Center for Kenwood-Oakland area

Kenwood - A neighborhood multi-cultural arts resource center is set for the North Kenwood-Oakland area, part of a neighborhood revitalization effort along 47th Street.

Under the proposal, the non-profit Little Black Pearl Workshop would be sold City-owned property at 1040-48 E. 47th St. for a nominal price of \$1 in order to build a 35,000 square-foot arts center.

The sale of the property will occur after the City finalizes acquisition and the relocation of the existing liquor store users, which the city reports have become

problems for the surrounding community.

Little Black Pearl is receiving \$1.5 million in Empowerment Zone Grants and \$1 million from the State's Illinois First Program.

The \$2.9 million facility will house ongoing instructional programs for youth and adults. It will provide the space for community activities and events, incorporating job-training opportunities for residents and showcase the skills of local artists. It will also offer workshop space and classes for ceramics, woodworking, welding, mosaic, glass blowing, painting and drawing.

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(Continued from page 1)

Govt. Arrest

each year.”
 Rev. Bailey's data would project an estimate of 35,000 to be arrested based on Devine's 48% target for the end of year 2000.

SSJ also learn presently there are 8,000 persons under 16 of age on probation in Chicago, which would be an additional 2,000 projected arrest.

Under the City and the State Attorney's office "Intensive Probation System" named the "Partnership Addressing Gangs" program, probation officers and police officers will serve as a team, riding together in police cars in high crime areas at night seeking probationers. The probation officers are to be armed, a concern Judge O'Connell raised in his reply letter to Devine.

Mayor Daley statement in a anti-crime news conference commends Governor Ryan, the Illinois Department of Corrections, Superintendent Terry Hillard and the Chicago Police for beginning the program. The Mayor said, "The program is a way to crack down on gang members who commit crimes while on parole." The Mayor said the program will help continue a very favorable trend that has seen Chicago's crime rate drop every year for the last eight years.

Probation applies where a person found guilty of a crime he or she

could get anywhere between one year to five-years on probation without going to a state prison. If they violate the probation, it will be up to the judge to either reinstate the probation or send the probationer to jail.

Violating probation involves guns, drugs, violent crimes, and even associating with one that maybe of the same ilk.

A Chicago Police spokesperson aware of the program would not give details, stating that it is in the process of being developed.

Historically, Rev. Bailey views the program as a continuation from when Mayor Daley was the State's Attorney, before becoming mayor.

Combined with the Superintendent Hillard implementation of the loitering ordinance Chicago will witness a high police arrest. However, Hillard reported that the ordinance's success will not be measured by the number of arrests

Who looks like a "Gang Banger". or on probation from the Cook County Jail. estimates are that there are over 70,000 probationers in the Black community, and an additional 6,000 under age 16. Indicating that close to 35,000 would commit crimes which Devine would be targeting for arrest under a proposed plan with other government sectors.



banger. And I am a felon. The way I dress, do I get arrested too? It's a style, like any other fashion trend."

The law is enforced upon police witnessing gang or narcotic activity, or receives reports about such activity. Upon the Police arriving on the scene they are to ask individuals exhibiting gang behavior by flashing hand signals or shouting their gang affiliation to disperse from the area.

If, after a three hour period, the individuals return to resume gang and/or narcotic behavior, officers will then make arrests.

Enforcement of the ordinance is in all police districts except the Loop, near South and the far west north areas. The areas will be reassessed on a quarterly basis.

Devin's office could not give further details on the program or with the correspondence to Judge O'Connell.

With the massive arrest projected, Rev. Bailey suggest, before we know it our community will be subject to the same condition as the Jewish people.

made. "Rather, our goal is to deploy every tool we have available to give our streets back to law-abiding citizens."

Rev. Paul Jakes of the Christian Council on Urban Affairs view "Part of the problem is that government have abdicated their responsibility to our community. It creates a wide spread violation of the public trust. ...Continuing the mass stigmatization and criminalization is not the answer. These approaches have been tried before, and have not worked."

"We do not want the politicians powers to call for the assassinations of our youth. What has not been done is that this social structure has

never given African American youth a chance to be real contributors to the American social fabric at large." said Rev. Jakes.

The Loitering Ordinances began last Thursday, August 17. The old ordinance was adopted June 1992, 42,000 arrests were made according to the city. The old measure, struck down by the Illinois Appellate Court did not call for dispersal notices to be given by police before arrests are made.

To date, Chicago Police have issued 14 orders to disperse.

As one 40 year old African American told SSJ, "I look like a gang

(Continued from page 1)

Ald. Thomas

funding for a larger library." He is looking at the possibility of expanding the library if the need arises in the future.

Thomas held his 2nd annual Town Hall meeting on August

26. Over 500 community residents attended this meeting.

" this forum is a good way for different department heads to let residents know what is going on in the community." He also plans to outline other major projects in store for the 15th ward. Stylemasters, an African-American owned plant is scheduled for completion sometime

before the year ends. This plant should employ an estimate 400 employees,

Reportedly starting salaries will be consistent with a living wage. A Super K- Mart is also going up at 60th and Western streets. This retailer should create 300-400 jobs, part-time salaries to start at \$9.00/Hr.

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Letters

Dear Editor
 On August 22, 2000 was the first day of high school for me at Morgan park High. being a freshmen is a new and good experience. I really look forward to a good four years.

When I first started school I was very nervous. As I walked into the school a lot of people greeted me very nicely. It was very easy finding my classes. I met a lot of new and interesting people. The first day went by very fast because I had a lot of fun. I look forward to a good, yet challenging time during my stay at Morgan Park, moving on to even highly educational goals.

Jamila C. Carter

Dear Editor

My First day was fun.

My class went out side.

We eat food,

we did homework.

I had lots of fun.

My mom picked me up

Jarrel J2Carter

July 25, 2000

Governor George Ryan
 Room 207, State House
 Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Gov. Ryan:

It was with great interest that I viewed your press conference with Mayor Richard Daley and Police Superintendent Terry Hillard regarding the gun violence crisis in Chicago. Your interest and commitment to alleviate this crisis has been well-received by myself and others.

However, I am disappointed by your announced plan because I believe it is limited in scope. Therefore, I request a meeting with you in order to present ideas for a more comprehensive, and therefore, a more effective approach to curtailing the escalating level of violence in our neighborhoods.

I will make myself available anytime that your calendar permits. I look forward to working with you on these and other matters.

Sincerely
 Bobby L. Rush
 Member of Congress.

Office of The
 States Attor-
 ney

Cook County, Illinois
 Richard A. Devine
 States Attorney
 Aug 22, 2000

Dear Mr. Carter and Ms. McCullough:
 It was nice meeting you both today. I have some of the information you requested.

Enclosed please find attached three of the larger drug cases we are prosecuting. All are awaiting trial.

The contact person with the Clerk of the Court with regard to probation sentences is Carolyn Barry at (312)-603-4732. Alternately, you could try the chief Judge, Donald O'Connell, at (312) 603-6000.

With respect to the police brutality allegations by Chantel Johnson, I appreciate your drawing this to our attention. As Dick said in response to questions about the Haggerty case, we are restricted in what we can say in these cases and do not comment on investigations. I hope this is helpful and look forward to meeting you both again.

Sincerely,
 John Gorman
 Director of Communications,
 States Attorney's Office

Is It Really Police Brutality?
 Funk & Wagnalls New International Dictionary defines brutality as: The state or quality of being brutal; cruelty. A brutal or cruel act. Brutal is defined: Characteristic of or like a brute; cruel; savage. Unfeeling, rude, coarse. Barbarians is one of the synonyms.

Terrorism is defined: A system of government that seeks to rule by intimidation. Unlawful acts of violence committed in an organized attempt to overthrow a government.

People of color (particularly those darker than blue) have been victims of organized violence since Europeans began populating the earth. Once introduced to the humane, advanced cultures, civilizations, governments and natural order of the universe celebrated by African people, their nature instilled in them a sense of entitlement and a prerogative to under-develop, overthrow and/or control such cultures, civilizations and governments. Look at what has happened to Africa from the hands of European nations supported by churches, institutes of learning, corporate entities and others.

Do you remember how we were broken when we were held as captives (slaves)? What about the organized slave catchers? Do you remember M.O. V.E.? Do you remember how Fred Hampton and Mark Clark were assassinated? What about Amadou Diallo? Did you know that the Klu Klux Klan is an organized religious organization? Can you think of others?

Yurugu is a being in Dogon mythology which is responsible for disorder in the universe. This is a being conceived in denial of the natural order which then acts to initiate and promote disharmony in the universe. Such a being is deficient in spiritual sensibility, is perpetually in conflict, limited cognitively, and is threatening to the well being of humanity. Brothers and sisters, know that 'terrorism' is an international act, inflicted on African people by Europeans. Brutality can only be addressed at the local levels of government, where (at best) the perpetrator 'might' lose his/her job. Let's take the fight where it belong.
 Peace Among Us
 Ralph J. Moore

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(Continued from page 1)

Hotel

Anthony Fields presents his plans for a Howard Johnson Hotel & Plaza to be located in 39th and Oakwood in the 4th ward, to the Black Economic & Political Action Network meeting.



from the alderman. This is the kind of project that supports the City, and creates a tax base and jobs.

Mr. Fields stated that the hotel would create over 300 hundred jobs and career opportunities for residents, in that it is in or next to an Empowerment Zone and TIF area for business development.

Ald. Peckwinkle was not available for comment. However, her chief of staff Al Kindle not aware of the letter to Mr. Fields said the proposal must go before the Kenwood/Oakland Community Conservation Council because of its location. In which Mr. Fields must present the plan to the CCC in order for such a

plan to be consider for development.

Shop-ins

Chatham - Hats Off to the Progressive Baptist State Convention headed by Rev. Otis Anderson Jr. will conduct their first community Shop-In Saturday, September 2nd starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Chatham Food Center, Calumet and 79th Street. You

have talked about the bad things about some of our churches, now let us run and tell the good. Not only tell about the Shop-In - Come and shop with them. Webb Evans and the U.A.P.A. members will be part of the shop-in.



Ald Toni Peckwinkle opposes Businessman Anthony Fields in building a hotel at 916 E. Oakwood.

A "DIGITAL DIVIDE" ON THE INTERNET:

By Ted Bridis
The Columbian

WASHINGTON - A new study finds a "digital divide" on the Internet: White students in high school and college are far more likely than blacks to have home computers and use the World Wide Web, even after accounting for differences in income.

The study, published today in Science magazine, found white people in general are more likely to have a computer at home and to use the Web. But the biggest disparities surfaced when comparing students, "the most disturbing instance yet of when race matters in Internet access," the study said.

"We can't explain that by income," said Donna L. Hoffman, an associate professor at Vanderbilt University, who helped write the study. "There must be some racial or cultural or social factors. It really needs to be looked into."

The study indicated 73 percent of white students had a computer at home - a key indicator of frequent Internet use - but only 33 percent of black students did. The gap remained even when researchers accounted for differences in income.

Among all ages, 44 percent of whites owned a home computer,

compared with 29 percent of blacks. The study was based on telephone interviews of 5,813 people in December 1996 and January 1997 by Nielsen Media Research. No margin of error was provided.

"The Internet is taking an increasingly important role in the global economy," Hoffman said. "It's obvious that as ... more and more information is available online, you're not going to be able to participate. The rewards of this democratic communication that people are suggesting will come from the Internet won't be available to everyone."

The study indicated 59 percent of whites used the Web in the past six months, compared with 31 percent of blacks. The gap was widest among races when people did not own a home computer.

Researchers said that suggests white students without their own computers are finding other places - such as schools, libraries or cybercafes - to access the Internet.

"When there is no home computer, white students are more than twice as likely to have used the Web in the past six months and more than three times as likely to have used the Web in the past week," Hoffman said.

Associated Press writer

Edward Carter Entrepreneur Extraordinaire

By Sharon Dukes, SSJ Staff Writer

Roseland - Edward W. Carter began his illustrious career at fifteen, an age when most are still developing skills. In 1959 the budding entrepreneur opened Metro Music retail store with an investment (he sold his collection of 10,000 albums) of \$400.

Eleven years later in 1970, Metro blew the hinges off the retail industry by opening a more sprawling innovative store (that was once an abandoned gas station) at 322 East 103rd. At the time this store was described as the "operation and design to emulate." And the first to introduce a drive-in mass merchandising concept and a 40 car parking lot.

At this location Metro expanded on a wider range of groundbreaking ideas: The introduction of color logos, in store artist appearances, and becoming the first retailer to create, cast, produce, direct, and film it's own TV commercials.

Metro Music also sponsored and produced the commercials for the legendary Soul Train using it's own in house production company.

Forging ahead with breakneck speed Metro created an even larger foothold in the industry when in December 1971, a third store opened at 1525 East 87th. 10,000 albums were sold in one weekend and over 100,000 were in attendance, making Metro Music the largest Black owned retailer in the country.

In 1974, Metro Music leased space for an entire video department that was aptly named Metro Vision over the next five years, this department expanded into one of the largest video and entertainment centers in the world. It also revolutionized video (using artist to sell presentations of their music) jumpstarting the video craze that ruled the 80's.

Metro also has the distinction of being the only retailer to have the highest volume of music sales per square foot in the country-turning it's inventory 24 times a year, selling, renting, and designing video software, creating the alphabetical code pricing chart, and designing the first computerized 70,000 square foot



warehouse. Since 1977, Metro has had every video directed, acted, and produced by African Americans. It also stocks thousands of Black historical films and documentaries.

Edward W. Carter is not only a nationally recognized force in the business community, he is also deeply respected, for accomplishments that have gone largely unrecognized by the public. He fathered the Metropolitan Record Association a retail trade association that obtained advertisements for local mom and pop stores in Chicago. He was also the first retailer to help promote and establish Black record dealers across the country.

With a great eye for talent Mr. Carter never forgets his generosity. In 1968, he showcased The Jackson 5 at the Keymens' Club Ballroom on the westside. In 1974, Metro Music was chosen by CBS Records to promote the album "The Jacksons" the groups first solo album after leaving Motown. In 1988, Metro Music produced the first TV commercial for Jackie Jackson's solo album.

These days Edward W. Carter is heavily promoting the career of recording artist Jackie Ross who records under the Metro Recording Artist banner. And for Edward W. Carter, Metro, and Jackie Ross the best is yet to come.

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Real Estate

\$75 Million City Mortgage Program:

(Continued from page 1)

The City of Chicago introduced an ordinance authorizing the Chicago Department of Housing to issue \$75 million of single-family mortgage revenue bonds to underwrite the the cost of mortgages for first-time home buyers.

"In recent years, we've made tremendous progress toward our goal of revitalizing and stabilizing neighborhoods by providing affordable home ownership opportunities to Chicago residents, thanks in large part to the success of the City Mortgage program," said Mayor Daley. "This legislation will allow the Chicago Department of Housing to provide low-interest mortgages and down payment assistance for nearly 900 families this year."

Chicago by providing extremely competitive mortgage rates along with grants of up to 4 percent of the loan amount to cover down payment and closing costs.

The program is targeted to low- and moderate-income individuals. Applicants must not have owned a home for three years; qualify for a mortgage from one of 18 participating lenders; and meet income and purchase price guidelines.

The program is available city-wide for the purchase of condominiums, single family and town-homes, as well as 1- to -4 unit buildings. Since the program's inception in 1996, it has helped more than 3,500 individuals and families realize their dreams of home ownership.

Hendon Tax Fight

community activist, and community based organizations such as Concerned Citizens of East Garfield Park, and Eyes on Austin, to the office of James Houlihan, the Cook County Tax Assessor.

Community gentrification fever has resulted in the gripping of many communities (especially the poorest) many families are losing their homes to property hikes, a circumstance that is not lost on the Senator, who believes the assessments are an attempt to drive many residents from the area.

"These property increases are a way to make residents lose their homes" he says, "by taking property from nonpaying taxes."

This issue has been a wake up call to many west-siders, and for Senator Ricky Hendon, a battle he does not intend to lose.

Cook County Taxpayers have seen property taxes increase 85% in the past 10 years. Loveless says, "political gridlock has kept property tax reform on the back burners too long," says Loveless. "With the exorbitant increase in Chicago's real estate tax assessments will come an explosion of tax appeals at the both Assessor's Office and the Board of Tax Review."

Noting that soaring property values in Chicago would increase the tax burden on many residents, Mayor Daley called for an opportunity to sit down with Governor Ryan and State lawmakers during the next legislative session to craft funda-

mental and lasting changes in the State's tax structure.

"Illinois has the 10th highest per capita property tax rate in the country, while the state's per capital income tax ranks 30th," the Mayor said at a news conference in front of the home of a senior citizen at 1653 N. Oakley Ave. in the Humboldt Park neighborhood.

In the short term, Daley urged hard-hit Chicago property owners, like senior citizens and long time homeowners, to appeal their property tax assessments if they feel they are out of line with comparable homes in the neighborhood, or if the description of their property is wrong.

On the one hand, because of the growth occurring in many neighborhoods, the values of people's homes has risen. On the other, their property tax bills have climbed along with their property values."

During Mayor Richard M. Daley's 11 years as Mayor, he reported he has frozen property taxes four years, cut them twice and held any increase well below the city's self imposed property tax cap.

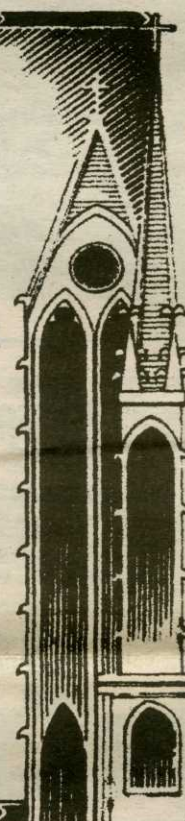
The Mayor said, the City of Chicago property tax increases have been limited to an average of only 1% a year, including the most recent increase for his Neighborhoods Alive 21 program, which calls for 19 new and renovated police stations, up to 20 new or improved firehouses, new or improved branch libraries throughout the city and more campus park projects and open space acquisitions.

Homeowners can call the Cook County Assessor's office at (312)443-7750 or log on to its web site at www.cookcountyassessor.com for assistance on how to appeal their property tax assessments.

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