

** Alderman **
Michele Smith

Chicago's 43rd Ward



Sprinkler Mandate May Not Be Dead

Also In This Issue

[It's Easy Being Green](#)

[Stand Up \(Comedy\) For Schools](#)

[Clean and Green Registration](#)

CDOT Annual Sustainability Maintenance Seminar

Come learn how you can make your planters, parkway and back yard sustainable and beautiful for the upcoming spring and summer seasons! Learn about native plants, planter design and rain gardens, all by experts! It's free, and available on a first come, first serve basis. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Saturday, March 29
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Chicago Center for Green
Technology
445 N. Sacramento Blvd**

"Stand Up for Schools" Newberry Fundraiser

Friends of Newberry is happy to present "Stand-Up for Schools" fundraiser. The event's proceeds will go to the Newberry Computer Lab. The evening will showcase

Dear Friends,

As you may recall, last year Illinois State Fire Marshall Larry Matkaitis attempted to institute a mandatory regulation requiring townhomes, condominium associations and co-ops install sprinkler systems on their property (please see my prior communications from [July 17th](#) and [July 29th](#) of 2013 for a brief update). This mandate would conflict with the City of Chicago's current Life Safety Ordinance, and more importantly, **would add significant, cost-prohibitive and ultimately unnecessary burdens on area residents.**

This initial attempt at such a mandate resulted in communities like ours generating such protests to area legislators - including flooding their offices with phone calls, letters and emails - that the State Fire Marshall was encouraged to withdraw the proposal in early [August of 2013](#).

We believed that that was the end of the matter. However, I have recently been informed that lobbyists in Springfield are still attempting to push through a similarly onerous mandate resulting in further negative unnecessary regulations on area residents.

Unfortunately, the most disturbing aspect of the both the initial plan and the current proposal was the attempt to circumvent the state's legislative process by pushing the proposed regulations through a committee called the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR). This relatively unknown committee is composed of 12 members of the Illinois General Assembly, and while it does have the power to impose laws, it typically handles very technical rule-making issues- **not multi-million dollar public mandates that deserve significant levels of public participation and discussion prior to their passage into law.**

That said, in an effort for greater transparency and to

Newberry alumni such as WGN's Pat Tomasulo, HBO's Joey Villagomez, Second City's Russ Williamson, Riddle's Jay Washington, and Laugh Factory's Mona. Click [here](#) for more information and [here](#) to purchase tickets.

**Thursday, April 3
6:00 pm
Joe's Bar
940 W. Weed St**

**Clean and Green
Neighborhood
Clean Up
Registration**

Saturday, April 26th the City of Chicago and neighborhood volunteers will be cleaning up the City. This is a great opportunity to join the city in making the City cleaner and more attractive, especially after this years winter. The City will provide the brooms, rakes, trash bags, and other tools for cleaning. View the flyer [here](#).

For more questions as well as registration, call 3-1-1. The deadline for registration is April 18th. This is a free event for the community.



43rd Ward Office
2523 N. Halsted
www.ward43.org

Office Hours:
Monday
9 a.m.-7p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday
9 a.m.-6p.m.

make sure that any attempts at a mandate receives full public debate, our State Representative, Sara Feigenholtz (12th District) has introduced legislation with a stated requirement that any such proposal must first be vetted by the full legislature. It also establishes a task force to continue to look at the issue. To view the proposed legislation in its entirety, please [click here](#).

Let's be clear: a mandate of this magnitude is bad public policy and economically detrimental for many of our buildings. State Representative Feigenholtz's bill is a helpful step to make sure our residents are treated fairly and that a solution for fire safety is achieved without instituting a mandate.

Call and email the legislators who sit on the State Government Administration Committee and tell them to vote for Amendment 1 to HB 4609. Let's send a clear message that we won't allow a mandate.

Representative Jack D. Franks (Chairman)

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jack@jackfranks.org

Representative Emily McAsey
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RepEmily@gmail.com

Representative Robert W. Pritchard
70th District
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(815) 748-3494
bob@pritchardstaterrep.com

Representative Jaime M. Andrade, Jr.
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Representative Dan Brady
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Representative Monique D. Davis
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Representative Michelle Mussman
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Representative Wayne Rosenthal

Friday
9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

Contact us:
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Sincerely,

Michele Smith
43rd Ward Alderman

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