

## **AUSTIN**

This is the largest neighborhood in the city with about 115,000 residents. Openlands has worked the longest AND MOST CONTINUOUSLY in this neighborhood.

The Austin Green Team, THE GROUP THAT GREW OUT OF THE AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN SPACE PLANNING COMMITTEE meets monthly at 7:00 p.m. on third Thursdays at 342 South Laramie Avenue.

### **Austin Memorial Garden, Brophy Square**

Triangle Park at Washington and Laramie

This now beautiful plaza is a tribute to neighborhood persistence and cooperation between Openlands and the Department of Transportation AND THE AUSTIN GREEN TEAM AS WELL AS THE SOUTH AUSTIN COALITION COMMUNITY COUNCIL. MATTIE HOLMES PROVIDED THE MOTIVATION AND CONSISTENT PRODDING TO GET THE PROJECT DONE. It is dedicated to one of the original GARDENERS, Rhoda Clark, who died just as her vision was starting to be realized. It has now become a major gathering place for community events, including a Christmas tree lighting AS WELL AS DAILY USE BY RESIDENTS AND PASSERS-BY, ALIKE.

### **Mercy Housing Youth Garden/ Quincy Youth Garden**     Rose Mabwa

4912 W. Quincy

Mercy Housing provides affordable, quality housing for its residents. It also provides life skill trainings for its residents. THE GARDEN WAS ORIGINALLY INSTALLED IN 1993 IN COOPERATION with OPENLANDS PROJECT (NOT Greencorps). LATER ON IS WAS DECIDATED to providING nutrition training for young mothers in hopes of supporting healthier eating habits. The program then encompassed a summer youth program where residents are hired to work in the garden. The garden sells it's produce to Wishbone and Leo's Kitchen on Madison for a variety of crops and Damenzo's Pizza for fresh herbs. They also donate vegetables to Jackson Square Nursing home on Laramie. These buyers in turn hire the youth in their kitchens to further their food connection. The program will run Tuesday - Saturday in 2005 so the youth can sell their produce in the HomeGrown Chicago market.

### **Paradise Garden**

658 N. Latrobe

(and Huron)

This beautiful garden was created on the rubble of an abandoned building once used as a crack house. Mary Peery AND her sister Leola Spann WHO HEADED THE the Northwest Austin Council, WAS approached BY

Openlands PROJECT in 1993 DURING THE CREATION OF THE AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN SPACE PLANNING PROJECT TO SEE IF SHE WAS INTERESTED IN CREATING AN IMPROVED OPENSACE ON THAT SITE. The Lake Forest Garden Club and the Evanston Garden Club were early contributors. The garden features include a gazebo, ornamental fruit trees and perennials, and a large vegetable garden in the back. Greencorps Chicago has supported the gardens as well with Basic Assistance days.

### **Sculpture Garden**

659 N. Latrobe

#### **/ Childrens' Sculpture Garden at 659 N. Latrobe**

MARY PEERY HAD A VISION OF A GARDEN FULL OF ART AND SCULPTURE THAT WAS CHILD FRIENDLY AND WITH THE HELP OF A TEACHER IN AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL AND HIS STUDENTS AND THE [CHICAGO PUBLIC ART GROUP?] SHE SAW HER DREAM REALIZED IN [2000?]. THE FUNDING CAME FROM A FEDERAL WEED AND SEED GRANT ACQUIRED THROUGHT THE EFFORTS OF THE NORTHWEST AUSTIN COUNCIL. THE RESULT OF THIS EFFORT WERE TOTEMS, MOSAIC TABLES AND A PLAZA[?] SOON AFTER, ARCHI-TREASURES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OPENLANDS PROJECT HELPED THE RESIDENTS DESIGN AND INSTALL CHILD-FRIENDLY PLAY SCUPTURES. GREENCORPS CHICAGO HAS PROVIDED PERIODIC HELP IN MAINTAINING THIS SPACE.

### **Peace in the Valley**

168 N. Laramie

MATTIE HOLMES, A MEMBER OF THE AUSTIN GREEN TEAM, WHICH GREW OUT OF THE OPEN SPACE PLANNING COMMITTEE ORGANIZED BY OPENLANDS PROJECT, LIVED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THIS LARGE SITE AND WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DRINKING AND OTHER OBJECTIONABLE ACTIVITES THAT TOOK PLACE IN THAT LOT. SHE APPROACHED OPENLANDS PROJECT WITH A DESIRE TO CREATE A GARDEN THERE TO BEAUTIFY AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE RIGHT THERE ON HER STREET. LATER, Inspired by her friend Mary Peery, Rosie McNutt, her daughter and other neighbors JOINED IN reclaiming this rubble-filled lot in 1998. Openlands and several women from North Shore garden clubs (We Care) cooperated, asking NeighborSpace to acquire the lot. A fence was installed, and the City's Department of Environment Greencorps Chicago helped with raised beds and an arbor. Ellen Newcomer transported truckloads of plants from Evanston gardeners, and Chalet Nursery brought trees purchased by the We Care group, and Tony Graff got so interested he donated time to install the trees and donated more.

### **Rickey Morris Memorial Garden**

West End and Lamon

BENNIE MEEKS, A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH AUSTIN COALITION

COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND THE AUSTIN GREEN TEAM ENVISIONED A GARDEN IN THIS VACANT AND ILL USED DOUBLE LOT ON THE CORNER OF HIS STREET IN THE MID-NINETIES. SOON AFTER THE GARDEN WAS BEGUN, A NEIGHBORHOOD CHILD WAS KILLED IN AN ACCIDENT AND THE GARDEN WAS NAMED FOR HIM

### **Unity Garden**

5102 W. Fulton

### **Vision on Menard**

Division and Menard

OPENLANDS ENLISTED THE NORTHWEST AUSTIN COUNCIL AND THE SACCC IN CREATING THE AUSTIN NOSP. ONE OF THE EARLIST, INTERESTED GARDENERS WHO PARTICIPATED WITH STAFF OF NAC IN BEAUTIFYING NORTH WEST AUSTIN, WAS Mr. WILLIE FERBA. HE WAS MOVED TO BEAUTIFY ANY UNUSED AND UNLOVED PIECE OF LAND IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD ALONG WITH SANN GEIRREN ALLEN, STAFF AT NAC. MR, FERBA FOCUSED ON WORKING THE LOTS ADJACENT TO HIS HOUSE WHICH ARE NOW CALLED "VISION ON MENARD". NOW ASSISTED BY HIS WIFE, ERMA, MR. FERBA METICULOUSLY MAINTAINS AND CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVES THIS LOT. THE SIMPLE, ECONOMICAL DESIGN WAS CREATED BY HELP FROM OPENLANDS PROJECT STAFF USING FREE OR VERY ECONOMICAL MATERIALS

### **EAST GARFIELD PARK**

#### **Marshall High School**

3250 W. Adams

Carol Williams

773-534-6456

3250 W. Adams (24)

[cawilliams@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:cawilliams@cps.k12.il.us)

Marshall High School's programming is aligned with an agriculture track. Carol Williams has been leading this track and creating its gardens since 19###. It began as a courtyard garden, only visible from the inside of the school with the help of Greencorps Chicago. Slowly, the focus turned more to food production, using its greenhouse and catfish pond (supported by Heifer International), and also took an entrepreneurial twist by selling flowers during the school year. Then Marshall and Greencorps built many raised beds on the south side of the school to support urban agriculture and their Future Farmers of America program. Marshall is part of the HomeGrown Chicago program in 2005.

### **HUMBOLDT PARK**

Humboldt Park was first organized in 1869 and landscape designed in the early

1900's by famed landscape architect Jens Jensen. The park is a part of the city's boulevard system and is linked to Logan Square to the north by Humboldt and Kedzie Boulevard and Fulton. In addition to the stately homes and flats that line the park boulevard, Humboldt Park includes the only non-lakefront beach in Chicago, a formal flower garden, field house, horse stables, and boat house. OPENLANDS PROJECT OFFERED TO HELP CREATE AN OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR HUMBOLDT PARK FIRST CONTACTING THE NEAR NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK. WE WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HUMBOLDT PARK EMPOWERMENT PARTNERSHIP, ON THE HOUSING ACTION TEAM. WE REACHED OUT FROM THE HAT AND ORGANIZED AN OPEN SPACE PLANNING GROUP THAT HAS BECOME AN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND BACKYARD GARDENERS. CALLED Growing Pride, the Garden Club of Humboldt Park. THEY meet monthly at 6:00 p.m. on third Wednesdays in the Boat House in Humboldt Park.

OLP HELPED TO START OR TO FIND SUPPORT FOR NEW OR EXISTING GARDENS IN HPK, INCLUDING:

**Campbell Garden**

1367 N. Campbell

Mike Bancroft

773-216-5580

1337 N. Maplewood (22)

[admin@coopimage.org](mailto:admin@coopimage.org)

**Childrens' Garden of Hope**

4052 W. Potomac

Bettina Savage

773-278-6079

4020 W. Potomac (51)

Dan Weinberg?

773-338-1494

2705 W. Arthur (45)

[dsw@jorsm.com](mailto:dsw@jorsm.com)

William James II

773-722-3135

626 N. Spaulding (24)

Gwen Taylor 773-772-3173

4053 W. Hirsch (51)

This garden features white arbors.

Home Grown Garden 2005

**Crystal Street Garden**

3218 W. Crystal

Lydia Molina 773-750-3504, 773-276-8778

1150 N. Kedzie (51)

[anglyd@interntetchicago.com](mailto:anglyd@interntetchicago.com)

This garden began in 2004 as part of HomeGrown Chicago. IT Home Grown Garden 2005

### **El Coqui Community Garden**

2600 W. Crystal

Carmen Arroyo

773-276-5954

1424 N. Washtenaw (22)

[carroyoelcoqui@aol.com](mailto:carroyoelcoqui@aol.com)

THIS GARDEN WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED AT THE REQUEST OF COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER ROBERTO MALDONADO WHO ENGAGED THE CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN TO FIND LOCAL GROUPS TO DESIGN AND SUPPORT THE GARDEN. CBG INSTALLED THE GARDEN IN..... IN 1999? OPENLANDS PROJECT WAS INVITED TO VON HUMBOLDT SCHOOL TO HELP THE PARENT COMMUNITY CENTER START A GARDEN AND STAFF ARRANGED FOR THIS GROUP TO ASSUME USE AND CARE OF El Coqui.

The garden is named for a beloved symbol of the island of Puerto Rico, the "coqui" or tree frog (pronounced ko-kee). The front part of the garden is a large grassy area with mosaic benches and flowerbeds to make a perfect place for meetings, parties, and picnics. The rear of the garden is the planting area. CBG helped children plant peppers, cucumber, tomatoes, basil, oregano, onions, cabbage and strawberries. Compost bin enables gardens to recycle garden waste. A natural fence of rose bushes along perimeter of the garden and ten-foot vine and rose pergola and unique features of this garden.

In 2005, the garden plots will be tended by other community members to grow produce for the HomeGrown market.

### **El Yunque (formerly Oxygenating Garden)**

1459 N. Artesian 773-252-3840

1502 N. Artesian (22)

[EN00195@cityofchicago.org](mailto:EN00195@cityofchicago.org)

Aaron Durnbaugh

Margaret Cielak

[mcielak@openlands.org](mailto:mcielak@openlands.org)

Individual garden plots are available in this garden.

Home Grown Garden 2005

### **Harold Washington Memorial Garden**

1301 N. Washtenaw      Sherry Hooker

In existence since 1988, this garden contains the "Have a Heart Rose Garden," AS A MEMORIAL TO MR HOOKER. IT ALSO CONTAINS fruit trees, beds of flowers, an area for eating and raised beds. IT HAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE VEGETABLE AND FLOWER BEDS TO RAISE PRODUCE FOR HOMEGROWN CHICAGO

### **Our Block Garden**

1500 N. Washtenaw      Amy Olsen  
(and Lemoyne)      Sherry Hooker

Lydia Molina 773-750-3504, 773-276-8778

1150 N. Kedzie (51)

[anglyd@internetchicago.com](mailto:anglyd@internetchicago.com)

Home Grown Garden 2005

THIS GARDEN WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED THROUGH A PROJECT OF ARCHI-TREASURES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF BICKERDIKE REDEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION IN ----- . THE FIRST SUMMER BRC RAN A VERY SUCCESSFUL SUMMER PROGRAM FOR YOUTH. . THERE WAS NO FUNDING AVAILABLE TO CONTINUE THIS PROGRAM AND AFTER THAT FIRST SEASON, THE GARDEN WAS USED PRIMARILY BY A LOCAL CHURCH, BUT WAS UNUSED MUCH OF THE TIME. THIS YEAR, MEMBERS OF THE HOMEGROWN CHICAGO PROJECT IN HUMBOLDT PARK ARE UPGRADING AND EXPANDING THE GARDEN SO THAT IT CAN BE A LIVELY URBAN AGRICULTURE SITE, PROVIDING PRODUCE FOR THE HOMEGROWN MARKET.

### **NORTH LAWNSDALE**

North Lawndale was once a thriving area with thousands of jobs, hundreds of businesses and a population of 125,000 people, mostly Jewish and Eastern European. Today, it is a community of 47,000 people, over 90% African-American with a very low median income. The Chicago Park District identified this as one of the 10 most underserved communities for public park space. Pulaski to California and the Eisenhower Expressway to Cermak are generally considered the boundaries of North Lawndale. There are 2,814 vacant lots providing lots of raw material for new parks and gardens.

Openlands Project organized and worked with the North Lawndale Greening Committee (NLGC) to complete a community-wide greening plan here. We have offered technical assistance and in some cases have helped raise funds and supervise the planning and installation for 30 vacant lot gardens, two Chicago Youth Centers, two regional parks and two of the five local schools with greening projects.

The North Lawndale Greening Committee meets monthly on third Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the Douglass Library, Homan and 13th.

**ABC Youth Center**

13<sup>th</sup> and Homan Avenue

**African Garden**

1200 South Central Park

**BBR Youth Center**

BBR is one of two youth centers in Lawndale managed by Chicago Youth Centers.

**Frederick Douglass Library - Story Book Garden**

The Library maintains an enchanting park installed by the Chicago Botanic Garden with a yellow brick road and art benches and beautiful blooms. It is the site for monthly meetings of the North Lawndale Greening Committee in summer and for events, such as a Christmas tree decorating party and occasional potluck dinners.

**Ridgeway Block Club Garden Seniors' 1900 Ridgeway Enabling Garden**

1900 S. Ridgeway

Mildred Harris

Mrs. Mildred Harris is the hardworking leader of her Block Club that works, meets and enjoys this accessible garden space. The brick floor to the gazebo was new in 2000. In addition to the productive vegetable garden, many of the perennials and shrubs around the edge were donated by the Garden Club of Barrington.

1900 Ridgeway

Mildred Harris

This is one of the older gardens, with a very active block club that has frequent parties and fund-raising activities. Their wish was to create a garden that is accessible for seniors and disabled residents. There is a very productive vegetable garden and flower beds.

**1400 Block St. Louis**

1400 W. St. Louis Avenue Bessie Luellen

**1600 Block Lawndale**

1600 Lawndale

Greater Progressive MB Church

**Homan Flournoy Block Club Garden**

3400 W. Flournoy

Ted Osborne

Velma Johnson

773-533-1450

3415 W. Flournoy (24)

**3800 Block St. Louis**

3800 St. Louis

Bessie Luellen

**3800 Block West Flourney Garden**

Mrs. Joe Ella Williams

Mrs. Williams has worked against great odds to plant and care for this urban oasis. In the process, she has managed to entirely chase two major gangs from the block. An arbor, gazebo, winding path, and a great variety of shrubs and perennials grace the garden. Joe Ella was also instrumental in getting the City of Chicago to install water lines in all community gardens owned by NeighborSpace.

**Crystal's Peace Garden**

3852 W. Polk

Doretha Penn

773-533-7620

3853 W. Polk

The residents on the 3800 block of Polk, with the leadership of Ms. Doretha Penn, have cultivated a space that symbolizes peace in the community. Crystal is a child from the block (now majoring in horticulture in college) whose vision originally created the garden. It includes a variety of perennials, shrubs and vegetables, along with sitting areas. It is a tribute to community involvement that this garden is never locked in the daytime and yet has among the lowest rates of vandalism.

**Seniors' Garden**

3842 W. Arthington

Velma Johnson

773-533-1450

3415 W. Fluornoy (24)

[velj@aol.com](mailto:velj@aol.com)

Betty Swan

**PILSEN**

This Chicago neighborhood is tucked between the University of Illinois at Chicago and the South Branch of the Chicago River.

**El Jardin De Las Mariposas**



1835-37 S. Carpenter

Virginia Zuniga

vzuniga@comcast.net

The garden is named for the monarch butterfly, a native of Mexico, and features several sculptures executed in a pre-Columbian style, a gazebo, and a mural which reflects the Mexican heritage in the neighborhood. The Evanston Garden Club provided start-up funds for this garden.

## **SOUTH DEERING**

## **WEST GARFIELD PARK**

### **Sanctuary Place**

642 N. Kedzie

John Hobbs

773-638-0266

3853 W. Polk (24)

Jackie Davis 773-265-0983

*Home Grown Garden 2005*

### **Troy Street Garden**

535 N. Troy

JoAnn Elam

773-826-5168

535 N. Troy (12)

*Home Grown Garden 2005*

## **WOODLAWN**

### **The Brickyard Community Garden**

6117 S. Woodlawn

Dorothy Pytel

773-288-7984

[dpytel@yahoo.com](mailto:dpytel@yahoo.com)