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## *Water, Water Everywhere*

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### *Did you know?*

If rainwater enters a street drain too quickly, the sewer overflows and floods homes. Most of our sewers have been fitted with "restrictors" that slow the flow of water into the sewer. In effect, our streets act as "retaining ponds" to keep our houses from flooding. If water does not drain from the street within six to eight hours, that's considered a backed up drain. The Water Department will clean out sewers that persistently fail to drain. Let us know when you observe a drain that doesn't clear after a day.

A final observation - some of the flooding is the result of the persistent "paving over" of our alleys and backyards.



Alderman Smith and Staff Clear Standing Water.

### **Clean Sweep**

Alderman Michele Smith took action on the concerns of constituents over sewer blockages. Smith and staff members Rick Bohn, Chasse Rehwinkel, Jorge Rodriguez and Robert Wallace, armed with shovels, rakes and brooms, physically removed debris and released standing water from sewers in the vicinity of Orchard/Lincoln Ave./Belden and Dayton/Dickens/Fremont.

"Poor sewer drainage is a concern of all residents in the 43rd Ward," said Smith. "The enormous amount of rainfall lately has worsened the problem. I've listened to our constituents' complaints about this issue. I've met with Water Management Commissioner Thomas Powers and he has pledged to fix some of the long standing sewer issues in the ward." Stay tuned for more details of these repairs.

Please do all you can to keep water off the street, like using rain barrels and installing permeable pavers. To learn more click here.

## Outstanding Teachers Recognized

**43rd Ward Office**  
735 W. Wrightwood

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday**  
9a.m.-7p.m.  
**Tuesday-Thursday**  
9a.m.-6p.m.  
**Friday**  
9a.m.-12p.m. & 2p.m.-6p.m.

**Contact us:**  
**phone**  
773-348-9500  
**email**  
yourvoice@ward43.org

Two 43rd Ward teachers just received the prestigious Golden Apple Award, an honor given to recognize outstanding teachers for their contribution to building a stronger, better educated citizenry. The teachers, two of a group of ten awardees, were selected from over 600 nominees. Our congratulations to: Gereard Kovach, of Ruben Salazar Bi-lingual Education Academy on Wells Street, and Kyle Radcliff, of Newberry Math & Science Academy on Willow. Each winner is entitled to a tuition-free semester at Northwestern University, and a cash award of \$3,000. Alderman Michele Smith supported a resolution at City Council recognizing the teachers stating, "Such an award supports the ongoing commitment by teachers to strengthen our communities and enrich our children's lives. I am proud of and grateful to these individuals who raise the quality of education in the ward and throughout the city."

## Eat, Drink, and Support St. Vincent De Paul!

From July 14th to the 16th, Gene & Georgetti's, located at 500 N. Franklin, will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary with dinners and entertainment from 1941 - **\$15.25 for a full dinner and cocktails.** Our own St. Vincent De Paul Center, located at Halsted and Webster, will be receiving one-third of the proceeds from this three day event that includes a prix-fix menu each day from 11 a.m.-11p.m. and entertainment that begins at 6 p.m. nightly. Reservations are required. Call 312-527-3718 to make your reservation and support St. Vincent De Paul Center's wonderful work supporting children and families. Learn more at [www.svdpc.org](http://www.svdpc.org).

Sincerely,

Michele Smith  
43rd Ward Alderman

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Michele Smith | 43rd Ward Alderman | 735 W. Wrightwood | Chicago | IL | 60614