

# Registration is Open for the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K

Registration is now open for the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K Run and Family Walk. One of the most popular events of the year returns to the 19th Ward community on Saturday, November 28th. The event begins at 9 a.m. at 9200 S. Hamilton Avenue. Marking its 18th year, this event has become a family tradition and is expected to attract more than 2,500 participants. Proceeds from this year's event will once again benefit the John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and the 19th Ward Youth and Community Foundation.

Please visit [the19thward.com](http://the19thward.com) to register as a runner or walker. Participants who register before race day are guaranteed a Beverly Hills Turkey Trot long-sleeved event t-shirt. The 5K will be chip-timed on a CARA certified 5K course. The family walk is untimed.

"We are very excited about hosting the 18th Annual Beverly Hills Turkey Trot and are thrilled to work with Republic Bank, our new presenting sponsor of this beloved community event, explained Matt O'Shea, Alderman of the 19th Ward and founder of the 19th Ward Youth and Community Foundation."

Republic Bank opened their Mt. Greenwood branch in March. Located at 3040 W. 111th Street, the bank is looking forward to engaging with the community.

The 19th Ward will host a breakfast immediately following the race at 10:30 a.m. in the Christ the King School gym. Admission is \$5 per person or \$25 for a family.



The John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, also known as Live Like John, is one of the beneficiaries of this year's 5K. Live Like John was founded in 2012 by North Beverly residents Ed

and Amy McNicholas after their son, John, passed away from a brain tumor in 2010 at the age of 15. The Foundation

began with the goal of eradicating pediatric brain tumors. Since its inception, the foundation has advocated for advancements in the care and treatment of pediatric brain tumors by facilitating better coordination of information between patients and providers, improving the quality of life for patients, and funding specifically targeted for

pediatric brain tumor research and treatment options.

The 19th Ward Youth and Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports and hosts a variety of safe, healthy, and educational youth activities for children in Beverly, Morgan Park, and Mount Greenwood. The programs are offered at a minimal cost or are free to participants. These activities are designed to help children and teens make new friends and stay active. Some examples of the events offered include the annual Holiday Dodge Ball Tournament, the Children's Film Festival, Summer Concerts in the Park, and the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot.

For more information on the 18th annual Turkey Trot 5K and sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.the19thward.com](http://www.the19thward.com) or call (773) 238-8766.

# More Than a Market: A Sunday Tradition on 95th Street

If you've stopped by the 95th Street Farmers Market this summer, you've probably noticed it's about more than shopping. It's children showing off freshly painted faces. Neighbors catching up over a cup of coffee. Families dancing to live music. Friends discovering a new favorite vendor. It's the kind of place where you come for fresh produce and leave feeling a little more connected to your community.

As we head into the second half

of our 2026 season, we're grateful for what has been an incredible year so far.

By the numbers, it's been a season to celebrate. Thousands of customers have visited the market this year, supporting 35 local vendors and connecting with 15 community organizations that have joined us throughout the season. Every Sunday brings something new while continuing the traditions our community has come to love.

We're thrilled to welcome back 25 returning vendors who have become familiar faces at the market. From farm-fresh produce and locally raised meats to artisan breads, cheeses, baked goods, specialty foods, candles, coffee, and pet treats, these small businesses continue to make Sunday mornings something our community looks forward to each week.

This season has also welcomed 10 new vendors, adding even more variety to the market. Whether it's discovering a new lunch favorite,

sampling handcrafted specialty products, or finding a unique local business, we've loved watching shoppers explore everything our newest vendors have to offer.

The market has also become a place where neighbors connect with organizations doing great work throughout our community. This season, we've welcomed 15 different community organizations that have shared valuable programs, services, resources, and opportunities with market visitors, making the market about much more than shopping.

Of course, no Sunday would be complete without the atmosphere that makes the market so special. Our talented local musicians provide the soundtrack each week, creating an energy that often leads to spontaneous dancing and plenty of smiles. Cathy Sorich of Marvelous Faces continues to delight children with her incredible face painting, while newcomer Jem of Gemini Nails has quickly become a favorite, adding colorful nail art that keeps little hands proudly on display.

Behind the scenes, our dedicated market team works hard each week to create a welcoming experience for everyone who visits. None of this would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We're especially grateful to our Premier Sponsors, Blue Door Neighborhood Center and Beverly Bank, for their incredible support of the market. We'd also like to thank



Southtown Health Foods, McDonald's on 95th Street, and OSF Little Company of Mary Medical Center, along with the many additional businesses and organizations whose sponsorships help make the market possible each week.

Whether you're one of our regular Sunday shoppers or have been meaning to stop by for the first time, there's still plenty of market season left to enjoy. Every week offers something a little different—a favorite vendor, a new discovery, live entertainment, family activities, and the opportunity to support the local businesses that make our community so special.

Thank you to every vendor, sponsor, musician, community partner, volunteer, and customer who has made this season such a success. We can't wait to spend the rest of the season with you.

The 95th Street Farmers Market is open every Sunday from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. through October 25th at 1835 W. 95th Street.

See you Sunday!



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# CAPS Meeting Calendar

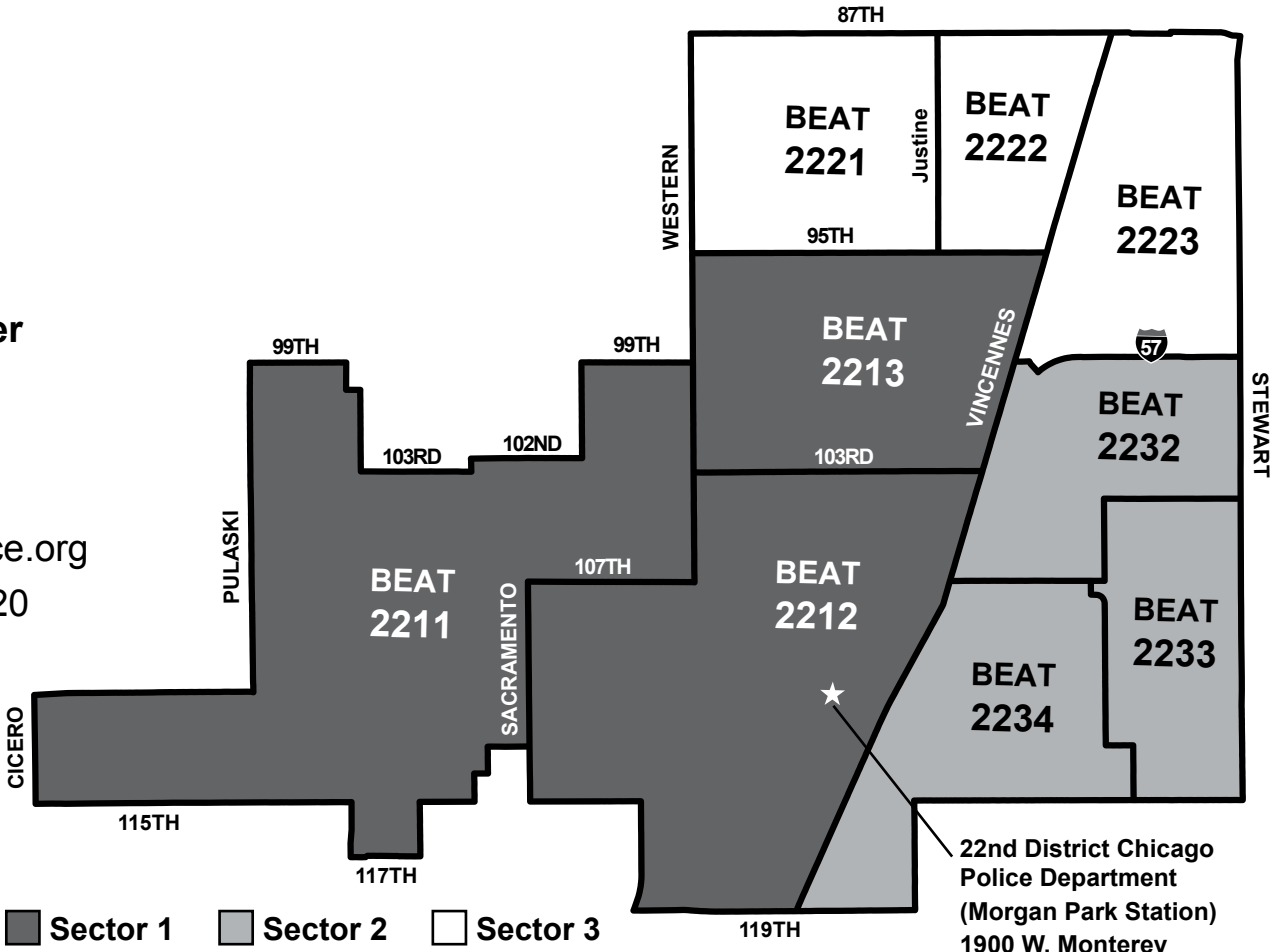
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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Beat 2211</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs@6pm<br>Sister Pat Mahoney<br>Anna Hall                                  | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                 | <b>Beat 2221</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Tues@6pm                                                                                          | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>Beat 2232</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed@6pm                                                                            | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 823 0682 7037<br>Passcode: 340483<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                    | Feb 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 5 <sup>th</sup><br>April 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                                                          | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 827 6839 0009<br>Passcode: 888729<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                                        | Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Apr 7 <sup>th</sup>                                                                               | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 829 7870 5573<br>Passcode: 556971<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                         | Feb 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 8 <sup>th</sup>                                                                             |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> District Station<br>1900 W. Monterey                                                             | May 7 <sup>th</sup><br>June 4 <sup>th</sup><br>July 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Aug 6 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>    | Christ The King Church<br>9235 South Hamilton                                                                                         | May 5 <sup>th</sup><br>June 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>July 7 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>       | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 829 7870 5573<br>Passcode: 556971<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                         | May 13 <sup>th</sup><br>June 10 <sup>th</sup><br>July 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 12 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 9 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>   |
| <b>BEAT 2212</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs@6pm                                                                     | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                 | <b>BEAT 2222</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues@6pm<br>Maurice Wade<br>Doris Barnes                                                          | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>BEAT 2233</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed@6pm                                                                            | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 823 0682 7037<br>Passcode: 340483<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                    | Feb 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 5 <sup>th</sup><br>April 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                                                          | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 834 0102 9734<br>Passcode: 983937<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                                        | Feb 17 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 17 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 21 <sup>st</sup>                                                                            | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 829 7870 5573<br>Passcode: 556971<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                         | Feb 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 8 <sup>th</sup>                                                                             |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> District Station<br>1900 W. Monterey                                                             | May 7 <sup>th</sup><br>June 4 <sup>th</sup><br>July 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Aug 6 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>    | Brainerd Park<br>1246 West 92 <sup>nd</sup>                                                                                           | May 19 <sup>th</sup><br>June 16 <sup>th</sup><br>July 21 <sup>st</sup><br>Aug 18 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 15 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 20 <sup>th</sup> | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 829 7870 5573<br>Passcode: 556971<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                         | May 13 <sup>th</sup><br>June 10 <sup>th</sup><br>July 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 12 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 9 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>   |
| <b>BEAT 2213</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs@6pm<br>Gary Jenkins<br>Sharon Jenkins                                   | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                 | <b>BEAT 2223</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues@6pm<br>Earl Ware<br>Sharon Snelling                                                          | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>BEAT 2234</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed@6pm<br>Ben Farnandis<br>Clarence Taylor                                        | <b>DATES</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 874 7835 7512<br>Passcode: 434253<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                    | Feb 12 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 12 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 9 <sup>th</sup>                                                                          | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 872 8452 5745<br>Passcode: 783543<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                                        | Feb 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 14 <sup>th</sup>                                                                            | <b>ZOOM.US</b><br>ID: 836 4544 4860<br>Passcode: 513391<br><b>CALL IN:</b><br>1 (312) 626-6799                         | Feb 18 <sup>th</sup><br>Mar 18 <sup>th</sup><br>Apr 15 <sup>th</sup>                                                                            |
| Ridge Park<br>9625 South Longwood                                                                                 | May 14 <sup>th</sup><br>June 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Jul 9 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 13 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 8 <sup>th</sup> | Robichaux Park<br>9247 S. Eggleston                                                                                                   | May 12 <sup>th</sup><br>June 9 <sup>th</sup><br>July 14 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Beth Eden Church<br>11121 S Loomis                                                                                     | May 20 <sup>th</sup><br>June 17 <sup>th</sup><br>July 15 <sup>th</sup><br>Aug 19 <sup>th</sup><br>Sept 16 <sup>th</sup><br>Oct 21 <sup>nd</sup> |
| **DATES, TIMES & LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**                                                                |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Clergy Meetings:</b><br>January-October / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @ 10am<br>ID: 845 7192 8622 Passcode: 704314 |                                                                                                                                              | <b>Beat Facilitators Meetings:</b><br>FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT / 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays @ 1pm<br>ID: 839 7801 1480 Passcode: 096076 |                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DAC Meetings:</b><br>FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT / 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday @ 1pm<br>ID: 839 7801 1480 Passcode: 096076 |                                                                                                                                                 |



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# Black Business Month

Each August the Community Connections Committee celebrates Black Business Month in the 19th Ward by shining a light on the brilliance, resilience and impact of Black-owned businesses throughout Beverly, Morgan Park, and Mount Greenwood. Black Business Month programming creates intentional space for connection, collaboration, and community-building – with events that inspire, support and empower. The lineup for 2026 is about reconnection, shoring up business basics, and celebrating community for long-time business owners as well as budding entrepreneurs. This year’s programming kicked off with a coffee at Afro Joe’s Coffee & Tea held on August 5th and a Business Education Panel held on August 21st. Upcoming events include:



August 30th – 95th Street Farmers Market Celebration  
Please visit [villageinthecity.org/black-business-month](http://villageinthecity.org/black-business-month) for more information.

## Find Your Next Local Event at OnWestern.com



“On Western” is the go-to guide for everything happening along Western Avenue in Beverly/Morgan Park! From local eats to can’t-miss events and neighborhood gems, it’s all just a click away. Check it out on [OnWestern.com](http://OnWestern.com)

# Sip & Shop

Please join the 20+ small businesses at 99th and 103rd Streets for an evening of retail therapy on Thursday, October 1st! Co-sponsored by BAPA and the Morgan Park Beverly Hills Business Association each year, Sip & Shop features specialty beverages and small bites while shoppers peruse special sales, fall merchandise, and the latest trends. Please visit [bapa.org/sip-shop](http://bapa.org/sip-shop) for more details.

## Gill Legislation Increasing Access to Medication Recall Information Signed into Law

Working to increase access to information regarding medication recalls, State Rep. Mary Gill is highlighting legislation recently signed into law that requires pharmacists to share information on how to sign up for medication recall notifications.



calls and creating a system to notify patients in a timely manner. To keep patients informed of medication recalls, every pharmacy in Illinois will now feature a sign near the pharmacy counter and drive-up window with a QR code so patients can sign up for medication recall notifications via the United States Food and Drug Administration.

“Patients need to have quick, easy access to medical information, especially with something as important as recalls,” said Gill. “If people are unknowingly taking harmful medication because they can’t access public information, that’s a mistake we need to fix. With this legislation, we’re improving visibility on drug recalls to help keep people healthy.”

“Patients should never worry that their medication is suddenly unsafe or recalled; they should be able to trust their medication,” said Gill. “By including this simple informational sign in pharmacies, we’re providing people with peace of mind and an assurance that they can trust their medication.”

Gill’s Senate Bill 3223 stipulates that the “practice of pharmacy” includes monitoring medication re-

Senate Bill 3223 has been signed into law and will go into effect on January 1, 2027.



111<sup>th</sup> STREET

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6:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

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WWW.THE19THWARD.COM

# Mother McAuley Honors Danny Did Foundation With 2026 Caring Heart Award

Mother McAuley High School hosted the school’s annual Fore the Macs Golf Outing on Thursday, August 20th at Ridge Country Club. The annual fundraiser benefits the Tradition of Excellence Scholarship at McAuley through a day of golf, fellowship and philanthropy. The 2025 event raised more than \$136,000 in scholarships for the incoming freshman class.

At this year’s event, McAuley was honored to present the 2026 Caring Heart Award to the Danny Did Foundation, recognizing its commitment to protecting individuals living with epilepsy and preventing deaths caused by seizures through education, advocacy and access to life-saving technology.

Founded in 2010 by Mike and Mariann Stanton following the loss of their four-year-old son, Danny to Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), the Danny Did Foundation has become a leading advocate for epilepsy awareness, seizure safety and access to seizure detection technology. Most recently, the organization helped advance landmark Illinois legislation that expands insurance coverage for FDA-cleared seizure detection devices through both Medicaid and private insurance plans.

“The Danny Did Foundation ex-

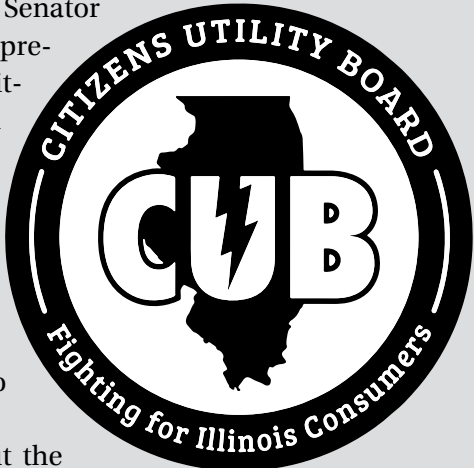
emplifies the spirit of compassion, service and advocacy that the Caring Heart Award represents,” said Carey Temple Harrington ’86, President of Mother McAuley. “Through unimaginable loss, the Stanton family has created a legacy that is helping countless families across Illinois and beyond. Their work is changing lives, and we are proud to recognize their extraordinary impact.”

This year’s recognition is especially meaningful for the McAuley community. Danny’s mother, Mariann (Murtaugh) Stanton, is a member of the McAuley Class of 1988. A standout point guard for the Mighty Macs, she went on to play collegiate basketball at Loyola University Chicago. Mariann later returned to McAuley as an English teacher and basketball coach, mentoring students both in the classroom and on the court. Her sisters, Mary Jo Murtaugh ’84 and Mary Eileen Murtaugh ’94, are also proud McAuley alumnae.

The Caring Heart Award honors the legacy of Caroline Griffin ’12 and recognizes individuals and organizations whose compassion and service make a lasting impact on others. McAuley is proud to celebrate the Danny Did Foundation and the Stanton family for their dedication to creating a safer future for individuals and families affected by epilepsy.

# Citizen Utility Board Hosts Virtual Presentation for Home Energy Savings and Internet Options and Data Privacy: What You Need to Know

Alderman Matt O’Shea, Senator Bill Cunningham, State Representative Mary Gill and the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) will host two virtual presentations on Tuesday, September 8th from 1-2 p.m. and Thursday, September 10th from 6-7 p.m. These webinars are free. Please visit [www.19thwardmobile.com](http://www.19thwardmobile.com) to reserve your spot.



Are you concerned about the rise in utility prices and online security? Please join CUB for information about how to reduce your energy usage and avoid online scams. This event is designed to help you better understand the ins and outs of your bill, avoid utility scams, and learn about programs designed to save you money and energy. Additionally, you will learn how to protect your privacy online against trending internet scams and discover alternative service options. For money saving advice and consumer tips, please visit [www.citizensutilityboard.org](http://www.citizensutilityboard.org).

Tuesday, September 8th  
1-2 p.m.  
[tinyurl.com/cubworkshopsept8](http://tinyurl.com/cubworkshopsept8)

Thursday, September 10th  
6-7 p.m.  
[tinyurl.com/cubworkshopsept10](http://tinyurl.com/cubworkshopsept10)

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REPRESENTATIVE

RICK RYAN  
36TH DISTRICT  
STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE

MATT O'SHEA  
19TH WARD  
ALDERMAN

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[radovan@ilsenatedems.org](mailto:radovan@ilsenatedems.org)  
Let's come together for an evening of bingo and community connection!

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# A Look Back at 1926

## Events of 100 years ago Helped to Shape Today's Community

By Carol Flynn

There was so much happening in Chicago and the 19th ward in 1926 that it is a challenge to keep track of it all.

One of the most significant, far-reaching, and long-lasting projects for the city that year was the establishment of Midway Airport.

Aviation as a commercial industry was in its infancy but visionary people recognized the potential for the future. Airplanes had been used for tactical military purposes during World War I and now were being used for mail and delivery services.

The idea of passenger service was becoming more of a reality, as the public was fascinated with the thought of flying. That was due in large part to newspaper coverage of pilots like Amelia Earhart, who briefly lived in Beverly/Morgan Park as a teenager.

There were already several landing fields around Chicago, including the Ashburn Flying Field at 79th Street and Cicero Avenue, where the Scottsdale shopping mall is now, and the Chicago Air Park at 63rd Street and Cicero Avenue.

In 1925, the Aero Commission established by Chicago Mayor William Dever rented the Chicago Air Park, which was on 75 acres of land owned by the Chicago Board of Education, to build an airport. That airfield would grow to more than a square mile in size, but at the time, other parts of the land were being rented out for farming.

Other ideas were proposed for an airport, including building an island in Lake Michigan. But in January of 1926, the Chicago city council voted to expend \$225,000 over five years to develop the south side airport. Work began in earnest on the "Chicago Municipal Airport," which officially opened in December of 1927, but had been in use for many years before then.

Renamed "Midway Airport" after World War II, this was Chicago's major airport until O'Hare Airport opened in 1944. The Ashburn Flying Field closed in 1939.

The year 1926 was also impor-

tant in the history of the 19th ward because the groundwork was laid then for many of today's realities.

One milestone of 1926-27 was the annexation of the Village of Mount Greenwood to Chicago, and its addition to the 19th ward.

Mount Greenwood was connected to the city by the strip of land along 103rd Street that included the Ridge Country Club. The boundaries of Mount Greenwood are often asked about, and the eastern boundary was Sacramento Avenue. The cemeteries, Mount Greenwood, Mount Olivet, and Mount Hope, were not part of this annexation.

Mount Greenwood was still very rural, dotted with farms with German and Dutch and a few Irish surnames. A commercial strip along 111th Street was developing west of the cemeteries, with residential blocks growing up around that business district. Saint Christina Parish on 111th Street celebrated its 100th anniversary this year, also.



*Mount Greenwood was still primarily a farming community when it was annexed to Chicago and the 19th ward in 1926-27. Today, farm houses dating back more than 100 years can still be found amid the more recent raised ranches, Cape Cods, and bungalows of the neighborhood. Photo by C. Flynn.*

Zoning regulations were another area where decisions reconfirmed in 1926 had an effect on Beverly that is still seen today.

Beverly was developed intentionally to be an exclusive, upscale community of single-family homes, as evidenced by the historical residences built in North Beverly and

along Longwood Drive. The zoning for the neighborhood, banning large apartment buildings and commercial ventures within the residential sections, reflected this from the beginning.

In 1926, much of the land between Seeley and Western Avenues was still undeveloped, a mixture of woods, prairie, wetlands, and farms. Real estate developers who owned some of the land convinced the zoning board of the city council to propose an amendment to rezone the land from 95th to 99th Streets, Western to Damen Avenues, to allow the construction of large apartment and commercial buildings.

Nineteenth ward Alderman Donald McKinlay fought the proposed rezoning on behalf of his constituents, the residents of Beverly, and convinced the city council to block the amendment. To this day, the residential area remains one of single-family homes with nothing larger than two-flat apartments.

Western Avenue was still primarily residential and farmland in 1926, and fruit peddlers still set up their carts right in the middle of Western Avenue. It was not regarded as a major commercial strip back then, but that change was coming.

The Haedtler Dairy Goat Farm was located at 96th Street and Western Avenue, and the corner of 111th Street and Western Avenue was still known as the Smith apple orchard. In fact, in 1926, a major "Johnny Appleseed" festival was held in that apple orchard, attracting thousands of visitors to Morgan Park.

However, the times were changing, and increased development of Western Avenue, including commercial ventures, was inevitable. Those properties were sold to developers that same year, and the fruit peddlers were banned for safety reasons.

There was growing recognition that the south side held a great deal of potential, leading to many projects to improve the streets in 1926, including paving 103rd Street, Monterey Avenue, and many of the residential side streets; widening 95th Street from State Street to Western Avenue; and installing street signs and electric streetlights.

That was also the year that government planners, recognizing that the growth in automobile traffic was going to greatly increase in the future, made Western Avenue, part of the Dixie Highway, a thoroughfare that ran the entire length of the city. Connecting roadways then stretched from Wisconsin all the way to Green Bay Road.

The year 1926 saw some of the iconic structures of the community built or established, including



*Western Avenue was still a rural road when Rainbow Cone was established in 1926. That year began many of the efforts that led to today's commercial strip.*

Sutherland School, the Morgan Park Academy Alumni Hall, Leo High School, major additions to Bethany Union Church and Morgan Park Methodist Episcopal Church, and Rainbow Cone on Western Avenue.

In 1926, the neighborhood women's clubs undertook major beautification projects at the 91st Street train station and led the establishment of Kennedy Park on Western Avenue. It was also the year of the first public Memorial Day Parade, and the year the Greater Southside Chamber of Commerce was started.

Incredibly, four Chicagoans were featured on covers of Time Magazine in 1926. These were Robert Todd Lincoln, George Cardinal Mundelein, George E. Brennan, and Samuel Insull. Lincoln and Mundelein are well-known historical figures.

Brennan was a Democratic "boss" who ran for the U.S. Senate as a "wet," that is, anti-Prohibition, candidate in 1926 whose campaign was derailed by an injury. He lost to the Republican candidate Frank Smith, who the Senate refused to seat because of charges of election fraud.

Insull was an innovator and investor who helped create the electrical infrastructure in the U.S. and built the Chicago Civic Opera House.

One thing that didn't come true was a wild prediction about the population growth of the Chicago area. Dr. J. Paul Goode of the University of Chicago predicted that by the year 2000, 250 million people would be living in the Chicago area, with 15 million people in the city itself.

At the time, the 1920 U.S. Census reported that Cook County had a population of about 3 million, with 2,701,705 people living in Chicago.

The 2020 U.S. Census recorded 2,741,730 people living within the city limits, about the same as 100 years ago, and the population of Cook County as 5,275,541, reflecting the growth of the "suburbs" during the last 100 years.

Reflecting on the history of 100 years ago helps 19th ward residents better understand how the community came to be what it is today.



*Midway Airport, originally named the Chicago Municipal Airport when it officially opened in December of 1927, was a very busy place for mail delivery, as this photo from the Chicago Tribune in 1928 shows. There were already calls for expanding the airport.*

# It's BYOC (bring your own lawn chair) for a concert by Megan Curran Combo in the courtyard at Smith Village

Enjoy the best of the Great American Songbook when Beverly resident and pianist Megan Curran leads her quartet, starring vocalist Vince Clark, at Smith Village, 2320 West 113th Place in Chicago, 5:30 until 7:30pm on Wednesday, September 30th. Smith Village will serve wine, beer and other beverages for all guests. Reservations are

not required.  
City of Chicago 19th Ward Alderman Matt O'Shea sponsors this free outdoor concert for Smith Village residents and invites their neighbors to join them.  
For more information, look for a flyer in future eblasts from the 19th Ward.



# Senator Cunningham Alerts Parents to Meet New E-Bike and Scooter Safety Regulations

Senator Bill Cunningham is highlighting his support for legislation that establishes clearer safety and operating standards for electric bikes, motor-driven cycles, and other emerging forms of transportation in Illinois like electric scooters.

"Electric bikes and other new forms of transportation have become much more common on our roads and trails, but our laws haven't always kept pace," said Cunningham. "Putting clear rules in place will help riders understand their responsibilities and most importantly, help keep everyone who shares our roads and sidewalks safe."

Senate Bill 3484 would establish a comprehensive safety framework to address the growing use of electric micromobility devices, motor-driven cycles and certain gas-powered bicycles.

The measure would update the definition of low-speed gas bicycles to increase allowable top speed to

28 miles per hour. Riders of e-bikes capable of traveling over 28 miles per hour would be required to have a driver's license, title and registration.

The Cunningham-backed measure would also prohibit the operation of low-speed gas bicycles on sidewalks and require clear signage in places where motor-driven cycles are prohibited.

"We need rules that recognize the difference between a traditional bicycle and some of the faster, more powerful devices we're seeing today," Cunningham said. "This legislation takes a practical approach that allows people to

continue using these transportation options while setting reasonable standards to protect riders, pedestrians and motorists."

Senate Bill 3484 passed both chambers of the General Assembly and is expected to be signed into law by the governor.



COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW

**Property Tax Appeal Workshop**  
Hosted by **George A. Cardenas**, Chairman of the Board of Review & First District Commissioner. Meet Board of Review analysts and get free help filing your appeal.

CO-HOSTED WITH

**Matt O'Shea**  
Alderman, 19th Ward

**Mary Gill**  
Representative, IL-35th

**Bill Cunningham**  
Senator, IL-18th

|                                 |                           |                                                    |                                                    |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| DATE<br>Tuesday<br>09/22/2026   | TIME<br>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | LOCATION<br>Chicago HS for Agricultural Sciences   | ADDRESS<br>3857 W. 111th St.<br>Chicago, IL 60655  |
| DATE<br>Wednesday<br>10/14/2026 | TIME<br>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | LOCATION<br>Morgan Park HS, Blackwelder Auditorium | ADDRESS<br>1744 W. Pryor Ave.<br>Chicago, IL 60643 |

Homeowners are welcome to:

- Talk one-on-one with official Board of Review analysts
- Ask questions about your property's assessment
- Get free, on-the-spot help filing an appeal — no cost, ever
- Leave with a filed appeal or a clear next step

WHAT TO BRING

Your most recent property tax bill or assessment notice, if you have it.

Can't attend?

Scan this code to file your property tax appeal online anytime.

Questions? Call (312) 603-2676

cookcountyboardofreview.com

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*OUR FUTURE.*

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**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH**  
9:00 - 10:00 AM

STARBUCKS - PALOS HEIGHTS  
7202 W 119TH STREET  
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL 60463

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH**  
9:00 - 10:00 AM

SADA COFFEE SHOP IN PALOS HILLS  
10366 S HARLEM AVENUE  
PALOS HILLS, IL 60463

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST**  
9:00 - 10:00 AM

ESPRESSO PALETTE COFFEE SHOP  
5730 W 111TH STREET  
CHICAGO RIDGE, IL 60415

with:

**FRAN HURLEY**  
CANDIDATE FOR 18TH DISTRICT STATE SENATE

**MARY GILL**  
STATE REP FOR THE 35TH DISTRICT

**RICK RYAN**  
STATE REP FOR THE 36TH DISTRICT

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE, COMMUNITY, AND CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER.**  
*We hope to see you there! ☺*

WWW.THE19THWARD.COM

# Planning, Patience and Persistence

## An Update on the Eugene S. Pike House Rehabilitation Project

By Grace Kuikman  
President, Eugene S. Pike House  
Foundation

“What’s going on with the Pike House?”

People ask me that all the time, and I am always happy to answer. Unless volunteers are out there doing our spring and fall clean-ups or hosting a fund- and friend-raising event like the Pike House Fest (which we were recently forced to cancel due to the unsafe air quality), I know it’s hard to see what’s happening at 1826 W. 91st Street. But rest assured, there is a lot of behind-the-scenes progress being made by the all-volunteer not-for-profit Eugene S. Pike House Foundation.

When the Forest Preserves District of Cook County first asked for

our community’s help in saving the historic Eugene S. Pike House in 2017, the people now serving on the Foundation were just a bunch of citizens who love that old storybook cottage on the edge of Dan Ryan Woods. Built for a prominent Chicago entrepreneur, it has been an important part of our community since 1894. From 1921 until 2015, it was the Watchman’s Residence, housing Cook County Forest Preserves employees and their families.

Vacant and decaying during the pandemic, the house had been earmarked by the Forest Preserves for possible demolition by the time community members were able to revisit. Somebody had to do something. But who could take on that kind of challenge?

With assistance from Landmarks Illinois, our state preservation agency, the plight of the Eugene S. Pike House gained statewide attention when it was added to the 2022 list of the most endangered historic places in Illinois. With encouragement from historic preservation agencies, Ridge Historical Society, and Beverly Area Planning Association, our group

was convinced to form a not-for-profit Foundation so we can get the job done.

Partnering with the Beverly Area Arts Alliance, we developed a plan for rehabilitating the house and repurposing it as the Pike House Community Cultural Center, a project that will also provide a template for how other communities can coalesce to save historic properties on public land. That proposal was accepted by the Forest Preserves District, setting us on the path to saving the house.

I know it seems like such a long time ago. But creating a Foundation takes a lot of planning and paperwork, and working with busy state and county agencies takes a lot of patience and persistence.

In 2025 we were notified that \$1.5 million in DECO in grant funding was being set aside for capital improvements – we are now in the final steps of being able to access that funding and begin Phase I work.

Earlier this year, a historic long-term partnership agreement with the Foundation, Beverly Area Arts Alliance and Forest Preserves District of Cook County granted the Foundation permission to do the work that will transform the Pike House into a community treasure, bringing quality arts and cultural opportunities right to the 19th

Ward’s doorstep.

“This is more than the preservation of a building; it is the reclamation of history for public benefit,” said Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore whose district covers the Dan Ryan Woods. “By forging this unprecedented path with the Forest Preserves, we are not only saving a piece of Beverly’s heritage but are also creating a blueprint for every community in Cook County to follow. This proves that with partnership and perseverance, we can transform neglected assets into thriving centers that celebrate our past and serve our future.”

It was Commissioner Moore working with State Sen. Willie Preston whose support facilitated the \$1.5 million state grant that will cover the most critical rehabilitation of the Pike House. But that’s just the beginning.

With \$2.5 million more needed to fund operations, complete rehabilitation, remodel the interior, and outfit the house for public use by the Alliance, the Foundation has begun an extensive fundraising campaign aimed at grants, foundation and business support, and donations from our community.

For more information or to donate, email [info.eugenespikeshouse@gmail.com](mailto:info.eugenespikeshouse@gmail.com). I’d love to answer your questions.



Eugene S. Pike House circa 1894. Historic photo courtesy of Timothy Samuelson



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AND THE 19TH WARD  
FOR:



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**LIGHTSAVER  
PROGRAM**

**FREE CAR LIGHT REPAIRS:** TAILLIGHTS | HEADLIGHTS | LICENSE PLATE LIGHTS  
FOR COOK COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY



**September 17, 2026**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



THE OASIS CHURCH CHICAGO  
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DEADLINE TO REGISTER: September 14, 2026  
To register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/sheriffightsaver>  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: 773-674-4913



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COMMITTEE**



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 10 A.M.**  
10402 S WESTERN AVE.

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35TH DISTRICT  
**Mary GILL**



**Fran Hurley**  
for 18th SENATE DISTRICT



★ **Rick Ryan**  
State Representative - 30th House District



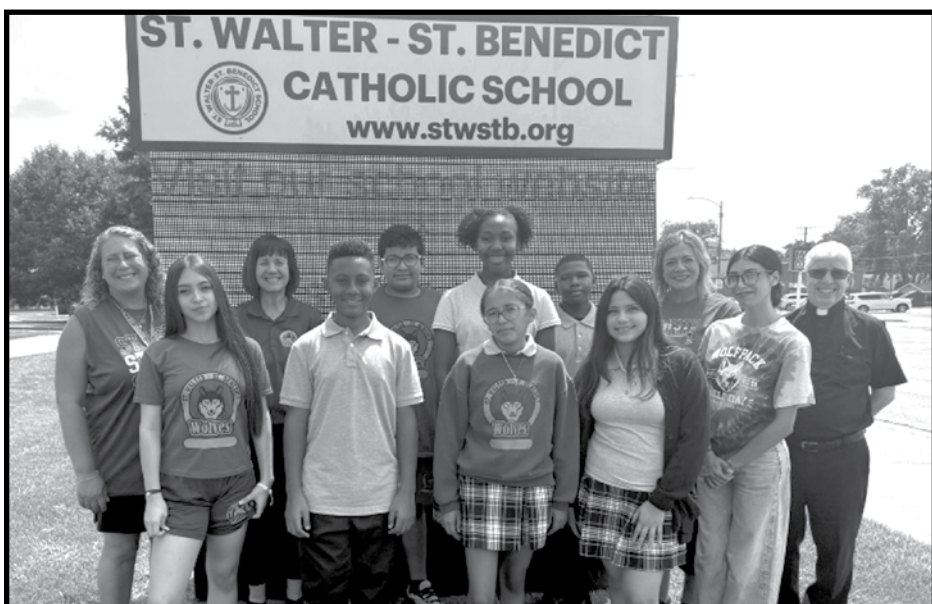
**Matt O'SHEA**  
19TH WARD ALDERMAN

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Close to 100 Parents and Their Children Attend Open House at the Chicago Campus for St. Walter – St. Benedict School

St. Walter – St. Benedict seventh and eighth grade students volunteered to serve as tour guides for families interested in learning more about this year's new plan to convene all classes from pre-K through 8th grade at the school's Chicago Campus, 11741 South Western Avenue. Some families enrolled their children during the August 8th open house while others still are considering STWSTB for this school year.

In addition to touring the refurbished school building, everyone enjoyed Beggars Pizza and ice cream donated by Rainbow Cone as well as a surprise visit by firemen who brought their hook and ladder truck for up-close looks. Every child also was encouraged to select a new book to take home. For information about enrolling, please visit STWSTB.org or call 773-445-8850 x4.



*Pictured are the student volunteers with STWSTB faculty, staff and Msgr. Dennis Lyle, pastor of St. Mary Magdalene Parish which was formed in 2021 when parishioners of St. Walter, St. Benedict and St. Peter Claver combined their congregations.*

## The OASIS Church Launches on September 12th & 13th

The OASIS Church launches on September 12th and 13th at 108th and Pulaski. But wait you say, there's been a church there for a long time. Correct, but The OASIS is a new beginning formed from two different churches, Crosswinds Church and Imago Dei Church. You are invited to their launch weekend which will feature a free block party on Saturday, September 12th from 2-6 p.m. The front lawn will host a bouncy house, face painting, balloon creations, games for children and adults, and lots of refreshments. The Sunday service launch will take place on September 13th at 10 a.m. followed by lunch from Barraco's and tours of the building.

Why a new church in a neighborhood that already is home to several churches? These two churches have a synergy that features a strong leadership team led by Pastors Joe Greenwald and Cleveland Gregory. Bringing the two congregations together results in a mix of members who represent our neighborhoods. In short, The OASIS is a multicultural family of disciples who are being transformed by the gospel and sent into the city to make a difference.

For more information, please contact Pastor Joe at [Joe.greenwald@theoasischi.org](mailto:Joe.greenwald@theoasischi.org) or Pastor Cleveland at [cgregory@theoasischi.org](mailto:cgregory@theoasischi.org).





# BLOOD DRIVE

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026**

**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**ST. CAJETAN SCHOOL - GYM**

(USE DOOR 3) 2447 W. 112th Street, Chicago

To schedule your donation, visit [communityblood.org/donor](http://communityblood.org/donor), click "Donate Now" and search for sponsor code **C029** to locate this blood drive. You may also call (800) 280-4102.

**Remember to hydrate.**

**Know your medication and travel history.**

**Bring your photo ID.**



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19TH WARD ALDERMAN



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
35th DISTRICT

**Mary GILL**

STATE SENATOR

**BILL CUNNINGHAM**

[www.communityblood.org](http://www.communityblood.org)

19TH WARD

# NO COST FLU SHOTS

Representatives from Walgreens will be administering the flu shots.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 2026**

**10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

**19th Ward Community Room**  
10402 S. Western Ave., Chicago

**Appointments required and can be made at [www.the19thward.com](http://www.the19thward.com)**

First come, first served basis

Limited supply of high-dose shots will be available

All participants are asked to bring photo ID and insurance cards if available. Walgreens will bill your insurance but there will be no charge to patients. If your insurance does not cover the flu shot, you will not receive a bill.

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza virus. It can cause mild to severe illness. The most serious cases can result in hospitalization or even death in extreme cases. Senior citizens, children and those with serious health conditions are at a high risk of serious flu complications. Getting an annual flu shot is the best way to prevent the illness. For more information, please contact Margie at (773) 238-8766 or [margie@the19thward.com](mailto:margie@the19thward.com).



**Matt O'SHEA**  
19TH WARD ALDERMAN

STATE SENATOR

**BILL CUNNINGHAM**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
35th DISTRICT

**Mary GILL**

19<sup>th</sup> WARD & CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF ACCESS AND ENROLLMENT

HIGH SCHOOL 101

VIRTUAL

GO

CPS

INFO

SESSION

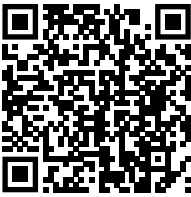
TUESDAY,

SEPTEMBER 29

7:00 PM

This is an informational session for families, which will cover the GoCPS application process for the 2027-2028 school year.

Scan the QR code to secure your spot and receive a link to join.







Matt O'SHEA  
19TH WARD ALDERMAN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 35<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT  
Mary GILL

BILL CUNNINGHAM  
STATE SENATOR

19<sup>th</sup> Ward  
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Screening

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Thursday, October 15 • 7pm

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3737 W. 99th Street, Chicago



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To register, please scan the QR code or visit [www.19thwardmobile.com/movie-registration](http://www.19thwardmobile.com/movie-registration)

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# Every Step of the Way Resource Center Second Annual Catch-22 Resource Fair

Every Step of the Way Resource Center hosted their second annual Catch-22 Resource Venue at Ridge Park on Saturday, August 8th. More than two hundred and sixty families registered, and more than two hundred people attended to take advantage of the powerful presentations from Community Service Options, Family Matters Parent Training and Information Center, Illinois Division Rehabilitation Services, and Illinois ABLE. Attendees also gathered information from vendors who serve adults with disabilities across the city, suburbs and state of Illinois. Participants were able to take advantage of the PUNS pop-up, sign up for a Chicago Public Library and Regional Transit Authority paratransit cards, pick up a Blue envelope and self-preservation kits from the Cook County Sheriff's Office and more! The Grand Prize Raffle winners walked away with a 70-inch television, Android tablet and a \$50

Target gift card. The resource fair is the brainchild of founder and board president, Tiffoni Stepney and community engagement consultant, Kimberly I. Johnson of Evey Step of the Way Resource Center. The overall goal of the resource fair is to equip adults with intellectual, developmental, and mental health disabilities, their caregivers and loved ones, and professionals who serve them with resources that enable them to take a proactive approach and/or make informed decisions before and after aging out of the special education system at the age of twenty-two. The second annual event sponsors were Alderman Matt O'Shea, 19th Ward alderman, Al's Cookie Mixx, The Arc of IL and Sensory Meetup. To learn more about Every Step of the Way Resource Center or to make a donation to the organization, please visit [www.esw2022.org](http://www.esw2022.org).



# AND Fundraiser Sunday, September 13th, 3-7pm at Cork & Kerry in Beverly

**A New Direction (AND) has been our community response to domestic violence since 2011.**

**1 in 3 women experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime.**

We will be making the most of the summer weather by using the beer garden as well as the interior. You are invited to join fellow supporters, neighbors, and friends, as we honor our survivors and let all those suffering from domestic violence know they are not alone.

Enjoy live music from Second Hand News, food from The Fat Shallot, drinks, and activities!

**All funds raised through this fundraiser remain in the AND program of WINGS, for clients served in the Beverly Morgan Park community.**

**The AND program provides clients with domestic violence education, crisis intervention, safety planning, counseling, and legal advocacy. AND offers referrals to trusted attorneys and mentoring to navigate the family court system for divorce, orders of protection, and child support.**

In addition to directly

aiding survivors, AND staff provide outreach and prevention education in the community on:

- domestic violence,
- teen dating violence,
- when domestic violence goes to work, and
- helping people in the healthcare community understand Domestic Violence.

Follow this link for sponsorship opportunities, donations, and tickets: <https://wingsprogram.com/upcoming-event/a-new-direction-and-fundraiser/>

For questions, contact Ericka Swanson at [eswanson@wingsprogram.com](mailto:eswanson@wingsprogram.com).

To learn more about AND: <https://wingsprogram.com/a-new-direction-and/>

**The most important effects AND has on the community are felt by our resilient clients.** They move from victim to survivor, and finally to guide, so they may then light the path for others. Help us show them they are not alone.



**A NEW DIRECTION**  
BEVERLY MORGAN PARK

# Ginger Rugai's 32nd Annual Y-Me Softball Tournament

Ginger Rugai's 32nd Annual Y-Me Softball Tournament will take place on Saturday, August 29, 2026, at the St. Christina Fields and Mt. Greenwood Park. This year's team registration of seventy-two teams was filled within 14 hours of opening it setting a new registration record. Approximately 1200 softball players including over 100 breast cancer survivors, will take the field to raise money for breast cancer research. The tournament begins at 8 a.m. This is the largest all-female 16-inch softball tournament in the world.

Most of the funds raised come from the impressive basket raffle. Each team is asked to donate a basket. The baskets are always creative and full of awesome prizes. Many 19th Ward businesses also offer great baskets, gift cards, and services to assist in raising as much money as possible to help fight breast cancer.

The mission of the tournament is to raise money to fund breast cancer research. This research has resulted in a 44% decline in breast cancer deaths since 1989 by fueling advancements in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Sustained funding driven research has led to targeted therapies and improved outcomes with over 4 million survivors in the United States today. Unfortunately, most universities and research institutes require their researchers to generate 60% of their own funds. Contributions are critical in enabling institutions to continue the important investigations currently in progress.

The 31st annual tournament



was a resounding success. The proceeds from it endowed breast cancer research investigations conducted by Dr. Kay Macleod, University of Chicago Medicine. In December of 2025, representatives presented a check for \$115,000 to Dr. Macleod. The continuous annual support of Y-Me has empowered Dr. Macleod and her team to make pivotal discoveries in the fight to halt breast cancer metastasis.

This year's tournament director, Katie McAlinden, shared her thoughts on the tournament: "The Y-Me Tournament has had various meanings over the years for me. First, it was the most competitive women's tournament in the city. I was there to win, have fun and support the cause. After my breast cancer diagnosis this special day brings more meaning to my life through the connections I have made, the awareness I have gained from hearing other women's stories and experiences, the knowledge we have acquired from Dr. Macleod and her team, and the hope and inspiration it brings to many. Now I am privileged to be part of this amazing group of women who can pass all of that along to others who will need it."

At 2 p.m. the tournament will celebrate breast cancer survivors during the Survivor Ceremony. Each woman's name and year of survivorship will be read out, and they will be celebrated by their family, friends, teams and our community. Some of these brave women are currently in treatment.

Please visit [www.ymesoftball.com](http://www.ymesoftball.com) for additional information.

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August 25th, 2025

**Fall Festival & Admissions Open House**  
Saturday, October 25th  
10:00am - 12:00pm

**Our School Day**  
8:00am - 4:30pm

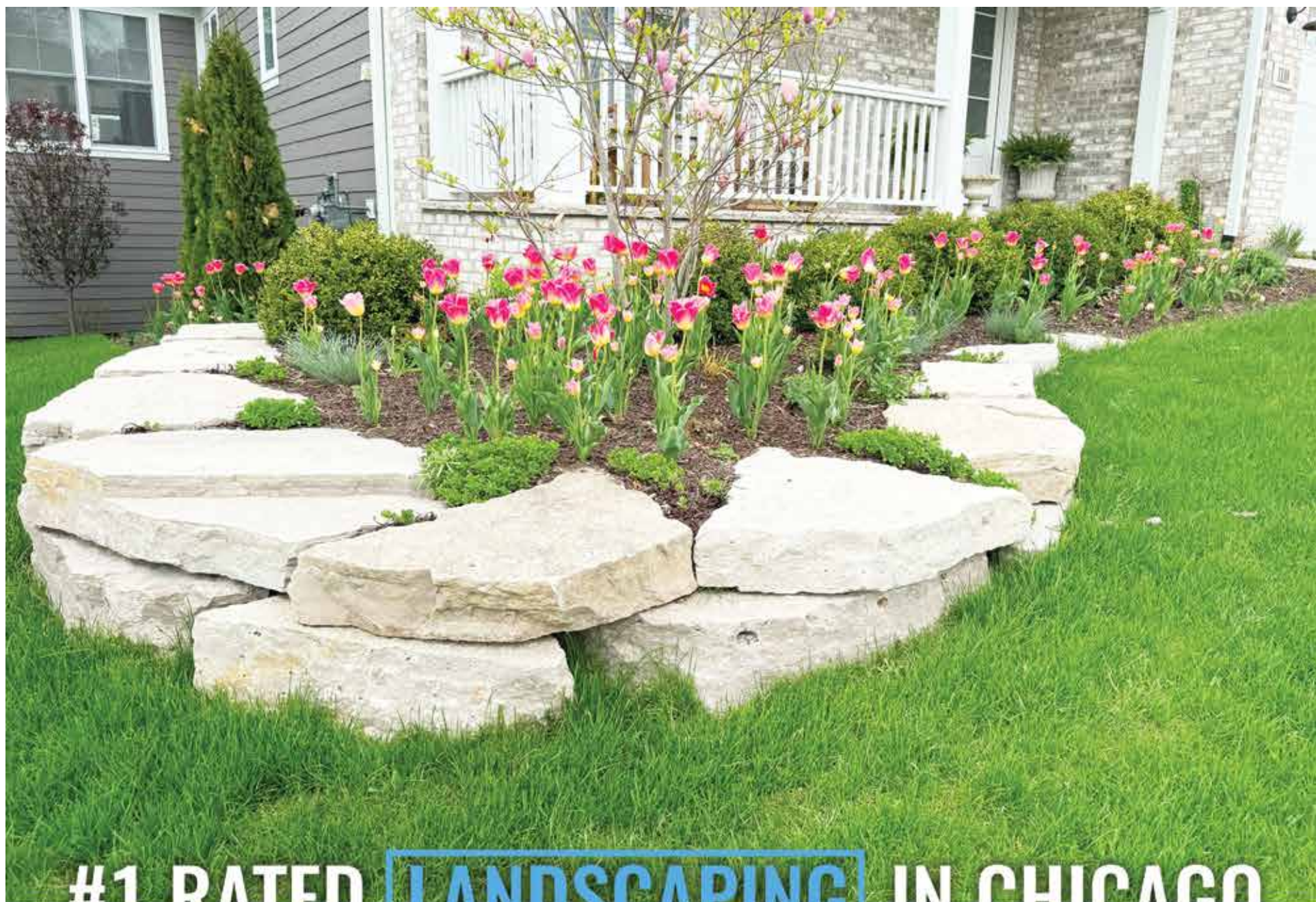
**Before Care**  
7:00am - 8:00am

**After Care**  
4:30pm - 6:00pm

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# Beverly Art Walk #13 Celebrates Art, Music, Community & History

## Free Family-Friendly Art Event Features 100+ Artists at 40+ Venues

Artists, venues, performers and patrons are gearing up for the **13th annual Beverly Art Walk taking place on Saturday, Sept. 26th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.** The cornerstone event of the Beverly Area Arts Alliance (The Alliance), the much-anticipated, free, family-friendly event showcases works by 100+ artists, musical performances, public art installations, and home studio visits in more than 40 businesses and venues across the Beverly/Morgan Park neighborhood.

“The Beverly Art Walk invites people from all over Chicagoland to experience the best of our community’s artistry, hospitality, and unique small businesses,” said Beverly Art Walk curator Sal Campbell. “This year, we’re adding new artists, more studios, and unique mini galleries, and bringing back the popular Family Fun Park, Uprising Handmade Market and rollicking after-party.”

### Artist Studios and Venues Showcase Wide Variety of Art Genres

The Beverly Art Walk will reach throughout the neighborhood to showcase area visual artists in the studios where they create their work as well as in local businesses and venues.

Artists who are opening their studios for the first time for the Beverly Art Walk are multi-media abstract artist and arts educator Phil Cotton, sculptor and African diaspora art collector Fran Cotton, and large scale portrait artist John Bakker.

Bakker, an artist, curator, and art educator specializes in capturing the essence of communities and their people in expansive portrait projects that take multiple years to complete. His Roseland Portrait Project gained national attention for turning that neighborhood’s reputation for violence into a truer reflection of hardworking, caring people living their daily lives. He sees the Beverly Art Walk as a way to “reinforce” the Beverly/Morgan

Park community as a “really wonderful place to live. “The Art Walk gives visibility to artists and attracts people from across the city, which is good for business and adds to the *esprit de corps*.”

Multidisciplinary artist Sandra Leonard will be opening her studio this year after a hiatus. Other artists whose studios and galleries will be open for the Beverly Art Walk include painter Ashley January, ceramic artist and educator Dan McCabe, Art from the Heart teaching artist Pat Egan, boundary gallerist and painter Susannah Papish, painter, sculptor and educator Brian Keane, artist/designer Tom Olson and Clifton Henri, photographer, poet and gallerist of Flypaper Chicago.

Many of the studio artists have invited other local artists to join them for Art Walk. Ashley January’s studio, (1903 W. 103rd St), known simply as “The Studio Space,” will feature a live dance performance called “Healing Landscape” performed by Nia Towe and Brandon Avery, as well as new multimedia space and new paintings in January’s ongoing series, “Environments of a Heavy Joy.”

Venues along Western Avenue, in clusters around 103rd and 99th streets, and dotted in the community will be teeming with art, music and unique experiences.

New this year, Roots and Rays (10421 S. Church St.), a unique community arts and healing space, will present “A Soft Place to Land” featuring fiber and multi-media artists such as Kelly McKaig and Robin Power curated by artist and art therapist Annie Novotny.

“Artists need places where their work can be witnessed, where ex-

perimentation is welcomed, and where relationships can grow beyond professional or institutional boundaries,” Novotny said. “As an art therapist, I am especially moved by the way the Art Walk makes creativity visible and accessible. It brings art out of exclusive spaces and into studios, businesses, homes, sidewalks, gathering places, and everyday neighborhood life.”

A trio of Chicago collage artists, Paloma Trecka, Nellie Seigel and Lisa Barcy explore themes of devotion, memory and humor in “Incantations” at the Vanderpoel Museum (Ridge Park Field House, 9625 S. Longwood).

When there, Art Walk visitors can also view the museum’s prestigious collection of turn-of-the-century art.

On view in The Simmerling Gallery at the Beverly Arts Center (BAC) (2407 W. 111th St.) “*Holding Space:*

*Grounded*,” is a group exhibition that reflects on self-care.

“To hold space is a reminder to pause, adjust, and connect with others or return to ourselves,” said guest curator Kimberly Leja Atwood of Elephant Room Gallery.

Offering diverse perspectives, the artists in this exhibition each translate a moment of stillness into visual form. The show features works from 24 different artists, including local favorites Chantala Kommanivanh, Jennifer Cronin, and many more.

Additionally at the BAC there will be an exhibition and book release for “Peculiar Wilderness: A Chicago Alphabet.” The beautiful book is the result of a partnership between renowned artist Dmitry Samarov and Bookies’ owner Keith Lewis and reveals the city’s big

shoulders and working-class backbone.

Saint Xavier University student, alumni and faculty artists will also exhibit works throughout the BAC.

The Uprising Handmade Market will feature a wide variety of works by artists and artisans for show and sale. Artists and artisans will also be taking over “The Annex,” a historic garage structure that is being converted into a set of five light-filled studio spaces which will soon be for rent behind the shops at 103rd and Wood.

The Garage Gallery behind Nicky’s of Beverly (105th and Western) will continue its tradition of featuring enigmatic and idiosyncratic works in a range of mediums and styles. Also look for “a spray can workshop” with local artist, chef and DJ Won Kim. He will be working on the mural wall behind Nicky’s early in the day and a team of artists led by Won will be creating a new mural there as the day progresses.

Running Excels (10328 S. Western) will feature “Terrible Portraits,” a one-man art stand that delivers hilariously crude portraits of customers for \$5 each.

The Family Fun Park will once again be encouraging kids to get creative at Sutherland School (10015 S. Leavitt St.). Activities include music, and interactive crafts and activities along with the school’s annual I Ma-donnari street art festival.

### Celebration Continues at the BAW After Party

When the popular Art Walk ends at 5 p.m., the after party kicks off at Nicky’s of Beverly (105th and Western Avenue) with Mucca Pazza, an eccentric 30-member band combining marching band traditions with street theater spectacle and rock sensibilities.

Mucca Pazza’s genre-bending music will be paired with the Mutation Station, an interactive invitation for party-goers to step inside a “photo” booth and - literally - become part of the musical and visual entertainment.

For more information visit [beverlyarts.org](http://beverlyarts.org). A complete map of the Beverly Art Walk venues, studios and events will be available online closer to the event date.

*Founded in 2014 by local artists and community activists, the Beverly Area Arts Alliance (The Alliance) collaborates with artists, community members and business and civic stakeholders to create art-focused and inclusive events and projects that foster creativity, community, and economic opportunity on Chicago’s far South Side. Operating primarily out of borrowed spaces and with volunteer labor, The Alliance is a 501C3 non-profit organization.*



Noted artist John Bakker will show and discuss his work in progress when he opens his art studio for the first time on the Beverly Art Walk, Sat., Sept. 26, beginning at 11 a.m. For more information visit [beverlyarts.org](http://beverlyarts.org). Photo by Russ Ingram.



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# At Mercy Circle, Praying for World Peace with Flying Colors

Walking around Mercy Circle, you might notice the occasional miniature flag on a staffer's desk or in a resident's apartment. They represent essentially all the world's nations and their presence is a delightful curiosity for which you can thank the community's independent living resident Sister Carol Mucha, RSM.

Sister Carol's inspiration for the project, "Praying for World Peace," came from her colleague Sister Bridgid Tembo, who was born in Zambia, and has taught in Chicago for 13 years. When it came time to transfer her vows to the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Sister Bridgid chose Flag Day, June 14, and then asked her students at Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences to create flags for every one of the world's 195 nations. Sister Carol and Sister Kathleen McClelland, RSM, then placed the flags, in lieu of flowers, in vases around the altar in Mercy Chapel.

Charmed by that image, Sister Carol came up with a plan to give new life to the flags in service of a noble goal, and the project she calls "Praying for World Peace" took shape. She invited people to take any one of the flags, with the condition that they offer prayers for the nation it represents. The Mercy Circle community warmed to this challenge. Then Sister Carol arranged for the few remaining flags to be dis-

played at Mercy Circle's reception desk where visitors were invited to choose a flag.

Because the flags carried no identification, she relates, "Those who took one had to look up the nation it was from and learn a bit about it, as well as pray for its people. Our FedEx courier took one, and the next day he came in so excited about what he had learned in researching the country it represents."

"Praying for World Peace" was a

one-time effort for the 87-year-old Sister Carol, who maintains other year-round good works that belie her retirement. ("We never retire; we retread," she says of the Sisters of Mercy.) The former educator oversees a bookselling venture prompted by her desire to recycle used books rather than see them go to landfills. It has expanded to include unused books, in mint condition, left behind at buildings the Sisters of Mercy no longer use. Her

initiative has raised to date close to \$3,000 for charitable donations.

In addition, she collects eyeglasses, office supplies, dental materials and household items, which she distributes to the poor in El Salvador through the

Hand2Hand Ministries. Most of these items are donated by families of deceased loved ones wishing to put such articles to good use.

Even for someone who trusts in the power of prayer, Sister Carol has no illusions about the pace of progress for her vexillological enterprise. Asked if either the flags or the prayers had led to an outbreak of peace, she admitted, "I think it could be a long time."

But seeing those flags on office desks around Mercy Circle does provide a measure of hope and certainly a smile.

### About Mercy Circle

Mercy Circle is a not-for-profit senior living community with a no-entrance-fee policy for independent living residents. Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, it is the only faith-based retirement community in the area. Mercy Circle offers spacious residences at all levels of care, along with thoughtful amenities, life enrichment programs and social opportunities.

For more information or to schedule a private appointment, please call 773-253-3600.



Sister Carol Mucha, RSM, with several flags she used to engage others in praying for peace for nations around the world.

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Renaissance Academy

SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY  
3700 WEST 103RD STREET  
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Renaissance Academy at Chicago (not-for-profit) at Saint Xavier University (SXU) will hold an open house on Thursday, September 10, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., in SXU's Butler Room located immediately inside the Warde Academic Center at 3700 West 103rd Street in Chicago for older community members who wish to gather and learn in a convivial setting.

Renaissance Academy is open to people over the age of 55 who seek opportunities for growth, enrichment, and fellowship. Members meet Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for six-week sessions in the fall, winter, and spring for courses that are peer-facilitated and cover a range of topics such as history, music, art, current events, literature, psychology, theatre and more. Other classes, including book discussions, are available via Zoom on Wednesdays.

The Fall 2026 Renaissance Academy sessions will include a discussion of current news events and a class exploring all Route 66 has to offer in Illinois. Mahjong instruction will be offered in special two-hour sessions in a nod to the mounting popularity of this tile-game. Wellness will be explored in three different classes: a psychology course on achieving happiness, another on setting goals for personal achievement, and still one more on zentangle drawing to alleviate stress. Other classes will offer a study of Broadway musicals, improvisational acting, and a review of the Downton Abbey PBS television series. A Wednesday book discussion via Zoom will feature Are We on the Same Page? a novel about an arranged marriage.

Registration for the Autumn 2026 session will take place online from September 11-25, 2026, and classes will begin on October 6, 2026. The membership cost for the 2026-2027 school year is \$180.

For further information, please visit [www.renaissancechgo.org](http://www.renaissancechgo.org)

# Beverly Companies Share Landscaping Advice

By Seth Ellers,  
Beverly Companies

Landscapes age a little like houses do. One day everything looks fine. Then you notice the shrubs are swallowing the front windows, the flower bed has become one giant green mass and the patch of grass beneath the maple tree has apparently given up on life.

The first instinct may be to tear everything out and start over.

Usually, that isn't necessary.

A mature landscape often has plenty worth keeping. The trick is figuring out what has reached the end of its useful life and what simply needs a little attention.

## Start by figuring out what changed

Before replacing plants, look at the property itself.

A landscape installed 15 or 20 years ago is growing in a different environment today. Small trees have become large trees. Sunny areas may now receive only a few hours of direct light. Shrubs have filled spaces that once looked empty. Roots have spread, drainage patterns may have changed and soil can become compacted.

That matters.

One common example is grass struggling beneath mature trees. Homeowners sometimes reseed the same area year after year without much success. The problem may no longer be the grass seed. The tree canopy may simply be blocking too much light for turf to thrive. In this case, consider shade-tolerant groundcovers, mulch or woodland plants where insufficient sunlight makes growing grass impractical.

Sometimes the best renovation is to stop fighting the site.

## Don't automatically replace an overgrown shrub

Large shrubs are another common reason landscapes begin looking dated. But before reaching for the shovel, find out what plant you have and whether it responds well to renewal pruning.

For many multi-stem deciduous shrubs, renewal pruning involves removing some of the oldest, thickest stems all the way to the ground. Try removing up to one-third of those oldest stems each year. This encourages new growth from the base while preserving much of the existing plant.

That is very different from repeatedly trimming the outside of a shrub into a ball.

There is one important catch. Namely, timing matters. Many spring-flowering shrubs form next year's flower buds shortly after they finish blooming. Pruning them at the wrong time can remove those buds. Lilacs, for example, are generally pruned after flowering rather than later in the season.

Know the plant before you prune it.



## Divide before you buy

Perennials can also fool homeowners into thinking they need replacement.

If a plant once flowered heavily but now has smaller blooms, fewer flowers or a dead-looking center, it may simply be overcrowded. Dividing the plant removes older portions, reduces competition for water and nutrients and creates more room for healthy growth.

Better yet, one established plant can sometimes become three or four plants.

Late summer can be a useful time to divide certain perennials that have already finished flowering. Others should wait until spring, so check the requirements of the particular plant before digging. As an example, peonies and some iris are among the plants commonly divided in late summer or early fall.

It is one of the cheapest ways to make an older landscape look fuller and more intentional.

## Add structure

Sometimes the best way to refresh an older landscape is not to add more plants at all.

A small hardscape addition can give an aging yard more structure and make the surrounding landscape feel intentional again. That could mean adding a short walkway through a planting bed, creating a small patio or seating area, installing a defined border, or using a low retaining wall to separate changes in grade.

The key is choosing something that solves a problem instead of adding hardscape simply for the sake of it.

A few examples:

- Add a walkway where people are

already cutting through the lawn.

- Create a small patio in an under-used corner of the yard.
- Use a low wall to define a bed on a slope or manage a minor grade change.
- Extend an existing patio if the current space no longer fits how the family uses the yard.
- Add stepping stones through a large planting area to make maintenance easier.
- Replace an awkward patch of struggling grass with a functional hardscape area.

One thing homeowners sometimes overlook is how much hardscape affects the rest of the landscape. A new walkway can create natural planting pockets. A patio can give an existing garden a focal point. A retaining wall can turn a difficult slope into usable planting space.

## Check the mulch, especially around trees

Mulch can make beds look fresh almost instantly, but more is not always better.

One of the most common mistakes is piling mulch against a tree trunk in what is often called a "mulch volcano." A tree should widen naturally where the trunk meets the roots. Burying that area beneath a mound of mulch can hold moisture against the bark and contribute to decay.

Spread the mulch over the root area about 2 to 4 inches deep while leaving space between the mulch and the trunk.

So before adding another layer every year, check how much mulch is already there.

## Don't fertilize just because plants look tired

Poor growth does not automatically mean plants are hungry.

Compacted soil, excessive shade, poor drainage, drought, root competition or the wrong plant in the wrong location can all create similar symptoms. Adding fertilizer without knowing what the soil needs may accomplish very little.

A soil test provides a better starting point. Base nutrient applications on soil-test results rather than automatically adding fertilizer or amendments.

Sometimes the solution isn't adding something. It is correcting the conditions the plant is already growing in.

## Edit

One of the easiest ways to improve an older landscape is simply to have fewer things competing for attention.

Remove plants that are declining. Move plants that are in the wrong location. Divide crowded perennials. Open up shrubs that have become dense. Redefine bed edges. Fill obvious gaps, but resist the urge to put a different plant in every empty space.

A good landscape does not have to look brand-new.

In fact, mature trees and established plants are often some of the property's greatest assets. The goal is not to erase that maturity. It is to clean up what has become crowded, correct what no longer works and give the plants worth keeping enough room to look good again.

Sometimes a landscape doesn't need a makeover.

It just needs a good edit.

To learn more about how Smith Village or to schedule a tour, please call 773-474-7302 or visit [SmithVillage.org](http://SmithVillage.org).



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September 17

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# Making Local History More Accessible

## Ridge Historical Society Launches \$10,000 Community Matching Challenge to Help Fund Archival Work

For more than 50 years, Ridge Historical Society (10621 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago) (RHS) has been the keeper of local history, amassing impressive collections and historical archives that go back to the early 1800s covering communities we now call the Beverly, Morgan Park, Mount Greenwood and Washington Heights neighborhoods of Chicago.

Now RHS is issuing a challenge to the community to help make those historical records more accessible than ever before.

An anonymous donor has provided a \$10,000 matching grant to help fund the work of a professional archivist at RHS. To unlock these funds, RHS is challenging the community to raise \$10,000 in matching donations. Every dollar donated by October 31, 2026, will be matched dollar-for-dollar.

“RHS has a rich collection that tells the history of our community’s residents, businesses, architecture, and events as well as our cultural and religious organizations,” said Kate Nadolski, a professional librarian and archivist who serves as head of the RHS Collections Committee.

Many of the items and documents in the RHS collections require the help of archivists to access

and interpret – a job that has been done by volunteers. For more than a year, George Brosnan, a volunteer with excellent education and experience working with new archiving technologies, has been helping RHS process collection materials and create new finding aids that will facilitate putting local history into easy reach for researchers and the community.

To maintain the momentum, RHS recently contracted Brosnan to continue his vital work on the collection.

“Part of the mission of RHS is to make this material available for research. Contracting an archivist helps RHS achieve this mission by processing donated material and making it accessible,” Nadolski said.

According to Nadolski, organizing the Society’s collections and archives is a painstaking process. Items are individually evaluated for condition and importance to local history, then preserved in locations where they can be safely accessed. It’s a process that requires the specialized training of an archivist. Nadolski and Collections Committee member Steven Wright, Curator for the Joliet Area Historical Museum, volunteer alongside Brosnan to

process the RHS materials.

“The Ridge Historical Society hopes the people of the Ridge communities will support this opportunity to have their donations doubled,” said RHS President Paula Everett. “Archiving is at the heart of what enables collections like ours to not just preserve history but share it.”

Located in the historic Graver Driscoll House, RHS maintains regular open hours on Tuesdays and Sundays, from 1 to 4 p.m., and invites anyone interested in learning more about the Ridge communities to visit. Volunteer docents are available to help answer questions, guide visitors through exhibits – the current exhibit covers the national Ridge Historic District – and explain the resources available through RHS. Of course, RHS volunteers are also eager to hear from local residents about their family histories or



Ridge Historical Society archivist George Brosnan and Collections Committee member Kate Nadolski.

connections to the community. Donations toward the \$10,000 matching grant can be made online at [ridgehistorical.org/challenge](http://ridgehistorical.org/challenge) or by checks mailed to Ridge Historical Society, 10621 S. Seeley Ave., Chicago IL 60643. For more information, email [ridgehistory@hotmail.com](mailto:ridgehistory@hotmail.com).

19TH WARD

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Saturday, October 3, 2026

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Oasis Church

10835 S. Pulaski Rd.

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

Documents are shredded onsite.

Only documents that are loose can be shredded; please remove any staples or binders before you arrive.

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

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

Unacceptable Items:

Needles, syringes, lancets, injection pens

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# Tombstone 5K

The annual Tombstone 5K Run and Walk takes place in the beautiful historic Mount Greenwood Cemetery on Saturday, October 17th. Scare up some fun with friends and family and come in costume for this pre-Halloween run! All ages and abilities are welcome to participate. Please register by October 1st to be guaranteed a sweatshirt. Participants can visit the Running Excels website for registration information: [runningexcels.com](http://runningexcels.com). A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.



# The Unwaste Shop Comes to Beverly

By Randi Alexander

Beverly is home to a new kind of neighborhood shop, one that makes it a little easier to make sustainable choices in everyday life.

The Unwaste Shop opened its Beverly location at 1915 W. 103rd Street in November 2025, bringing refill shopping and sustainable products to the South Side. The shop offers sustainable alternatives to your everyday items like laundry detergent, dish soap, household cleaners, bath and body products, dry goods and pantry items that customers can purchase by refilling their own containers. It also carries reusable and low-waste alternatives for the kitchen, bathroom and home.

But the story behind The Unwaste Shop started long before there was a storefront.

After college, owner Randi Alexander spent some time traveling around the country. Along the way, she discovered the concept of refill shops and immediately loved the idea. The ability to purchase everyday products without bringing home another plastic bottle felt like such a simple, practical way to reduce waste.

For years, she thought it would be fun to turn the idea into a business. At one point, she even imagined renovating an old Volkswagen Vanagon and turning it into a mobile refill shop.

The Unwaste Shop itself actually began during the pandemic, when two Broadway actors started the business as a pop-up. What began as a temporary idea quickly gained a following, but when the founders decided they didn't want to continue with the business, Randi and her business partner, Todd Barancik, stepped in and took it over.

Todd and Randi are partners in business, but not in life, and together (along with their very involved families) they began building The Unwaste Shop into the business it is today.

They opened the flagship West Loop location in November 2022, turning the original pop-up concept into a permanent brick-and-mortar store. Three years later, they opened the second location in Beverly in November 2025.

The opportunity to open in Beverly felt particularly meaningful as

Randi lives in the neighborhood, and the strong sense of community made it an exciting place to bring the business. Todd lives in the West Loop just blocks away from the flagship location.

What has been particularly special about having permanent locations is that The Unwaste Shop can be more than a place to buy products.

"We get to create a space for community," Randi says. "It's amazing to have the brick and mortar locations to host workshops and events, and bring people together around something bigger than each of us individually."

That community aspect has become a big part of the Beverly shop. The store hosts workshops and educational events, participates in neighborhood activities and works with local organizations focused on sustainability, reuse and recycling. Check out their events page for their upcoming schedule!

And the goal isn't to convince everyone to become "zero waste" overnight. The Unwaste Shop is built around the idea that small changes add up. There is no expectation that anyone has to do everything perfectly.

Maybe that means refilling your laundry detergent instead of buying another plastic bottle. Maybe it's switching from paper towels to a reusable alternative, trying a shampoo bar, or simply finding one product you love that creates less waste.

The hope is simply to make sustainable choices a little easier, a little more approachable, and a little more convenient for the people who live here.

For Randi, what started as an idea discovered while traveling the country has become a business, a gathering place and a new part of the Beverly and West Loop communities. And while the old Volkswagen Vanagon never became a refill shop, The Unwaste Shop now has something that a mobile shop never could: a place to call home and a place to really cultivate community.

**The Unwaste Shop is located at 1915 W. 103rd Street in Beverly. Stop in, say hello, and see what shopping with a little less waste is all about.** You can also place an order for delivery or pickup on their website.

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*I have been with State Farm, Chris and his team for over 25 years. They are always pleasant and super responsive. I've had nothing but positive experiences with them. Keep up the amazing work!*

★★★★★

*Chris Webber and his team are great! We've used them for years now and never had a problem. Chris will be up-front and honest with you on any insurance needs and responds to every request almost immediately. Highly recommended.*

★★★★★

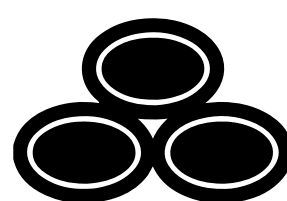
*I've had State Farm for auto insurance since I started driving in the 1960s. Also have my homeowners with them. Anytime I had a claim it was handled quickly and fairly. Chris and his office staff are great. They know how to take care of business. I highly recommend them.*

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 **State Farm®**

ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S

SENIOR CITIZEN

Oktoberfest

Thursday, September 17

12 P.M. - 2 P.M.

(doors open at 11:50 A.M.)

115 Bourbon Street

3359 W. 115th St.

Cost: \$5

65 years and older  
19th ward residents ONLY

- Family style luncheon
- Cash bar

Reservations required

To RSVP or for more information, please email [Kelly@the19thward.com](mailto:Kelly@the19thward.com)

Sponsored by:

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19TH WARD ALDERMAN

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