

SOBNO NEWS

South Oakwood Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization



COMMITTED TO KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED

VOL. 1 ISSUE 1

Alderman Hairston Holds Press Conferences in the Neighborhood

On Saturday, January 3, 2009, a small gathering of neighborhood residents, reporters and City Department of Transportation workers were present at a press conference convened at the corner of 71st Street and Woodlawn by Ald. Leslie Hairston. Calling attention to the problem of potholes in the 5th Ward and throughout the city, Ald. Hairston, accompanied by CDOT Commissioner Tom Byrne, took questions from reporters from area media outlets including CLTV, FOX and ABC7 in the city.

Among the facts that came to light:

- The current budget for pothole repairs is \$12 million for the entire city.
- Wide temperature swings (freeze followed by thaw) and high traffic can cause repairs to fail.
- Repairs can last from a few days to over a year.

Crews repaired potholes on several streets in the neighborhood following the press conference (including Woodlawn Av.).

Press Conference Focuses on Metra Security

On Friday night, February 9, 2009, Ald. Hairston, together with small group of community residents and police personnel, met reporters outside the Metra Rail Station at 75th Street, South Chicago Avenue: the site of a vicious attack of a female on the previous night (Thursday).

Gathered on Woodlawn Av. near 75th Street, the Alderman spoke to the need for increased security patrols by Chicago Police and Metra security.

In the attack, a 33-year-old woman was walking in the street in the area of the station at 75th Street and South Chicago Av. about 11:30 p.m.

on February 5th when a man assaulted her, forced her onto the train platform, and pushed her into the path of an inbound Metra Electric train.

Transition: Larry Hawkins, Ed.D.

Dr. Larry Hawkins, a nationally recognized authority on sports as an educational tool, died on January 30, 2009 at the age of 78. Director of the Office of Special Programs/College Prep at the University of Chicago since 1968, Dr. Hawkins touched the lives of thousands of youth over the years through organizations such as Big Brothers Youth Services, Inc. and Upward Bound. We mourn the passing of this passionate advocate for the welfare of our young people.

Announcements:

➤ Upcoming 5th Ward Monthly Meetings:

March 24, 2009 at Bret Harte School
1556 E. 56th Street

April 28, 2009 at Dumas Elementary School
6650 S. Ellis Avenue

May 26, 2009 at Carey AME Temple Church
7157 S. Greenwood Av.

All meetings are on Tuesday at 6PM.

➤ The Celia Gregg Missionary Society of Carey Temple AME Church presents **The Carey Café**. Soup & sandwiches served each 1st Saturday. 12:15 PM to 2:30 PM. All are welcome to this community outreach program, held at the church at 7157 S. Greenwood.

➤ The **Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program** resumes this year. See members of the South Oakwood Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization for applications and guidelines.

We hope you find this first issue of the SOBNO News informative and useful. We welcome your comments, suggestions and ideas. Email us at SOBNOnews@comcast.net.

SOBNO News is a quarterly publication of the South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization.