



GREATER SOUTHWEST
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

REVITALIZE

The Source for Commercial, Industrial and Housing News in Southwest Chicago

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DIGITAL JOB PROGRAM INSPIRES LOCAL YOUTH

When Blair Alexander began the summer, she didn't exactly imagine herself wearing a lab coat and goggles, genetically modifying bacteria to glow. No, she is not working on her degree at 14 years old or trying to become a mad scientist. Like 11 other youth from the southwest side of Chicago, Blair is participating in the 2011 Digital Youth Summer Jobs Program (DYSJ), a part of the City of Chicago's Smart Communities Initiative funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

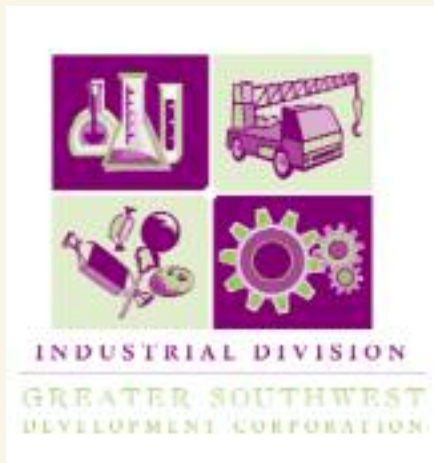
After undergoing a rigorous application process, the 12 interns were matched with various tech savvy Chicago businesses. "So far we have refurbished 500 monitors, 200 computers, 500 keyboards, and we're still getting more shipments in," says Lenelle

Cuando empezó el verano, Blair Alexander no se imaginó que llevara una bata de laboratorio y unos anteojos protectores, modificando genéticamente las bacterias a brillar. No, ella no está trabajando por un título cuándo está catorce años, ni está tratando de hacerse una científica. Como los 12 otros jóvenes de la área sudoeste de Chicago, Blair está participando en el 2011 Digital Youth Summer Jobs Program (DYSJ), una parte del Smart Communities Initiative financió por el Local Initiative Support Commission (LISC) y la Ciudad de Chicago.

Después de un proceso riguroso de aplicaciones, los 12 estudiantes pusieron en posiciones con unas Tech Savvy Chicago Businesses. "Restauramos 500 pantallas, 200

DYSJ continued on page 4

DYSJ continua on página 4



GSDC's Industrial Division serves the Greater Southwest and Harlem Industrial Corridors. The corridors cover an area broadly defined by the following borders: 55th on the North & 79th on the South; CSX Rail on the East & Harlem on the West.

The area is designated by the City of Chicago as a Local Industrial Retention Initiative (LIRI). As a LIRI, we support local industrial businesses and act as a liaison between them and the city.

For more information, please contact Lenora Dailey at (773) 436-1000 x. 102 or Danielle Dai at (773) 436-1000 x. 109.

INDUSTRIAL RESOURCE REMINDERS

Free Energy Audits

The Delta Institute is offering energy audits and energy efficiency strategy implementation assistance at no cost to industrial facilities. Eligible businesses may also apply for affordable loans.

Pre-tax Transit Benefits

The Transit Ridership Improvement Program gives employers direct incentives for offering pre-tax transit benefits to their employees.

Commute Options Pilot Program

Metropolitan Planning Council is conducting a free pilot program analyzing employee commuting patterns to make recommendations on commute alternatives.

For more information, please contact Danielle Dai at (773) 436-1000 ext. 109

THE CHICAGO SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES (CSI) INITIATIVE:

Developing a Manufacturing Work Plan for the 21st Century



To promote industrial growth and coordinate the economic, social and environmental aspects of Chicago's manufacturing sector, the City of Chicago is currently undergoing the Chicago Sustainable Industries (CSI) initiative - the first single, comprehensive planning effort for industry of its kind. The CSI vision is to "guide and advocate for public resources that promote the viability of Chicago's manufacturing base."

The inaugural meeting kicked off at City Hall on April 14, 2011. Since then, four task forces have been meeting regularly to address the needs of businesses:

- **Business Resources Task Force**, led by Paul O'Connor of Chicago Workforce Investment Council, examines current incentives and programs and ensures their alignment with the needs of businesses.
- **Infrastructure Task Force**, led by Mary Culler of Ford Motor Company, assesses the ability of the city's infrastructure systems (rail, roadways, waterways, telecommunications, electricity, and stormwater) to serve existing industry and identifies methods to strengthen these systems to best serve and encourage future growth.
- **Land Use Task Force**, led by John DeVries of Roosevelt University, seeks to preserve and strengthen the City's land use and development policies.
- **Sustainable Industry Standards Task Force**, led by Burt Klein of Portion Pac, reviews, discusses and recommends a preferred industry-developed certification process for use with city assisted projects.

Greater Southwest Development Corporation has been deeply involved with the CSI initiative, representing your needs at various task forces. Additionally, GSDC's work with Teska Associates in developing the Harlem Strategic Plan positions the Harlem Industrial Corridor well within the objectives of the CSI initiative. The CSI initiative is supported by a grant from the US Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration and is scheduled to be completed by April 2012.

If you are interested and would like more information about CSI, please visit: www.city-ofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dcd/supp_info/chicago_sustainableindustries.html. To learn more or get involved, please contact Danielle Dai at (773) 436-1000 ext. 109.

INDUSTRIAL SPOTLIGHT ON: MODEL BUILDERS, INC.

From Ideas to Reality: A Model Shop That Is Out Of This World!



(L-R): Jeff Harris, Designer/Manager, James A. Lovell, Jr. NASA astronaut and pilot of Apollo 8 and Hal Chaffee, President of Model Builders, Inc. Behind them is an Apollo 8 full size replica under construction at Model Builders, Inc.

From Idea to Reality: Model Builders, Inc. truly lives up to its motto. Since its inception in 1950, this model shop has crafted an unparalleled range of custom models: a 43' replica of the Eiffel Tower for a French promotion at Bloomingdales; the animated clockface in Home Alone 2; and the Hearphone for exhibit audios. While most model shops focus on one type of model, Model Builders, Inc. prides itself on the variety and quality of work: they make architectural models, electrically and mechanically powered models, product models & prototypes, demonstration kits, cutaways, props and much more.

Most recently, Model Builders, Inc. constructed a full size replica of the Apollo 8 Command Module, the first man-made object to circle the moon, to be displayed in "The 1968 Exhibit." The exhibit will premiere this October in St. Paul and travel to three cities before coming to the Chicago History Museum in 2014.

What's the story behind this great little model shop located at 6155 S. Oak Park Ave.? William H. Chaffee started Model Builders, Inc. in 1950, first operating out of a hangar in Midway Airport. As a teenager, Mr. Chaffee won model airplane contests and was awarded two trips to the White House. Before starting his business, he managed the model shop for Electro-Motive Diesel.

In the early days, Model Builders, Inc. focused on industrial design and did a lot of work with heavy industry at trade show exhibits, but has since diversified their work. In 1982, William's son Henry (Hal) came to work at Model Builders, Inc. full time, bringing the same vigor and skill to the trade. Hal, president of the Association of Professional Model Makers from 2008-2010, continues the model shop in the tradition of his dad – producing high quality work at reasonable prices. When asked what is most rewarding about the job, Hal exclaims, "The variety of work keeps the job interesting, that's one of the main attractions to it. Every day you're challenged. At the end, it's sort of like – 'Gee, we can do anything!'" Model Builders, Inc. truly takes any idea and makes it come alive.

Visit Model Builders online at modelbuilders.net and look out for the Apollo 8 Command Module replica at "The 1968 Exhibit," coming soon.

INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE

The following is a partial list of available industrial real estate in the area. If you would like more information or know of any properties that should be added, please contact Danielle at (773) 436-1000 ext 109.

6135 S. Nottingham Ave.

Well maintained USDA approved 44,000 SF Industrial Warehouse, ideal for one user or multiple tenants. 18 ft clear ceiling, 2700 amp elec., multiple floor drains. 6 private offices and conference rooms with AC.

New List Sale Price: \$1,499,000

Contact Lon Nianick: (847) 507-3500 Ljnin-



6935 W. 62nd St. (pictured above)

38,165 SF masonry building available on 88,318 SF of land. Features include: 4,350 SF of office space, 18' clear, 4 exterior docks, 2 DiDs, Sprinkler system, Parking for 40 cars. Also available for lease.

Listed Sale Price: \$1,250,000

Contact Jeff Locascio - (847) 588-5700



2310 W. 58th St. (pictured above)

40,000 - 52,271 SF building available. Features include: Parking for 50 cars, Ceiling Height 31', Wide bays, 3 DiDs, 1 truck dock. Entire space is crane served.

For Lease: \$4.95/Gross

Contact Matt Rogatz - (773) 254-9555

DYSJ continued...

Lenelle Blackman, an intern for Youth Technology Corps (YTC). However, the interns work on a wide range of projects and aren't restricted to only working with computers. While Maya Estell is busy streamlining clients' websites at Zorch, a merchandising and branding company, interns like Delilah Vasquez and Sierra Williams work closer to home at Greater Southwest Development Corporation (GSDC) and Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP), applying their digital media skills to projects which benefit the community. "I've been working on the Business Resources tab for the Chicago Lawn Portal and adding resources and ratings," says Delilah. "I really like engaging with technology and the community." In addition to receiving valuable work experience, interns also have the opportunity to impact a large audience. Shleana Morris, who is also an intern for YTC, describes her experience as "a lot of work, but once you get the hang of it, you want to do it for the rest of your life!"

"My favorite part of the program is the training and interacting with the other kids," adds Delilah. The experience interns receive at their respective worksites is augmented with trainings from Common Sense Media, workshops on resume writing and interview skills, and fieldtrips to institutions like Argonne National Laboratory.

The goal of the program is to not only provide students with meaningful summer jobs, but to also ensure that the skills these students develop will allow them to be successful in future endeavors. As Lenelle puts it, "If I want to get a job in the future I can say I did this and that and worked at this awesome program called YTC and DYSJ. I think I have an awesome head start ahead of everyone else."

DYSJ continua...

pantallas, 200 computadoras, 500 teclados, y todavía recibimos unas remesas," dice Lenelle Blackman, una estudiante por Youth Technology Corps (YTC). Sin embargo, los estudiantes no son limitados a trabajando con computadoras. Mientras Maya Estell está preocupada modernizando los sitios de Internet por la compañía de comercialización y de marca, Zorch, unas estudiantes como Delilah Vasquez y Sierra Williams trabajan con las compañías Greater Southwest Development Corporation (GSDC) y Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP), aplicando sus habilidades de medio de comunicación digital con proyectos que benefician la comunidad local.

"He trabajado en la sección de recursos de negocios para el Chicago Lawn Portal," dice Delilah. "Me gusta mucho trabajando con la tecnología y la comunidad." Los estudiantes no sólo reciben experiencia valiosa, pero también tienen responsabilidades muy importantes y la oportunidad de tener un impacto en un público grande. La experiencia que los estudiantes reciben en cada de sus compañías es combinado con capacitaciones de Common Sense Media, talleres en cómo escribir una hoja de vida, habilidades de entrevistar y viajes a lugares como el Argonne National Laboratory.

El objetivo del programa es no sólo proveer los estudiantes con trabajos significativos del verano, pero también asegura que las habilidades que esos estudiantes desarrollan permitir que ellos tengan éxito en sus futuros. Como Lenelle dice, "Si yo quiero un trabajo en el futuro, puedo decir que lo hice y trabajé en este programa fabulosa que se llama YTC y DYSJ. Creo que tengo una ventaja sobre todo."

LAW SCHOOL NOW OFFERING FREE SERVICES

Owning a small business means possibly facing many legal challenges. Fortunately, the Business Transactions Externship Program (BTEP) from the John Marshall Law School (JMLS) offers free legal representation for businesses and not-for-profit organizations with limited financial resources to retain a lawyer in connection with business and transactional matters. Attorney Michael Schlesinger and a select group of law students recently presented their services to several area business owners at a legal assistance and compliance seminar sponsored by Greater Southwest Development Corporation. Legal services to businesses include a client interview and assessment, representation in business and transactional matters, and advice and counsel regarding business entity, regulatory compliance, employment issues, contracts with suppliers and customers, review and negotiation of loan documents and routine business transactions. *For more information, contact Danielle Dai at 773-436-1000, ext. 109.*



Attorney Michael Schlesinger at the Legal Workshop on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011.

BANK OF AMERICA GIVES GRANT TO GSDC

Southwest REACH Center receives \$50,000 grant from BOA Charitable Foundation



(L-R): Paul Ritter, Richard Dineen and Jennifer M. Stredler with Bank of America, along with Livia Villarreal and Ghian Foreman of GSDC, pose for a photo after accepting their \$50,000 grant from BOA.

The Southwest REACH Center, a Center for Working Families managed by Greater Southwest Development Corporation, recently received a grant from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. On June 8, 2011, officials from Bank of America presented Ghian Foreman, executive director of GSDC, and Livia Villarreal, director of the REACH Center, with \$50,000 to help the center provide crucial housing, financial, employment and income support services to local community members.

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation “is dedicated to providing opportunity for all in its commitment to our communities.” GSDC was also the recipient of the 2008 Bank of America Neighborhood Builders award. “We are excited to continue our partnership with Bank of America,” Villarreal said.

ANNUAL BIKE RIDE ENERGIZES COMMUNITY



More than 100 children, seniors and adults took over the streets on Saturday, June 25, 2011 for the 4th Annual 15th Ward Bike Ride. The ride began and ended at Lawn Terrace, 3214 W. 63rd Pl., and took riders to treasures of the neighborhood, including the new Marquette Park Community Garden. Three years in the making, the garden features 10 plots tended by community members, three public garden beds maintained by the Healthy Chicago Lawn Coalition, and additional plots worked on by the Young Scholars Developmental Institute of Chicago Lawn with the help of master gardeners.

The Bike Ride was sponsored by Alderman Toni Foulkes, Healthy Chicago Lawn, 63rd Street Growth Commission and Active Transportation Alliance. Children’s Memorial Injury Prevention and Research Center donated helmets, Active Transportation Alliance offered safety tips, 63rd Street Growth Commission gave away free t-shirts and Holy Cross Hospital hosted refreshments. The Fiet family also hosted a tour of their home, showcasing how to maintain a sustainable backyard. Jana Estell of Healthy Chicago Lawn says, “The ride is a positive way to encourage activity among children for the summer.”

For more information about the garden or bike ride, please contact Jana Estell of Healthy Chicago Lawn at 773-884-4925.

CIVIC TOURS UNITE RESIDENTS

Local residents, businesses enjoy neighborhood in new way



The 63rd Street Growth Commission manages Special Service Area (SSA) #3. Through the use of SSA funds, which are generated by a localized property tax levy, the 63rd Street Growth Commission works to advertise and promote local businesses, sponsor business training workshops, keep streets clean, and generally maintain the vitality of the SSA.

Attend an SSA meeting! All are open to the public and held at 9am every 3rd Thursday of the month at the 8th District Police Station (3420 W. 63rd St.)

For more information, please contact Nick Kollias at (773) 362-3378.



Commercial Supportive Services (CSS) serves businesses within the boundaries of Harlem Ave., Ashland Ave., 55th St., and 79th St. CSS works with area businesses to encourage and strengthen economic growth.

For more information, please contact Tina James at (773) 362-3382.



(L-R): Kathy Headley, tour guide, State Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Chicago), GSDC's Caitlin Gath, and GSDC's Hannah Durkin celebrate a successful tour.

A bright red trolley bustled from stop to stop, as local residents traveled through two of Southwest Chicago's most historic and captivating neighborhoods. The 63rd Street Growth Commission kicked off the summer season with a four-week series of community tours through West Lawn and Chicago Lawn in late June. Armed with gift bags filled with candy, t-shirts and a book about the history of Chicago Lawn and Marquette Park from the Images of America series, local residents began their journey along Pulaski Road in front of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.

Kathy Headley, author of the book given to guests, as well as an executive board member of the Chicago Lawn Historical Society, served as tour guide and resident expert on all things local, historical and just plain fascinating. For instance, Headley informed tour riders that the Balzekas Museum used to be the home of Von Solbrig Hospital years ago. Some of the more popular stops on the tour included visits to J&R Variety Store and the Sock Shoppe, where each patron was given a \$10 gift certificate to spend. Each tour also culminated with lunch at a local restaurant. This year's featured restaurants included Top View (4715 W. 63rd St.), Indio (3930 W. 63rd St.), Mariscos (2921 W. 63rd St.) and Garifuna Flava (2518 W. 63rd St.).

James Salazar, the 2011 Digital Youth Summer Jobs Program Coordinator at Greater Southwest Development Corporation, says he really enjoyed the tours. "There were a lot of things I didn't know about Marquette Park and wouldn't have known otherwise," he says. The tour on July 6, 2011 was also lucky enough to include state Sen. Martin Sandoval (D-Chicago) as a guest.

The 63rd Street Growth Commission, in conjunction with GSDC, would like to thank the Chicago Trolley Company for providing trolleys for each tour, Kathy Headley for leading the tours and Sen. Sandoval for the beverages at Mariscos on the July 6 tour.

FLOWER POT PROGRAM GIVES BURST OF COLOR TO 63RD STREET



(L-R): Assistant Keisha James, Assistant Alia James, Youth Coordinator Larisa Hussak and Assistant Hannah Durkin spruce up 63rd Street with flower pots.

The warm summer months mean one thing for the 63rd Street business district—the 113 flowerpots that line the business district from Artesian Avenue to Central Park Avenue are bursting with color. The 63rd Street Flowerpot Program brings a group of local students to the Chicago Lawn neighborhood with the goal of creating a more beautiful, green commercial area. The flowerpot team is responsible for daily maintenance of the pots—including watering, pruning and cleaning—during the summer months and can often be seen in the mornings pulling their wagons full of watering cans from pot to pot.

This year's crew includes Youth Coordinator Larisa Hussak (age 21) as well as Youth Coordinator Assistants Alia James (19), Keisha James (18) and Hannah Durkin (15). All of the girls were excited about the opportunity to work with the flowerpot program and have found the project to be extremely rewarding. "It's very gratifying when business owners and residents vocalize their appreciation for what we do," Hussak says. "It's a great feeling knowing that we're playing a role in improving the community." Working outside and interacting with locals on an everyday basis has also given the employees a new perspective on the Chicago Lawn and West Lawn communities.

Keisha James, who's lived in the neighborhood for over 10 years, was surprised to discover something new about the area: "Working here every day, you realize how diverse 63rd Street can be. There's a lot of culture and diversity here, and a great candy shop (Dulceria International) that I never knew about!" Overall, the 2011 Summer Flowerpot program has been a success, as evidenced by the profusion of blooms lining 63rd Street and the enthusiasm of all those involved. As Durkin puts it, "It's been a great summer."



COMMERCIAL SPOTLIGHT: YURIRIA'S UNISEX



It's not every day you come across a salon that provides quality service, a friendly staff and haircuts for the entire family, at a reasonable price. But that's exactly what you get at Yuriria's Unisex. Located just east of Pulaski Road at 3820 W. 63rd St., Noemi Salazar's family hair salon has become a neighborhood mainstay when it comes to the latest hairstyles, cuts and trends. Not only has Salazar been cutting hair for more than 10 years, but she has been at this West Lawn location for more than six years. Salazar has also recently taken advantage of several rebates through the 63rd Street Growth Commission to help make the business even better. Over the summer, Yuriria's Unisex has equipped itself with a brand new state of the art security system and a new awning. You can't miss the vibrant blue color as you are driving down 63rd Street.

"The awning and the security cameras have been very good for me," Salazar said. "People can see me, my sign, my phone number and address. It's just been really great for our business and customers." If you would like to book an appointment with Yuriria's Unisex, call directly at (773) 585-2211. They are open every day.

Also located at this location is Figura y Salud Ideal, owned and operated by Mirla Moreno who offers health and wellness consultations. To improve your health, make an appointment today and contact Moreno directly at (773) 735-3700.

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