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Aldermanic Office of the Third Ward Newsletter

August

2010

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Dear 3rd Ward Resident,

July's record warm weather and severe storms certainly didn't slow down the Third Ward. In addition to having a major motion picture filmed at the historic Rosenwald located at 47th and Michigan, there was a lot of infrastructure work completed in the ward and I was the lead sponsor or co-sponsor for two significant pieces of legislation that were either passed or introduced in July that will help residents in the Third Ward as well as throughout the city. Please note that the City Sticker violation enforcement began August 1st. So if you do not have your city sticker, you need to visit www.chiccityclerk.com or call (312) 74-CLERK. We also have a very busy August with the Bud Billiken Day Parade on the 14th and my **4th Annual Back to School Extravaganza** at Fuller Park on the 21st and several other events. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Pat Dowell

Alderman Pat Dowell



Third Ward Review

Third Ward Senior Update

Last month, Alderman Dowell hosted her Third Annual Senior Update event at Dawson Technical Institute. Residents from senior buildings in the Third Ward were provided transportation to the event where they were updated with important announcements about services that may benefit them and about activities in the ward. They were also treated to bingo games, raffles, prizes, and a delicious lunch. Special thanks to Chicago Chicken and Waffles located at 3947 S. King Dr. for generously preparing and providing excellent food for the event. Also, a huge thanks to the following Third Ward businesses: Walgreens for offering free commemorative pictures and gift cards, [Tapas Valencia](#), Strictly by Hand Car Wash, Jimmy John's, Mothers Butter Popcorn, Starbucks on 35th and State, PACE, and [Salon Heaven](#) for contributing gift certificates or making other in kind donations. Also special thanks to 9th Police District and Officer Cheryl Clark for donating their time and a \$50 gift certificate. Everybody had a great time and we look forward to doing it again next year.



We had a great crowd of seniors at this year's update



Some of our Bingo Winners



More Bingo Winners



Thank you Walgreen's Employees for Generously Donating Your Time and Services



Our Wonderful Interns from Put Illinois to Work and Mikva Challenge



A representative from PACE talks about the Seniors Ride Free Program

Legislative Adjacent Lot Ordinance

In July, Alderman Dowell was a chief sponsor of an ordinance that makes it easier for homeowners to acquire a city-owned vacant lot if there is one next door to them. The ordinance makes amendments to the existing Adjacent Neighbor's Land Acquisition Project (ANLAP) to raise the maximum appraisal value so that more vacant lot parcels qualify. This not only helps homeowners acquire additional land for green space and recreation while beautifying neighborhoods, but also generates revenue for the city via property taxes while relieving the city of unnecessary and costly maintenance burdens. You can view the ordinance and all City Council legislation by visiting www.chicityclerk.com.

Abandoned Property Ordinance

Vacant buildings are problematic in numerous ways. They are a drain on city resources, provide a haven for illegal activities, and are unsightly. A significant portion of these properties are owned or managed by banks and lending institutions as a result of the foreclosure crisis. It should be their responsibility to ensure their vacant buildings are secured, well-maintained, rehabilitated for resale, or demolished before they become problematic. Alderman Dowell introduced an ordinance to increase accountability and responsibility for banks who own and/or service vacant and abandoned buildings in Chicago. The ordinance will require each bank to post a bond of \$10,000 on every vacant building they service. The banks will also be required to provide for a finder's fee to be given to neighbors who report maintenance violations on vacant properties. The finder's fee would be 5% of the total fines and fees assessed at a vacant property, usually amounting to somewhere between \$50 and \$250. You can read more about it in the Chicago Tribune's article by clicking [here](#).

Education

Last year, Alderman Dowell wanted to ensure the expansion of Norfolk Southern's operations near John Hope College Prep benefited the students and our residents. She helped negotiate a deal with Norfolk Southern in which they will be contributing \$25,000 to John Hope College Prep to design new academic programs and provide employment opportunities to students and residents. Last month, representatives from Norfolk Southern presented a check to Principal Michael Durr. Principal Durr is going to use the money to upgrade the school's science labs.



Alderman Dowell with representatives from Norfolk Southern and CPS as they deliver a check to Principal Michael Durr

New Principal and AP at Hendricks Academy

We would like to welcome Ms. Julie Perisin and her Assistant Principal, Sandee McDonald to Hendricks Academy. Ms. Perisin lives in the community and taught for CPS for 26 years, teaching every grade except the fourth grade before becoming a Reading Coach for Area 14 schools. Ms. McDonald has been an educator for 22 years and taught first grade at Hendricks. She was a Reading Coach for Area 13 schools, worked as a manager for CPS' Office of Literacy, was a Reading Recovery Teacher and is the mother of three girls. In addition to increasing academic performance, their vision for the school is to bring the school back to life through beautification, increase enrollment, re-establish a music program, and make the school more open and accessible to the community.

Sales Tax Holiday for School Supplies

Legislation has been enacted to create an annual state sales tax holiday for clothing and school supplies. Local and home rule sales taxes will still apply to all items. From **August 6 until August 15**, residents will be able to purchase back-to-school items and only pay local sales tax. The five percent that typically goes to the state will be waived for these nine days. Traditional school supplies such as paper, notebooks, writing instruments and other office-type materials will be subject to the sales tax break. The tax holiday also applies to clothing items under \$100 such as shoes, tops, bottoms, underwear and outerwear. Some specific items like school uniforms and limited athletic apparel are also on the approved list of sales tax holiday items.

Infrastructure Update

Street Lights

The Chicago Department of Transportation has received a total of \$515,000 in street light requests from Alderman Dowell's 2010 Aldermanic menu funds. The areas to receive new street lights are: 42nd Place from Princeton to the railroad viaduct, St. Lawrence from 45th to 47th, Emerald from 53rd to 54th, and Union from 51st to 55th.

CTA Updates

Redline Stations get Cleaned

Alderman Dowell worked with Jeff Wilson, Government and Community Relations Officer from the CTA to get the Red Line stations at 47th and at Garfield cleaned. After touring 3rd Ward facilities with Jeff, these stations received a good power washing and all the stainless steel fixtures were polished. These stations are heavily utilized and need continuous maintenance. We will continue working with the CTA to ensure all of our transit stops are cleaner and safer.

Shortening of Root St. Bus Stop

Additionally, Alderman Dowell is working with Mr. Wilson to have CTA Bus Planning to shorten one bus stop at approximately 300 West Root Street on the north side of the street, east of the Viaduct. This will provide more parking opportunities for residents who live along Root and Princeton.

Pedestrian Countdown Signals Upgrade

Pedestrian countdown signals help the visually impaired to safely cross the street by giving an audio countdown. As part of the LED/Stimulus Program, updates to the pedestrian countdown signals will be made at the following locations:

**WARD 3 Intersections Slated for Pedestrian
Countdown Signal Upgrade under the
LED/Stimulus Program**

Number	Ward(s)	LOCATION
1	3 , 2	MICHIGAN-31ST
2	3	MICHIGAN-33RD
3	3	MICHIGAN-35TH
4	3	MICHIGAN-37TH
5	3	INDIANA-PERSHING
6	3 , 4	KING-PERSHING
7	3	LASALLE-PERSHING
8	3	MICHIGAN-PERSHING
9	3	STATE-PERSHING
10	3	WABASH-PERSHING
11	3	WENTWORTH-PERSHING
12	3	MICHIGAN-41ST
13	3	MICHIGAN-43RD
14	3	MICHIGAN-45TH
15	3	MICHIGAN-47TH
16	3	MICHIGAN-49TH
17	3	MICHIGAN-51ST
18	3	MICHIGAN-53RD
19	3 , 20	MICHIGAN-GARFIELD

Storm Updates

Application for Flood Assistance

The City of Chicago has started applying for federal funding to assist Chicago residents who have experienced damages due to the recent flooding. Visit www.cityofchicago.org to download the instructions, application, and additional information. Once you have completed the application, you may e-mail it to flood2010@cityofchicago.org or drop it off at the Alderman's Office located at 5046 S. State St. You may also submit the form online and call 311 if you need assistance filling out the application.

Proper Disposal of Flood Debris

The heavy rains and flooding that Chicago experienced this weekend has left many residents with the unpleasant task of cleaning out their basements and throwing out many possessions that have been tainted by the flood water. Because flood debris can be filthy and full of bacteria, Streets & Sanitation considers the removal of debris to be a public health and safety service priority. Accordingly, the department will be putting out 60 additional garbage trucks and crews citywide to assist with bulk pick-ups of flood damaged items. Never put your flood debris in recycling containers and you should call 311 when you have an excessive amount of debris ready to be picked up.

Tree Debris

Last June, there were several nasty storms throughout the city. The total number of tree emergencies received and responded to in Chicago since June 18th has been 13,946. That is probably the most tree damage from a series of violent summer thunderstorms that Chicago has seen in at least two decades. Since June 18th

crews have removed more than 16,220 debris piles generated by both their crews and by residents phoning into 311.

Transformers 3 in the Third Ward



Optimus Prime
Getting Ready for
His Next Scene at
the Rosenwald

exciting to see the the Third Ward in the movie when it comes out next year!

Autobots and Decepticons have taken their battle to the Third Ward. During the third week of July, film crews turned the Rosenwald into an apocalyptic Russian ghetto. Brian Fairly, a freelancer from the Third Ward who is working on the film was nice enough to give Alderman Dowell and her crew a tour of the movie set. This was a great opportunity to use the abandoned Rosenwald building to bring revenue and excitement to the ward. The production crew made every effort to be good neighbors as they notified affected residents well in advance of the filming and took measures to ensure the community benefited from their presence. For example, in exchange for the use of the church for dining and breaks, the production crew gave St. Paul C.O.G.I.C. a stipend. In addition, some local businesses were patronized by the film crew. It sure will be exciting to see the the Third Ward in the movie when it comes out next year!

Chinese Delegation

Last summer, Alderman Dowell visited Beijing to learn about Olympic planning. This summer, it was our turn to be the hosts. For one week we hosted a delegation from Beijing Municipal Government Group with 21 officials from Beijing, China. The delegates were sponsored by the 21st Century Foundation and recently finished the English as a Second Language and Public Administration courses at the University of Chicago. They interviewed all the members of my staff and people from several other city and state official offices to find out what we do and how we do it. It was a lot of fun having them around and it was an educational experience for everyone.



Our Chinese Delegates and Alderman Dowell at
Governor Quinn's Signing of a Bill to Bring More
Funding to Early Childhood Education

Fight Loitering with Actions not Protests

Below is the text from an article Alderman Dowell wrote and submitted to the Lakefront Outlook regarding effective ways to handle public nuisances associated with liquor stores, which appeared in their July 21, 2010 edition.

FIGHT LOITERING WITH ACTIONS NOT PROTESTS

We applaud the Bronzeville Area Residents Commerce Council (BARCC) for joining in the fight to address the very real problem of loitering in our community. Unfortunately, BARCC's signature issue - voting the neighborhood dry of packaged

liquor sales - is an overkill solution that overshoots the real problems caused by loitering and does nothing to address the core problems that have troubled our community for years. As BARCC correctly points out, I have been working to address this longstanding problem for some time by attacking it from a variety of fronts. We share the same goal with BARCC of putting bad businesses out of business in our community, especially a shameless liquor store operator on 43rd & Calumet who we have been trying to close down for years. There are a few others that we agree need to go. However, BARCC's proposed solution of voting Bronzeville precincts dry to combat loitering would be like banning all fast food franchises to fight the problem of obesity. It's an overkill over-reaction that fails to effectively fight the core problem. Loitering and rowdy behavior are by-products of high unemployment, drug use and gang activity, none of which is caused by the sale of packaged goods, nor cured by eliminating the commerce and taxes generated by those businesses from our community's tax base.

The right of citizens to vote precincts dry should be exercised on a very specific case-by-case basis to ensure the effects of that decision produce an actual benefit to the community rather than make a political statement that ends up doing more harm than good.

Ten years ago, voters in Roseland reacted with a similar campaign of protest, but to this date have realized only mixed results for the community's economy while the plagues of crime and unemployment are as bad or worse after more than a decade.

I believe it is irresponsible to eliminate businesses from the neighborhood without concrete plans to replace or enhance that revenue today and in the future. I also am neither cynical nor naïve in believing that bad behavior by businesses can be addressed with organized citizen involvement and effective use of legal remedies. For example, the Deleterious Impact-Public Nuisance ordinance was enacted specifically to address these kinds of liquor store related problems. We have already used this ordinance successfully to have at least one liquor license revoked, and with organized citizen involvement can make this a much more effective weapon going forward targeting unrepentant business operators. Vigorous citizen energy does make a difference when it is channeled properly into solutions that solve specific problems. Protest votes may be well organized and well intentioned, but still net a negative result. Let's all work together to ensure an outcome we all want, the best possible result for the entire community.

Events in and Around the Third Ward

National Night Out 2010 Celebration

National Night Out is a nationwide event designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. The times and locations for each district event in the Third Ward are below:

When: August 3rd

Where: 1st District- 5pm-9pm at Grant Park (SW corner of Jackson and Columbus)
2nd District- 4pm-7pm at 4300 S. Calumet
7th District - Please call (312) 747-8223
9th District- 5:30 pm at McKinley Park (2210 W. Pershing)
21st District - 6pm-8pm at Promontory Point (55th and the Lakefront) Father Michael Pflieger will be speaking at the 21st District event.

Chicago Public School's Back to School Festival

CPS is hosting three back to school events this year in which free school supplies will be available. The one closest to the Third Ward will be in Englewood on August 6th.

When: August 6, 2010 from 10am to 2pm

Where: Ogden Park (6500 S. Racine)

1st Annual Bronzeville Street Fair

Come join [Bronzeville Business Association](#) and area businesses and vendors for this family-oriented back to school event. There will be dancing, back to school haircuts, jewelry, face painting beverages, horesrides, art, clowns, basketball, chess and lots more! Bring your bbq, blankets, and chairs and stay all day.

When: August 7, 2010 from 10am to 6pm

Where: 40th and King Drive

State Senator Mattie Hunter's Annual 3rd Legislative District Health and Fitness Fair and The Institute for Positive Living's Off the Page Reading Festival

Bring immunization records and receive a free school physical for your children. Additionally, there will be health and eye screenings, information on HIV/AIDS and holistic health, and performances by the South Shore Drill Team, Mr. Taps, the Chi-Town Steppers, and Benny the Bull and Melody the Singing Clown. If you visit the Open Book Literacy Village, you can learn how to create your own book, take classes on poetry, play reading games, meet famous writers, and listen to stories. There will be free food, books, school supplies, and other prizes awarded. For more information, please call the Institute for Positive Living at (773) 924-9802.

When: August 7, 2010 from 10am to 2pm

Where: Illinois Institute for Technology in the field north of Crown Hall (33rd and State)

Third Ward Democratic Organization Candidate's Forum

The Third Ward Democratic Organization and Committeeman Pat Dowell are hosting this Candidate's Forum. Confirmed participants include U.S Senate Candidate Alexi Giannoulias, Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (4th) who is running for Cook County Board President, Candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Sheila Simon, Representative Esther Golar (6th), Representative Ken Dunkin (5th), and Representative Will Burns (26th). Also invited are Candidate for State Treasurer Robin Kelly and Candidate for Comptroller David Miller.

Where: Charles Hayes Center (4859 S. Wabash)

When: August 10, 2010 6-8pm

Southside BluesFest

The Department of Senior Supportive Services and Woodlawn Development Corporation are hosting the Southside Blues Fest, which will feature great live music by Aron Burton, food, and prizes. Contact your Resident Service Coordinator for more information as bus transportation will be provided.

When: August 10, 2010 from 11am to 3pm

Where: Minnie Riperton Apartments (4250 S. Princeton)

81st Annual Bud Billiken Day Parade

2010 marks Bud Billiken's 81st year! With last year's festivities seeing over 75,000 participants, 1.5 million people along the parade route and over 25 million watching in their homes around the country, this 81st year will undoubtedly be monumental! For more information, visit <http://budbillikenparade.com/>. Alderman Dowell and her staff look forward to seeing you there.

When: August 14, 2010

Where: Martin Luther King Jr Drive

Cuba: An African Odyssey

Cuba: An African Odyssey is a brilliantly-executed documentary on Cuban involvement in Africa from the 60s to the early 90s. Director Jihan El-Tahri includes interviews with many of the power players from this period, including Fidel Castro and Pik Botha, as well as fabulous archival footage, particularly of Congo at the time Lumumba's assassination. El Tahiri also discusses Cuba's involvement in the anti-colonial liberation struggles in Algeria and Guinea-Bissau. Prexy Nesbitt, a faculty member in Columbia College's History department, will lead the post-film conversation. This screening is part of The African Jubilee Film Festival, which is free runs until December 5, and is open to the public. For more information, call 312.413.2457.

When: August 15, 2010 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Where: DuSable Museum of African American History (740 E 56th Pl)

Alderman Dowell's 4th Annual Back to School Extravaganza



This is one of our favorite events of the entire year because it brings the community together, helps get our students off to a good start, and is a lot of fun. Every August, Alderman Dowell hosts her Annual Back to School Extravaganza at Fuller Park. Backpacks, school supplies, and lunch are provided as well as services and information about important resources that can help students have a great year. Music, games, and health and dental check ups are also provided. Come on out and join us for a great morning of family-oriented fun.

When: August 21, 2010 from 10am to 1pm

Where: Fuller Park (331 W. 45th St.)

Elliot Donnelley Youth Center's Arts and Science Community Festival

[Elliot Donnelley Center](#) is one of the City of Chicago's Youth Centers. For over 80 years, they have helped young people learn to make productive decisions regarding their future. On August 27, 2010, they are hosting their annual Arts and Science Community Festival. This year's theme is health and fitness awareness. The youth from Elliot Donnelley have been engaged in health and fitness related programming

workshops and will be sharing their knowledge through activities and displays. Other youth from the center will be presenting a swim show in the Lou Jones Fitness Park's swimming pool. Their will also be health and fitness related vendors, youth-oriented art, various carnival games, music, and refreshments. For more information, please call (312) 913.1700 or (773) 268-3815.

When: August 27, 2010

Where: Elliot Donnelley Youth Center (3947 S. Michigan)

47th/King TIF/NIP Meeting

Alderman Dowell has made use of legislation that allows for a portion of [Tax Incentive Financing](#) (TIF) district money to be used by residents who live in that TIF district for home improvements through an initiative called the [Neighborhood Improvement Program](#) (NIP). Funding is available for homeowners and landlords of 1-4 unit buildings who live in the 47th/King TIF district. Applications and instructions will be available at the upcoming community meeting. In the event there are more applications than the funding can support, there will be a lottery to determine the recipients of the grant money. To find out if you live in the 47th/King TIF district, click [here](#).

When: August 31, 2010 at 6:30 pm

Where: Mt. Pigsah Baptist Church (4622 S. King Dr.)

Third Ward Star



Alderman Dowell and Mr. Fairley on Set

Brian L. Fairley is a Third Ward resident who does freelance production work for television and movies. He is a 1996 DeLaSalle graduate and has worked on numerous notable projects including Nightmare on Elm Street and the upcoming Transformers 3 movie. He was nice enough to give Alderman DOWell and her staff a tour of the Rosenwald, where they were filming a scene for Transformers 3. We are proud of Mr. Fairley for his success and were glad that our young interns had an opportunity to be inspired by it.

Third Ward CAPS Schedule for August



The CAPS Program has proven to be a successful community engagement tool the Chicago Police have been able to use to fight and prevent crime. Each district holds monthly meetings for each one of its beats. To find out more about CAPS, please visit www.chicagopolice.org. To find out more about each district, click on its title below. To find out what district and beat you live in, click [here](#).

[1st District](#)

Beat 132 CAPS

August 17th @ 7pm

1st District Police Station

Beat 134 CAPS

August 18th @

6:30pm

(1718 S. State St.)

Condo Building
(2101 S. Michigan)

2nd District

Beat 211CAPS
August 10th @ 6:30pm
Bee Library
(3647 S. State)

Beat 214/221 CAPS
August 11th @ 6:30pm
St. Elizabeth Church
(4058 S. Michigan)

Beat 232/233 CAPS
August 12th @ 6:30pm
Coppin Church
(5627 S. Michigan)

Beat 223 CAPS
August 16th @ 6:30pm
Hales Franciscan High
School
(4930 S. Cottage Grove)

Beat 222 CAPS
August 17th @ 6:30pm
King Center
(4312 S. Cottage
Grove)

Beat 213 CAPS
August 24th @ 6:30pm
Monumental Baptist
Church
(729 E. Oakwood Blvd.)

Beat 224/231 CAPS
August 26th @ 6:30pm
Hall Branch Library
(4801 S. Michigan)

7th District
Beat 711 CAPS
August 18th @ 6:30pm
Sherwood Park
(5705 S. Shields)

9th District

Beat 935 East CAPS
August 7th @ 10am
Fuller Park Field House
(331 W. 45th)

Beat 934 CAPS
August 12th @ 6:30pm
Westhaven Homes
(850
W.Garfield)

21st District

Beat 2112 CAPS
August 19th @ 6:30pm
College of Optometry
(3240 S. Indiana)

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