Jobs, Business Expansion Ahead
For Calumet City In 2018

Jobs are headed this way. That good news was delivered to the Mayor and City Council at a special meeting held October 24th to discuss the latest economic development report for Calumet City. Economic Development Coordinator Pete Saunders presented an overview of 2017 versus 2016, while bringing the officials up-date on projections for the upcoming year.

Among the items presented and discussed afterward in length were the following business expansions, relocations from other towns, new openings and business sales during the past year: (see page 5)

City Honors Retiring Commissioners

After three decades of service, Illa Galloway and Bill Borah leave Calumet City a better place for having lived here. Both Galloway and Borah were honored by the Mayor and City Council on November 9, where each was presented with a copy of an official resolution, noting their years of service to the City and their many contributions. For people who worked with and knew them best, such as Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush, words like “dedication,” “commit-

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush (at center) is flanked (on left) by retiring Police and Fire Commissioner Chairman Illa Galloway and Commissioner Bill Borah (on right) after both were honored by the City Council on November 9, 2017. Joining the Mayor to congratulate the pair are (from left) Police Chief Christopher Fletcher, Police and Fire Commissioner Joseph Blake and Fire Chief Glenn Bachert.

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Treasurer Gerry Tarka’s “Annual Treasurer’s Treasure Trek”

On Saturday September 16, Calumet City celebrated the annual Treasurer Tarka’s Treasure Trek and Family Bike ride and registration.

Our thanks go out to our generous sponsors for this event:
MB Financial Bank, Mesirow Financial, Castaways Bowl and our friends at Dream Bikes.

More than 100 residents, young and old, participated in various aspects of the event.

Bike registrations were logged in by the Calumet City Police Department. Bike safety checks were done by Dream Bikes. And members of the Public Works Department and the City Treasurer’s office greeted bicyclists along the several stations of the bike path.

Four lucky folks went home with a new bike. Others rolled away with a helmet or other safety equipment.

Tech Tips From Your Calumet City IT Department

Is Windows 10 worth it?

Nearly half of all current Operating Systems are running on Windows 7. This July was its 8th year in operation and official mainstream support for Windows 7 ended in 2015. This leaves a lot of people wondering if they should update to Windows 10 or stick with what has been working for now. The dilemma usually comes from people having a bad experience with other versions of windows or hearing that upgrading can be difficult. However, by not upgrading you may be missing out on some of the best features Microsoft has put into an OS.

- The Start Menu is back, after cutting the start menu in favor of a tablet interface for Windows 8 Microsoft realized that it was just not meeting regular user’s needs. The new Start Menu is customizable in size, color, and content.
- Compatibility between older software and Windows 8 was a large problem, Microsoft has done a great job of correcting this and the new standard is if it worked for 7 it should work for 10.
- One Drive makes it easier than ever to keep documents and pictures safe in the cloud with 5gb of free storage.
- Security has been increasing with every iteration of Windows. This time around is no exception with improvements to secure booting, authentication, and a more robust Windows Defender.

These are just a few reasons why it may be a great time to consider an upgrade. Remember, whether you choose to upgrade or not, it's always a good idea to have your machine backed up and looked over by a professional regularly.
City Clerk’s Vehicle Sticker Contest

This year’s theme is: “Health Awareness.”

“I want to highlight health issues which directly affect our community, so this year our city stickers will bring awareness to Cancer, Autism and/or Alzheimer’s. The focus covers our entire community ranging from our youth to our elderly.

I am looking forward to challenging our youth to be creative in an inspiring way.”

Nyota T. Figgs

Applications available at all Elementary Schools and the City Clerk’s office.

DEADLINE: December 15, 2017  5:00 P.M.

The City Clerk’s office has provided many valuable resources to the residents this fall including the Clerk on the Go, Pet Clinic Workshops, Veteran’s Resources, Property after Death Seminar, Tax Appeal Workshop, Mortgage and Foreclosure Assistance, Home Remodeling Grant and Hardest Hit workshops.

**Important Dates and Deadlines**

Council Meetings 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month

Pet License renewals due by January 31, 2018

Business License renewals due by January 31, 2018

Vehicle Sticker renewals due by May 31, 2018

Happy Holidays and May You Be Blessed with Joy & Happiness in the New Year!
A federal judge has ruled that the Trump administration cannot withhold police funding for cities such as Calumet City that adopt laws that may run contrary to federal immigration tactics. The ruling is a setback for the Trump administration's efforts to force local cities to aggressively seek out and detain undocumented citizens.

Since 2009, Calumet City has designated itself a “Welcoming City” that does not discriminate in its jurisdiction regardless of “race, creed, immigrant status, etc...” The City Council reaffirmed that status by passing a similar ordinance on August 10.

Meanwhile, in late July, U.S. Attorney General Jeffrey Sessions announced policy changes affecting 2017 grant funding for cities following “Welcoming City” policies. New conditions attached to federal grant funding threatened to cut off support for those cities’ police departments.

In response, the City of Chicago filed suit against the Attorney General on August 7 to challenge the legality of tying federal funding to immigration policy. Calumet City joined the Chicago suit, filing an amicus brief in support days later.

The September 15 federal court ruling means that, for now, those funds cannot be withheld based on a town's “Welcoming City” status.

Local City Attorney Burton Odelson explained the result. “This win against the Attorney General of the United States was vital to preserve federal funds for police protection in Calumet City, as well as Cook County, and the City of Chicago.”

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush put the issue in perspective. “I feel there is no greater responsibility than to ensure the public safety of all our residents, especially our seniors and children.”

She continued, “The City Council and I take very seriously any attempt to deprive our Police Department of funding or equipment necessary to safeguard Calumet City.”
H.B. Taylor, 100 Riverside Drive (Moving from Chicago to Calumet City)

H.B. Taylor is a food flavorings manufacturer in the process of relocating from its current location in Chicago to Calumet City. They were attracted to Calumet City largely due to its advantageous location for its particular business. H.B. Taylor is making a $2.5 million investment in the renovations and equipment for their new location. The City assisted H.B. Taylor with $180,000 in TIF assistance toward renovations of the building, new water and sewer connections at the site for increased service, and a Class 8 property tax incentive. The City’s investment will result in 30-40 new jobs at the new facility when it opens in January 2018. Recently, H.B. Taylor announced that it will receive international trade approval from the Illinois Port Authority, opening up the distribution and sale of their product to international customers. They project as many as 100 new jobs at their new site by the end of 2018.

First as a commissioner, and later as its chairman, Galloway spent a quarter century overseeing thehirings, promotions and discipline of the City’s Public Safety personnel. Speaking before the Council, Galloway described how she, Borah and current Commissioner Joe Blake, worked as a team to be on top of issues and best practices to improve both the Police and Fire departments. She “went to the experts” for information and frequently attended trainings. Though admittedly not possessing great legal skills when appointed, she says it made her work that much harder to learn everything she needed to perform the job. The Commission, she says, remained responsive to the times, taking steps to adjust eligibility standards to attract a wider range of applicants. She encouraged incoming Commissioners to get as much training as possible to help them do their job well. Retiring Commissioner Borah fondly recalls his family calling Calumet City home for 63 years. Now moving to Chicago, he says he plans to check back frequently on the town he loves. He proudly recalls how he, and other members of his family, spent a lifetime on Waltham Street. A natural for public service, he got his start, he recounts, as “Mayor for the Day,” back in grade school. “I served my term as Mayor, left the job, and people liked me when I left,” he muses. Borah was appointed to the Police and Fire Commission in 2000. A lawyer by profession, he brought insight and energy to the Commission during his 17 years of service. He lauded current Mayor Michelle as someone who truly cares about the City, and thanked his fellow commissioners and all the public officials he served alongside.
Economic Development

2016 Calumet City Economic Development -- Investment and Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Project Investment (Est.)</th>
<th>Number of New Jobs (Est.)</th>
<th>Number of Retained Jobs (Est.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recently Completed Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob's Furniture</td>
<td>$1,400,000</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under Construction</td>
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<td>DaVita Dialysis</td>
<td>$1,100,000</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Fuller Car Wash</td>
<td>$3,200,000</td>
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<td>Expansion/Renovation</td>
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<td>Meats By Line</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alta Equipment</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illiana Financial Credit Union</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coming Soon</td>
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<td>Carpet and Furniture Outlet</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.B. Taylor</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Investment and Jobs Added to Calumet City:</td>
<td>$8,100,000</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>130</td>
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U-Haul, 1510 Torrence Avenue (New business, more jobs)

This 44,000-square foot site, the anchor space of a five-unit strip center formerly occupied by Sports Authority, will host a U-Haul storage facility. U-Haul plans to build a 400-unit storage rental facility that will include a retail center for the sales of boxes and packing materials. The facility will also be a location for long- and short-haul truck rentals. U-Haul recently bought the entire strip center and assumed management of the retail tenants. Currently U-Haul is undergoing permitting and business licensing review with the City, the business is projected to create 15-20 new jobs. Combining the purchase and renovation of the site, U-Haul’s initial investment in our community is projected at $1.5 million.

Furniture N More, 733 Torrence Avenue (Joins the City’s furniture shopping corridor)

The former O’Reilly Auto Parts Store will be the new home of a Furniture N More Store. The popular furniture store, currently based in Chicago, plans to relocate to Calumet City.

Sonic Restaurant, 1299 Torrence Avenue (Expanding to provide more indoor dining space)

Business is doing quite well at the Sonic Restaurant where plans are to build a canopy over the existing restaurant to create more indoor seating at the site. This is expected to increase year-round sales at the typically drive-up restaurant.

River Oaks Center, 96 River Oaks Drive (Redevelopment target)

The City has been evaluating the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District along River Oaks Drive stretching from I-94 to River Oaks Center. A TIF district would generate funding to attract and maintain businesses, improve infrastructure and streetscaping. The City Council just last month hired a consultant to conduct a TIF feasibility study.

Sears, 1060 River Oaks Drive (City working with owner to attract tenant)

The Sears property at this address is 368,000 sq. ft. of retail space within two buildings (the department store and the automotive repair facility). Sears is owned independently from the rest of the River Oaks Center complex, and comprises 23.4 acres of the site’s entire 40 acres. Sears is working with the City’s Economic Development Department to accelerate its sale of the site.

Advantage Toyota, 1970 River Oaks Drive (Toyota staying put in Calumet City)

Toyota of River Oaks has been sold. It now will do business as Advantage Toyota in Calumet City. The City worked with Toyota to provide incentives to ensure its long-term viability.
Midland Tools, 1479 Regency Court (New opening)

Midland Tools, a tool manufacturer and distributor, is moving to Calumet City. The company recently purchased the former Little Caesar’s Pizza warehouse at this address and will utilize it as a warehouse and storage facility for their products. Midland Tools is in the process of a $700,000 renovation of the site to accommodate truck traffic and storage. At opening in summer 2018 Midland Tools will have 25-30 employees working at this facility.

Furniture and Carpet Outlet, 1747 East-West Road (Moving from Lansing to Calumet City to expand)

Furniture and Carpet Outlet is moving into the former Wickes Furniture site. The store will move from its current 10,000 sq. ft. site in Lansing to a much larger 44,000 sq. ft. space in Calumet City. The move was some time in the making as negotiations between the buyer and seller occurred over the past couple years. The site is in the permit review stage for planned renovations. The projected opening is January 2018. The business will bring 10-15 new jobs to Calumet City.

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<td>Alta Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marble Street Renewable Energy</td>
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<td>Victory Medical Equipment</td>
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<td><strong>Total Investment and Jobs Added to Calumet City:</strong></td>
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Local children and families enjoyed the October 14th 3rd Annual “Great Pumpkin Giveaway”, held across the street from City Hall at Pulaski Park. The event continues to grow in popularity as this year the City gave away 300 pumpkins, doubling the amount from just three years ago. Children enjoyed face painting, a Jumpee House, hot dogs, chips and of course, a bit of Halloween candy.

**Holiday Decorating**

It’s that time of year again, get out the lights and start decorating! Once again Calumet City will be sponsoring a Holiday Home Decorating Contest! That means your house needs to sparkle, have a theme, Santa, or a Nativity, whatever represents Christmas! A little or a lot everyone has a chance to win. There will be 3 winners in each ward. Look for applications in your water bills. Contest begins in early December so start planning now! And good luck!

**Holiday Tree Lighting**

Please join us on Friday, December 1, 2017 at 6:00pm for our annual Holiday Tree Lighting! It will be a wonderful evening full of surprises! We will have ice sculptures, holiday music, and of course a chance for you to interact with live Reindeer direct from the North Pole! Can you guess why Reindeer from the North Pole would be here? Who did they bring with them?? As always there will be free hot chocolate, candy canes, pop corn, and apple cider! In conjunction with Calumet Memorial Park District there will be Holiday Hay rides, Fireworks, and a chance to visit with the “Big Guy” aka Santa Claus!! Bring your camera and come out to enjoy this free family event!
Looking for a safe place to complete your online bartering? Rather than take a chance and call the Police after something goes wrong, why not go directly to the source. The Calumet City Police Department has joined many progressive law enforcement agencies in providing another layer of safety and service by providing a secure meeting place for online shoppers of sites such as “Craigslist,” “Facebook” and “Ebay.” Online buyer-seller exchanges already suggest public places or police parking lots as safe havens to trade, for example, a bicycle or a phone.

Local Chief of Police Christopher Fletcher explains that the decision to provide residents a safe place to do business spawned from input a recent staff meeting to discuss a few instances of thefts nationwide.

“We are constantly researching policing methods and best practices to safeguard the public and help prevent situations before they occur. The Police Department is located at 1200 Pulaski Road, next door to the Fire Department Station 2, and a stone’s throw from the Library.

“Personally, I wouldn’t buy anything online from an anonymous person who wants to conduct business on the street or anywhere that’s not totally well-lit or well frequented by the public. Meeting in the lobby or parking lot at the Police Department is convenient and makes sense.

The Police already utilize their lobby as a neutral meeting place for parents exercising custody rights, for example. More opportunities to assist and interact with local citizens builds a stronger community policing bond and makes the city safer, the chief says.

The advantages of meeting at the Police Department are obvious; there is surveillance and police officers are always in and around the building.

“Suggest to your online buyer or seller to meet at our station. There should be no reason for any lawful citizen to refuse. If they don’t want to meet there, I’d do business with someone else,” Chief Fletcher adds. Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush likes the idea. She hopes parents urge their children, no matter how old, to take advantage of a safe way to meet with online acquaintances.

“More and more we see how the younger generation avoids stores and buys everything on-line. We don’t want their searching for a great deal to get them into trouble. We need to educate ourselves and explain to our kids how to keep things safe,” she said. With the holiday shopping season upon us, the mayor added, the timing couldn’t be better.
The Calumet City Police Department welcomes back to the force 8-year veteran Officer Jonathan Henderson, (at left) as he is sworn in at a recent ceremony at City Hall. Officer Henderson served briefly in another law enforcement capacity before rejoining the CCPD. Officer Jared Astor, (at right) is sworn in at a recent ceremony at City Hall. Officer Astor previously served the CCPD as its 911 Director from 2006 until October when he became a Police Officer. Welcome Officers Henderson and Astor and thank you for serving and protecting the residents of Calumet City.

Celebrate The Holidays And Keep It Safe

Heat Your Home Safely

Keep Anything that can burn 3 feet away from a fireplace, wood stove or space heater.

Use Holiday Lighting Safely

Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires. Turn off all your holiday lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
Young And Old Enjoy Fire Prevention Tips And Demonstrations

Vehicle Extrication & Live Fire Training

Vehicle Equipment Show & Tell
City of Calumet City
204 Pulaski Road
Calumet City, Illinois 60409

MAYOR
Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush
CITY CLERK
Nyota T. Figgs
CITY TREASURER
Gerald Tarka

ALDERMEN
1ST WARD Michael Navarrete
2ND WARD Magdalena “Leni” Woszynski
3RD WARD Deandre Tillman
4TH WARD Ramonde Williams
5TH WARD Dejuan Gardner
6TH WARD James “JR” Patton
7TH WARD Anthony Smith

Calumet City
Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

December 1st 6:00 at City Hall
204 Pulaski Rd. Calumet City, IL

Sponsored by the City of Calumet City & the Calumet Memorial Park District

Don’t forget your camera...
Pictures with Santa in his sleigh
-Hay rides
-Free hot chocolate, candy canes, popcorn, apple cider,
donut holes and holiday fireworks!