

# 10th Ward Pride

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## A Message From Your Alderman

Dear Neighbor,

Welcome to 2006. Winter is upon us although one wonders as Mother Nature has been teasing us with extremely mild weather more similar to fall than winter. However, before we know it, the winter will be over and spring and summer will be upon us. You never know what to expect with Chicago's weather.

2005 was very memorable for the 10th Ward Aldermanic office and the entire ward. With the support of so many, much was accomplished. Recognizing the importance of family, friends, and community have allowed the entire ward to progress. However, as I have said in the past and will continue to say, we can not be complacent and rest on our accomplishments.

The ongoing cooperation between residents, the police, CAPS, clergy, schools, businesses, and my office will allow us to continue to move forward. Only through these types of

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local community relationships and efforts will we be able to move in the right direction and be able to further enhance the quality of life in the 10th ward.

Once again our community feels the impact as we as a nation engage in war in Iraq and Afghanistan. More of our troops - our loved ones, proudly serve us with many being injured and too many being killed. We are proud and thankful for their courage and the sacrifices they make in the name of freedom and democracy. May this war be ended soon and our young men and women get home quickly and safely.

As the end of the year approached we began to recount the joys and pains of the past year. From the miraculous births to the tragic loss of loved ones we were reminded of the strength yet frailty of mankind. With Christmas we came together as family and friends to celebrate our faith. With the New Year, we are committed to improving our lives and to making 2006 the best year yet.

10<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman &  
 Democratic Committeeman



Richard M. Daley  
 Mayor



Philip J. Cline  
 Superintendent

Visit us on the Web at  
[www.10thwardchicago.com](http://www.10thwardchicago.com)

*For Our Community, For Our Future*

**Casa Kirk**

Recognizing the need for affordable, family housing, Claretian Associates and the City of Chicago partnered with one another to bring much needed housing to the neighborhood. The longtime vacant lots along 92nd Street were transformed into five beautiful buildings containing a total of 29 residential units. Brick construction, energy efficient appliances, patio decks, and a playground are but a few of the amenities of this project. Mayor Daley joined Alderman Pope, Angela Hurlcok of Claretian Associates and other community representatives in the grand opening of this much anticipated project.



Local residents enjoy the numerous services provided at the 10th Ward Housing Fair held at Calumet Park field house.

**Chicago White Sox**

After 88 years, our very own Chicago White Sox brought home the title of World Champions as they defeated the Houston Astros four games to none. The 10th Ward and entire City celebrated as our Southsiders showed the entire world who is the very best in professional baseball. A tickertape parade was attended by hundreds of thousands from all over Chicago to show our appreciation for and pride in our champs!



Alderman John Pope participates in the South Deering Back to School Fest sponsored by the South Chicago Chamber of Commerce and South Deering Voices.

**Feeling Cool in the Summertime**

During the summer, Alderman Pope's office partnered with ComEd to provide eligible 10th ward ComEd customers with free window air conditioning units. As one of only two wards throughout the entire city, approximately 400 air conditioners were given away. The objective was not only to provide residents with the units to beat the heat but also to provide them with units that are very energy efficient and thus reduces their utility expenses.

**Father James Keating**

There are few who do not know of Father James Keating. As the former pastor of St. Francis DeSales Church and now retired, Fr. Keating has served the East Side community for years. Although retired, no one can question his commitment to the entire southeast side. He is active with various organizations including the 004th Police District and East Side Pride to name but a few. He is a regular at countless meetings from South Chicago to Hegewisch and South Deering to the East Side. The community joined Father Keating in celebrating his 80th birthday in January of 2005 and wishes his many more.

**What Makes a Man?**

Alderman Pope joined other local elected officials including State Senator Kwame Raoul and State Representative Marlow Colvin at Niño's Heroes School for the *Real Men Read* event. Pope served as a co-sponsor and participant in the event. Along with nearly 50 other men, Alderman Pope volunteered his time reading to students and let them know the importance of reading, especially fathers reading to their children. Additionally, Alderman Pope emphasized the great bonding and other benefits resulting from families spending quality time together in activities such as reading and doing homework.



Local Vets Park resident Bea Fajdich gets a free flu vaccination as part of the 10th Ward's Annual Flu Shots program.



Children enjoy the activities at the 10th Ward Sponsored Winterfest event held at the Rowan Park ice rink. Free food, games and gifts followed the skating event.

### **CMC**

The Chicago Manufacturing Campus (CMC) located at 126th and Carondelet in the Hegewisch community was in full swing in 2005. This 1 million plus square foot facility was built on approximately 155 acres of the former Republic Steel site. With the very best technology and the hiring of hundreds of local residents, the CMC provides just-in-time delivery of parts utilized in the production of Ford vehicles at the Ford Chicago Assembly plant located on Torrence Avenue.

Alderman Pope was joined by Mayor Daley, the Southeast Chicago Development Commission, the Calumet Area Industrial Commission, the Hegewisch Chamber of Commerce, Ford and others to congratulate the park as it surpassed the hiring mark of 1,000 employees. With the

recent downsizing in the auto industry, the new campus and upgraded plant should solidify their operations for years to come.

### **What a Transformation!!!**

For years the 118th Street Plaza was one of the best places to shop. With the closure of the Service Merchandise and Dominick's came difficult times. However, Alderman Pope welcomed and worked with members of the Pete's Fresh Market team in the purchase and transformation of the largely vacant site. A community meeting in 2004 and extensive rehabilitation resulted in a beautiful plaza re-opening in 2005. Pete's has surpassed everyone's expectations in terms of a quality store with an extensive variety of fruit and produce, a wonderful bakery, fresh seafood and a large deli. Pete has also maintained his commitment where in his store alone some 100 local residents have been hired.



Alderman John Pope and 004th District Commander Dana Alexander at a local community meeting.

### **Santa Sighting**

In cooperation with Trumbull Park and the South Deering Voices, the Jeffrey Manor-South Deering community welcomed Santa Claus to the Trumbull Park field house shortly before Christmas. Children participated in a variety of free activities including arts & crafts, basketball, and refreshments. The children then got to meet with Santa Claus himself where they received a gift and had their photo taken with "Old Saint Nick".



Alderman Pope joins Mayor Daley and others in announcing the creation of more than 1,000 jobs at the Ford Chicago Manufacturing Campus.

### **No Landfill - Today or Tomorrow**

In 2004 the expansion of the CID Landfill was denied through legislation introduced by Alderman Pope. This action was the result of countless meetings and tremendous feedback from community residents and businesses who spoke up against more landfill in our back yard. Alderman Pope further solidified his commitment to the community by introducing and having passed legislation at the beginning of 2005. This law prohibits any new or expanded landfill throughout the City through the year 2025. This has the long-term effect of shutting the door on any thoughts of expanding the landfill here in Lake Calumet.

### **100 Glorious Years and Counting**

Our churches continue to be pillars in the community. The southeast side is home to some of the Chicago's oldest and most prestigious churches. Saint Florian is an example of this. 2005 marked the 100th year of the church's service to the Hegewisch community. A variety of events helped to mark the occasion including the

honorary street naming at 131st & Houston to Saint Florian Way, the capacity crowd mass attended by Bishop Joseph Perry and a dinner reception attended by hundreds. The church and entire community thank Father Jim Mezydlo and all those who helped make this occasion unforgettable. We look forward to many more years of the church's service to the community!

### **Apprenticeship Fair**

Jobs are becoming more and more scarce. Manufacturing jobs like those that were once commonplace in the ward with all of our mills have all but disappeared. These once abundant jobs offered excellent wages and skills. To help the community find quality jobs, my office partnered with the Job Resource Center to conduct an Apprenticeship Fair. At the fair were representatives from the various trades and trade schools who provided our residents with information and opportunities with the trades including excellent wages, benefits, and a lifetime skill. Nearly four hundred people attended this much sought after fair.



Southeast Environmental Taskforce members Aaron Rosinski and Clem Balanoff present Alderman Pope with a certificate of appreciation at their annual awards banquet.

### **Senior Picnic**

It is obvious that our seniors are one of our most valuable resources. America is a great country today because of the efforts and sacrifices of our seniors. They are walking history books who have endured so much and should be recognized each and every day. In this spirit Alderman Pope's Office held the 10th Ward Senior Citizen Picnic. This free event took place at Rowan Park and was attended by several hundred seniors from all of the 10th Ward neighborhoods. The day included live music, food and drink, bingo, dancing, and prizes.



Mel Chico joined Alderman Pope in volunteering for the 10th Ward Senior Picnic.

### **Mmm Mmm Good!**

For years Taylor School has served our community well in educating our youth. Not only have students of Taylor been provided with the basics of reading, writing, and math, but many have participated in the Taylor School Culinary Program. Conducted by Taylor graduate and physical education teacher Gloria Hafer, this program offers students the opportunity to learn more about the culinary field. Not just cooking, but the history of food and its preparation as well as dining etiquette. Mrs. Hafer's program was extremely busy this year as she and several of her students were invited to cook on stage at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. Alderman Pope also invited her group to prepare a light breakfast for the Mayor and City

Council. The program's talent was further recognized and it has been expanded into George Washington High School where students were invited and now sharpen their culinary skills as part of the After School Matters program.

### **Flu Shots**

The shortage of flu shots in 2004 and the new concerns regarding bird flu made the 2005 flu season a major priority of the 10th Ward office. Those most at risk including children and seniors had major concerns regarding their ability to get flu shots in 2005. Alderman Pope partnered with the Chicago Department of Health and in November provided nearly 300 free flu shots. The free vaccinations will continue to be provided by Alderman Pope as an annual service.



Chicago Fire Department Paramedic Nancy Gill and family are joined by Alderman John Pope at a firehouse party that is held to celebrate her retirement.

**Homes, Mortgages, Bills, and More**

The boom in the housing market has not ignored the 10th Ward. New and rehabilitated homes are commonplace, home values in the neighborhoods are increasing, and mortgage rates remain very low. However, predatory lending, over-borrowing, and rising utility prices create challenges for current and prospective homeowners. To help provide information and answers to such questions as how to lower your real estate taxes, where to find the best mortgage, or what programs are available to improve your home, the 10th Ward office and Spanish Coalition for Housing hosted a Housing Expo at the Calumet Park Field house. The event was extremely successful as representatives from the City's Housing Department, Cook County Assessor's Office, Treasurers' Office, Claretian Associates and numerous realtors and banks were on hand to work with individuals on a one-on-one basis.

**John Buchanan - A Lifetime of Public Service**

The ward and entire City mourned the passing of former 10th Ward Alderman John Buchanan who passed away last March at the age of 81. Mr. Buchanan served his community as alderman for 16 years in three decades. John was no stranger to public service. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and served on numerous civic organizations' boards. The United States federal government honored Mr. Buchanan several years ago by renaming the South Chicago Post Office as the John J. Buchanan Post Office.



The Taylor School Culinary Program is recognized at City Hall by Mayor Daley and Alderman Pope. Gloria Hafer, Program Director and Dr. William Truesdale, Principal are commended on their innovative program.

**Ray Castro - A Man of Faith, Family and Fraternity**

The community also mourned the passing of Ray "Mugsy" Castro. At the age of 71, Mr. Castro lived an extremely full life. He served his country by enlisting in the Navy at age 17 and served three years in the Korean War. Following his service he became a strong voice for veterans and veteran issues. He was a parishioner at Our Lady Guadalupe Church and one of its biggest supporters. Mr. Castro was an employee of the CTA and City of Chicago. He also served as the 7th Ward Committeeman. His greatest achievement was his family including his eight children.

**Serving and Protecting**

Congratulations and best wishes to those 004th District Police and Fire Department personnel who retired in 2005.

*Paramedic Nancy Gill  
Commander Lamont Thompson  
Captain John Mulvey  
Police Officer Johnny Hogan  
Police Officer Stanley Johnson*

*Police Officer Gerald Lapinski  
Police Officer Ronald Parram  
Police Officer Thomas Quinn  
Police Officer Louis Skylas  
Police Officer Sarah Vasquez*

*Gretchen Gore  
Ermalene "Toni" Smith  
Crossing Guard Rose Glenn  
Crossing Guard Geraldine Hampton*

**Gone But Not Forgotten**

*Russell S. Bosanko  
John J. Buchanan  
Ray Castro  
Kay Sabol*

*Johnathon Szarek  
Joe Mulac  
Antonio Roberto Ramirez*

**Through The Years!**

Local institutions are the strength of our community. Their longstanding presence in the community makes the 10th Ward a better place to live. Congratulations to those many groups who celebrated significant anniversaries in 2005!

*St. Florian Church - 100th Anniversary*

*Metropolitan Family Services - 20th Anniversary*

Alderman John Pope  
10th Ward Office  
3522 East 106th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60617

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**Important Phone Numbers**

10th Ward Office .....773-721-1999  
Streets & Sanitation Office.....312-747-8081  
Emergency .....911  
Non-Emergency.....311  
Information.....411

**POLICE CAPS MONTHLY MEETINGS**

7:00 p.m.  
"Get With the Beat"

**Beat - Location**  
**Neighborhood - Date**

423 - Immaculate Conception  
South Chicago - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

424 - Our Lady of Guadalupe  
South Chicago - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

431 - 4<sup>th</sup> District Police Station  
Jeff. Manor & Vets Park - 4<sup>th</sup> Monday

432 - St. Francis Bingo Hall  
East Side - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

433 - Clay Elementary School  
Hegewisch & East Side - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

434 - St. Kevin Church  
South Deering - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

**2006 Calendar of Events\***

March 6th - Pulaski Day (Observed)

\* March 11th - 10th Ward Job Expo

March 17th - St. Patrick's Day

May 29th - Memorial Day (Observed)

\* April 15th - 10th Ward Easter Egg Hunt

April 16th - Easter Sunday

\* June 2nd - City Stickers Sale at 10th Ward Office

\* June 3rd - City Stickers Sale at 10th Ward Office

\* June 3rd - Friends of John Pope Summer Event

July 4th - 4th of July (Observed)

August 26th - 10th Ward Firefighters Chili Cookoff

\* August 28th - 10th Ward Annual Golf Outing

September 4th - Labor Day (Observed)

October 9th - Columbus Day

\* October 18th - High School - Resource Fair

November 10th - Veteran's Day (Observed)

\* December 7th - 10th Ward Holiday Party

November 23rd - Thanksgiving Day

December 25th - Christmas Day (Observed)

December 31st - New Years Eve

\* Aldermanic Scheduled Events are subject to change