

WINTER 2013/2014

# WARD R3PORT

3RDWARD.ORG



*ONE TOUGH WINTER! READ  
A BIT ABOUT IT ON PAGE 5*

PHOTO BY JAMES RODD

DENISE  
RODD

3RD WARD ALDERMAN

# MAYOR BOGUSZ DEFINES OUR 'NEW NORMAL'



**LEFT:**  
MAYOR'S  
ADDRESS TO  
BUSINESS

In the Mayor's Address to Business, sponsored by the Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce & Industry on January 16, Mayor Matt Bogusz talked of our City's "new normal." He told the audience that while we learn from our past, it does not define us. The journey that we are on includes businesses, residents, and the City Council moving Des Plaines forward using teamwork.

After meeting with the Mayor over the last month, each Alderman identified an area of focus for the year. Our involvement in various Committees allows us the mechanism to address these issues. These topics are of particular importance to residents of each Ward as well as to the City as a whole. Our motivation comes from residents, and it is our mission to see these ideas through:

**Patti Haugeberg (Community Development)** – bring a farmers' market to downtown Des Plaines

**Jack Robinson (Community Services)** – improve communication to residents during times of emergency

**Denise Rodd (Building & Codes)** – upgrade Building Code to current standards

**Dick Sayad (Finance)** – fix inequity in vehicle sticker

cost for senior citizens

**Jim Brookman (Community Development)** – fill gaps in infrastructure

**Mark Walsten (Community Development)** – commit to green initiatives

**Joanna Sojka (Public Works)** – ensure that ash trees are not only replaced, but that City is made greener

**Mike Charewicz (Engineering)** - improve infrastructure to address localized flooding

The Mayor listed some broader topics that are on his list of top priorities as well:

1) Protect our locally-raised sales tax revenue in Springfield.

2) Correct disparities in FEMA's award of disaster relief.

3) Address pension crisis with public safety sector

4) Advance Phase II of Army Corps of Engineers flood plan

5) Defend against gaming expansion

Teamwork is part of our new normal in Des Plaines, and the Council will work together with residents to make these ideas happen. If you are interested in seeing the entire Mayor's Address to Business, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpYOMFnyvY>

# CREATING A SAFE COMMUNITY

## THE SECRET IS IN THE CODE

By Denise Rodd, 3rd Ward Alderman

As Chair of the Building & Codes Committee, I am tasked with the topic of upgrading our building codes this year. The City of Des Plaines follows the International Code Council's set of codes (I-Codes), which has been adopted by most communities in the United States as well as around the world. This ensures a standardized approach to safety of the built environment to protect people where they live, where they go to school, and where they work.

The new set of codes that we will be putting in place have been developed, tested, reviewed and commented on by the ICC and its members. Over the years, I-Codes have been amended so much in Des Plaines, that it creates frustration and added ex-

pense for homeowners and contractors working on building projects.

As part of City Manager Mike Bartholomew's mission to streamline City Code, title-by-title, we will be looking to pass the new set of I-Codes with as little amendments as possible. Some amendments are necessary because of our geographic region. For example, snow loads have to be taken into consideration when constructing structures.

Adopting the new set of codes in Des Plaines will strike a balance between safety and community development. Coupled with our new business license code that streamlines the process for new businesses opening in Des Plaines, the new building code will stimulate new development as well.

### CERTIFICATE OF ACHEIVEMENT

#### Illinois Emergency Management Agency

Awarded to

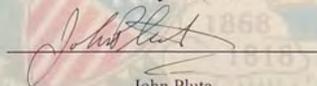
**Denise Rodd**

FOR THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

of

*Incident Command System Overview for Executive/Senior Officials (ICS-402)*

January 13, 2014



John Pluta  
IEMA NIMS Lead Instructor

3 Classroom Hours

**LEFT: ILLINOIS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (IEMA) COUNCIL TRAINING AND COMPLETION CERTIFICATION**

# Des Plaines, City Information

# THE MORE YOU KNOW...

## GET YOUR CAN OUT ... EARLY

The City Council approved an amendment to the ordinance that says when garbage carts can be placed at the curb. Residents may place carts out at 4:00 p.m. year-round on the day before their garbage collection. Keep in mind that carts must be stored either in a side yard or back yard during the rest of the week.

## GET REGISTERED, VOTE!

The Gubernatorial Primary Election is on March 18, 2014. You can register to vote at City Hall during regular hours before February 18. Early voting takes place at City Hall March 3-8 and 10-15. For a list of offices and candidates, you can view a sample ballot by going to [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com).



### 3RD WARD ALDERMAN, DENISE IS OUT AND ABOUT

**LEFT:** DECEMBER DOWNTOWN TREE LIGHTING. **TOP RIGHT:** OCTOBER MAINE WEST HOMECOMING PARADE. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** GIRLS SCOUTS TROOP 41832 VISIT THE DES PLAINES CITY COUNCIL MEETING



# WARD3PORT

THE WARD R3PORT IS A  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF  
THE DES PLAINES 3RD WARD

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THE NEXT 3RD WARD  
MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014  
AT 7:00 P.M. AT PRAIRIE LAKES.  
OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL  
BE GUEST GEORGE SAKAS,  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

THE WARD R3PORT USES NO TAXPAYER  
FUNDS, AND IS RUN COMPLETELY BY  
VOLUNTEERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR  
FAMILY-OWNED DES PLAINES BUSINESS  
FEATURED, CONTACT ALDERMAN RODD.

**DENISE  
RODD**  
3RD WARD ALDERMAN

## THE SWIRLING, WHIRLING, NEVER ENDING ...

# POLAR VORTEX!

As this polar-like winter trudges on, our patience wears thin as we try to manage the snow around our homes. Please be considerate of neighbors as to where you park vehicles on the street so that there is enough clearance around driveways. For any snowfall, try to move vehicles off

the street so that snow plows can clear them. Police Chief William Kushner has stated that officers take into consideration vehicles parked in short driveways that might block the sidewalk during a snow event. As soon as snow is cleared, vehicles can be moved back to the street.



## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS...

### *Rivers' Casino* DONATIONS INCREASE

2011 - \$150,000  
2012 - \$250,000  
2013 - \$376,000 TO DATE +  
1,800 VOLUNTEER HOURS BY  
EMPLOYEES

If you know of elderly or special-needs neighbors who would like to be on the well-being check list by our Department of Health and Human Services, email [denise@3rdward.org](mailto:denise@3rdward.org) for the application. The Police Department has a supply of children's winter coats available for needy families who couldn't otherwise afford proper coats for this cold season. In partnership with Operation North Pole and Operation Warm, they will distribute the coats to these children. Call Officer Mike Heidkamp at (847) 391-5408.