

## South Street Suburb

(Continued on page 11)

### SOUTH STREET PUBLISHER

#### The nerve of Harry Belafonte calling George Bush a

**terrorist.** And then there are organizers around the country calling for The Impeachment of President George Bush. This is definitely a controversial subject. But if Harry is correct, the Curtis Mayfield's hit "If its hell below we all are going to go," if the wrong is not corrected.

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### SOUTH STREET BUSINESS



#### Chamber Business in Bronzeville

Bronzeville in part has been a reference to the past than to the present. But the "Restoring Bronzeville," theme of 1994, is now leveraging a resurgence in the Bronzeville community that has also prompt the base for the Bronzeville Chamber of Commerce.

But From 1928 to 1952, many African Americans made their livelihoods, and business developed in part because of segregation of the city. It became a city within a city.

Bronzeville, was also known as the

(Continued on page 21)

### SOUTH STREET PROSPECTIVE

#### The Party that killed a Black Panther Chicago should never forget

Not across seas, nor in Nazi Germany, but on the west side of Chicago, one

of the most brutal acts of terrorism occurred December 4, 1968, (The year Dr. Martin Luther

King was killed in April 1968) at one of the Ground Zeros -- 2337 W. Monroe.

The U.S. government via the Chicago Police Department enacted one of its most brutal attacks on the Black Power movement of the 60's. 21 year old courageous charismatic Deputy Chairman Fred Hampton and 22 year old Defense Captain Mark Clark, of the Black Panther Party, were assassinated.

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# South Street Journal

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## Uproar in Bronzeville

### Salvation Army's \$130m project rejected by Tillman Organizations question as well objecting the project

During December, people normally notice the Salvation Army with their hands out in front of department stores asking for donations. However for the residents of Bronzeville, the Salvation Army committed to contributing over \$130 million to build a State of the Art Community Center on 48th and State Street that was rejected by Alderman Dorothy Tillman.

The alderman's decision raised concerns in the community on her lack of community input and her preference for a shopping mall provoked pro and con responses within the Bronzeville community.

Lt. Col. David Grindle informed SSJ that the project was supported by a \$90 million grant by the Ray and Joan Kroc Foundation to benefit a low-income community. The 25-acre "Family Life Center" was in preparation since October 2004, after the McDonald's Corp. heiress Joan Kroc left the Salvation Army \$1.5 billion in her will,

specifying that part of the gift be spent exclusively on building and running community centers in low-income neighborhoods.

The Salvation Army reviewed all documents, reports and studies concerning the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, and evaluated recent development trends in the area. Grindle said the Salvation Army also met frequently with community and city leaders involved in the Center, which consisted of

(Continued on page 5)



### "The Thunder of Angels" the book on the Montgomery Bus Boycott

#### The Movement that produced Kings

From the cover of the book, "The Thunder of Angels", On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on bus #2857 to a white man, The yearlong struggle to integrated the Montgomery, Alabama, buses

sparked by Park's heroism was the birth of the modern civil rights movement, bringing Martin Luther King Jr. to prominence and promising the end of segregation in America.

The basic facts of the Montgomery bus boycott are, of course, familiar, but the book tells far more. Based on extensive interviews conducted over decades and thousands of exclusive documents, readers get a glimpse

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## The Race for Sheriff



Sylvester Baker who built a longer career in Cook County Corrections announced his candidacy for Cook County Sheriff,

is up against Tom Dart, former state rep and chief of Staff of Michael Sheen, who secured the backing of the democratic members for Dart.

No doubt there will be "a new sheriff in town" of Cook County and Chicago. Sheriff Michael Sheehan surprised many announcing he will not seek reelection and lobbied support for Mr. Tom Dart, his Chief of Staff of the Sheriff office, and former state representative over the 19th ward.

Mark Allen, Founder and President of The Leadership was one of the first to immediately challenge Central State Committeeman and Congressman Bobby Rush, and other Black elected officials to consider uniting around the candidacy of Sylvester Baker, a retired Cook County Corrections official, who announced his candidacy even before Sheehan made his announcement not to seek reelection after 16 years in office.

Allens's charge that Rush and other African American leaders were disrespected by the Democratic Party of Cook County endorsed Dart to replace the Sheriff

(Continued on page 7)

## 2007 Mayor Search Committee:

As many politicians are generally paying attention to the March 2006 election, many others are looking ahead preparing for the 2007 Mayoral Election. Approximately 350,000 plus people voted in the 2000 Mayor Election, contrarily, 700,000 registered voters didn't participate, and possibly 600,00

are not registered voters.

Due to issues such as the Truck Program, lack of black contractors on government contracts, dope peddling in the Water Department, and concerns regarding the contracts for the Millennium Park, the 2007 Mayoral Search Committee is seeking a Reform Mayor for the City Chicago.

(Continued on page 8)



### LOST HISTORIES NEW B'GININGS A History of PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

By Nathan Thompson

With the history, the voice CIS, Pilgrim Baptist Church Pilgrim Baptist Church, 3301 S. Indiana Ave. began as the Union Grove Prayer Meeting Club organized in 1915, in the Bronzeville home of John & Juanita Finnie. At the time, John was the Pastor of Ebenezer

(Continued on page 16)

# UnZip

Don't pay Cell phone companies charge of \$1.00 or more for 411 / information. Word is people do not have to; When you need to use the 411 / information option, simply dial 1 800 FREE 411 or 1 800 373 3411 without incurring a charge at all except for the minutes required to make the call.



Wanda Lavinia Morris Armstrong & Morgan Douglas Carter exchange marriage vows on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2005

Political hopeful Ranoule Tatum Stated that: "The people in the 26th District finally have a choice. An Oakland-Kenwood resident and host of the CanTV television program "Talking Success," Tatum submitted signatures to run against incumbent Lu Jones. But maybe Jones should getting the support of republican gov-



Judy Barr Topinka,

ernor candidate, **Judy Barr Topinka**, As at the services of **Jordi Palmer**, Jones said Topinka was identified as the "White Sister" by Ms. Palmer. There are a number of people from the Black community, including **Wallace 'Gator' Bradley** supporting Topinka race for Governor.



Wallace 'Gator' Bradley

**Jones, Arlene**, columnist, from the *Austin Weekly News*. Lead a group honoring **Yahsai Ben Israel aka Charles "Chuck" Harris**. Citing, if **Herb Kent** is the "Mayor of Bronzeville" and **Cliff Kelley** is the "Governor of Talk Radio," **Yahsai** is their "Warrior of the West Side." However, the celebration was held on the south side, at the beautiful **Prince Hall Masonic Temple** 809 E. 42nd Pl.



Yahsai Ben

Aldermen are ask to **SPREAD THE WORD** about the new **Illinois State Law**, that turns Driving without insurance and on suspended licenses A **FELONY**. This use to be only a misdemeanor. This law was quietly passed and will unfortunately affect more of the Black and Latino wards than others. So the word should be educating the youth and others that they can quickly acquire a felony on their record. The word is also there are simply not enough of Blacks going to prison to feed the growing new industry. And there are far too many still able to vote in the next election. This is a way to remedy these issues. Why are the politicians spending "their" precious money on our children's education when the prison system doesn't require it? Organizers are demanding the repeal of this new law before we/ours become victims of it. 1 800 861-6541 for more information.

The **Chicago Defender** indicating that **Melvin Caldwell** was a disrupted employee, Now he is no longer associated with **SSJ**. **Rev. Leon Daniels** who is concerned about the lack of African Americans working for Arab store owners should be aware that one store on 82nd and Halsted replied by saying, "Well do you see Arabs working for Blacks?" He continued to say its about who you trust to handle your business and who you know.

## Chicago Defender makes move From the historic site

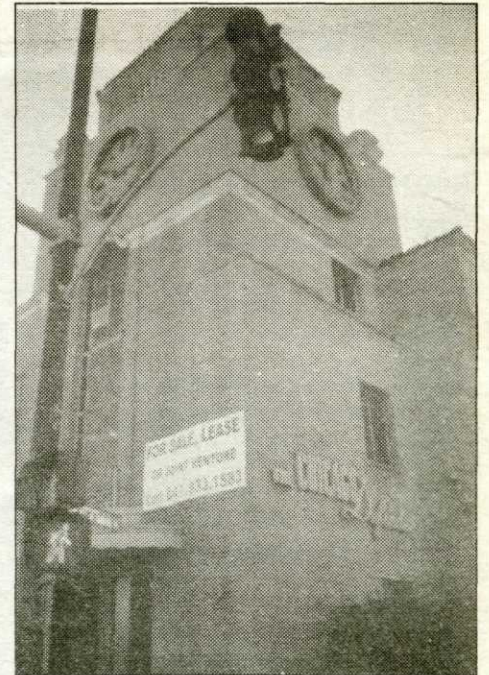
Since 1953 the Chicago Defender newspaper, (Sengstacke Enterprise) owned and was housed at the historic location of 2400 S. Michigan Ave. After the passing of its owner, Mr. John Sengstacke, the newspaper witness many changes internal and external. The one of the biggest is now moving its operations to 200 S. Michigan Ave in the Borg Warner building.

The newspaper is now owned under the flagship publications of Real Times Inc. a media company that bought it which also includes the Michigan Chronicle, the Michigan Front Page, the New Pittsburgh Courier, and the Tri-State Defender.

The new owners of the Defender sold the 40,000 square ft building that was last appraised at \$4 million. However, sold it for \$3 million to secure operating funds. The new owners of the building was indicted for allegedly producing fake passports and identifications for an undercover FBI operative as part of the money laundering scheme and drugs. The building is now up for lease or for sell.

In addition the Chicago Defender Charities that organize the Bud Billinkin Parade and Picnic, has moved to the Inner city Studies at 700 East Oakwood. Reports are the Charities maybe opting to change the name of the parade as it continues as a separated operations from the newspaper.

SSJ Photo



## CTA's Fare Increase; ill-Advised

### Claims activist it will Hurt Workers, Discourage Transit Use

On January 6, Tiffany Chancellor of South Shore took three buses in the morning and in the evening to get her child, before January 1st she paid \$4 a day.

Now that Chicago Transportation Authority change their rate structure it cost her \$12 days a day.

In addition to a citywide coalition opposing the actions, a Class Action law suit has been file on behalf of Ms. Chancellor.

The Neighborhood Capital Budget Group's Campaign for Better Transit opposes the cash fare increase and elimination of the cash transfer, calling for the City Council to realize that Chicago's working poor and immigrant population are being asked to balance CTA's budget on their backs: If a working person pays cash to get to her job and only transfers once, her daily commute to work will double in cost- from \$2.00 each way, to \$4.00 each way.

Al Holfied attorney for Chancellor, file a class action law suit against CTA, claiming as with Ms. Chancellor, people who work in a largely cash economy generally live in areas of the city that are already under-served by CTA. Those same neighborhoods do not have equal access to sales outlets to purchase CTA fare cards in advance of people's daily commutes.

A possible discrimination suit is also being looked into base on where the passes were placed for the public to buy them. They were in white areas more greater oppose to in

**COMPLAINT - CLASS ACTION**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff brings this action to secure redress for the failure of the Chicago Transit Authority ("CTA") to make available a sufficient supply of Chicago Cards to meet expected demand, in violation of its obligation as a common carrier for hire or public utility to honor its published fares and rates and refrain from unjust discrimination in rates.

**PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff Tiffany Chancellor is an African-American individual who rides the CTA to commute to work on a daily basis. She resides in the South Shore area and rides downtown, where she is employed as a sales clerk in a retail establishment.
3. The Chicago Transit Authority ("CTA") operates the principal public transport system in Chicago, Illinois.
4. The CTA has the duties of a public utility or common carrier for hire, including the duty to accept and carry passengers at its published fares.

**FACTS**

5. Effective January 1, 2006, CTA riders who use a Chicago Card to pay their fare pay \$1.75 plus \$0.25 for a transfer for a one-way fare.
6. Also effective January 1, 2006, CTA riders who do not use a Chicago Card to pay their fares must pay a \$2 basic fare plus another \$2 each time they board another bus or

affect communities. Citing that as CTA is a public utility is not making the fare fair to all.

Allegations under the fraud act, requires CTA to advertise and not limit there are the stores were out,

"CTA did not plan for the level of demand that they knew was needed.

"They (CTA) knew the demand was

there." said NCBG, Director of Community Outreach John Jones. He also stressed that the Campaign for Better Transit thank members of the City Council for addressing public transportation concerns in the City Council in which the CTA's recent decision to rescind a

(Continued on page 5)

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# Daley to appeal in court on police torture cases



Richard Daley

Jon Burge

Aaron Patterson



Mayor Richard M. Daley may have to testify in a suit against former Cmdr. Jon Burge. According to the Chicago Tribune, in February, Daley must answer questions under oath regarding allegations that police used torture to obtain confessions in the 1980s (when Daley was States Attorney during torture claims). Unless city attorneys prevail in their bid for a protective order to explore the roles of top officials in response to internal reports of police misconduct.

Burge was fired and left Chicago for Florida 10 years ago, he left turmoil in his wake. U.S. Magistrate

Judge Geraldine Soat Brown said she won't rule on the protective order until January. But she said Daley must sit for a deposition in February, in case the protective order is denied.

Brown's ruling affects suits brought by four former Death Row inmates who were pardoned by former Gov. George Ryan on the basis of innocence in 2003, --Madison Hobley, Aaron Patterson, Stanley Howard and Leroy Orange--filed suit against the city, former Police Burge and other police officials.

The plaintiffs cannot depose Daley merely as "a showpiece," Brown

*(Continued on page 7)*

# Hughes' School on and off and on for a new school

by Michael H. Brownstein

"This was a viable neighborhood, but then the Board of Education purchased almost two blocks of land to build a new Langston Hughes Elementary School," David Shelton, a neighbor of the Langston Hughes School, said. "Everything changed."

Langston Hughes Elementary School is located at 226 W. 104th Street in the Roseland community.

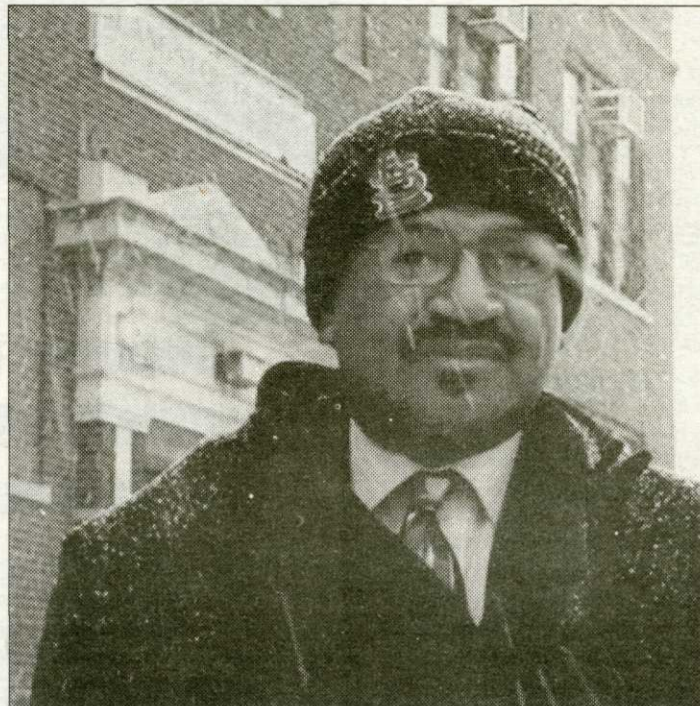
He pointed to the large fenced in area where two blocks of homes were razed to make room for a new school and the two signs placed by the Chicago Board of Education Capital Development Office. "I figured they would build the school soon. Langston Hughes is in terrible shape. I don't think they can wait much longer."

"The Board of Education bought two blocks of residences," Debra Stigler, the Local School Council Chairperson for Langston Hughes, said. "People who lived there twenty-five, thirty years were moved out of their homes, but nothing was done. The houses were left standing for over a year. The area became a hazard and an eyesore for both the children and the neighborhood."

According to Stigler, drug addicts began to use the vacant properties to both use and sell drugs. Other illegal activities began to flourish behind open doors and broken windows.

"I was very active in trying to get a new school built," Alderman Carrie Austin from the 34th Ward said, "but when they decided to tear down the houses to build a new Langston Hughes, they destroyed an entire neighborhood because nothing happened."

"I worked with the City of



The conditions of Langston Hughes are deplorable," Earl Ware, Langston Hughes principal for the last six years, said. "We need a new school." SSSJ Photo Don Carter

Chicago's Building Department and the Board of Education to get everything secured. The houses were vacant and this made for a dangerous situation. No one cared. Finally we took a busload of concerned people to a meeting at Farragut High School. Then the properties were torn down and the area secured."

Shelton concurs. "A lot of us were angry because of the way the city ignored the neighborhood. It was like we were throw aways. At least now everything is secured. Nonetheless, there has not been a ground breaking for a new school.

All that has happened is they chopped down a lot of the trees and built a fence around the area. Oh, and they posted signs about the future of the project."

"The conditions of Langston Hughes are deplorable," Earl Ware, Langston Hughes principal for the last six years, said. "We need a new school. There is water damage to a major portion of the building. The water has caused walls to bulge out. The building is falling apart around us."

Langston Hughes was originally a

*(Continued on page 9)*

# Fumes from Indiana cover South Streets of Chicago

Ms. Beauty Turner

All night on Wednesday November 30th, one call after the other, complaints were ravaging many city blocks, depraving people of a breath of fresh air to an odd odor. An illegal discharge from an Indiana BP Refinery stirred up some chaos and confusion in many south side communities' in Chicago.

So if you smelled something that night it wasn't because of that large thanksgiving meal you had, and it wasn't because of the baby breaking wind it was because of a real to life issue of an alleged gas leak.

"Uhura sister," Prisoner of Conscience Committee President Fred Hampton Jr. son of slain Black Panther Party Leaders Fred Hampton Sr. said as he reported from 60th in Englewood. "the whole Englewood community smells like gas Beauty," "My whole block is lit up like a Christmas tree with a gas like smell," people over here don't know what is going on; it's that strong"

Hampton was very concerned about his safety as well as the residents that reside on his block, as he spoke holding his nose.

These types of incidents made would seem to be a good idea to invest in a gas mask after living in dangerous times such as (Post 911, terrorism act foreign as well as domestic, wars, etc.)

More calls from other people on as far away as 114th south Indiana and 45th and Cottage saying that something is seriously wrong, the smell of a loud foul odor of gas in their community.

People on 79th street called about a high level of alleged toxic gas smells traveling toward their homes.

The smell of a gas like substance invading and penetrating many airspaces in a lot of south side communities, reaching from 43rd street as far over to 114th and Indiana all the way across the city into the State of Indiana."

The city 311 did confirm the calls as well, "Yes, we are also receiving a large volume of calls concerning this smell," replied a spokesperson on the other end.

She continued "Right now the gas company is trying to pin point the problem," she added. "That is all I can say right now ma'am".

The police station knew about the incident but that is a gas company issue.

Did the information center of the City of Chicago pin point the source of the alleged gas leak from last night?

"I know what you are talking about but, that was another sort of leak," Vanquez continue, "I'm going to connect you to the environmental services and they will explain it better then I can," Vanquez went on to say.

Larry Merritt who is the spokesperson for Illinois Department of Environmental Services, reported that he would look into it and call me back with an answer later on. That day he called me back and said.

"The fumes were traced back to a BP Refinery located in Whiting Indiana."

"The Indiana company reported it on Tuesday and at that time the winds were blowing to the West, but on Wednesday the wind shifted and that's why the people were

*(Continued on page 4)*



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## 30 years delay, CTA to extend Red Line south

Developing Communities Project (DCP), a community organizing group on Chicago's far South Side, is sponsoring the first of three public meetings to push for the extension of the CTA Red Line. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, 1334 W. 115<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Red Line terminal at 95<sup>th</sup> Street and the Dan Ryan Expressway, the busiest and most profitable among the CTA train lines in the city, was built as a temporary stop over 30 years ago. The plan was to extend the train line to the southernmost city limits just as the Red Line extends to the city limits on the North Side.

When DCP organized the community to place a referendum to extend the Red Line on the November 2004 election ballot, over 39,000 votes were cast making it the most successful referendum in the city. DCP has pushed the process over the last three years. That work has resulted in the Red Line Extension project's inclusion in the 2005 federal transportation bill. Since the passage of that bill this past summer, local state and regional transportation agencies have been busy lining up funding matches for major transit capital projects: The Circle Line, the Star Line, and the Block 37 mega-station, all of which are being fast-tracked with little or no public scrutiny and oversight said the committee in a statement. The Red Line Extension project is the only transportation project that fulfills the federal Transportation Equity Act's (TEA) criteria to provide "transportation equity" to underserved, mixed-income communities of color.

"The public must help to reverse this benign neglect of the Red Line Extension by joining in a public outcry for the city to hold public hearings on the feasibility plans for the project. Whether or not the plans are completed."

## Gas on the South Side

smelling that odd smell here in the Chicago communities," Larry added.

Merritt did not confirm if the fumes were dangerous, "I don't think so but it would be best if you call Indiana Environmental Service Department and ask them, I really don't know," Merritt added.

Tammy at the Hammond Indiana Environmental Service Department said, "I haven't heard anything about this issue, but that doesn't mean it didn't happen. As soon as I hear something more about this I will call you back and give you more information."

When a mistake of this type happens, I believe that the general public should be notified right away. That night there was a bad odor that was blowing in the windy city that you just couldn't cover up and hide.

Along with letting the general public know what happened, the public is entitled to know what type of odors they are, if they're toxic, and what steps should be taken.

"Situations such as this, as well as blackouts that happen in our communities should definitely cause a state of alarm," Hampton Jr. said.



(r) Attorney General Lisa Madigan, state legislators and advocates watch as Gov. Blagojevich signs the Payday Loan Reform Act into law. "Regulation of this corrosive industry is long overdue," said (l) State Rep. Miller (D-Dolton), the bill's chief sponsor.

## Governor directs state regulators to enforce new Payday Loan law

New Payday Loan Reform law is in effect providing unprecedented protection against predatory short-term loans directed by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich. The law directed the state's Department of Financial and Professional Regulations (IDFPR) to aggressively start enforcing the new December of this

2006, with particular attention paid to lenders who may try to get around the new restrictions. The law provides new protection against ploys used by lenders to lure borrowers into potentially devastating predatory loans.

"A short-term loan should never lead to long-term financial ruin. Unfortunately, that's been happening too often to families all over Illinois. The good news is, strong new legal protections will go into effect that prevent people from ending up in an endless cycle of debt they can't repay," said Gov. Blagojevich. "It will make sure lenders who want to come up with ways to circumvent the law can't do it. Payday loans are supposed to help working people cover unexpected costs and emergencies. They're not supposed to break their bank accounts."

The Payday Loan Reform Act allows the state to go beyond the new, 120-day time limit on short-term loans, in order to ban lenders from creating 121-day loans or other predatory instruments.

In 2000, Governor Ryan signed a law designed to rein in the rapid increase in short term payday loans. At that time the average length of a payday loan was 14 to 28 days (one or two pay periods). When the law was implemented in 2001, the rules

only applied to loans of 30 days or less. Within days of the rules taking effect, the payday lending industry responded by extending the length of the loan to 31 days or longer to circumvent a law that had

tried to protect consumers. Currently, there are 995 payday or other short-term lenders in Illinois, a 23% increase from last year. According to industry figures, the average annual percentage rate for short-term loans is 595%, and the average amount of a short-term loan is \$380. According to the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, last year lenders made 1.4 million payday loans, which generated \$1.3 billion in receivables.

Before the Payday Loan Reform Act many consumers would have to take out additional loans to pay the fees on their original payday loan. This extends the cycle of debt further, with no resources for recovery periods or optional repayment plans.

Points of the new law: -Limits the interest that can be charged for each loan to \$15.50 per \$100; Sets a cap on total loan amounts to \$1,000 or 25% of a customer's monthly salary, whichever is less; Prevents borrowers from having more than two payday loans at a time; Provides that payday borrowers cannot have payday loans for more than 45 days. Once they have reached the 45-day limit they must have at least a seven-day loan free period.

It also creates a new 56-day repayment period with no additional interest charges for borrowers who have trouble repaying their loans;

Protects borrowers from paying attorneys fees and court costs.

## The Story of the Year

### WAGIN' TH DAWG TALES FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY

By Nathan Thompson

HURRICANE KATRINA RESPONSE UPDATE

What action has been taken since the Congressional Committee Hearings regarding the Response to Hurricane Katrina? The hearings were held last month and chaired by Republican Tom Davis of Virginia. He got an ear full of head bangin' information but the question now becomes what will he and the committee do with the info.

"Not very much," says Harry Alford, President of the National Black Chamber of Commerce. Alford testified before the committee that he and the engineering firm F. E. Jordan and Associates want an independent third party investigation into what he calls an "unexplainable crater on the ocean floor below the levy breach section." "We'll even pay for the investigation ourselves," he told the committee. What's important here is that there are reports citing "burn marks on chunks of cement broken from the levee wall," with "traces of boron enhanced flouronitram and PBXN-111"—high level explosives. These samples are said to be undergoing tests at the Army's forensic lab in Gillem, GA.

Charles Allen, Vice Mayor, Newport News, VA, also testified that "there was no audible alarm was sounded when the levee broke..." He also testified of people being murdered, and sounds of gunfire. What's interesting here is that there are reports of paramilitary groups operating in the district, five of which were allegedly gunned down by unknowing New Orleans cops. That story was published on the AP Wire but disappeared.

Attorney Ishmael Muhammad of the Grassroots Legal Network told the committee about explosions heard by many area residents, independent of each other, within earshot of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge where the levee broke.

Keep in mind this was after the hurricane passed. The Committee's star, Republican Steve Buyer from Indiana, went on and on about the "scope of the committee's charter," and seemed to belittle the witness delegation's claims. At one point he had the temerity to suggest that flooding waters can "sound like many things, even an explosion." When the delegation raised concerns that their testimonies would be fully represented in the commission's forthcoming report, Cynthia McKinney (the lone Democrat present) reassured the group that the report's integrity will be guaranteed by her offering, Buyer got pissed and snapped, "How dare you question my integrity," and walked out.

WHILE THE WORLD ANTICIPATES THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT, a June 2005 report that preceded Katrina offers a different perspective. The New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers was already scheduled for a drastic \$71.2 million budget cut, the largest single-year funding loss ever for the New Orleans district. The cuts would have directly effected the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward area. According to the USACE, "much of pre-Katrina documentation on the New Orleans levees and floodwalls was done before digital office equipment became available. IPET is scanning the documents as quickly as possible."

(Keep in mind the USACE had microwave ovens before the Jetsons.) The Interagency Performance Evaluation Task Force Report is due out in June, followed by a report commissioned by Donald Rumsfeld through Frances J. Harvey (Secretary of the Army) by way of an independent panel of experts convened by John Paul Woodley Jr. (Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works) under the direction of the National Academies (headed by Ralph J. Cicerone). Their report is due in July. In the meantime, watch for the Congressional Commission Report due in February.

Nathan Thompson is a freelance journalist and the Author of *KINGS: The True Story of Chicago's Policy Kings and Numbers Racketeers*. He can be reached at NateThompson@SouthStreetJournal.com

# STREET POWER

www/South Street Journal.net

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# State Street project uproar

(Continued from page 1)

over twenty members. The members included, CPD, Illinois Institute of Technology, Grand Boulevard Federation, Firman Community Services, Dr. Russell, Inner City Youth Foundation, Center For New Horizons, Rev. and Herbert B. Martin, of People's Progressive Church.

The Divisional commander said the third ward was identified as the best site. The State of The Art Community Project was to be built on the premises of the Chicago Housing Authority land, where the Robert Taylor Homes stood. Shahshak Levi, Taylor Homes Local Advisory Council, Area Jurisdictional President questioned who has decision making powers regarding what happens on the land; indicating the alderman does not have the sole authority to kick the Salvation Army off of the State Street Corridor." Adding, "This is the corruption of "Madam Hat" Tillman, and her leadership of the third ward."

However, the alderman does have to finally ok in signing off permits and government owned property in their wards. But Tillman is not the only one objecting to the project. It was reported that Centers For New Horizons and the Firman Community Services are concerned with the duplication of services.

Greg Washington head of the Grand Boulevard Federation informed SSJ, that the GBF has not made an official position and has invited Tillman to a community meeting to discuss the mixed concerns over the project.

Groups in the Bronzeville community have been meeting with expectations to save the Salvation Army's Kroc project. However, judging from the response and mood of the meetings, many attendees are seeking answers; yet the alderman remains publicly mum to date and did not return SSJ phone calls on the issue. Tillman did promise to meet with the Bronzeville Chamber of Commerce as well as the GBF.

Christine Perkins a member of the GBF and of the Inner City Youth Foundation has headed up a petition in support of the Center to continue its plans Bronzeville. A meeting was called on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 4500 S. Michigan Ave. at 1:00 PM

"All parties remain committed to the project". Said Lt. Col. Grindle "However, in moving a project of this magnitude forward we do not want to get involved in political fights because of Tillman's objections. The Salvation Army has until Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> to find a new site with at least 20 acres in an underserved community".

"We are now working with the city and considering several potential sites for the Ray



Christine Perkins a member of the GBF and of the Inner City Youth Foundation has headed up a petition drive in support of the Salvation Army Center to continue its plans in Bronzeville. However, its Commanding Officer Lt. Colonel David E. Grindle, is not so sure if they will continue without the alderman's support.



Pat Dowell, a Bronzeville resident supporting the projected submitted a letter to the media asking for a recall of the alderman. Dowell is also slated to be an aldermanic candidate in the third ward



Alderman Dorothy Tillman as she has referred to herself as Land Lord over property in her 3rd Ward has a commanding direction on the fate of the Salvation Army's \$135 million project will be build on 48th and State Street. Picture on 47th and King unveiling the jazz statutes (seated right) the Mayor Daley has given aldermen control of public property acquisitions. (left to the mayor) is East Lake developer supporter Elzie Higginbottom a supporter of both elected officials.

and Joan Kroc Chicago Community Center."

Community resident, Tony Burroughs said he was outraged when he heard about the stopping of the project. "This center would be the second largest in the country, and is exactly what our community needs. I have been saying for years that the young kids in our community, who have nothing to do, loiter on every corner for lack of constructive activities. I thought about several ideas to solve this problem, and

this center encompasses many of them.

Questioning Tillman's sincerity in protecting the interest of the community, Levi said, "One only has to look at the development projects that has taken place recently and will recognize that a majority of those who are working on them are, her daughters and crony's. They are involved in almost every project that takes

## REASONS FOR THE RECALL OF AN ALDERMAN

By rebuffing the Salvation Army's bid to anchor redevelopment of Bronzeville's State Street corridor with a world-class community center, Third Ward Alderman Dorothy Tillman showed again how far removed she is from the grassroots base from whence she came. Not only did she spurn the goodwill of a world renown organization - whose only failing was choosing our community as the best location for its state-of-the-art facility - she also, "punked" Mayor Daley by reneging on the deal to which he committed his political sway; She repudiated the best efforts of the city's Department of Planning and Development; Never sought input from her own advisory committee; And, above all else, disregarded the needs and best interests of the citizens she was elected to represent.

Tillman's harsher critics accuse her of trying to cash in on the \$135 million project by putting the squeeze on the Salvation Army. I wouldn't go quite that far. There is no evidence of that, and such cynicism reduces us to fighting ourselves rather than keeping sight of what's most

important. We should be focusing on not missing another opportunity to build mixed income housing, attract commercial developments and preserve our historical landmarks. Also, we should keep this project alive until the community's voice has been heard.

This project will provide valuable services for our entire community. It will serve those who are just trying to make it as well as those who already have. Its presence will attract retail and commercial development, not preclude it.

Tillman's Aldermanic performance on housing and economic development, landmark preservation and social service improvement reveals she's more focused on self-interest than re-developing Bronzeville. She has a well-known habit of wielding her influence to the enrichment of cronies and family members, as is documented in contracts and employment records. While nepotism and cronyism are not necessarily illegal, Tillman's recurring pattern of self-serving behavior results in haphazard urban planning and missed opportunities. One cannot ignore the litany of complaints muttered quietly by developers and business owners trying to launch projects in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, all meeting with similar rebuffs by the Alderman. Tillman has established a clear pattern of bottlenecking economic development projects and treating important landmark preservation projects with obstinacy and arrogance.

It is not too late for our community to speak out. Many residents are interested in mobilizing on this issue to reverse the Alderman's edict. Conversely, some others are opposed to the project for other reasons. A thorough airing of divergent views in a true neighborhood forum is the appropriate and proper way to address community concerns. The Salvation Army should be allowed to present its case, and residents should have the opportunity to listen, learn and voice their opinions. Clearly, what Bronzeville residents want is some level of input on this issue, regardless of what Dorothy Tillman thinks. If you agree, add your voice by writing a letter to Mayor Daley telling him that our community has not been heard on this issue.

Pat Dowell  
773-536-3593

## CTA's Fare Increase

(Continued from page 2)

doubling of paratransit fares was influenced by the actions of the City Council's Transportation Committee.

The November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005 public hearing that the Committee held, in keeping with City Council's resolution to exercise more oversight over public transit matters, allowed aldermen to hear from the public, and then weigh in on the CTA Budget crisis.

Jones pointed out, CTA's Board Chair and President heard loud and clear that the City Council Transportation Committee objected to the proposed paratransit fare increase, as well as joining with the transit riding public in expecting more and better services from CTA.

Jones continued to say, "Instead of penalizing hard-working Chicagoans who pay cash to ride, and discouraging transit use by eliminating the cash transfer, CTA

should work with the public, the Mayor, Cook County, and other public and private partners to tap additional revenues to close its 2006 budget gap."

Jones outlined the following actions should be taken: Support 26<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Ocasio's Resolution calling for the CTA to rescind its plan to eliminate the cash transfer Card and raise cash fares.

Call the Mayor's Office to stop discriminatory fare plan by increasing the City's contribution to CTA from the Chicago Skyway Fund revenues and Revenue from the J. C. DeCaux Bus Shelter Contract to direct millions toward the CTA annual contribution fund.

In addition establish a Transit Fund modeled on the proposed School Construction Fund, to share new city revenues from development with our mass transit system.

"CTA should not be allowed to go through with a divisive and

discriminatory fare plan." Said Jones. Adding members of City Council were outraged that people with disabilities were being asked to balance the CTA budget on their backs."

"Now, more than ever, we need our elected officials to demonstrate leadership in holding the CTA accountable. Just as CTA's paratransit fare proposal could not stand up under your scrutiny, neither can CTA's cash fare plan."

For more information on revenue alternatives to the CTA cash fare increase and cash transfer elimination, or for detailed analysis of how your constituents are affected,

For info: John Jones at 312 939-7198, ext. 3868. Or, Mildred Wiley, Bethel New Life (773-826-5540); Minister Cy Fields, Interfaith Organizing Project (773-722-7555); Brian Johnson, National Federation of the Blind-Illinois Chapter (773-506-8580); Kim Wasserman, Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (773-762-6991).

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# Simple Order

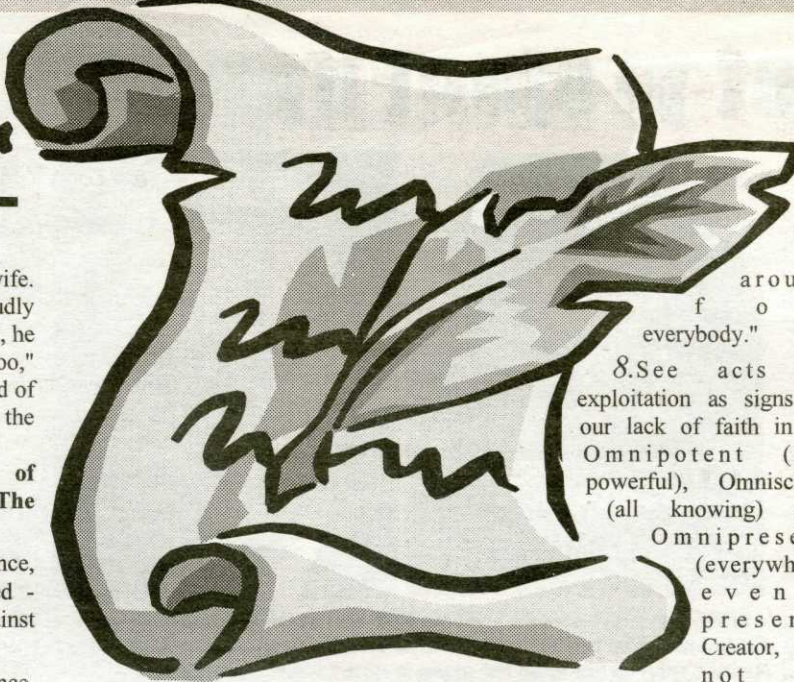
© 2005 by Richard Blackmon Jr.

I have been invited to Simple's home for dinner. He asked that I excuse the mess, they are still unpacking from the move out of the projects, I mean housing development, Robert Taylor Homes. He purchased a two flat in Englewood near 51st street. I think I left the address at home, never mind there he is sitting on the porch. It looks awfully rough around here, I better turn on the alarm and put on my club. "What's up Sonny O, come on in. My inner wishing told me to come outside and wait for you, just in case you forgot the address," he said. "Don't you mean intuition", I rudely replied. To which he quickly responded: "That's what I said." After introducing me to his lovely family, their bird and dogs, he told me to have a seat in the living room and asked if I wanted something to drink. I requested some water and started to look around. The first thing to catch my eye was a beautiful picture of Simple and his wife, sitting together on a beach, with these words inscribed above them: "Now, let us walk along the Ocean's beach, nothing but wind and sunshine between my woman and me. Took me almost 20 years to see, I couldn't truly love her, until I first loved me," Signed, Jesse B. Semple, II, and dated October 22, 1988. "Who

wrote this," I asked Simple's wife. "My honey of course," she proudly replied. "He might be simple, but, he shole is sweet. He wrote this too," handing me a plaque titled: "Creed of the B.R.A.V.E." On it were the following words:

**We, Brothers Rejecting Acts of Violence and Exploitation ("The BRAVE"), faithfully vow to:**

1. Never commit acts of violence, whether justified or unjustified - random or premeditated, against another human being;
2. Live by the tenets of Nonviolence, employ the Law of Nonresistance and practice restraint in the face of seeming threats, insults, and abuses.
3. See violent acts against others as the thieves and liars they are, stealing and extinguishing the life force of countless young people the whole world over, while perpetuating the greatest lie ever told that; "We are separate and apart from each other."
4. Recognize violent acts as signs of our weakness, weakness of mind and body, and not as proof of our strength, which is based in Spirit, eternal-changeless-infinite-intelligent Spirit.
5. Never commit acts of exploitation, whether justified or unjustified -



random or premeditated, against another human being;

6. Live by the tenets of abundance and prosperity, employ the Laws of Compensation and Sacrifice, and practice patience during times of seeming lack, limitation and scarcity.
7. See acts of exploitation for the lame excuses and falsehoods they are, using our power of persuasion and influence to exploit the vast, but unrecognized and underdeveloped, resources in others for our personal gain, while allowing our own untapped and underutilized divine resources to lay dormant, while perpetuating the greatest falsehood of all, that; "There is not enough of everything

evidence of our faith in that same Creator, which is based on the

ever-present proof of universal abundance and plenty all around us. **We, The BRAVE, declare in a single, triumphant voice that: We will no longer allow ourselves to be used as weapons, tools, or instruments of destruction or deception, but, instead recognize our oneness, claim our divinity and exercise authority and dominion over our thoughts and feelings to the benefit of all humanity, henceforth and forever more.** "He lives by those words, recites them everyday," she immediately proclaimed. To which I responded "Simply wonderful." ###

## I Got a Dream

*I got a dream to live my life as an opportunity to make some money and give to the un-wealthy.*

*I got a dream just like Martin Luther king had blacks and whites can come together in any type of weather. I got a dream that blacks can stop killing their own, we need to come together and be strong just like Martin Luther King was when he got hit by that rock he still got up and said non-violent,*

*Non-violent I shall be non violent.*

*I got a dream to get a record deal so I can be a legend just like 2pac was,*

*Be a legend and just like Biggie was.*

*I got a dream of being on the big scene,*

*Everywhere I go people scream*

*I got a dream I can be*

*wherever I want to be, rather south or north, without a worry, about getting my bike stolen.*

*I got a dream .He got a dream. She got a dream. Man we all got a dream that we want to fore fill. Then write a will to some body special.*

*Everybody got a dream that they want to fore fill but they got some thing in their way that make them stay in a dream.*

*They want get rich so they ask how they want to get that dough, so they can rap their flow. I got a dream just like that, I got a*

**dream, he got a dream, she got a dream, they got a dream**

**we all got a dream**  
*Except I want to rap for the soul fun when I rap its soul and I can care less for the gold.*


*I got a dream. if you think we're good please give us a record deal Thank you for reading our rap*

**By J2 aka Jarrell Carter, and partner Tdilla aka Tariq**

Sutherland Elementary, CPS



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# The Race for Sheriff

(Continued from page 1)

Sheahan. Rush teamed with Ald. Dorothy Tillman in making procedural motions to delay the endorsement of Dart, but Dart won the support of 53 of the party's 60 committeemen.

"Reforms in the slate making process are needed across this state," states John Paul Jones, Chairman with the Greater Englewood Community and Family Task Force, a community based social and economic justice advocacy organization. "These decisions should not happen behind closed doors; the public expects disclosures and some degree of exchange of ideas on public policy reforms. In recent years, elected and public officials have wrestled with how best to include the public in these decisions."

"Mr. Baker has much more experience in the County Corrections Department than Mr. Dart," said Allen, "win or lose, it's seems important that the Black officials who were disrespected show they have the guts to fight back."

Black elected officials showed support officially in December at Captain Hard Time's restaurant on 79th Street, not being taken for granted by the fall behind Mr. Dart.

Senator James Meeks, Chair of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, was part of the body that put support behind Baker. But Meeks, an independent announced that he would meet with the Republican candidate for Cook County Sheriff about possible support from Black legislators. Meeks' office would not confirm the political move.

The elected officials did put forth names of potential candidates to replace Sheehan before publicly putting support behind Baker. Other candidates included ex-county jail director Richard Remus, County Officer Bob Maxwell and ex-Board of Review Commissioner Robert Shaw. The task now if they are going to put their political muscles and base of support behind Baker, each having votes for Baker.

"The concern now is discussing how to strengthen the candidacy of Mr. Baker and to prevent other candidates from undermining his candidacy," said Allen.

"The Cook County Jail, is a system that impacts the Black community for the large

numbers of Black inmates.

Rush addressed Dart's record in the Legislature and qualifications to become sheriff. Saying Dart had "one of the more abysmal records of any legislator on black issues", the Chicago Sun-Times reported. Dart and Rush have long feuded, as Rush endorsed Republican Judy Baar Topinka over Dart for state treasurer in 2002 -- a race Dart lost -- and Dart helped Mayor Daley fend off Rush's mayoral challenge in 1999. Rush called Dart "a throwback to the kind of elected official who will say one thing in one community" and "when the cameras are off and others are not looking, you do something else." all they did was frustrate their party colleagues.

As Baker looks for a base of African American support some Democrats Blacks elected officials are supporting Dart, such as county Board President John Stroger, and U.S. Senator Barack Obama.

"I'm not surprised at the endorsement of Senator Obama of Dart over Baker," said Allen. "People like regular Black Dems who evidently find it easy to endorse a Dart over Baker with no

fear of any backlash. Obama just gave a whole number of other Black leaders to make an excuse for Dart without any real justification."

"The Obama endorsement made no mention whatsoever of what meaningful things that Dart has done for the Black community that earned him a Black Leader endorsement, other than the statement that they sat together in Springfield."

"Sat together in Springfield and did what??? Created more black jobs -- registered more Black voters -- saved black family homes".

But supporting Baker, State Rep. Lou Jones laid out the case for why Dart has been no good on Black empowerment legislation to counter the empty endorsement from Senator Obama.

"Obama leads the way for Black people to step on and over Baker when Baker deserves better, but he and his camp gotta act it and show it," said Allen.

In addressing political direction of Black elected officials, Rahim Chesed Aton, (Sax Preacher) said, "I believe that the black community should be sick and tired of being



Accountability is being raised over U.S. Senator Barack Obama not supporting the Black candidate



## WISH LIST FOR BAKER FOR SHERIFF CAMPAIGN FROM MARK ALLEN

- \* Each supportive Black elected official to provide an immediate contribution of \$500-\$1,000
- \* Provide a few experienced workers to help circulate Baker petitions to prevent challenge
- \* Development of a Campaign website for contributions and volunteers
- \* Local cable show hosts to schedule candidate for interview (much free publicity)
- \* Throughout county where supportive letters to editor can be submitted
- \*Use a theme like "Help Put Corrections Back in the Department of Corrections, by electing the Correct County Sheriff Candidate."
- \*Ask each supportive Alderman to schedule a Ward Rally for Candidate.
- LONG BEFORE Stroger starts to create events for Dart. schedule events from key areas where the Black elected official are supporting Baker.
- \*Ask Rev. Meeks to coordinate supportive broadcast ministers to have Baker EARLY on their broadcasts, churches, and having ongoing announcement in church bulletin on how to support the Campaign.
- \*Schedule candidate for immediate appearance on Rainbow/PUSH broadcast to help generate broad based visibility.
- \*Check with Maureen Forte on air time prices for WCFJ Radio, where we may be able to have "The Baker Report" that will give updates from the candidate on a station that covers all the South Suburban areas of Cook County.

## Obadeli home robbed

Ms. Beauty Turner

As 2005 closed there is one guy was happy it did. On December 1, Bamani Obadeli found himself tied up but not by accusation from federal agents but by robbers at his south side home after they burglarized and ran shacked his brand new home.

Obadeli describe the bandits as three hooded ski masks wearing gun men, just like something out of a James Bond movie. "One had a automatic black steel pistol " Obadeli said. Adding, "I was confronted inside my house after shoveling snow from my back yard. "I left my door open only long enough to shovel snow out of my yard,"

Obadeli home is located on 48th King Dr. where he was forced by gun point to turn around while one of the three men tied his hands behind his back.

"They didn't cover my mouth with duck tape, my mouth was free and the only thing that I asked them was did they know who I was? " Obadeli added they didn't hurt him but just a bit shaken and upset"

The robbers took money, a lab top, and DVD's. In a quize way they burned his baseball memorabilia collections.

Obadeli added after they left he wiggle his way to the back door pushed it open and a next door neighbor called the police and untied him.

Obadeli 33, long time friendship with the Governor Rod Blagojevich landed him a high position with Department of Family Children Services. He found himself a target of an investigation for misappropriated federal funds into his own businesses as well as his own bank account playing to the tune of over \$200,000. Many people say that accusation as well as litigations may keep him tied up for many years if founded to be true in a federal prison.

But so far he have not been charged with any wrong doing.



## Daley and torture cases

(Continued from page 3)

said in court. But she said busy public officials can be forced to testify in civil lawsuits "even if the person is the president of the United States--the (U.S.) Supreme Court has told us that."

On the final day of Kwanzaa at Afriware in Oak Park Atty. Stan Willis was keynote speaker, he advised the body to contact the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and asked for president Clare K. Roberts to come to Chicago and investigate torture. "Maybe then we can get the message out and eventually see Jon Burge behind bars where he belongs.

Over 120 persons have been reported for being tortured. Ten were identified as the "Death Row

10", and were brought together to make claims because of being tortured and abused by Burge or his fellow detectives at Area 2 & 3 Police Station on the Southside of Chicago.

Allegations were made that Burge began his "house of torture" in 1973 and did not stop until he was 'fired' in Feb. 1993.

"We have urged the Commission to conduct an on-site investigation of torture in Chicago. We are, therefore, asking people in the Chicago area to write, fax or call Mr. Roberts, and urge him to come to Chicago for an on site investigation." Said Atty. Willis.

More: <http://www.ccadp.org/deathrow10.htm>

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# Search for 2007 Mayor

(Continued from page 1)

The search committee convened by Cliff Kelly is holding a Reform Mayor Candidates Forum on Thursday, January 19th 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm. It will be sponsored by the African American Students Association at Olive Harvey City College, located at 10001 South Woodlawn. The potential candidates who will be attending include: Carol Moseley-Braun, Dorothy Brown, Jesse Jackson, Jr. Terry Peterson and Bill Dock Walls.

As the forum seeks public participation and input in search of a likely candidate to succeed Richard M. Daley, it's been reported that potential candidates and research companies have been conducting their own public opinion polls. Since Daley's election as Mayor in 1989 his political organization has expanded. In contrast, the voting participation for mayoral elections appears to have decreased. Many contribute the decline to lack of voter concern, and just the fact that some do not comprehend the relevance of voting.

There are many politicians in Chicago that can qualify to run for mayor, such as the eight

Black candidates that lost their bid for Mayor after the passing of Harold Washington in 1989.

Potential candidates for the mayoral election include: Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court. Dorothy Brown and her supporters have developed a website to organize a "Draft Dorothy for Mayor" Campaign. Brown told SSJ that she is honored to be mentioned in the survey. However, her focus is on her position as Clerk of the Circuit Court. Dorothy expressed interests regarding the other candidates who will be included in the S.S.J. Survey. Brown said, "You never know what's going to happen."

Included as a sought after candidate and a prominent member in the community is State Sen. Rev. James Meeks. Meeks was submitted after his run-in with the law over a traffic stop, consequently, members of the clergy raised accountability. This incident sparked Meeks notoriety to the public.

A member of Rev. Meeks church and a strong political ally, Congressman Jesse L. Jackson Jr., has become the most vocal elected official. Jackson is a potential challenger

## Historic Background:



June 16, 1930 - December 29, 2005

Before Harold Washington became a mayoral candidate there is no question that he became so because of a crusade that swept him in. The late Mr. Lou Palmer's most significant legacy was his role in the 1983 election of Washington as mayor. Before Mr. Palmer's effort there was the work of his wife.

**"Jorga English Palmer.** In 1980, the Women's Auxiliary of the Lu Palmer Foundation headed by Ms. Palmer started conducting a scientific survey on whether Blacks wanted to see a black as Mayor of Chicago, and, if so, which men and women would they recommend as the best possible candidates.

The survey was conducted by telephone with over 5,000 interviews; and by a mailing of questionnaires.

For decades, she and her husband Lu (Palmer) served as the pulse of the community—together they opened doors of opportunity and tore down walls of injustice. "Ms. Palmer along with her husband left a lasting footprint in the community that will forever be felt and remembered." Statement from Governor Rod R. Blagojevich *On the passing of Jorga English Palmer* in her recent passing was a champion of civil and human rights in the African American community in Illinois and a true crusader for those without a voice.

highlighted by the mainstream media for the 2007 election. Sources say Jackson's running for mayor is not likely, due to his seniority in Congress, and his position to become the first Black Speaker of the House. This would take precedence over his becoming mayor of

Chicago.

The media for the most part have ignored the only person who has clearly stated his intentions to become a candidate, Bill "Dock" Walls, Chairman of The Committee For A Better Chicago, and a former aide to the late Mayor Harold Washington. He only received a few mentions with other candidates such as Congressman Luis Gutierrez and Jackson. As many see CHA Director Terry Peterson as one and former U.S. Senator Carol Mosley Braun.

As many focus on a race against Mayor Daley, his press representative says it is too early to address the mayor's intentions to run for re-election.

But Walls doesn't exclude Daley as a candidate. "He's no dummy. I wouldn't count him out at all." Said Walls. "A good example is when he maneuvered the Chicago elections from a party election to a non-partisan one. Surely he can see the blue print of Chicago's political landscape with a plan to benefit himself."

Many are impressed with Daley's political organization still intact, carrying on his father's political legacy. Even more as one source agrees that Daley's contribution to their community and the stability to the city is solid. *Time Magazine identified him* as the best Mayor in the U.S. However, if Daley didn't run he would have a major influence in the election.

A significant number of people are depending on the Search Committee to be successful with concerns regarding the process of the search because ultimately supporters from various camps are going to be asked to solidify their support behind one candidate. On the contrary the question is will other supporters give their support to another candidate under circumstance that somehow the process does not treat their participator fairly. Walls said his organization is laying the groundwork for whomever the community decides.

### SSJ Survey

It was suggested that as South Street Journal is a progressive orientated newspaper it would host the survey where persons can fill it out and return it to selected locations in Chicago. Its purpose of taking part in the surveys are to expedite the search committees campaign, and to give the public a chance to be a part of the process. The more people are familiar with the proposed campaign the easier it will be for greater participation in the discussions, and to follow the action of the Committee business. Persons on the survey have expressed or have not ruled out the suggestion of being a candidate, or are spoken of as a candidate. Mayor Daley was included in SSJ's survey as well; because of his ability to secure many votes in the African American community. Write-ins will be accepted.

Survey participation is opened to registered voters and non-voters throughout the City of Chicago. Participates from organizations, prospective candidates and elected officials are welcome to show a greater interest.

As this is not a scientific opinion poll, the survey ascertains the will of the majority collected preserving the public input to be forwarded to the search committee and that the resolution can be reported with confidence.

For additional information on the forum contact: Professor Armstead Allen at: 773.291.6280.

## THE 2007 REFORM MAYORAL SEARCH POTENTIAL CANDIDATES SURVEY

The South Street Journal Advisory Board Associates (SSJABA) are taking part in the endeavor to include the public in a public opinion survey for a likely Mayor for 2007. The purpose of the survey is to expedite the 2007 Form Search Committee for as much public input and open participation as possible.

Wherein, below are potential Mayoral Candidates listed in alphabetical order for you to rank. The list may change depending on prospected candidates interest or confirmed non interest to seek the office. The more people are familiar with the survey the greater participation in the discussions. However, *only Original* copies of SSJ will be accepted and counted. Winners are determined by their own efforts, or the readers' efforts in returning the survey. Please rank 1 - 10 (10 high score) who you would favor to serve the city of Chicago better and their chances of winning.



 <p><b>Dorothy Brown, Cook County's Clerk of the Circuit Court</b> -- says she's being courted to consider a mayor run in 2007, and is honored and not oppose to her name on the survey.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>	 <p><b>Carol Mosley-Braun</b>, has been sought as a candidate due to her national profile and sought after many times to be a candidate. Again she is listed as a potential contender.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>
 <p><b>Mayor Richard M. Daley</b> office informed SSJ it is to early to discuss the mayors intentions to seek reelection. However most political observers say discussion will rest with the federal investigation of City Hall though it's not yet clear whether Daley will seek re-election.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>	 <p><b>State Sen. Rev. James Meeks</b> who was submitted after his run-in with the law over a traffic stop where members of the clergy that raised accountability of the police department and sparked Meeks notoriety to the public.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>
 <p><b>Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-III.)</b> is mapping strategy toward a bid for mayor of Chicago and forms a Hispanic political organization designed to influence the outcome of the mayoral election.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>	 <p><b>Terry Peterson, CHA</b> chief, has responded to SSJ as to other media, his agenda is to build housing with no political interest for mayor, but his political salve suggest he could have the funds and organization to run</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>
 <p><b>Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-III.)</b> has entertained the media with a non-committal mayoral run as the most outspoken elected official critic of Daley in the wake of the Hired Truck and other scandals.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>	 <p><b>William "Dock" Walls, former aid to Harold Washington</b>, he has positioned himself as a for sure mayoral candidate more than any other possible candidate over the past two years. Building the Committee For A Better Chicago his agenda is has been on the city issues rather than a Daley-bashing critic.</p> <p>Rank: _____</p>

Survey drop off locations at deadline includes:

South

Bronzeville: CBUC 330 East 37th Street

South Shore: BOP 7915 S. Exchange

Englewood: Temple of Mercy 7855 S. Halsted 2nd floor

For other locations call BOP office at 773 375-0100



# Hughes' School

Catholic school, according to Stigler. She believes it may be over a hundred years old. "We've been cited for code violations. There's only one exit from the lunchroom which is located in a sub basement. We only have two bathrooms for four hundred fifty children. There are loose bricks on the outside of the building. Teachers do not have a teacher lounge. They have no place to go for quiet time.

"I know they say you can learn anywhere, and our teachers are proof of this. We have excellent teachers who offer our children excellent instruction, but our children and our teachers should not have to come to a school in such a substandard condition."

Ware states that the school and community have been trying to get help for the last twenty years. "Twice the Board appropriated funds and then they took them away because they

said they needed them for operations."

Mike Vaughn, a spokesperson from the Chicago Board of Education's Office of Communication, stated: "Twenty million dollars were allocated for a new Langston Hughes School, but because we have not received any money from the state for the last two years after receiving about a hundred million dollars annually, the project has been placed on hold until we can find an alternate source of funding."

Another spokesperson from the Office of Communications, Malon Edwards, explained that money for a new Langston Hughes depended on the funding stream. "In this case," he said, "the funding stream is the state and capital development."

"The state claims funds were allocated, but the Board denies this," Ware said. "The Board purchased property behind our school in 2001. I believe they also appropriated money to build a new school."

The Office of Communications could not confirm where the money came from to purchase the homes and tear them down. Nor could they explain why the buildings were allowed to remain vacant for so long.

Recently Alderman Austin met with the Chicago Board of Education President Michael Scott in the hallway on the way to a meeting at City Hall. "According to Mr. Scott," she said, "they have found funds to build a new school."

He told me they have the money."

Chicago Board of Education President Michael Scott denied this. "I told her we were going to do the school, but I did not tell her when. Langston Hughes is in definite need. It will be rebuilt. We will make an announcement about this later. Langston Hughes will be included in a larger grouping of schools. We have worked very hard on this and it is unfair to the staff for someone to make that statement prematurely."

"I told the alderman my statement in the highest of confidentiality and I do intend to honor my commitment."

The Office of Communications could not confirm Mr. Scott's statements. "I have no information on this," Edwards stated. "I cannot confirm anything at this time."

"After 2003, they kept telling us they didn't have the money," Stigler said, "but other schools were being built. Other schools were put ahead of us."

"Who is telling the truth?" Shelton asked. "Is there money or not?"

"Where did the Board get the money to build these other schools?" Stigler asked. "I believe this is racially motivated. I feel the Board is thinking why should we help this neighborhood. But the biggest question of all still remains: What happened to the twenty million dollars allocated for a new Langston Hughes?"

## 2005: Chicago African-Amer' Students grew behind

The Racial Academic Achievement Gap is growing in many cities and states with no signs of progress or movement. In the state of Illinois between 2002 and 2005 there is no significant closure of the racial academic achievement gap between White and Black students. The second racial academic achievement gap developing between improving Hispanic students and stagnating Black students.

The failing Black children of today are the government dependent, unemployed and incarcerated Black adults of tomorrow says Phillip Jackson The Black Star Project . The

forum convenes parents, teachers, school administrators, faith-based leaders, elected officials, community leaders and concerned citizens monthly on the issues that affect the positive development of Black youth.

With the Latest Round of Statewide and National Testing, Jackson reported what the Black Star know about the Racial Academic Achievement Gap:

In math in Illinois, Black 11th-grade students have dropped more than 10 points in performance from 28.7% meeting or exceeding standards in 2002 to only 18.6% meeting or exceeding standards in 2005, while Hispanic 11th-grade students have improved in math by 11 points from 19.2% in 2002 to 30.7% in 2005.

Nationally, the average 12th-grade Black student has the reading and math scores of the average 8th-grade White student.

White students in America would have ranked number one in the world on the test and Black students in America would have ranked number 25.

Asian American students are the top

### Racial Academic Achievement Gap Fact Sheet – 10/28/05

Percentage of Illinois Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards (on the 2005 Illinois Standards Achievement Test, grades 3-8 and the 2005 Prairie State Achievement Exam, Grade 11)

Reading Grade	Overall	White	Hispanic	Black
3	66.6%	78.2%	55.6	41.2
5	59.8	70.9	50.5	35.5
8	72.8	82.2	59.7	53.7
11	59.5	67.9	40.2	35.0
Math				
3	79.3	89.1	74.9	54.9
5	73.2	83.9	69.2	46.3
8	54.3	67.3	39.3	24.9
11	52.8	63.1	30.7	18.6

Source: Illinois State Board of Education

Illinois ranked 48th lowest of 50 states in its graduation gap between White college students (63.3%) and Black college students (32.5%) earning degrees in 2000.

Source: Journal of Blacks in Higher Education (quoting data from NCAA)

### 2005 National Student SAT Scores Show Widening Gaps

Nationally, the Average 12th-grade Black student had the reading and math scores of the average 8th-grade White student in 2002.

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress

The Lowest High School Graduation Rates for Black Males in 15 School Districts in The United States with Black Male Enrollments of 10,000 or More During 2001-2002 Are as Follows:

Black Male Enrollment	Graduation Percentage
Chicago, IL 112,040	30%

From: Holzman, M., (2004) Public Education and Black Male Students: A State Report Card. Schott Education Inequity Index, Cambridge, MA; The Schott Foundation for Public Education blackstar1000@ameritech.net



A graphic from the Chicago Urban League reported that the Chicago Public Schools in cited Chicago education system as being Separate, and Unequal

students in the country on the SAT and the top students in Illinois on the ACT. The gap between Asian and White students versus Black students on the SAT and ACT is widening.

Jackson noted the government and the Black community are not working together to fix this problem. However he added there are many examples of persons are providing solutions and actions to address the problem pointing to a high-poverty school in Chicago, Hellen Bolton DeBerry raised reading scores 41 points from 36% of students reading at national norm to 77%. In math, she raised scores 36 points in that year from 53% of students performing at national norm to 89%. Additionally, she helped increase enrollment of low-income students at the school from 100 to 300. Mrs. DeBerry shared her philosophy, ideas, strategies and tactics that helped her accomplish this incredible feat at The Black Star Project's Barbara Ann Sizemore Forum for Educational Excellence. For additional information call 312/842-3527.

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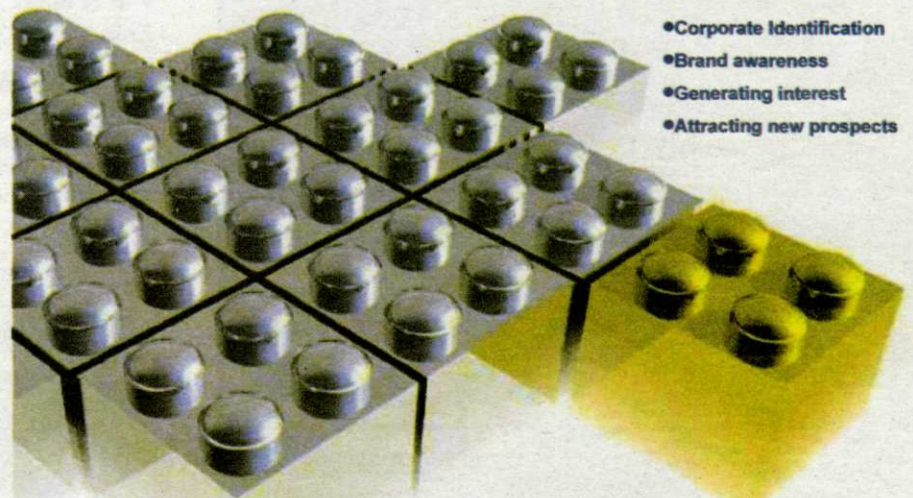
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION**

Through Sunday, February highlighting Black History Month **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY HOSTS PHOTO EXHIBIT DEPICTING LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA, POST-APARTHEID**



Township School - South Africa Rose Blouin 2004

Concordia University opens the special exhibit "Heart of South Africa," a photo display by artist Rose Blouin, with an artist's reception, from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, January 15 and a special artist's talk at 1 p.m. Monday, January 16 at the University's Ferguson Art Gallery.

The gallery is on campus, at 7400 Augusta Street, River Forest. These events run in conjunction with Concordia University's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration. Blouin, a self-taught photographer and Columbia College faculty member, visited Nelson Mandela University, in Port Elizabeth, South Africa in 2004 along with other faculty colleagues, where she developed the works in this exhibit.

**Friday, January 13th**  
**TRUTH for Literacy Hip Hop Hoops Game**  
@ Washington Park 5500 South King Drive  
Doors open 6 pm - Tip off 7pm Celebrating the start of a new year and bragging rights for '06 as Chicago's hottest personalities compete to see who got the juice and who cares about the kids. Benefiting TRUTH for Literacy after school mentor program and Harriet Harris Park (62<sup>nd</sup> @ Drexel). Brought to you by: Nike, The TRUTH magazine, Dominick's, Harriet Harris Advisory Council, and Coca Cola (Refreshments served) A MIDWEST GAP Enterprise Event

**Sunday, January 15,**  
**American Family Insurance, MLK Peace Weekend 2006** "Peace Jam" featuring Jazz/ Gospel Saxophonist "Kirk Whalum" at 7:00pm at the Harold Washington Cultural Center, 4701 S. King Drive. The concert will also feature a special performance by WGC! 2005 Chicago Idol Winner, Stephanie Parker! Tickets \$40-\$45 in advance (\$50 at the door). (773-373-1900), all TicketMaster outlets (312-559-1212) or online at www.Ticketmaster.com.

**Monday, January 16**  
**The HistoryMakers celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday!** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open House and Celebration for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. This will involve tours of offices, hands-on sessions teaching oral history for adults and kids program entitled The State of the Nation Since the

Death of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. **is The Civil Rights Era Dead.** Panelists, James Montgomery, Judge George Leighton and Timuel Black will be guided through a discussion by WVON host moderator Cliff Kelley. The program will start with commentaries by Roland Martin, Executive Editor of The Chicago Defender and Hermene Hartman, Publisher of N'Digo. The program will begin and end with selections from the Whitney Young Gospel Choir. Second Presbyterian Church, 1936 S. Michigan Ave. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tours start at 9 am Program: 10:00 a.m.-12 noon For more RSVP contact Jocelyn Delk at (312) 674-1900 or info@thehistorymakers.com.

**January 17**  
**The Living Room Cafe Grand Opening Celebration Tuesday, 6:00 - 8:00 PM,** 806 E. 64<sup>th</sup> Street, Event sponsors: LaSalle Bank and the University of Chicago, Office of Community Affairs. **RSVP (773) 643-6018**

**Thursday, January 19, Greater Englewood Community and Family Task Force monthly meeting** 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. 953 W. 63rd St. (Gifts From God Ministries Church) Subject: Kennedy King College Update (enrollment and formation of a community panel) Transportation (CTA Fares/Lawsuit - 63rd and Racine Organizing and Corridor Plan - State's Billion \$ Plan) Health Care Strategy and Dr. Mason's new post as City Health Commissioner.

**Selected Locations you can pick-up**

Neleh Artistic Expressions 3467 S. King Dr.	Reymar Clinic 6021 S. Halsted
Scott's Poppin 3469 King Dr.	Toyota on Western 69 <sup>th</sup> and Western
Paper Store 43rd & King	Unity Church of God in Christ 821 W. 69th Street
Harris Bank 47th & Drexel	Peace Center 6457 <sup>th</sup> Peoria
Hall Branch Library 48th and Michigan	Underground Siruus Books 1727 E. 87 <sup>th</sup> Street
So. Side Credit union 55 <sup>th</sup> Wentworth in mall	Ald. Brookins Office 9604 .s Halsted
Quench 510 East 75 <sup>th</sup> St	H&A 432 E. 63 <sup>rd</sup> St
Chatham Foods 337 E. 79th Street	Daley's Rest 63rd Cottage
Copy Cat 400 East 79	E. Duke McNeil 8541 S. Cottage
Holiness Community Temple 418 E. 61 <sup>st</sup> Street	Leak & Sons 7838 S. Cottage
Temple of Mercy 78 <sup>th</sup> Halsted	John's Hardware 7350 S. Halsted
Scots Enterprise 11513 S. Michigan	Mid-way 5502 S. State Street
Brass Furniture 11431 S. Michigan	Mr. Jacks 5901 S. State Street
Calumet Foods 43rd Prairie	African Image 2000 W. 95th
Paper Store 43rd & King	CFAO Technical 1824 W. 95th Street
RainbowPUSH 930 E. 50th Street	Urban League 45 <sup>th</sup> Michigan
Pearl's Place 3901 S. Michigan	113 Club 113 East 47th Street
Inner City Studies 700 East Oakwood	Taurus Flavors 8534 S. Stoney
Atlanta Foods 39th & King	BOP Business Center 7915 S. Exchange

For your location to be a drop location call 773-375-0100

**Grants and Organizations**

**Grant fuels hope for Chicago South Side**

The American Lung Association received \$2 million dollar grant to address asthma in Englewood. The announcement held at St. Bernard Hospital, The American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago, with Merck Childhood Asthma Network reported Englewood is a community that struggles with issues of poverty, high crime rates, high prevalence of pediatric asthma, and poor access to quality healthcare. Asthma in particular, is a serious health issue for Englewood: Asthma-related hospitalizations in Englewood and West Englewood are among the highest in Chicago.

**Scholarship Funds: African American Students are not applying**

Though there are a number of companies and organizations that have donated moneys for scholarship use to African Americans, a great deal of the

money is being returned because of a lack of interest.

Charles Thomas reported the problem is countless and that Even if one do not have a college-aged child at home to shared the of scholarship funds to anyone and everyone that comes to mind.

Of over 150 of companies offering scholarship funds listed are an example:

**Bell Labs Fellowships for Under Represented Minorities** <http://www.bell-labs.com/>

**Student Inventors Scholarships** <http://www.invent.org/>

**Student Video Scholarships** <http://www.christophers.org>

**Coca-Cola Two Year College Scholarships** <http://www.coca-colascholars.org/programs>.

**Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships** <http://holocaust.hklaw.com>

**Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships** <http://www.aynrand>.

**Brand Essay Competition** <http://www.instituteforbrandleadership.org>.

**Gates Millennium Scholarships (major)** <http://www.gmsp.org/>

**Xerox Scholarships for Students** <http://www2.xerox>.

**Sports Scholarships and Internships** <http://www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html>

**National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ)** <http://www.nabj.org/html/studentsvcs.html>:

For more information and a list contact Mr. Charles Thomas at [cbthomas1@msn.com](mailto:cbthomas1@msn.com)

**Grant writing Not for Profit Workshops #2,**

The Monroe Foundation is holding registration for 2006 Not for Profit Development and Grantwriting Programs focuses on preparing proposals for submittal to several Chicago area foundations, including the Chicago Community Trust, US Bank Foundation. The Monroe Foundation has assisted over 25 organizations obtain over \$ 1 million in grants and resources for their community projects. If interested in registering for any upcoming projects, register in-person at Marquette Bank, 6316 South Western Ave., or at [omonroe@themonroefoundation.org](mailto:omonroe@themonroefoundation.org), or visit the foundation website at [www.themonroefoundation.org](http://www.themonroefoundation.org). Contact Beverly, (773) 315-9720

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## A glance a South Suburb profile

New residents moving to the Southland area are attracted by its diversity in housing. Whatever the type, style, size, or price of the home being sought, Chicago Southland communities offer the best home values to be found in the entire Chicago metropolitan area. The region has it all!

Grandly styled and meticulously restored turn-of-the-century homes can be found in older communities such as Blue Island, Frankfort, and Homewood. Many of these fine old homes were designed by the most famed architects of their day.

For a contemporary brand of elegance, turn to the lavish executive-style homes in communities such as woodsy

Flossmoor and sport-oriented Olympia Fields. Mokena, the fastest-growing community in Chicago Southland and second-fastest growing in the Chicago metropolitan area, has fine new executive homes, as does quiet Palos Park.

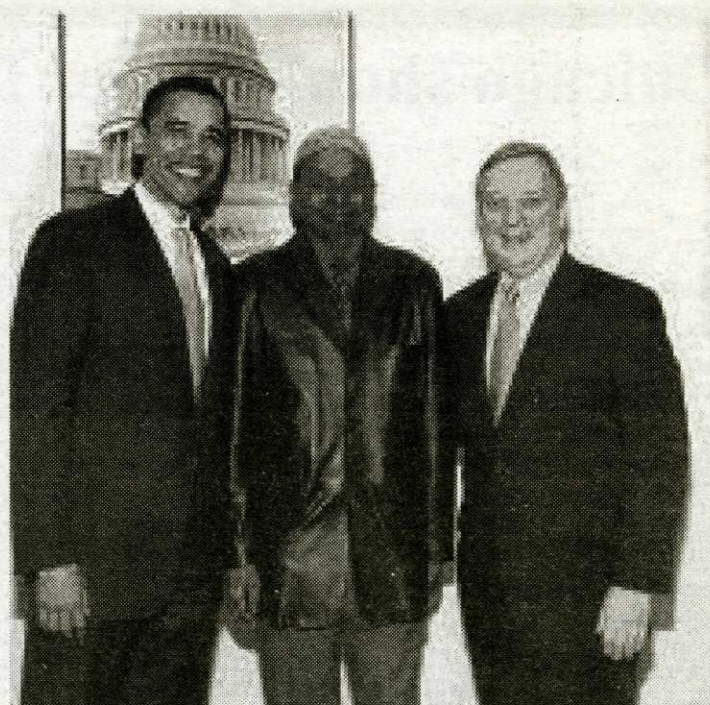
Lansing, Matteson, and Orland Hills attract young families with comfortable, affordable homes, as do the "Parks": Park Forest, Richton Park, and University Park. Those who desire a secure, rural atmosphere look to Beecher, Lynwood, or Peotone. The half-acre-plus lots and quiet neighborhoods of Palos Heights also have wide appeal.

*(Continued on page 14)*

## South Street Suburb

### Dolton, the base for Healthcare Consortium of Illinois

CEO of Healthcare Consortium of Illinois, visits Capitol Hill to promote health. Salim Al Nurridin (center) met with U-S Senators Barack Obama (left) and Dick Durbin (right) during a recent trip to Washington, D-C. The Healthcare Consortium of Illinois based in Dolton is a community-based integrated health and human service organization with mission to improve and enhance the quality of life in Illinois by increasing access to quality, integrated and comprehensive health and human services. Kimberly Parker Director of Communications Healthcare Consortium of Illinois (708) 841-9515, ext. 2311.



## Gary, IN Claim For Third Major Airport as Peotone is still in the works

Aero-News Network - For years, Chicago officials have debated the need for a third airport to handle overflow and relieve congestion at O'Hare and Midway airports. With recent issues at Midway -- and the lack of other relievers such as, say, Meigs Field -- that debate will likely focus on Gary.

Indiana officials announced the US Department of Transportation is expected to approve \$57.8 million in funds to expand and improve Gary/Chicago International Airport -- meaning Gary, IN may soon host the third major airport in the Chicagoland region.

"This is a day of celebration there because after a decade of trying, we will be announcing that the federal government has chosen Gary for the new Gary-Chicago airport for tens of millions of dollars," said Indianapolis governor Mitch Daniels in a Monday press conference, reported in the Chicago Tribune.

That comes as good news to state

and city officials, who have sought for years to improve Gary's impact and image relative to its much larger neighbor. Those in Peotone, IL may not be as pleased, however -- as they are also being considered to host the airport.

"[Gary] will be a reality on the ground, capable of serving people's needs, and not just a cornfield someplace," Indiana Senator Evan Bayh said, referring to Peotone's bid for the airport.

The Daily Southtown reported a spokesman for the Illinois Department of Transportation said the federal commitment for Gary will have no effect on plans to build an airport consisting of one runway and roughly six gates near Peotone.

Illinois State Sen. Debbie Halvorson, D-Crete, said she will move forward with a bill to create a governing authority to oversee the airport. The legislation will be introduced this month.

Halvorson said south suburban travelers never will embrace the

Gary airport because of congestion on the Kingery and Borman expressways, one of the most congested stretches in the country.

Paesel argues Gary is not a viable alternative to a south suburban airport because it conflicts with the air space reserved for Midway

Airport. Gary, he said, also must deal with costly environmental contamination before expanding the airport.

To help support Gary operations, Chicago has sent more than \$16.5 million in ticket surcharges generated at Midway and O'Hare

International airports since 1995. The airport, though, has struggled to attract airlines.

Hooters Air, the only passenger carrier at Gary, suspended service for the winter. Ed Paesel of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association said, "There is room for

### A Community Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Thornton Township High School District #205  
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# The Party that killed a Black Panther

## Chicago should never forget

(Continued from page 1)

Laying lifeless, in pools of blood; and seven survivors with trumped up charges, including Chairman Fred's 8 1/2 month pregnant wife/comrade Akua Njeri fna Deborah Johnson.

Taking time to commemorate Chairman Hampton and Captain Clark on Sunday, December 4, 2005 - the National Revolutionary Day held its official vigil was at the site standing on the same soil in which has become known as the Massacre on Monroe.

"The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense was founded in October, 1966, in Oakland, California by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale. The name was shortened to the Black Panther Party (BPP) and it began spreading eastward through the Black urban ghetto colonies across country.

As in the movie "Panther 19" the FBI developed a plan to rid the Panthers. Drugs were the secret weapon, the drug king made a deal with the FBI, if they are allow to sell their drugs, they will not only kill the Black Panthers, but any other movement that would attempt to come about for years to come.

A crime that was committed with the intentions of sending a message throughout every colonized community.

COINTEL-PRO started its file on Fred Hampton, chairman of the BPP's Illinois state chapter, in 1967. It would grow to total more than 4,000 pages. At the same time as the file's creation, the FBI planted an

informant near Hampton, and by 1968 had his mother's home wiretapped. By 1969, he could be killed by Chicago police.

Hampton was a high school student and a promising leader when he joined the Black Panther Party at the age of 19. His status as a leader grew very quickly. By the age of 20 he became the leader for the Chicago Chapter of the Black Panther Party. He maintained regular speaking engagements and organized weekly rallies at the Chicago federal building on behalf of the BPP. He worked with a free People's Clinic, taught political education classes and launched a community control of police project. Hampton was instrumental in the BPP's Free Breakfast Program. He had the charisma to excite crowds during rallies, he was suppose to be appointed to the Party's Central Committee. His position would have been Chief of Staff if he did not have an untimely death on the evening of December 4, 1969.

### Events Leading up to The Death of Fred Hampton

The social climate of the late 1960s was definitely not on Hampton's side. The government was not supportive of any radical political organization, and in fact turned out to be downright suspicious at any attempt to challenge or change the status-quo. Discriminating against the black community was the norm. When word of a "Days of Rage" rally came to the government's attention, it was known that some members of the BPP supported this "attack on the pig power structure." Allegedly, Fred Hampton and the majority of the Chicago Panthers did not support this rally, but to the FBI they were guilty by association. This information, combined with the general suspicion the government had of the BPP, a threat to society that needed to be eliminated. The FBI conspired with the Chicago Police Department (CPD) and William O'Neal to spy on



Hampton to give them information about his daily itinerary in order to have O'Neal's felony charges dropped. His job was to serve as a bodyguard of Fred and director of the Chapter's security. He was suppose to notify the FBI of the Panther's apartment floor plan and how many residents lived in the apartment. A raid was authorized by the state attorney Hanrahan. FBI special agents sent a memo to J. Edgar Hoover stating that "a positive course of action (was) being effected under the counterintelligence program."

### That Unforgettable Morning

That evening Hampton and several Party members including William O'Neal came home to the BPP Headquarters after a political education class. O'Neal volunteered to make the group dinner. He slipped a large dose of secobarbital in Fred's kool-aid and left the apartment around 1:30 am, a little while later, Fred fell asleep. Around 4:30 am on December 4, 1969 the heavily armed Chicago Police attacked the Panthers' apartment. They entered the apartment by kicking the front door down and then shooting Mark Clark pointblank in the chest. Clark was sleeping in the living room with a shotgun in his hand. His reflexes responded by firing one shot at the police before he died. That bullet was then discovered to be the only shot fired at the police by the Panthers. Their automatic gunfire entered through the walls of Hampton room, as he was shot in the shoulder. Then two officers entered the bedroom and shot him at pointblank in his head to make sure that he was dead. It has been said that one officer stated, "he's good and dead now."

The officers then dragged his body out of his bedroom and again open fired on the members in the apartment. The Panthers were then beaten and



dragged across the street where they were shot on charges of attempted murder or aggravated assault. The incident also involved other Panther members. For more information on COINTELPRO and Government's role in the BPP.

### The Big Conspiracy

Immediately after the incident FBI attorney Hanrahan started their cover-up. They showed false re-enactments on TV, photographic evidence, and went to a fake investigation. Hanrahan said they wholeheartedly commend the police for their bravery, their remarkable restraint in the face of this vicious Black Panther Party expect every decent citizen of our country to be likewise."

The members of the Black Panther Party should not take this incident lightly. They must demand that the public to stop the police. A later investigation revealed more than four bullets left the Pan



BPP national leadership, (clockwise from top left) founder, Min. of Defense, Bobby Seale, Chairman, David Hilliard, Chief of Staff, Cleaver, Min. of Information, Fred Hampton

## For those in jail, was in jail and know someone in jail

Dear Editor;

For years now I have heard the word "Wait!" It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This "Wait" has almost always meant "Never."

We must come to see, with one of our distinguished jurists, that "justice too long delayed is justice denied." -Dr. Martin Luther King, 1963 Letter from Birmingham Jail.

It is often the refrain of some well intended people, as well as others who are not so well intended, to say that this issue of "restoring people with convictions back to useful citizenship" has merely to do with some procedural mechanisms that need to be changed in this massive governmental and non-governmental system we call society.

Many of you have looked in the face of those who are seeking to be normal, to be a citizen, to work and care for their families; while they earnestly seek to remove the mark of condemnation adversely titled "Ex-Offender." Yet, you have told them that it is not an issue of Human/Civil Rights, but merely a bonding issue, an expungement issue, job training or perhaps a need for a model support service program. As if you know more than they the indignity of living according to the law, only to find that the law has no protections for you.

The hypocrisy of a judicial system that issues a definite sentence as a punishment for a crime, only to have this sentence imposed perpetually in every aspect of your life- with no relief in sight.

The questions is, do we allow people who submit to reformatory justice the right to live as Citizens once they have absolved their debt to society? If so, then do we protect Citizens from blanket and injurious discrimination which leads to social, economic and mental oppression? This very question is the hallmark of House Bill 4188



John Perkins studies the crowd gathered below his second-story cell in the Mendon jail. Godfrey Jones/The Clarion-Ledger

introduced by State Representative Constance Howard on November 3, 2005.

To all Citizens with past records, this is your clarion call- rise up and face your awakening. To the families, friends and supporters, be not stagnate or withdrawn with your beliefs, instead continue to work in aiding your loved ones to become a FULL CITIZEN.

Join the Coalition to Stop Discrimination Against Citizen with a Criminal Record.

May peace and blessings be upon those who seeks righteousness and justice for all.

Respectfully:

Chris Moore, Deputy Director of Programs  
Exodus Renewal Society, Inc.  
773-892-2640 or 773-892-2647 fax

## Farwell to Stanley Tookie Williams

Dear Editor;

"They killed the teacher!" Said Snoop Dogg at the funeral services for Stanley Tookie Williams. Rev. Jesse Jackson, Bruce Gordon, Minister Tony Muhammad, Stan Muhammad, Rev. Dr. Lewis E. Logan II, Minister Lewis Farrakhan and Tony Robbins all listened as Snoop Dogg brought the packed Church to its feet with a poem dedicated to Tookie entitled; "Till We Meet Again". One line that caught my attention was when Snoop said, "food for thought is better than a meal". This it reminded me of "...man may not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeded from the mouth of the lord" and coming from Snoop showed a level of maturity that I wish his "Girls Gon Wild", "pimps up hoes down", "gansta nigga" audiences would adopt.

When has a man done enough to be called "rehabilitated?" What must one do to be actually free from past wrongs? When is a man truly forgiven?

Hundreds of people was jammed in the Church with even more people outside trying to get in. Yet the Church and the whole block itself (Western Ave) was at peace. It was beautiful.

But as beautiful as it was, the Church was still teeming with suspicion as to why a completely rehabilitated man could not be offered at least life in prison? How was Tookie (the co-founder of the famous street gang "the Crips") who spent 24 years in prison, wrote nine anti-violence, anti-gang, anti-drug children's books, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from St. Moses the Black Theological Seminary, was nominated six times for the Nobel Peace Prize, and received the Presidential Call to Service Award from President George W. Bush for his volunteer efforts to help steer youth away from gang life—not rehabilitated? There's even an award winning movie starring Jamie Foxx entitled; "Redemption: the Stan Tookie Williams Story" that teaches the path of rehabilitation and forgiveness. All of this, in addition to his website and phone mentoring of people from prison.

At the Bethel A.M.E. Church it was so packed that many people were in another room watching the proceedings on a huge flat screen television.

Tookie on the screen saying, "...If a man must fight, let it be the death against the beast within himself. Win that battle? No no woman, no racial hatred, no system, no vindictiveness, and Machiavellianism can ever defeat you!"

And then he said on behalf of the church "teach them how to avoid our destructive foot steps. Teach them to strive for



Jackson

19 - I (United States Post Office stamp,

# Bush is a terrorist? And should be impeached?

Americans including the actor Danny Glover and the Princeton University scholar Cornel West who met the Venezuelan president for more than six hours.



Ron Carter  
Publisher &  
Editor

"No matter what the greatest tyrant in the world, the greatest terrorist in the world, George W. Bush, we're here to tell you," Belafonte said during a broadcast. Belafonte is not alone.

According to a recent Zogby poll, a solid majority of Americans- 53% to 44% - believe George Bush should be impeached if he "did not tell the truth about his reasons for going to war with Iraq."

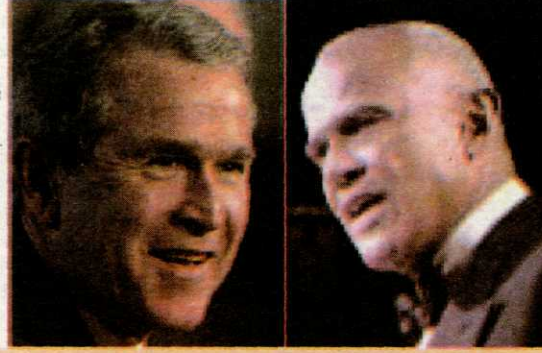
Under Bush, the people have lost the sacred right to due process, the right to be confronted by evidence in open court, the right to legal counsel, the right to make phone calls and send emails or participate in political protest without becoming the focus of government wiretaps and routinely spying on a large but still unknown number of Americans.

Even though most of the founding fathers were slave owners, we owe it to the ideas of freedom - to our children and to ourselves. Impeachment is not a radical idea; in fact, it is the only Constitutional procedure for holding a President or Vice President accountable for "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors" (U.S. Constitution, Article 2, Section 4)

The third anniversary of the criminal war in Iraq is on March 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, and in April and May The ImpeachBush/

VoteToImpeach.org movement is organizing anti-war activities in cities and towns throughout the United States. There it will be a huge impeachment presence in the streets of this country.

Bob Fertik, President, Democrats.com said, "As Americans, we cannot afford three more years of catastrophic lies by Bush and Cheney. We must demand that Congress do its job and hold them accountable through the impeachment process." Join and support them.



As entertainment activist Harry Belafonte called President George Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world" Just what does that mean: **Terrorism: The act of terrorizing. A system of government that seeks to rule by intimidations. Unlawful acts of violence committed in an organized attempt to overthrow a government.**

Before the U.S. launched the invasion in 2003, Bush and Dick Cheney insisted that Iraq had huge stockpiles of WMD's and close ties to Al Qaeda.

Now the world know those claims were a lie. In contrast, Bill Clinton was up for impeachment because he lied about sex. Should lying about war be on the congress floor as well and as much as an impeachable offense?

With over 2,100 Americans having been killed, and over 16,000 badly wounded. At least 30,000 innocent Iraqis - perhaps over 100,000 - have been killed, and countless more wounded. Who hit whom first? Well the Iraq people did not ask the American people to overthrow their government and force them to have an election and a new constitution.

The war has tripled so-called terrorism around the world and made America less safe. This has cost our children and us over \$220 billion - with no end in sight. Britain could have done better with enlisting a few 007s at a percentage of the cost.

A host of organizations rallied and picketed Bush on January 6 around issues that range from opposition to the Iraq war to the Bush administration's assaults on civil liberties, as he addressed the Economic Club at the Hilton Hotel here in Chicago. The

## Casualties in Afghanistan & Iraq

AT LEAST 67,453 KILLED, 171,682 SERIOUSLY INJURED As of July 19, 2005. All numbers are actual counts or lowest credible estimates (which means actual deaths and injuries are almost certainly substantially higher than the numbers listed).

- IN AFGHANISTAN -	- IN IRAQ -
8,587 AFGHAN TROOPS KILLED and 25,761 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2004	30,000 IRAQI TROOPS KILLED and 90,000 SERIOUSLY INJURED Aug. 2003
3,485 AFGHAN CIVILIANS KILLED and 6,273 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2004	22,850 IRAQI CIVILIANS KILLED and 41,130 SERIOUSLY INJURED June 2005
215 U.S. TROOPS KILLED and 645 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2005	1,769 U.S. TROOPS KILLED and 6,534 SERIOUSLY INJURED June 2005
101 OTHER COALITION TROOPS KILLED and 303 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2005	194 OTHER COALITION TROOPS KILLED and 582 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2005
? U.S. CIVILIANS KILLED and ? SERIOUSLY INJURED	91 U.S. CIVILIANS KILLED and 164 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2005
? OTHER COALITION CIVILIANS KILLED and ? SERIOUSLY INJURED	161 OTHER COALITION CIVILIANS KILLED and 290 SERIOUSLY INJURED July 2005

groups included the Gay Liberation Network, Chicagoans Against War and Injustice, Peace Pledge Chicago, World Can't Wait, Hyde Parkers for Peace and Justice, the 8th Day Center for Justice, the Northshore Antiwar Coalition, the Northwest Indiana Coalition Against the Iraq War, Chicago NOW and the Justice Coalition of Greater Chicago.

SSJ took the stand on August 2004 as Belafonte did calling Bush a terrorist. On a national level he led a delegation of

while approximately two hundred entered the apartment. As explained by this resource, there are many inconsistencies in the accounts of what really happened when Hampton and Clark were killed. The civil trial was the longest civil lawsuit in the history of the United States of America according to the National People's Democratic Uhuru Movement (NPDUM). Despite a long trial, not one officer spent a day in jail. Hampton's murder has never been vindicated, other than through speaking engagements, accusations of government wrongdoing on the web, and literature published on the subject.

From raised fists of the Black Panther Party, history will be the ultimate judge of the BPP's place in the Black Liberation Movement (BLM). But in these troubled times Afrikan people in the U.S. need to investigate both the positive and negative aspects of the BPP's history in order to learn from those hard lessons already paid for in blood. In particular learn the reasons for the BPP's rapid rise to prominence, the reason for its ability to move so many Afrikans and other nationalities, and the reason for its demise during its brief sojourn across the American scene.

Mass Organizing Techniques: Another fundamental thing that attracted members and mass support to the BPP was its policy of "serving the people", the policy of going to the masses, living among them, sharing their burdens, and organizing the masses to implement their own solutions to the day to day problems that were of great concern to them.

Not only did the BPP programs teach self-reliance, but years later the government established similar programs such as free school lunch, expanded medicare and day care facilities, and liberalized court procedures for tenant takeovers of poorly maintained housing, partly if not primarily in order to snuff out the memory of previous similar BPP programs and the principle of self-reliance.

The BPP made significant contributions to the art of Propaganda Techniques: It was very adept at spreading its message and ideas through its newspaper The Black Panther, mass rallies, speaking tours, slogans, posters, leaflets, cartoons, buttons, symbols (i.e., the clenched fist), graffiti, political trials, and even funerals. The BPP also spread its ideas through very skillful use of the establishment's TV., radio, and print media.

## Failure to Organize Economic Foundations in Community:

The BPP preached socialist politics. They were anti-capitalist and this skewed building economic (Continued on page 16)



ey Newton, co-founder, ff, Elverge



moop Dogg Schwarzenegger

higher education. Teach them to promote peace. And teach them to focus on rebuilding the neighborhoods that you, others and I helped to destroy". Tookie one of the most significant "outlaw" figures in modern American history went from criminal minded to spiritual minded gives all of us (especially those on the frontlines of ministry work, counseling, mentoring and rehabilitation work) hope in the transformation of the human heart. That our work is not done in vain. "Tookie is dead", said Rev. Jesse Jackson. "... We must kill the idea of killing to stop killing". Rev. Jackson quoted Tookie saying; "I admit I was a predator upon my people. We were programmed to attack Black people. Whites were safe around us; ... I will not be killed for what I did do, but for what I didn't do. I'd rather die than lie to get clemency". And the whole Church erupted in applause and cheering! It was like they were used to this process of having to lie along with the police and the District Attorney in hopes of achieving lighter sentences or no jail time at all.

As Rev. Jesse Jackson brought to mind the fact that Charles Manson who is responsible for killing pregnant Sharon Tate and seven others is still alive in California on death row and that President John F. Kennedy's assassin is also still alive.

Did Stan Tookie Williams really have to die? Son, husband, father of two, grandfather of three, minister, changed man. Was there no other way to pay that debt back to society other than the execution of a transformed man who held on to his claim of

"innocence" all the way to the end?

The idea of an Austrian born White man using the American legal system to murder a Louisiana born Black man just doesn't sit well. does Governor Schwarzenegger really know enough about American history, even African American history to have made a just decision on Stanley Tookie Williams' life? Does Governor Schwarzenegger care anything about the message he is sending throughout the African American community; especially to African American youths? Stanley Tookie Williams' murder by the State also proves the powerlessness of the African American community and its leadership. But I won't get into that here.

Governor Schwarzenegger could have set a new precedent for our time as Americans by turning away from violence and granting Stanley Tookie Williams clemency. But that's all over now. Violence wins again! Or did it?

Before Tookie execution he talked a lot about being "redeemed" meaning to recover ownership of something by paying a specified sum for it. In a spiritual sense; meaning to restore to wholeness, to be saved from a sinful state of being, to return to honor and self-worth, to be free from guilt. In his last moments on earth Tookie wrote; "Here and now, I bear witness that God's bequest of redemption has replenished me with a mission and revealed that the impossible is possible." This is a strong affirmation for us today.

Stan Tookie Williams was murdered by the State of California on December 13th, 2005.

We will miss you, teacher. KRS ONE <http://www.templeofhiphop.org/>

## A year in review from Woody

Dear After much procrastination I've finally decided that nows the time for us to write a year's end open letter to all of the Drug Dealers; young and old, black and white and the wannabe's to beware, the bottom is getting close to falling out! of course one need not take my word for it!

It has been researched, written about, discussed in public forums and, although He's still getting flak, threats and accusations of being a Bourgeois Bill Cosby, amidst all of that, remained steadfast in his past and present conviction's among others, has intimated "Black" people do not read!

In retrospection, during the late sixties while in the company of a buddy of mine, the late Bill Nalls and Harold Washington, before he became Chicago's Mayor; conversations would run the gamut from social; ills, educational funding and at times politics. Harold had a habit of interjecting a thirteen lettered word in the conversation prompting Nalls to ask "Where'd you get that from Harold? The answer would always be, "It's in the book!"

A few years ago "Tony Brown's Journal the television program featured a dynamic young white Author who'd written a book on the State of the Economy" and the paper money we Americans use for currency. His dissertation was shocking to say the least when he pointed out that our "paper money" in reality, doesn't have any value whatsoever and could be declared at any time by the powers that be as worthless! I believe he stated further that it could be utilized as toilet tissue! Today, a news media announced that the price of "Gold" has gone up and is still rising! Greenspan, the Jewish guy who's frequently seen in the media relating to the rise and fall of the economy said, it has an unnecessary position and does not represent the U.S. government. His Federal Reserve title is a duplicity misleading the public. Greenspan represents huge private Financial Institutions in this country and abroad!

Russia, while going through many new changes, decided to initiate new currency. The Government ( I believe), gave the Russian People thirty days to turn in their old currency in order to receive full value. After that deadline the paper currency would be worthless. If a person showed up with a large bundle and couldn't prove lawful ownership such as, for instance, a Street Sweeper with millions, the government would have the bundle confiscated with zero returns! One will not need a Degree in Chemical Engineering to understand the Russian strategy when it's initiated in this country, the United States. New money is being printed daily at the Fort Knox Mint.

John E. Woodson (retired) Bronzeville

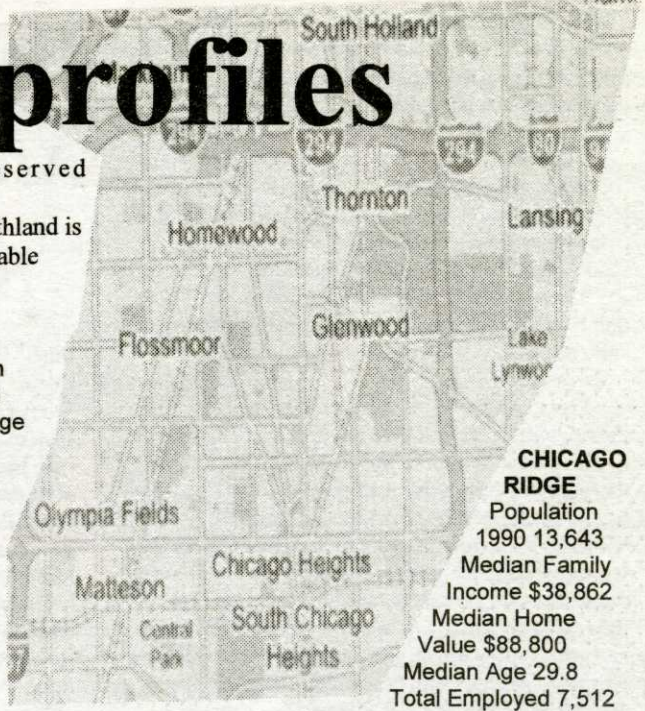
# A glance a South Suburb profiles

(Continued from page 11)

New, mid-priced homes are found in many Chicago Southland communities experiencing rapid growth, among them are Chicago Heights, Manhattan, Matteson, Orland Park, and Tinley Park.

every lifestyle. There are complexes of rental apartments wrapped around recreational amenities; for those who enjoy home ownership without maintenance responsibilities, there are smartly styled condominiums and townhomes. South Holland and other communities offer

retirement villages, reserved exclusively for seniors. Without question, Chicago Southland is becoming the place for comfortable living.



**CALUMET CITY**  
Population 1990 37,840 Median Family Income \$35,427 Median Home Value \$63,500 Median Age 34.6 Total Employed 17,664 Percentage Unemployed 7.7% Municipal Revenues \$10,499,028 Percent from Taxes 77.0%

**CALUMET PARK**  
Population 1990 8,418 Median Family Income \$35,502 Median Home Value \$62,500 Median Age 32.0 Total Employed 3,980 Percentage Unemployed 9.6% Municipal Revenues \$2,329,264 Percent from Taxes 78.0%

**CHICAGO HEIGHTS**  
Population 1990 33,072 Median Family Income \$31,534 Median Home Value \$61,600 Median Age 30.7 Total Employed 13,612 Percentage Unemployed 9.8% Municipal Revenues \$10,039,046 Percent from Taxes 69.0%

**CHICAGO RIDGE**  
Population 1990 13,643 Median Family Income \$38,862 Median Home Value \$88,800 Median Age 29.8 Total Employed 7,512 Percentage Unemployed 5.3% Municipal Revenues \$4,487,303 Percent from Taxes 83.0%

**COUNTRY CLUB HILLS**  
Population 1990 15,431 Median Family Income \$48,759 Median Home Value \$72,700 Median Age 30.5 Total Employed 8,117 Percentage Unemployed 6.4% Municipal Revenues \$2,465,005 Percent from Taxes 79.0%

**DIXMOOR**  
Population 1990 3,647 Median Family Income \$28,686 Median Home Value \$44,700 Median Age 32.3 Total Employed 1,540 Percentage Unemployed 11.7% Municipal Revenues \$622,908 Percent from Taxes 78.5%

**DOLTON**  
Population 1990 23,930 Median Family Income 39,916 Median Home Value 64,600 Median Age 34.4 Total Employed 11,580 Percentage Unemployed 6.8% Municipal Revenues \$4,313,329 Percent from Taxes 84.0%

**EAST HAZEL CREST**  
Population 1990 1,570 Median Family Income \$37,727 Median Home Value \$64,600 Median Age 32.6 Total Employed 787 Percentage Unemployed 5.1% Municipal Revenues \$420,557 Percent from Taxes 65.5%

**HARVEY**  
Population 1990 29,771 Median Family Income \$26,531 Median Home Value \$50,300 Median Age 27.5 Total Employed 11,187 Percentage Unemployed 17.4% Municipal Revenues \$9,411,662 Percent from Taxes 87.0%

**HAZEL CREST**  
Population 1990 13,334 Median Family Income \$43,500 Median Home Value \$67,600 Median Age 32.5 Total Employed 6,543 Percentage Unemployed 9.8% Municipal Revenues \$2,401,076 Percent from Taxes 61.0%

**HOMETOWN**  
Population 1990 4,769 Median Family Income \$37,773 Median Home Value \$67,000 Median Age 35.7 Total Employed 2,144 Percentage Unemployed 4.8% Municipal Revenues 517,631 Percent from Taxes 66.0%

**HOMewood**  
Population 1990 19,278 Median Family Income \$53,605 Median Home Value \$98,800 Median Age 38.1 Total Employed 9,796 Percentage Unemployed 3.6% Municipal Revenues 4,881,896 Percent from Taxes 85.0%

**Employed NA Percentage Unemployed NA Municipal Revenues NA Percent from Taxes NA**

**MARKHAM**  
Population 1990 13,136 Median Family Income \$32,315 Median Home Value \$51,800 Median Age 30.5 Total Employed 5,401 Percentage Unemployed 13.5% Municipal Revenues \$2,084,743 Percent from Taxes 51.0%

**OLYMPIA FIELDS**  
Population 1990 4,248 Median Family Income \$86,511 Median Home Value \$179,300 Median Age 41.5 Total Employed 2,047 Percentage Unemployed 4.1% Municipal Revenues \$968,780 Percent from Taxes 67.0%

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## Monthly Top Ten Hit List January 2006

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### Rap/R&B



1. Chris Brown - *Chris Brown*
2. Mariah Carey - *The Emancipation of Mimi*
3. Destiny's Child - *#1's*
4. Alicia Keys - *Unplugged*
5. Young Jeezy - *Let's Get It: Thug Motivation 101*
6. Kanye West - *Late Registration*
7. Keyshia Cole - *The Way It Is*
8. The Black Eyed Peas - *Monkey Business*
9. Trina - *Glamorest Life*
10. Lil Kim - *Lighters Up*

### Gospel



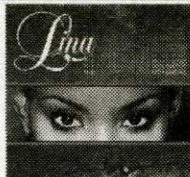
1. Mary Mary - *Mary Mary*
2. Kirk Franklin - *Hero*
3. Yolanda Adams - *Day by Day*
4. Israel & New Breed - *Alive in South Africa*
5. Hezekiah Walker - *20/85 The Experience*
6. WOW Gospel 2005 - *Various Artists*
7. Donnie McClurkin - *Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual*
8. J Moss - *The J. Moss Project*
9. Fred Hammond - *Somethin Bout Love*
10. Tye Tribbett Featuring G.A. - *Life*

### Jazz



1. Paul Taylor - *Nightlife*
2. Euge Groove - *Just Feels Right*
3. Walter Beasley - *For Her*
4. Rick Braun - *Yours Truly*
5. Mindi Abair - *Come As You Are*
6. Herbie Hancock - *Possibilities*
7. Richard Elliot - *Metro Blue*
8. Blake Aaron - *Shine*
9. Third Force - *Driving Force*
10. Def Jazz featuring Gerald Albright - *Def Jazz*

### Steppin'



1. Lina - *Smootn*
2. Maroon 5 - *Secret*
3. Kindred Family Soul - *Question*
4. Brian Henley - *Compassion*
5. Trey Sonyz - *Gotta Go*
6. Will Downing - *Put Me On*
7. DJ Markey - *The Man*
8. Marzette Griffith - *Rhythm Of Time*
9. Ben Jackson - *Do You Wanna Go Steppin'*
10. Kindred Family Soul - *As Of Yet*



(Continued on page 15)

# Suburban murders escalating

The murder tally across Chicago's suburbs rose by more than 10 percent in 2005 prompting police to emulate tough tactics credited with reducing bloodshed in the city. As reported in the Chicago Tribune there was an increase since 2001 runs counter to Chicago's downward trend.

The increase in towns with more than 30,000 residents has been fueled by gang activity, the flight of criminals from Chicago and creeping poverty, according to law enforcement officials and criminologists.

The jump has been particularly evident in Cook County's south suburbs, where authorities have noticed an alarming spike in gang activity. Calumet City, for example, had 22 murders in the four-year period ending in 2005, double the number for the previous four years.

Towns as far-flung as Elgin and Cicero also saw recent increases in murder rates after earlier declines.

The number of murders in the 47 largest towns in northeastern Illinois—with a total population of about 2.6 million—has increased each year

since 2002, going up to 90 in 2005 from 64 in 2001, according to a Tribune analysis of crime statistics and survey of local police departments. The jump reversed declines seen in the late 1990s.

The suburban increase comes even as Chicago has decreased its murder tally to a 40-year low for the second year in a row. The murder rate in the towns surveyed by the Tribune has risen to nearly 3.5 per 100,000 population in 2005 from about 2.6 in 2001—an increase of almost 35 percent. During the same period,

Chicago's murder rate per 100,000 decreased more than 32 percent, to about 15.5 from about 22.9.

Nationally, the murder rate has held nearly constant at about 5.5 per 100,000 since 1999.

"The suburbs aren't what they used to be—they're not a haven away from gangs and violence," said Arthur Lurigio, a criminologist at Loyola University Chicago.

The number of killings has grown fastest in southern Cook County, where the 35 towns under the jurisdiction of the Markham branch court saw 40 percent more murders the three year period ending in 2004 compared to the previous three years.

A sharp increase in the number of criminal cases involving young

people underscores the problems in the south suburbs.

A combination of factors, including an exodus of criminals from the city because of greater law enforcement pressure against drug dealing, appears to have driven the recent upsurge in the south suburbs and elsewhere, law enforcement officials and experts say.

Though the tie between anti-crime pressures in the city and the increase in murders elsewhere is based in part on anecdotal evidence, police and criminologists say Chicago's success likely led to the violent spillover in some suburbs. Other gang members have fled the city because of the increasing cost of living there, experts say.

## Gary - Peotone airports

(Continued from page 11)  
all of us."

Perhaps most importantly, Gary has geography on its side -- as the city is 15 miles closer to downtown Chicago than Peotone.

While GYY does not currently meet federal runway safety guidelines, the funds would help bring Gary up to those standards, as well as allowing improvements to GYY's terminal and other facilities to attract commercial airlines.

GYY has been without scheduled commercial airline service since Hooters Air temporarily halted its flights to the airport last year. City officials say that illustrious carrier is expected to resume service from Gary in March -- and they hope that's just a beginning.

In all, city officials have requested as much as \$90 million over the next 10 years to make

improvements needed to handle an expected threefold increase in passenger loads by 2012, according to the Tribune.

Expansion plans are also expected to bring as many as 300 jobs to Gary, at a time when the industrial city is combating unemployment rates as high as 16 percent.

## Southland burbs

Population 1990 2,217 Median Family Income \$25,551 Median Home Value \$45,500 Median Age 33.4 Total Employed 760 Percentage Unemployed 15.6% Municipal Revenues NA Percent from Taxes NA

### ROBBINS

Population 1990 7,498 Median Family Income \$25,141 Median Home Value \$39,600 Median Age 28.3 Total Employed 2,060 Percentage Unemployed 20.3% Municipal Revenues NA Percent from Taxes NA

### THORNTON

Population 1990 2,778 Median Family Income \$44,464 Median Home Value \$72,000 Median Age 35.8 Total Employed 1,441 Percentage Unemployed 5.4% Municipal Revenues \$1,053,522 Percent from Taxes 71.0%

## Seniors

### Jazz

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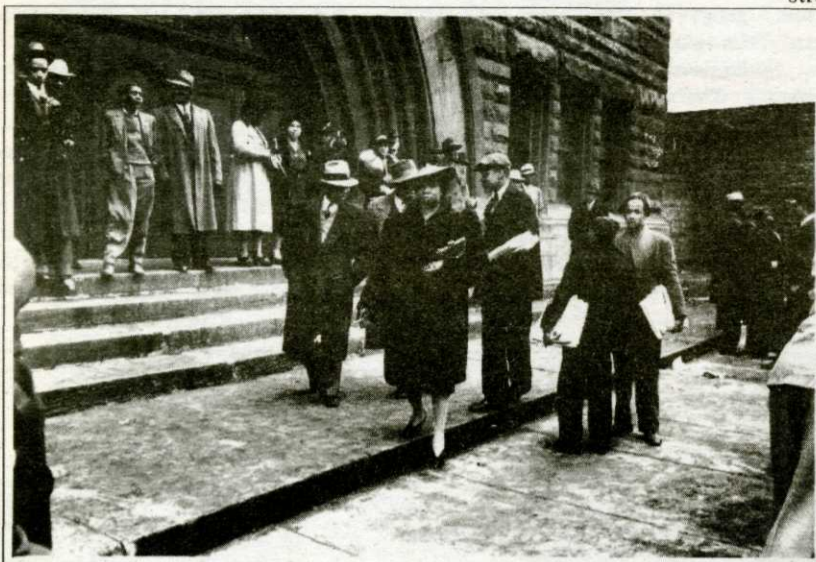
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# LOST HISTORIES NEW B'GININGS

## A History of PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

By Nathan Thompson



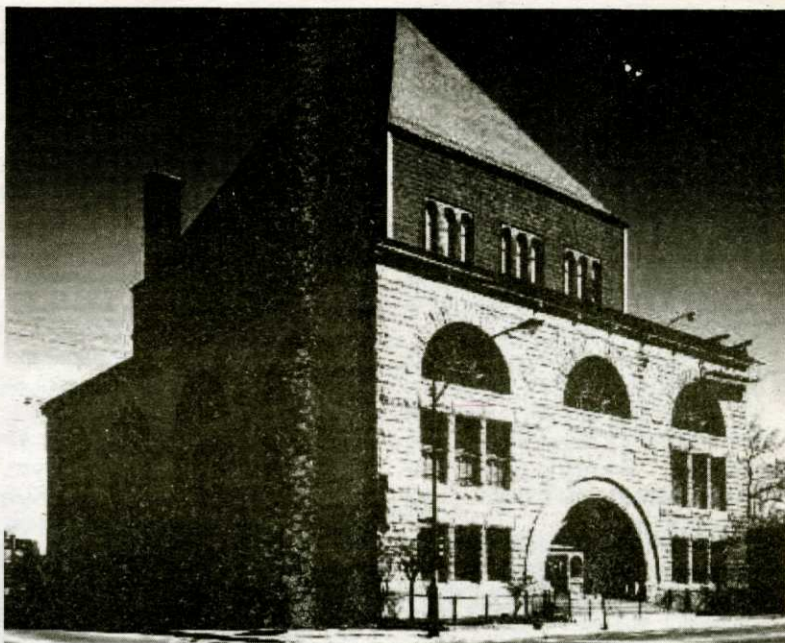
Anshe Ma' ariv synagogue, the building has housed the Pilgrim Baptist Church since 1922.

The decorative and planning skills of architect Louis H. Sullivan, along with the engineering abilities of Dankmar Adler, are embodied in the strong masonry forms of this building, which is embellished with terra-cotta panels of intricate foliage designs. The dramatic interior of the church contains similar ornament. Most noted clergyman was arguably Reverend Junius C. Austin, a stellar businessman imported from Pittsburgh in 1926. Under Austin's direction, Pilgrim Baptist Church became known as "The Businessman's Clearing House."

They held "Race cooperation meetings," bringing together Bronzeville and the Black West Side's leading businessmen and women. Together they organized one of the biggest support movements in Chicago for the victims of the Great Flood of 1926. They also sent cash and supplies to African nations as a matter of course.

At it's height in the first half of last century, the Finnie's Union Grove Prayer Meeting Club-turned-Pilgrim Baptist Church had grown to more than 7000 regular members.

As a center of African American culture, during the 1930s, this congregation and its longtime music director, Thomas A. Dorsey, were instrumental in the development of gospel music.



Among those who sang here were: Mahalia Jackson, Sallie Martin, James Cleveland, and the Edwin Hawkins Singers.

Pilgrim rallied against the Chicago Mob's takeover of the Policy Rackets, and were a vital link in civil rights movements everywhere.

The New Pilgrim Baptist Church will rise from today's ashes like an old angzine of another kind, and will no doubt be among the nation's

biggest, built purposefully, thereby making it the very best yet. Somebody say it!

Nathan Thompson is the Author of the acclaimed book, *KINGS: The True Story of Chicago's Policy Kings and Numbers Racketeers* (Bronzeville Press). He can be reached at [Bronzevillepress@hotmail.com](mailto:Bronzevillepress@hotmail.com)

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(Continued from page 1)

Baptist. A year later, the club outgrew the Finnie's living room and moved their meeting place to 4910 S. Wentworth.

Three months later, in that location, the Finnie's sizable prayer club grew into a church organization. Juanita came up with the name *Pilgrim Baptist* and the group imported Reverend Jesse Luck from Harlem to man the pulpit. Under the banner of Pilgrim Baptist Church, the group relocated to Wright's Hall at

44<sup>th</sup> & State Street. A year later, Rev. Luck left for the Army.

The church, still growing in popularity, moved around the corner to 20 East 45<sup>th</sup> Street. Reverend J.E. Jones replaced Luck, and a year later in 1920, Reverend S. E. J. Watson replaced Jones. In that year, Pilgrim Baptist Church moved into the twenty-year old Synagogue building at 33<sup>rd</sup> & Indiana where they would remain for the next eight and a half decades.

The church's Built as Kehilath

# A Chicago Black Panther

(Continued from page 12)

foundations in the community. They often gave the impression that to engage in any business enterprise was to engage in capitalism and they too frequently looked with disdain upon the small business people in the community.

As a result the BPP built few businesses which generated income other than the Panther newspaper.

The 60's were times of great flux. BPP made serious errors, it also gained a considerable measure of success and made several significant new contributions to the BLM.

A significant segment of the U.S. population engaged in mass struggle. Movements were all occurring more or less simultaneously during this era; The Black Liberation, Native American, Puerto Rican, Asian, Chicano, Anti-War, White Revolutionary, and Woman's Liberation.

Although the final judgment of history may very well show the BPP added the final ingredient to the Black Agenda which ultimately set the Black Liberation Movement on the final road to victory."

The U.S. government defeated the Black Power Movement of the '60s through the COINTELPRO program, under the direction of J. Edgar Hoover. The prime years of Hampton and many other political prisoners was stolen from them, their family and community in what amounted to an assault on the leadership of the African working class.

Fred Hampton Jr. whose birth was premature three weeks after his fathers death was falsely arrested

without a warrant on May 11, 1992 and charged with aggravated arson in a firebombing incident that he had nothing to do with. At the time, Fred Hampton Jr. was the Chicago

president of the International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement where he had been organizing already, made a name for himself as a powerful leader in his own right, carrying on the legacy of his father.

He was targeted in the same way that the U.S. government attacked the leadership of the Black Power Movement of the '60s and carried out the assassination of Hampton Sr. The InPDUM took on a campaign to free Fred Hampton Jr.

In prison, Fred Hampton Jr. continued to organize

was subjected to countless attacks and held in solitary confinement, labeled a gang leader, constantly shipped from prison to prison, and denied visitation rights. The International Campaign to Free Fred Hampton Jr. and the International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement put tremendous pressure on the state of Illinois through countless demonstrations, calls and letter-writing campaigns exposing the political frame-up of Fred Jr. and how he was penalized and targeted.

The popular movement demanding Fred's release made it impossible for the State to harm Fred in ways that they were constantly threatening him with. The response, "Revolutionaries don't die, they multiply!"

Contributed By Sundiata Acoli

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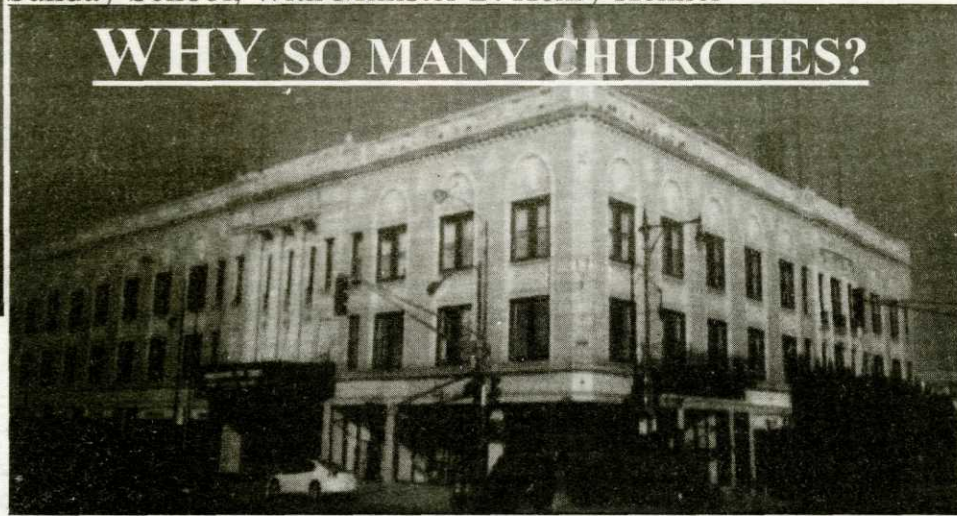
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Sunday School, With Minister B. Henry Kenner

WHY SO MANY CHURCHES?



Ambassadors for Christ (AFC) host many religionist affirmations, where many upstart ministers and churches rent space in the building in getting started.

It had to have happened to you, just like it happens to us all at one time or another. You know what I mean? Okay, here's the scene. You and your family are riding causally along when all of a sudden someone in the car makes the observation, "Man, there are a lot of churches on this block!" This is soon followed by another observation, observation number two; "There's a lot of liquor stores too!" (Observation number two, we'll deal with at a later date.)



Back to observation number one. Have you ever wondered why there are so many churches in some areas? Notice, I said *some* areas. The some areas idea, to be clarified by the end of this article. The "so many churches" aspect to be dealt with now.

Time to expose one of our little secrets. Now, mind you, I'm giving you the Baptist perspective since I've been a practicing Baptist for over half my life.

Unlike the Methodists, African Methodist, Episcopal or the Church of God in Christ,

churches which are organized and operated by "Bishops", each Baptist church is self governed and operated by each individual body and their respective, "Pastors" with spiritual direction coming from God. I believe also that these other denominations get their direction from God, if they believe in Christ as mediator, savior and son of God. However, in the Baptist community this forms a unique correlation between God and man. Since we believe that God is moving on Pastors to provide spiritual direction, if a preacher believes God is moving on him to establish a church, we don't question that action. If he says it, at that point he is given the freedom to do just that. However, when you consider that there are in some areas, as many as four or five Baptist churches in one block you must question the validity of the "God led me to" aspect of those establishments. Let's be real, we're talking about God here! A God that captivated the entire believing world with only seven churches worldwide! So what else could be leading to the establishment of so many churches?

just as fallible when it comes to the attacks of Satan. This means that we get just as jealous, envious, and covetous as anyone else. Holy God, did I just say that? No, that's right, I said it. We're just as fallible as anyone else! What do I mean?

Here's another scenario. A pastor gets a brother, possibly younger and more energetic than himself that comes to him and says, "God has called me into the ministry." He's given time to study and hone his talents before preaching his "trial sermon" (This is where the one professing to his call is given the opportunity to give evidence to the church of his call, by preaching his first sermon at that particular church). Now this brother not only gives evidence of his call, but at the same time demonstrates talents and gifts that may be absent in the Pastor. This is when the flesh may step into the driver's seat.

Let me explain this; we Baptists believe also that the church is the Bride of Christ, in other words a woman. The Pastor sees this young spry preacher encroaching in on his territory and exciting his "woman". The Pastor is then promptly "directed by God" to "sit this brother down" for reasons that have nothing to do with a directive from God. Now understand this, if you have truly been called you want to preach, but now you have been effectively silenced by your pastor. Not being able to preach and not wanting to take the chance of being silenced by another Pastor you are now led to establish a church. Starting to get the picture? With a limited amount of capital and a sparse number of followers you seek out a storefront in the low rent district and set up shop, hence more than one church to a block in the--"some areas", that I spoke about earlier.

I wish my editor would give me license to get a little long winded here! I'll tell you what; just stay tuned for part II.

To get in touch with Minister B. Henry Kenner please contact him via the internet at [ipreach-teach@ameritech.net](mailto:ipreach-teach@ameritech.net)

My Two Cents:



(Perpetually Ignorant Moronic Person)

P.I.M.P. of the year

By: LaShawn D. Williams

If a list was compiled of those who represent the best black America has to offer, many folks would immediately come to mind.

People like Oprah Winfrey, U.S. Senator Barack Obama and former NBA star-turned-entrepreneur Magic Johnson, make me proud when I think of their accomplishments as African-Americans. But for every example of the best in black people, there are those who represent the absolute worst.

For me, the holder of the worst title is the infamous ex-pimp, now is minister, Bishop Don magical Juan.

Don Juan, aka The Bishop, has experienced a sort of resurgence thanks to the hip-hop community. Lately, he's everywhere, as he has become a staple of black awards shows and is frequently mentioned in rap songs. For reasons I cannot understand, people are in awe of him. Whenever he is on television reciting idiotic pimp slang while decked out in ridiculous pimp garb, I grimace at the screen. Last year, his idiocy was prominently showcased in a sketch on BET's comedy awards show. The piece, entitled The Apimptice, starred Don Juan in a take on Donald Trump's reality show, The Apprentice.

Just like Trump's show, Don Juan's skit included a boardroom complete with contestant evaluation, in particular, one named Omahoegas. The flippant Omahoega was fired because well let's just say she was too mouthy, and he explained to her exactly what her mouth should be used for. The audience found the skit a hilarious, knee-slapping good time. I guess blatant disrespect towards black women is what makes good comedy these days. Then again, this is BET we're talking about.

Black America has enough social ills; the last thing we need is this buffoon and what he represents shown on television. It's bad enough that kids today are mired in misogynistic

rappers and their lyrics; must there also be a played out pimp, desperately clinging to fame, sharing airtime, too?

Actually, Snoop Dogg is really the only rapper who seems to be especially infatuated with Don Juan. You rarely see Snoop these days without Don Juan glued to his hip.

Together, they pose for pictures holding their diamond-studded pimp cups, looking like the black version of Dumb and Dumber's What's worse is Snoop, who toggles between music and movies, claims to want to be taken seriously as an actor. I'm no casting agent, but



associating with Don Juan surely won't have anyone clamoring to give him any Oscar-worthy roles.

Okay, so Don Juan isn't solely to blame for all that is wrong in the black community; however, the image he personifies is a definite contributor. Between his clownish antics, annual pimp parade Players' Ball) and his general disregard for women, enough is enough. Instead of positive black figures being displayed for our youth, a pimp is being revered. And just by listening to some teenagers conversations, it is obvious they are paying lots of attention to him.

He is an utter embarrassment, and what is especially disheartening is that it looks like he'll continue to be around for a while longer, despite his waning fame. As long as there is still a market that glorifies him, Don Juan will continue to prosper (and profit) from this pimp/player lifestyle.

I would be remiss if I didn't give him kudos for putting his pimping skills to good use by successfully managing to maintain his celebrity status. His mastery of the game is evident, especially by the way he pimps Snoop Dogg and Hollywood to stay in the limelight. Gee, I guess old habits really do die hard. Now why were folks so upset over Bill Cosby's remarks again?



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As we continue in the new millennium, the Chicago Gospel Music Heritage Museum will continue to lead the charge in documenting the great personalities that put this musical genre in motion.

Again, thank you for making this mission a reality.

Sincerely,  
Reverend Stanley Keeble, CEO/Founder

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# "The Thunder of Angels"

## the book on the Montgomery Bus Boycott

### A New Chapter in Black History



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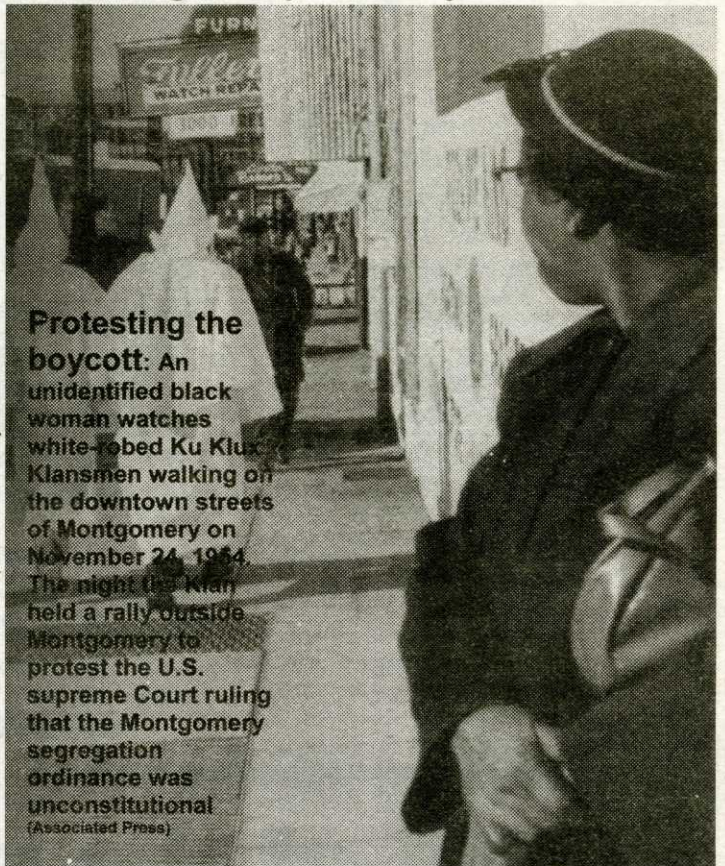
of what happened behind the scenes:

- The history of violence and abuse on the city buses
- What other parties were instrumental in bringing about and organizing the bus boycott
- The stories of civil rights pioneers like E.D. Nixon and Jon Ann Robinson
- What went on at Martin Luther King's trial
- How black and white lawyers worked together to overturn segregation in the courtroom
- And even firsthand accounts from the segregationists who bombed the homes of some of Montgomery's most progressive ministers.

Published to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Rosa Parks's heroic stand, the book at last is the full, untold story of the boycott- and the beginning of a new era in race relations.

"The Thunder of Angels" is a very interestingly written piece of history said Don Samuelson, "This is a good book, The authors, Wayne Greenshaw and Donnie Williams are a very accomplished writers are from Birmingham, who wanted to tell the fully story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Samuelson added, "I got connected to this effort because Lionel Nixon who is the grandson of E.D Nixon, whose full contributions to this effort are one of major



**Protesting the boycott:** An unidentified black woman watches white-robed Ku Klux Klansmen walking on the downtown streets of Montgomery on November 24, 1954. The night the Klan held a rally outside Montgomery to protest the U.S. supreme Court ruling that the Montgomery segregation ordinance was unconstitutional (Associated Press)

themes of the book, and the story. The book is published by the independent publishers Group in Chicago

#### Mug shots form "The Thunder of Angels:

In the Summer of 2004, while cleaning out a storage area in the basement of the old Montgomery County Courthouse, Chief Deputy Sheriff Derek Cunningham

discovered a box of old photos of people who'd been arrested nearly fifty years earlier. Searching through the box, Cunningham soon realized that the bulk of these black and white pictures were actually mug shots taken in February 1956, when nearly one hundred leaders of the



E.D. Nixon Rosa Parks Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Fred D. Gray Jo Ann Robinson

black community were arrested and charged with ducting an illegal boycott of the buses. Also in the box were several legal -sized pads, on with the names and arrest numbers of those who had been arrested were handwritten.

### 3rd Volume of King biography

## King's Final Years

As the shadows fell, King looked north. It was the beginning of the end.

By Jonathan Alter, Newsweek -

Jan. 9, 2006 issue -excerpt:

...Branch's book, to be shows us King not as a plaster saint but an intuitive, conflicted and harried human being—running late to



everything, refereeing among squabbling lieutenants, straying from his wife to the end, even slipping out to catch what one of his traveling aides said was his favorite movie, "The Sound of Music."

But we also see that even after he became world-famous, King had reason to call his movement a civil-rights struggle. Branch conveys in powerful detail the dramatic, chaotic, inspiring and incendiary era, from the triumphant Selma-to-Montgomery march to the passage in 1965 of the landmark Voting Rights Act and little-noticed end to discrimination against the Third World in immigration (which reshaped the face of America); from the pathos of Lyndon Johnson—caught between his breathtaking commitment to fighting injustice and the worsening Vietnam War—to the backlash against liberalism represented by Ronald Reagan's election as governor of California, and finally to King's eerie "I might not get there with you" premonition at the Mason Temple in Memphis on the night before his assassination.

For me, though, the central story of the last act of King's life takes place in Chicago. He lived there on and off for much of 1966, trying to take his movement of nonviolent civil disobedience to the next level. He failed. "It is in Chicago that the grapes of wrath are stored," King said as he launched what he called the "action phase" of his agenda. But the wrath at loose in American society derailed the civil-rights movement and left a generation politically adrift. Branch's research suggests that 1966 was the year the liberal dream began to disintegrate.

Entertainment

Spot Light on Lolita

**Voss - Wilson** of the Morale Builders Incorporated family of community ventures. Lolita comes to the entertainment company as a trained Choreographer, model, teacher, praise dancer, poet, singer, and writer. Lolita will play a very important role as Artistic Entertainment Director. She has appeared on television, radio and in the newspapers. Lolita was chosen as a featured model in St. Louis Missouri for Catherine Schuller, actress, model, and owner of Catherine's plus size fashions, nationwide. She is presently co writing a play with Dr. Franceose Ivy of Atlanta Georgia, president of Theological Institute in Chicago where she is pursuing a degree in Theology. Lolita currently is a Child Development



Voss -

Associate's Advisor and Council Representative for the Professional Recognition of Young Children located in Washington D.C.

She devote her talents under the leadership of Perry Smith (Morale Builders president) that offers services in multi areas of education, health and sciences, enviroment, economic and career development, leisure time activities, public safety and communications.

Lolita will be searching for new and fresh talent as she acknowledges God for her past, present, and future accomplishments.

Lolita states that growing up unfortunate circumstances has given her a deeper appreciation and love to serve people in whatever capacity that God will allow her to do so.

Smith said his organization is looking forward to a blessed and prosperous year in 2006 with Lolita abroad.

Chicago Hip Hop Organizing Group Presents First Hip Hop Film Festival



SET TO COINCIDE WITH DR. KING'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVATION

The Thank GOD for Hip Hop Film Festival and ACTION Conference will feature screenings of critically acclaimed films and documentaries such as "Krush Groove," "Toots and Blows," "White Boys Can't Rap," "The Spook Who Sat by the Door," and "Dr. King and the Chicago Freedom Movement." Following each screening will be panel discussions with noted filmmakers and Hip Hop

(Continued on page 20)

Jazz Unites leads off Black History Month Return of THE MARIAN ANDERSON & MAHALIA JACKSON TRIBUTE CONCERT

Lena McLin To Receive Legacy Award At Concert

Of all Chicago's treasures, none is more priceless than the Rev. Dr. Lena J. McLin. If you love music of any kind she has probably touched you in some way. Considered one of the leading writers and arrangers in music today, Quincy Jones calls her "an astounding educator and musician."

Dr. McLin is recognized as one of America's premier composers, with more than 400 works to her credit—symphonies, operas, cantatas, anthems, liturgical settings for Roman Catholic and Anglican masses, art songs, electronic music, "rock" and "soul" songs—as well as solo, choral and piano arrangements

of spirituals. Some of her most famous are *Gwendolyn Brooks: A Musical Portrait*, *Free At Last*, *Psalm 117* and *The Little Baby*.

On Sunday, January 29, 2006, Jazz Unites Inc. will recognize Lena McLin as part of its 21st Annual Historical/Musical Tribute to Marian Anderson & Mahalia Jackson at the Harris Theater in Millennium Park, starting at 3:00 p.m. This event was created by Jazz Unites Founder and President Geraldine de Haas and

narrated by WGN-TV personality Merri Dee. This is a return performance for the tribute concert, which honors the legacies of two outstanding black women artists. Dr. McLin will be the first recipient of the Jazz Unites Legacy Award for her contributions to both opera and gospel music.

In the 1950s, she created accessible opportunities for African American musicians during the 15-

Continue on page 20

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Remember New Edition, Duran Duran, Prince, Boy George, Run DMC, Thompson Twins and Hall & Oates? Do you remember when The Cosby Show, A Different World, and Family Ties came on Thursday Nights? Do you remember when the party ended with a slow dance? If you answered yes to these questions, then you do not want to miss our 80's Throwback Thursdays. Admission to this event is FREE Kick It, Bring Friends, and Reminiscence.

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# Emajina

is breaking the myth with CD.

Coming out with her first CD "Emajina" is carrying on the style, flair and grace of the great performers before her.

The main myth told to people interested in pursuing a career in the music industry is it is too hard or impossible to be a success in Chicago, you can only be successful in New York, California, or Atlanta. But with the likes of many from Lou Rawls, Curtis Mayfield and Jerry Butler, to R. Kelly and Kanye West, there are a lot of talented people here in Chicago and many of them have altered that myth by striving to be recognized in the industry as a reputable talent.

Emajina new CD evolve and evaluate styles



and incorporate into a growing trend and make it as harmonious as possible. She is part of ALB Productions, Inc a music production company focusing on artist development.

In her CD, Emajina has the soul reflected with the musical influences of Phyllis Hyman, Sade, Diana Ross, Chaka Kahn, Erika Badu and with the soul of Luther Vandross from the female perspective.

A writer of her own songs, Emajina, has stayed fast in her musical direction as a commercial truck driver, and bartender, and a legal assistant. Songs on her CD is innovative in singing and making the listeners groove to concepts and topics like the steppin music of "Glide", "Liar/Cheater, up tempo, love song of "Don't be Afraid", and "Master Plan".

Advell Bates (Vman) says Emajina is an example of the talent coming from Chicago and ALB productions altering the myth by striving as a reputable production company, Emajina is a prime example.

## African American Actors Needed

Executive Producer Shywanee L. Manson, writer of the novel *Apology From One Sista To Another*, and Director Lawrence Lee Wallace, creator of the film *Urban Scenze* are looking for African American men and women between the ages of 21 and 40. Also looking for poets of any ethnic background, ages 18 and up (poets will not be paid). Auditions will be held at V-Dots clothing store, 1021 W. Lake Street (Lake & Carpenter) on Saturday, January 14th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and Sunday, January 15th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Please bring headshot, resume and be prepared for a cold reading and to sing a song of your choice. Actors and actresses will be paid. For more information go to shyfoxbooks.com. **NOTE:** Please note that [chicago.about.com](http://chicago.about.com) has no connection to any of these companies and we do not know how legitimate these companies are. We only put up their ads because Chicago is trying very hard to bring movie business to our city.

## Jazz Unites TRIBUTE CONCERT

(Continued from page 19)

year run of her McLin Opera Company and continues to do so through her McLin Ensemble. More than 30 of her protégés—some performing in the tribute program—

have achieved notoriety far beyond their mentor in a variety of genres. In opera: Nicole Heaston, Susan Korhonen, Jonita Lattimore, Mark Rucker and Millicent Sylvester; musical theater and screen: Aisha de Haas, Alicia Gyse, Jo Ann Hawkins,

Alonzo Webb and Tony Award winner Mandy Patinkin; jazz performance/composition: Maggie Brown, Charlene Hines, Steven

LaFlore, Matthew Rose; and popular music: Chaka Khan, Robert "R" Kelly, and Donna McAfee.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, one of Dr. McLin's playmates was Martin Luther King Jr. She spent many of her early years in Chicago, however, with her famous uncle Thomas A. Dorsey, considered the "Father of

Gospel." She frequently played piano for his famed Pilgrim Baptist Church choir. As a child she often watched Mahalia Jackson and Dorsey record at his South Side studio. As a child she also saw Marian Anderson perform in Atlanta.

"At that time we didn't have too many role models. Most of the role models that were forced upon us were of African American women in subservient, uneducated roles and did not reflect our contributions as great Americans who helped build this country," explains Dr. McLin.

A renowned educator, Dr. McLin taught in the Chicago public high schools for 36 years, consulted on music and humanities curricula and advised faculties at more than 40 major colleges and universities. She published *Pulse: A History of Music for youth* and was featured in the PBS-TV series, "This Far By Faith."

Dubbed one of the best music teachers in the country, the South Shore resident says it is an honor to be chosen by Jazz Unites to receive its Legacy Award and to be in such great company. "What is great never dies. They were great; so what they contributed will never die," she says.

Tickets to the concert and McLin reception are available through the Harris Box Office, 312-334-7777 or [www.harristheaterchicago.org](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org).

## Steppin' and Politics

Mark Allen and The Black Leadership Development Institute's Wednesday Night Political Education Social beginning at 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM at Ruby's Jewel Box Lounge, located at 9042 South Ashland. This social affair in its 2nd year gives average neighborhood citizens the opportunity to meet various officials they otherwise would not have the opportunity to interact with in person.

This week's special guest is Phillip Jackson, a candidate for Congress for the 1st Congressional District. Jackson is head of The Black Star Project; former Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard M. Daley; former Assistant for former Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas; and former Executive with the Chicago Housing Authority.

The Social Affair begins at 6:00 PM with Mark Allen and other guest DJ's playing dusties and steppers music and free stepping lessons and opportunity to network and socialize. Candidate presentation is at 8:00 PM. Guest DJ is Derrick Woods, nephew of the late Same Cooke. Free Admission, Free Food, and Free Parking. Come meet and greet candidates, plus meet, greet and network with others interested in political and community empowerment.

Other Candidates and Campaigns interested in being guests at future forums or more information call Mark Allen at The Black Leadership Development Institute at 773-776-8353

## Chicago Hip Hop

activists; special events; and showcase of the five elements of Hip. There also will be special appearances by notables such as Hip Hop pioneer, Lord Cashus D of Zulu Nation, and Sam Greenlee amongst others.

January 11-15, 2006 at Kennedy King College, 6800 S. Wentworth Avenue. The event is hosted by the Chicago Host Committee for the 2006 Hip Hop Political Convention.

The Chicago Host Committee for the 2006 National Hip Hop Political Convention aims to explore and encourage the use of the arts to express, empower and educate the community at large. The Film Festival will be a catalyst in preserving and promoting Hip Hop Culture as a means to instill and reinforce community values, principles and behavior.

As part of the organizing efforts around the 2006 National Hip Hop Political Convention, the Chicago Host Committee will actively work to plan, coordinate and manage the 2006 National Hip Hop Political Convention. This will involve fundraising, promotions and the hosting of special events leading up to the July Convention. The Conference is the third in a series of events designed to garner local awareness and support from the public and private sector, as well as elected officials for the convention.

There is a requested donation of \$3/students and \$5/general admission.

Contact La'Keisha Gray-Sewell at 773.577.4600 or [lrgwriting1@yahoo.com](mailto:lrgwriting1@yahoo.com). This event is supported by Aqua Moon, Kennedy King College, and the National Hip Hop Political Convention.

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# John Blair &

# South Street Business

## THE CHAMBER BUSINESS IN BRONZEVILLE

Black Metropolis and the Black Belt, referring to skin color as "bronze." As indicated in 'Kings' by Nathan Thompson, Bronzeville lost the economy engine of the *Policy* numbers racket from 1930 to 1950 (now the Illinois State Lottery). And from 2000 to 2005, it also lost 40,000 residents. Now the community is responding to a new generation residence as those who choose to live in there, and those who were forced to leave.

But as with any community, even with New Orleans, its run by business, jobs or taxes, or nothing.

John Blair founder and president of the Bronzeville Chamber of Commerce is at the test of his mettle whose emerging vision for business development is to capture the tax base with business growth for the long waited Bronzeville.

He was a Chicago Policeman in Bronzeville for 10 years at Wabash, Wentworth and Prairie Ave. District, before leaving the department to open an Insurance Agency, where he spent 25 years before retiring. During this period, he was President of the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, President of The Professional Insurance agents and Brokers Assn., Board Member of Step School, Chicago Youth Center and a Rotary South, Founding Member.

A native of Evansville Indiana, the site of the recent Tornado, where Blair attended school and subsequently joined his family in Chicago's Bronzeville Community, in the late fifties."

Mr. Blair doesn't raise his voice or slap backs with his mild demeanor. He prizes data and preparations, and encourage constructive disagreement in addressing the sensitive Bronzeville business concerns.

**Q Chamber of Commerce Vs Business Organization. What is the difference?**

**Blair:** By definition, Chambers represent the business community and as such, operate as a voice or cheerleader for the business community in the entirety. This voice also link business organizations with the Chamber, but generally you will find Chambers cover a community in the entirety, as opposed to a specific area.

**Q What inspired you to form the Chamber.**

**Blair:** The Need! I was certainly not in the Chamber founding consciousness, but while interacting with a local group in the community, this interest was high on the list. Additionally, the observation of a growing community, having served in this capacity, some years ago, I felt the urge to set the table. Today, although the demand is enervating, you can feel the wind shift and the energy percolate in folks who wish to move, shop and work their business in this great community!

**Q What are the boundaries for the Bronzeville Chamber?**

**Blair:** The Chamber covers the neighborhood of North Kenwood, Douglas, Oakland, Grand Boulevard, Near South and Washington Park although the smallest section is near South from, Cermak/22nd to 26th St. Our Boundaries are: Lake Michigan, 60th on the South and West to Dan Ryan. Early data indicates that a sliver of land up to 12th St. north and on the south to 63rd St. was designated as areas without housing restrictions in the through WWII., I understand.

**Q What do you feel about this neighborhood and/or the people**

**Blair:** A legion of thoughts touch me. While employed as a Chicago Policeman during the Sixties. In that capacity I was able to see every nook and cranny of the community. During a period of social and racial unrest, including the civil rights area and the King Marches. Bronzeville reflects in it's history the sweat and tears of many folks, who yesterday, had limited social and financial opportunity to engage in the options for life, we experience today.



Those who lived in kitchenettes and small living quarters to satisfy an unjust and restrictive housing covenant, must certainly rejoice today. On the other side, the beauty of the red and gray stones in the area were not then not quite seen as jewels, until the passing of time. Today, a 3 level graystone may just be occupied by a family of 2-4 folks, but yesterday, during the days of deep societal prejudice, as many as 30 plus folks may have shared the bed, baths and pain!

**Q. What is one of your most humble moments there?**

**Blair:** I remember the riots and the post riot days during the heavy civil rights struggle and sadly holding a dying officer in my arms as he gently closed his eyes; after being shot by a street thug. I recall I seeing the officers picture on the wall of the station at 51st and tearfully relived the moment.

Bronzeville originated within the community during the mid-30's and 40s, when the annual Mayor of Bronzeville election was celebrated which honored people who contributed to the community, drawing on the African tradition. a vibrant community of jazz clubs, restaurants, cafes, churches and political activity.

Yes, I remember the major corridors, and many bars in the area and a buzzing community, and of course the Regal Theater where many celebrity guests were engaged.

I recall Aretha Franklin, where I was happy to visit back stage under the pretext of keeping order and there was Jackie Wilson!

I loved Bronzeville then, as it was at the end of good old days, but the hand writing was on the wall.

**Q What is the difference of the BlackChamber, Bronzeville Business Association and McCormick Chamber. All serving the Bronzeville Community?**

**Blair:** For the Record, I addressed this issue in a eNewsletter. Bronzeville has had no Chamber, so if we have more than one now, maybe we are making up for the days gone past, when we had none. Again, Chambers, unlike a business organization, deals comprehensively with issues and events across a community, whereas a business organization, would deal with an area specific, usually a series of blocks or a small defined area.

**Q. As there is an aggressive process to**

**Bronzeville is there one as well to prepare Black groups to develop projects in the Bronzeville as well?**

**Blair:** Allow me to introduce our Board Member, Tracey Taylor, who was recently appointed to chair the Real Estate/ Commercial Development Committee for the Chamber. running his Own Firm, TL Taylor Realty and mentoring Children is standard fare for Tracey, who is one of Chicago's Most Successful Realtors. He one of the incredibly active new businesses in the community with the Chicago Association of Realtors (CAR), as a director and also is a mentor for the Black Star Project.

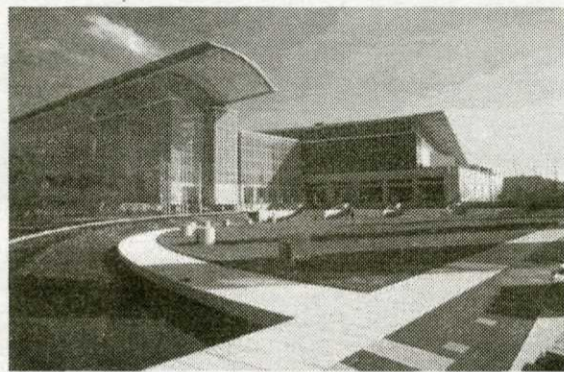


market, we will see businesses of various levels entering the community and responding to the market niche that meets their criterion.

Business establishments generally measure their market share before jumping in and we will likely see a representative number of superior quality sites enter Bronzeville market that takes the community's money elsewhere. Even at this point, surveys are being taken by businesses who must measure leasing or purchase costs, but at some period pedestrian traffic blended with an influx of outside visitors an tourists will make the day.

**Q What are the Chambers Features and benefits to a community?**

**Blair:** Our focus is effectively performing as an advocate for growth, becoming the unified voice for their growth. As a Cheerleader for Business, a chamber body consists of a board of directors, and committees whose duties are designed to support areas of concentration that strengthen a community and the chamber body. Common to this focus, we find Information seminars, Workshops, Forums and Alliance building programs. In the main, a chamber takes on the makeup of a community, as relates to programs and needs. A historical community



**Q Is Bronzeville seen as community operating at full strength, such as Hyde park or even Chatham?**

Again, each community has an aura of its own, and as such, strength is noted by the distance one must travel to make their leap. Bronzeville with a near century of guarded movement, has the opportunity to go forward today and become the essence of beauty. Our growth during this hour deals with space to grow more of the spirit that has fueled this resurgence. We thank the pioneers, who walked before us.

**Q Just Bronzeville is witnessing upscale market value property owners is that the same for Upscale market value of Businesses**

**Blair** Small businesses of varying levels will always dominate the numbers scene in most communities.

Bronzeville enjoys that same math, however, as we proceed to expand the housing

like Bronzeville for instance, rides the sunset of a historic past and as such, beams in the heart of many.

**Q. Where do you see Bronzeville of tomorrow?**

**Blair:** Historical Bronzeville is on the rise again, however this time, the occupants not only have unbridled physical movement beyond the adverse boundaries of 12th to 63rd. Also, today a greater opportunity to not only own a business in the area, but own the property as well.

The businesses in Bronzeville "Own This Moment" and as alliances and agreements are employed to support area businesses, a new history book will be written! Thank you Mr. Blair.



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# Turn the Ghetto into Gold, 20/40 Plan Chicago Economic forecast for Black

**THE BUYING POWER OF BLACK AMERICA** is a reflection of Chicago's as well-Target Market News' annual report on African-American consumers in 2003 a \$656 billion in earned income.

Revens Fellows organizer of the Black Business Networking Meeting says it is noteworthy that as African Americans purchasing power is growing, the Northeastern Planning Commission for Chicago 20/40 continued growth in all areas except among Black businesses, it continued to lag revenue at companies owned by whites.

The first Black Business Networking Meeting held in Bronzeville in December 2005 was with black business owners, investors, architects, contractors, developers in attendance as speaker after speaker laid the foundation for black economic wealth and political power. Speakers include Greg Brown, Southside Federal Credit Union- James Parker, Black Card (goblackbiz.com), Walter Brooks, Eat N Run Restaurant-Roland Davis-BOP Chamber of Commerce -(BOP Initiative) and the one and only Webb Evans, United American Progress Association.

The evening keynote address was delivered by Larry Ivory, Pres/CEO - Illinois Black Chamber of Commerce.

A focus of the meeting was practicing DTF - Dollar Turnover Factor). "Redistributing our dollars amongst our people in order to generate wealth and investment opportunities." report Arness Dancy, head of the Englewood Black Chamber of Commerce.

The next Black Business

## African American spending

Appliances.....	2.5 billion
Beverages (Alcoholic).....	2.5 billion
Beverages (Non-Alcoholic).....	2.5 billion
Books.....	326 million
Cars, Trucks and Motorcycles.....	32.6 billion*
Computers and Related Equipment.....	1.9 billion
Consumer Electronics.....	3.5 billion
Contributions.....	12.3 billion
Education.....	6.2 billion
Entertainment and Leisure.....	2.7 billion
Food.....	56.5 billion
Gifts.....	7.9 billion
Health Care.....	18.0 billion
Household Furnishings and Equipment.....	11.9 billion
Housewares.....	973 million
Housing and related charges.....	145.2 billion
Insurance.....	16.2 billion
Media.....	6.0 billion
Personal Care Products and Services.....	6.5 billion
Sports and Recreational Equipment.....	900 million
Telephone Services.....	14.4 billion
Tobacco Products and Smoking Supplies.....	2.8 billion
Toys, Games and Pets.....	2.3 billion
Transportation, Travel and Lodging.....	4.8 billion



**Webb Evans, of the United American Progress Association is still focusing on the spending habits of Blacks to gear their business to black businesses.**

Source: 2004 Target Market News. From "The Buying Power of Black America - 2004" \*This total does not include all automotive related expenditures listed in the report.



Networking Meeting is January 12, in South Shore at the BOP Chamber of Commerce offices, 7915 S Exchange 6 pm to 9 pm. Free of charge.

Speakers to include representative from City of Chicago's 2020 and 2040 plan. Roland Davis BOP Chamber of Commerce, Arness Dancy, Englewood Black Chamber and Illinois Black Chamber of Commerce and others:

In presenting the 20/40 plan, 2006 "If you don't know of the plan for Chicago, you can't be at the table." Fellows said. "It shows where jobs are coming from."

"M many of our small businesses will potentially grow to become much bigger, increasing their appetites with a clear vision of the future, if they know of the plan." says Fellows. "You want to get in there early on."

As the number of minority-owned businesses soared 31% to more than 4 million from 1997 to 2002, the Census Bureau said in a new survey

illustrating the growing economic impact of minority entrepreneurs.

Earl Graves, founder of Black Enterprise magazine says students who once would have worked for corporations right out of college are instead starting businesses. "The nature of direction is to become entrepreneurial," says Harry Alford, CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce.

However, the 2002 Census figures show that among minorities, African-Americans businesses soared 45%, to 1.2 million, yet ranking them No. 2 in minority-business ownership. That's a switch from 1997, when Asian entrepreneurs for the first time pushed past blacks. Hispanics continued to own the most companies: 1.6 million, a 31% increase from 1997.

Fellows said the gap illustrates the importance of African American businesses getting better access to their own sources of capital to expand more.

February meeting will be hosted by the Englewood Black Chamber of Commerce.

## State -Strategic Energy Workshop to help manufacturers reduce energy bills.

Utilivate Technologies, LLC (Utilivate) announced that a second Strategic Energy Planning Workshop has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, at the State of Illinois Building, rm. 160 N.



LaSalle, 9 am - 3 pm following the success of its November workshop. Utilivate is working in partnership with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to provide Illinois manufacturers energy cost optimization planning and implementation services. Marlon McClinton, President & CEO of Utilivate Technologies, stated, "We are extremely pleased to identify, prioritize, target, and implement high-impact energy conservation

opportunities. The workshop will allow additional companies to reap the many benefits of this unique state of Illinois sponsored program."

Contact Utilivate Technologies, LLC 773.667.7263,

## The Idea Exchange Business Seminar

is a scaled down spin-off event of Andrew Morrison's its founder and coach successful Small Business Camp series, an intensive 2-day business training and marketing boot camp service for entrepreneurs. The program primarily targets new and established minority entrepreneurs looking to jumpstart their business or established business owners who want to refine their skills and

increase profits. the Fashion Institute of Technology Located in Chicago Idea Exchange seminar e University Center, 525 South State Street. For inquires, www.SmallBusinessCamp.com contact Maisha Pearson e-mail phyllena@90dayplan.com.

## Small Businesses looking to expand, inventory or secure working capital.

on January 13, The event will take place at SBA's Chicago District Office, 500 West Madison, St. 1250. This workshop begins at 9:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm. There is no charge for attending this workshop. Applicants wishing to apply for the loan (loan amounts are \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, \$20,000 and \$25,000) will need to bring a preprinted business check (if it is a temporary check you must have a letter from the bank indicating that it is a business checking account), picture identification, profit and loss statement for last 2 quarters and FEIN number. No business plan or tax returns are required for this loan product. To register: contact Ms. Rogers at 312/353-4385.

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 Application Deadline: Tuesday, January 31, 2006 Internship Details: The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and JPMorgan Chase have partnered to provide rising juniors enrolled in baccalaureate degree programs valuable work experiences with JPMC as well as financial support during the following academic year. Successful completion of the 8-10 week summer internship makes one eligible to receive a need based scholarship up to \$10,000. Sites may be in JPMC locations in New York & Chicago. In addition to completing the online application, students must provide an official transcript, resume and faculty recommendation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MIDNIGHT January 31, 2006.  
 JPMorgan Chase/UNCF Corporate Scholars Program online application web link: <http://www.uncf.org/scholarships/scholardetail>. For details about the different programs check out the JPMorgan Chase Careers website: <https://careers.jpmorganchase.com/cm/cs>.

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