MAYOR MICHELLE HIGHLIGHTS CITY YOUTH PROGRAMS

Awards night, and youth job programs recognize achievements and needs of teens

Every year the City honors local students who have displayed excellence in Academics, Athletics, Citizenship, Fine Arts and Leadership.

T. F. North High School and Thornwood High School were asked to select five seniors, and each of the grade schools were asked to pick five eighth grade students whom they believe have shown outstanding achievements in these categories.

The students were honored at a ceremony held on May 11, 2016 at the American Legion. Each student was presented with a plaque and a resolution from the City.

“The program was started in order to highlight the youth in our community who demonstrated the importance of teamwork, goal setting and sense of community.” explained Mayor Michelle.
2016 MAYOR’S STUDENT AWARDS

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
Teresa Alvarez – T.F. North High School
Mariah Tolbert – Thornwood High School
Zachariah Watson – District 149 Creative Communications Academy
Desha Holloway – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Savannah Williams – District 149 S.T.E.M. Academy
Sa’eedat Omotayo Idris – Wentworth Jr. High School
Diego Gonzalez – Lincoln School
Brisa Robles – Schrum Memorial School

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENT
Emani James – T.F. North High School
Markwayla Barnes – Thornwood High School
Raya Brady – District 149 Creative Communications Academy
Madison White – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Shamari Long – District 149 S.T.E.M. Academy
Ivan Acre – Wentworth Jr. High School
Faith Houston – Lincoln School
Akira Hanyes – Schrum Memorial School

CITIZENSHIP
Ciera C. Walls – T.F. North High School
Ayenosi Oleghe – Thornwood High School
Dominic Gamez – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Qian Simpson – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Demetrius Burns – District 149 S.T.E.M. Academy
Justus Leo Jackson – Wentworth Jr. High School
Anahi Magallanes – Lincoln School
Jesus Zavala – Schrum Memorial School

FINE ARTS
Ciera King – T.F. North High School
Mohamed Konneh Jr. – Thornwood High School
Franshawn Floyd – District 149 Creative Communications Academy
Lazi’ McCoy – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Cordell Toney – District 149 S.T.E.M. Academy
Alyssa Porter – Wentworth Jr. High School
Jordan Walter – Lincoln School
Alyssa Shaw – Schrum Memorial School

LEADERSHIP
Ramon Padilla – T.F. North High School
Derrick Shelton – Thornwood High School
Paige Jeanpierre – District 149 Creative Communications Academy
Najala Watson – District 149 School of Fine Arts
Karlotta Prince – District 149 S.T.E.M. Academy
Melanie Sanchez – Wentworth Jr. High School
Zulema Garcia – Lincoln School
Ahnyah Moon – Schrum Memorial School

MAYOR’S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM
The City Council approved funding for the Mayor’s Summer Youth Employment Program. 50 young residents of Calumet City were hired for seasonal summer positions assisting public works with grass cutting and general cleaning of the public ways in the City. “It’s a wonderful opportunity for our youth to gain employment experience that they can then highlight on their resume when applying for a job,” explained Mayor Michelle Qualkinbush. “It also gives our youth a sense of community. Many of the students stated they will now make a conscience effort when discarding their trash.”

YOUTH PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY CITY GRANTS
The City awarded grants to the Calumet City Youth Organization, Calumet City Thunderbolts and the Calumet City Chargers.
MEET OUR NEW POLICE CHIEF

Christopher Fletcher was appointed Police Chief by a unanimous vote of the City Council.

Calumet City Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush submitted his appointment after an extensive regional search. A panel of citizens was established to interview candidates. Mayor Michelle would like to thank the panel participants: Dr. Dwayne Evans, Natalie Barnes, Joseph Gonzalez, George Grenchik, Ald. Manousopoulos, Ald. Williams, Officer Casey Erickson, and Officer Dennis Dennard.

Fletcher, a 29-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department most recently served the Chicago Police Dept. as an Executive Officer. “Chief Fletcher is an approachable leader with a sincere desire to positively impact the Calumet City Police Department. I am confident of his abilities to apply his extensive experience to ensure the safety of our residents.” - Mayor Michelle

CITY RECEIVED COPS GRANT TO HIRE MORE POLICEMEN

Calumet City applied for and received a $650,000.00 grant to hire five more police officers.

LED STREET LIGHT FIXTURES INSTALLED

The City Council approved bond funds to upgrade all city-owned street lights to led fixtures. This improvement will brighten up our neighborhoods The new lights will be more efficient and will reduce the City’s electric bill, saving tax payers dollars. Mayor Michelle met with representatives of ComEd to seek approval of ComEd to upgrade their lights located on the streets and in the alleys to LED lighting fixtures.
Residents are encouraged to participate in Neighborhood Watch Meetings held every Monday in the Training Room at the Police Department.

By attending these meetings, residents are advised of activity in their specific location. Tips for keeping you and your property safe are given. Residents are also given guidance how to create a block group.

Neighborhood watch meetings are held every Monday at 6:30 pm in the training room at the police dept. 1200 Pulaski Road, except for holidays.

**BEAT 1:**
AREA BOUNDED BY BURNHAM GREENWAY BIKE PATH EAST TO STATELINE ROAD; MICHIGAN CITY ROAD TO NORTHERN CITY LIMITS.
THIRD MONDAY OF MONTH:
Monday, September 19
October 17
November 21
December 19

**BEAT 2:**
AREA BOUNDED BY MICHIGAN CITY ROAD TO SOUTHERN CITY LIMITS (LITTLE CALUMET RIVER); BURNHAM GREENWAY BIKE PATH EAST TO STATELINE ROAD.
SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH:
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
OCTOBER 10
NOVEMBER 14
DECEMBER 12

**BEAT 3:**
AREA BOUNDED BY BURNHAM GREENWAY BIKE PATH WEST TO WESTERN CITY LIMITS; MICHIGAN CITY ROAD TO NORTHERN CITY LIMITS.
FIRST MONDAY OF MONTH:
SEPTEMBER 5 NO MTG LABOR DAY
OCTOBER 3
NOVEMBER 7
DECEMBER 5

**BEAT 4:**
AREA BOUNDED BY MICHIGAN CITY ROAD TO SOUTHERN CITY LIMITS (LITTLE CALUMET RIVER); BURNHAM GREENWAY BIKE PATH WEST TO WESTERN CITY LIMITS.
FOURTH MONDAY OF MONTH:
SEPTEMBER 26
OCTOBER 24
NOVEMBER 28
DECEMBER 26

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.**
ANONYMOUS CONFIDENTIAL CRIME REPORTING
HOTLINE: 708-891-STOP (7867)
The City Clerk is a public official whose principal duties include keeping records for the city. The Clerk also serves as the Chief Election Officer for Calumet City.

The City Clerk is one of three city-wide elected positions, in addition to the mayor and treasurer. The office administers and maintains business licenses, city stickers, animal licenses, and voter registration.

COMMENT CARDS: The Office of City Clerk Nyota T. Figgs is committed to providing ‘Exceptional Service’ to Calumet City residents. Complete a comment card during your next visit or email the clerk at nfiggs@calumetcity.org.

EXTRA SERVICES BROUGHT TO OUR RESIDENTS BY OUR CITY CLERK:

**Vehicle Sticker Contest:** Vehicle stickers are designed each year by students in Calumet City. This year’s winner was Ms. Ferries’ 7th grade class at Schrum School.

**Second Annual Property Tax Appeal Seminar:** The clerk partners with the Thornton Township Assessor to provide a yearly seminar on how to apply for property tax appeals.

**Amnesty Day:** the 2nd annual ‘forgiveness’ day allows resident a ‘second chance’ to purchase the vehicle sticker after the deadline.

**Free Rain Barrel Program:** Clerk Figgs partnered with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) to be one of the FIRST municipalities to offer FREE rain barrels. Sadly, the program ends December 1st. Contact the Clerk’s office to place your order today.

**UPCOMING:** Property After Death & Fraud Prevention: Please join Clerk Figgs for an informative presentation in conjunction with the Cook County Recorder of Deeds. This informative presentation will cover estate planning & protection. Mark your calendar for October 18, 2016 at 6:00 pm at city hall.
With the deregulation of Commonwealth Edison The City can now buy electrical power from a wide variety of suppliers. I saw this as an opportunity to save the taxpayers of Calumet City money. In May of 2011, the City entered into an agreement with Exelon Energy to provide electrical service for street lighting and power to our water pumping stations. They saved the City and its residents an average of 20% on street lighting, and 50% on electricity to service our water pumping stations annually.

Since then we passed the Municipal Aggregation referendum in November of 2012 and are now able to pass these savings along to every resident of the City who chooses to participate in the program. Recently, I met with representatives of NIMEC (Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative) in order to determine how the electrical aggregation program has fared for the residents of Calumet City. I’m happy to be able to report that since the program began, the average resident of the City of Calumet City has saved $49.00. The City as a whole has saved $351,000!

It is through savings such as this that we are able to keep a handle on our budgetary priorities in addition to being able to pass these savings along to our residents so that we can assist them in “making ends meet” in their own homes.

City Treasurer Gerald A. Tarka

As your City Treasurer, I take very seriously the trust that you, the residents, have put in me and rest assured that trust will never be taken lightly. In 2014, I realized that the Treasurer’s Office was in need of some type of credit card account in order to expedite the payment of certain transactions in a more timely fashion. I explored several programs with national companies but I found that MB Financial Bank’s “Revenue Sharing” promotion was the best alternative. We utilize the services of several Calumet City banks. MB Financial Bank is one of these and has all of the appropriate security features that protect the City’s financial interests. The added benefit is their earn cash back program. I am happy and proud to report that last year (2015) the City earned $17,388.24 by paying certain larger bills via the MB Financial Bank credit card. This money has been deposited into the general fund of the City in March of 2016 and can be used as real cash just like any other revenue received by the City.
ALDERMAN MAGDALENA “LENI” WOSCZYNSKI
CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEMBER, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
MEMBER, ORDINANCE & RESOLUTION COMMITTEE  
708-891-8192  
MWOSCZYNSKI@CALUMETCITY.ORG

SUMMER BLOCK MEETINGS
Throughout the summer, for the past six years, a series of summer block meetings were held on different blocks throughout the 2nd Ward. Representatives from the City Clerk’s office, Police Dept., Fire Dept., Public Works Dept. and Inspectional Services were present at the meetings to answer questions and listen to concerns.

Ten block meetings were held this summer.

11/12 2nd Ward Food Drive/Toy Drive  
12/17 (watch your mail for additional details)
IF YOU CAN’T STAY DRY, THEN STAY SAFE

MOST OF CALUMET CITY’S FLOODING AND DRAINAGE
Problems occur during and after heavy storms. These can happen at any time, but are more common during the summer. There are many things that can be done to prepare for the storm and ensuing water problems.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO DO:
• Keep ditches, drainage swales, detention basins and storm sewer inlets clear of debris.
• During a rain storm, keep tuned to local radio or television stations to see if there is a tornado or flash flooding hazard.
• Make a record of all your personal property. Go through your basement (if not your whole house) and record what you own. Take photographs or videotapes. Inventory forms are available free from most insurance companies or you can make your own.

FLOOD SAFETY
Do not walkthrough flowing water. Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there before you go through an area where the water is flowing.

Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don’t drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out.

Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. The number one flood killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to Commonwealth Edison at 1-800-334-7661.

Look before you step. After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.

Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don’t smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated. If you have questions on gas, call 1-888-642-6748 (1-888-NICOR4U).

Carbon monoxide exhaust kills. Use a generator or other gasoline powered machine outdoors. The same goes for camping stoves. Charcoal fumes are especially deadly; cook with charcoal outdoors.
Clean everything that got wet. Flood waters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, farms, factories and storage buildings. Spoiled food, flooded cosmetics, and medicine can be health hazards. When in doubt, throw them out.

Take good care of yourself. Recovering from a flood is a big job. It is tough on both the body and the spirit and the effects a disaster have on you and your family may last a long time. Keep your eyes open for signs of anxiety, stress, and fatigue in you and your family.

NATURAL AND BENEFICIAL FLOODPLAIN FUNCTIONS

Floodplains should be seen in their natural context. They are more than just hazardous locations for human development. They provide habitat for flora and fauna, groundwater recharge, and recreational and aesthetic opportunities. Several City parks front on the Little Calumet River, providing a more scenic setting and more relief than other locations provide.

Open and natural areas, such as forest preserves, absorb much more rain and floodwater than urbanized areas, reducing flood flows on downstream properties. Wetlands reduce flood velocities and erosion. Their plants filter storm water runoff, making it cleaner for those downstream. There are many areas in Calumet City that have been identified as wetlands. The largest areas are in the Sand Ridge and Wentworth Woods Forest Preserves.

Nearby forest preserves, such as Calumet City Woods, have kept or restored oak woodlands and prairies close to their natural state. These flood-prone areas are used by a variety of wildlife and provide habitat for species that cannot live or breed anywhere else. For example, after disappearing for more than 150 years, beaver have returned to the North Creek and Little Calumet River floodplain.

It is important that we preserve such natural areas and wetlands. While some development is allowed, the city, state, and federal agencies make sure that the natural benefits of any filled wetlands are compensated by the creation of additional or improved wetland habitats nearby.

Another concern is water quality. The storm drain system carries untreated storm water directly to our streams. Pouring wastes into storm drains directly affects our environment. Oil, anti-freeze, paint, fertilizer, and pesticides pollute the water, destroy plants and endanger wildlife. For example, one quart of oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water. The oil from one motor change can create an eight-acre oil slick. Therefore, you should do your part to help keep our streams and storm drains free of pollutants.
GREETINGS TO 4th WARD RESIDENTS, 
FAMILIES AND FRIENDS
The 4th Ward has been busy this year hosting senior events, free tutoring sessions, annual back to school event, street to street meetings. Flyers will be distributed on the blocks for the street to street meetings. Residents are asked to bring a lawn chair and water.

Residents are encouraged to call the 4th Ward Office at 708-891-8194 with questions and concerns.
5TH WARD

ALDERMAN ROGER MUNDA
CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MEMBER, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEMBER, HEALTH EDUCATION & WELFARE COMMITTEE
708-891-8195
RMUNDA@CALUMETCITY.ORG

WARREN STREET RESURFACING
As part of the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) Warren Street will be resurfaced from Stateline Rd. to Wentworth Ave. The project will include milling of the existing pavement surface, pavement patches, drainage structure adjustments, and all other related work items necessary to complete the project. The project should take approximately 30 working days to complete.

5TH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETINGS
All 5th Ward residents are encouraged to attend the monthly Neighborhood Watch Meetings. The 5th Ward is in Beat 1 and our meeting dates are the third Monday of the month. The dates for the rest of 2016 are: September 19, October 17, November 21 and December 19.

5TH WARD CLEANUP/ELECTRONIC RECYCLING/CONFIDENTIAL SHRED EVENT
The 5th Ward Cleanup was held in May. Residents were also able to bring unwanted electronic items to be recycled and shred confidential paper documents right on site. Another event is planned for the fall. Watch your mail for details.

SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
This year, 1,612 feet of sidewalks were replaced. Over 11,404 feet of sidewalks have been replaced since 2013.

LEAF PICKUP PROGRAM
The City leaf pickup program is schedule to begin on November 1, 2016. Rake leaves to the curb. Do not rake leaves into the street. Residents are asked to assist Public Works by keeping all drains and catch basins free of leaves and debris.
ALDERMAN NICK MANOUSOPOULOS
CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEMBER, FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEMBER, PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
708-891-8196
NMANOUSOPOULOS@CALUMETCITY.ORG

DISPOSE OF UNWANTED MEDICATIONS SAFELY
Walgreens has launched a safe medication disposal kiosk program in Illinois. The Torrence Avenue location has installed a drug take-back kiosk. The kiosk provides a safe and convenient way year-round to dispose of unwanted, unused or expired prescriptions, including controlled substances, and over-the-counter medications at no cost.

6TH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETINGS
All 6th Ward residents are encouraged to attend the meetings held at 6:30 in the training room at the Police Department to learn about activity in our neighborhoods. The 6th Ward is in Beat 2 and the meeting dates for the rest of the year are: September 12, October 10, November 14 and December 12.

CONFIDENTIAL PAPER DOCUMENT SHRED EVENT
The sixth ward will be having an event to allow residents to shred confidential paper documents right on site. Residents will also be able to bring electronics to be recycled. Watch your mail for details.
MACKINAW AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENT
As part of the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) Mackinaw Avenue will be resurfaced from 161st to 163rd. The project will include milling of the existing pavement surface, pavement patches, drainage structure adjustments, and all other related work items necessary to complete the project. The project should take approximately 30 working days to complete.

SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
Contact my office for sidewalk repair.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
On August 2, National Night Out was held in the 7th Ward at Hoover School. Many residents participated to stand with the police department, elected officials and neighbors against crime and violence in our community. This was the first year this event was held in the 7th Ward and I was pleased with the participation.

MEETING WITH RESIDENTS
I look forward to meeting each and every resident of the 7th ward as I walk each block or meet to address concerns. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.
1ST WARD

ALDERMAN ERIC SCHNEIDER
CHAIRMAN- PERMITS & LICENSES COMMITTEE
MEMBER OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE COMMITTEE
PO BOX 1519 CALUMET CITY, IL 60409
(708) 891-8198
ESCHNEIDER@CALUMETCITY.ORG

3RD WARD

ALDERMAN THADDEUS M. JONES
CHAIRMAN- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
MEMBER, PERMITS & LICENSES COMMITTEE
MEMBER, PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
PO BOX 1519 CALUMET CITY, IL 60409
(708) 891-8193
TJONES@CALUMETCITY.ORG
DOES YOUR BASEMENT FLOOD?

DO YOU GET WATER SEEPAGE?

DO YOU NEED OVERHEAD SEWERS OR WATER PROOFING?

Calumet City offers assistance to waterproof your home through Rebates for Overhead Sewers Program. The City will rebate back to homeowners 50% of the cost of the improvement up to $4,000.00.

Residents need to get a proposal for the work and submit the request for reimbursement on forms provided by the Inspectional Services Dept., prior to having the work done. Contractors must be licensed to do work in Calumet City.

Installation, repair or replacement of sewer traps, valves, overhead sewers and waterproofing are part of the program.

Please contact the Department of Inspectional Services for questions or details at (708) 891-8120.
DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, October 15, 2016 at 10:00 AM – Halloween Pumpkin Celebration
Bring the family to Pulaski Park at the corner of Pulaski Road and Wentworth Ave. for a fun-filled day of fall activities

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 6:00 PM – Property after Death Seminar
Calumet City Hall – 204 Pulaski Rd.
A real estate planning & protection seminar brought to you by the Office of City Clerk, Nyota T. Figgs in conjunction with Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Recorder of Deeds

Friday, November 11, 2016 – Veterans Day Observance

Friday, December 2, 2016 – Annual Calumet City Tree Lighting Ceremony
hosted at Pulaski Park – Check www.CalumetCity.org for more information