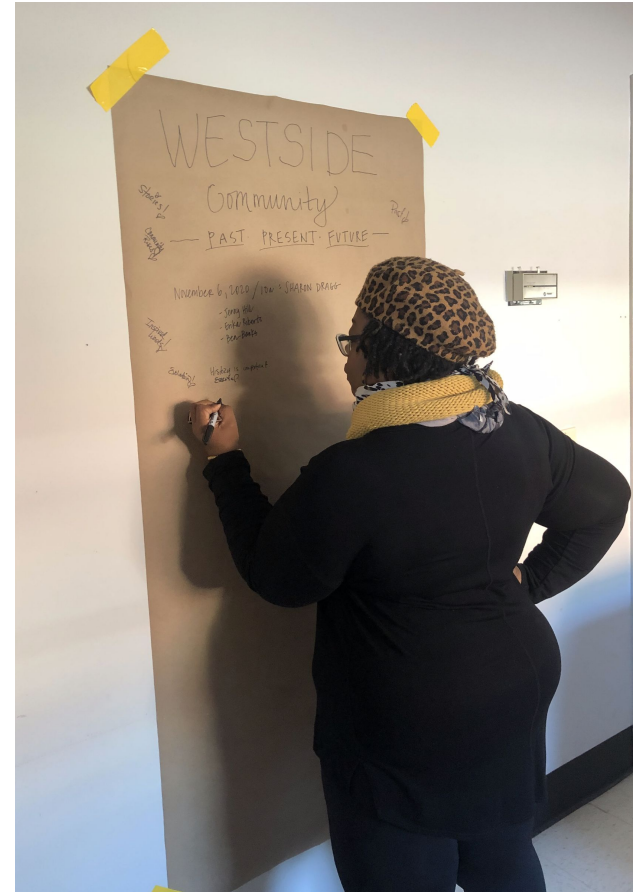




**IMAGINATION TEAM UPDATE
LED BY ERIKA ROBERTS**

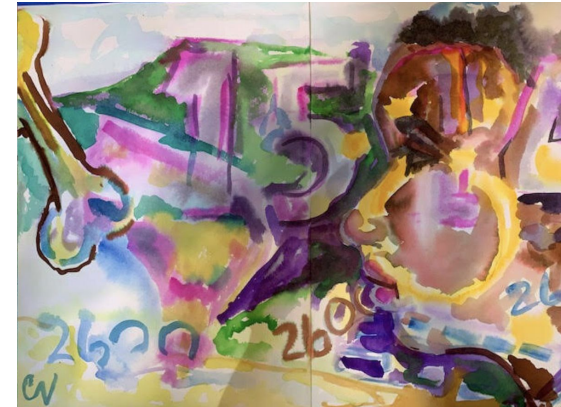
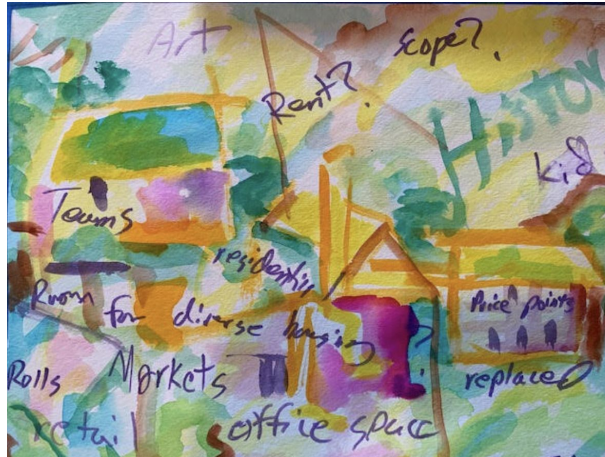
08 JAN 2021
Community Advisory Group

Creative Engagement Team



Creative Team in the community beginning in Summer 2020 through Fall 2020.

Artist in Residence: Charlie Newton



Charlie's artistic interpretation of the planning process from Community Advisory Group meetings.

Oral History Collecting at James A Henry 'Memory Room'



Rodney Brown



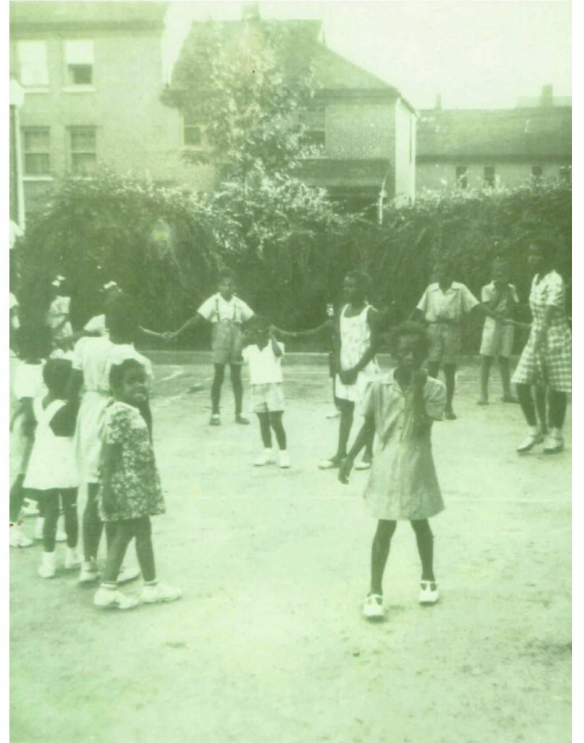
Sharon Dragg



Dorothea Sorrell

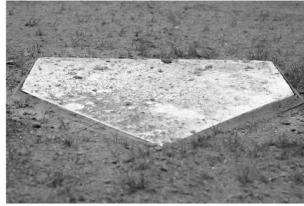
Recording long time resident stories to preserve and uplift memories in the planning process.

Historic Photo Collection from Residents



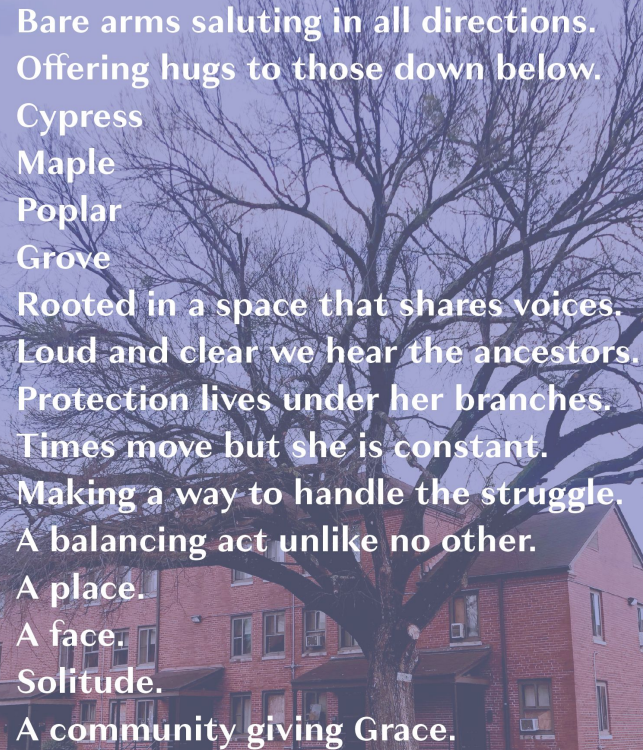
College Hill Courts in the early 1940s - photos contributed by resident Joy Johnson.

Digital Storytelling: Ben Banks



Documenting the everyday life of residents and key community landmarks on neighborhood walks.

Community Landmark: GRACE

A large, leafless tree stands in front of a two-story brick building. The tree's branches are bare and spread out against a pale sky. The building is made of red brick and has several windows. The scene is captured in a slightly desaturated, blue-tinted photograph.

Bare arms saluting in all directions.
Offering hugs to those down below.
Cypress
Maple
Poplar
Grove
Rooted in a space that shares voices.
Loud and clear we hear the ancestors.
Protection lives under her branches.
Times move but she is constant.
Making a way to handle the struggle.
A balancing act unlike no other.
A place.
A face.
Solitude.
A community giving Grace.

-Erika Roberts

Reflecting on a central community landmark, a tree named 'Grace'.

Community Landmark: FLAG POLE



Artist Andrew Travis

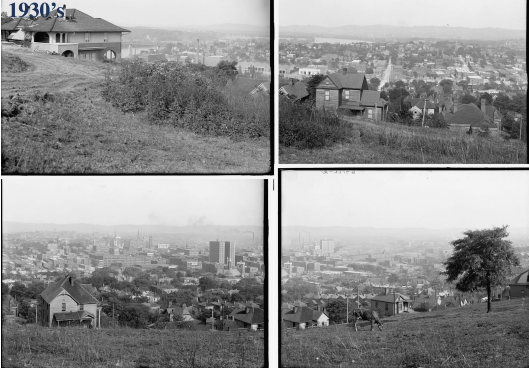


Resident Artist Terrance McCrobey (14 yo)

Artistic interpretations of a historic community landmark, the central flagpole in College Hill Courts.

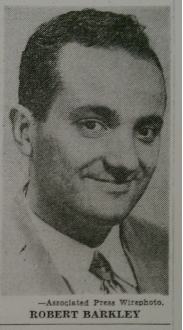
Historic Narrative: Westside Research

Overlooking the Old West Side from Cameron Hill, 1930s



North Carolina Planner Appointed Director of Urban Renewal Here

J. 5/18/56
 By SPRINGER GIBSON
 Robert Barkley, associate planner for the city-county planning board of Winston-Salem, N.C., has been named director of urban renewal for the Chattanooga Housing Authority.
 The announcement was made yesterday on behalf of the CHA board by Herbert Banks, executive director.
 In his new position the 27-year-old Barkley will have charge of the West Side urban renewal project.
 The federal government has allotted \$183,381 for the study and development of a plan for the West Side area bounded by the Tennessee River on the north and west, Chestnut and Carter streets on the east and Main street on the south.
 If the work directed by Barkley shows the project is feasible and the plan developed is acceptable, the city and federal government will become partners in buying the needed land in the



—Associated Press Wirephoto.
ROBERT BARKLEY

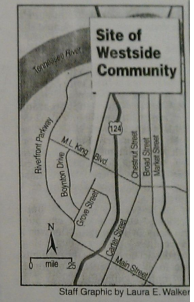
Westside Service, Retail Center To Open

JPD 10, 24, 44 p. 6
Luncheonette, Other Stores Will Be Added

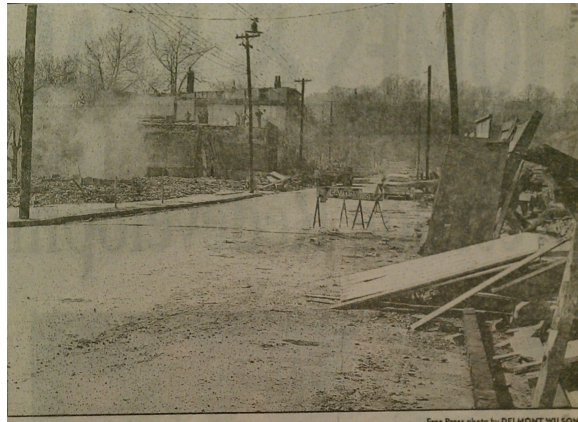
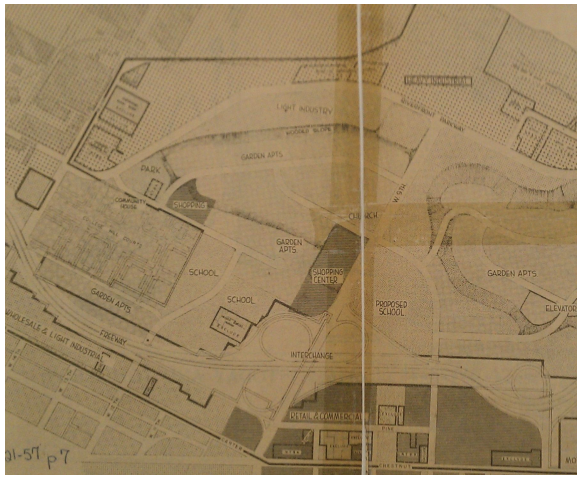
By EMILY McDONALD
 Staff Writer
 Residents of the Westside area are finally getting what they've long wanted — a neighborhood retail and service center.
 The \$1.4 million Grove Street Center opens Wednesday across from the James A. Henry Resource Center in the heart of the Westside. It brings to the community a Dollar General Store and Learning Center, a laundromat and business development services.
 The Chattanooga Police Department will relocate a neighborhood office to the center. A grocery store and a luncheonette will soon be a part of the center, too, community leaders said.
 The 18,000-square-foot center is expected to draw business from residents of eight housing developments and apartment complexes.

Mrs. Patillo is also working as an intern in the Dollar General Learning Center's on-the-job training program.
 "It is just a blessing for our community because, for so many years, we haven't had that type of retail and services in our community for the residents," said Sheila Jennings, operator of Home Girls Catering. "I hear elderly people talk about how the Westside used to be. Now I can kind of see how it used to be."
 Home Girls Catering was the first business to open in the Westside after redevelopment began in the early 1990s. Ms. Jennings said she plans to open the Home Girls Luncheonette in the Grove Street Center after the first of the year.
 A place to shop within the community was among six major needs identified during the strategic planning process for the Westside.
 "It's been a dream of residents of the Westside," said Daphne Sloan, president and CEO of the Westside Community Development Corp.
 Space in the building will

Learning Center is the fifth such facility the Dollar General Corp. has placed in low income communities in partnership with community organizations.
 A group of 15 Westside residents — 13 females and two males — is being trained in the store.
 "Our goal is to empower them to develop a career that will offer them self-sufficiency," said Bernadette Woodbury, learning center coordinator. "What we hope is that employers who have solid opportunities for a career path for the interns will pick them up after the internship."
 Those who finish the training don't have to stay on with the discount retailer.
 "We want to get them outside the box of living in a particular neighborhood," Ms. Woodbury said.
 Several of the interns, however, said they hoped to get jobs at the Westside Dollar General Store.
 "I think it's great," said intern Vincent Malveaux, a resident of



Staff Graphic by Laura E. Walker



Free Press photo by DELMONT WILSON
OLD WEST SIDE: This is looking west toward the river on West Ninth Street, now West M.L. King Boulevard, in 1959 when demolition crews were leveling buildings along the two-lane street prior to construction of the downtown freeway.



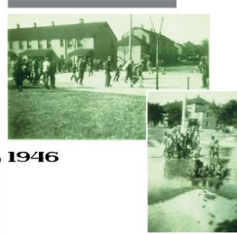
LOOKOUT, Oct. 9, 1961
NEW LOOK ON THE WEST SIDE: This shows the ground-scraping project of Urban Renewal on Chattanooga's West Side. Not a tree is left, making this photograph strangely similar to those made by Matthew Brady during the War Between the States, when the city had been stripped of trees for fuel.

Articles and photographs compiled from local resources to inform historic narrative and a timeline.

Historic Narrative: Graphic Timeline



1885



1946

1954



West Side Story

1957



1994



1872

1945



Constructing a Milestone for Economic Growth

1964 - 1989



1969



2006

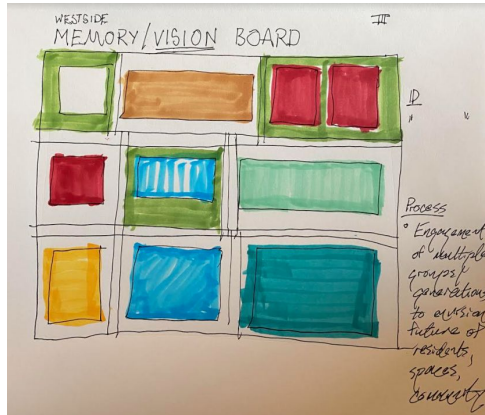
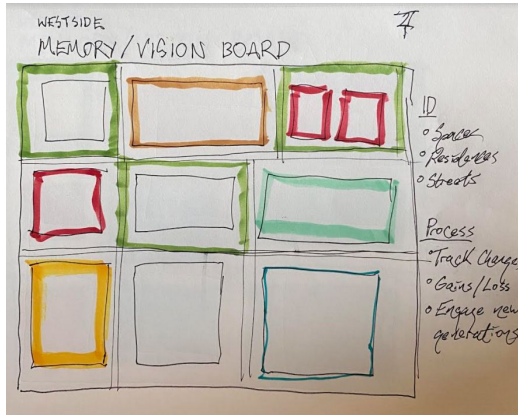
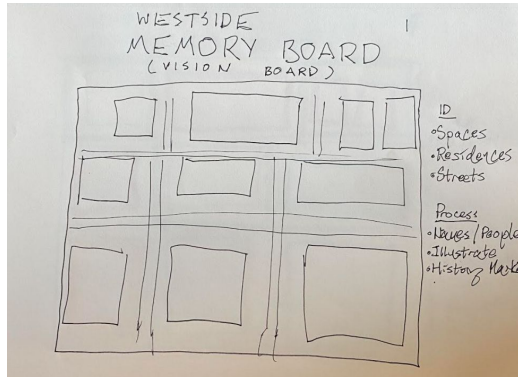


1997



Local author and historian Rita Hubbard engaged to lead historic narrative (author of *African Americans of Chattanooga*)

Memory Wall: Framework



Artist Josiah Golson leading a vision for the Memory Board - coming Spring 2021.

Westside Community Inspired Art & Poetry for Kwanzaa



*Bricks are strong.
Bricks have legacy.
Bricks are loyal.
These bricks represent unity.
Arrows pointing.
Arrows informing.
These arrows lead.
Hands that touch
Hands that guide
Link hands and unite.*

Building up the community with the spirit of sharing resources.

People grow.

Businesses grow.

Community grows.

Rich and rooted.

The branches of Grace

giving shade and perfect shadows.

Respecting the purpose and trusting the process

Gather close and enjoy the harvest

We've come far but not the farthest

The ancestors got us here; let's be clear

In the spirit of Sankofa..we go back and get it.

Today we create with our legacy in mind

Entering a new chapter we believe

Entering a new time we pay attention

Entering a new year we will achieve.

~Erika Roberts

Artists Andrew Travis & Erika Roberts series of Kwanzaa pieces to celebrate the community.

Westside Evolves Imagination Team

Erika Roberts - Lead Artist

Charlie Newton - Artist in Residence

Ben Banks - Digital Storytelling

Josiah Golson - Creative Strategist

Andrew Travis - Community Artist

Sharon Dragg - Resident Engagement Lead

Terrance McCrobey - Resident Artist

