

South Street Journal

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S E R V I N G C H I C A G O ' S S O U T H S I D E C O M M U N I T Y

Palm Tavern: "No plan, Is a Bad Plan"

Grand Blvd. - For more than five years, the future of east 47th Street and Gerri's Palm Tavern have been over shadowed by politics and various city plans. Two maps were proposed in 1988 and 1998, both indicated most of the businesses on 47th Street would be replaced. On May 22, the City of Chicago plans to officially takeover Gerri's Palm Tavern, under the eminent domain process. With this latest developments, community supporters of Gerri's are worried about the City's direction on Bronzeville's 47th Street future.

One of many supporters and organizations working to preserve the Palm Tavern is Nathan Thompson, of the "Committee to Save Palm Tavern", and author of "Historical Bronzeville", a book about the numbers racket, which included Jim Knight, first owner of the Palm Tavern and a numbers runner himself. Mr. Thompson says the Palm Tavern represents more than the past. "This was the

place where ideas were exchanged, tunes discussed, and collaborations conceived, it is our link to the future."

"Generations of African-Americans sat foot in these doors. Duke Ellington, James Brown, Count Basie, Dizzy Gillespie, Quincy Jones, Muddy Waters, politicians, business leaders, athletes, and entertainers made the club. So, it's not just about Gerri's Palm Tavern. It's about 47th Street," explained Thompson. "People are finally realizing this and in the last few days we have received several calls on the state of the Palm Tavern. People from all over the county are upset about the City taking possession without a public plan announced on the future of the tavern." The Palm Tavern has been under management by GERALD

MAYOR DALEY'S PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO
RICHARD M. DALEY, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Gerri Oliver, who is 80 years young and owner of the historic Palm Tavern, will gather with her friends and colleagues as they pay tribute to her strength to endure; and

WHEREAS, Gerri Oliver and the Palm Tavern are legendary across the globe and have inspired many to journey to Chicago to experience living history; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Tavern once provided a venue for artists, musicians, politicians and other celebrities, and continues to provide an arena of opportunity for emerging artists who seek a venue to ply their craft; and

WHEREAS, Gerri Oliver has been a cultural icon, refusing to alter the Palm Tavern and refusing to give up on 47th Street; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Tavern in an area known as Bronzeville, which is now experiencing a renaissance; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Tavern has been host to a number of renowned film stars, artists and film makers; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, February 13, from 12:00 noon until 12:00 am, a Midday to Midnight Gala will be hosted by the Friends of Gerri Oliver to show her their love and high esteem; and

WHEREAS, the event will feature emerging and established artists, musicians and poets, who will demonstrate their interpretation of the night's theme, *The Strength to Endure*;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim February 13, 2001, to be GERRI OLIVER DAY IN CHICAGO, and invite all Chicagoans to pay tribute and be aware of the events arranged for this day.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2001.
Signed, Richard M. Daley, Mayor.

May 6, 1999

Ms. Gerri Oliver
446 East 47th Street
Chicago, IL 60653-4106

Dear Ms. Oliver:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, it is a pleasure to congratulate you as you celebrate 66 years in business. For the past 66 years, the Palm Tavern has been an active participant in the business community in the Chicago area. Your success over the years has contributed to the economic vitality of your community as well as our state. For a number of following its opening in 1933, the Palm Tavern was a meeting place for many of the legends in jazz and rhythm and blues music. It continues to be a historic landmark that preserves memorabilia of famous customers and patrons.

The longevity and growth of your business are derived from a strong commitment to sound business practices, service and the dedication of your employees. Best wishes for continued success and a memorable celebration.

Sincerely,
George H. Ryan
Governor

GHR/goca/sr

dine (Gerri, a.k.a. Mama Gerri) Oliver, for the past 45 years, the only living link to "The Bronzeville Era".

When the Palm Tavern first opened its doors in 1933, the Chicago Defender called it "the most high-classed Negro establishment in America." Even Mayor Richard Daley and Gov. George Ryan have noted the Palm Tavern and its owner as a cultural icon and a historic landmark. Yet, this historic site is doomed to close as did the Regal Theater, the Met Theater, and many other clubs.

Gary W. Fresen, attorney for Ms. Oliver for over four years.

(Continued on page 3)

Issue Briefing #7

Licenses For Bribes

The Roots of Corruption is Closer to the Top

Illinois - Six of his children were burned to death in an auto accident involving a truck driver. Upon investigation it could have been avoided. Further reports revealed the driver should never have been issued a Commercial Drivers License (CDL) in the first place.

The investigation also uncovered rampant political corruption in the state agency that licenses truck drivers. In offices all over the state, employees came to believe their careers, evaluations, promotions, and pay increases all depended on their ability to raise campaign contributions for their political patron, then Secretary of State George Ryan.

The drive to raise political contributions and buy tickets to fund-raising events, led Department of Motor Vehicles employees all over Illinois to take bribes from applicants and from owners of driving schools according to federal indictments. Over 690 truck drivers and 470 passenger car drivers were licensed as a result.

(Continued on page 14)



Changing Our Communities One Issue At A Time

Roseland - What began with four church concern about direct action on community issues, is now a 15-church coalition that have, through the years, mobilized over 15,000 families to act on issues of importance in the Greater Roseland Community and has expanded to 74th Street.

Developing Communities Project is located at 212 E. 95th Street, and is moving its efforts to a Community-Wide Issues Assembly.

"It will be a time for community leaders and community organizations to voice their community's concerns", explains Michael Evans, the director of DCP.

"After the assembly, we will then began to implement a community-wide action plan to resolve the issues that we've highlighted to be addressed."

DCP is currently celebrating 15 years of service on the far southside continuing its mission to provide the necessary leadership training education tools, and skills to cultivate strong Christian family values throughout the far south side of Chicago.

The Urban Training Institute (UTI), facilitates the training components for DCP.

Church-Based Organizations Call for Citywide Assembly



Developing Communities Project, based in Roseland in one of their planning meetings for a Community-Wide Issues Assembly on April 26 at Lilydale Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 10706 S. Michigan Avenue.

Evans, a veteran community organizer stated that UTI engaged community leaders in a three-step process.

"First we had a Special Leadership Issues Training Sponsored by UTI on April 7, at 2nd

Mount Calvary Church, located on 74th and Western. We then held a Small Group Pre-Issues Assembly Meeting, April 19th at Christ Temple Cathedral Church, 62 W. 111th Place. This guided us to our

Community-Wide Issues Assembly, on April 26, at Lilydale Progressive Missionary Baptist Church,

(Continued Spiritual, on page 10)

Inside South Street



Merri Dee was at WGN for 29 years. Before then her time was spent being groomed for community relations.

The training began at home, 56th and Indiana. On October 30, 1936 at 11:56 p.m., "quite by accident" her pregnant

(Continued on page 8)

COLUMN:
Mother Diva
"Intimidated by Successful Black Women"
Page 6

PERSPECTIVE: Then Came The Thunder
Professor Willie Dixon
Page 8

EDITORIAL:
Protesters Vs. Rioters Page 9

The Digital Divide' page 14

The UnZip

by the Weatherman

Chicago Professional Taxicab Drivers Association said the Mayor's erroneous allegations that cabs do not service the underserved neighborhoods is a fabrication. This is a heinous statement by the commissioner and her sources to demean the cab industry so they can seize the medallions and resell them at a major profit according to Steve Wiedersberg.

Professor Sandra S. Block, O.D., M.Ed. of Illinois College of Optometry was one of only four inaugural recipients of the Women of Vision Impact Award, sponsored by Prevent Blindness America.



Mr. Clarence C. Terry requested a report from the Chicago Public Schools (under the Freedom of Information Act), for the number of teachers who have Ph.D's and Masters Degrees. The

number of teachers with Masters Degree's is 11,148, the basic salary is \$5,348.66 a month, and teachers with Doctorate Degree's is 163, the salary is approximately \$5,118.82 a month.

No word on the Chicago Defender's potential buyer, David Milliner. Word is there are two other potential buyers trying to buy the 96 year old black newspaper. In the meantime, Milliner has been promoting the community based health organization on the westside, accepting Mayor Daley's challenge to the private sector, to provide full employment for CHA residents and veterans. Don Doty, founder and CEO of Georgia Doty Health and Education Fund sponsored a Job and Health Resource Fair with a core of service contributors including Illinois College of Optometry.



Now on politicsIs Chicago Sun-Times columnist Lee Bey getting into politics, or is Mayor Daley leaving politics? Bey, the architecture critic will become Mayor Daley's Deputy Chief of Staff, reportedly, for all planning issues. Word is, he will oversee the Department of Planning and Development, including landmarks, (maybe the Palm

Tavern too?), The Building Department, Zoning, Housing, and the CHA overhaul (Terry what's going on?)

..... Did State Senator Donne Trotter mean it when he said certain State Representatives have "Gotta Go". One from the eastside of Chicago and two from the west side of the southside. Those words sound good to Derek McNeil, Woodlawn's questionable Illinois Senate candidate. He was just appointed to the Citizens Utility Board (CUB), and John Paul Jones, who smiles on his position of running for the seat. He was appointed to another CUB, (Children's Unlimited Board). He and his wife are expecting their eighth child this month....People's Energy is passing on some of their profits to Black Elected officials according to Illinois Politics. What the UnZip do know is Ald. Ed Smith received \$200, Representative Mary Flowers received \$200. Others such as Ald. Natarus and Rep. Dart received \$200.00



Sen. Donne Trotter

Tyrone De'Andre Hawthorne, candidate in the 17th Ward, sponsored "It's An Aries-Taurus Thang" Birthday Celebration, Saturday, April 14, at John Bell Hall. Special guests included in the celebration were Quiana & Rodney 3/29, Diamond 4/2, Shun 4/9, Smooth 4/14, and De'Andre 4/18.

Movie news in the hood, some black technical workers on the set of the Muhammad Ali movie are still very angry with the lack of black workers on the set, not to mention Will Smith's silence on the issues surrounding this production. The film was shooting around 59th and Wentworth, 72nd and Normal in Hamilton Park, 51st and Cottage in Washington Park, and in the Hyde Park community. It takes a great actor to play the "Greatest". Maybe he'll speak up in the movie and get an Oscar, since he's so "quiet on the set" now.

A National Stamp for Harold Washington



The 7th Annual "Special" Tribute to the late Mayor Harold Washington, celebrating his 79th Birthday was held at the Washington Park Fieldhouse, Sunday, April 15, led by Minister Robert Floyd Plump, who then joined others who

the career and contributions of the late mayor, who was the 42nd Mayor of the City of Chicago. The General Co-Chairmen are Congressmen

participated in a ceremony for the late Mayor at his gravesite at Oakwood Cemetery on 69th and Cottage Grove.

Continuing the recognition to Washington, a committee announced the initiation of a campaign to secure a United States Commemorative Stamp, in recognition of

Danny K. Davis (7th) and Bobby Rush (1st). The Committee which is in formation, consists of prominent business, religious and political leaders from Chicago and other parts of the nation.

A native Chicagoan who attended DuSable High School and spent more than 25 years in politics. He was State Representative in the Illinois General Assembly from 1964 - 1976; a State Senator from 1976 - 1980; a Congressman (1st) from 1980 -1983, and Mayor of Chicago from 1983 until his untimely death in 1987.

Saluting Lou Palmer.....



.....Who saluted the community.

Pictured with Eddie Read, during one of the many rallies organized by himself and, Lu Palmer, the noted journalist and activist is know for "Lu's Note Book, the phrase "Enough to Turn a Negro Black", and his efforts in the election of Harold Washington, retires from the media as a talk show host on WVON. He was saluted last month from a Who's Who list of political and social activist, including former Congressman Gus Savage from Washington D.C.. Mr. Palmer stated at the event his major task now is to bring the seniors and the youth together in addressing political and social ills of the communities. Where does the "movement" go from here?

Community Development Commission

The City of Chicago will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed Englewood Neighborhood Redevelopment Project and Tax Increment Financing program. The meeting is scheduled for May 8, at 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers at 121 North LaSalle Street

Harambee Umoja "Extended Family, Coming Together-ness" An African-Heritage Tribute -



Dr. Margaret Burroughs

A tribute to outstanding elders with a positive African Heritage will be honored at Capt's Hard Time Diner, 438 E. 79th St., Sunday, May 6, at 6:00 p.m., with an extended buffet. Honorees and speaker includes Dr. Margaret Burroughs and Oscar Brown Jr., and many others for their positive African heritage consciousness in various community activities and schools. For more information, call (773) 874-7189, Professor DeWitt Williams (Anu) Coordinator. Donation is \$25.

"What's in A Name" for Chicago Parks

Parks represents many unique preferences of the City. To name or rename a park, the party must have contributed to the civic betterment of the community, nationally, or on an international level. Letters from the public supporting the change are submitted to the park districts for approval. Five parks were officially renamed recently in Chicago, three of them are in the SSJ service area.

Former: Park 504, 901 E. Pershing Rd. Oakland community; New: Mandrake Park, The Coalition in Remembrance of Mandrake, headed by Lu Palmer, requested renaming the park Henry McNeil "Mandrake" Brown. The man who started the grassroots effort of removing all alcohol and tobacco related billboards that specifically targeted African-American and Latino children. The plan had opposition from Ald. Toni Preckwinkle (4th). However, the Chicago Park District approved the request in February 2000, and by Spring 2001, the district will complete a comfort station, playground, ball fields, tennis court, walking path and landscaping at the newly acquired Mandrake Park.

New Site: DuSable Harbor, Randolph and Lake Shore Drive. A fur trapper, businessman and founder of Chicago, Jean Baptiste DuSable was said to have built the first permanent home on the north bank of the Chicago River. In 1796, DuSable's granddaughter became the first child born in Chicago.



79th and Ada. New: Renaissance Park, St. Sabina Church's Father Michael Pflieger requested the naming of the park due to the revitalization taking place in the neighborhood. The park, according to Father Michael Pflieger, is yet another sign of life in the community. The District acquired 1.04 acres for the Renaissance park, which features a sculpture and fountain, benches and flower beds. Full completion is expected by this spring.

Other Park News:

In the Englewood neighborhood, Sherwood Park, 5701 S. Shields, received an additional 1.54 acres for development of a running track, ballfield, basketball court, playground, a toddlers' play area, an interactive water feature and parking. In the Chatham neighborhood, residents now have an additional 2.82 acres of parkland added to West Chatham Park, 8223 S. Princeton. Residents, who have been working with the district on park development, intend to include a multi-purpose field, pathways, interactive water feature, ornamental fencing and landscaping.

"No Funding for Minorities in College"

President George Bush in one of his first actions is supporting a bill to be heard in Congress this week to prohibit affirmative action in admissions for any institution of higher education that receives any federal funding (Pell grants, loans, etc.). The bill would end affirmative action in every college and university in the United States. Sources say many will lose if this bill becomes law. Many knew this was coming. This is a definite concern for college bound students and their parents.

Rep. Frank Riggs (R-CA) Chairman of the House Education Subcommittee on Children, Youth, and Families is planning to offer an Anti-Affirmative Action in admissions amendment when the Higher Education Act is voted on the floor. The amendment would prohibit all institutions of higher education from using affirmative action in its admission decisions. Even if one student at the institution receives federal funds (i.e., Pell Grant or Student Loan), they would be violating a federal law under this proposal.

Affirmative action would be illegal even if the school believes it is necessary to insure a diverse student body, or to remedy past or present discrimination. For information: E-mail address: <http://www.house.gov/riggs/contact.html> (Congressman Frank Riggs) Members of Congress (202) 224-3121, and to President Bush (202) 456-1414.

(Continued from page 1)

Palm Tavern

years, has dedicated his time and resources to document the history.

"Of the remaining historic buildings left in Bronzeville, none have their original interior or fixtures as does the Palm Tavern. The restaurant booths, the bar, the hat racks and other fixtures can be seen in photos dating back to the 1940's, and are in the Library of Congress and the Chicago Historical Society." David Gary, owner of the property has accepted the city's offer of about \$60,000 for the property, and for the city to pay outstanding water bills ranging in the thousands of dollars. With the purchase of the building, waving the outstanding water bill and offering to buy the fixtures from Ms. Oliver, it could be conceived that the city would not demolish the building.

Contrary to earlier reports, officials representing the City told or informed Ms Oliver, that once they purchase the Palm Tavern property from the owner, the city could then sell her the property for a dollar. Other city officials stated she would have nothing to worry about.

However, Fresen believes May 22 could be the last continuance for Ms. Oliver. "The City will be padlocking the doors and boarding up the windows." Fresen said.

"Historically, what the city is doing is controlling and/or taking out Black History in Chicago."

Over the years, sources reported Gray avoided selling the property to Oliver or to any other interested party, and kept her on a month-to-month lease. There-



Mayor Richard Daley and Ald. Dorothy Tillman are key officials in the fate of the Gerri's Palm Tavern.

fore, like many other businesses on 47th street, (from Indiana to St. Lawrence) who were afraid to invest in their businesses, are unsure of the status of ownership and the city's plans. In many cases like the Palm Tavern, repairs are needed on the roof, the furnace, and tuckpointing to stabilize the walls. The years of neglect on the building caused by the landlord resulted in damage to the fixtures.

"We are faced with a serious land-grab." Said Harold L. Lu-

cas President & CEO of the Black Metropolis Convention & Tourism Council. "And it is supported by elected officials, well connected developers, and city government." Mr. Lucas spearheaded the "Restoring Bronzeville" campaign, and his organization once owned the Supreme Life Building but lost it under the City's eminent domain process.

"This is a major crisis in Chicago, and we do not understand why our political leadership and Rainbow/Push have not taken a proactive position.

The Mayor's press office or the City's Department of Planning would not return numerous phone calls on the matter. Calls to Ald. Tillman's (3rd) of-

ice were not returned for comments.

Ald. Tillman, however, a year ago stated, "We are going to take the building." She as of yet has not announced publicly any plans for developers to participate in the future of the Palm Tavern.

Early reports of SSJ, the city's law department stated upon the city taking possession a Request-For-Proposal (RFP) must be issued for any new ownership or development to occur.

(Continued on page 12)

Expungement Bill avoid police judgement in arrest



SSJ File photo

State Representative Constance A. "Connie" Howard's Expungement Bill would automatically expunge or remove from an offender's record, court ordered supervisions, reversed convictions, certain misdemeanors and Class 4 felonies. Those convicted of felonies must not acquire other convictions during a waiting period of two or four years, and minors convicted as juveniles or adults and were sentenced to probation or a conditional discharge could have their records expunged.

Persons that have been arrested and/or convicted of misdemeanor and/or certain felony charges may be in for some good news in the future for sure.

State Rep. Constance A. Howard Expungement Bill would have the court enter an order expunging the record of persons from the official record of the arresting authority and order that

the records be sealed. The act would avoid police having a judgement on someone after running a check on them.

On Thursday April 5, 2001, State Rep. Howard successfully moved her historic expungement legislation one step closer to enactment. by a vote of 115 to 1. House Bill HR300, passed the Illi-

(Continued on page 6)

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The Nixon Report

By Lionel Nixon



Englewood Don't miss this! The Community Development Commission of the City of Chicago will hold a public hearing relative to the proposed Englewood Neighborhood Redevelopment Project Area and Tax Increment Financing Program. The meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 121 North LaSalle Street on the Second Floor. The Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act(65ILCS5/1174.4-1(et seq) (1996 State Bar Edition), provides all interested parties have the right to be given an opportunity to be heard, file a written objection if they so desire and even submit comments and/or an alternate plan. Seems the city has gotten it's act together and is actually following Illinois State law.

Also in Englewood, 16th Ward Alderman Shirley A. Coleman held a first-rate Town Hall meeting at Sherman Park 1301 West 53rd Street on Saturday, April 14, on the subject of housing. The event was widely attended by community residents and questions were answered by special guest speaker, Andrea Smith, Assistant Commissioner for Communications in the City of Chicago's Department of Housing.



Chicago State University in Englewood - African-American studies major's are holding their first annual luncheon at King Solomon's Mines in Englewood to provide a forum for recognizing student accomplishments, Sunday, April 29, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., for information contact Khafre Edge at (773) 995-2487.

Washington D.C.,- On April 2, 2001, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Secretary Mel Martinez, issued a EEO notice to all management employees of the department across the country, that they will now be held responsible and accountable for promoting EEO/AE/DIVERSITY in every aspect of the department's programs and practices. The most important thing Mel Martinez state's in this notice is "the department will take appropriate action when individual managers and supervisors fail to take such action."

As a former employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, I experienced first-hand the plight of African-American male employees in Washington D. C., and in the Illinois State office of HUD, relating to promotional opportunities and advancement. Will the new administration at HUD right some wrongs committed by the previous administration? Prediction: The answer is yes. Stay tuned.

In Chatham - Burdella Braden, Chairman of Saint Marks Church and Society Committee is to be commended along with her committee members for the hard work they have under taken in organizing their community forum on "Racial Profiling" to be held on Saturday, April 28, at the church located at 8441 S. St. Lawrence from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Bronzeville - The South Side Empowerment Zone Cluster annual meeting day is scheduled for Saturday, June 30, at the Harris YWCA, 62nd & Drexel. They would like to invite you to a Dusties/Steppers Fund-raiser that evening, for more information call Karen Bozeman Gross at (773) 451-6527.

Lu Palmer If there was ever a man that I would like to emulate as an African-American journalist that man is Lu Palmer. There is not enough that can be said about the courage, skill, and talent of Lu Palmer. Former Congressman Gus Savage made a historical speech at the recent celebration for Lu, a speech that will be remembered through the annals of time. Best wishes to Lu and his beautiful and talented wife Georgia.

South Shore- One of our most informed and astute leaders in the country, National Black United Front, Chairman Dr. Conrad Worrill, as usual, exercised leadership by convening a rally sponsored by NBUF at South Shore Community Church, 7401 South Yates on Saturday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m., where documentation and evidence was provided as to why African-American people are entitled Reparations. The pastor of the church, Rev. Archie Hargraves, who without a doubt, is one of the greatest minds in the world for whom I have the greatest love, respect, and admiration



If you would like to advertise in South Street Journal, or you have a story you want investigated, please call (773) 783-1750, fax us at (773) 783-1754, or you can write to us at South Street Journal, 400 West 76th Street, Suite 200, Chicago, Illinois, 60620.



Spring "Clean & Green Day" Scheduled for May 5th

Mayor Richard M. Daley, joined by (l to r.) Streets & Sanitation Commissioner Al Sanchez, Leonard McGee, President of the GAP Association and Alderman Madeline Haithcock (2nd), announced the beginning of a series of annual spring citywide clean-up events at a kick-off ceremony in the Bronzeville community early April 4.

"Our seventh annual City Services Blitz will begin on April 23 and will run for five consecutive weeks through May 25, serving ten wards per week," said the Mayor.

During the Blitz, each ward will receive extra Streets & Sanitation services, including graffiti removal, towing of abandoned cars, street and alley light replacement and rodent control efforts. This spring's annual Clean and Green Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 5 and unveiled a series of beat-targeted Operation Clean programs which will run on Fridays throughout spring, summer and fall. He also urged residents and homeowners to spend some time cleaning up in front of their homes, in their yards and alleys to whisk away the debris that may have accumulated during the winter months. For "Clean & Green" registration information, call City Hall's 24-hour service request line at 311. Registration will close at the end of the day on May 2, 2001.

Obesity Study on Blacks, now include Mexican-Americans

Ongoing efforts to investigate the causes of hypertension and obesity among the African-American population will now be expanded to include Mexican-American families, according to researchers at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Illinois.

The purpose of the studies is to understand how heredity, kinship and environment may influence the way a person burns energy, thereby determining whether a person has a greater risk for becoming obese, said Lisa Moragne-Kayser at Loyola's Medical Center. The prevalence of obesity continues to increase dramatically throughout the United States. This phenomenon is especially true among certain minority populations. Because obesity is closely associated with diabetes and high blood pressure, the increase in obesity corresponds to a rise in cases of diabetes and hypertension."

Until now, Loyola researchers had been concentrating on causes of hypertension among African-American families. "This is the first time we are including a portion of the Hispanic community as part of our investigation," Kayser said.

Study participants of either African-American or Mexican-American descent will receive free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screenings, body measurements, and urine analysis to determine a person's salt consumption. Those who remain in a study until it is completed will also receive a cash benefit.

Because Loyola researchers are conducting several different projects to examine causes of obesity and high blood pressure, interested persons should call (708) 531-5800 to determine which study may be appropriate for them.

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Pharmaceutical's Drop South African Lawsuit

(Wash., D.C.) Let it be said that when we come together as a community and express our issues collectively and with one voice, we can make a difference said Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Founder and President of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, upon hearing of the pharmaceutical industry's decision to drop their lawsuit.

In a surprising move, 39 of the world's largest and richest pharmaceutical companies dropped their lawsuit against the South African government. Thereby ending an international battle to secure cheaper AIDS drugs for the 26 million people in Africa infected with the HIV disease. The genesis of the lawsuit originated in 1997, after former President Nelson Mandela signed into law the South African Medicines Act, an act that would allow over the course of three years, the importation of generic versions of patented medicines.

Now, with the suit no longer a legal hindrance to treatment, the South African government is in a position to dramatically increase access to affordable medications, including life-extending HIV medications, said Jackson. I think the decision by the pharmaceutical companies was a difficult one and sometimes, doing the right thing is not an easy thing to do. I am pleased with the fact that both parties were able to negotiate a settlement without further delay. However, I also think that to successfully curb the spread of the HIV disease in Africa we cannot simply think that access to affordable medication is our only barrier, because it's not.

The continent of Africa is in a crisis, and HIV has exposed all of its vulnerability. Therefore, if we are sincere in our efforts to confront the AIDS epidemic in Africa, we have to be willing as a global community to develop and implement long-term sustainable goals. There are other pieces to this equation that we must be willing to address, said Jackson. For

example, we have to broaden the net and include other key public and private stakeholders, not only in the discussion, but also in the allocation of task and resources. We have to develop a time phased national plan that will focus on creating a sustainable infrastructure. We have to aggressively engage in a media campaign that confronts head-on, sexual and drug use behavioral change. And finally, we have to persuade the AIDS activist community to continue to fight the hard fight. Having a voice in the decision to drop the lawsuit is one thing, but the real need and the hard fight is the fight for the development of an adequate infrastructure. The bottom line is this, access to affordable medicines without the ability to distribute the medication, monitor the patient's compliance and ensure proper application is no access at all.

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Legislative Black Caucus' 7th Annual Conference

The Illinois Legislative Black Caucus will be holding its 7th Annual Conference starting Friday, April 27 - Sunday, April 29. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., and will be hosted by Senator Rickey Hendon.

The conference will be open to the public and will host a variety of workshops on issues involving state government coming from Springfield. The workshops are:

Health: Facilitators are Representative Mary E. Flowers, Representative Cynthia Soto, and Senator Barack Obama. Panelists are Dr. Thomas Hyers, Care Clinical Research, Sylvia Philpot, U.S. Department of Public Health, and Linda Renee Baker, Secretary, Department of Human Services.

Ex-Offenders: Facilitators are Representatives Connie Howard, Representative Lou Jones, and Senator Donne E. Trotter. Panelists are Algie Crivens III, Lepensurer Youth and Family Services, and George Williams, TASC, Inc.

Racial Profiling/Reparations: Facilitators are Representative Anazette Collins, Representative Karen Yarbrough and Senator Miguel Del Vaile. Panelists are Representative Monique Davis, Conrad Worrill, Ph.D, Ald. Dorothy Tillman, Dr. Anderson Thompson, William Haley, State Police, and Robert Moore, U.S. Marshall

Education: Facilitators are Representatives Calvin Giles, Monique Davis, William Delgado, and Senator Kimberly Lightford. Panelists are Williams Burns, Metropolitan Planning Council, Dr. Cozette Buckney, Chicago Public Schools, Dr. Seymore Bryson, Associate Chancellor for Diversity, SIU - Carbondale, Chairperson for ICBCHE Georgia Edwards, Victor Montanez, Design for Change.

Other workshops will address Redistricting/US Census, Election Reform, Access to the System and Technology

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Ask Mother

Intimidated by Successful Black Women

Dear Mother Diva, Why is it that black men are so insecure? I am a 30 something black female veterinarian. I own a small but successful animal clinic. 95% of the time it never fails, when I meet and date the brothers, they freak out and become hostile, intimidating, and rude when they find out what I do for a living. I don't go around flaunting it because I don't want to attract the ones who are looking for successful sisters to take care of them. I am not opposed to dating out of the race; but it would be nice if I can find a brother who



Divas,

can handle who I am. He doesn't have to be like me or make a lot of money, just a cool mellow fellow to spend quiet evenings with.

PLEASE ADVISED.

Dr. Unloved
First of all don't refer 2 yourself as Dr. Unloved. U are not unloved. God loves you. I understand and sympathize with your situation. However don't give up.

There are brothers that exist who are not insecure and intimidated by successful black women. U say you are not opposed to dating out-



side the race.

Are U opposed to dating 30 some-thing black male veterinarians?

Also, U have 2 be extremely careful with the energy u send out. If u are meeting insecure men maybe it could be that u have some insecurity issues yourself. Take a step back analyze yourself and regroup. Honey don't go looking for love, let love find you. Perhaps you should surround yourself in different meeting places, black colleges, church, golf course, professional, social engagements, etc. You will meet the right person when you least expect it.

Best of luck

Dear Ms. Diva

You always seem to have all the right answers. Try this on for size.

I have just been released from a 3-year prison sentence and I am also a recovering crack head. Although I can't truly say I am recovering because I just didn't have

access to drugs in prison. Now that I am free again and living with my mom and elderly grandmother which I take care of while my mom works. I have developed a phobia of leaving the house. I am afraid after being locked up for so long if I go out I will fall back into my old habits, but if I don't go out I won't be able to work and pitch in and help my family. If granny dies what will I do? Please Help. Bonnie Souks,

69th St. POSSE

This is nothing I haven't heard before. I don't know why you readers try to challenge me; I have answers 4 everything. Don't count on your grandma leaving us soon in these situations they have a tendency 2 out live us. My granny is 99 and still feisty. U need to seek in home therapy for your condition. Look in the phone book for recovery centers; inquire about a buddy program. Some of them will send a buddy to travel with you on

your job searches. They also have access to companies that will hire parolees like you. Also look into training @ home on a computer. There are several computer companies that offer lease 2 buy computers for as little as \$25 a month. There are millions of at home positions processing medical claims and other computer processing jobs. If all else fails u can have a recovery center transfer the help line 2 your home and you can help individuals like your self, or sit and home, & do phone sex. Check underground newspapers for those jobs. Hell, you used 2 be a crack head. Phone sex would be a step up.

Best of Luck

Mother Diva publishes an advice column in each issue of SSSJ. The actress/comedienne & formerly a cast member of the Keenen Ivory Wayans show, "the church lady" on Fox's Ally McBeal, Whether gay or straight, big or tall, Mother Diva has the answers 4 you all. Email: askmother-diva@writeme.com, Fax correspondence to SSSJ

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Expungement

(Continued from page 3)
House Bill HR300, passed the

Illinois House of Representatives
Rep. Howard, informed South
Street Journal, "The Bill is now
in the Illinois Senate Rules Com-

mittee."

The question now is will Illinois State Senate President Pate Phillips make sure that the bill is released to a substantive committee so that it can be guided through the Senate for full vote by Illinois Senate sponsor, Senator Donnie Trotter.

Rep. Howard reported the substance of the bill provides that if a conviction or sentence has been set aside and the court determines that the defendant was factually innocent of the charge, the court shall enter an order expunging the record of arrest from the official records of the arresting authority and order that the records of the court be sealed."

"The bill also creates an Expungement Program through the State Appellate Defender." said Rep. Howard. "This would provide information and assistance to persons eligible to have their arrest or criminal history record information expunged or sealed from official records and also requires development of written material."

The material will be available in both printed form and through the agency's web site, as well the establishment of a state wide toll free number that a person can use to receive information and assistance.

A list of volunteer attorneys willing to help individuals in the expungement process would also be compiled, Rep. Howard said.

The bill must pass through the Senate committee, then be voted on by the full Senate. Upon, passage it would be sent to Governor George Ryan to be signed into law.

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Reparations aren't just about slavery and black history. It's about oppression today and thereafter.

same restroom facilities as whites. Couldn't drink from the water fountains. Couldn't make equal wages for equal work, and couldn't sit at the front of the bus.

The progression didn't end in a standing room only situation, but instead started over, even if it meant at the time, that Blacks would have to get off the bus in an over-crowded situation. Money in this case was non-refundable, of course. Ironically, Blacks were entrusted with the care of white children.



Rev. Brain Kenner
SSJ Columnist

We were being lynched with entire communities knowing full well who the perpetrators were. But because they were being judged by a "jury of their peers," they usually escaped punishment altogether (as white cops do today). Most times no one was ever even prosecuted.

In the south it was Jim Crow, in the north it was Defacto Segregation. Blacks simply couldn't do anything they wanted, such as live in the neighborhood of their choice. (Try and move to Bridgeport today). The pain and suffering went a lot further than one could ever express.

Reparations. It has been estimated that the 40 acres and a mule promise of freedom that never materialized is worth approximately \$150,000 in today's currency. These monies would be available to each legitimate African American descendant of slaves, and is said to be worth

some \$2 trillion to the USA. This figure represents roughly some 12 million families. Reasons why government has adopted a hands-off. "Ignore them and they'll go away." Some have said its an impossible idea. Others have said that there's no chance of it ever coming to be.

For those that don't believe the possibilities, let's take a quick historical overview. The Jews in Germany during World War II endured the most catastrophic holocaust of the century. It was, without question, genocide at its best. They endured physical as well as mental tortures that were

endorsed by government. Millions died. Families were broken and lives shattered. They were uprooted from their homes and herded together as cattle on their way to slaughter. It lasted the length of the war. The German government adopted into law what is known as the "Federal Compensation Law." Established in 1953, the law sets aside funds specifically for survivors of the holocaust. Since its establishment, more than \$58 billion in Reparations have been paid to survivors of the Nazi persecution. The lame excuse that it can't be done. Enough of excuses, let's search the slate for who has their priorities straight for the coming millennium. I can't think of anything to do with 40 acres and a mule, so just "show me the money," and be a part of the process in making it happen. Join the Worldwide International Day of Protest Against Racism. For more information, call (708)-389-9929 or (773) 268-7500, ext 144.



The proposition of reparations for African American has, over the past few years, been picking up energy. Here in Chicago, there is a very active base of organizers. On April 21, they picked up the energy again with The Reparations Movement Rally: "Strategies and Tactics of the Reparations Movement, the U.N. World Conference Against Racism":

The government has decided to put it on the back burner until a later date, which they expect won't come anytime soon, if at all. It's as if we're expected to "let bygones, be bygones." This is too much to expect of a people that has been discriminated against, beaten and lynched, with no protection from the government. Not to mention slavery itself was/is a government endorsed act that brought out the worst in mankind's treatment of his fellow man.

Laws known as Jim Crow during the 50's and 60's were established with intent to separate, cast out, and press down African-Americans. During Crow's tenure as the supreme law of the land, Blacks had no protection, and all guidelines led them off economic and cultural lines. They weren't able to sit at service counters in restaurants. Couldn't use the

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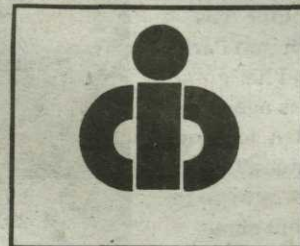
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Chicago's very own Mary Dee

by Carmenta Banks



"I feel very responsible for everything I do," she says. "I can't say that I am a perfect person, but the things I've done wrong I don't think matter."

(Continued from page 1)

The training began at home, 56th and Indiana, on Oct. 30, 1936, at 11:56 p.m., "quite by accident": her pregnant traveling mother stopped at home after her train ride from New Orleans and couldn't quite make it to the hospital, she says.

Since her mother died when Dee was two, others provided additional training. Her father always told her to "look inside" when she wanted to blame others. Mrs. Robinson, her fifth grade teacher at Carter Elementary School, encouraged her to take care of herself because Dee "was dealing with an abusive stepmother." That "excellent teacher" was her role model for honesty, loyalty, grace, and dignity, who "pointed out what was already within me," Dee says.

Living on the Southside, Dee looked forward to going downtown to Marshall Fields.

"We lived in mean streets and during a terrifically prejudicial period for a young person," she says.

Most of her free time was spent visiting Washington Park, DuSable Museum and her grandparents. The park was near home, so she went there often, looking at the names on the statues.

"The challenge was to go to the library and find out about them," she says.

Dee remembers watching the Bud Billiken Parade, which came through the park for 21 years. Also in the park was the museum, which gave her hope.

"I could see my history, what I could be and where I could go," she says. "If somebody else did it, I could do it too."

Opera singer Etta Moten Barnett, whose husband was the ambassador to Ghana, became another role model.

"She was so much of a lady that I wanted to emulate her," Dee says. "She had quiet dignity and was outspoken, terrifically intelligent, and well read."

Dee graduated from Englewood High School in 1954 and married at age 19.

"I was trying to get a job and contribute to the fabric of life," she says. "I had great obligations," trying to support 12-13 children - her two and those of her siblings.

"Then aldermen were political power houses in their own neighborhoods," Dee

says. "They knew what their job was and did that." Two that really stood out for her were Cecil ParTEE and Ralph Abernathy. Not until the '60s did she become politically involved, participating in voter registration and working for some leaders.

Dee met other people with power when she worked at 309 E. 47th St. for a law firm of "top Black attorneys." Some of the lawyers later became judges. Theodore Crawley became the head of the Chicago Bar Association, and Gene Woods gained a reputation as a criminal attorney.

"Anyone [Black] who had any trouble went through that firm," she says. Celebri-



Part of Mary Dee's appeal to young people is her sense of history. Interviewing Gerri Oliver of the Palm Tavern, they both enjoy memories of the past.

ties like track star Jesse Owens and producer Larry Steele often visited, she recalls.

That part of 47th Street was a hub of activity for a "young girl learning the streets," Dee says.

"On the corner of 47th and King Drive were the Regal Theater, the jazz place and Gerri's Palm Tavern so one could eat and hang out all night," she says. "Then on 55th and Prairie was the rise of the Rhum Boogie at the Club DeLisa." Of course, Supreme Life, Metropolitan Life, and policy (playing the numbers) also flourished.

In the early '60s Dee worked for IBM, traveling around the country, showing insurance companies how they could streamline their business with computers.

"I wanted to come home," she says. "I was looking for a new career."

So Dee went back to school. By the middle '60s, she had landed a broadcasting show with WBEE radio in Harvey. By 1971 she

had moved onto television, where she had her most humbling encounter: she and her TV guest were kidnapped and forced to drive to Beaubien Woods before they both were shot in the head and left for dead. Her guest died.

"I didn't know what was coming; I was divorced and fearful for my daughter's future without me," she recalls. "I was fearful about my faculties and how healthy I would be."

Dee did not know the kidnapper, who had been convicted six times prior to her incident.

The '70s ushered in progress for the Black south side, especially Bronzeville.

"Blacks were buying property and learning about real estate," she says. "There weren't but a few, but they were significant."

Today Dee believes that Blacks have more opportunity to succeed, but they need to focus. Her formula for success requires discipline, study, wisdom, education, mother wit, and "a burning desire to succeed."

Today Dee directs community relations for WGN. By focusing over the years, she has garnered many awards, including the silver Gracie Award from American Women in Radio and Television for her local adoption campaign; a lifetime achievement award from the National Academy of TV and Arts Sciences; an honorary doctorate in humanities from Lewis University; and a Woman of the Year Award from *Today's Chicago*.

"I feel very responsible for everything I do," she says. "I can't say that I am a perfect person, but the things I've done wrong I don't think matter."

The group Dee believes she has the most influence on is "young people": "They are tougher, brighter, more introspective and daring," she says. "They will ask you absolutely anything and keep your feet to the fire."

Her job is to challenge them "to go a step farther" - ask questions; get the answer and research it; never stop learning. She's been on the Junior Achievement board for years. More recently, different schools have invited her to visit as Principal for the Day.

"It's wonderful to see them so thirsty," regardless of their background, she says. "The money makes a difference in their clothes, but when it comes to desire, it doesn't make a difference."

Part of Dee's appeal to young people is her sense of history. A recent trip to Greece made that sense very clear to her. Walking to the top of the Acropolis and then sitting down made her feel like she was viewing the whole world.

"I was so grateful I had lived to do that," she says. "I thought about how [astronaut] Mae Jemison had felt."

Dee believes that "young people" also need to have a sense of history - even if they have to wait

20 years to appreciate it.

"Our history is more important to the world, but it gives rise to young people's self-esteem," she says. "I encourage them to look to their seniors for the wisdom they are trying to get."

Today Dee's heroes are younger than she. Her daughter is one. Her qualities of stick-to-itiveness, stamina, and a desire to do well and have others do the same were also in Mrs. Robinson and in Etta Barnett. All three had great vision and daring "to take action whether other people like it or not," Dee says.

"Sounds like whom?"

"I had all of that," Dee admits. "We choose people who are like that."

Dee credits her daughter with pushing her to keep going and to relax. She also wants her mother to write a book.

Maybe, if Dee slows down long enough, she will.

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Quebec Protesters vs. Cincinnati Rioters



In Quebec, Canada, where the Summit of the 34 American countries were negotiating a Free Trade Area of the Americas. What received equal attention was the 30,000 protesters there as well. About 2,000 of them were reported violent during the days of unrest, 34 police officers and 57 demonstrators were injured, and 400 arrests were made. The police used rubble bullets.



Ron Carter
Publisher & Editor

In other parts of the U.S. about 3,000 people shut down a stretch of the U.S.-Canadian border. In San Diego, about 1,000 demonstrated at the U.S.-Mexican border. And in Vermont, about 200 people rallied. Protesters also rallied at border crossings in Derby Line, Vt.

In Cincinnati, the protesters and demonstrators were called rioters. The police did not use rubble bullets. But Cincinnati rioted as Quebec protested, protesting against poverty, and other forms of mistreatment.

The same hold true for those in Cincinnati.

Protesting in the U.S., of Blacks have for the most part protested non-violently as Dr. King partice. Violence goes back to the 1965 Watts and the killing of Dr. King in major parts of the country. And in later years, Miami, and Los Angeles. They were viewed as riots. And even the Chicago Demoncrate Convention protesters were not called a riot. Viewing images of the riots involved with Blacks most were triggered by confrontations between the police and the black community. Other than the Bulls win.

In Cincinnati, again it was over violence. The police shootings of 15 Black men, sparked by the shooting of 19-year old Timothy Thomas.

Blacks torched their own neighborhoods and homes in most incidents. The mayor of Cincinnati declared a state of emergency and imposed a citywide curfew after three nights of disturbances. The Mayor's action is intimately for the interest of those in the rioting area. Along with "the

police right to stop looters" and secure peace and restoring "law and order." Not about about stopping police murders. Or addressing the political oppression over shadowed by the China hostage and the Quebec Summit.

The huge problem of contradiction here is Blacks riot. Others protest. Defined a riot; a noise, uproar, or disturbance made by revelers, a violence, tumult, or disorder, a random or disorderly profusion, a disturbance of the public peace. While protesters are defined as disapproval, disapprobation, contradiction, objection, protestation, a solemn declaration of opinion and by a member to an act or resolution of a legislature.

Who are those sudden unorganized activists and those comfortable activists to make sure riots do not happen. Unfortunately, there probably will be more mass demonstrations in Cincinnati, Los Angeles, New York, Atlanta, and in Quebec and anywhere else in various American cities because the coverage on the China crisis over shadowed the Cincinnati murders and the protesters have not received address. Nor has the media reported the mind set of why violent uprising.

And in Qecbec, perhaps the protesters were also rioting in behalf of Cincinnati. And prehaps the summit meetings, which calls for the trade zone by 2005 for free and open trade to create new jobs and new income would be reasons to stop the distress, anger and frustration that abounds in Black communities all over this country.

What is sure in Chicago or any other city, the regentification of the Black communities are in questioned from Harlem and Bronzeville. Black rioters are sure to support building enough prisons to incarcerate them all and feeding police protection of the Summit is not to reach the benefit of Blacks that live in the communities now.

Open Letter Reponse to: M. Mitchell's Nightmares living in the 'jects'

Dear Mrs Mitchell;

Most of the Black people I know enjoy your writing style, but the men are deeply offended by your tendency to imply much of the problems in the Black community are the fault of the failure of Black men to do their job in the family.

For example, in your column April 1, 2001, you describe the horrible conditions you experienced in living in CHA high-rises: 1. overcrowd top floors with galleries that made the top floors prisons; broken-down elevators that forces tenants to use the stairwells and become rape and robbery victims; over-population of un-socialized children who made learning nearly impossible in the local schools, taught by middle-class teachers who disapproved of their students and had low-expectations of them.

But you did not tell your readers the cause of those conditions. Thus, you did the same thing that white writers always do. You blame the victim by inference.

The truth is the CHA high-rises was the largest and most scandalous, racist boondoggie in the history public housing.

From the start, a local architectural association declared that high-rise buildings were improper for the families for which they were suppose to be build. They did not permit proper supervision of the large number of children they were to house, particularly since most of the large apartments with the most children were located at the top of the buildings. Three-story buildings would have been more suitable.

The elevates, which guaranteed that they would be in a constant state of break-down. The design left the back mechanism exposed to the elements, which resulted in break-downs whenever the weather changed.

The of elevator repair was a record of many faking repairs, because the elevator companies knew repairs could only be temporary. Vouchers were turned in to clerks

who were incompetent patronage workers, who authorized payment for work that was never done. Complaints from the tenants were ignored, and break-downs were always blamed on the tenants.

Much of the over-crowding of young, single women with children in these high-rises was caused by the most outrageous piece of racist, social engineering: The separating of the old people from the young by putting the old people into high-rises called senior citizens buildings.

This robbed the young inexperienced people of the elder leadership in the buildings.

Our leadership and our journalist chose to ignore this fiendish piece of racist strategy. Like the White writers, they acted as though the tenants were responsible for conditions in the CHA high-rises. Every piece of writing about Robert Taylor homes completely ignored the two studies in the Municipal library that documented the conclusion that: The CHA was run strictly for patronage and profit.

The CHA is a classic example of how this White racist government has used its authority to apply the Willie Lynch system on the African American community. This is why we become infuriated when our own journalist fall into the trap of blaming Black men for conditions created by powers of this racist government. We expect them to know better.

I am giving you the benefit of the doubt. I don't think you know any better, but I hope you will make it your business to find out the truth.

Clarence C. Terry

Sun-Times Agenda, What about us

Dear Editor

I read your article entitled the Sun-Times has an Agenda. There is no doubt that we as Black pepole need a

Sun-Times An Independent Newspaper

2001 agenda as you explained. We

don't have all this time to get this matter in order. Seems in the eyes of some we weren't meant to have one.

For years we have been limited to what we could or could not do. I see a bleak out come ahead with Bush in office. The bushes are sprouting out like a bad seed waiting to stampe. This guy for sure does not have our best interest at heart.

We have so much on our plates until you wonder where will it end.

Bush bent on dismantling anything that would benefit us in the long run. Most of us did not carry him in the recent election and he is clear on what part that was. He appears to be a man with a vengeance and has a mark in place with Daley's name on it. To get what he want he will accommodate the Mayor. And we will suffer greatly with a lasting affect.

Continue to get the word out to the people on the importance of this over needed agenda. It's now or never.

Continue to support the Rev. Jesse Jackson, he never failed us when we needed him to take a stand. We must not throw him to the wolves because the Sun Times echo's that we should. We all have skeletons. Whether they are big or small. And we all make mistakes, even those who write the news.

Lets stay a beast of what's really going on. Were in a critical time.

Sincerely, Mable Cole

Sun-Times Again, Open Letter: McCormick Place & Bronzeville's tourism

Dear Editor;
As community developers, activist

Virtually
Harold L. Luca

April 26 - May 9, 2001, Volume 8 Number 12

We welcome letters to the editor and comments on any material. Submit all subscription and correspondence to:

South Street Journal

400 West 76th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60620.
You may fax letters to (773)783-1754 and
E-mail to SouthStJournal@aol.com

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The Color of Jesus

Spiritual

What did Jesus look like? The looks of Jesus as *He* emerges from the history of art.



Jesus Christ as blue eyes, blond hair, pale face, the perfect monk with elegant, long fingered hands has a new face according to a new computerized rendering.

While Jesus lived, no one made a record of his face. No sketch, no painting, no photograph. The look of Jesus has been created by man. For almost two thousand years the mysteries of Christianity have inspired artists of every generation. The face of every Jesus seen was made by someone's mind and hand. Famous artists from Michael Angelo and unknown artists. From different places and different ages.

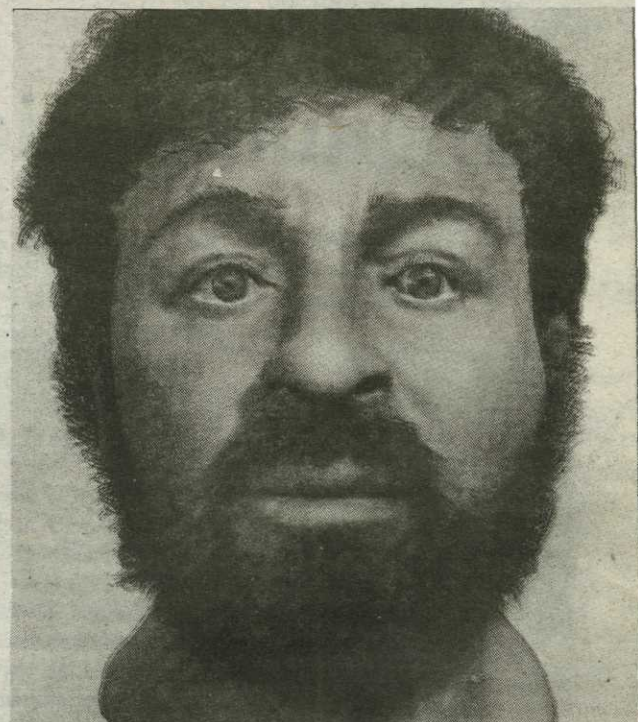
Rev. Al Sampson of Fernwood Methodist Church pointed out the Bible do not speak to a race of people (color), "It speak to the personality of people." Jews, Gentiles, etc.

"What we do know that where Jesus was born are people of darker skin. The European portrayals of Jesus have projected a concept of Jesus for superiority

reasons over darker skinned people. "

As reported in the Chicago Sun-Times, the new face of Jesus is which a Chicago area expert on Jesus' life and times welcomes the computer-generated depiction as more realistic than the Messiah depicted in much of Western classical and popular art. as more accurate.

The new image was crafted by studying a 2,000 year-old skull of a Jewish man from Israel. The image was used in a British Broadcasting Corporation TV documentary, "Jesus: The Complete Story." It was on the Discovery Channel, which co-produced it. According to the new image, Jesus probably looked a lot more like a workingman from the Middle East or Mediterranean region than actors Willem Dafoe or Jeffrey Hunter.



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"God is our Refuge and Strength, a present help in trouble".

Psalms 46:1

Faith-Based, "Charitable Choice and its Critic"

President George Bush has proposed partnership with religious institutions to address poverty under his new office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Mr. Carl H. Esbeck, Assistant to the United States Deputy Attorney General, will be speaking at a Breakfast Forum sponsored by the Center for Church/State Studies. He will address Charitable Choice and its Critics, Thursday, May 17, at 8:00 a.m., at the Union League Club of Chicago, 65 W. Jackson Boulevard, in the Crystal Room, 5th floor. The forum is free. Reservations are required by Friday, May 11th, and can be made by calling 312-362-8818.

Church Organizing

(Continued from page 1)

Church, 10706 South Michigan Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

The issues that will be address at the assembly by the community leaders voiced were:

Youth/Education, Public Safety, Environmental Issues, Community Networking/Outreach, Public Services, Health Issues, Economic Development, and Neighborhood Disinvestments.

"DCP's mission here is to serve as a vehicle through which grass-roots leaders can effectively work together to impact decision making and strengthen the quality of life in Greater Roseland." declared Evans.

DCP is known to be the largest church-based community organizing agency on Chicago's far south-

side, began in 1984 as a branch of the Calumet Community Religious Conference (CCRC).

CCRC sought to impact the massive lay-offs and closings of manufacturing plants in the 1970's and 1980's by providing job retraining and supportive services. As an arm of CCRC, DCP initiated a variety of local action campaigns to improve the quality of life for residents in the Greater Roseland area. In 1986, DCP became an independent non-profit corporation but remained church-based.

Listed are some of the groups that participated in the small group Pre-Issues Assembly on April 19, 2001 and their commitment for participants at the Community-Wide Issues Assembly on April 26, 2001:

Churches; West Pullman Church of God, Lilydale Progressive MB Church, Greater Canaan M.B. Church, Christ Temple Cathedral Church, Reformation Lutheran Evangelical Church, Roseland Christian Reformed Church, Bethel House of Prayer, Nazarene Outreach, 34th Ward Ministerial Alliance.

Schools Alfred D. Kohn Elementary School, Mildred I. Lavizzo Elementary, Langston Hughes, Dunne School.

Organizations Family Care of Illinois/Gran Connection, Edbrooke Block Club, Jadonal E. Ford Center/Catholic Charities, Roseland YMCA, Greater Roseland Community Dev. Corp., City of Chicago-Dept. of Public Health, School's First, 108th Wabash Block Club,

For more information, please contact Michael Evans at DCP's Office, (773) 928-2500.

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Photo by Earl Watts

Filmmakers, Warren Shepard, and Donutui Moore perform open mic at Noah's Ark Cafe, a gospel setting cafe' in Bronzeville.

"Come In Out of The Storm ... Noah's Ark, a Place of Refuge"

Douglas - Noah's Ark Café, located in the Bronzeville Community at 3428 S. King Drive is a place designed to accommodate Christians as well as patrons who just desire to have a spiritual atmosphere while they eat. This joyful venue provides tasty, fresh food and top-flight Christian entertainment such as, gospel singers, praise poets, musicians, liturgical dancers, and gospel rappers within a relaxing atmosphere (which is also a profanity and smoke-free environment).

From the mind of God, three vessels have been chosen for his greater glory to manage the affairs of his safe haven and musical oasis. The vessels chosen are owners Elder Byron Artis and Derek and Barbara Morissette (sister of Byron), the theme of Noah's Ark is "Come in out of the storm ... A place of refuge".

All three owners are committed to glorifying God through the arts. Local talent is auditioned and hired for future performances. Gospel video's and music are played. Different organizations such as The Christian Poets Society host various monthly activities. Ministry through entertainment occurs five days out of the week.

Noah's Ark is available for Sunday, Monday and Wednesday rental for intimate affairs. The café holds 40 people comfortably. It is excellent for various church auxiliary gatherings. Catering is available. Plan your next cozy outing at Noah's Ark Café.

For menus and other information call (312) 225-1420 or fax us at (312) 225-1331.

The Chicago Englewood Gospel Music Project Driven by Toyota on Western

The purpose of this program is to promote the rich heritage of Gospel Music, which was started in the Chicago area by Thomas Dorsey, the Father of Gospel Music.

We believe that it will bring pride to the Englewood Community to be recognized as the birthplace of Gospel Music.

It is our endeavor through this program to bring national attention to the positive contribution the Chicago Englewood Community has contributed to society by being the birthplace of Gospel Music.

We would like to hear a Chicago City Council designation of: "Englewood - Gospel Music Capitol of the World."

The following is an outline of the project.

The outline for the project would include a presentation on Gospel Music with a video presentation and visual collection. The project members are in the

process of collecting pictures and other memorabilia which would include highlighting Thomas Dorsey, Mahalia Jackson and others. The goal is developing the story of Gospel Music from a

The musical participants and guest artists will be: Albertina Walker, Ethel Holloway, Lee Anne McFane, Bobby Jones, Thompson Community Singers, Shirley Ceasar, Chicago Mass Choir, Ricky Dillard & New Generation, Sounds Unlimited, Englewood High School Choir, Roberson High School Choir, and Walter Whitman & Soul Children of Chicago.

The project will also be enhanced by a Chicago Englewood Gospel Music Award. Recipients of the achievement awards would be Albertina Walker, Ethel Holloway, Shirley Ceasar, Bobby Jones, and others to be named.

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(Continued from page 3)

Palm Tavern

law department stated upon the city taking procession a Request-For-Proposal (RFP) must be issued for any new ownership or development to occur.

However, the City and Ald. Tillman still focus on the 47th street Culture Center (Lou Rawls Center) as the anchor development for 47th Street. Along with Tillman's plans to convert 47th street into an African Village and Blues District.

Contrary to Mayor Daley's proclamation to the Palm Tavern, Fresen says Daley, unfortunately, must be unaware of the danger the City is facing. "This will be an embarrassment in the eyes of the African-American community and all Chicagoans who take pride in this City's history." He continued, "In collaboration with the Mayor's Office and the Department of Cultural Affairs, over the past several years, entertainment spots like Gerri's Palm Tavern and the Checker Board Lounge have directly contributed to tourism destination to Bronzeville.

Thompson agreeing added. "Sadly, this matter is in the hands of some unknown

person or people at City Hall, who are not looking out for the best interests of our City, and its culture."

Along with the petition drive, and a letter campaign, support is coming from many different parts of the city. One organization is the "Black Bronzeville Historical Society", who has requested a meeting with the Department of Planning Commissioner of the with no response.

The GRIOTS' Society stressed appreciation in the efforts to organize around the preservation of the Palm Tavern. Their representative said. "Getting to know Mama Gerri Oliver and the history of the Palm Tavern made a major impression to me. History is wonderful, but it can be dry and uninteresting. History at the Palm Tavern is active, alive, and spiritual.

The representative said they will be voicing their support and the Mayor needs to hear their voices.

Fresen outlined the options in reviewing the City's offer and to make a decision before the next court date. "If Gerri accepts the City's offer, then the only remaining question will be "when" will she move out, so the City can padlock the doors and board up the windows." Even if Gerri does not accept the City's offer, the City move Oliver

into what they consider safe and sanitary apartment.

As Fresen notes, "This is the final hour."

"No Plan is a Bad Plan. The Palm Tavern and the Memory of Bronzeville deserve more respect." Thompson says.

Paula Robinson, who is spearheading the anniversary and the preservation of the Palm Tavern on May 6, said. "We need people to demonstrate their personal commitment of support and pay tribute to the cultural legacy of Gerri's Palm Tavern and to follow-up on her 82nd birthday on May 31.

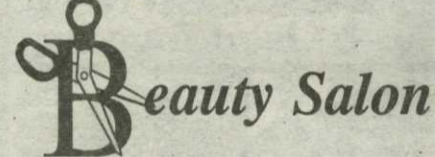
Lucas reported. "If the city and the alderman abuse the powers of eminent domain to disenfranchise a cultural icon like Gerri Oliver, then what do you think they will do



The Palm Tavern open in 1933, is the last authentic piece of Bronzeville that exists. None of the other historic buildings of Bronzeville have their 1930's interior and business fixtures intact. Historic, musicals and community activist are rally opposing the City of Chicago using its power of Eminent Domain to gain control of the building and Mana Gerri's business with no public plan reported.

to stop community-based development of the authentic history of the Black Metropolis Historic District. An example that the City can show is to support reparations for African Americans in Chicago by preserving Gerri and her beloved Palm Tavern."

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McDonald's Host Kids' Talent Search

At Navy Pier's Crystal Gardens the Black McDonald's Operators Association (BMOA) hosted the 4th annual McDonald's presents "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Kids' Talent Search, Saturday, April 21. The event was open to everyone free of charge. Children from across Chicagoland between the ages of 5-12 showcased their talent and compete for a chance to win a trip to New York City and perform on the nationally televised program "It's Showtime at the Apollo."

"A truly enjoyed event", expressed, Blanton Canady, owner of the Navy Pier McDonald's and BMOA member.

"To see the amazing talents of our young people. Many of these children have been studying their craft for years. Whether it's the violin, drums, dancing, singing or rapping, we are giving them an opportunity to show the world what they can do,"

Host of "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Rudy Rush's universal humor, was on hand to host Chicago's Kids' Talent Search.

"When the Water Turns Clear premieres at eta"

eta Creative Arts Foundation presents



Photo by Ken Simmons
Donica Thornton and Rolando Boyce, stars in "When the Water Turns Clear."

the premiere of Mark Clayton Southern's "When the Water Turns Clear," opening Thursday, May 3 through Fathers' Day, Sunday, June 17 at eta Square, 7558 S. South Chicago Ave. Directed by Terry Cullers, the cast includes Rolando Bouce (Jesse), Roderick Jean-Charles (Lionel), Donica Thornton (Eloise), J.J. McCormick (Reese) and Brandon Jackson and Michael Cordero alternating the role of Andre, the son. "Father & Son Nights" are Thurs. at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 7 p.m., except opening and closing nights, featuring special "2-for-1 tickets subject to availability. For tickets and info, call (773) 752-3955.

Corkey McClerkin's "Island of Dreams" to be released

One of Chicago's very own - pianist, composer and arranger Corkey McClerkin's latest CD, "Island of Dreams" (Wincor Records) will be released at a CD Release Party on Wednesday, May 9, 2001 at HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo in Chicago. Featuring the Corkey McClerkin Trio along with some of

Chicago's finest musicians and vocalists, "Island of Dreams" is a spirited chronology of the music of Black Americans.

Featured musicians include Mark Berenger, Tyrone Hines, Michael Logan, Pennington McGee, Duke Payne, Curtis Prince, Sony Seals, John Watson, John Whitfield and James Willis. On led vocals are Dee Alexander, Joan Colasso and Mike Logan with Theresa Davis, Yvonne Gage, Kevin McIlvaine and Byron Woods. All music arrangements and original compositions are by McClerkin.

"Seeking Expression," Paintings by Ann AFA on view in the eta Gallery

Opening Reception 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 3, "Seeking Expression," an exhibition of paintings by Ann AFA opens in the eta Gallery, 7558 S. South Chicago Ave. on Thursday, May 3, 2001 and will remain on view through Sunday, June 17, 2001. A free public reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. For info, call (773) 752-3955.

A former educator, Ann AFA (formerly Ann Faust), A member of the Senior Art

(Continued on page 13)

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ENTERTAINING

with David Schultz

ON VIDEO

ALL THE PRETTY HORSES

(**1/2) Sort of a "coming of age" frontier drama from director-actor Billy Bob Thornton, that is very pictorial but thin on plot. Being unable to claim his late father's land from his ex-wife, Matt Damon plays a young man who teams up with buddy, Henry Thomas roaming the west finding adventure and romance. They are joined by an abused runaway youth (Lucas Black) and later the duo becomes broncobusters for rich Mexican ranch owner, Ruben Blades. Where Damon has an ill-fated love affair with his lovely daughter, Penelope Cruz.

Rated: R, 112 min.

FINDING FORRESTER

(***) "Good Will Hunting" director Gus Van Sant tries to duplicate that success here

ON CD

By David Schultz

PLEASURES U LIKE - Jon B. (Edmond Records Group/Epic)

(***) After being vocally identified with his mentor, Babyface, Jon B. takes a giant leap forward in establishing his own musical independence while continuing his "affairs of the heart" in his fourth CD offering here. Jon B. breaks out of his laid back "be cool" mold to generate some satisfying heat. With some current flavor and bounce from some cameo assistance by Nas, Faith Evans, AZ, and Cuban Link.

Jon B. maintains the old school spirit during these musical excursions outside R&B. Occasionally, he does get a bit adventurous that usually makes him come up short. Still, the efforts are noteworthy attempts to broaden his musical scope without hampering his roots. A well crafted offering that should grow on its listeners.

Choicer Selections: "Finer Things", "Don't Talk", "Soft N' Sweet", "Overjoyed", "Boy Is Not A Man", "Lonely Girl", "Cocoa Brown", "All I Want Is You", "Layaway", "Pleasures U Like", "Calling On You", "Tell Me", "Inside", "Do It All Again" (14 out of 20 tracks)

(Continued from page 12)

Network, an affiliate of Chicago's Department of Aging, in 2001 she was chosen as a vital member of a group of seniors who painted a mural that will tour Chicago senior centers before becoming part of a permanent collection at the Chicago Cultural Center. She is the recipient of a Purchase Award from the DuSable Museum of African American History's annual art fair. **Book Signing - Reception, The White Architects of Black Education: Ideology and Power in America, 1865 - 1954, Author: Dr. William H. Watkins, Associate Professor,**

with an interracial, inner city twist toward friendship and self-discovery with a wink to "Scent Of A Woman" in its courtroom finale. Sean Connery stars as a reclusive novelist who is befriended by a black teenager (Rob Brown) whose apparent basketball skills gets him into a prestigious college. But it's secondary to the youth's hidden talent as

a gifted writer that the novelist tries to nurture. A bit predictable but the performances and atmosphere is genuine enough to make the grade. Rated: R, 140 min. Columbia Tri-Star Home Video

JUST LOOKING

(**1/2) Actor Jason Alexander makes his directorial debut with this 50's nostalgic and ethnic oriented, coming of age comedy about a 13 yr. old boy's summer

Rated: R, 140 min.

Columbia Tri-Star Home Video

THE LIFE - Ginuwine (Epic)

(**1/2) Asking the musical question on his intro, "I'm I too ghetto for you?" Sometimes a person's dark experience can help one channel their soul into the light. After losing his mom to cancer a year after his father's suicide. "The Life" is a personal revelation for Ginuwine whose used his soul therapy to heal and grow from. A solid example of a person with "star quality" whose personal life is filled with pain and talent. After enduring personal and professional trauma. Ginuwine is now happily married to rapper Sole and the parents of their first child. "The Life" strides to put Ginuwine on a new, plateau of crossover appeal in this offering of soulful, social reflections on relationship and self discovery. Clearly, his most personal CD with strong production assistance from Troy Oliver, Raphael Saadiq, Timbaland, and Big Dog Production.

Choice Selections: "Why Not Me", "There It Is", "2 Way", "Differences", "So Fine", "Tribute To A "Why Did You Go", "How Deep Is Your Love", "Role Play", "Open Arms", "Superhuman", "Two Reasons I Cry" (11 out of 15 tracks)

College of Education, University of Illinois at Chicago will have a book signing on Friday, April 20, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., at the University of Illinois at Chicago, African American Cultural Center, Addams Hall - Room 207, 830 S. Halsted Street.

"The White Architects of Black Education" examines education, politics ideology and race in American during the last 150 years. It explores the ideas and activities of the powerful men and institutions who created segregated and inferior education for African Americans from the end of the Civil War until the late 20th century. This work informs the contemporary predicament of urban education in America.

vacation with his new relatives in Queens N.Y. and his sexual awakening through newfound kid friends' gang called "the sex club". In which the kids try to catch adults making love. A bit thin on its story, but not on its atmosphere and people.

Rated: R, 101 min. Columbia Tri-Star Home Video
CIRCUS



(*) There's no honor among thieves, crooks, and con artists. Only confusion in this lame, offbeat and rambling crime odyssey. In which Leo and Lily (John Hannah and Famke Janssen) swindles their way

through a maze of cohorts to gain access to a fellow crime lord's on-line cash account.

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Rated: R, 95 min.
VERTICAL LIMIT
(**1/2) Almost successfully recycle a familiar story line in most adventure survival movies. After their father sacrifices his life during a mountain climbing accident. Chris O'Donnell who quit mountain climbing unlike his sister, Robin Tunney. Only to come out of retirement to rescue her after she joins glory hungry billionaire, Bill Paxton and his crew who becomes trapped during an avalanche.

Rated: R, 125 min. Columbia Tri-Star Home Video

WHAT WOMEN WANT

(***) Mel Gibson gets in touch with his feminine side in this wonderful comedic turn as a womanizing ad executive who suffers a bathroom accident that leaves him with the ability to hear women's inner thoughts. Helen Hunt plays his new boss that he intends to take advantage of for career gains. Only at the time of opportunity, Gibson ends up falling in love with her. Very funny and smart. Rated: PG-13, 125 min.

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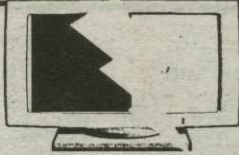
The number of Americans accessing the Internet has grown rapidly in the last year; yet, in the midst of this general expansion, the "digital divide" between information "haves" and "have nots" continues to widen.

Overview: Race or ethnic origin is a likely factor in determining who has access to computers and the Internet. Americans today are accessing the Internet with more regularity, and Black and Hispanic households are twice as likely to own computers to-

day as they were in 1994.

Yet, many race or origin groups are losing ground in computer and Internet connectivity when compared to the progress of Whites and those of Asian/Pacific Island descent. When holding income constant, Black and Hispanic households are still far less likely to have Internet access. Of all race or origin groups, households of Asian/Pacific descent have a clear lead in computer penetration and Internet access rates.

Income level is a strong determinant of a person or household's Internet access. While a predictor of overall Internet use, income level also influences where and how a person uses the Internet. Persons with incomes of less than \$35,000 more often use the Internet outside the home, while those making over \$75,000 predominantly use the Internet at home.



Highlights:

- Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home, than Blacks or Hispanics have from any location.
- Black and Hispanic households are 2/5 as likely to have home Internet access as White Households.
- At the highest incomes (\$75,000+), the White/Black divide for computer ownership decreased by 76.2% between 1994 and 1998.
- American Indians/Eskimos/Aleuts, Blacks, and Hispanics more often turn to Internet access out-

side the home, compared to Whites.

- Blacks using the Internet outside the home are 1.91 times more likely to use a public library or a community center for access than Whites. Other "non-Hispanic" minorities (including American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts and Asian/Pacific Islanders) are 1.24 times as likely as Whites.

Significant Findings:

The "digital divide" between Whites and most minorities continues to grow. There are signs, how-

ever, that higher incomes are helping to narrow and could eventually close the gap. Eventually, falling prices may allow a greater number of people--regardless of race--to purchase computers and connect to the Internet. Waiting for prices to fall, however, is a long-term solution to the racial divide. In the short-term, community access centers (such as schools, public libraries, and community centers) can help to narrow the racial connectivity divide.

(Continued from page 1)

Licenses Bribes

sult of the scheme. Later media investigations linked these drivers to at least 59 accidents and at least 9 deaths.

All told, federal officials claim, over \$170,000 in bribes paid by unqualified drivers wound up in George Ryan's campaign coffers.

The CDL investigation raises the specter of state employees using taxpayer resources to support a partisan candidate for office. The scandal cheats voters of a fair choice by giving certain

candidates an improper edge; it also cheats taxpayers of public servants' time and energies. To date, 38 people have been indicted. Thirty-five have been convicted, and three trials are pending.

Former Inspector General Dean Bauer is the most recent Secretary of State employee to plead guilty. Though the top law enforcement officer in George Ryan's Secretary of State office, Bauer admitted to impeding investigation, to covering up evidence that he obstructed efforts to weed out corruption. Prosecutors also alleged that Bauer took \$2,500 in cash and 64 fundraising tickets from the evidence locker.

Dozens of truckers who allegedly bribed their way past the licensing exam later exchanged their Illinois licenses for licenses in other states. Illinois-licensed truckers later turned up licensed in as many as 14 other states. The Illinois Secre-

tary of State's office has now contacted all 50 states, as well as 14 Canadian provinces, to warn them about the scandal.

After a federal investigation found that private passenger vehicle drivers were also licensed as the result of bribes, the Secretary of State ordered them back for re-tests. Of the 470 drivers who were improperly licensed, 393 lost their licenses - an astonishing 81% failure rate for drivers who had been on the road for a year or more. Media reports indicate that some of these drivers ignored red lights, drove the

Public employees used bribe money to make political campaign contributions worth at least \$170,000.

wrong way down one-way streets, backed out of alleys despite the presence of pedestrians, and committed a variety

of other serious offenses.

Many of the Secretary of State employees involved in the scandal kept careful notes. They were not tracking accidents, injuries or deaths caused by the drivers they had illegally licensed. They tracked how much they had collected in bribes. And how much they had contributed to politicians' campaign war chests.

Illinois has a sad but well-documented history of using public employees for political gain. In 1990, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the state of Illinois could not premise employment decisions - to hire, promote, transfer or recall from a layoff - on employees' political allegiances.

The CDL scandal shows that current state employees remain fearful of such retaliation - and that such fears breed new forms of political discrimination.

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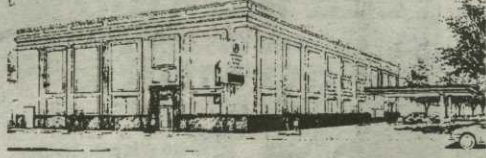
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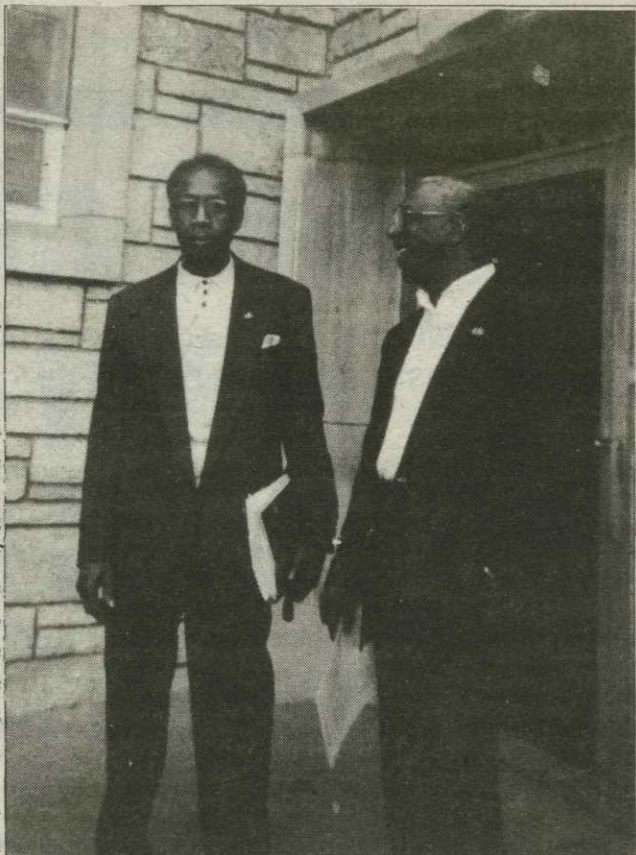
Community partners launch The Homeowner Communication Center

West Chatham - On April 12, the Commonwealth Community Church, the Westwood Corporation, and the Minority Environmental Association of Chicago, introduced the New Homeowner Communication Center of Illinois, to be housed in their church located at 140 E. 81st Street.

Rev. Dan Robinson, a deacon at Commonwealth pointed out that, "As success continues with the direction of Commonwealth, these organizations have also found ways to promote homeownership. We are finding innovative ways to build low-cost houses, with ownership.

The project is in conjunction with a national program to make 1 million Black families homeowners by 2005, announced early April by a Black lawmakers' group, mortgage market giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, major banks, mortgage companies and community groups.

The Homeowner Communication Center of Illinois attended The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's press conference where the new initiative "With



SSJ Photo
Daniel W. Brown and Decon Daniel Robinson of the New Breed Community Development Co., developed by Commonwealth Church consult on their mission to partnership with the New Homeowner Communication Center of Illinois, to be housed in their church located at 140 E. 81st Street.

Ownership, Wealth (WOW) was announced. The initiative will be led by the Congressional Black Caucus in which the Homeowner Communication Center formerly join in support with the local focus of neighborhood revitalization of Commonwealth Church.

The opening day addressed many of the issues facing new buyers, such as funds to cover down payments, services aimed at the challenges of accumulating wealth, developing traditional credit histories and impaired credit.

"Our partnership have taken a close look at the factors behind people not becoming a homeowner. And we have mapped ingenious strategies to get around basic problems," said Brown, who works in the Beverly community as well.

By working with government and private agencies, they have found ways to cut some or all of these problems. For example, James Harris Jr. of Wells Fargo have reduced the cost

of traditional loans. In support of the housing initiative the City of Chicago is to provide opportunities for at least 600 new homeowners, using money subsidies released to the public recently.

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Ordinance on Yearly Interest Payments is News to City Renters

By LASHAWN COB
Staff Writer

Southside tenants interviewed by South Street Journal were unaware of the city's ordinance that entitles them to yearly interest payments on their security deposits.

Bertha Johnson, from the 7600 block of S. Coles, said, "My landlord never mentioned a reimbursement on my anniversary date."

Ms. Wilson, from another building, said, "I thought you only got a deposit back when you moved out."

Southside landlords also had different interpretations.

"I give new tenants the flyer on the security deposits," said Debra Daniel's, Manager of the 51st and King Drive Apartments. "The old tenants that have been here ten years or more, receive a check on their anniversary date."

The City's Department of Housing announced a new interest rate of 3.1 percent on rental security deposits for 2001. Last year's rate was 2.71 percent.

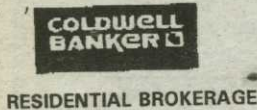
The department wants tenants to be aware of the laws required of them and their landlords, so there will be no misunderstandings.

Under the Residential Landlords and Tenants Ordinance, a landlord is required to pay interest on all applicable security deposits that are held more than six months. Landlords must put security deposits in a federally-insured, interest-bearing account at a financial institution in Illinois.

The new provision applies to all residential rentals in Chicago if the landlord lives off the premises. However, owner-occupied buildings with six or less units are not required to pay interest on security deposits.

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HOME NOMINATION FORM FOR THE 6TH ANNUAL HISTORIC BRONZEVILLE HOUSE TOUR

The Mid-South Planning and Development Commissions (MSPDC) is accepting nominations for its 6th Annual Historic Bronzeville House Tour. The homes nominated must be within the boundaries of the Mid-South Bronzeville community. Nominations will be accepted until April 16th. MSPDC is looking for homes, which represent the area's rich architectural history, the legacies of its residents and the resurgence of the Bronzeville Community.

The House Tour will be held Sunday, June 24, 2001 from 12:00 pm until 6:00 pm. For more information about the tour, the nomination process or the organization, call the MSPDC office at (773) 924-1330.

To nominate a home please complete the form below. Mail, fax, E-mail or bring it to:

Mid-South Planning and Development Commission
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Chicago, IL 60653
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Phone: (773) 924-1330 Fax: (773) 924-3151

Homeowner's Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Is the Homeowner aware of this nomination? Yes No

Has the Homeowner been featured in a previous year?
Yes No / If so, what year? _____

Please describe the qualities or characteristics of the home that encouraged you to nominate it for inclusion in the Historic Bronzeville House Tour.

Nominator's Signature _____

Phone _____

This year's 6th Anniversary House Tour is the kickoff of our Capital Campaign for the restoration of the Historic Landmark Overton Hygienic Building. The last event drew more than 500 visitors who toured the area. We've adopted the theme of Urban Restoration giving this route in history to display some of Bronzeville's beautiful masterpieces.

- Tickets go on sale May 15, 2001
- For further information please contact Mid-South Office
- Check us out on our Website: midsouthplanning.org