



Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

1159 W. 79th Street, Chicago, IL 60620 773.483.3696 Fax: 773.483.3692

On the Web : www.gagdc.org

Summer
2009

The VISION

Special
Edition



Local Eateries and Sports Mentoring Group Takes on the Taste of Chicago

An estimated 3.35 million festival-goers attended the 29th Annual Taste of Chicago at historic Grant Park. According to city officials attendance was slightly down from last year's attendance, but was still a huge success.

Weather and a decrease in food vendors still did not deter millions of festival-goers from experiencing more than 50 eateries, of which the Auburn Gresham and Park Manor communities had three.

BJ's Market & Bakery, Lagniappe Creole Cajun Joynt, and Soul Vegetarian Restaurant all return for their annual contribution with some of the Southside's best kept secret recipes and delicious meals.

Newcomer, In The Paint Basketball, provided basketball and fundamental training to thousands of males and females of all ages. They also offered a mentoring component to their programming.

For more exciting news about these groups, please turn the page.



Hundreds of thousands of festival-goers (top) attended the 29th Annual 10-Day Taste of Chicago in historic Grant Park in downtown Chicago. Those local entities that participated include: BJ's Market & Bakery (10th year-middle left), Lagniappe Creole Cajun Joynt (4th year-middle right), Soul Vegetarian Restaurant (2nd year-bottom left) and newcomer, In The Paint Basketball (bottom right). Photo: Ernest Sanders



4th Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival

Saturday,
September 12, 2009

79th & Racine
10 am—6 pm

www.gagdc.org



GREATER AUBURN-GRESHAM
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION





Last September 2008 an estimated 7,000 people made their way to the rejuvenated 79th Street corridor to browse vendor displays, enjoy live entertainment, and sample food from local restaurants. It was a beautiful sun-kissed day in the heart of the Auburn-Gresham community, and with over 100 vendors represented at the festival, there was something for everyone. Photos: Eunice Carson and Aum Mu Ra-EI

Parades Come and Go: 79th Street Auburn Gresham Renaissance Festival is Here to Stay

In the winter of 1979, George Hendry and Pat Coakley sitting around the Hendry's kitchen table enjoying each other's company, fondly remembered their experiences at the original South Side Irish Parade (aka the Southtown Parade) that was held on West 79th Street in Auburn Gresham.

Thirty years later, this parade which still has significance to all of Chicago's 77 communities is no longer in existence on 79th Street's main business corridor in Auburn Gresham. However, under the new leadership and vision of The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC), the Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival was birthed.

According to Carlos Nelson, Executive Director for GADC, "The Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival is part a larger urban renewal effort taking place as highlighted in our Quality of Life

Plan. We are excited to host an annual celebration of our local businesses, organizations, and residents. To be able to bring our community together is vital to our sustainability."

In September 2008 an estimated 7,000 people made their way to the rejuvenated 79th Street corridor to browse vendor displays, enjoy live entertainment, and sample food from local restaurants. There were over 100 vendors represented, offering something for everyone. A sample of these vendors included: BJ's Market & Bakery, Lagniappe Creole Cajun Joynt, Perfect Peace Café & Bakery, and In The Paint Basketball. Each will participate again in this year's Festival.

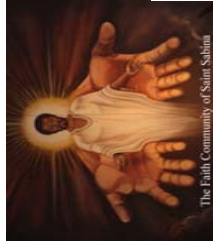
The Annual Auburn Gresham Renaissance Festival would not be possible without the support of the tens of thousands of festival-goers, sponsors, and volunteers.

We really appreciate your contribution to our community adamantly known as *Chicago's Best Kept Secret*.

Our sponsors for 2009 include:



Alderman Latasha Thomas
Alderman Howard Brookins Jr.
State Senator Jacqueline Collins



Auburn Gresham: Chicago's Best Kept Secret ! We Dare You to Tell Someone.



GADC

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**Greater Auburn-Gresham
Development Corporation**
1159 W. 79th Street
Chicago, IL 60620

Deliver To or Current Resident:

The mission of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) is to foster and promote revitalization of the greater Auburn Gresham community, which includes Auburn Gresham, Englewood, and West Chatham.

Do You Know Someone Who Is a Hero in Auburn Gresham?

Quburn Gresham; no matter what obstacles and setbacks have come our way, this community of involved citizens and families, has stood its ground.

Currently, The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) is searching for a Neighborhood Hero. This person is admired for their achievements, noble qualities and shows great courage. This hero will receive special recognition at our 79th Street Renaissance Festival scheduled for Satur-

day, September 12, 2009.

Our neighborhood hero must live in the Auburn Gresham community (67th to 83rd and the Dan Ryan Expressway to Damen Avenue), as well as meeting other certain criteria.

Please contact Aurora Cruz 773.483.3696 or email acruz@gagdc.org with the following information of the person you are nominating. Information includes: first and last name, contact phone number(s), and email address.

Neighborhood heroes must be nominated by Tuesday September 1st, noon.



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1159 W. 79TH STREET * CHICAGO, IL 60620
PHONE: (773) 483-3696 * FAX: (773) 483-3692
WWW.GAGDC.ORG