



MORGAN PARK GRIOT



April 2011

IF WE STAND TALL IT IS BECAUSE WE STAND ON THE BACKS OF THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US.

"If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated."

Dr. Carter G. Woodson

Karen "Penny" Cooper-Kerr, Publisher and Editor

Thanks to the following CONTRIBUTORS:

**Eugene Broyles, Hiram Broyles, Ben Farnandis, Reggie Hardaway,
Tensy Roberson, Michael Wilson,**

"Without faith, nothing is possible. With faith, nothing is impossible."

-Mary McLeod Bethune

**"Hope is not pretending that troubles do not exist.
It is the Trust that troubles will not last forever,
That hurts will be healed and difficulties overcome.
It is Faith that is a source of strength and renewal that lies within
To lead us through the darkness into the sunshine."**

SICK AND SHUT-IN

GET WELL WISHES go out to the following Morgan Park "Family Members." Prayers are requested for their speedy recovery. Please keep them lifted up in prayer. All of them will certainly appreciate your Prayers, a Phone Call, or a Get Well Card. If you would like to send any one of them a card, please contact me for an address.



REVEREND ED DAVIS

CHUCK HILL

FRED NOLAN

CORNELL RICHARDSON

TOMMIE & SYLVIA ROBERTS

RON & MELVA SAMUELS

JAMES DUNLAP is at home recuperating from surgery. James lived on 114th and Ada St. His brothers are Roland Neal (deceased), Michael Neal (deceased), and Donald Neal.

LINDA HAYES GRESHAM is at home recuperating from open heart surgery.



The family of Dr. Barbara J. Farnandis has established a scholarship fund in her name.



Dr. Barbara J. Farnandis Scholarship Fund

Please make checks payable to Chicago State University Foundation. Include

Dr. Barbara J. Farnandis Scholarship on the memo line. Donations can be mailed to the scholarship fund at:

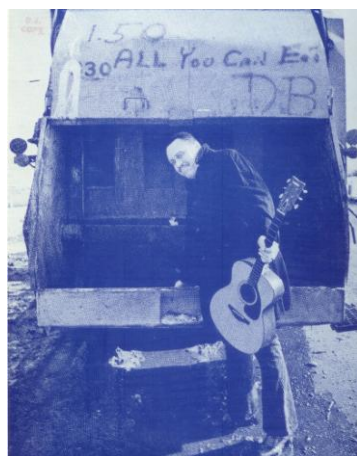
1138 W. 112th St, Chicago IL 60643.

Introducing The Dr. Barbara J. Farnandis Scholarship Web Site.

www.readbutterfly.net

Chicago Tribune article about Barbara below

[Click here: Teacher of reading at Chicago State dies - chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com)



To All those who want to hear music the way it should be played:

For some old time Morgan Park nostalgia may I suggest that you listen to the following **You Tube presentation of Guitar Red**. Let me know what you think. I just completed a phone conversation with Red to tell him it's a pitiful shame that he has never played any of his own personal songs when performing live in a club!!!! This song sounds great that he played 50 years ago and was recently

uploaded onto the computer.

Get up and tap your feet and feel the rhythm of the street that today's so called music cannot compete!

[Click here: YouTube - Paul \(Guitar Red\) Johnson - Pretty Eyed Baby - Popcorn soul.wmv](#)

Thanks to Gene Broyles for sharing that information!

"Guitar Red" is actually Paul Johnson who has been a long Morgan Park resident. Paul attended John D. Shoop and Morgan Park High School. He is a talented multi-instrumentalist who taught himself to play guitar at the age of 14. In the late 50's, he began playing clubs such as the Apex Show Club in Robbins, IL before getting gigs at clubs in Chicago including Rumboogie, The Esquire Show Lounge, The Happy Medium, The Pump Room, and the Regal Theatre. He got the name **"Guitar Red"** from Lucky Cordell, a well known Chicago radio personality.

His first recording was "Red Hot Red" in 1960. His early recordings gave him plenty of opportunities to build up a career on the club scene in Chicago and by the early seventies he was working full time on the supper club circuit.



KIMECO & ASIA ROBERSON, daughters of Jimmie & Tensy Scott Roberson, hit the Hip Hop Scene with a **BANG!** Check them and their music out by clicking on the link below.

[Click here: AllegraDolores | Free Music, Tour Dates, Photos, Videos](#)





CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Congratulations go out to
REVEREND WALTER "SUPER" CARTER III
 who was elected this past week as the Pastor of Union
 Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church. Union Tabernacle
 M. B. Church is located at 6624 S. Stewart, Chicago, IL.
 Rev. Carter III will preach his first sermon as the
 senior pastor Sunday, April 24, 2011, at 11:00 am.



Living in, visiting, or close by Atlanta, Georgia

Visit **REV. DERRICK RICE** at Sankofa United Church of
 Christ; 50 James P. Brawley Drive SW Atlanta, GA
 30314.

Phone : 404.969.9670 or 404.606.5088.

Rev. Rice is a founding pastor, community activist and
 civic leader.

Sankofa is West

Afrikan and it symbolizes one
 taking from the past what is
 good and bringing it into the
 present in order to make positive
 progress through the benevolent
 use of knowledge.

[Click here: Sankofa United Church
 of Christ \(Atlanta, Georgia\) | About
 Us](#)

REVEREND DERRICK RICE, son of
 Charlene & Paul Rice, cordially
 invites you to attend "Let Us
 Make Man 2011."

Don't Miss
**Let Us Make Man
 2011**

The Gathering to Reclaim Black Manhood
 Saturday, April 30, 2011
FT. VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
 1005 State University Drive, Fort Valley, GA 31030

8 BIG SEMINARS

- ☐ Knowing Your Legal Rights
- ☐ How to Educate Our Children
- ☐ Spiritual Growth and Awareness
- ☐ Mentoring
- ☐ Restoring the Black Family
- ☐ Preparing Youth for Leadership
- ☐ Preparing Youth for Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Healing Oppression's Wounds

Let Us Make Man is Free and open to the public,
 but you **MUST** register. To register today call
 1.877.538.1626 or register online at
www.letusmakeman.net
 Let Us Make Man • Facebook
Doors Open at 7:00 am

Who will you blame if you miss an opportunity
 to help your community, family, and our youth?

"Behold, the only thing greater than yourself!"

The Seminars are free and open to the public, but you must register.



CONGRATULATIONS TO

WILLIE "BILL" WILLIAMS.



Bill "runs" it at McCormick Place where he was honored a few years ago with his own office and plaque on the door. I believe that he is the ONLY African American to have been so honored.

YOU GO BILL!!



Out the new restaurant in Morgan Park. It is owned and operated by Morgan Parkers.

(Thanks! we need to try to revitalize 111th street).

The E & B Restaurant located at 1316 West 111th Street serves breakfast ALL day long. When you go there to eat you are bound to run into some old Morgan Parkers, reminiscing and "shooting the breeze."



**TIDBITS OF A PROUD HISTORY AND TREASURED MEMORIES OF
MORGAN PARK (1860 – 1914)**

1869

The Blue Island Land and Building Company was established. The area between 107th and 109th streets was developed and incorporated as the village of Morgan Park.

1871

The Chicago Fire results in many of Chicago's business leaders and wealthy citizens seeking to move from the central city. Residences are built in the Morgan Park, Beverly Hills communities. Wealthy home owners created opportunities for employment of African Americans in domestic work.

1880

Census data identifies three African American families residing in Morgan Park:

- ❖ F. Britten, laborer
- ❖ J. Jates, laborer
- ❖ C. Butler, servant

All were employed and living in household of G. Thayer, Professor at the Women's College.

1884

Two African Americans baptized at Morgan Park Baptist Church.

1885

Seven African Americans received as members in Morgan Park Baptist Church.

1891

Beth Eden Church established as independent Baptist Mission. Mr. William B. Tyler, leader of founding group.

1903

Thirty African American families identified as residents of Morgan Park.

The early families were identified as :

James Bibbs

Lewis Bibbs

Jordan Dixon

Ishmael Miller

Polk Payne

Alexander Reeves

Lewis Robinson

Luther Robinson

William Schamberger

Squire Shaw

Jackson Tyler

William B. Tyler

1903

In November 1903, African American resident, Mark Wiley, confessed to killing Police Chief George Airey (white).

James W. Payne and his wife, Hattie, were held as accomplices. Angry whites secretly posted warning signs everywhere: "To the colored population of Morgan Park: Forty-eight hours to get out."

Several families, stricken with terror, left Morgan Park taking what belongings they could. George Prentiss, Mayor of the white and black community, deputized firemen and citizens to help his 12 deputies restore order. (Daily News)

1906

Arnett AME Chapel was established under leadership of J. W. Festerman

1914

The Village of Morgan Park was annexed to City of Chicago

(To be continued...next issue)

SOME MORGAN PARK BUSINESSES

How many do YOU remember???

Austin's Hardware

Bland's Barber Shop

Brown's Grocery

Clark's Coal

Drake's Cleaners

Edward Douglas Electrician

Finley's Auto Repair

Harris "Midget" Barber Shop

Grant's Gas Station & Tire Shop

Barbee, Home Milk Delivery

Booker's Restaurant

Brown's Shoe Repair

Cordier Cleaners

Elder's Chili Parlor

Fields Grocery

Gayden's Cleaners

Hamp's Pool Hall

Filmore's Grocery

Jackson School Supply/Candy Store

Jackson's Oil

Jones' Gas Station

Nichols' Shoe Repair

Parnell's Grocery

Morgan Park Building and Loan Association

Morgan Park Journal.... Hosea Rogers, Publisher

Phelp's Grocery

Phelp's Ice, Coal, & Poultry

Philpot's Grocery

Paynes Real Estate & Currency Exchange

Ada Park Record Shop and Electrical Repair Service (owned by Mr. Bell)

Shambley's Grocery (later named Bellamy's)

Ward's Grocery

Waterford's Funeral Parlor

Webster and Raines Funeral Parlor

Womack Auto Body Shop

Dr. Olney Tobin, DDS

Dr. Arthur Falls, MD

Dr. E. J. Robinson, MD

Dr. Wooten, Podiatrist



Dr. Bruce Jackson, MD

Dr. Hudson, Optometrist

Dr. Donald Pedro, MD

And the List goes on.....

**WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER???**



FROM THE PAST

MRS. VELENA FIELDS, Jackson State University Homecoming Queen 1930 shares a little time with Mrs. Lori Jackson Stewart (Miss Jackson State 1999) other Queens at Jackson State's luncheon in October 2001.

Mrs. Fields was the librarian at Morgan Park High School and the only African American teacher there when we were in school in the 1960's.



Melva Bryant, Penny Cooper, Mary Edwards



Latisssha Elias Williams



SHOOP SCHOOL'S CHOIR UNDER MS. EVELYN JACKSON'S LEADERSHIP

LOVE BIRDS



Clarice & William Moore



Sylvia & Tommie Roberts

I am looking for photos of Morgan Park landscape and buildings prior to 1965. Our newsletter can only be successful if YOU share the happenings (historical tidbits, photographs, marriages, graduations, relocations, retirements, events, scholarships, illnesses, births, deaths, etc.)

Please send information to:

Penny Cooper-Kerr at: PennyKerr@aol.com

Commentaries are welcome as a conduit, a tangible link to the past and present - Morgan Park's past and present. Commentaries should provide us with stories and facts about who we are as a people.