



Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

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THE VISION

2011 Spring Edition

Walmart Announces Store at 76th and Ashland Avenue

Chicago Walmart locations include:

- **Supercenter** in Pullman (Spring 2013)
- **Supercenter** in West Chatham (Spring 2012)
- **Walmart Market** in West Loop (Fall 2011)
- **Walmart Market** in West Englewood (Spring 2012)
- **Walmart Express** in West Englewood (Winter 2012)
- **Walmart Express** in West Chatham (Summer 2011)

Upcoming Events

Health Fair on the Block, 79th & Racine, June 2nd, 11am—2 pm

NeighborWorks, 79th & Normal, June 4th, 10 am—12pm

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project Public Meeting, St. Rita High School, 7740 S. Western, June 7th, 4:30 pm—7pm

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project Public Meeting, 1st Corinthians MB Church, 7500 S. Halsted, June 9th, 4:30 pm—7pm

Community Sports Festival, Westcott Elementary School, 409 W. 80th St., June 10th, 3:30pm—6pm



Mayor Richard M. Daley and Alderman Latasha Thomas (center) joined Walmart associates and other civic and community stakeholders at the groundbreaking of a Walmart Market at 7600 South Ashland. This market is anticipated to open Spring 2012. Photo: Ernest Sanders

a celebratory announcement graced the 76th and Ashland corridor, as Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and Alderman Latasha Thomas (D-17) joined Walmart associates and several other civic and community stakeholders to publicly announce the opening of several Walmart stores opening as early as the Fall

of 2011 and as late as the Spring of 2013.

It is expected that these new stores will create approximately 1,000 new jobs and about 200 construction jobs as part of a community agreement between Walmart and the City of Chicago.

This agreement, called the “Chicago Community Investment Partnership,” is a

five year plan dedicated to opening several Walmart stores, creating approximately 10,000 jobs and 2,000 unionized construction jobs, and is expected to generate more than \$500 million in sales and property taxes.

This agreement will also develop charitable partnerships worth an estimated \$20 million.

Business Resource Network Graduates Inaugural Class

Auburn Gresham, Chicago Lawn, and Englewood Southwest side communities are brimming with sustainable businesses and entrepreneurs. As part of the City of Chicago's (in partnership with LISC/Chicago) Smart Communities Initiative, the Business Resource Network (of Auburn Gresham) aims to guide business owners towards technological competency as outlined in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.



Business Resource Network manager, PiaShantee (center) points out specific elements of a free website for local business owners. The site's purpose is to help business owners get up to speed regarding their digital footprint. Read more @ www.wix.com/specialservicearea32/business-resource-network. Photo: Norma Sanders

ings and workshops that teach about the usage and knowledge of tools, techniques, crafts, systems or methods of organization in order to solve problems or serve some purpose.

This past February, a group of eleven business owners were the first to complete these training held at the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC). They met the course objectives and learn more ways to adopt and engage broadband resources to

help sustain their businesses. **For more information, please call (773) 723-3557.**

Under this program these three Southwest side neighborhoods have access to FREE small business train-



ISU Joins Seniors at Thurgood Marshall Library

I CAME TO HELP HAND OUT BREAKFAST AND DO WHAT I COULD AND ENDED UP WALKING AWAY FEELING LIKE THE COMMUNITY HAD A BIGGER IMPACT ON ME THAN I ON IT. — ABBEY TURNER

Abbey Turner, an Illinois State University student visited the Thurgood Marshall Library for the Winter Blues Festival with her classmate, Chelsey. “What a blast! When we got there we served a great breakfast to the seniors in the community, whom the event was designed for,” said Turner.

A live blues band was getting the audience involved with catchy music.

“I became introduced to Auburn Gresham when I and the other CONNECT program participants from Illinois State went to visit our mentees at Westcott Elementary. This was my first community event since joining the

CONNECT effort at ISU and it made me so excited to become more involved.

I came to help, hand out breakfast, and do what I could and ended up walking away feeling like the community had a bigger impact on me than I on it. I was more than impressed with the feeling of community I sensed.”

A couple of members of the community came to share opportunities, such as Kimberly Rudd’s Auburn Gresham Curves classes for women and representatives advocating for a Metra station in the neighborhood.

“I caught on to this excitement and am desperate for more opportunities to get involved! Auburn Gresham is making huge leaps



ISU students Abbey Turner (top left) and Chelsey Kent (bottom middle) help to celebrate Seniors at the Winter Blues Festival. Photo: Shannon Carvin

not only because of laws, politicians, or enforced changes, but because of the hearts of these community members.”

Senator Collins Honored for Commitment to Financial Issues



Illinois State Senator Jacqueline Collins

Springfield, IL—March 9, 2011—In light of the centennial of International Women’s Day, Illinois Treasurer Dan Rutherford is giving Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-Chicago) a lifetime achievement award for her tenacity in pursuing and promoting financial fairness, literacy, education and awareness.

“It is with great honor that I present my good friend and former Senate colleague Jacqui Collins with this special award,” Rutherford said. From fighting for people facing home foreclosures, to

demanding expanded consumer education in the schools, to initiating a restriction on state pension fund investment in companies based in the Sudan, Collins has spent a lifetime dedicated to improving the human conditions of women—and truly all people—in Illinois.”

Collins list of accomplishments is long. She pushed for payday reform, an extension of the statute of limitations for civil and criminal prosecution of sex crimes against children, a law to fight human trafficking of women, and legislation preventing

public utility companies from shutting off heat to low-income families in the winter.

Congratulations Jacqui!

Bank of America Opens Near the Chatham Market



Pictured (L-R) Sharon Esposito (Bank of America), Alderman Howard Brookins (D-21), Glenda Franklin (W.A.T.C.H. in partnership with SOS Children’s Village), and Johnny Wilbon (Bank of America). Photo: Ernest Sanders

Enhancement group to provide entertainment. Light food and beverages were served as well.

Even more noteworthy was BoA’s contribution the non-profit group “What About The Children Here” or (WATCH).

Adjacent to the newly developed 50 acre Chatham Market site, Bank of America (BoA) celebrated the grand opening of its newly designed market-focused branch. To help with the celebration, BoA partnered with Simeon Career Academy and the Artist Skill

WATCH was created with a single mother’s vision of insuring that young men be productive citizens, utilizing their talents in the community. WATCH has partnered with SOS Children’s Village since 2009.

Congratulations branch manager Johnny Wilbon and BoA .



City of Chicago SARFS Auburn Gresham Homes



Small Accessible Repairs For Seniors (SARFS) is a program for senior citizens who earn no more than 80% of the medium income—adjusted for family size—and who are at least 60 years of age. Qualified recipients may be homeowners or renters living in a 1– 4 unit building.

In 2010, The Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) in partnership with Team Construction completed 55 homes as part of the SARFS program. Call (773) 483-3696 for more details.



Auburn Gresham: Chicago's Best Kept Secret! We Dare you to tell someone!

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC)

GADC
1159 WEST 79TH STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60620



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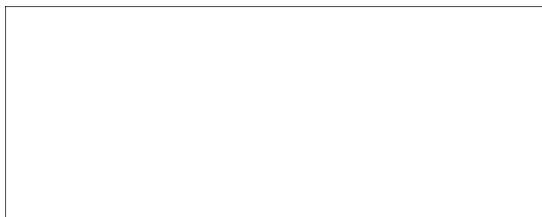
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The mission of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) is to foster and promote revitalization of the greater Auburn Gresham community, which includes Auburn Gresham, Englewood, and West Chatham.

Auburn Gresham Community Profiles



PiaShantee

PiaShantee is the Smart Communities Business Resource Network Manager. She works with the small business community to increase awareness of and facilitate the adoption of broadband and other digital technologies through **FREE** assessments, coaching, trainings, and referrals. If you have fewer than 500 employees and file business taxes call (773) 723-3557.

Corrinn Cobb joins GADC as the Auburn Gresham TEACHER+PLUS (T+P) Site Coordinator. T+P is an initiative led by Illinois State University (ISU) which prepares teachers to work in a challenging urban context by providing them targeted course work, clinical experiences and unique internship opportunities. Corrin will be working with ISU teacher education majors who are interested in teaching in Chicago Public Schools, especially in Auburn Gresham.



Corrin Cobb



Brent Hill

Brent Hill is the Smart Communities FamilyNet Center Manager for the St. Sabina Employment Resource Center. Brent is charged with providing residents—regardless of age or experience—an opportunity to learn about technology in an atmosphere that is family friendly and prepared to provide assistance to a wide range of needs. To enroll into Brent's **FREE** classes, please call (773) 347-0024.