

Alderman Michelle A. Harris

8th Ward

Insight

Dear
8th Ward Resident,

Spring has arrived early in the City of Chicago and the 8th Ward, and with that comes early gardening, as well as infrastructure projects. But we also prepare for warm weather activities that includes an increase in criminal activity. Public Safety continues to be a focus of mine as your Alderman and I continue to work with the district commanders assigned to our community to ensure the safety of all residents and businesses. Residents should be aware that there have been several instances of chain link gate and metal mailbox flap thefts in the ward. I ask that all residents keep vigilant watch of their neighbors and neighborhood, and report suspicious activities and individuals to the Chicago Police Department's 911 system.

As we anticipate warmer weather, we face summer storms. Downspouts should be disconnected so that rain-water can be diverted to yard areas instead of going into the basement drain to assist in alleviating flooding. I recommend the purchase of rain barrels to collect gutter water which can be used to water plants and grass. As summer approaches, let's work together to keep our residents, and especially our children, safe.

Sincerely,



Michelle A. Harris
Alderman, 8th Ward



Stony Island Motel Demolition

Demolition of the **Stony Island Motel**, located at 9101-9127 S. Stony Island, has been completed.

This property has been vacant for some time and I have worked with various City of Chicago departments to make sure that it did not pose a hazard to the safety and welfare of our community.



Alderman Harris at City Hall Fighting for the 8th Ward

Alderman Harris is working with the City of Chicago's Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection to ensure that the 8th Ward has a market place that promotes business success and serves the needs of our residents. The Alderman's recent efforts will make certain that businesses and 8th Ward residents have productive relationships.

Work continues with the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection to address concerns regarding businesses that are creating a "nuisance" in our community. The following establishments are currently in the nuisance process: In & Out-1924 East 79th Street; Thunder Food & Liquor - 1018 E. 93rd Street; Lucky's - 812 E. 79th Street; 9300 Liquor - 9300 S. Stony Island; On the Go Grocery - 1959 E. 79th Street; and Father & Sons Mini Mart - 958 E. 79th Street, which are currently being scheduled for community input.



G8 Summit moves to Camp David while the City of Chicago prepares for NATO



While the G8 Summit has been moved to Camp David by President Obama, the City of Chicago continues to prepare to host the 28 member countries that comprise the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Several agencies of the federal government are coordinating with state and local agencies to host this event and the dignitaries of the member countries scheduled to take place May 20 - May 21, 2012. Although the Summit will be closed to the public, plans are being developed to offer opportunities for students to witness world leaders working together to address global issues.

8th Ward 2012 Capital Plan

The 8th Ward 2012 Capital Plan will be implemented through a collaborative effort with the Aldermanic Office, the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), Water Management, Peoples Gas, and Commonwealth Edison. The primary goal of the capital plan is to replace the 8th Wards aging infrastructure.

The focus of the plan will apply to Water Main Replacement, Sewer Main Replacement, Sewer Lining, and projects from CDOT. The plan will have a positive effect on 17 locations covering approximately 6.5 miles in the 8th Ward. The total cost appropriated for the plan is \$1.3 million dollars.

Sewer Project for 99th St. Cottage Grove - Avalon

The 2012 Sewer Project will replace the existing sewer on 99th Street with a larger one. **The project is scheduled to begin in Fall 2012.** The sewer will be enlarged from 27'-18" to 48'-30" in circumference.

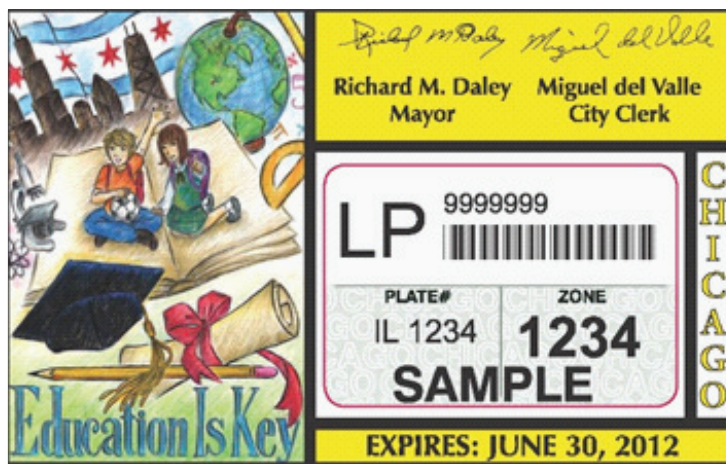
This project will benefit the area bounded by Cottage Grove on the west, 97th Street on the north, Avalon Avenue on the east, and 99th Street on the south. This project is a part of the 8th Ward 2012 Capital Plan.

The New 8th Ward Chicago Police Commanders

The 8th Ward community welcomes 3rd District Police Commander, Lynette Helm; 4th District Police Commander, Berscott Ruiz; and 5th District Police Commander, Patricia Walsh; who join 6th District Police Commander, Eric Carter as commanders of police districts that encompass the 8th Ward community.

Vehicle Sticker Sales

The time to purchase new city vehicle stickers is approaching. This year, stickers will be sold at the 8th Ward office in addition to the City Clerk's office. City stickers may be purchased and picked up at the 8th Ward office on Thursday, May 31, 2012 from 10:00am - 4:00pm. Stickers may also be purchased online from the City Clerk starting on Monday, April 16, 2012.



In person sales will start on **Tuesday, May 1, 2012.** The City Clerk's office may be contacted at (312)742-5375 to obtain more information about prices and sales locations.

If you have a pick-up truck or vehicle with a B Plate or RV Plate, your truck can be ticketed by the Department of Revenue or the Chicago Police Department if it is parked on a residential street in the 8th Ward. Alderman Harris has stickers specifically for these types of vehicles to prevent these tickets.

Contact the 8th Ward Aldermanic office for instructions on obtaining the FREE sticker at (773)874-3300. These vehicle stickers may be picked up from the 8th Ward office, 8539 S. Cottage Grove on the date and time as stated above.

CITY OF CHICAGO WARD REMAP

The City Council has completed the "remap" of the wards of the City of Chicago. The remap occurs every 10 years as required by the Voting Rights Act. Remapping involves the shifting of ward boundaries to reflect population changes in the City of Chicago. The new map was approved with a 41-8 vote in the City Council on January 19, 2012.

The goal is for all wards to have approximately equal numbers of residents. The remap includes 18 majority Black wards, 17 majority White wards, 13 majority Hispanic wards with 2 Hispanic influenced wards.

Service to our new residents will begin once city officials meet to determine the effective date of the changes, which will be as early as the summer or as late as the end of the year.

New Life Covenant Church

The Committee on Housing and Real Estate met on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 and approved an ordinance for the sale of city owned property located at **7522 S. Greenwood Avenue to New Life Covenant Oakwood Church.**

The building is a part two and part three story industrial facility. It is approximately 18,502 square feet, and is situated on a rectangular shaped corner parcel containing 38,390 square feet of land, and is located in the Greater Grand Crossing Community area. The City acquired this building in 2001 via tax foreclosure.

New Life Covenant Church will purchase the property at the fair market value and **rehab the structure for the purpose of a multi-purpose community youth center.** The facility will serve the church and entire community.

In the event the building is not salvageable to renovate, the church will demolish it at its own expense and proceed with new construction. The church will also provide mentoring programs and a day care facility for this location.

Chicago Public School Drug Education Policy

In February 2012, an ordinance was passed by the City Council **making the sale and distribution of synthetic stimulants illegal.** The ordinance discussed how synthetic stimulants entice children and young adults because they are packaged and displayed in a way that markets to them and are widely available in neighborhood stores. Ingesting synthetic stimulants can include symptoms leading up to and including death.

Now that this ordinance has been passed, CPS is now developing a campaign to educate students, faculty, and staff about the availability of these drugs and the effects that they have on children and young adults. **Any business found of-fering synthetic stimulants faces a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 for each violation.** Each day that the violation exists, the licensee faces the same fines for each violation.

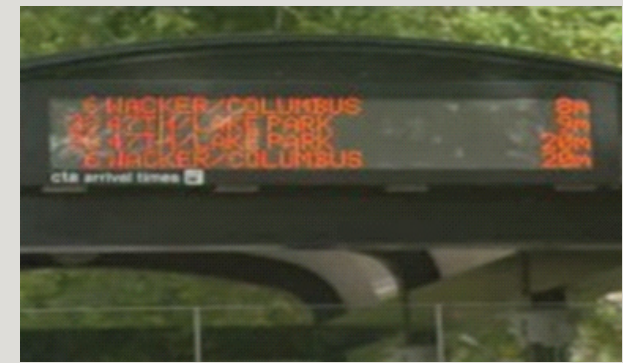


The Education Committee of the City Council passed a resolution to extend the prevention of synthetic drug use in the Chicago Public Schools. The Alderman, along with residents, will be working with the Chicago Police Department to identify stores selling these very dangerous products so they can be removed from our community.

AldermanMichelleHarris.com

CTA LED Bus Tracker Displays

The Chicago Transit Authority is installing two new LED Bus Tracker Displays in the 8th Ward. The locations for these new signs will be on 79th and Cottage Grove and on 87th and Cottage Grove. These new displays will be easy-to-read signs that display estimated arrival times for the next four buses that will arrive at a particular stop. This is a valuable tool for customers, allowing better planning for trips and reduced wait times.



Rosenblum Park Project



The Rosenblum Park redevelopment project will include approximately 9.6 acres of land including the land where the old South Shore High School was formerly located. The site of the former school has been demolished. The entire site will be redeveloped into park land with associated park facilities as agreed to between Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Park District.

Park amenities will include new baseball fields, renovation of a softball field, a new artificial turf practice football field, new basketball courts, walking trail around the park perimeter, as well as a play lot. A new cul-de-sac on Constance Avenue just south of 75th Street will join the existing and new park parcels together.

New Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics Center at Olive-Harvey College

Governor Pat Quinn, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Alderman Michelle A. Harris joined City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) Chancellor Cheryl Hyman on March 13, 2012 to announce the construction of the City Colleges of Chicago Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (TDL) Center at Olive-Harvey College.

The project is made possible by \$31.6 million in funding from the State of Illinois and \$10.6 million from CCC. The facility will be the first comprehensive TDL Education Center in the state, preparing students for in-demand careers in ground, air, and rail transport, multi-modal distribution and logistics as part of City Colleges' College to Careers initiative.

The 200,000 square foot building is expected to be LEED certified and include: a high-tech warehouse environment, laboratories, workshops, classrooms, and virtual reality simulation facilities. The new building will replace almost 112,000 square feet of temporary classroom space adjacent from the main Olive-Harvey College building. The \$42.2 million project will create nearly 300 construction jobs. Construction is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2013 and end in the Spring of 2015. Once completed, the TDL is expected to produce 28,000 new jobs over the next 10 years.

Transportation and logistics giants like United and American Airlines, United Parcel Service, Union Pacific and Canadian National Railway will help design the Olive Harvey curriculum, teach and mentor students, and hire qualified students after they graduate.

CVCA Becomes STEM Magnet School

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) students will have the opportunity to attend five Early College STEM Schools (ECSS) that focus on technology skills and career readiness – as well as earn college credits– under a partnership agreement with five technology companies, CPS and City Colleges of Chicago.

STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The schools are the first of their kind in the Chicago Public Schools System. In addition to studying science, technology, engineering and math, students will explore global issues through a multiple discipline approach and receive instruction in a world language.

The five technology companies, IBM, Cisco, Microsoft Corporation, Motorola Solutions and Verizon Wireless, will help develop a unique curriculum at each new school to teach students the skills required in that marketplace, as well as provide mentors and internships. Upon graduating from these tailored programs, the students will be prepared for careers in science and technology.

The five schools are located in diverse communities and were selected in part due to interest from school leadership in offering STEM education programming.



The neighborhood high schools offering these programs include Lake View High School, (4015 N. Ashland), Corliss High School (821 E. 103rd Street), and the new southwest area high school being built at 7651 S. Homan. Michele Clark High School (5101 W. Harrison Street) and Chicago Vocational Career Academy (2100 East 87th Street) will also offer the programs and are available to students city-wide. An ECSS is located in each of the five high school networks, providing access to every student in Chicago.

All of the new schools will open in September 2012 with a class of ninth graders. Each student will be able to graduate in four-years with a high school diploma with college credits, with a goal of graduating within six years with an Associate of Science (AS) degree in Computer Science or an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Information Technology. The college courses will be taught by professors from CCC.



Michelle A. Harris
Alderman - 8th Ward

8th Ward Public Service Office

8539 S. Cottage Grove, 60619

Phone: (773) 874-3300 Fax: (773) 224-2425

Email: Ward08@cityofchicago.org
mharris@cityofchicago.org

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Constituent Night Hours: Mon. 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

City Hall Office

121 N. LaSalle Street - Room 200, 60602

(312) 744-3075 Fax: (312) 744-5007

Important Numbers and Websites

City of Chicago	311
www.cityofchicago.org	
Chicago Police Department - www.chicagopolice.org	
3rd District	(312) 747-8201
4th District	(312) 747-8205
5th District	(312) 747-8210
6th District	(312) 745-3610
Secretary of State - IL - www.cyberdriveillinois.com	
General Number	(800) 252-8980
99th & King Drive	(312) 793-1010
Chicago Department of Aging	(312) 747-0189
Chicago Park District - www.chicagoparkdistrict.com	
Avalon Park	(312) 747-6015
Grand Crossing Park	(312) 747-6158
Gately Park	(312) 747-6155
Jesse Owens	(312) 747-6709
Rosenblum Park	(312) 747-6459
Chicago Public Schools	(312) 553-1000
www.cps.edu	
8th Ward Streets and Sanitations	
***New Location - 900 E. 103rd St	(312) 747-7804
Libraries - www.chipublib.org	
Avalon Park	(312) 747-5234
Department of Human Services	
Chicago	(312) 747-0331
Illinois	(800) 843-6154
CTA/RTA Information	(773) 836-7000
www.rtachicago.com	
Chicago Board of Elections	(312) 269-7900
www.chicagoelections.com	
State Representative Marcus C. Evans, Jr., 33rd District	(773) 783-8492
State Representative Constance A. Howard, 34th District	(773) 783-8800
State Senator Donne Trotter, 17th District	(773) 933-7715
Congressman Bobby L. Rush, 1st Cong. District	(773) 224-6500

EVENTS

What's going on around the 8th Ward?

July 12, 2012

Gardner Street Dedication from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at **WVON**, 1000 E. 87th St.

July 21, 2012

8th Ward Shred-A-Thon from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Community Mental Health Council located at 8704 S. Constance. Bring all papers that need to be shredded!

August 2012

8th Ward Town Hall Meeting, date and location to be determined.



8539 S. Cottage Grove Ave.
Chicago, IL 60619