

Adventist Heritage Ministry

BULLETIN

September 1997

Vol. 10, No. 3

Crisis . . . or Opportunity for Evangelism in Battle Creek?

An Open Letter to Our Supporters

Right now the Historic Adventist Village evangelistic project in Battle Creek is at a crossroads. Depending upon actions taken within the next 30 days, either the future of the entire village will be in jeopardy, or current events happening there will provide the long awaited opportunity for us to move ahead.

To purchase the necessary properties on which to develop Historic Adventist Village, Adventist Heritage Ministry (AHM) has been working through a local redevelopment agency in Battle Creek called Neighborhoods, Inc. To date, Neighborhoods has acquired several pieces of property within the boundaries of our planned village. This has been done with the understanding that eventually AHM will buy those properties from Neighborhoods at their original cost. Neighborhoods currently holds title to 14 lots for AHM, awaiting our payment for them.

Within the past few days, several additional properties within our planned village site have become available for purchase.

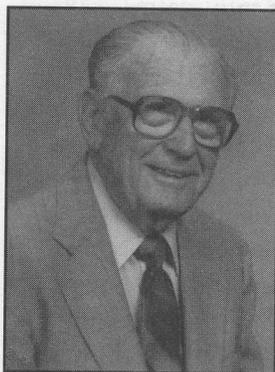
Most of these are in the range of \$25,000 each, or less. At present AHM does not have money in hand to acquire any of them, and Neighborhoods cannot carry any more while waiting for us to repay them. The most crucial lot is the proposed site of our village visitor center. Others include the planned site for the replication of the Meeting House (our second church in Battle Creek), as well as lots where the Publishing Office and other buildings will be replicated.

Realistically, for us to continue with the village project, we *must* buy these lots. The projected cost of acquiring the entire three large city block area of the proposed village is \$1.2 million. However, 10 percent of that amount, or \$120,000, will make possible the

purchase of these first few lots that are located in the very heart of our planned village. Without them, we really will not have a village.

As word about the proposed village has been getting around, several Adventist volunteer groups have scheduled work bees on various projects there next summer. Groups currently waiting for the final word in order to plan their 1998 schedules are: Maranatha, Mission Church Builders, SAGE (from the Washington Conference), Lake Union Chapter of ASI, plus several academy youth groups who also are seeking information about coming. Without lots on which to construct the buildings, these work bees will have to be canceled.

Continued on page 3



Man Extraordinaire

. . . Larry Crandall

Adventist Heritage Ministry suffered an irreplaceable loss on June 12, 1997, with the death of its founding president and first board chairman, Larry Crandall. I first met Larry in 1980 as organizational plans were

Continued on page 5