



### Vest-a-Thon **FUNDRAISER**

SATURDAY, **FEBRUARY 12, 2022** 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

#### **Tune into WGN Radio 720 AM** or WGNRadio.com

to participate in this great event!

If you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring, please contact mattoshea@the19thward.com.

To donate, please visit www.cpdvest.com

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The 19th Ward is partnering with **WGN Radio Home Sweet Home Chicago with David Hochberg** for this fundraiser supporting the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation and promote Alderman Matt O'Shea's Get **Behind the Vest Pancake** Breakfast.

Tune into AM Radio 720 to hear stories from Chicago Police Officers whose lives have been saved by bulletproof vests and learn more about the increased danger and difficult work they do.

Listeners who call in with donations will have the opportunity to win great prizes including skybox experiences for Chicago sports teams, sports memorabilia and much more!

SPONSORS:















Being Beverly's neighborhood bank means more than just offering solid banking solutions. It means doing our part to give back to the local charities and social organizations that unite and strengthen our area. We're particularly proud to support the 19th Ward Youth Foundation and its commitment to providing quality recreational opportunities for children and teens.

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- ✓ NO minimum deposit to open.<sup>2</sup>

1. Junior Savers Account. At account opening, child(ren) must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and present a valid Social Security number(s). 2. Fees. A maintenance fee of \$5.00 will be imposed every calendar month if the balance in the account falls below \$200.00 any day of the calendar month once the Junior Saver has reached the age of 22. Transaction limitations will apply. Fees may reduce earnings. A listing of Wintrust Financial Corporation locations can be found here: wintrust.com/locations.

# O'Shea Announces After 22 Program for Students with Developmental Disabilities

Alderman Matt O'Shea joined Mayor Lori Lightfoot, City Colleges of Chicago, the Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center, and Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities to launch the After 22 Program. This collaboration seeks to ensure young people with different developmental abilities can continue to pursue education, employment and enrichment after they have maxed out their eligibility for special education transition services at the age of 22.

The After 22 Project will be recognized as a Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) that will help connect participants to meaningful postsecondary activities by providing flexible learning opportunities, leadership, and job skills training. In addition, students will be able to access and participate in special recreation programs, and internship and job placement opportunities. Participants in the After 22 Program will receive additional support as well as access to the educational experiences they need to continue their life-long learning journey.

After 22 will provide an inclusive pathway to engage students who otherwise will have to wait an average of seven years to access funding for these services after age

City Colleges Chancellor Juan Salgado, Daley College President Janine
Janosky, and Alderman O'Shea join families that will be part of the inaugural class of the After 22 Program.

out, leaving a gap in their progress work.

out, leaving a gap in their progress to meaningful engagement, employment and further education. The project will flexibly and deliberately map out a plan for participants based on interest and skill level. Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities has committed nearly \$525,000 over two years to fund this important

"The idea of the After 22 program was presented to me when I was

president of the Board of Directors of Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities, and we immediately embraced the idea of providing for our athletes in a meaningful way that includes continuing education and job training skills," said Matt O'Shea, past president of SOC/SCC. "Through the support of our Board of Directors, Mayor Lori Lightfoot, the Anixter Center, Chancellor Salgado, and President Janosky, our athletes now have the unprecedented opportunity to continue to advance their skills and education after the age of 22. Our athletes are passionate, hard-working and fully embrace any opportunity they are given. This program is a win-win for everyone involved."

"As Chicago's community college system, City Colleges is responsive to the needs of our community," said City Colleges of Chicago Chancellor Juan Salgado. "After 22 is a unique opportunity that will allow us to prepare developmentally disabled Chicagoans to contribute their abundant talents to our neighborhoods and economy."

Chancellor Salgado added that Daley College President Janine Janosky will lead the After 22 program at City Colleges of Chicago. "One of the greatest strengths of Daley College is our students' diversity," said President Janosky. "We welcome all students and look forward to the vibrancy these new students will bring to our campus life."

The first year of the program will serve up to 20 students through non-credit job skill development courses at Daley College. Daley College and Anixter Center team members will collaborate to

implement customized educational plans to include competencybased, student-centered curricula to introduce and reinforce workplace soft skills, such as communication strategies, self-advocacy skills, professionalism, and navigating institutions. Additionally, students will practice occupational skills through an internship on campus, such as at the Daley food pantry and professional clothing closet, and other service areas, and will offer them the chance to participate in campus activities. Daley College and the Anixter Center will assemble an advisory council composed of business leaders, students, parents, faculty, and special education experts and advocates to provide guidance and advice on program development, additional partnership connections, and possible funding sources.

The Anixter Center will match 10 participants to jobs or internships at a community employer partner, ensuring students have integrated, competitive job opportunities. In conjunction, employers will get the support they need to ensure success and retention for these employees.

Longer-term, Daley College will develop a certificate program for students with disabilities as part of a larger City Colleges goal of creating greater access to education for community members. The Anixter Center will work with broad-scale commitment from Chicago businesses to hire and retain this untapped talent pool.

The program aims to build an integrated system of opportunities, weaving together public and private partners to support adults with disabilities as they get access to meaningful opportunities throughout Chicago.



#### PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

#### The Illinois State Police Complete Phase One of Installing the License Plate Reader Cameras on Chicago Expressways

Cameras Aid Investigations of Expressway Shootings and Vehicular Hijackings

The Illinois State Police (ISP), in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), completed phase one of the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) project by installing 99 license plate reading cameras on the Dan Ryan Expressway.

Last year, under the Tamara Clayton Expressway Camera Act, the ISP received a \$12.5 million grant for purchase of specialized cameras to read the license plate numbers of vehicles moving in traffic. The installation of automated license plate readers (ALPR), software, and specialized cameras will aid in the investigation of Cook County expressway shootings and vehicular hijackings. ALPR images are transmitted to a central location where they are cross referenced against vehicles wanted in criminal activity.

The cameras are being installed on Chicago area expressways. The first phase of the project has been completed with the installation of 99 cameras on the Dan Ryan Expressway. The ISP continues to work with IDOT and CDOT to assist with the installation of approximately 200 additional license plate reader cameras over the next year. The images from these cameras will not be used for petty offenses, such as speeding.

ALPR systems have already proven effective in aiding law enforcement investigations in the apprehension of numerous suspects involved in expressway shootings and vehicular hijackings.

On January 13, 2022, at approximately 12:01 a.m., an ISP Trooper was alerted to the presence of a vehicle reported to be stolen during an aggravated vehicular hijacking that occurred in Chicago on January 12, 2022. The alert came after ALPR cameras recorded the vehicle traveling on the Dan Ryan Expressway, triggering an alert to law enforcement. An ISP Trooper attempted a traffic stop on Interstate 290 westbound at Sacramento. The sus-

pect vehicle fled onto Interstate 290 eastbound towards downtown Chicago.

ISP Troopers stopped the suspect vehicle in the area of 55th and Michigan Avenue. Three juvenile suspects exited the vehicle and fled on foot. After a brief foot pursuit, ISP Troopers were able to take all three suspects into custody.

On January 14, 2022, at approximately 12:09 a.m., an ISP Trooper was alerted to the presence of a stolen vehicle wanted for a reported expressway shooting that occurred in Chicago on

January 11, 2022, at approximately 4:27 p.m. The alert came after ALPR cameras recorded the vehicle traveling on the Dan Ryan



Expressway, triggering an alert to law enforcement. The ISP Trooper attempted a traffic stop and the vehicle fled. The suspect vehicle crashed into a traffic sign, ending the vehicle pursuit. The suspect exited the vehicle and fled on foot. After a short foot chase, the suspect was taken into custody by a K9 apprehension. Two weapons were recovered from the suspect vehicle.

The ALPR technology is a critical component that ISP is using to respond to "in progress crime" and the ALPR data is now a regular tool in ISP's arsenal to further investigations related to expressway violence.

In fact, the ALPR system has been crucial in the recent investigations involving violent crimes on our Cook County interstates. They provide previously missing - information that can now be utilized to assist officers in identifying witness, offenders, and victims of expressway violence.

"These cameras give us the technological edge to pursue leads and identify suspects on the Chicago expressways," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "As technology advances, so must law enforcement. The ISP will continue to lead from the front. "Let me be clear, criminals who commit serious crimes on the expressways will be caught and held accountable. The ISP are committed to ensuring public safety on the Chicagoland expressways and across the state," he concluded.

# O'Shea Partners with WGN Radio for Inagural Vest-a-Thon - 2/12

On Saturday, February 12th, WGN Radio's "Sweet Home Chicago with David Hochberg" is partnering with the 19th Ward for a Vest-a-Thon Fundraiser to raise funds for the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation and promote Alderman O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast. To participate, tune into WGN Radio AM 780 from 10:00am-1:00pm on Saturday, February 12th or visit cpdvest. com or call 833-498-Vest.

The Vest-a-Thon will feature stories of officers whose lives have been impacted by bullet proof vests, brave officers from the Chicago Police Department sharing their perspective on the increasingly difficult work they do each day, and organizers of the Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast who have watched this event grow year after year. Donors to this event will have the opportunity to win great prizes which include skybox experiences at many of Chicago's best teams, sports paraphernalia, and much more.

In 2021, 76 Chicago Police Officers were shot or shot at, with 14 being struck by gunfire. Facing increasing violence against law enforcement officers, up-to-date bullet proof vests are more important than ever before. Since its incep-

tion in 2014, 11,728 vests have been purchased by the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.

Please consider joining this effort. To ensure the Vest-a-Thon is a success, volunteers and more gift items are needed. If you would like to volunteer to accept donations at the call center during the Vest-a-Thon, or you'd like to donate sports tickets or other items to be given away through this event, please e-mail mattoshea@the19thward.com.



#### PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

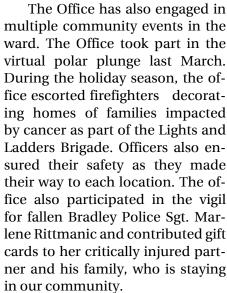
### **Sheriff's Office Works to Address Violence**

As law enforcement faces unique challenges, the Cook County Sheriff's Office remains committed to addressing public safety issues in Chicago and throughout the county.

The Sheriff's Office continues to strengthen its relationship

with the Chicago Police Department through coordinated patrols with the 22nd District and Illinois State Police in the Ward. While the Sheriff's Police Force is a fraction of CPD's size, they currently have the most officers on staff in the last 15 years. These additional officers help combat

crime throughout Cook County.



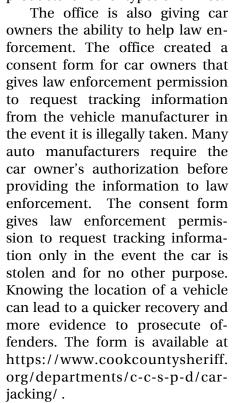
Last Summer, they began providing patrols downtown and later expanded to River North. To formalize our commitment to the safety of those who work and visit Downtown Chicago, the Sheriff's Office this year opened a command post in River North.

Addressing carjackings in Chicago and the suburbs continues to be a priority. In addition to the

work with CPD's Vehicular Hijacking Task Force, the Sheriff's Office in July debuted a carjacking dashboard that allows law enforcement to share information about where and how carjackings are being committed in their jurisdictions. With this information, Sheriff's of-

ficers and law enforcement partners can spot trends and deploy resources as necessary combat this crime. Currently, 67 law enforcement agencies, throughout the county are part of this project. The office is working with its law enforcement partners to build similar analytics

products for other types of crimes.



The Office will continue to work with law enforcement partners as well as find innovative ways to keep Cook County residents safe.



Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart

# O'Shea Announces Further Investments in Public Safety Cameras

Alderman Matt O'Shea and the Chicago Police Department recently announced plans for 12 additional police observation devices (PODs) and license plate readers (LPRs) on main streets throughout Beverly, Morgan Park and Mount Greenwood. The locations were designated by the Chicago Police Department and represent a \$330,000 investment in public safety technology. These cameras will supplement the installation of 12 PODs and LPRs that were installed in 2021.

"Using technology to help ad-

dress the unacceptable level of crime in our community is my priority. We must give the Police Department the tools they need to help ensure the safety and security of our residents" said O'Shea.

PODs and LPRs feed video to the Morgan Park Police Station's Strategic Decision Support Center – a technology hub staffed by officers that monitor the feeds and other technology resources. That information is shared with beat cars in real time. Officers armed with high quality video are more likely to make an arrest.



Ald. O'Shea visits the SDSC room at the 22nd District Police Station.

#### **ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S**

# **PUBLIC HEALTH**& PUBLIC SAFETY

**TELEPHONE TOWN HALL** 

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup> 7 P.M. - 8 P.M. **◀ I** 3

With Special Guests:

Dr. Jennifer Seo

Chicago Department of Public Health

Commander Sean Joyce
Chicago Police Department, 22nd District

To register, please visit www.the19thward.com

**Co-Sponsored by:** 





# Yoga for First Responders & Family

On Monday, February 28th and Monday, March 7th, the Chicago Park District will offer free Yoga for First Responders and Family at Ridge Park at 6:00pm. Yoga can help individuals decrease stress and increase their ability to focus on problem solving. First responder experience stress and trauma at higher levels than civilians. Take this op-

portunity to flow through a vinyasa style yoga class and learn techniques to decompress. First responders and their adult family members are welcome to attend. Please bring a yoga mat and wear comfortable clothing.



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Our Marquette Neighborhood Commitment was recognized nationally with an ABA Foundation Community

Commitment Award in Volunteerism and at the state level with an Excellence & Innovation BKD Award from the

Community Bankers Association of Illinois. Both recognitions were awarded for our Community Pandemic Response and would not have been possible without the support of our employees and customers – like you!

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## Get Behind the Vest Pancake Carry Out Breakfast – 2/27

19th Ward Alderman Matt O'Shea's annual Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 27th, (9:00-11:00am) and will look different than in years past. This year's event will be an exclusively carryout breakfast. Now in its eighth year, Ald. O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast benefits the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation's initiative, which purchases bullet proof vests for Chicago Police officers.

Each self-serve to-go breakfast container will include pancakes for two people, sausage links, syrup and butter for \$20. In addition to



Eamonn Walker and David Eigenberg of Chicago Fire greet guests while supporting the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.

the pancake breakfast, Ald. O'Shea will once again be working with local schools across the 19th Ward to organize student-based fundraisers to support this cause. And, for every gallon of gas sold at Kean Gas Station (2632 W. 111th St) between February 19th – 26th, 15 cents will be donated to the Get Behind the Vest Campaign. This effort is sponsored by Kean Gas Station, Beverly Bank & Trust, and AthleteX.

"Now more than ever, we need to do all that we can to protect those who protect us," said Ald. O'Shea. "My community is home to thousands of Chicago Police Officers, who understand how impor-



19th Warders Nate Simon and Fred Waller enjoy the Pancake Breakfast.



Ald. Matt O'Shea, Phil Cline, and CPD Officer Kurth help distribute new vests to officers.

tant lifesaving equipment is on the job. It is my hope that even though this event will look different this year, we can continue to help replace bullet proof vests for our officers and help ensure their safety on the streets. And, once again we owe an enormous debt of gratitude to the Harrigan family, who own and operate the Original Pancake House-Beverly, who donate all batter, supplies and condiments each year to ensure the continued success of this event."

In the past seven years, Ald. O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast has raised over \$250,000. Bulletproof vests need to be replaced every five years, at a cost of about \$600 each. To date, the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation has replaced more than 11,000 vests, with a goal to replace

500 vests for officers each year.

Ald. O'Shea sits on the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation Advisory Board and the Chicago Police Chaplains Ministry Board of Directors. He represents the communities of Beverly, Morgan Park and Mount Greenwood, where thousands of first responders reside. The Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast is generously co-hosted by Saint John Fisher Parish, the Harrigan Family and the Original Pancake House-Beverly. For more information on Alderman Matt O'Shea's Pancake Breakfast, benefiting the Get Behind the Vest initiative, please call 773.238.8766. For more information on the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation's Get Behind the Vest initiative, please visit www.getbehindthevest.org.

### Lemolade Supports Special Olympics Chicago

Throughout the month of February, \$5 for every purchase made by local apparel provider Lemolade will be donated to Special Olympics Chicago / Special Children's Charities. In addition to their regular merchandise, Lemolade will be offering specially designed shirts promoting inclusion. Starting February 1975.

ruary 1st, you can visit www.shoplemo-lade.com for toddler and your short sleeve red tees for \$20, toddler and youth red crewneck sweatshirts for \$26, adult long sleeve white pocket tees for \$30, and adult hooded zip-up sweatshirts in red for \$44. Please visit and con-

sider making a purchase that will help promote and important message and the great work done at Special Olympics Chicago / Special Children's Charities.

Founded in April 2021 in Evergreen Park, Illinois, Lemolade is a clothing brand whose mission is to celebrate the sweetness in life. As friends and moms, Nikki Harrington and Morgan Winters know the importance of comfortable, durable clothing. When you look good, you feel good - even kids! They combined this idea with their various professional experiences to create a brand they believe will

bring a smile to your face. Lemolade, the name, came from how their kids say "lemonade". When it came to the company logo, the two wanted something that represented them and what was important to them in life, family. The lemon you see on all Lemolade gear has 6 slices- one wedge to represent

each of their kids. Both women share the belief that it's not what happens to you in life, it's how you respond to it. In this case, when life handed them lemons, they made LEMOLADE!

Morgan & Nikki believe life is for living and embracing the bright side of

things! Celebrating the optimism that lemons represent – longevity, purity, love, friendship – is a lot more fun than a not-so-positive alternative. Lemons to Lemolade (L2L) is how we champion causes that reflect our mission. Throughout the year, Lemolade will release limited-edition, Lemons to Lemonade apparel to celebrate organizations that embrace optimism, empower positivity and focus on turning life's lemons into sweet Lemolade. \$5 from EVERY purchase made at Lemolade will be donated to the current cause that we are supporting.



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#### \*\*\*\*

I have been a Chris Webber client for many years, however, I feel more like a family member and it's been that way from the start. I call, he answers. If he sees something that I may be interested in he informs me. He never takes advantage by trying to sell me on something I don't need. Chris Webber and his staff and associates are professional and trustworthy.

#### \*\*\*\*

Chris and his team have met all of my insurance needs, with fast response times and professional communication. You cannot go wrong with State Farm and Chris Webber's agency.

#### \*\*\*\*

Unfortunately, after 40 + years of driving, I was involved in a collision. I filed a claim online. It was an easy process and my rental was approved for next day pickup. I am beyond satisfied on how quickly everything was handled. State Farm claim representatives were so professional and supportive. The representative assured me that they were there "FOR ME" At the moment, I felt totally protected. I could not say enough. All I can say is... "I LOVE STATE FARM!!!!!" I will always be a SF customer and I will share my testimony with friends and family.

#### \*\*\*\*

Chris Webber and his staff have been a blessing to my husband and I. They are professional, patient, and kind. I am so grateful to State Farm for such a wonderful agent and his staff.

(708) 385 - 8899

theotherchriswebber.com chris@webberagency.com



#### **Citizen Utility Board** Virtual Presentations

Alderman Matt O'Shea and the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) will host two virtual presentations on Tuesday, March 15th from 1:00 - 2:00pm and Thursday, March 17th from 6:00 - 7:00pm. There is no cost for these webinars. To reserve your spot today, please visit www. the19thward.com.

**Home Energy Savings** Webinar: Tuesday, March 15th at 1:00pm

Enring for Illinois Consum During the home energy savings presentation, a CUB representative will discuss new consumer protections

during COVID-19 recovery; free programs designed to save you energy and money; how to decode your gas and electric bills, spot errors, and avoid scams; as well as the latest Illinois energy policies and how they will impact your energy choices.

#### **Understanding Cable Options & Reducing Robocalls Webinar:** Thursday, March 17th at 6:00pm

During the cable and robocall presentation, a CUB representative will discuss the different choices in the TV market, ways to cut your cable costs, if it is time to get rid of your cable, alternatives to satellite or cable, and streaming services available to consumers. In addition, CUB will discuss the different types of robocalls, how to avoid common robocall scams, call-blocking services and what they mean for your pocket, and new proposed federal legislation.

For money-saving advice and consumer tips, visit www.citizensutilityboard.org

#### **Beverly Arts Center** and the 19th Ward

present

#### **A Celebration of Black Excellence**

On February 26th 2022, the Beverly Arts Center, in partnership with the 19th Ward, will present A Celebration of Black Excellence, an inaugural event honoring Black History Month . This family-friendly event will begin at 6:30pm with an open house in the Beverly Arts Center Atrium where attendees will have the opportunity to mingle and speak with entrepreneurs of black-owned businesses in our community. The evening continues in the Center's Baffes Theatre at 7:30 pm with a formal program. This portion of the evening will include a presentation of the winners of the 19th Ward's Black History Month Contest by 19th Ward Alderman Matt O'Shea. It will also include a special screening of the documentary film Otis' Dream. This film follows Otis Moss, Sr. (grandfather of Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III of Trinity United Church of Christ) through his day-long journey to cast his ballot in rural Georgia. This film is powerful, poignant, and prescient as today's struggles with voter suppression multiply. The evening will also feature live entertainment by members of the Beverly Arts Center's School Partnerships program, along with other special guests soon to be announced. We hope you'll join us for this celebration of our homegrown SouthSide heroes.

Tickets are \$25 and are available at www.thebeverlyartscenter. com or by phone at (773) 445-3838.

When: Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022

7:30 PM

Where: Beverly Arts Center

2407 W. 111th Street, Chicago, IL 60655



FILL UP YOUR TANK AT KEAN GAS STATION FEBRUARY 19th - 26th AND 15¢ PER GALLON WILL BE DONATED TO THE CHICAGO POLICE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.

#### February 19th - 26th **Kean Gas Station**

2632 W. 111th Street

Kean Gas will donate 5 cents for every gallon of gas pumped. Two generous donors have agreed to match that donation. That means every gallon of gas pumped will generate 15 cents for the Get Behind the Vest Campaign.



THANK YOU TO:



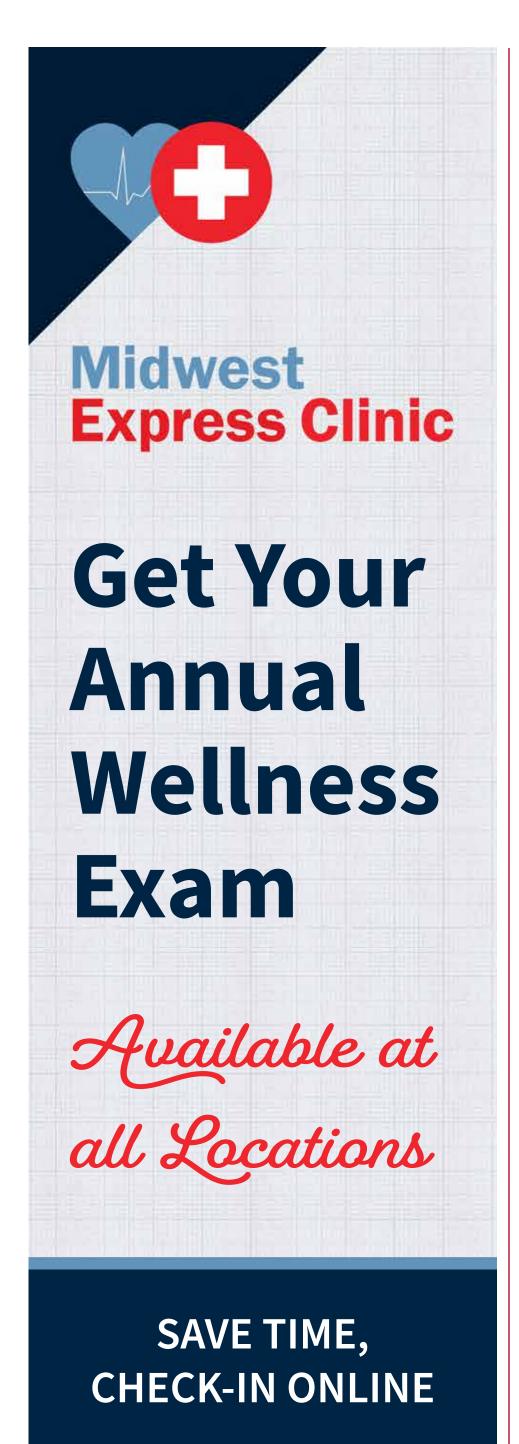












MidwestExpressClinic.com

# **Share the Warmth Campaign a Success**

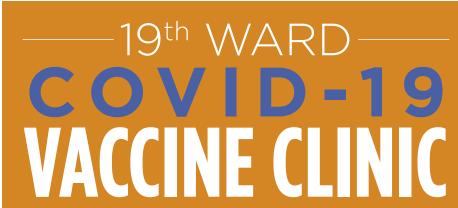
The Share the Warmth Campaign recently delivered over 150 items to local non-profit organizations serving Chicagoans in need this winter. Volunteers created hand knit pairs of mittens, scarves, hats and sweaters for several local organizations using kits sold by Miss Purl, a new knitting store located at 1824 W. 95th St. Share the Warmth was a partnership between Alderman Matt O'Shea, the 95th Street Business Association, and Miss Purl aimed at providing

badly needed clothing items to needy Chicagoans and welcoming a great new business.

Other sponsors include the Chicago Public Library (Beverly Branch), Smith Village Senior Living, and Christ the King School. Through the campaign, free knitting classes were offered throughout the community. Thanks to the many volunteers and partners who helped make this effort a great success.



95th Street Business Association Director Erin Ross, Alderman Matt O'Shea and Miss Purl owner Kamaca Champion display items collected from the Share the Warmth Campaign.



Saturday, March 26, 2022

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**CrossWinds Church** 

10835 S. Pulaski Rd, Chicago

#### Appointment required.

No walk ups or day-of appointments will be available.

To make an appointment, please visit **www.the19thward.com** 

- Priority registration is available to Chicago residents who live in zip codes 60643 and 60655.
- Residents can receive booster shots for ages 12+, 1st or 2nd shot for ages 5+.
- Masks are mandatory. If you are sick, please stay home.
- Plan for your appointment to take one (1) hour from start to finish. Please be sure to bring a copy of your insurance card and state-issued photo ID.
- All people who receive a Covid vaccine will be given a 10% off coupon to Jewel-Osco.

Sponsored by:

O'SHEA





COVID-19

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#### **City Seeks Election Judges**

The Chicago Board of Elections is currently recruiting judges of election for the June 28, 2022 Primary Election. Election Judges

are the officials responsible for administering the election in each polling place and are the backbone of the electoral process.

On Election Day, every precinct has a team of judges that is responsible for setting up voting equipment at 5:00am, conducting a fair, impartial and secure election, allowing voting from 6:00am to 7:00pm, and tabulating

the vote totals and transmitting them to the Board of Elections after the polls close. Judges of election are paid \$230 upon comple-

tion of an online training and service on Election Day; judges who work Election Day without completing online training are paid \$170. Additional compensa-

tion is available if judges are willing to pick up Election Day materials the week before the election. If you are interested in serving as a judge of Election, please visit www. chicagoelections.gov.

# **Lifeguard Training Offered at Ridge Park**

Working as a lifeguard is a great job for teenagers and young adults. Help prepare for that job by completing lifeguard training. The Chicago Park District is offering an American Red Cross Blended Learning Waterfront Lifeguard Training Course at Ridge Park from Tuesday, February 22nd – Friday, March 4th. Training is offered for \$80; pocket mask and American Red Cross Training materials will be provided. This training includes online course work and in-person

skills work and evaluation.

On the first day of class, students must complete any online components assigned by the instructor, a 550 yard continuous swim, two minutes treading water without support and an underwater timed event. If you cannot complete these skills, you will not be allowed to take the class.

To register for this class, please visit https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/events/lifeguard-training-ridge-0.

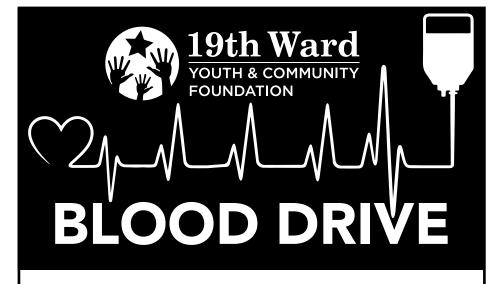
#### Western Rock Island SBIF Opening this March

Alderman Matt O'Shea, the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, and SomerCor will roll out the Small Business Improvement Fund (SBIF) for applications from businesses in the Western Rock Island TIF district in March, 2022. The SBIF program uses revenue from TIF districts to help owners of commercial and industrial properties to repair or remodel their facilities for their own business or on behalf of tenants. Tenant businesses are also eligible to apply on their own. Please note, residential projects are not eligible for the SBIF program.

Program participants can receive grants for 30 to 90% of total project costs, with a maximum grant of \$150,000 for commercial properties and \$250,000 for industrial properties. Grants are administered by SomerCor on the City's behalf and do not have to be repaid. DPD and SomerCor will host an informational webinar to review program requirements and the application process on Wednesday, March 2 at 1pm; to register for this webinar, please visit www.the19thward.com.

In order to apply for this program, property must be located in the Western Rock Island TIF District.





SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

ST. CAJETAN SCHOOL - GYM (USE DOOR 3)

2447 W. 112th Street, Chicago

In order to ensure appropriate social distancing, **appointments are required** and can be made at either www.communityblood.org or 1-800-280-4102.

**Use code CS01** to locate this blood drive.

Bring Photo ID to Appointment







www.communityblood.org

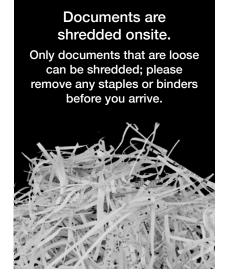
# PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP OFF DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT

**Saturday, Feb. 26th** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### **CrossWinds Church**

10835 S. Pulaski Rd.

This event is free, but is open to 19th Ward residents only.



Turn in your unused or expired household prescription medication for safe disposal.

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Medications should be in original container or a sealed plastic bag. Unacceptable Items:

- Needles, syringes, lancets, injection pens
- Medical waste
- **⊘**Liquids
- ♦ Chemo/cytotoxic drugs
- ◆ Contaminated materials, such as gloves, tubing or IV bags
- **♦** Batteries, aerosol spray cans
- ♦ Trash or other hazardous material
- ெ Illicit drugs (Schedule I controlled substances) such as marijuana, cocaine, heroin & methamphetamine

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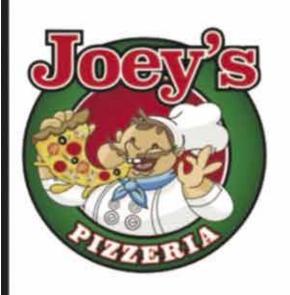


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JOEY'S RIVERDALE COMING SOON!
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138th and Halsted, Riverdale

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May 2022!
7830 Frontage Rd., Justice

# Back to the Beach for the 22nd Annual Chicago Polar Plunge

The Chicago Polar Plunge, presented by Jackson and benefiting the athletes of the Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities program, will return inperson to North Avenue Beach on Sunday, March 6th, with a virtual option available, as well. Registration is now open by visiting www. chicagopolarplunge.org

The Chicago Polar Plunge has become the must-attend winter event in the city over the last two decades. Last year, the Chicago Polar Plunge was virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, the event raised over \$1,000,000, with plungers getting creative and jumping into snowbanks, running through sprinklers, and more.

Registrants are asked to raise a minimum of \$200. All participating plungers will receive free parking at Lincoln Park Zoo, or a free bus for groups of 20 or more; a souvenir t-shirt; towel when exiting the water and free photo downloads;

The Chicago Polar Plunge has become the largest, and most well-known plunge in the country, attracting celebrity plungers, and garnering national and international attention. Plungers have included "The Tonight Show" host **Jimmy Fallon**, actors **Vince Vaughn** and **Dax Shepard**, musi-

cian/artist **Lady Gaga**, the casts of *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, and *Chicago Med*, **Al Roker**, **Craig Melman**, and other personalities from *The TODAY Show*.

The Chicago Polar Plunge is an enormously important event for Special Olympics Chicago, as it helps to fund year-round activities and events enjoyed by thousands of athletes throughout the city. Funds raised from the Chicago Polar Plunge help to pay for transportation to competitions, uniforms, sports equipment, and more, for the Special Olympics Chicago programs and athletes.

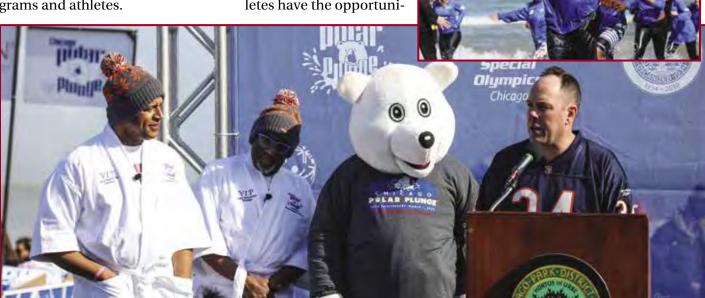
Athletes compete and train in 17 sports throughout the year in over 150 Chicago Public Schools throughout the city and in 23 parks through the Chicago Park District.

In addition to sports activities, SOC/SCC provides extracurricular activities including arts programming, an athlete produced cable

access television show, cooking nights, dance parties, field trips and more. The organization recently announced a partnership with Second City Chicago where athletes have the opportuni-

ty to attend virtual improv classes with instructors from the Second City Training Center.

For more information on the Chicago Polar Plunge benefiting Special Olympics Chicago, please call 312.527.3743; or email chicagopolarplunge@sochicago.org.



Craig Melvin and Al Roker from the Today Show join Special Olympics Chicago President Matt O'Shea to launch the 2020 Chicago Polar Plunge.

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Joanna Ruzich, MHS, CCC-SLP / Manager, Therapy Services

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# Cunningham's Expansion of Sports Betting Brings Revenue

Illinoisans will be able to register for online sports betting apps just in time for the NCAA March Madness basketball tournament thanks to a law championed by State Senator Bill Cunningham.

"Online registration is coming soon," said Cunningham, who was the chief senate sponsor of the bill. "It's time to give people a bet-

ter opportunity to place sports wagers, and I'm glad we were able to do so by March Madness."

Current Illinois sports betting law allows

online sportsbooks and online wagering on mobile devices via apps, but it does not allow for online registration. Illinois residents have to visit one of the brick-and-mortar casino locations for registration. However, under the new law, Illinoisans will be able to complete online registration on several online sportsbook platforms starting March 5, 2022.

In addition to the official March 5 date for online registration, fans of Illinois sports will have the chance to place a wager on Illinois college teams.

"Many legislators received complaints earlier this year from constituents who were upset they could not wager on the IllinoisLoyola second-round matchup in the NCAA tournament," said Cunningham. "This law is not only good for Illinois sport bettors, it is good for the fiscal health of our state."

Until Illinois legalizes sports betting 2019, untold millions of dollars of wagers were made in the black market (often controlled by

organized crime syndicates,) or through off-shore internet sites. Legalization has resulted in a regulated market that generates tax revenue for the state

and local governments, a large percentage which must be spent on construction projects.

In its first full fiscal year of operations, sports wagering in Illinois generated approximately \$380 million in adjusted gross receipts. \$57 million in tax revenues was collected. Revenues from this tax are transferred to the Capital Projects Fund, which is used to finance statewide road and public building construction projects.

A license for a Chicago-based casino is expected to be awarded this year. Thanks to a law Cunningham sponsored in 2013, any tax revenue collected by the city at the casino must be dedicated to Chicago's public safety pension funds.

#### **Vaccine Clinic**

On Saturday, March 26th, the 19th Ward and Jewel-Osco will host a COVID-19 Vaccine/Flu Shot Clinic at CrossWinds Church (10835 S. Pulaski Rd), 10:00am -2:00pm. Participants can receive booster shots for Pfizer and Moderna, first or second shot vaccines for people 5 years and up, and flu shots. This clinic is by appointment only; appointments can be made at www. the19thward.com. All participants are asked to bring photo ID and insurance cards if available. Jewel-Osco will bill your insurance, but there will be no charge to patients.

With final approval from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), all children ages 5 to 11 are now eligible to receive Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines. Parents can get more information at www.chi.gov/youthvax. Anyone over the age of 12 can now receive the booster 6 months after the second dose. If you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine for either yourself or your children, please consult your primary care physician.





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Senator Bill Cunningham along with Rep. Fran Hurley and Ald. Matt O'Shea have partnered with the Illinois Secretary of State's office to bring driver services to you.



#### SERVICES AVAILABLE:

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- Motor Voter Registration with Renewal of DL / ID
- Organ Donor Registration with Renewal DL / ID
- iCash & City of Chicago Key
- Seniors Age 65 & Up (NO CHARGE FOR STATE ID)

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Real ID compliant driver's licenses and ID cards must be processed at a driver service facility.
- Seniors age 75 and up need to visit the DMV to renew a driver's license.
- Proper identification will be needed for any services offered at this event.

 $For more information, please contact Senator Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham. complex contact Senator Cunningham at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www. Senator Bill Cunningham \, at \, (773) \, 445-8128 \, or \, www$ 

#### **Covid Townhall Meeting**

On Wednesday, February 23rd, Alderman Matt O'Shea will host a COVID-19 telephone town hall meeting at 7:00pm. O'Shea will be joined by Dr. Jennifer Seo from the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Commander Sean Joyce (22nd District). Together, they will provide an update on efforts related to public safety

and the City's response to the COV-ID-19 pandemic as well as address questions from residents.

To participate, please visit www.the19thward.com to register and look out for a phone call to the number you provided at 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 23rd. If you have any questions, please email mattoshea@the19thward.com.

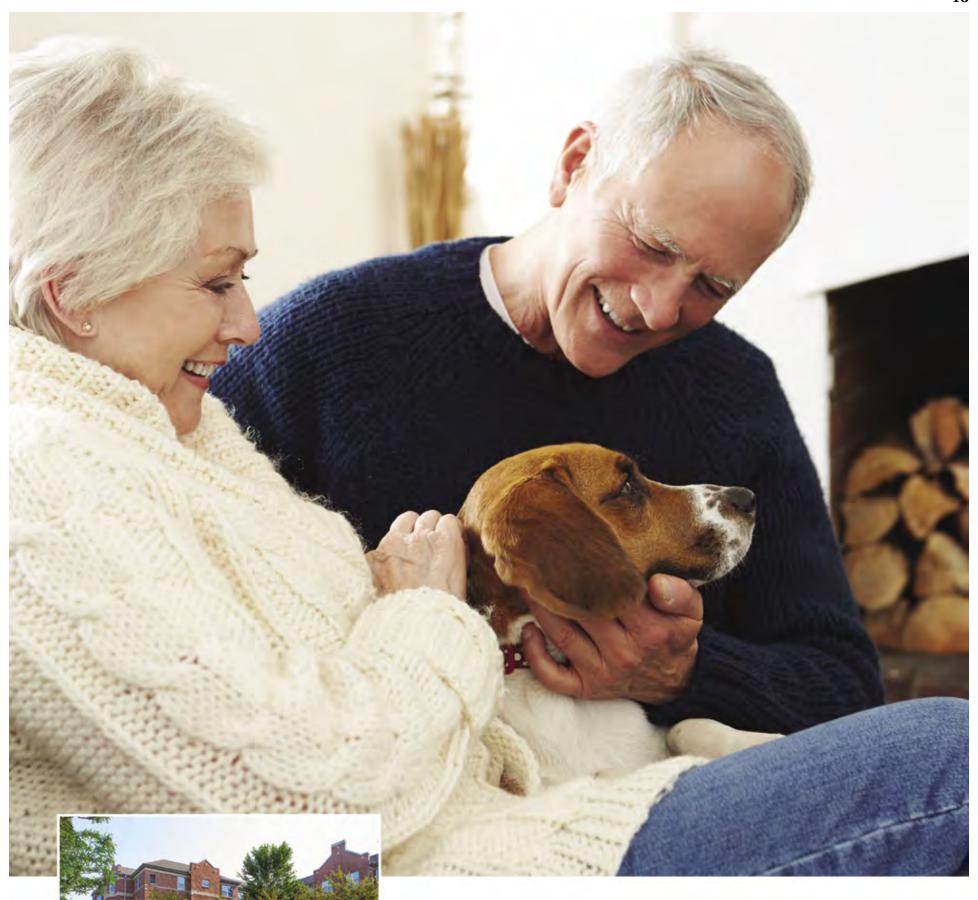


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# Rep. Kelly Burke Highlights ABLE Accounts for Disabled People

In 2015 I sponsored a bill to allow Illinois residents to establish accounts for residents with disabilities and their family members to save for their expenses related to education, job training, therapeutics and recreation without

jeopardizing any government benefits the individuals with disabilities might receive. Called ABLE accounts (short for Achieving a Better Life Experience), the funds in the accounts can also grow tax-free, similar to 529 college savings accounts. Illinois was among the first states

to authorize these ABLE accounts.

Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs' office was tasked with creating and administering the program. He realized that a larger pool of funds would return better results for the account holders and set to work persuading other states to band together, Illinois ultimately partnered with several other states to create the National ABLE Alliance, a pool of funds that has grown to \$210 million. Seven-

teen other states and the District of Columbia have joined the pool, which includes Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Penn-

sylvania, Rhode Island, and most recently Michigan.

The National ABLE Alliance represents more than a quarter of people with disabilities nationwide who are eligible to open ABLE accounts. These accounts have allowed people with disabilities to plan for the

future, save and pay for expenses that boost their quality of life, and achieve a measure of financial independence.

I am proud to have been involved in this effort since the start and commend Treasurer Frerichs for growing the National ABLE Alliance and making this savings option available to so many. For more information on the National ABLE Alliance visit savewithable.com or call 888-627-7519.

#### Rep. Slaughter Highlights Vaccine Verification System

To help families and individuals across the state comply with proof of COVID-19 vaccination mandates, state Rep. Justin Slaughter, is highlighting the Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) adoption of SMART<sup>TM</sup> health vacci-

nation cards in its Vax Verify health information system.

"It's very clear that COVID-19 will, unfortunately, continue to play a part in our lives," said Slaughter. "We must continue to think of innovative ways to contain and control this deadly virus."

Recently, IDPH adopted the SMART™ health vaccination cards for use in its Vax Verify portal, which can be accessed by visiting https://idphportal.illinois.gov. The new system allows users the option to present a QR code containing vaccine information to establishments in areas that require proof of vaccination upon entering. This development is one of the latest in

IDPH's strategy to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Beginning on January 3, 2022, all restaurants, gyms and entertainment venues in Chicago and Cook County began requiring all patrons aged 16 and up to display proof of

> vaccination along with a valid identification card. The order does not apply to some indoor facilities like churches, schools, office buildings and soup kitchens. mandates apply to all individuals who are boosted as well. For more information on the state's response to CO-

VID-19, please visit https://dph.il-linois.gov/covid19.

"We have to be very strategic in the way we approach COVID-19, and we cannot become complacent and let our guard down," said Slaughter. "As new variants emerge and the situation develops, we must be ready to react and follow the lead of our public health officials."



### Hurley Bill Supports 100 Club

Every day, our first responders put their lives on the line in service to us. It's an incredible sacrifice, not just for those who put on the badge, but their families who are often impacted and always understand the risks in-

volved in the job.

When the worst does happen, it is critical that our community steps up to help these families in their time of need. One organization that is always ready to help is the 100 Club of Illinois.

For over 55 years, the 100 Club of Illinois has been able to present immediate financial aid to families following the loss of a life in the line of duty. Within 24 hours of a tragedy, they are ready to assist with up to \$50,000 in immediate aid. Since their start, the 100 Club of Illinois has served 290 families with more than \$13 million while helping to connect them with statewide resources to make sure they get the help they need.

They also recognize these tragedies impact families for years, which is why they continue to provide support long-term, helping to cover the cost of higher education for the children of our fallen heroes. More than \$6 million has been given to educational assistance, with 32 dependents re-

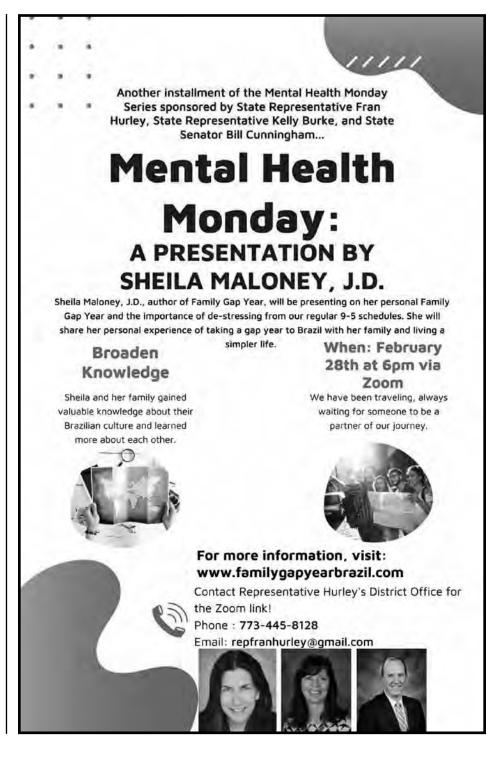
> ceiving assistance right now. An additional 84 children in Illinois

will be eligible when they reach college age.

I have introduced legislation (House Bill 4161) to create an income tax checkoff for donations to the 100 Club of Illis Fund If passed, you

nois Fund. If passed, you would see a new checkoff on the Schedule G form of your Illinois income tax form beginning next year. Similar checkoffs have brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars for their organizations, and I expect the same would happen with for 100 Club of Illinois as well.

This is an important cause that should not be overlooked. I am thankful for the great work this organization does, and will continue to support efforts that help to bring more resources to the families of our fallen.



# Long-time 19th Ward resident says Smith Village reflects her neighborhood's charms

Rita Macellaio has deep roots in the 19th Ward. Now a Smith Village resident, she has a lifetime of memories in Beverly's close-knit community. In fact, Smith Village is her fourth Beverly address.

Macellaio first considered a move to Smith Village when she got advice from the top. She would often chat with Kevin McGee, CEO of Smith Senior Living and Beverly resident, when he picked-up books for his kids reserved at the Walker Branch library where she worked as a librarian. "He mentioned that I might be interested in Smith Village," she explains. "I wasn't ready quite yet, but I remembered his suggestion." Then, soon before her retirement, she began having issues with her condo and decided it was time to move.

She has vivid memories of her childhood with her brothers playing baseball in the street and the family enjoying the Irish Parade. She claims that at its heart, Beverly hasn't changed that much. "Beverly still has that neighborhood feeling," says Macellaio. "We had great neighbors when I was growing up and that is still true today. Here, neighbors look out for each other."

The youngest of six children, she attended St. Margaret of Scot-

land Grammar School and Longwood, the popular name for Academy of Our Lady High School.

Her sister, Eleanor Sheils, lives in Beverly and two of her three children do as well. Her brother, Judge Joe Macellaio, passed away, but his wife Linda Miller remains in the neighborhood. Her brothers, Jerry and Jimmy, and her sister, Mary, had moved to the suburbs. But Rita Macellaio is a Beverly girl through and through.

"Rita's experience is similar to many of our residents," says Marti Jatis, executive director at Smith Village. "So many people who choose Smith Village have lived in Beverly for their entire lives. Their roots are here. They want to be close to family, friends and the community that they treasure."

#### A lifelong librarian

Macellaio, a librarian with the Chicago Public Library system, started her career working in adult services at the Lawndale and Scottsdale branches. She was recruited to work at 425 N Michigan Avenue during construction for the new Harold Washington Library on South State Street.

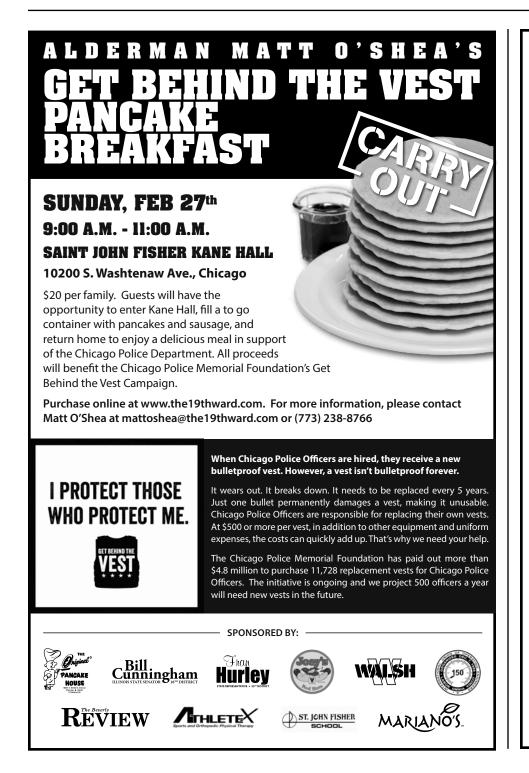
She then served at the Chicago Board of Trade for 16 years before returning to the CPL system. This time she secured a position close to home at the Walker Branch along 111th Street, right in her neighborhood.

"I feel really comfortable at Smith Village and know lots of people here," says Macellaio. "I always introduce myself to a new resident. I enjoy that I still live close to my sister who bikes over to visit in the summer." Smith Village is very much a part of the Beverly community Macellaio has always loved.

For more information about Smith Village, a life plan community at 2320 West 113th Place in Chicago, call 773-474-7300 or visit SmithVillage.org.



Smith Senior Living CEO Kevin McGee enjoys a conversation with Rita Macellaio in the Smith Village library.





#### South Side Irish Parade Returns for 2022

The South Side Irish Saint Patrick's Day Parade – set for Sunday, March 13th - has chosen "Thankful for Catholic Elementary School Teachers" as the Grand Marshal for 2022. In 2020, these educators had been set to receive their honor, so finally, they will be recognized. The Committee appreciates the hardworking teachers who educate Chicago's Catholic school students, particularly during these challenging times. The Grand Marshal unit will feature local area Catholic schools led by their school principals, teachers and staff.

"Our local Catholic elementary school teachers and students represent the themes that we hold dear and are worthy of the Grand Marshall moniker again for 2022. We are also pleased to honor the Tom Hopkins Foundation and to announce Bailey O'Connell as our Parade Queen for 2022. We are a family-friendly event, and we are very happy to be celebrating our community once again," says Don Larisey, Co-Chair of the South Side Irish Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

The Tom Hopkins Foundation, founded by the children of Tom Hopkins, or "Papa Hops", strives to assist families affected by cancer and to support youth athletics.

Parade Queen Bailey O'Connell, who had been selected in 2020. Bailey grew up in Mount Greenwood and is an alumna of Mount Greenwood Elementary and Mother McAuley High School. The South Side Irish Parade Queen will receive sponsorship from the South Side Irish Parade Committee to compete in the Chicago Rose of Tralee Selection as the South Side Irish Rose.

The mission of the Chicago
Rose of Tralee is
to provide enrichment opportunities
that will
encourage young
women of
Irish descent to

Irish descent to be exemplary role models for tomorrow's youth and to m

row's youth and to make a positive difference in the world.

"The South Side Irish Parade was created on the themes of faith, family, community and Irish heritage. We are very happy to be back this year and be assured that we will be following health and safety guidelines from our Public Health officials," adds Larisey.

Pre-parade fundraisers help offset the costs of operating the annual march down Western Avenue. This year the Committee launches three different ways to help show your support: Passport to the Parade; Tradition Marches On Yard Signs and Home Decorating Con-

Passport to Parade – On Saturday, February 26, 2022, participating local businesses will offer a 'Passport to Parade Special" that may include complimentary or discounted food, beverages, goods or services. Each participating business will create its own unique offer. Locations will treat patrons to a festive Irish theme and Passport

holders will be automatically entered into a raffle of local busi-

ness gift cards.

SouthSide\_Irish

Participating locations will be listed on the South Side Irish Parade website and social media pages with more details on special offers. Passport to Parade cost \$25 each and is available for purchase in advance at County Fair Foods, or on the parade website https:// southsideirishparade.org/

2022 Tradition Marches On Signs – Show your support by purchasing a 2022 Shamrock Our Blocks Yard Sign for \$20 Yard signs will be available for ordering on the parade website and/or at area pick up locations which will be posted on the parade website. Watch https://southsideirishparade.org/for more information.

**South Side Tradition Marches** On Home Decorating Contest -Back for the second year. Everyone is invited to join in the fun and decorate the outside of their house with their best Irish theme. Show your Irish side and support the parade by purchasing the home decorating contest application for \$20 on the parade website and vou receive a Tradition Marches on Sign to include in your decorating design. Once you're all decked house simply take a photo or make a 10-second video and upload your creativity onto the Parade website. Winners will be chosen through online voting on https://southsideirishparade.org/.

Participants in both the Tradition Marches On yard signs and Home Decorating Contest will also be entered into the raffle of local business gift cards helping to drive patrons to area businesses who continue to need a show of support.

Dedicated to the community and celebration of Irish heritage, the South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day parade is the largest community-based parade on St. Patrick's Day outside of Ireland. The family-friendly parade will kick off at noon at 103rd and Western Avenue, marching south to 115th and Western.









The Mustangs varsity bowling team has returned to championship form, leading to their first Public League title since 2019. Pictured above: Center (sitting): asst. coach Sandy Petty; standing: Daveon Bickcom (sophomore), Jacobi Martin (senior), Judah Nelson (sophomore), Treyvon Laury (senior), Brandon Lott (junior), head coach Arlanza Townsend, King Simmons (sophomore), Judah Nelson (sophomore), Zacari Martin (sophomore), and Omari Knight (senior).



So far, the honor group has promoted three different drives to help the less fortunate, a note-writing event to deliver kind messages, and advocacy for having a safe place for those in the LGBTQ community.

Most recently, the organization hosted a clothing drive to gather gently used items to be donated to the Salvation Army.



# Line-up





Sat, **Feb 12, 2022** | 7:30PM Tickets **\$ 38** (Members **\$34**)



That's Weird, Grandma

**Beverly Arts Center** 

Sun, Feb 13, 2022 | 2PM Sun, Feb 20, 2022 | 2PM

Tickets \$15 (Members \$13)



Sat, Feb 26, 2022 | 7PM

Tickets \$25 (Members \$23)



Opening reception Fri, March 4, 2022 | 6-8PM

FREE EVENT



Sun, March 13, 2022 | 9AM-1PM

Tickets (includes 1 premium parking spot)
Family Bundle (Wristbands for up to 4 people) \$50 (Members \$40)
Each additional person is \$10
Individual (Members \$20)



Fri, March 18, 2022 | 7:30PM Sat, March 19, 2022 | 7:30PM Sun, March 20, 2022 | 2PM

Tickets \$30 (Members \$27)

#### HEARTACHE TONIGHT ATRIBUTE TO THE EAGLES!

Fri, Apr 8, 2022 | 7:30PM

Tickets \$36 (Members \$32)

#### **Buddy Holly Tribute**

Sat, Apr 30, 2022 | PM

Tickets \$38 (Members \$34)

#### FOR MORE INFO CALL 773.445.3838 OR VISIT WWW.BEVERLYARTCENTER.ORG

# Life at Mercy Circle continues the joys of a faith community for Sister Lorraine Crawford

As the only faith-based continuing care retirement community in the 19th Ward and on Chicago's southwest side, Mercy Circle is home to many caring professionals including Sister Lorraine Crawford, IBVM. They have dedicated their lives to expressing their faith through service.

Sister Lorraine was raised on the South Side of Chicago in St. Brendan's Parish near 67th St. and Racine. She joined the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1950. "Looking back, it seems preposterous that at 17 or 18 years of age, anyone would have a real vision of a lifetime of religious service. I did, however, have very strong feelings joining this religious order and what I was meant to do," she says.

After a brief time working as a teacher in California, Sister Lorraine returned to her Chicago roots. For 14 years, she taught 8th grade science and religion at St. John of the Cross in Western Springs. "I loved the fun of teaching middle school students," she says. "For me, that adolescent energy is lifegiving."

She then was named pastoral associate at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. There, Sister Lorraine created new programs for adults in the parish that encouraged them to become more active in community service and to further their education.

Finally, she capped her professional career teaching English for 17 years to native Spanish language speakers at the Mary Ward Center, a ministry of her religious order, on East 91st Street in Chicago.

Then two years ago, at age 87, Sister Lorraine decided it was time to retire. She explored three different retirement communities and chose Mercy Circle because she enjoyed the welcoming atmosphere of the community. Members of other religious congregations as well as laypeople are the kind of caring, professional people she has enjoyed throughout her career.

Living at Mercy Circle also affords her the opportunity to live just seven blocks away from her sibling, Lorraine Moriarty, whose name she chose to replace her baptismal name of Harriet. This was a common practice for women in religious orders when they professed vows. So now they are Sister Lorraine and her sister Lorraine.

"Being in a community of wom-

"Being in a community of women religious, who are happy and energetic, always is a joy," she says. "With the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I found a community that encouraged my creativity and always is supportive."

"I've been given the gift of good health," she says. These days she enjoys movies, drives for her neighbors who no longer can, and has far more time to read. "The leadership at Mercy Circle is so attentive, caring and supportive," she says. "And the whole campus is beautifully kept."

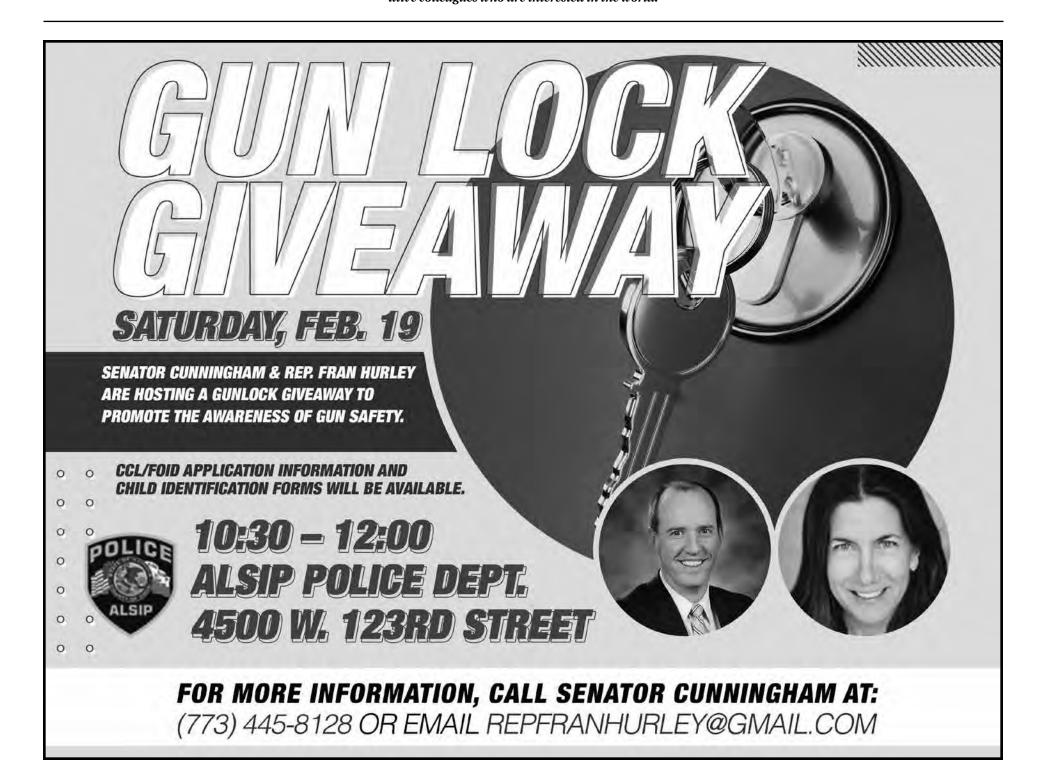
#### **About Mercy Circle**

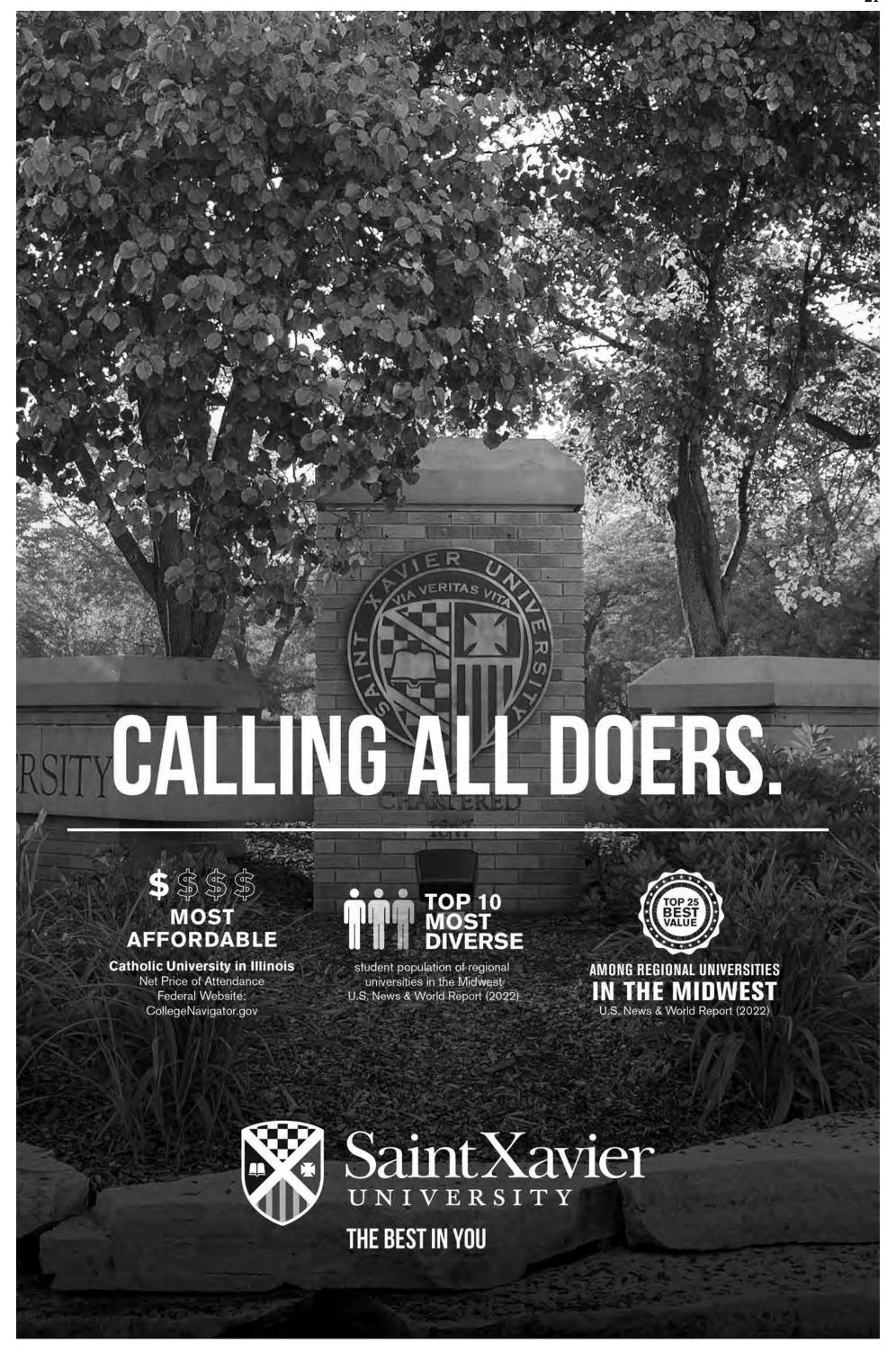
Mercy Circle, a not-for-profit continuing care retirement community with a no-entrance-fee policy, is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

For more information about its spacious residences for all levels of living, a variety of amenities and programs including Mass in Mercy Chapel or to schedule a private appointment, please call 773-253-3600 or visit MercyCircle.org



Sister Lorraine Crawford, IBVM, says her new life at Mercy Circle is a wonderful continuation of the religious life that she always loved—filled with positive, creative colleagues who are interested in the world.













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Tickets \$38



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VISUAL ARTS

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Classes begin on February 28

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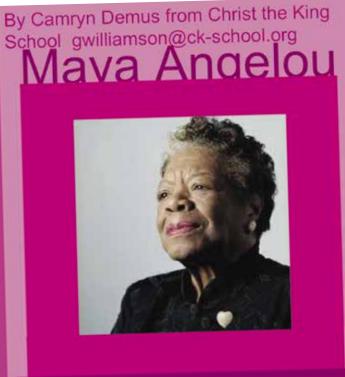
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#### 19TH WARD BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROJECT

This February, the 19th Ward partnered with your neighborhood McDonald's at 95th & Charles to host a black history month project contest. All 5th grade students at 19th Ward elementary schools were invited to participate. Students completed written or visual projects about a figure from black history that they respected or admired. While the project is still ongoing, we wanted to share some of last year's winners. Great job 5th Graders.

Vanderpoel Humanities Academy

Maya Angelou was an amazing person and she did extraordinary things in her life. She was a wonderful actress, a superb poet and memoirist, and a great teacher. She was born on April 4th, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri but she spent most of her childhood in Arkansas. During her childhood she was sexually assaulted by her mother's boyfriend which lead her to becoming mute. However a teacher helped her find her voice again. After trying a number of jobs as a young adult, Maya became a poet and a writer in 1950 in New York, but also acted from 1966 to 1998. She even won a Tony award nomination for her acting! In 1969 she wrote an autobiography called I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings which won her a National Book Award. The poetry she created from 1971 to 2013 was magnificent. These poems included masterpieces like And Still I Rise, Letter To My Daughter, etc. Maya Angelou stood for equal rights, people of color, and the poor. Her poetry and literature also explored the themes of economic, racial, and sexual oppression. She won many awards but in 2011 she was awarded with the Presidential Medal of Freedom which is a very high achievement. She died on May 28, 2014. She was an impressive person and a great role model



Dear George Washington Carver,

#### **Fannie Lou Hamer**

By Nichelle Johnson



Fannie Lou Hamer was a Civil Rights Activist who was not scared to change the world.

Fannie Lou Hamer was born on October 6, 1917, in Montgomery County, Mississippi. Fannie grew up on a field with her family. She joined the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Fannie is important because sne really made a difference while she was living. She helped register African Americans and encouraged them to vote. Fannie was threatened many times in her life. If that happened to me, I would've given up. Not her! She never lost faith.

Fannie used to sing Freedom songs when she felt like people were losing hope. Fannie is known for her work with woman suffrage and her political activism. Fannie also helped poor people by giving them what they needed. Fannie Lou died of cancer on March 14, 1977.

Fannie was a real hero and everyone should know who she was.

A few months ago while watching the "Who Was" show on Netflix, you were one of the characters introduced. On February 1, 2021, I heard the quote "Heroes are just ordinary people that have done extraordinary things" on the video Kid President, 2016. This quote reminded me of what I heard on the Netflix show and how I admired you. You were born into slavery as the Civil War was ending. You had to walk ten miles to go to an all black school. When you first applied to college, you were rejected because of your race, but eventually were accepted by a college. You were an ordinary person, but in spite of you being ordinary, Mr. Carver, you did extraordinary things. Your love for agriculture was like a baby is to a pacifier. You had an insatiable passion for plants which made you be able to bring plants back to life. This love got you interested in agriculture and the environment. You are my hero for your interest. You worked to improve the lives of farmers. You developed ways to improve the soil after repeated plantings of one crop. You showed farmers that one year they should grow peanuts or sweet potatoes and the next year cotton. Your information important to us today. You also tried to teach people that they could improve their lives by what they eat. Equally important, you are most famous for introducing the peanut. As you know, the peanut is not only good for eating but for use in making paper, gasoline, and paint. As I have said, you are my hero. You have inspired me to eat healthier foods. For example, I have been eating more apples, carrots, and

Thank you for beginning your life as an ordinary individual but ending it as an extraordinary one.

it is to rotate her crops in her different beds every year.

peanuts. Also, I want to purchase the plant Venus Fly Trap to help the environment

get rid of unwanted insects. In addition, I am going to tell my stepmom how important

Sincerely,

Devin Kuhn

Mount Greenwood School - 5th Dr.



"Nobody's free until everybody's free."