NOVEMBER 2009



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Renaissance Festival Reaches New Heights on the Nine

he 4th Annual Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival welcomed an estimate 10,000 festival-goers, featuring live music, performances by Jessie White Tumblers and South Shore Drill Team, a Green (ecofriendly) corner, and a "Taste of 79th Street local eateries," on one of Chicago's busiest retail corridors and thoroughfares – 79th Street, aka, the **Magnificent Nine**.

The Festival hosted local leaders as Aldermen Latasha Thomas (D-17) and Howard Brookins (D-21), State Senator Jacqueline Collins (D-16), State Representative Mary Flowers (D-31), and Father Michael Pfleger of Saint Sabina Church.

The Festival also welcomed another civic leader and first time appearances by individuals as Cook County Board President – Todd Stroger, Chicago Southside



Several hundred youth (local and citywide) gathered at the Auburn Gresham 79th Street Renaissance Festival in support of an anti-violence campaign as part of NBA Basketball superstar and Olympian Gold Medalist – Dwayne Wade's Foundation: Every Child Deserves a Shot at Life. Photo: Eunice Carson

native and Miami Heat NBA Basketball superstar and Olympian Gold Medalist – Dwayne Wade, and radio personality – Trey Da Choklit Jok of Power 92 Radio. In all, over 100 businesses, organizations, and performers participated in the Renaissance Festival where there was plenty of food, fun, entertainment and dance for all ages. See you next year!!!



City's Façade Rebate Program Flourishes in Auburn

he Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) partnered with the City of Chicago to encourage business owners to participate in the City' Façade Rebate Program. Under this initiative, the City of Chicago will provide up to \$10,000 in government assistance for business owners to repair certain features of their store front.

As of today, four local businesses have applied for this funding and each have received a \$10,000 grant. These businesses include: Safe Auto, Mr. Sudsy, Lagniappe Creole Cajun Joynt, and Dr. Selvam Medical Office of Family Medicine and Pediatrics.

For more information regarding these programs, please contact Cheryl Johnson at (773) 382-0089 or email at gadc.c.johnson@sbcglobal.net.



CORPORATION REATER AUBURN-GRESH EVELOPMENT



Digital Excellence Comes to Southwest Side of Chicago

he Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC) in partnership with Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Chicago (LISC/Chicago), the City of Chicago's Department of Innovative & Technology (DoIT) and the Southwest Smart Communities Partners (SSCP) led a summer early action project with 15 youth from the Auburn Gresham, Chicago Lawn, and Englewood communities.

Within this initiative, youth collected content and used print and digital media mediums for the creation of a new neighborhood community web portal to support the digital excellence demonstration communities in these three communities.

The new SSCP web portal will disseminate information about the



Youth from the Auburn Gresham, Chicago Lawn, and Englewood communities pose for a photo in front of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation's (GADC) main office with Norma Sanders (left), Carlos Nelson (2nd from right) and Dwayne Johnson (far right). Photo: Ernest Sanders

demonstration communities and encourage residents, businesses, churches, community technology centers, government leaders and community based organization to promote their activities, products and services generating increased interest in each respective community and across the three communities. For more information, please call (773) 483-3696.



Litter Free Zone Soars in Auburn Gresham and West Chatham

nder the leadership of the Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation (GADC), a targeted area of homes, businesses, and schools are participating in a litter free and recycling pilot program that's mimics the City of Chicago's current environmental action plan.

Our program aims to collect recyclable materials from Auburn Gresham and West Chatham residents and businesses (door to door and curbside) as paper, plastic, glass, bottles, and properly dispose of in a large recyclable dumpster located at the 17th Ward Aldermanic parking lot.

This initiative also includes participation from Perspectives Charter Schools-Calumet, Simeon Career Academy, and Oglesby Elementary School. Take a look at our communities' response year to date.





