When and Why They Left Determines the Answer

By Carmelita Banks

Staff Writer

Whether the public housing residents are to
day depends on whether or not the speaker
words, directly or indirectly, for the city. It also depends on whether the question deals
with current or former residents, especially if they left before Oct. 1, 1999.

On the Southside, there is a lack of skepticism about the plight of public housing residents because for them it is only talk. The two residents working on each group were aware of the planning, which alienated them from the rest of the residents on each Local Advisory Council (LAC).

For example, Barbara Moore has lived 33 years in the Robert Taylor Homes, once the largest public housing development in the world that housed over 4,200 families. Today, it barely has 460 families.

Formerly active on the council, Ms. Moore is apprehensive because Taylor has "lost more than one replacement housing.

"We want to know just what we are getting back," she says. "I know it's not one-for-one"

More highrisers are scheduled for demol-
tion. On Feb. 7, Stateway Gardens' plans for redevelopment was approved and on Feb. 20, so were Taylor's and Rockwell Gardens.

"We have come a long way in 20 months," CHA Board of Commissioners Chair Sharon Gia Gilliam said at the Feb. 20 meeting. Then she tried to reassure the tenants present that they would "see a way to move toward the light.

LaWanda Lynch, who cannot read or write, sees no light at night. She was in public housing with her four children and their father for about a year in 1989. She left 4429 S. Federal in a hurry because she was not getting along with her abusive partner. In 1993, she moved in with her mother who doesn't live in public housing, and in 1998, she took her family to Minnesota where they lived in a shelter for 4-5 months because she couldn't find housing. In disgust, they returned to Chicago and since she was disabled, she was put on the housing priority waiting list.

"I wasn't supposed to be on more than two years," she says, "but public housing's got priority." Lynch is referring to the decision at the Chicago Housing Authority to set the cutoff date for its commitment to public housing resi-
dents.

"If they weren't lease-compliant as of Octo-
ber 1, 1999, they will have to wait," says Derek Hill, Director of Communication for the CHA. "If you don't have rules and regulations, you have mayhem.

That means that needy families, including the disabled, no longer have priority on the waiting list of over 42,000 families according to the Coalition to Protect Public Housing 

(Continued on page 4)

Rep. Howard work in defense of ex-offend-

On the national level President Bill Clinton exist was noted for the pardons of federal convicted felons. However, ac-
tion in Springfield and Chicago gives some currently or formerly incarcerated indi-
viduals reason to hope for a form of pardons as well.

In Springfield, State Representative Comrie Howard led House of sup-
ports from Chicago in an effort to pass law that would give back to ex-offenders some basic rights, including access to jobs with decent wages.

The seven bills he filed Feb. 23, with the Judiciary II Criminal Law Committee "would give some ex-offenders a sec-
ond chance by allowing them to have their records ex-
punged," she said. If the bills become law, they will automati-
cally expire, or remove from the off-
Fender's record, court-ordered supervi-
sion, forever increments, the record and vic-
tions, certain mis-
demeanors and Class B

(Continued on page 4)
City Agency Honors Peeples

City Agency Honors Peeples

Earl G. Graves, Chairman, Editor & publisher of Black Enterprise Magazine will be the keynote speaker at the 10th Annual Membership and Awards reception of the African American Contractors Association (AAC) event on Wednesday, March 14, 2001, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Herman hall Ballroom, 10 W. 35th St, Chicago, IL 60616. For more information call AAC at 312-915-5960 or 312-567-9910

City Cultural Center Showcases Melvin King

The paintings of Chicago artist Melvin King will be on display in the Renaissance Court of the Chicago Cultural Center, through March 25. Born in Chicago, King still has roots in West Mississippi. His vivid depiction's of African American culture presents racial issues and historic events, as well as laid back and uplifting aspects of daily life. The exhibit is presented by the Chicago Department on Aging. For more information, call (312) 744-4150.

6th Ward Complaints

Sixth Ward residents complained of poor mail and bus service as main issues at a Town Meeting with Ald. Freddonna Luke at 5743 N. 1st Ave. "The representatives said they would take the problems back to their headquarters," said Franklin Smith, Luke's Assistant.

Prison Ministries at Universal House of Refuge Center

WPMUHRC is a part of Chicago's ongoing efforts to provide services to the African American community. It is a not-for-profit organization with years of experience to provide services in prison outreach programs, spiritual & cultural awareness, health education (HIV/AIDS), substance abuse counseling, family/youth counseling, male/female development, youth development/mentoring, support groups and pastoral care. Getting Caught Up! An Introduction to incarceration is the theme of the event, Saturday, March 24, 2001, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Center for Urban Studies, 700 E. 26th Blvd. For information and to reserve a seat at this free workshop, please call (312) 777-4008, ext. 1657.

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Grand Blvd. - Frederick Rais, 19, one of the seven witnesses who recanted their grand jury testimony in the Tolliver case, was allegedly beaten in the Robert Taylor Homes by city police detectives around 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18. An unidentified woman who witnessed the beating said, "They threw him down and beat him like a dog. His nose was bleeding, and he was spitting blood from his mouth. They were stomping him in the stomach!"

Witnesses said two Black men jumped out of a yellow cab, grabbed Rais and began beating him. Without identifying themselves as detectives, the two men threw the teenager to the ground. One officer jumped on his back with both feet.

"They beat that little brother real bad," another unidentified witness said. "He was handcuffed on the ground and said 'I can't breathe, I can't breathe,' but they just kept on kicking him in the stomach. Then they knocked on the janitor's door to get napkins to clean up the evidence. I told his mother to make sure he goes to the hospital because he was throwing up blood."

"Rais' mother rushed to the station when she heard her son had been beaten. She was only allowed to see him in the presence of police and detectives. "He told me they grabbed him," she said. "He didn't know who they were."

"This is outrageous," Willie Herron, spokesperson for the Tolliver family said. "It is probably the first beating of a witness in the aftermath of the Tolliver trial."

Rais originally testified in court that his grand jury testimony was coerced by a previous beating and threats.

Statements made by Mayor Richard Daley and Police Superintendent Terry Hilliard may have contributed to an atmosphere of legitimizing this retaliation and intimidation of the witnesses by the police. Juror Sam Shipp has received numerous death threats by phone. The public attacks on Shipp by major officials may prevent future jurors from voting their conscience.

Residents of Robert Taylor report increased police harassment and abuse, including strip searches and threats.

A statement prepared by the Robert Taylor Fighting For Justice organization demanded that in the case of Jonathan Tolliver, "the police should keep their hands off of the witnesses and stop intimidating them."

The Tolliver Family has called on concerned citizens to attend the March 15th sentencing hearing at the Cook County Courthouse.

_Continued on page 10_
**Savings**

"We (MSPDC) will be seeking the support of the community and affected officials by a letter campaign to the alderman to maintain the historical legacy of the Palm Tavern before putting Ms. Oliver out of business." 

The City has not totally set the date on taking the Palm Tavern property. However, Atty. Gary Fresen who has represented Ms. Oliver for over four years suggest this coming court date can result in a padlock on the doors within 90 days.

Although many attempts by community groups were made to discuss the future of 47th Street a long with Germi's Palm Tavern, the Department of Planning would not answer any concern.

Ms. Oliver, with Fre- sen's assistance applied for a Rezoning Permit to convert this to an Empowerment Zone Grant to re- turn the neighborhood to its former state, but did not move forward because Ms. Oliver did not own the property. 

She also made attempts to purchase the property along with other community investors, but closings were stopped in the legal proceedings.

The City's Law Depart- ment could not say what the City plans are for the property once they have it. But a Request For Proposal (RFP) will be announced for developers.

Under eminent domain, a city law that gives the city the right to take prop- erty for the good of the public interest, Fresen questioned the City's ac- tions to another case in the Atlantic Court of Illinois, Fifth District. Under the social contract in eminent domain cases, the private landowner relinquished their property to the government and the public is likened to bene- fit. "Taking of private property is justified only when the third-party benefi- ciciary is the public. But in the Palm Tavern case, it is not clear who would be the third party to benefit for the RFP and how will the public benefit.

But, the City is not just focusing on the Palm Tavern; property on 47th Street, from Calumet on the west to St. Lawrence on the east is effective. Many businesses have moved to the west side and others re- maining are just waiting for the city to move them out.

In the city’s Market Analysis, it identified clubs form around the city, excluding the Palm Tavern to be part of the 47th Street Blues District which includes the 47th Street Culture Center (Low Rawls Cultural Center to complement the concept of an entertainment dis- trict.

The civic leaders of the plans the City and the alderman for has for the Palm Tavern is a con- cern from President McCul- lough, President of the Black Economic & Political Action Network (BEPLAN). "The Palm Tavern is the only busi- ness that reflects Chicago’s historical past, we must preserve this in- stitution.

"The City and the Till- man believes that they have an economic plan that will help strengthen the community," said Hill. "I think there has been some methodology in this. So we are not expecting what it may be. But, since the concept is a Blues Dis- trict and you (City) assist outside clubs to locate in our community, early you can solicit inside business such as the historical Palm Tavern to be apart of it. If not it seems personal to me."

"We don’t know who’s got more influence with the development of 47th street." Stress McCul- lough. "However this "Land Crab is going to take over. I think it helps the community for the city to sit down and talk. There is a need for a more effi- cient way to community development than ex- cluding historical land- marks such as the Palm Tavern."

Other than the latter campaign of MSPDC, neither McCullough nor Hill contacted talks with the City or Ald. Tillman. However, they both said civil and community ac- tivists have begun dialogue to ad- dress their concerns with city govern- ment.
VOTE No! on Bill 602P

U.S. Wants Cut of 5¢ on All E-Mail!!

It figures! No more free E-mail! Please read the following carefully if you intend to stay on-line and continue using E-mail.

We knew this was coming. The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the United States Government's attempt to quietly push through legislation that will affect our use of the Internet.

Under proposed legislation, the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bill E-Mail users a "alternative postage fees". Bill 602P will permit the Federal Government to charge a 5-cent surcharge on every E-Mail delivered, by billing Internet Service Provider. The consumer will then be billed in turn by the ISP.

The whole point of the Internet is democracy and non-interference. You are already paying an exorbitant price for small mail because of bureaucratic inefficiency. It currently takes up to 6 days for a letter to be delivered from coast to coast. If the U.S. Postal Service is allowed to link with E-mail, it will mark the end of the "free" Internet in the United States.

Our congressional representative, Tony Schnell (R) has even suggested a "$20-$40 per month surcharge on all "Internet service" above and beyond the governments proposed E-Mail charges. Note, most of the major newspapers have ignored the story, the only exception being the Washingtonian which called the idea of E-Mail surcharge "a useful concept who's time has run out.

The problem is business fronts baiting rebellious teenagers on the Internet and in states where they are already considered adults and then forcing them through bureaucratic procedures. Haqq believes his "extremely bright" 17-year-old daughter unknowingly became involved in a ring.

After she was bailed on the Internet, she left her mother in focus Abdul-Haqq, 17, bailed on the Internet, became involved in a ring that resulted in her death.

Bill 602P will only take a few moments of your time and could very well be instrumental in killing a bill we do not want.

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South Street Journal March 8 - 21, 2001
Thomas clears path as 17th ward alderman

Incumbent 17th Ward Alderman Latasha Thomas walked away with 37 percent of the 33,121 registered voters who cast ballots in the primary. One of her supporters predicted both challengers would be lucky if they received 1,000 votes together. A prediction proven with 40 votes off the mark.

However, the question remains her loyalty with the support of three major operatives of the 17th Ward, Father Michael Pfleger, former Alderman Terry Peterson and Mayor Richard M. Daley. One voter noted that only 1/3 of the 33,121 registered voters cast ballots in the primary. Daley and Thomas walked away with 87 percent of the vote.

Tyrone De'Andre Hawthorne, businessman and community activist, wants town hall meetings for initial input plans for housing and business development.

Hawthorne with the endorsements of South Street Journal, the Chicago Sun-Times, and the Chicago Defender calling for an independent alderman in the City Council was not enough for his anti-Daley and alderman independent message.

Voters did not seem to sway his way. Many voters felt the improvements in the ward started by Peterson were an asset, and they look to Thomas to continue the direction of this ward development.

However, many believe Hawthorne’s style of campaigning and taking a position on the issue prove him to be a well worth candidate. However, his small margin of victory was assisted with a strong endorsement of the Black community.

Latasha R. Thomas, attorney and city worker, was a well worthy candidate. However, his small margin of victory was assisted with a strong endorsement of the Black community.


corporate

The National Black United Front presents the third lecture in its Reparations Lecture Series featuring Adjoa A. Ayetro

Saturday, March 24, 2001 AGAPE M.B. Church, 6035 S. Ashland Avenue Doors open at 3:00 p.m. Program begins at 4:00 p.m.

in conjunction with N’COBRA, Chicago Chapter; State Senator Donne Trotter, 16th Senatorial District; Black United Fund; Northeastern Illinois University; Center for Inner City Studies; Kemetic Institute BEPAN; and Christ Apostolic Church Lecture A Review of N’COBRA’s Lawsuit Against the United States Government Regarding Reparations for U.S. Citizens of African Descent.
Mayor Daley's Neighborhood Ordinances

Richard Daley has set the following goals for the 2001 year for neighborhood ordinances to pass in the City Council.

"The goal of these ordinances is to address issues that people see in their communities every day—abandoned and dilapidated buildings, gang and drug crime and the harmful effects that predatory lending practices have on the housing market," said Mayor.

"By providing these tools to the community, we can make Chicago a better place to live."

Highlights of this year's legislation include:

• vacant building registration and in-include:
  • revised gang loitering ordinance
  • predatory lending ordinance
  • amendments to taxicab ordinance
  • air conditioning for long-term care
  • revised drug house ordinance amendments (passed 8/30/00): Amendments would allow the City, take the buildings from their own-
ers, evict drug dealers and place landlords in jail. This could happen only after a felony trial, or two or more drug violations have oc-
curred during a year on the premises, and only after the owner refused to take abatement mea-
sures ordered by the City. The City can begin eviction proceedings when there have been two or more drug violations in an apartment within six months, and the landlord can be charged with the City's costs up to a maximum of $5,000.
  • air conditioning for long-term care facilities (passed 8/27/00): Requires the owners of long-term care facili-
ties, including nursing homes, to install air conditioning.
  • amendments to taxicab ordinance (pass 11/19/00): The City also plans to create a new category of medallions, of which 200 would be distributed next year to qualified contract taxis through a Request for Proposal process. 100 of the medallions would be designated as wheelchair-accessible vehicles and all 200 cab drivers would govern no less than 40% of their fare from unde-
served communities or by servicing passengers with physical disabilities.

Throughout the next year, my admin-
istration will continue to work with com-
mittees throughout our city to address neighborhood issues with new and innovative programs and ser-
ices," said Mayor Daley.

The African American Contractors Association cordially invites you to our
Tenth Annual
Membership/Awards Reception

Keynote Speaker
Earl G. Graves
Chairman, Editor and Publisher of Black Enterprise magazine

Wednesday, March 14, 2001
5:00 pm until 9:00 pm
Illinois Institute of Technology
Hermann Hall Ballroom
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hungry that was turning increasingly black. The smell you'd see some-
thing like. I kept saying to myself, as my lunch pinged back, squinting at the menu from behind an expensive-looking pair of sunglasses. Take them off! I kept telling myself, as my lunch bunched from the warehouse quickly stepped away.

Three people behind me were cursing under their breaths. But the smiling Arab who owned the place was turning strangely familiar. It was a cloudy day in April of 1998 I met Cassius. The

That pitiful please, he said. I turned around caus-

"You I don't know the right to ask," he said hesitantly, "but could you come over for a second?" The

The looking hong in traffic were scratching and blinding white around me, mirroring my thoughts as I stepped forward slowly. I stepped dead in my tracks as I heard my grand-

A Salu

Dear Editor:
La Palmer has been appointed the editor of the year for his unparal-
leled research and his dedication to the community. His Notebook will be a guide for us all in the future. Mr. Palmer was a very kind and understanding person to the Black community at large. He had a vision for the Black community that he wanted to bring to life. He was a great man and a great friend to his community.

The Last Train

Dear Editor:

"Blacks should vote for the political party that is best for them," said the Harvest In-
stitute, a think tank.

Dr. Benjamin Mays, have

promised a monument contribution to the growth and knowledge of Black people. Men of intel-
rlectual achievement, such as Lerohe Bennett, John Hope Franklin, and

I don't have the right to ask," he said

I extended my hand.

"Wait, sister," he said desperately.

I backed away a little frightened. Then I whis-

"Don't worry," he said seriously. "His eyesight is

"That's sad, but at least he looks well taken care of," I said, "I just want one meal in the next few seconds.

"Fine" he said, weakly fingering his arm into an arm gage up and down and his threat.

I looked defiantly as he tilted his head, staring into the distance and raised his thumb across his thick lips. That one bite at the head, joy dancing in his eyes of brown sweetness, burning through me like a forest fire. He noticed a wound I had, he said it was strange.

"You're cute he said, pausing, taking a long breath before beginning to eat, "You're cute," he said, "I just want one meal in the next few seconds.

"You just up and quit, just like that?" I asked.

"Just like that," he answered, rubbing his hands on his knees. "Just showed the little girl my briefcase and left. Didn't even give a formal resignation." He finished up saying over his face.

"Why? I asked.

"Because I was dying inside. The money was good, the perks were amazing, but I knew if I didn't get out, I would die.

"Well, I just want one meal in the next few seconds."

(Continued on page 12)
Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

"A Tribute to Mr. Lu Palmer"

for legacy of love for his people.

for the understanding, loyal and unoffending spirit.

for purpose, for sure this is why we were put on this earth, to guide and help, for, for that is what you are, a great human being, the best by far.

for life which you so willingly put on the line just to give food for thought that one day your people would be free and peace they would someday find.

for the most valuable friend one could have, never any doubt be cause you've been there.

for eagle for that is what you were soaring through the community getting out the word, Educating the people about the things they had not heard.

for realist for that is what you have been and I will never forget you my dear, dear, friend.

Sincerely,
Mable Cole

A.D.C.

Your attention is called to the fact that on February 17th, we were victorious in the 7th Ward because we sent a message to Mayor Daley that there is a segment of our community that will stand up against dictatorship. When it became apparent there was a challenge going against his appointee, I'm sure he expected an older, more experienced individual to lead the crusade. Never before had I anticipated he would anticipate a 28-year old leading this movement for his already causing so much consternation.

They tried to label me a drug dealer and a gang member, instead of the successful businessman I am, or the Simon High School graduate who stood up against those with college degrees and won every debate and political handout hands down. You've sent me a signal.

However, we must now begin to build stronger, more grassroots organizations for an agenda to take this movement to the next level. The fact that we were able to bring back questions for a Black Political Agenda is also a good foundation, not to mention 10% is good too. It was so ironic that my pension number was 6 because that number represents foundation.

The most critical problems we have to face in the land grab issue, the Agenda: and a focus on economic development with emphasis on our most precious resource: our youth.

I won recently asked what I’d do as alderman for my first 30 days in office. Well, regardless of the outcome of the election, my plans stay the same as when the question was first asked of me. I will get to work the 17th Ward Assembly and spearhead a mass voter registration drive.

I say to all of you, I have not given up, not in you, not in myself, not in God, and in His will, next time, we will do just send a message, we will secure political power— not just in the 17th Ward.

Respectfully and sincerely,

Tyrone De'André Hawthorne

March 8, 2001, Volume 8 Number 9

South Street Journal

Page 9

Reparations, Lawsuits & N'COBRA

By Dr. Conrad W. Werrill

The National Co-chairs of the National Coalition on Abolition of Slavery in America (N'COBRA). Brother Hannibal Afrik, in describing the formation of N'COBRA, wrote that, "In 1987, a call was made for a new organization to address the issue of fundamental rights for those of African ancestry." Brother Afrik explained that this was to: that call, that called the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA). In this regard, Brother Afrik points out, "since 1988, this group has developed a number of strategies to organize African Americans to press leaders and the comprehensive strategies that must be employed to make the demands of reparations a reality.

Our next Reparations Lecture will take place on Saturday, March 24, 2001, at the 70s Episcopal Church, 6335 S. Ashland Avenue in Chicago. The Parish of the 70s Episcopal Church and N'COBRA Reparations Lecture will focus on the efforts of N'COBRA to develop a file and a Reparations Lawsuit against the United States Government.

N'COBRA's Legal Strategies Commission Chairperson, Attorney Adina A. Aytes, from Washington, D.C., will be our guest speaker and she will discuss the "Origin, Development, and Status of the N'COBRA Reparations Lawsuit against the United States Government."

Attorney Aytes is eminently qualified to address this topic given her vast legal background as a "Movement Lawyer." She is a social justice advocate with expertise in administration, program development, and litigation. Aytes is also a consultant for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. She is also on the Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America. This presentation will focus on the efforts of N'COBRA to develop a file and a Reparations Lawsuit against the United States Government. Aytes has been there.

She was the special leader with expertise in administration, program development, and litigation. Aytes is also a consultant for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. She is also on the Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America. This presentation will focus on the efforts of N'COBRA to develop a file and a Reparations Lawsuit against the United States Government.

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Woodlawn’s Christ Apostolic Church is First in USA to Conduct Pan-African Spiritual Service

Professor Chinezeuwa from Nigeria spoke at the first Pan African Spiritual Service in an American church on Dec. 17, at Christ Church, 1445 E. 65th St. The service made the church the first to focus on reparations for Blacks in the United States to achieve justice for the pain and suffering of their African ancestors. A sign stating “Black Reparations Now!” was placed over the church entranceway. Music by the choir and church musicians accompanied the service.

The National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America has been leading the movement for 11 years. This year, it intends to file a lawsuit for the reparations. The service by a faith-based institution was critical for mobilizing support for reparations.

You hosted our esteemed Nigerian scholar, Professor Chinweizu, who conducted a Pan-African Spiritual Service which was highlighted by the stirring melodic voice of the Sanctuary Ensemble and musicians. The church family was most gracious in extending love and hospitality to all visitors.

For over 11 years, N’COBRA has been leading the modern Reparations Movement to achieve justice for the pain and suffering of our African ancestors. We are now poised to file a National Class-Action Lawsuit in early 2001, and the support of all faith-based institutions is very critical to our mass mobilization.

We look forward to continued success from Christ Church and the Chicago N’COBRA chapter throughout the new year. By your commitment, you are a beacon of hope and enlightenment for African people in America.

God bless you always. In unity and struggle,

Mrs. Annie Ruth Badie, National Co-chairperson

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Woodlawn’s Christ Apostolic Church is First in USA to Conduct Pan-African Spiritual Service

Professor Chinezeuwa from Nigeria spoke at the first Pan African Spiritual Service in an American church on Dec. 17, at Christ Church, 1445 E. 65th St. The service made the church the first to focus on reparations for Blacks in the United States to achieve justice for the pain and suffering of their African ancestors. A sign stating “Black Reparations Now!” was placed over the church entranceway. Music by the choir and church musicians accompanied the service.

The National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America has been leading the movement for 11 years. This year, it intends to file a lawsuit for the reparations. The service by a faith-based institution was critical for mobilizing support for the suit.

Rev. Dr. Leon Finney, Jr.
Christ Apostolic Church
1445 E. 65th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

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Dear Rev. Finney,

Thank you so much for your time.

By drawing close to God and praying to Him for that inner strength to cope with life’s ups and downs, we will be helped by God. This is exactly what the Bible promises in Philippians 4:6-7.

The Bible also teaches us how we can draw closer to God and get His guidance in our lives. The brochure I am enclosing discusses what God requires of us and it has many topics you can benefit from.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Annie Ruth Badie
Ask Mother
You don't have to be a victim, bud

Dear Mother Diva,

I am a 44-year-old married black male. My wife and I have been married for 12 years, married 9. We both have adult children from prior relationships. The problem is my wife is a mean bitch. I don't know if she is crazy or going through the motions. We both have adult children from prior relationships. Last we talked we were seeing each other. I just posted and feed my cat. My wife says I love the cat more than her. My people have suggested prayer, a marriage counselor or leaving my wife, but I do not want to work. I finally convinced her to get a part time job so she would not be stuck in the house all day. Only God knows how long that will last. At one point I left her and moved in with my parents, but I still paid all the bills. Six months ago I cheated and am thinking self. I will pray for you.

Love always,

Mother Diva

Englewood still Measuring the Threats Opportunity:

Englewood - The Greater Englewood Community and Family Task Force (GECFT) have been holding community strategy sessions to address major unanswered questions on the "Rebirth of Englewood" programs. Early this year the Task Force began to write a book on the community, which was to be published in the fall. The book was to be distributed to all residents and organizations say have any significant history servicing Greater Englewood residents. The book will contain a funding partnership with a tool. It would provide power to collect property, isolate and redirect property taxes dollars, and control the community s redevelopment goal. A major concern is that if the City's housing plan would raise the community's cost of living and shorten the life of local Section 8 vouchers that may cause development displacing the current residents? For more information, call the GECFT at 436-4870.

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Ph: 773/434-7430 Fax: 773/434-7725
Yaw B. Mintah Executive Director

Diva
these years because it's cheaper to keep her and I am testify. I want to do something positive like go to church and back to medical school. but the way she is now is going to church and back to medical school

Lately I work overtime just to stay out of the house. I just post and feed my cat. My wife says I love the cat more than her. My people have suggested prayer, a marriage counselor or leaving my wife, but I do not want to work. I finally convinced her to get a part time job so she would not be stuck in the house all day. Only God knows how long that will last. At one point I left her and moved in with my parents, but I still paid all the bills. Six months ago I cheated and am thinking self. I will pray for you.

Love always,

Mother Diva
"Because I was dying inside. The money was good, the perks were amazing, but I knew if I didn’t get out, I would die."

"Well, I guess you don't see what you want to see, or disperse it."

"That's an easy response, sister," he said, "Tell me what you really think."

"I think you have no sense at all. Stick with things you hate," I said, "You're a hard, all you have to survive..."

"His eyes widened a little. He closed them to ease the side of my face. "You don't really believe that," he said."

My face was on fire, but he touched me. I tried to remain calm and focused,directing my thoughts on my question.

"Yes," I said, "feeling light-headed and exhausted. "We have to think about the consequences of our acts..."

"What's your name?" he asked, breaking in once again.

After a short silence, I answered, "Roxanne Daniels." He looked as if he had just struck me across the face. Then he grabbed me by the shoulders and held me tightly, looking me straight in the eye. "I don't like like this," he said, "and I don't want to like this..."

"Your name is different," I said. Letting go of my hands, he said, "but you're not the same person as before."

"I didn't recognize you, either," said the unidentified man.

"That's true," I said, "my name should have stayed the same now as well..."

"I don't want to see you chauvinistic, grabbing my hands and telling me how to look and feel." He said, "I want to see you strong and independent..."

"Your name is different," I said. Letting go of my hands, he reached up, placed the scar from my head, and brushed strands of hair from my face. Before he answered, "It was my grandfather's middle name. I thought it was the tone more sounded professional and imposing than Joseph."

"And the name?" I asked. "Here's," he answered, wrinkling playfully at me, "I hate position."

"We both laughed...

"Let's go someplace," he said. "I don't care what you like as long as it's away from the car, screaming for my life..."

"That was the first kiss for Cass and me. We best friends would later become..."

Hollywood in Chicago

Two Hollywood movie studios and filmmakers have headed here for filming in anticipation of a lengthy actor's strike due June 30.

The weekend of Feb. 16, double Oscar nominated director of Errol Brockoff and Traffic, Steven Soderbergh did five days of shooting here for his movie remake of "Oceans Eleven" with George Clooney and Matt Damon.


Rappin Tats Ask for time of WGGI

WGGI may be blocking homecoming favorite Rappin Tats the Great's latest CD, "R.A.D. (Rapper 'nator, Excorator, All Deflectors)."

Supporters of Rappin Tats have solicited SSJ so it can play the group and get the support for the hot tapes single, "youths and adults are dying for..."

"We are asking to send request to WGGI, 630 N. McClurg Ct., Chicago, 11001. In addition, Rappin Tats will be announcing an upcoming event later in March.

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Coalition Protests Lack of Blacks in Production of 'All Movie'

Filming around 4th and Wentworth, a coalition of Black film producers are seeking for community support against SONY/Columbia Pictures' production of 'All movie,' starring George Clooney and Matt Damon.

"There is no key position held by a person of color," stated a unidentified representative of the Black Filmmakers Coalition in Chicago.

The organization pointed out that little of the $105 million budgeted for the picture will go to African American film technicians.

Currently, the Black Film Technicians hold approximately 10 out of 300 jobs on the production. A spokesperson reported, "calling the tactics an act to keep black people off this production..."

"Device, underrathered, and blatantly exclusionary..."

"My, Will Smith Absolutely has for, whatever reason, to remain silent on this issue."

Anxious Beauty (Department Store)

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**AT THE FLICKS**

**THE VISIT**

(****) Hill Harper delivers a complex performance as the centerpiece of filmmaker Jordan Walker-Pearlman's film based on a true story from a stage play. The film investigates the shattering of a family's ideals because of the imprisonment of their youngest son. Harper portrays Alexander Walker, who, after serving five years of a 25-year jail term for murder, is Subscribe and can't come to terms with his family, who are devastated by his arrival. Walker was a crack-head who evidently killed his abusive father. She makes a surprise visit to help Alex replace his bitterness with compassion. Rolumus (Tyrese Gibson) helps Alex confront his demons with stories of his life. The Visit is a deeply rooted human tapestry to DOWN TO EARTH

**THE PRISONER**

(****) A riveting video by its packaging in order to capitalize on one of Jackie Chan's early screen roles. A crooked prison warden uses inmates to arrange fake deaths in order to kill for him and protect his drug cartel business, or anyone who crosses him to expose his true identity. So when a police commander is murdered, his junior detective protégé (Andy Lau) goes undercover in the prison seeking to expose the truth. There, he encounters an inmate (Sammo Hung) who keeps escaping to visit his son. And an imprisoned pool hustler marks for death for accidentally killing a mother's brother. (Rated: R, 96 min. Columbia Tri-Star Home Video

**ON VIDEO**

THE ORIGINAL KINGS OF COMEDY

(****) Director Spike Lee's documentary follows the onstage performances and backstage camaraderie of four of today's hot comedy comics. Steve Harvey, Whoopi Goldberg, Eddie Murphy and Richard Pryor. It's hilarious fun. Rated: R, 115 min. BLESS THE CHILD

(****) Fronted of the arrival of a God-sent child, Kim Beasinger stars as a woman forced to murder a 9-day-old infant of a drug addict relative. When the child turns 6 (get the reference to the Devil?), she becomes the chosen one with the unique power that an anti-Chris religious group led by a fanatic leader (Russell Crowe) Setup her for ritualistic sacrifice. Jimmy Smits co-stars as the detective on the case. Rated: R 199 min. THE QUEENS OF COMEDY

(****) Recent TV cable special shown on Showtime is designed to complement the theatrical major stand-up version. However, getting rusty doesn't make it better. Chicago's own Adline Godwin is a host. Somewhere seems to voice pattern herself like Chris Rock. TV's "The Parkers". Minnie Driver's run on any people is hilarious enough to be smart and insightful. Laura Hayes enunciates the affair alongside getting her bites in. It's crude and crazy from start to finish, covering topics in sex in prison, and Clinton's sex-scants. Rated R, 74 min. BEAUTIFUL

(****) Safia Field makes an adequate directorial debut with this comedy dramedy about an ambitious single woman (Minnie Driver) whose lifelong obsession to become pageant queen, leads to a moral dilemma over her responsibility toward a child (Julienne Ekle Christ) who doesn't know who her birth mother. Joy Lauren Adams plays the woman's best friend, raising the child to keep her from being disqualified until Driver's character becomes a finalist and the daughter begins to ask questions. This is an odd film about choices and obligations that focuses more on the situation than on being completely truthful in its depictions. Rated: PG-13, 112 min. Columbia Tri-Star
MARY SISTRUCK, a former resident in the Robert Taylor Homes for 25 years and a mother of 6 is income for seven children. The two-stay townhomes which were built by 1984 and have large eat-in kitchens, ample cabinets, an extra bathroom in the master bedroom, wall-to-wall carpeting, laundry facilities and clean lines with playground equipment, do not look like the stereotypical public housing. Some have 4-3 bedrooms, others have two apartments.

So the new homes meet the needs of large low-income families. Also, on the westside are the one-story rowhomes rehabilitated by ABHA. Outside, the only difference between them and those not rehabilitated is color; the rehabilitated homes are tan and the others are natural brick. Although the yards of the townhomes which have to visit the north side, have large eat-in kitchens, ample cabinets, an extra bathroom in the master bedroom, wall-to-wall carpeting, laundry facilities and clean lines with playground equipment, do not look like the stereotypical public housing. Some have 4-3 bedrooms, others have two apartments.

The Wentworth Gardens' rowhouses near the site. (Continued from page 1)

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LaSalle Bank Opens branch on 95th St.

Residents Seek Pledges for Community Credit Union

Washington Park-Woodlawn—Residents of neither neighborhood—neighbors have kicked off a massive pledge drive designed to secure community support for a federal credit union.

Fed up with payday lenders, exorbitant exchange fees and the lack of adequate banking services in their communities, residents have formed the Washington Park-Woodlawn Committee for a Community Credit Union. They see a credit union as a way to address their communities' persistent need for low-cost financial services and credit at "reasonable" interest rates.

The pledge drive in the critical phase of the credit union organizing process. The Committee has set a goal of obtaining 1,500 pledges over the next five months from community residents, businesses, churches, block clubs, community organizations, and social service agencies.

Any person or legal entity that works, worships, lives in, or attends school in Washington Park or Woodlawn will be eligible for membership. Persons outside the area of membership are welcome to open accounts but may not be able to secure loans.

Although Washington Park is home to 20,000 people (1990 U.S. Census), the bank is located within the community. Spokespersons say, even where banks have re-opened branches in inner-city communities, their communities remain vastly underserved, according to Al Hofeld of the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago. He is working with the Committee to form the credit union.

The credit union will be 100 percent community-owned and operated, not-for-profit, financial cooperatives that provide financial services and loans to members.

The Washington Park-Woodlawn Community Credit Union plans to offer free savings and checking accounts. By law, all savings accounts will be insured up to $100,000 by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund. The credit union will also make loans to individuals, small businesses, and nonprofits.

Nationally, 65% of African American communities do not have a bank, according to South Shore Bank. Instead, the primary financial services remains the currency exchange. The seven in Washington Park and six in Woodlawn provide basic financial services, charge poor people hefty fees and siphon capital out of the community.

Studies by the Woodstock Institute and the Maryland Center of Community Development show the average person who switches from a currency exchange to a credit union for financial services saves $250-$450 per year. Unlike a bank, a credit union requires no minimum deposit balance to open or maintain an account and assesses no monthly penalty fees on accounts. Even the overdraft fee at the credit union will be less than half of what most Chicago area banks charge.

Other membership benefits include financial incentive for members to save, improve or build positive credit ratings; individualized counseling and community workshops on money management, credit management and business development, and member alerts about schemes of predatory lenders.

Patton says the numbers in the buildings decreased because CBA began to put residents out for eviction and for their children's bad behavior. When that did not work, "they would put something on those kids," she said. After the youths went to court, the charges would be dropped, she said.

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A community of opportunity to conference awaits you Saturday March 31, 2001, 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Office of South Street Journal. This is an invitation for Advisory Board Members, Investors, Friends and interested readers to share awareness, suggestions and relationships of an Open Newspaper.

Meet with the Staff, Advisors, and Owners of South Street Journal to learn more how you can not only connect with others who are just like you, committed to the FREEDOM of the PRESS, but also want to take part in its operations.

Feed back from the community into the direction of South Street Journal is of great magnitude. Relationships with individuals, organizations and agencies substantiate the newspaper for considerable social involvement and commitment in ensuring SSJ represents your community direction.

We look forward to your presence. Refreshments will be served and a special art drawing for all subscribers.

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*Expires 4/1/2001