The untimely death of Taisa Powel spark the overflow of response from community and government committees in address street crimes mostly identified as "gang bangs." However, South Street Journal has learned of a combined effort by government officials planning a number of events by the end of the year, which can total more than 35,000. In addition, 90,000 normally arrested, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. Daley, which can lead to arrest, according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

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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, the new value will be upon the increase in property tax bills. For many homeowners, the City of Chicago will raise more fees and other taxes. At the same time Mayor Richard M. Daley has urged Chicagoans to appeal out of their property tax assessments and take full advantage of exemptions that will lower their property tax bills.

Sen. Hendon is doing more than appealing the taxes, they are "waging war on property tax increases on the west side of Chicago."

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

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

ByEverloyd McCullough Englewood Reporter

West Englewood - Callers on WVON radio's Lu Palmer show August 18th 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

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. Tini Preckwinkle's (4) support as stated in a letter to Mr. Fields dated February 15, 2000. Preckwinkle noted in sharing the proposal with Shirley Snowmen and Nancy Kinnan, they agreed that it is not an appropriate development for the site. James Newbern a representative of the Black Economic Political Action Network (BEPAS) and a resident of the Kenwood/Oakland community said his organization is supporting the petition. "We are concerned about the lack of support for this project. And"

South Street Journal

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35,000 Arrest Projected by year end

Combined effort by City and State officials

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Sen. Hendon is doing more than appealing the taxes, they are "waging war on property tax increases on the west side of Chicago."

Having a victim himself in what he says are unfair assessments, and one that has many residents up in arms.
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 a 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 at 10:00 a.m. 1000p.m. at the following Chicago Park District locations: Tuesday, September 12, Washington Park, 55th St & Dr. McKinley Park, 2210 W. Pershing, Kennedy Park, 11230 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 the crowd is police officer sekys, chair and Helen Shan- non 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 Coun- cil 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 development ($13.1 million) and three on public safety ($54,000). With these 34 projects, the EZ/EC program continues to make a real difference in our neighborhoods and in the lives of thousands of Chicagoans," said Wallace E. 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.

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, help- ing 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, Jr. Aviation October 11, and Dame Griggy Jack- son, 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-AKTS (2787)
4th Annual Chicago Half Marathon, September 10, 5:30am. Front lawn of the Mu- seum of Science & Industry. (773) 929-5978
57th Street Children's Book Fair September 24 1-5pm, 57th Street b/w Kimball & Dorchester (773) 536-8163
Aids Walk Chicago, September 24, 9am-1pm. Grant Park, Arvey Field, (312) 648-9600.
New City Residents Empower Themselves Against Police Brutality

Everlyce McCullough
Englewood Writer

New City - A mini-workshop was conducted by Pre-
sitia May, staff attorney for First Defense Legal Aid to ed-
cuate and empower New City residents fighting against
police brutality. Josephine Robinson, Area
Director of the Chicago Commons Mary McDowell Settle-
ment House invited May to conduct the workshop in response
to statements made by leaders in the al-
leged 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 inves-
tigation. 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 out-
come of the case. People sometimes
implicate themselves unwittingly
without legal counsel.” She in-
structed 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 defen-
dants, securing medical atten-
tion 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 re-
moval of the officers involved
from street duty while charges are
pending and the dismissal and
prosecution of those officers in-
volved 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 Califor-
ia, August 29 at 9 am. In addition
they are requesting all charges be
dropped against Johnson. Howe-
ever, 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
officers are calling for a meeting with
Superintendent Terry Hillard and the 9th district Commander Killaspy.
The meeting is scheduled for Aug-
ust 30, 6 pm-8 pm at the Chicago
Commons Mary McDowell Settle-
ment 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 re-
ferred a report.

The report prepared by Rush, was joined by business and community
leaders, and envoys from organiza-
tions made by summit participants and offer analy-
sis of findings. The report will also
be mailed to each participant for their re-
view, as promised by 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 ren-
dered is the convening of an intergen-
erational conference between adults
and young people in order to break-
down the barrier of mistrust and gain
common ground. There was no clear
indication that the young people are
bought into troubled neighborhoods
without legal counsel.” She in-
structed residents to call 1-800-
LAW-REP4 free legal help at the
police station any time day or night.

"We are inviting young people and adults to spend time engaging in meaningful dialogue. Young peo-
ple’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 Inter-
generational Dialogue will be held on Saturday,
September 9, 10 am at
Chicago State University.
Other report recommen-
dations include:
1- African American lead-
ership 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 volun-
teers need to be trained and then dis-
patched into troubled neighborhoods
to offer support and organizational
training to the residents.

Harris outlining a wholistic pro-
crime on the 9th district police offi-
cers, is calling for the removal of those officers in-
cluded in the investigation. He 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 Da-
ley for the Englewood community, ask for accountability to the funds for
a cooperative job training , educa-
tional bootcamps at youth centers
throughout the city. Money for recre-
ations centers in communities where
there is a need.

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79th VINCENNES
CHA Demolition push residents to the Suburbs

Suburban Mayors to protect 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 residents over the transplants, 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) has been rallying that there is simply 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 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 come-
to a situation that has Mayor Graves crying foul, and pointing the finger at the CHA.

"Harvey has more Section 8 resi-
dents than any other south suburb in Illinois," Mayor Graves, said. "They're tearing down CHA build-
ings in Chicago and want to dis-
perse the residents south." Mayor Graves, believes the res-
dents 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 re-
marked. "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 administrated by CHA and the Housing Authority of the County of Cook, (HAAC) to Chicago's 34, South Suburban Towns.

CHA representative Francisco Acevedo firmly denies these numbers. "Only 31 Section 8 voucher recipi-
ents 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 im-
mediate family."

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

And for the in flux of Section 8 residents in the city of Harvey, Mayor Graves intends to gain sup-
port 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 senti-
mements saying residents have been left out of the development process "It's all about the land."

Referring to three building of 53rd and Foster Street which was demolished under a Hope VI plan in which no replacement housing or an account of what happen to the resi-
dents 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."

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Mayor Daley said. "It will-
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services - that can lead to jobs and economic opportuni-
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years," Mayor Daley said. "It will-
be an important guide for us all, because there is much more to be done."

Under Jackson, seeking and get-
ing HUD approval of a five-year
$1.5 billion dollar "Plan for Trans-
formation," which guarantees every
less-compliant residents a new
rehabbed, home, greater access to services - that can lead to jobs and economic opportuni-
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The Mayor who has kept his di-
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son's leadership including reducing red tape and closing a $47 million budget gap; improving safety by bringing the
property management closer to the
CHA; hiring private firms to bring
property management closer to the
residents, a move that may say in a
form of private 20 year lease for the Mayor..."

"It's all about the land."

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CPPH noted the destruction of
the black community.

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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, Nevertheless, 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," said Alfred Rodgers, a member of NCDBG'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.
Westside's Chicago Block Club Union Inc. expands South,

By Alethia Pollard, Editor in Chief.

**CHICAGO BLOCK CLUB UNION INC.**

West Side and 18 on the Southside. Union Inc. is to bring together residents interested in organizing. It developed a base of support in the Graham's Grocery "Shop In" with Ms. Versie Graham the owner and her son Tracy Graham.

Standing in front of Graham Grocery, at 56th and Hoyne is Syron Smith Chicago Block Club Union, president and founder, the Union spokesperson Eversley McCullough, who spearheaded the shop-in.

McCollough 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. CBCU has organized at both the community level. It 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. 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 neighborhood's "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?"

McCollough 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 who lives in our community."

A family that consists 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 perspective the forces that shape community issues noted Smith.

"The 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."

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**Neighborhood Arts Center for Kenwood-Oakland area**

Kenwood - A neighborhood multi-cultural arts and 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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Govt. Arrest

Trend that has seen Chicago's crime rate drop every year for the last year will help continue a very favorable role." The Mayor said the program who commit crimes while on pa-
to crack down on gang members to Devine.
Governor Ryan, the Illinois Depart-
ment of Corrections, Superintendent
Terry Hillard and the Chicago Po-

ment of Corrections, Superintendent
Governor Ryan, the Illinois Depart-
made. "Rather, our goal is to de-
ploy 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 govern-
ment have abdicated their responsi-
bility 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 contribu-
tors 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 accord-
ing 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 is-

led to jail.

Within the massive arrest projected, Rev. Bailey suggest, before we know it our community will be sub-
ject to the same condition as the Jewish people.

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burger, double cheese-
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Pan of Tips 70.00

Pan of Links 60.00

100 Wings 65.00

% Pan of Tips 35.00

% Pan of Links 30.00

50 Wings 35.00

Please Note: Items are subject to availability.
Dear Editor
On August 22, 2000 was the first day of high school for me at Morgan Park. High being a freshman 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.

Jamilla Carter
July 25, 2000

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

Dear Governor 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 you give me a schedule. I look forward to working with you on these and other matters.

Sincerely
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress.
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<th>'99 Kia Sportage</th>
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*Just add tax, title, lic. & doc. fee to all advertised prices. *All used vehicles 60 day warranty.
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.

A "DIGITAL DIVIDE" ON THE INTERNET:

By Ted Bridis

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 - a key indicator of frequent Internet use. "We can't explain that by income," the study said. "There must be some racial or cultural factors. It really needs to be looked into."

Researchers said that suggests some of our churches, how we run and tell the good. Not only about the Shop-In-Conome and oppose-Businessman shop with them. Web Evanes and the U.A.P.A. members will be part of the shop-in.

Edward Carter

Entrepreneur Extraordinaire

By Sharon Dukes, SSJ Staff Writer

Roseiland - Edward W. Carter began his illustrious career at fifteen, an age with most are still developing skills. In 1969 the building 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 kinks 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 wide range of groundbreaking ideas: The introduction of color logos, in store artist appearances, and becoming the first retailer to create, carry, 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 breakout speed Metro created an even larger foothold in the industry when in December 1971, a third store opened at 1525 East 87. 10,000 albums were sold in one weekend and over 50,000 were in attendance, making Metro Music the largest Black owned retailer in the country.

Metro Music leased space for an entire video department that was specifically named Metro Vision over the next five years, this department expanded into one of the largest video entertainment centers in the world. It also revolutionized video (using artist to sell presentations of their music) by introducing 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 or 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 voice and talent Mr. Carter never forgets his heritage. In 1968, he showcased The Jackson 5 at the Keenbys 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 Jacksons 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.
**Real Estate**

$75 Million City Mortgage Program:

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 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 and 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 homes, 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**

"These property increases are a way to make residents lose their homes" said Mayor Daley, a battle he does not intend to lose. Cook County Taxpayers have seen property taxes increase 85% in the past 10 years. Loveless says, "With the exorbitant increase in Chicago's real estate tax assessments, it is no wonder that home owners, to appeal 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 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 up to 20 new or improved firehouses, new or improved branch libraries throughout the city and open space acquisitions.

The Mayor said, "I come tax ranks 30th in the nation, but our assessment and tax reform on the back burners too long," says Loveless. "With the exorbitant increase in Chicago's real estate tax assessments, it is no wonder that home owners, to appeal 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 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 up to 20 new or improved firehouses, new or improved branch libraries throughout the city 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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