

CALUMET CITY

REVIEW

Summer 2012

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MICHELLE



Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush

The books are balanced. They're just smaller books.

Despite trying financial times nationally and locally, Calumet City is managing its finances well and we are doing what every Calumet City family does – we do more with less.

Like every large organization, meeting our financial obligations has been difficult due to the sustained drop in revenue. When some local workers lose their jobs, some local families lose their homes and local businesses lose some customers, government receives less revenue and, like everyone else, government has to tighten its belt.

The Calumet City Council and I have worked together to review every function of government, every service provided, and every worker job description to determine what our citizens absolutely need and what

we can eliminate while providing for the basic safety and continuing progress of our community.

I am proud to report that Calumet City has been able to weather the financial crisis and achieved a balanced budget in the process. We have been able to maintain the services needed for our residents to thrive while increasing the level of public safety needed to respond to public safety emergencies and criminal activity.

A community with a strong financial base is attractive to business owners, which is why Calumet City has been able to continue to attract new businesses to our commercial districts and provide support for current businesses seeking to expand and enlarge their operations.

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NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING FACILITY

Construction To Begin On New Regional Fire Fighter Training Center

Calumet City will begin construction of a regional fire fighter training facility featuring a state of the art fire simulation rooms, interactive computer generated fire scenario models, traditional continuing education in fire fighting techniques and equipment operation. Calumet City Fire Fighters will be able to learn and improve their knowledge and skills at our facility and we will be able to lease the use of the facility to surrounding communities in Illinois and Indiana.

to know construction materials used, location of hazardous chemicals, methods of identifying people trapped in a burning or exploding structure, and how to protect our safety while getting themselves out alive and intact.”

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush explained that the project was being funded in part by a \$813,465 legal settlement arising from a class action lawsuit opposing the collection of an amusement tax on ticket sales from 1982 through 2000. After 12 years of litigation, the funds were released to Calumet City on the condition that the money be used for a court approved public works project. The additional funds needed to complete the \$1,750,000 project being will obtained through bond proceeds.



“Advancements in equipment and technology for both fighting fires and protecting our Fire Fighters requires additional training and instruction throughout a Fire Fighters career. Most people think they just show up and squirt water on a fire, but it is much more complicated,” said Mayor Michelle. “Our Fire Department knows the layout of every large building in town as well as the basic floor plans of every type of residence. They need

POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT & TRAINING

Police Officers Undergo Continuous Professional Training



Graduation from the Police Academy is just the start of the continuous education and training our police officers receive in order to provide the maximum protection

possible for our residents. Designed to provide the knowledge needed to deal with almost any public safety emergency that arises, our police officers have undergone training in areas as divergent as blood borne pathogens, radiation detection, hazardous materials chemical and suicide prevention techniques.

All commanders, officers and civilian employees are kept up to date on our latest technological advancements in both software and hardware, which include using officer's smartphones to view live video of police response actions transmitted through patrol car mounted cameras.



Officers responding to a scene are able to view what is occurring as it unfolds, allowing them to react faster and better to protect our residents. All police cars are also now outfitted with GPS trackers which allow 911 dispatchers to locate the patrol car closest to an emergency and coordinate the fastest possible response.

The best tool Calumet City has for protecting our safety is the common sense and watchful eye of all of our residents. Monthly crime watch meetings are held throughout the City to alert residents about activity in their neighborhoods and encourage neighbors to look out for their neighbors. To assist our residents in protecting themselves, we continue to refine the use of our Code Red System (Reverse 911), which allows us to immediately convey emergency public safety messages by an automated phone call to your home or cell phone.

**Confidential Police Tip Hotline:
708-891-STOP (7867)**

Calumet City Means Business !!!

While other towns are losing businesses to the recession and high Illinois state income taxes, Calumet City is able to attract new businesses locally because Calumet City Hall cuts through the red tape that causes business to leave or avoid other cities, towns and villages.

In addition to stiff competition from other Illinois municipalities, Calumet City has to contend with competition neighboring Indiana, which aggressively markets to Illinois businesses in order to draw them across the border. Calumet City has to compete with promises of lower taxes, less regulation and economic incentives for companies to relocate.

Calumet City is able to defeat the competition by presenting a comprehensive analysis of our community which proves we have a lower tax burden, lower crime rate, better education system and more stable population than any of our neighbors.



New And Expanding Businesses Create Over 300 Jobs And Over \$15 Million In Investments !!!

Ashland Chemical
La Cal City Car Care
Dress For Less
Dunkin Donuts
Family Dollar
Gelita
Harold's Fried Chicken
Kay Manufacturing
Ken's Pro Bowling Shop
Kim's Nail & Spa
J & J Fish
LaCabana Restaurant
Laundromat
Party City
River Oaks Lincoln
River Oaks Cadillac
Roman Decorating
Shirley's Tacos
Shoppers World
Sonic
Tony's Taco
Transit Motor
Young's Natural Look

14201 Paxton Avenue
672 Torrence Avenue
480 River Oaks West
533 Torrence Avenue
893 Burnham Avenue
10 Wentworth Avenue
1559 Sibley Boulevard
602 State Street
1652 Sibley Boulevard
1525 Sibley Boulevard
636 Torrence Avenue
612 Torrence Avenue
588 Torrence Avenue
450 River Oaks West
1777 River Oaks Drive
1777 River Oaks Drive
824 State Street
807 Burnham Avenue
550 River Oaks West
1299 Torrence Avenue
615 Wentworth Avenue
749 Torrence Avenue
825 River Oaks Drive

NEW STORM WATER PUMPING STATION

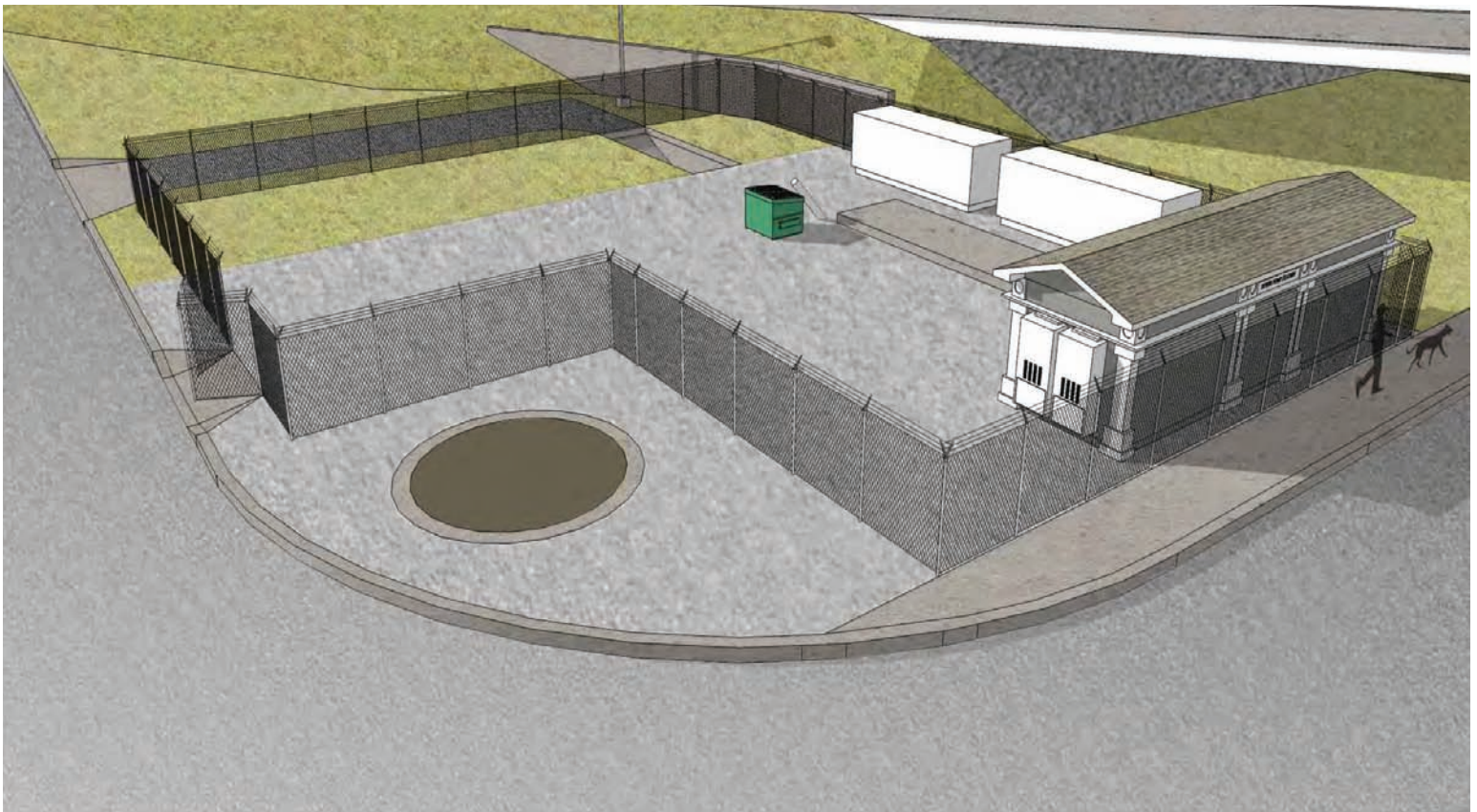
New Sewer Water Pump Station To Be Constructed

Whenever it rains so hard and fast that the amount of water flooding into Calumet City's sewer system cannot all be flushed into the Deep Tunnel, the excess water has to be pumped into the Cal Sag from our municipal sewer pumping station. Due to its age and the malfunctioning equipment in the current combined sewer-stormwater pumping station near State Street and Burnham Avenue (built almost 100 years ago), our independent city engineering firm recommended that the facility be replaced before it broke down completely and caused widespread flooding in the northeast section of Calumet City.

In March, the City Council approved a \$5.5 million dollar project to build a new combined sewer-stormwater

pumping station to replace the current facility over the next 18 months. Bids for construction are set to be approved in October 2012, with construction starting in December and ending in the Fall of 2013. The new sewer-stormwater pumping station will include a prefabricated control room with state of the art water flow monitoring systems which will help avoid flooding in side streets or on private property.

The project, to be financed from tax revenue collected on the sewer bills of residents and additional grant money acquired by the city, will also include the demolition and removal of the existing structure and century old fixtures.



Stormy Weather News

In anticipation of power outages from summer storms and thunderstorms, Calumet City officials are encouraging all residents with internet access to enter the following ComEd website links into their web browsers in order to more easily access information regarding power outages and emergencies. Mobile device applications are also available for tech proficient smart phone users as they travel home.

ComEd Emergency

If you have an electric emergency it is important to call ComEd immediately. Never email your emergency request. If you need to report an emergency situation such as a fire, vehicle accident, electric contact/shock, or other potential danger please call 911 to notify local authorities. <https://www.comed.com/customer-service/service-request/Pages/emergency.aspx>



ComEd®

An Exelon Company

Storm Center

When the storms roll in, ComEd is ready to keep you up-to-date on our outage restorations. Visit the Storm Center at [ComEd.com/Storm](https://www.comed.com/Storm) to get the latest information on outages in the service territory, view our Outage Map, and report an outage. <https://www.comed.com/customer-service/outage-information/Pages/storm-center.aspx>

Outage Map

With ComEd's outage map, customers can view all outages in the ComEd service area at once and zoom in and get details on specific areas, such as the estimated restoration time & status of crews working to resolve problems. Icons are color-coded to indicate the number of customers affected by each incident. Check out the interactive map at [ComEd.com/Map](https://www.comed.com/Map) or at https://www.comed.com/_layouts/comedsp/outagemap.aspx



Outage Alerts

Need to report an outage? Text the word OUT to 26633 (ComEd) and get updates until your power is restored. Visit [ComEd.com/Text](https://www.comed.com/Text) for more info and to sign up or visit <https://www.comed.com/customer-service/outage-information/Pages/outage-alerts.aspx>

Mobile App

Gain the flexibility and convenience of managing your ComEd Residential account on the go with ComEd's FREE mobile app for iPhone® and Android™ devices. Report an outage, make a one-time payment, and manage account features with the swipe of a finger. Learn more at [ComEd.com/App](https://www.comed.com/App) or at <https://www.comed.com/customer-service/mobile/pages/mobile-application.aspx>

SUMMER ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS



Calumet City's Road Projects For 2012-2013

Summer is the time for outdoor fun and maybe a vacation, but it is also the road construction season. Calumet City must keep up with our infrastructure repairs and improvements in order to make traffic flow safely and smoothly through the community. All of the work should be done by the Fall, and in the end it will be worth the inconvenience.

The following projects may have already begun in your neighborhood and will be finished by October as long as the work crews do not run into any complications. Some projects may be done in as quickly as three weeks.

Ward: 1st, 3rd & 7th **Street:** Sibley Boulevard
Limits: Stateline to Saginaw Avenue
Project Type: Street Resurfacing & Drainage Improvements
Estimated Project Cost: \$1,400,000
Funding Source: STP/LAPP = \$744,000 (Fed)
CDBG = \$200,000 ERP (Senator Trotter) = \$270,000
MFT = \$186,000

Ward: 1st **Street:** State Street
Limits: Lincoln to Stateline
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$326,000
Funding Source: TCSP
Notes: Federal Grant - Transportation and Community and System Preservation

Ward: 1st **Street:** Wentworth Avenue
Limits: State Street to Plummer
Project Type: Street Rehabilitation and Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$220,000
Funding Source: TIF
Notes: Approved by council on 2/9/2012

Ward: 2nd **Street:** Lucas Street
Limits: Exchange to Muskegon
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$212,000
Funding Source: MFT
Notes: 2012 MFT program

Ward: 3rd **Street:** Luella Avenue
Limits: Harbor to Dolton Avenue
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$212,000
Funding Source: MFT
Notes: 2012 MFT program

Ward: 5th **Street:** Forestdale Drive
Limits: East and West of Legon Drive
Project Type: Street Rehabilitation and Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$310,000
Funding Source: CDBG
Notes: CDBG 2013 application. Council Approved 2/9/12. Est. Completion date: Summer 2013.

Ward: 6th **Street:** 165th Place
Limits: Stateline to Shirley
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$90,000
Funding Source: MFT
Notes: 2013 MFT Program-Revised to 2012.
Est. Completion date: Summer 2013.

Ward: 7th **Street:** Arthur Avenue
Limits: River Oaks to Williams
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$65,000
Funding Source: MFT
Notes: 2012 MFT program

Ward: 7th **Street:** Park Avenue
Limits: River Oaks Drive to Guard Shack
Project Type: Street Resurfacing
Estimated Project Cost: \$79,000
Funding Source: MFT
Notes: 2012 MFT program



Meet The New Clerk – Nyota Figgs Biography

Nyota Figgs has made improving our community her life's work. Motivated to obtain an education to help her pursue her dreams, Nyota earned a Bachelor's Degree (B.S.) and a Master's Degree (M.S.) from Lewis University in the field of Criminal/Social Justice.

Prepared to work in the community through her charitable work through the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority during her college years, Nyota began her career at Catholic Charities and Family Rescue by helping children and families work their way through difficult circumstance and financial difficulties to get their lives back on track. Nyota has continued to privately help children and families in need through her independently funded Figgs Foundation.

Nyota was recruited to join the Adult Probation Department of the Circuit Court of Cook County, which operates under the supervision of the office of the Chief Judge. Nyota and her colleagues were responsible for monitoring the actions and behavior of convicted offenders and help their transition back into society. Nyota worked with newly released offenders to make sure they were trying to become productive and law abiding members of society — working at productive jobs, avoiding troublesome situations and abstaining from drugs and alcohol.

Nyota was responsible for determining which offenders were rehabilitated and which offenders were a danger to the community and need to be monitored further or placed in custody.

During her professional career, Nyota continued to expand her education and training by acquiring certifications in training new probation employees, conducting group therapy sessions for offenders and providing individual counseling sessions for clients to improve their lives. Nyota was one of the few nationally certified Cook County



Mayor Michelle swears in new City Clerk Nyota Figgs in a ceremony in the Mayor's Office.

trainers in Protective Service Systems. Nyota also returned to college to acquire a Paralegal Certification from Loyola University of Chicago.

Calumet City residents urged Nyota Figgs to be a candidate for Commissioner of the Calumet Memorial Park District. Nyota was elected with the help of friends and neighbors in April of 2011 and continues to serve as an elected member of the unpaid volunteer Park District board.

Based on her experience and outstanding service as a public sector employee, as a community activist/volunteer, and as an elected official, Mayor Michelle selected Nyota Figgs to fill the vacancy of the Calumet City Clerk in November, 2011.





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Every ten years the U.S. Census Bureau completes a detailed accounting of each person in the United States and in the process compiles demographic, financial and economic information for each community. Here is a quick snapshot of the basic statistics provided to Calumet City regarding our community as of the year 2011. Communities are able to use the information to help future economic development planning and strategic government resource allocation.

Overall, the population of Calumet City fell 5.2%, from 39,071 in 2000 to 37,042 in 2010.

Population	37,042
People Under 5 Years Old	7 %
People Under 18 Years Old	28 %
People Over 65 Years Old	12 %
Females	54 %
African American Population	70 %
American Indian Population	.06 %
Asian Population	.03 %
Caucasian Population	13 %
Latino Population	15 %
Foreign Born Population	9 %
High School Graduates	84 %
College Graduates	15 %
Housing Units	15,646
Home Owners	59 %
Apartment Renters	41 %
Average People Per Home	2.59
Median Household Income	\$ 43,851
People Below Poverty Level	19 %
Number Of Businesses	2,708
Total Sales / Production	\$ 654 Million
Total Square Miles	7.19
People Per Square Mile	5,155





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One of my responsibilities as your City Treasurer is to compile revenues anticipated to be received for the coming fiscal year by the city. This information is required by state statute to be filed in the Cook County Clerk's office by the last day of July every year. This chart provides an estimate of anticipated revenues by source for the new fiscal year beginning May 1, 2012 and ending April 20, 2013.

General Property Taxes	\$12,000,000
State Sales Tax	5,000,000
State Income Tax	3,000,000
State Use Tax	540,000
State Replacement Tax	190,000
Home Rule Sales Tax	3,600,000
Utility Tax	1,790,000
Real Estate Transfer Tax	210,000
Hotel / Motel Tax	20,000
Cable TV Franchise Tax	340,000
Cable / Video Service Provider Fee	85,000
Telecommunications Tax	1,300,000
Vehicle Licenses	815,000
Other Licenses	332,030
Permits	322,500
Fines	484,400
Refuse Collection	1,760,605
Sales Of Recyclables	2,000
Other Services	434,600
Miscellaneous Grants	1,256,514
Interest	4,100
Reimbursements / Contributions	1,117,200
Miscellaneous Revenues	2,000
Community Development	913,000
Paramedic	621,000
Water	5,206,840
Motor Fuel Tax	876,797
Employees' Pension	2,203,000
Firemen's Pension Fund	2,144,846
Policemen's Pension Fund	2,963,339
<u>TOTAL REVENUES</u>	\$49,534,771

It should be noted that the budget ordinance that was recently presented by the administration and passed by the City Council reflected expenditures in the Corporate Fund of \$34,558,304. With the estimated revenues in the

Corporate Fund (this is the main operating fund of the City) at \$34,605,949 the projected expenditures result in a net surplus of \$47,645 for the fiscal year.

Looking Out For Your Money

With the deregulation of Commonwealth Edison, the City is now able to buy its electrical power from other suppliers. I saw this as an opportunity to save the taxpayers of Calumet City money and investigated the matter with several energy brokers and cooperative groups.

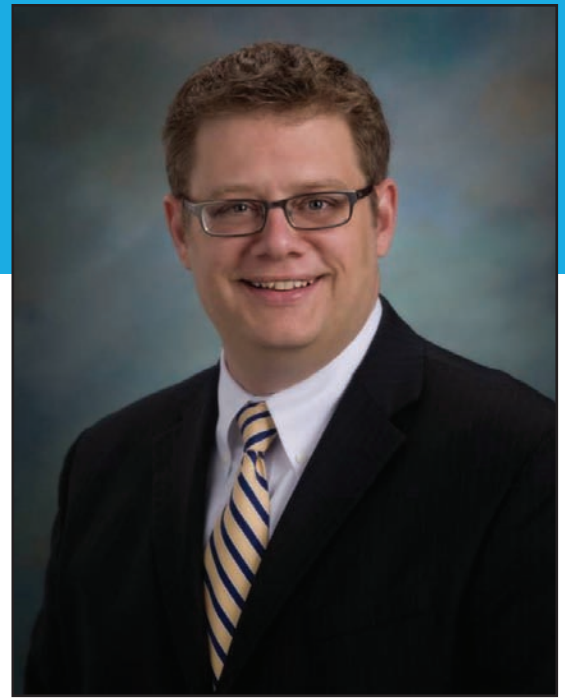
In May of 2011 the City of Calumet City entered into an agreement with Exelon Energy to provide electrical service for street lighting and power to our water pumping stations. Exelon Energy is one of the largest unregulated suppliers of electricity and natural gas in the nation. With the assistance of NIMEC (Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative) the City was able to realize a substantial savings in energy purchases.

The City will save 20% on street lighting versus the ComEd rate and 52% savings on electricity to service our water pumping stations.

It is through savings such as this that we are able to keep a handle on our budgetary priorities to serve our citizenry. Look for more information in the near future about the City's efforts to pass these savings along to each and every homeowner in Calumet City through the Municipal Aggregation referendum that will be on the November 2012 general election ballot.

1st Ward Alderman Eric Schneider
Health, Education and Welfare Committee Chairman
708.891.8198

eschneider@calumetcity.org



Alderman Eric Schneider is providing an incentive for Calumet City home owners to beautify our city and raise property values by sponsoring the BEST HOUSE ON THE BLOCK contest. Planned in conjunction with the Neighborhoods, Inc. not-for-profit organization, contestants are provided free professional advice to complete their home improvements for the lowest cost possible. The first place winner chosen in September will receive \$500 with runners up receiving between \$400 and \$100 each.



Alderman Schneider, who also volunteers his time as a Commissioner of the Calumet Memorial Park District, worked to coordinate the efforts of the park district and Calumet City for their jointly sponsored annual Freedom's Eve celebration held at Thornton Fractional North High School on July 3rd. Alderman Schneider will be serving in the same capacity to make sure the annual Calumet City Labor Day parade runs smoothly and that there is an open line of communication between city and park district organizers.



As the Chairman of the Health, Education and Welfare Committee, Eric would like to welcome all of Calumet City's students back to school and urge them to remember to be aware of their surroundings and avoid dangerous situations on their way to and from school. School administrators and parents always remind children to be alert, but the folks at City Hall want every school day to be a positive learning experience beneficial to our students without any distractions or worries.



2nd Ward Alderman Magdalena “Leni” Wosczyński
Finance Committee Chairman
708.891.8192

lwosczyński@calumetcity.org

Alderman Magdalena “Leni” Wosczyński and Calumet City Health Commissioner Dr. Juan Tellez hosted a free Health and Wellness Fair for all Calumet City residents and their families on May 12th at the Calumet City Library. Alderman Leni coordinated the participation of 25 not-for-profit health organizations, government agencies and private businesses to inform Calumet City residents on practical strategies for maintaining a healthier lifestyle for their families. Residents were also offered free, on-site medical testing from various area hospitals and medical professionals while enjoying free refreshments provided by Pete’s Fresh Market.



Leni would like to thank the participating organizations, which included: Saint Bernard’s Hospital, the American Lung Association, Aunt Martha’s Youth Services, Bone & Joint Physicians Group, Catholic Charities, the Citizens Utility Board, Curves Fitness Centers, Veterans Affairs Outreach Center, EMB Medical Supply, First Savings Bank Of Hegewisch, Home Depot, Hospice Of Calumet City, Ingalls Hospital, the Legal Assistance Foundation, the Lupus Foundation, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Midwest Eye Center, the Sandridge Fitness Center, the Victory Center of River Oaks and the Thornton Township Senior Services Department.

Alderman Leni is also wrapping up a series of “Summer Block Meeting” designed to provide her constituents with an outdoor forum to ask questions and talk about issues or problems facing Calumet City and the 2nd Ward. In the months of July and August, Leni held six outdoor meeting on various street corners throughout the ward so that each resident would only have to travel a few blocks to

interact with their alderman, a representative from the Police Department and a representative from the Public Works Department. The meetings were well attended by residents and Leni hopes to repeat the Summer Block series next year in order to bring local government to her constituents on an informal basis.



Alderman Leni also sponsored a “School Supply Give Away” program in which 50 randomly chosen students from the 2nd Ward were given a supplement of school supplies for the upcoming school year. Parents interested in receiving the extra bonus of supplies were asked to apply by sending an email to Alderman Leni’s official government email address by August 13th. Alderman Leni randomly chose the lucky recipients and had the supplies delivered to each household prior to the start of the school year.



Enterprise Zones provide incentives to businesses by providing to locate or expand in the form of sales tax exemptions on building materials, equipment and tools, an exemption on the state utility tax, income tax credits, job creation/new employee tax credits and select state income deductions. Local governments can also provide additional incentives in the form of permit and license fee waivers, property tax abatement, sales tax sharing, and business loan assistance.



Residents were also encouraged to help volunteers from the Jones Foundation, Inc. (an Illinois not-for-profit corporation) to prepare care packages to be shipped to U.S. Military personnel stationed in combat zones and for Calumet City college students leaving home for school.

Earlier this year, the General Assembly voted to extend the life of Enterprise Zones throughout Illinois by 30 years to assist in creating new businesses and jobs. Enterprise Zones were originally authorized in 1982 for thirty years and were set to expire beginning in 2013. The legislation extends their life for another 30 years, including the Enterprise Zone which includes all of Calumet City.



On Saturday, April 21st, Alderman Jones sponsored a “Comcast Cares” day in which local Comcast employees join in with local residents and the Public Works Department employees to clean up and beautify the 3rd Ward.

Residents also generously contributed to filling the care packages with the following items: socks, deodorants, crackers, oreo cookies, chocolate chip cookies, canned and dry soup, paper, pens, juice packages, shampoo and body wash. The event was a success in both the improvement of the appearance of the 3rd Ward and the creation of dozens of care packages for the troops and local students.



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Alderman Brian Wilson would like to remind all home owners and business owners considering construction and improvement projects to contact the Building Department regarding the need for plan or permits. While minor improvements may not



require the submission of plans or applications, more complex projects involving electricity, plumbing or digging around gas, water and sewer lines need to be approved for safety reasons. The professionals in the Calumet City Building Department will be able to assist property owners in identifying potential hazards in relation to their projects by using utility maps and by referring property owners to J.U.L.I.E. (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) at 1.800.892.0123.



**Make sure
your
contractor
is licensed,
bonded and
insured!**

Prior to hiring any contractors to provide property improvements services, home owners and business owners should ask each contractor if they are licensed, bonded and insured for the work they are proposing to do. Most reputable and competent contractors are also able to provide references and addresses for potential customers to review the contractor's prior work product. If any contractor asks to be paid in full prior to the start of work, show them the door. If a home owner or business owner is planning on doing minor repairs or maintenance on their property by themselves or with an employee, please remember to take every precautionary measure and make safety your first priority. Skilled tradesman and handyman services do this for a living, which is how they generally avoid getting hurt.

5th Ward Alderman Roger Munda
Public Works Committee Chairman
708.891.8195

rmunda@calumetcity.org



As Chairman of the Public Works Committee, Alderman Munda's primary concern is to provide oversight of the maintenance of the infrastructure of the city (streets, sidewalks, sewers, water pipes, bridges, etc.) and to make sure the Public Works Department provides the services to city residents need to keep the residences free of rubbish and obstructions. To that end, Roger Munda regularly performs inspection tours of the city, both above ground and below. Without the regular maintenance of our infrastructure, including the immediate repair of potholes and buckles in the streets, our streets would need to be completely resurfaced and replaced beyond our ability to pay through motor fuel tax revenue collections.



Residents concerned about the recent "sinkhole" exposed when a multi-ton fire truck travelled down a residential street need not worry – our streets are safe! Occasionally, a broken water pipe beneath the surface of



over the world), it is a rare event. Within a short period of time, the water line was replaced, allowing street repair crews to rebuild the foundation of the street and replace the asphalt.

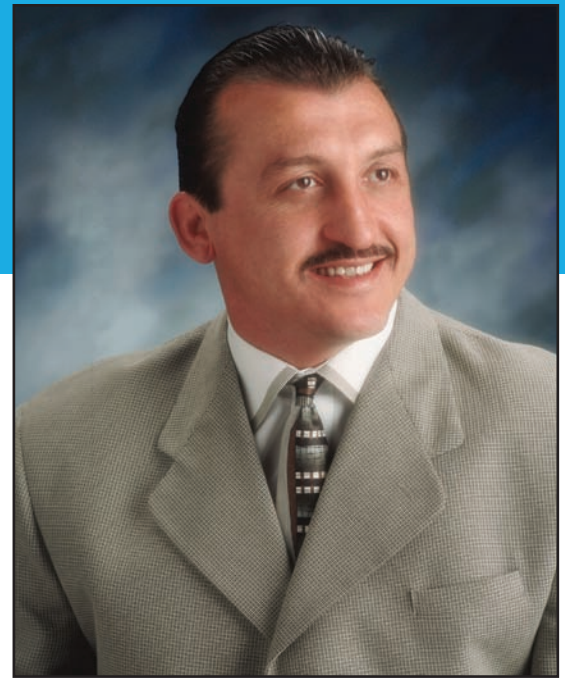


the street will wash away all of the supporting gravel and sand beneath the asphalt, creating a void beneath the street. No evidence of a void beneath the street is visible or detectable until a excessive weight vehicle travels over the void, causing a minor hole or a sizable "sinkhole". Although it makes for a good photo and TV news story when these event occur (and they occur all

As part of Alderman Munda's city wide effort to beautify Calumet City, he is providing an incentive for Calumet City home owners to beautify our city and raise property values by sponsoring the BEST HOUSE ON THE BLOCK contest. Planned in conjunction with the Neighborhoods, Inc. not-for-profit organization, contestants are provided free professional advice to complete their home improvements for the lowest cost possible. The first place winner chosen in September will receive \$500 with runners up receiving between \$400 and \$100 each.

6th Ward Alderman Nick Manousopoulos
Public Safety Committee Chairman
708.891.8196

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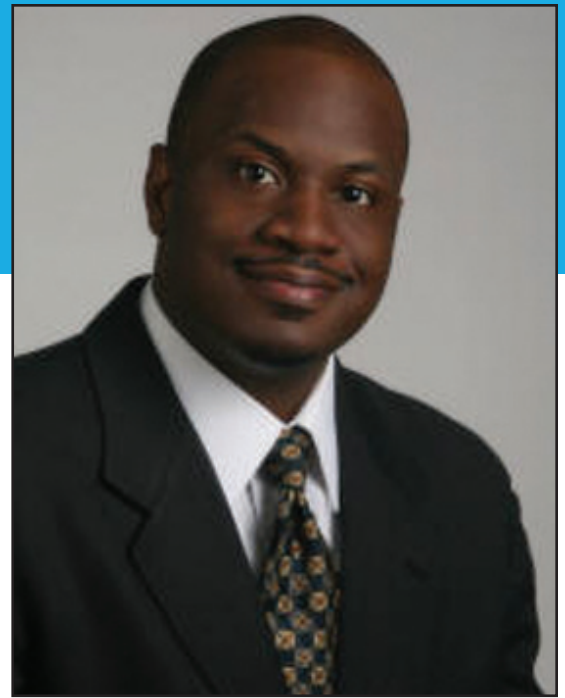
Alderman Alderman Nick Manousopolous joined the efforts of the South Suburban Association of Chiefs of Police (SSA-COP) to help get illegal firearms off the street to help reduce gun violence in Calumet City and the south suburbs. The Gun Buyback Program was provided \$2,000 by Alderman Nick on June 23rd. In 2011, over 600 guns were taken off the streets of the south suburbs with the help of Alderman Nick.



Calumet City has been awarded a \$469,000 grant to assist with the hiring and training of firefighters, including payment the salary and benefits of three new firefighters for the next two years. The SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant is offered through the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) which is now under the federal department of Homeland Security. The purpose of the grant program is to assist fire departments in increasing the number of frontline firefighters who are trained, certified, and competent to safely respond to emergencies within the local government jurisdictions throughout the United States. The goal is to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities so they may respond to emergencies whenever they occur, assuring their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards (source: FEMA).

In addition, Calumet City police will hold a second round of gun buybacks in November, 2012 before the holiday season. The strategy behind the pre-Christmas gun buyback is to provide additional money for the holidays for and family or individual turning in a guns while making the holiday season safer on our streets.





7th Ward Clean Up: On August 4, 2012, the 7th Ward Clean-Up took place with the Public Works Department from 7 AM until Noon. Residents with bulk items (furniture), branches, grass clippings and other rubbish that was taking up space in their basement, garage or back yard brought it out to the curb for pick up. We also identified nuisance or foreclosed homes with high weeds and garbage that need to be added to the list of those properties maintained by Public Works. With the cooperation of our residents, numerous 7th Ward volunteers and our Public Works crews, we were able to spruce up the 7th Ward !

Alley Grading/Tree trimming/Street Light or Alley Light Repairs: Please call my office if your alley needs grading, if you need a tree trimmed that is in the public right of way or to report a street light or alley light which needs repair.

7th Ward Summer Neighborhood Block Parties: During the summer, I am sponsoring a number of block parties. Please check your mailboxes for the location, date and time for your block party. Residents are encouraged to bring out their lawn chairs. Come out and enjoy an afternoon of fun including moon jumps and face painting for the kids, food, and music. Remember to check your mailboxes so that you won't miss these events.

Sidewalk & Curb Repair/Replacement Program: If you are aware of a location in need of repair, please contact my office. Repairs will be made on a first come, first serve basis.

Property Tax Appeal Forum: 7th Ward residents seeking relief from rising property taxes were invited to join me and Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Larry Rogers, Jr., to provide residents with the tools to appeal their taxes to see an actual reduction on their property tax bills. This years forum was held on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at South Suburban College. If you were not able to make it, I will be co-sponsoring another property tax relief forum in conjunction with other Calumet City officials this Fall. I will notify you of the time, day and place and will remind you to please bring your tax bill.

College Care Packages: Many 7th Ward residents have children who will be heading off to college very soon. I would like to hear from you so I can include your child to receive a college care package. The packages consist of non-perishable foods and personal hygiene items. If you would like to volunteer or are interested in donating items such as soap, toothpaste, snacks, for the Fall, 2012 mailing, please contact my office or email me at acollins@calumetcity.org.



Labor Day Parade 2012: On September 3, 2012, Calumet Memorial Park District will host its' annual Labor Day Parade. Please come out and join me and your fellow neighbors in one of the largest parades in the South Suburbs. This parade typically symbolizes the return to school for our city's students. Come and enjoy this awesome family event and catch some of the candy. If you are interested in walking with your Alderman, please contact my office.

The Illinois Yellow Dot Program could save your life.

The Golden Hour

The best chance for survival following a traumatic injury, occurs when those injured are seen and treated within an hour.

In the moments directly following a crash, seconds count. When you participate in the Illinois Yellow Dot Program, you are providing first responders with vital medical information. Here's what you need:

#1

Photograph

A photo, clearly identifying program participant, must be placed in the designated spot on the Yellow Dot Medical Card.



#2

Personal Information

This must include: participant's name, emergency contact, personal physician, medical conditions, recent surgeries, allergies and current medications.*

Completed form goes in your glove compartment.



**Please complete additional medical cards for other drivers or passengers.*

#3

Yellow Dot

Decal must be placed on the rear-facing window on the driver's side. This alerts first responders of vital medical information that can be found in the glove compartment.



www.YELLOWDOTILLINOIS.org

Freedom's' Eve

“Thousands of Calumet City residents came out to relax and enjoy the festivities and fireworks at TF North High School on July 3rd. Calumet City’s annual Freedom’s Eve celebration allowed friends, neighbors and children to enjoy good food, good music and a family atmosphere with games and carnival rides. The evening was capped off with a spectacular fireworks display that could be viewed by most residents, even if they were unable to attend.”

Mayor Michelle

— Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush

Sponsors and Hosts:
Calumet City

Calumet Memorial Park District

Thornton Fractional High School District 215



ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

Electric Aggregation = Buying As A Group To Negotiate Lower Prices

The Calumet City Council has approved the placement of a non-binding referendum question on the ballot for the November 6, 2012 general election. Calumet City officials are seeking guidance from Calumet City residents on whether residents would like Calumet City to enter into an agreement which would allow electricity sellers to provide lower electricity rates to individual Calumet City home owners, apartment renters and business owners. The idea is that by purchasing as a group, electricity providers will compete to offer us a lower rate. Other communities who passed this referendum earlier in the year are now able to provide their residents with electricity bills that are 25% lower than their current monthly bills.

In the event the referendum does pass and Calumet City is able to negotiate lower rates for all electricity customers, individual homeowners, renters and business owners will still have the choice of not participating by opting out. Maybe you can find a better deal on your own, and if you can, more (electrical) power to you.

Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) owns and operates the electrical lines that the electricity flows through, and ComEd will still be providing billing, maintenance and repairs for the entire system. However, ComEd's electrical grid and lines runs over public property that belongs to the people of the United States, which is why they must allow individual electricity sellers to offer their product (electricity) through ComEd's lines. As an example of a similar situation, ATT owns the phone lines and phone system, but must allow competing phone service companies like Sprint or Verizon to offer local and long distance calling service over ATT's lines.

More information on the process will be available should the referendum pass, as it has in over 187 Illinois communities to date.



CITY OF CALUMET CITY
204 PULASKI ROAD
CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS 60409
DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY	9-1-1
City Clerk's Office	(708) 891-8116
City Treasurer's Office	(708) 891-8125
Community & Economic Development	(708) 891-8140
Emergency Service & Disaster Agency (ESDA)	(708) 891-8190
Fire (non-emergency)	(708) 891-8145
Garbage Removal (Waste Management)	(800) 796-9696
Inspectional Services	(708) 891-8120
Library	(708) 862-6220
Mayor's Office	(708) 891-8105
Personnel	(708) 891-8100
Police (non-emergency)	(708) 868-2500
Public Works	(708) 891-8160
Purchasing	(708) 891-8137
Sewer & Maintenance	(708) 891-8160
Water Billing	(708) 891-8121
Water Service	(708) 891-8160

www.calumetcity.org
www.youtube.com/cityofcalumetcity
www.twitter.com/calumetcity

POSTAL PATRON
CALUMET CITY, IL 60409

Mayor
Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush
City Clerk
Nyota Figgs
City Treasurer
Gerry Tarka
1st Ward Alderman
Eric Schneider
2nd Ward Alderman
Magdalena "Leni" Wosczyński
3rd Ward Alderman
Thaddeus Jones
4th Ward Alderman
Brian Wilson
5th Ward Alderman
Roger Munda
6th Ward Alderman
Nick Manousopolous
7th Ward Alderman
Antoine Collins



Calumet City
Labor Day
Parade
2012
Monday
September 3, 2012
10:30 AM
Wentworth Avenue
from Michigan City Road
to Memorial Park