

In the Loop™

Compiled by Valerie F. Leonard

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Please Forward...

Archived issues of *In the Loop* may be found at www.valeriefleonard.com

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome!

Welcome to *In the Loop*, an eclectic compilation of e-mail transmittals that I have received during the past week. From time to time, you will find announcements of events, grant opportunities, job postings, links to websites and articles of interest or notes of encouragement. I hope that you, or someone you know, would find the information to be of use. If you would like to unsubscribe, submit material, or make general comments, you may contact me at valeriefleonard@msn.com. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Valerie F. Leonard, Editor

SCHOLARSHIP

I'd like to thank Ms. Zina Simmons for providing information on a scholarship opportunity for African American male high school seniors. Please visit <http://www.callmemister.clemson.edu/index.htm> for further information.

ON THE WEB

The Chicago Chapter-National Black Nurses Association is sponsoring the development of a website for the Chicago Public Schools Practical Nursing Program. The website provides information on the program, curriculum, and career opportunities and salary ranges for graduates. We are now testing the site, and would value your input before the official launch at the end of the year. Please click onto <http://www.hsnp.netfirms.com/> to visit. We would be particularly interested in hearing your feedback concerning content, appearance and your ability to navigate the site. Please e-mail me at valeriefleonard@msn.com for feedback or questions.

Protect Your Addresses

The following article is copied verbatim from Worldstart.com's electronic newsletter. It was forwarded to me by Mr. Billy Brooks, of WACA.

I received this tip from a very kind newsletter reader and I thought it would be perfect to share with the rest of you. It makes a lot of sense and it's so simple to do, so listen up! Okay, so we all know that when your e-mail is infected with a virus, it goes straight to your address book. The virus looks for the addresses you have saved and it starts to send itself off to everyone listed. The virus then, of course, infects all of those people as well. So, how can we stop this from happening? Well, here's an idea on where to start.

Open your address book and go to **New Contact**, just like you would if you really were adding a new friend to your list. For the name, simply type in the letter **A**. Then for the e-mail address, type in "aaaaaa@aaa.aaa." (Or however you want to do it. Just make sure it's in an e-mail address format). Since you used the letter **A**, it will be the first entry to be listed in your address book, which is where the virus would start when sending itself off to all your friends. Now, here's the catch. Since the e-mail address you entered is not valid, the message the virus sends will be undeliverable. Therefore, it will not be able to go any further to anyone else in your address book.

There's also another advantage to this. If the first e-mail cannot be delivered successfully, you will receive an e-mail yourself notifying you of the undeliverable mail. This will warn you right away that you are infected with a virus and you can do what you need to do to get rid of it (run your virus scan and fix it!) Now, go and tell all your friends to do this as well. it?!

~ Erin



WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS

Materials from Last Week's Breakin' It Down Conference-Government Funding Workshop

I was deeply honored to have been invited to deliver a workshop on public funding during the recent Breakin' it Down Conference sponsored by Loyola University and Polk Brothers Foundation. Co-sponsoring organizations included Blacks in Development, Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy, Chicago Latinos in Philanthropy, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy and Latinos in Development. The conference was designed to allow representatives from emerging minority-led nonprofits an opportunity to interface with members of the philanthropic community and to gain valuable insights into fundraising and proposal writing techniques.

You are more than welcome to visit www.valeriefleonard.com to download my Power Point presentation, which provides an overview of how to prepare, plan, write and administer federally-funded grants. You should go to the home page, look under "What's New" and click onto "In the Public Domain: Writing Effective Proposals for Government Grants Power Point Presentation". You will then be directed to the "Breakin it Down" Page where you will find links to all the handouts that were provided. The presentation and resources were designed to help participants

- Write effective proposals for government funding
- Locate statistical, empirical and spatial data to support their cases for funding
- Access the federal government's clearing house for over \$400 billion in grant funding
- Access an interactive grant writing tutorial provided by the federal government
- Find samples of proposals that have already received federal funding
- Understand the types of supplemental documentation that may be required
- Locate publications provided by the state and federal government to guide them step by step through the proposal planning, development, writing and submittal process for public funding opportunities

These documents will provide you with everything you need to get started writing effective proposals to government agencies.

Enjoy.

Valerie F. Leonard

Project Readiness Workshop

I received a notice in the mail about the following workshop. Here is an on-line version of the same announcement.

You know your community needs affordable housing and/or economic revitalization. Are you unsure whether real estate development is the way to go? Do you know what getting into real estate means for your organization? **Register now** for our December 5th **Project Readiness Workshop (PRW)**!

<http://www.cclfcchicago.org/assistance/prw.html>

Protect Your Business From Financial Crimes

I received the following announcement from Ms. Kimi Ellen, Principal with Benford, Brown & Associates and President of the 87th Street Chamber of Commerce.

I recently became aware of a program that is offered by the State's Attorney's Office. This program is free of charge. I am now the president of my local chamber of commerce. I wanted to extend an invitation to you to attend the program. I hope you can make it. Below is the information.

Thanks,
Kimi Ellen

87th Street Stony Island
Chamber of Commerce
Save the Date!!!
November 21, 2006
BJ's Market at 8734 S. Stony Island 9:00 a.m.

Are you tired of getting bad checks? Would you like the Cook County State's Attorney to collect the money and fees associated with bad checks written to your business at no cost? You are cordially invited to attend a workshop on "Protecting Your Business from Financial Crimes".

The featured speaker is Karen Hudson with the Cook County State's Attorney Office Bad Check Restitution Program. The focus of the forum is to educate and provide information regarding financial crimes, how these offenses affect local merchants, and bad check restitution.

Please call the Chamber's office at 773-734-0626 if you are interested in attending. Space is limited. Chamber members will be present to get you signed up with the program. There is no cost associated with this program! You can also sign up for your 2007 Chamber membership at this program.

Arrive early for networking and breakfast at 8:30 a.m. The program promptly begins at 9:00 a.m.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Grow Your Business in A Weekend

I received the following announcement from Mr. Andrew Morrison, President of Small Business Camp.

Grow Your Business in A Weekend at Small Business Camp and Leave with Products Worth Thousands of Dollars and an Actionable Plan to Jumpstart Your Business Over the Next 90 Days – GUARANTEED!

The Small Business Camp is fantastic! In one weekend, we drove through a college semester of small business strategies, and discussed how to break through barriers that hold us back in growing our businesses. But the great ideas on what I needed to do over the next 90 days, the marketing tools and the group follow-up sessions were the best.

Tony Chapelle, Founder, Securities Pro

Join me for an intensive boot camp designed to offer you specific tools and strategies that can make a significant impact on your business in the next 90 days.

Here are just a few of the things you can leave with:

- Comprehensive blueprint to increase your sales
- Design for a 6"x9" postcard that generates responses
- Sales letter to attract an important joint-venture partner
- A five (5) page E-book that will help you to become an expert in your field
- Website (3-page) to start taking orders
- Press Release and media contacts
- Proven methods to obtain a high ranking on internet search engines
- Time management strategies that work
- Techniques to expand and motivate your team
- 3-month access to a weekly group coaching conference call

UPCOMING DATES

CHICAGO (Saturday from 9am until 9pm)

Saturday, November 18th
Neighborhood Technology Resource Center
The Charles Hayes Family Investment Center
4859 S. Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615
Cost: \$597

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY. SEATING IS LIMITED.
Call 914-633-0725 or e-mail Andrew@90dayplan.com

U. Chicago GSB Entrepreneurial Roundtable

The following is an excerpt from an announcement I received from Mr. Bill Wentz, of the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business Entrepreneurial Roundtable.

Frustrated with their legal careers, Greg Shugar and his wife Gina began researching entrepreneurial opportunities. The result is www.thetiebar.com where, for just \$15, you can buy silk ties like those selling in leading men's stores for \$60-75.

With the initial success of selling ties on-line, the Shugars have now expanded their product line to dress shirts which sell on TheTieBar for \$25. This past spring, they opened a test kiosk in the Premium Outlet Mail in Aurora, near the outlet stores of Brooks Brothers, Giorgio Armani and Ralph Lauren. They want to determine if kiosks near top name men's stores can be a profitable complement to their website.

This program is FREE and is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. It will be held at the Rice Campus of the Illinois Institute of Technology in Wheaton, IL. Directions and map: <http://www.rice.iit.edu/directions.html> Click on [Register](#) to register online and reserve your seat. The event details are as follows

Organization:	U. Chicago GSB Entrepreneurial Roundtable
Event Name:	The Story of TheTieBar.com: Husband and Wife Trade in Legal Careers to Sell Men's Ties On-Line
Speakers:	Greg and Gina Shugar
Date:	November 20, 2006, 6:30 PM to 8:45 PM
Location:	Illinois Institute of Technology, Rice Campus
Details:	Event Information
To Register:	Register
Roundtable website:	www.gsbroundtable.com
Phone:	630-527-8552
Fax:	630-527-8636
Email:	roundtable@businesslegalexperts.com
Website:	www.gsbroundtable.com

Women's Business Development Center

I received the following announcement from the Women's Business Development Center.

November 16: Are you Ready for a Government Contract?

The workshop focuses on determining if your business is at the right stage to pursue opportunities with government agencies and major corporations, and how to market your business to them.

EDUCATION/HUMAN RIGHTS

Chicago Freedom School

I received the following announcement from Ms. Mariame Kaba, Education and Youth Program Officer with Steans Family Foundation.

The Steering and Advisory Committees of the Chicago Freedom School (CFS) are pleased to release the participant application for our inaugural 2007 summer program. [I know summer is months away but we like to get a head start on things...] Opening on July 9, 2007, CFS will run for six weeks with forty-five young people ages 14-16 as participants. Other youth, ages 17-24 will be invited to participate in the school as facilitators, institute coordinators and workshop leaders. The goal of the CFS experience is to provide youth with a space for learning about themselves and to develop as agents of social change. CFS participants will choose two out of seven areas of exploration including: visual arts, music, science/environment, performing arts, technology, writing/journalism, and healthcare/nutrition/holistic care. Each of these areas is called an "Institute" and will have a social justice focus.

Every Friday, all youth will participate in a Civil Rights Institute coordinated and facilitated by a group of college students with support from the CFS program committee. Studying Civil Rights history helps us understand how individual action and historical forces combine to create social change. It also allows us to pay homage to the movement that inspired the name for this project. Finally, one week of the summer will be dedicated to a retreat outside of Chicago CFS participants will be able to apply what they have learned. At the end of the summer, each participant will leave with:

1. An individualized leadership and activism goal plan (ILAGP) – this plan is a year-long set of goals that youth will undertake with support from CFS as they determine their own personal desires for continued education and growth as agents of social change.
2. A social justice mentor who will be familiar with their individualized plan and help them achieve their goals. The volunteer mentor will agree to be in contact with the young person at least every six weeks to discuss ideas, challenges, and celebrate accomplishments. This contact can take place electronically, by phone, or preferably in person.
3. Please forward this application widely (download it from the website below). All relevant information about the CFS is included in the applications. Additionally large print applications are available to those of you who need them. For more information about the CFS, e-mail csfs_youth@yahoo.com or call 630-991-1973. The CFS is still updating its website and the application will soon be available for downloading at www.chicagofreedomsschool.org.

Gender Based Violence In a Global Context

I received the following announcement from Ms. Darchelle Garner.

Discuss issues of gender based violence with

- Dori Dinsmore, Midwest Regional Director, Amnesty International USA-Overview of Gender Based Violence
- Lynetta A. Jackson of University of Illinois at Chicago and Natalie Bennett of DePaul University- Gender Based Violence and Issues of "Protection" in Sudan
- Mardge Cohen of the CORE Center-Gender Based Violence and HIV in Rwanda
- Cathy Christeller of the Chicago Women's AIDS Project and Celeste Watkins-Hayes of Northwestern University-Structural Violence and HIV in a U.S. Context.

The "To Live Again" Project: Rwandan Survivors of Genocide exhibit will be available for viewing and discussion. Refreshments will be served.

When: Monday, November 20, 2006, 6-8 p.m.
Where: Roosevelt University,
430 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Susana Vasquez (Director, LISC NCP Program) and Juan Cespedes on the birth of their baby girl, Lila Raquel Vasquez Cespedes. Lila was born November 7th, weighing in at 8 lbs. 9 oz. She has lots of hair, cute cheeks and great lips for pouting (per her mom - a perfect little girl). Susana, Juan and Lila are all doing wonderfully.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald and Lorean Earles, who recently received the Local Heroes Award from the Bank of America on behalf of the North Lawndale Community. The Earles have been awarded with a \$5,000 cash prize, which will be donated to the North Lawndale office of Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS). The Earles are long time community activists whose efforts have been recognized locally and nationally over the years. One of their most notable honors was an invitation to Washington, D.C. to receive an award from President Bill Clinton.

In the Loop is published by Valerie F. Leonard, Community Development Consultant. Please forward comments or submittals to valeriefleonard@msn.com.