O'Shea Invited All Chicagoans to Help-A-Hero

Alderman Matt O'Shea, the Chicago Office of Veterans' Affairs, Chicago Park District and Military Outreach USA are hosting a household item collection drive to benefit homeless veterans throughout the month of June. During the past few years, thousands of veterans have transitioned out of homelessness; unfortunately, many of them still lack the most basic



Operation Help-A-Hero asks all Chicagoans to consider purchasing one or more of these items to donate to a veteran in need.

Donations will be accepted at sixty-five Aldermanic Offices and Chicago Park District locations throughout the City during the month of June. All items collected will be delivered to the United State's Veteran's Affairs Office and distributed to qualifying veterans throughout the Chicagoland area. Local drop off locations include Alderman O'Shea's office at 10400 S. Western Ave., Monday through Friday from 9:00am-5:00pm, and Mount Greenwood Park, 3721 W. 111th St., Monday through Friday from 10:00am-10:00pm, Saturday from 9:00am-2:00pm, and Sunday from 9:00am-5:00pm.

Despite recent progress on this issue, there are currently hundreds of homeless veterans who live ei-

ther unsheltered or in shelters throughout the City. "It is our duty as citizens to take care of those who have served and protected our country by getting our veterans back on their feet and successful in private life. It is my hope through this program that we will collect thousands of donations that can help the veterans who have sacrificed so much for our freedom." said Matthew J. O'Shea, 19th Ward Alderman.

Operation Help-A-Hero is seeking new, store bought items only. A full list of requested products is below.

PERSONAL HYGIENE: bath soap, shampoo, conditioner, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, combs, hair brushes, nail clippers, toothpaste, toothbrushes;

KITCHEN & CLEANING ITEMS: kitchen trash cans (plastic), Windex, Pine Sol, dishwashing liquid,

dishcloths, sponges, mops, buckets, brooms, dustpans, paper towels:

BATHROOM & MISCELLANEOUS

ITEMS: shower curtains, toilet paper (4 or 6 pack), plungers, toilet brushes, toilet bowl cleaner, bath towels (2), wash cloths, smoke detectors w/ batteries, flashlights w/ batteries, garbage bags, laundry baskets, hampers, and laundry detergent.

Operation Help A Hero is a 501 (c) (3) public charity dedicated to the well-being and care of our American military members. Their programs support military units and families as they prepare for separation, while they endure the challenges of deployment, and as they transition back to the US. Every cent contributed to Operation Help A Hero is used to serve our military community, and every project is based on real needs.

City's Battle with CSX Railroad Continues

On February 12, 2016, the City of Chicago and Village of Evergreen Park filed a formal complaint against CSX Transportation with the United States Surface Transportation Board (STB) over

the companies operation of the Elsdon rail line, which runs parallel to Sacramento Ave. throughout the 19th Ward. Following that filing, the STB allowed for citizen input on the matter, and

received feedback from one hundred twenty area residents. United States Senators Dick Durbin and Mark Kirk, as well as Congressman Dan Lipinski have also submitted letters supporting the City's position.

Local Postal Customer

NONPROFIT ORG. PAID CALUMET CITY, IL PERMIT NO. 17

10402 S. Western Ave. Chicago, IL 60643

The complaint alleges CSX has repeatedly violated operating obligations they agreed to follow in 2013 when they first acquired the line. If those obligations were honored, the impact of the railroad on

the surrounding community would be significantly lessened. In the petition, the City seeks significant fines, an independent audit of CSX's operations, and possible service restrictions for this line.

Despite claims of improved service, CSX's most recent quarterly report documents 22 hours of blockages caused by idling trains alone. The railroad voluntarily agreed to re-open a crossing by cutting a train if a blockage lasts

over ten minutes. CSX has largely ignored this commitment for the past three years.

Currently, all filings have been made with the STB and we await their decision. No time frame has been provided for a resolution in this matter.

Fair Funding Forum at Mt. Greenwood Elementary School

19th Ward Public Schools are hosting a "20 for 20" community forum and rally on Wednesday,

May 18, 2016 Mount Greenwood Elementary School, 10841 S. Homan Ave., 6:00pm. This event is tended to generate attention and support for the City of Chicago's ongoing efforts

for equitable education funding for public schools. Because of annual reductions in funding since 2009, Chicago Public School (CPS) students now receive on average twenty-six percent less in education funding per pupil than children in the rest of the state.

Chicago's children are 20 percent of the state's enrollment, and their families and neighbors provide 20 percent of the income tax money that funds public education in our state. However, Chicago's students receive only 15 percent of

the state's spending on education. For every four dollars the state of Illinois provides suburban and

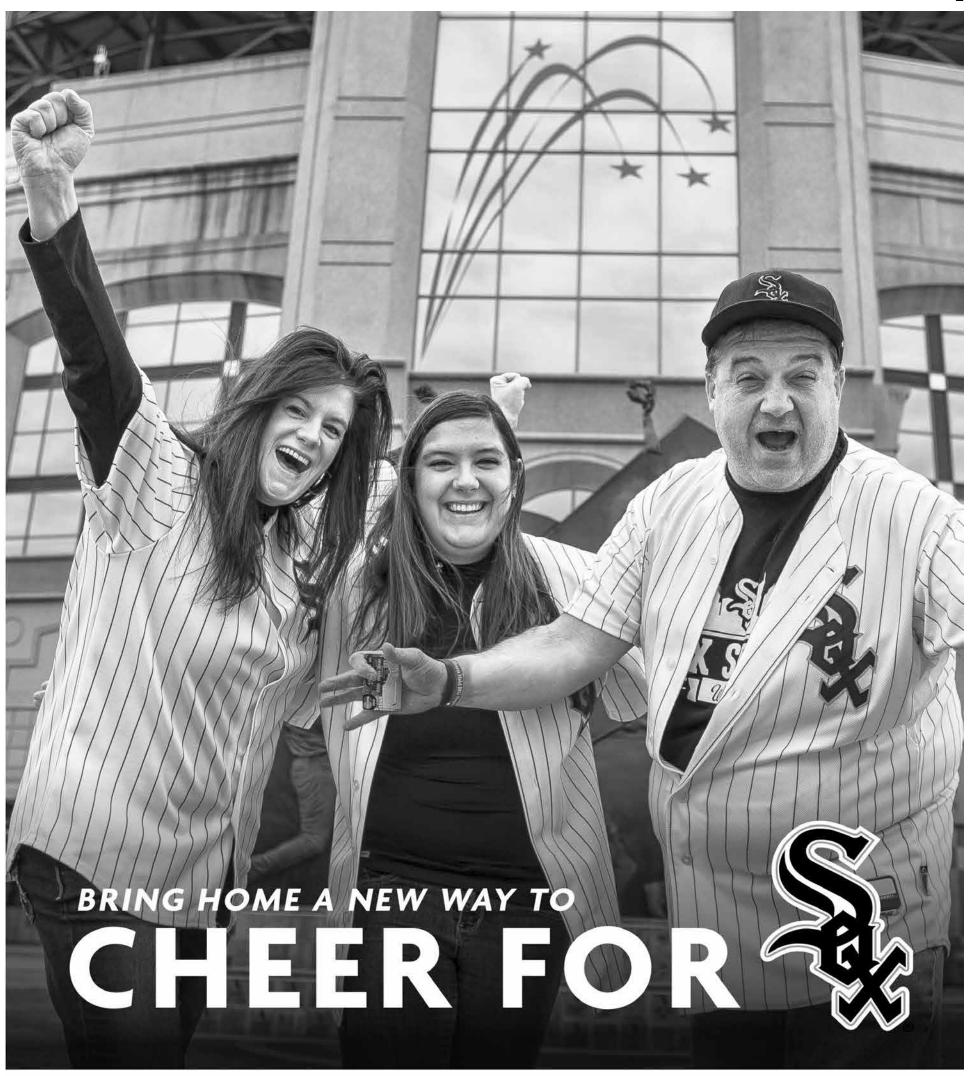
downstate districts, it provides just three to Chicago's students.

Despite the funding crisis, CPS students continue to thrive. During the past four years, graduation and attendance rates have consis-

tently risen, the composite ACT score is the highest in CPS history, and students outpace their peers nationally in academic growth. Imagine what would happen if the district was funded appropriately?

If you would like to show your support for our public school students and teachers, please attend this forum. With your help, we will finally fix our broken school funding formula and strengthen the communities of Beverly, Morgan Park and Mount Greenwood.





For the Dynia family, the Sox aren't just a baseball team. They're family. This makes sense for people who have lived here all their lives and have been Sox fans just as long. The team has given them years of memories. Mark Dynia says one of his favorites was of course when they won the World Series, but another was taking his one-year-old daughter to a game where a player threw a ball to them in the stands. For a family of Sox superfans, it doesn't get much better. And, now they can show their team pride right down to their debit card.

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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY BANKING! WE'RE PROUD TO BRING IT HOME. As a company made in this area, for this area, Wintrust and its family of true community banks is dedicated to the unique neighborhoods each serves. For 25 years, we've been banks that invest in, give back to, and get to really know our communities and the people living in them. When you bank with a Wintrust Community Bank, you can be confident your money is going back into the things that matter most to you.

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NOTES FROM THE



Dear Neighbor,

Spring is a very busy time in our community. Last weekend, several thousand people participated in the 16th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk to support the important work done at Little Company of Mary Hospital. In the coming weeks, we look forward to the 19th Ward's Family Bike Ride, Memorial Day Mass, 39th Annual Ridge Run and Memorial Day Parade. In this issue, please find information about a new citywide outreach organized to support homeless veterans and an update on our ongoing legal battle with CSX Railroad. The 19th Ward also has a variety of community events coming up, including a town hall meeting and free paper shredding. Hopefully you can take advantage of these services.

Below, I have included a map of our community police beats and a schedule of local CAPS meetings. These meetings give residents the opportunity to become acquainted with the police officers who patrol our streets on a daily basis. The Chicago Police Department is committed to keeping our community safe. If you have any questions or would like information included in our next issue, please contact mattoshea@the19thward.com. To receive regular community updates, visit our website at www.the19thward.com and sign up for our e-mail distribution list.

Thank you,

Mout

Matthew J. O'Shea 19th Ward Youth Foundation

CAPS Meeting Calendar

BEATS 2211 & 2212

First Thursday of the month at 7:00pm March, May, June, August, October, December 22nd District Police Station, 1900 W. Monterey Ave.

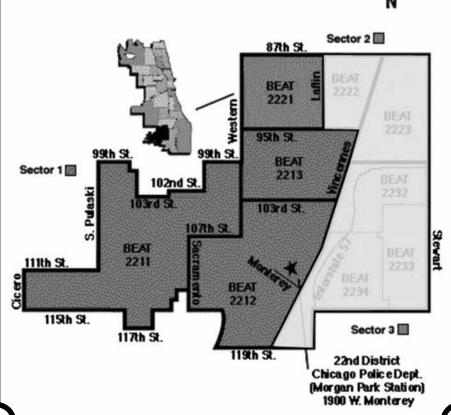
BEAT 2213

Second Thursday of the month at 7:00pm March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November Ridge Park, 9625 S. Longwood Dr.

BEAT 2221

First Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm March, April, May, June, July, September, October, Nov. Christ the King Parish Hall, 9235 S. Hamilton Ave





POSTING SIGNS ON CITY PROPERTY IS ILLEGAL!

YOU COULD BE TICKETED

As a courtesy to our citizens, the City of Chicago prohibits the posting of signs on any city right-of-way.

This includes posting signs advertising yard sales, lost pets, etc on utility poles and parkways throughout the city.



Please assist us in keeping the 19th Ward the beautiful neighborhood it is by not posting signs on any city right-of-way, parkway or utility pole.

10-8-404 Signs

All signs advising of the occasional sale shall be confined to the premises of which the sale in conducted, and all signs advising of the sale shall be removed no later than 9:00 P.M. on the day the permit expires.

10-8-406 Penalty - Violation

Any person found in violation of any of the provisions of Sections 10-8-401 through 10-8-405 shall be fined not less then \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each offence, and each day such violation persists shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

Your cooperation is much appreciated!

Mass Planned to Honor Veteran's and Active Servicemen

On Sunday, May 29, 2016 the 19th Ward Youth Foundation will host our annual Memorial

Day Mass in honor of the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sac-

rifice protecting our freedoms. The outdoor mass will begin at 4:00pm on the lawn of the Saint Barnabas Convent, 10161 S. Longwood Dr. Limited seating will be provided; guests are encouraged to bring chairs.

Rev. William Malloy will celebrate the Mass with area veterans and the families of local active service men and

women playing roles. A collection will be taken for Postage for Parcels, a Mount Greenwood or-

ganization that provides care packages to troops serving

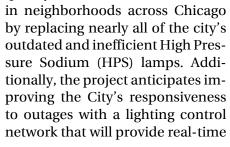
overseas.



Chicago Smart Lighting Project

The Chicago Infrastructure Trust (CIT), in coordination with the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District, has launched a major initiative to upgrade more than 270,000 of the city's street, alley and park lights to more reliable

and higher-quallighting. The Chicago Smart Lighting Project seeks to improve safety and quality-of-life



updates when outages occur.

The project will be one of the largest municipal lighting modernization programs in the country. A request for qualifications/ proposals has been issued to begin the procurement process; a copy of that document is available online

at chicagoinfrastructure. org with responses due on Friday, May 20, 2016. Chicago

Smart Lighting is anticipated to be a significant investment in the City's infrastructure that will create jobs for Chicagoans.

The RFQ phase of the procurement will short-list teams who will be asked to respond to the RFP; work is expected to begin in 2017 and last approximately four years.

Coffee & Conversation on June 28th

On Tuesday, June 28, 2016, the Beverly Ridge Homeowners Association (BRHA) and 19th Ward will host a "Coffee & Conversation" at the Original Pancake House, 10437 S. Western Ave. at 7:00pm. Senator Bill Cunningham,

Representative Fran Hurley, Alderman Matt O'Shea and members of the BRHA will be present for a casual conversation about issues impacting our community. Events like these are a great way to learn more about what is happening in the area and to meet some of your neighbors.

Coffee & Conversation is free and open to the public. Coffee will be provided.

> For more information please contact Michelle Page at mtbpage09@gmail.com or Tristan Angus at Tristan.Angus@ cityofchicago.org.

Sale on June City Stickers

Did you know that City of Chicago Vehicle Stickers can be purchased online at www.ChiCity-Clerk.com? Last year one fourth of all customers skipped the lines and obtained their stickers through the Clerk's website. This is the easiest and fastest way to receive your vehicle sticker each year. However, if you prefer to purchase your sticker in person, Alderman Matt O'Shea and City Clerk Susana Mendoza will host sales on Thursday, May 26th from 12:00pm-4:00pm at Ridge Park, 9625 S. Longwood Dr., and Thursday, June 23rd from 12:00pm-4:00pm at the 19th Ward's Mt. Greenwood Service Office, 3215 W. 111th St.

To purchase a vehicle sticker, you must bring your 2015 Chicago City Vehicle Sticker courtesy reminder form. If your courtesy reminder is lost, please bring your State Vehicle Registration ID Card, which includes your VIN (Vehicle Identification Number). Check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, Amex and Discover Card are accepted at Ward Sales. Please remember, we are now in the Year Round Vehicle Sticker era. Ward Sales this year will be limited to customers with June vehicle sticker expirations. These are vehicle stickers with "6/16" printed on them with an expiration date of

Cook County Assessor Property Tax Appeals

The Cook County Assessor property tax appeal process for Lake Township, which includes the 19th Ward, opened May 11, 2016 and will be open for thirty days. This is the first opportunity to appeal 2016 taxes. The other option is the Board of Review appeal, which opens in fall. It can be beneficial

to file appeals with both agencies.

Common reasons to file an appeal

with the Assessor are lack of uniformity with similar within the same neighborhood code, overvaluation based on recent sales and sig-

nificant property description errors. This appeal process is for 2016 property taxes which are due in 2017. Appeals can be made in person at any Cook County Assessor office, online at www.cookcountyassessor.com or appeal forms are available at

both 19th Ward offices.



DOCUMENT SHREDDING, **ELECTRONICS RECYCLING** PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPOSAL



SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2016

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

SAINT JOHN FISHER SCHOOL PARKING LOT 10234 S. WASHTENAW

This service is provided free of charge, but is open to 19th Ward residents only. Documents are shredded on site. Only documents that are loose can be shredded; please remove any staples or binders before you arrive.

SPONSORED BY:













Saint John Fisher **Catholic Parish**

Support Chicago Police

John Knight Softball Tournament – July 30th

After an 11-year hiatus the John C. Knight Memorial Softball Tournament is back. This year's tournament will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2016 at Saint Christina Fields and Mount Greenwood Park. While there are no more openings for teams, various sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are still available.

Over the past 17 years the Knight Family has had a tremendous amount of support after John was killed in the line of duty. Now, John's children want to give back

to the organizations have been so generous to them over the years. All of the proceeds from this tournament will be donated to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, the 100 Club of Chicago, the American Police Softball Hall of Fame, and St. Tournament Christina. Join us for a fun day filled with food and drinks while competing for a great cause.

For more information, please contact Lauren Knight at (312) 315-4071 or knightsoftball@gmail. com.

19th Ward Police Appreciation Day

Throughout the month of May, communities across the country come together to show support for police officers. Alderman Matt O'Shea is inviting residents of Beverly, Morgan Park and Mt. Greenwood to visit the 22nd District Chicago Police Department, 1900 W. Monterey, on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 from 1:30pm-3:30pm

to thank the officers who keep our neighborhood safe. Local school groups will write letters and cards for the police and refreshments will be provided.

We hope that you can join us and show the Chicago Police Department the support and appreciation they deserve. For more information, please e-mail mattoshea@the19thward.

The 100 Club of Chicago honors fallen first responders throughout May

In honor of National Police Week, which occurs annually in May, the 100 Club of Chi-

May, the 100 Club of cago (serving Cook and Lake Counties) has partnered with Jewel-Osco to create a month-long initiative to raise money for the families of fallen first respond-

Throughout
the month of May,
customers of 109 Jewel-Osco locations in Cook,
Lake, DuPage and McHenry Counties will have the opportunity to
donate \$1, \$3 or \$5 at the register
or drop coins in canisters to sup-

port the families of fallen first responders. 100% of all proceeds go to charity.

Background:

1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation estab-May lishing 15th as National Police Officer's Memorial Day. Since then, the week surrounding May 15th has been designated National Police Week; a week of remembrance of officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. This vear, National Police Week will be observed May 15-21.

Chicago Police Memorial Foundation Thanks Community



In February, the 19th Ward Youth Foundation, Original Pancake House-Beverly and Saint John Fisher Parish hosted the second annual Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast. This event drew a massive crowd to raise money for the replacement of outdated bullet-proof vests for Chicago Police Officers. In one morning, over 7,500 pancakes were served and over \$20,000 was donated to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. Special thanks to our sponsors: Original Pancake House-Beverly, Mariano's, County Fair, Ryan Meat Company, and the Saint John Fisher Holy Name Society. Thanks also to Chicago Police Chaplain Dan Brandt for celebrating a special mass that morning and to former CPD Superintendent Terry Hillard who came out to support this cause.



Honoring Our Heroes: Memorial Day Parade

Memorial Day is dedicated to remembering the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who gave their lives fighting for America's freedom. Honoring the true meaning of the day, the Beverly Hills/Morgan Park/ Mount Greenwood Memorial Day Parade will follow the Ridge Run, stepping off from 110th and Longwood Memorial Drive. Day PARADE ticipants and spectators are

encouraged to join BAPA, Parade participants, community leaders and families for the laying of the wreath, color guard and Memorial Day ceremo-

Grand Marshal of the parade is Gary W. Schenkel, a retired United States Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel and Executive Director of the Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC). In his career in public service, Schenkel has served at the most senior level in the Department of Defense, the Chicago Police Department (CPD) and in Federal law enforcement.

Prior to becoming Director of OEMC, Schenkel served as Acting Assistant Secretary for the Department of Homeland Security, served as Director of the Federal Protective Service overseeing security in federal

> facilities, and was Acting Deputy Superintendent for the Chicago Police Department, leading anti-terrorism efforts following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Schenkel is a 29year veteran of the USMC, serving both enlisted and office grades. He

Among the many groups participating in the Memorial Day Parade are the Illinois National Guard, Jesse White Tumblers, Dewalt Mechlin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Morgan Park High School Pom Team, area Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops, Ridge Historical Society, plus churches, military groups, schools and teams. Groups interested in marching can still sign up! Applications are available by calling 773-233-3100 or emailing bapa@bapa.org.

retired in 2000.

Go Gray this May for Maeve

GO GRAY

Have you tried Interval Training? If not, now is the perfect time with Treadfit's Go Grav for Maeve Fundraiser. Book your class on

May 22nd and all proceeds will benefit pediatric brain tumor research and treatment programs at Lurie Chil-

dren's hospital. Classes will be held at 7:00am, 8:10am, 9:20am,

and 10:30am. A suggested donation of \$25 per person can also be that day. m a d e

> To sign up, please visit www.treadfitbeverly.com. Treadfit, located at 10326 S. Western Ave., is an innovative fitness fa-

cility that provides customized workouts from certified trainers.

Go Gray in May with **Live Like John**

The John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation has organized a variety of FUNdraising events for Brain Cancer Awareness month. Please consider participating in one or more of these promotions. With your support we can make a difference in the fight against brain cancer.

Monday, May 16, 2016: Saint Rita Goes Gray

The Saint Rita High School baseball team will honor former teammate John McNicholas by wearing gray uniforms – all with John's number 10 and the letters LLJ for Live Like John, for their game against Saint Laurence. The game will begin at 4:30pm at Saint Rita, 7740 S. Western Ave.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016: Fox's Pizza Eat & Earn

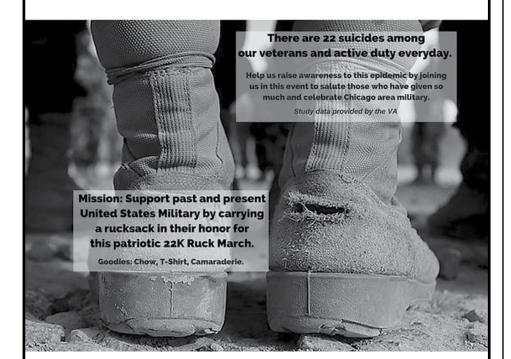
Order Fox's Pizza, 9956 S. Western Ave., and a portion of sales will be donated to Live Like John. Promotion is available for dine in, carry out, and delivery. Please mention this offer when placing your order and include a copy of a Live Like John Flyer with payment; Flyers are available at the 19th Ward Office or on the Live Like John facebook page.

Wednesday, May 18, 2016: Ricobene's Eat & Earn

Order from Ricobenes at 252 W. 26th St. between 5:00-8:00pm and a percentage of receipts will be donated to Live Like John. Offer good on dine in, carry out, and delivery.



South Shore Cultural Center May 27th, 2016 0930-1900



Registration free for veterans, active duty, and supporters

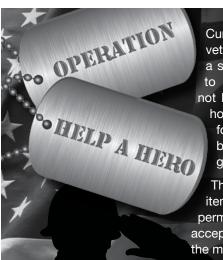
Create an account with the Chicago Park District at https://apm.activecommunities.com/chicagoparkdistrict/Create_Account THEN,

Maribel Mejia Adam Tirres

312-745-2062 312-745-1958

Contact CPD staff to complete registration maribel.mejia@chicagoparkdistrict.com adam.tirres@chicagoparkdistrict.com

Hosted By: ted to providing confide hing and health services to help and their families heal and cor Supported



Currently, there are several hundred homeless veterans in Chicago. When a veteran leaves a shelter or transitional housing and moves to a permanent residence, they often do not have the basic items needed to setup a home. These are things that you and I take for granted, but the men and women who bravely fought to defend our freedom often go without.

The 19th Ward is collecting household items to support our vets as they move into permanent homes. The items below will be accepted at the 19th Ward Office throughout the month of June.

DROP OFF SITES (Donations Accepted June 1st - June 30th):

19TH WARD OFFICE 10400 S. Western Ave. Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm MT. GREENWOOD SERVICE OFFICE 3215 W. 111th St.

Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm

For more information, please email mattoshea@the19thward.com

PERSONAL HYGIENE Bath Soap Shampoo	KITCHEN & CLEANING Kitchen Trash Can (Plastic)	BATHROOM & MISCELLANEOUS Shower Curtain
Conditioner	Windex	Toilet Paper (4 or 6 pack)
Razor	Pine Sol	Plunger
Shaving Cream	Dishwashing Liquid	Toilet Brush
Deodorant	Dishcloth	Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Combs	Sponge	Bath Towels (2)
Hair Brush	Мор	Wash Cloth
Nail Clipper	Bucket	Smoke Detector w/
Toothpaste	Broom	Batteries
Toothbrush	Dustpan	Flashlight w/Batteries
	Paper Towels	Garbage Bags
		Laundry Basket
*ONLY NEW, STORE BOUGHT ITEMS		Hamper
WILL BE ACCEPTED.		Laundry Detergent

O'SHEA **CHICAGO OFFICE OF**

VETERANS AFFAIRS

SPONSORED BY: Cunningham

PARK DISTRICT





95th Street Farmers Market

The 95th Street Business Association has been busy planning for the upcoming Farmers Market season! The association will once again oversee the market which takes place each Sunday from 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the commuter lot on 95th and Longwood Drive. The market opened for the season on Sunday, May 8, 2016, and runs through October 30, 2016. Beverly Bank &



Trust has graciously signed on as our market sponsor. Their support will allow us to add more entertainment and amenities this season. We have added some exciting new vendors and are hoping to expand on food options available at the market. Our hope is to make the 95th Street Farmers Market a fun destination for your family and friends to visit each Sunday. You can look forward to the following vendors:

- Blankenship Farm
- Breadman Baking Company
- C & D Farms
- Hardboiled Coffee
- Hillside Farm
- Madsen Farm
- Noffke Farms

- Not Just Cookies
- Our Secret Garden
- Simply Oils
- Stamper Cheese
- Sunflower
- Sweet Freaks

We are also very excited to expand our partnership with the Beverly Arts Alliance. Last summer they joined us on two Sundays. This year they will partner with us to bring art to the market once a month. We will be able to showcase many local artists through our partnership. There will also be events like our kid's Halloween Party and a cooking demonstration with Graham Elliott. Please be sure to like the 95th Street Business Association's Facebook page so you don't miss out on all of our events this summer! We look forward to seeing you on our opening day. The market is open rain or shine.

Lipinski, O'Shea, Cunningham and Hurley to Host Senior Fair in Mt. Greenwood

U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (IL-3), Alderman Matt O'Shea 19thWard City of Chicago, State Senator Bill Cunningham (D-18) and State Rep. Fran Hurley (D-35) will hold a Senior Fair on Monday, June 20th, at Mount Greenwood Park in Chicago.

Senior Fair Monday, June 20th, 2016 10 a.m. to noon Mt. Greenwood Park 3721 W. 111th St., Chicago, IL

Congressional staff, federal and local government agencies, as well as local businesses, will be available to assist constituents with any questions or concerns they have regarding federal issues and agencies, including Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, veterans' benefits and the Postal Service.

For more information, please call (312) 886-0481.



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Improve Attention & Organization

Increase Confidence

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Andrea Zopp to Kickoff Career Day at Morgan Park High School

On Thursday, May 19th, Andrea Zopp, newly appointed Deputy Mayor for the City of Chicago, will visit Morgan Park High School (MPHS) as the keynote speaker for a career day assembly. A group of Morgan Park High School students will interview Ms. Zopp at an assembly for all Junior and Senior class members: immediately following the interview, Zopp will take questions from individual students. Zopp's discussion will kickoff a full day of different presentations from various professionals throughout Chicagoland.

An accomplished attorney and non-profit executive, Andrea Zopp was born in Rochester, New York on January 25, 1957 to Reuben K. Davis, a prominent lawyer and judge, and Pearl Greta Davis, a human resources professional. As a child, Zopp was taught the values of education, service and hard work. Zopp completed her B.S. degree

in history and science at Harvard University in 1978 and received a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1981. After being licensed

to practice law, Zopp worked as a law clerk for U.S. District Judge George N. Leighton.

In 1992, Zopp became the first woman and first African American appointed as a Cook County First Assistant State's Attorney where she prosecuted several high profile cases. From 2000 to 2003,

Zopp served as executive vice president and general counsel at the Sara Lee Corporation and as president from 2003 to 2004, general counsel of Sears Roebuck and Company. Zopp then worked as adjunct professor at several law schools including Northwest-

ern University and Harvard Law School. In 2006, Zopp was made head of Exelon Energy Corporation's human resources division.

She was promoted to executive vice president and general counsel of Exelon in 2009. Zopp left Exelon in 2010 to become president and CEO of the Chicago Urban League. Earlier this month, she was appointed Deputy Mayor of the City of Chicago by Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Zopp has served on many boards of directors for many organizations including Chicago Area Project, Leadership Greater Chicago, Harvard Alumni Association, National Urban League, Black Ensemble Theater and the Cook County Health and Hospitals Systems. She is a member of the Black Women Lawyer's Association, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., The Chicago Network, and The Economic Club. Zopp has served on commissions for the Review the Illinois Death Penalty Process and chair of the blue ribbon commission for Magnet and Selective Enrollment School Admissions for the Chicago Public Schools. Zopp is married to William Zopp and they have three adult children Alyssa, Kelsey, and Will.

Career Day at Morgan Park High School is sponsored by Alderman Matt O'Shea and the 19th Ward Youth Foundation. Our goal is to expose students to a wide variety of careers as they consider their options after high school. Volunteer speakers are still needed; if you are interested in participating, please contact Tristan Angus at (773) 238-8766 or Tristan@the19thward.com.



Cunningham, Hurley host Hiring Fair

Senator Bill Cunningham and Representative Fran Hurley will partner with the Illinois Department of Employment Security for a hiring fair at Saint Christina School located at 3333 W. 110th St. in Chicago on Wednesday, July 20, 2016. This is an opportunity for employers throughout the district to meet with potential employees and network about current and future opportunities.

"One of the most important things we can do as public officials is connect job seekers with employment opportunities," Cunningham said. "We urge employers in our community to come out and meet with candidates about opportunities within our district."

The event is open to the general public and runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the first hour set aside for veterans only. Due to the limited amount of space available, employers must reserve their spot by going to www.senatorbillcunningham.com.

If anyone has any questions they can contact the district office of Senator Cunningham and Representative Hurley at 773-445-

Senator Cunningham represents portions of Worth, Orland and Palos Townships in the southwest suburbs and the neighborhoods of Mt. Greenwood, Beverly, Morgan Park and Auburn-Gresham in Chicago.

Free Family Fun Nights Come to 103rd Street this June

Make a date with your kids for Family Fun Nights, Thursdays, June 2, 9, 16 and 23, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the Beverly Bank parking lot, 1908 W. 103rd St. Every week a different theme will be celebrated with activities, music, fun and food. Bring your chairs and blankets, and get ready for a good time!

On June 2, Nature's Creatures petting zoo joins the fun for the Rootin' Tootin' Hoedown. Jeannie McQueenie Productions will put on a show for Playful Puppeteers on June 9. Kids + bubbles = fun at the Bubble Bash on June 16. On June 23, neighbors will join in the

official Summer Kick-Off Party.

Family Fun Nights are co-sponsored by the Beverly Area Planning Association (BAPA), Little Company of Mary Hospital, University of Chicago Medicine, Beverly Bank and Trust, Neighborhood Parents Network, 19th Ward Youth Foundation, Calabria Imports, Original Rainbow Cone and Horse Thief Hollow. The events will be presented as planned, weather permitting. Don't miss the fun! For more information, call BAPA, 773-233-3100 or email Margot Holland, BAPA Executive Director, mholland@bapa. org

City Services Update

STREET SWEEPING

Chicago's street sweeping season began April 1 and runs through mid-November. If a street is scheduled for sweeping, a temporary no parking sign will be posted along the route the day before service to ensure curb-to-curb cleaning. Some arterial streets may already have permanently posted signs that specify a once-per-week period when parking is prohibited due to sweeping. Residents who need more than one day notice of street sweeping should contact their local ward sanitation office. The 2016 street sweeping schedule is available at www.cityofchicago.org/dss.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The City is coordinating dedicated vard waste collection trucks this spring to assist residents in clearing their yards, parkways and storm drains following the winter season. Residents can call 311 to request separate yard waste collection from April 16 through April 22. Yard waste should be left in the alley or at the curb for collection, and bagged separately from garbage in the black carts and separately from recycling in the blue carts. A Streets and Sanitation truck will collect the bags based on 311 requests and take it to be composted.

Support the Catholic Youth Ministry Center

For over 35 years, the Catholic Youth Ministry Center at Morgan Park High School has been a safe-haven for thousands of teens. For many, it is a "home away from home" where there is always someone home and always someone to talk to. There, they can safely hangout, do homework, and play games. In addition, students can participate in educational workshops everything from anger management to conflict resolution to job/college readiness to proper hygiene; learn leadership skills by planning activities for their peers; share concerns and life stories in facilitated reflection sessions and contribute

to others in monthly services projects.

The Annual fundraiser for the Catholic Youth Ministry Center at Morgan Park High School is at 115 Bourbon Street on Saturday, May 21st, from 6:00-11:00pm. Tickets are \$40.00 for all you can eat and drink, a great DJ, and fantastic raffle and silent auction baskets. Raffle tickets are also available for raffle tickets for \$10.00 each with the drawing for cash prizes of \$500, \$250, and \$150 on June3rd. Every \$10.00 donation provides one more day of service for one more student. To donate, visit www.cymcatmphs. com, or call 773-881-0193.

City Cracks Down on Beverly Hills Food Mart

In response to residents' complaints, the City of Chicago conducted an investigation at Beverly Hills Food Mart (2156 W. 95th St.) on April 28, 2016. Inspectors found several instances of outdated merchandise mixed with non-outdated merchandise and issued six citations. A hearing will be held on this matter on May 24, 2016 at 10:00am at 400 W. Superior, Room 107. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Blue Cart Reminder Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The 19th Ward was one of the first wards chosen for the blue cart recycling back when it was still a pilot program. Our ward has even had some of the higher participation rates over the years since the pilot days and through the full citywide rollout. While this is encouraging news for our neighborhood, we could improve those numbers as overall recycling participation for the City as a whole has dipped slightly. In 2015, recyclable materials equaled 10.23% of total collected refuse; down from 11.08% in 2014, and 12.21% in 2013. Let's help to reverse this trend!

Chicago has what is referred to as single stream recycling, where all the recyclable materials go in one cart and are sorted at a collection facility later. With the implementation of new rules that began in January of this year, perhaps it is time for a refresher of what is allowed in the blue carts and what is not. Some ward residents might have received or noticed orange "reject" stickers on blue carts, these stickers indicate something in the cart violates the new regs especially if they contain items in plastic bags. If the recycling crew spots any trash in a bin, they'll re-route the whole thing to garbage collection instead of the recycling sorting center. **One** of the biggest changes as of this year is the materials need to be loose and unbagged.

The City of Chicago website has a more definitive list of what is and is not allowed, however, here are some **tips to remember:**

- Go bagless: items need to be loose in the cart to ensure an easier sorting process. Paper bags can be recycled but need to be emptied.
- All glass and plastic bottles, all aluminum and steel cans, all cardboard cartons (milk, soup, broth, juice, etc) are allowed
- No glass other than bottles (no lightbulbs, dishes, stemware)
- All magazines, office paper, envelopes (even the ones with the clear window), newspapers
- Items do not need to be scrubbed spotless
- BUT no greasy or dirty containers with food residue

 (no paper napkins, no pizza boxes), it needs to go in the black trash cart, not the blue as the residue has saturated the cardboard
- No styrofoam of any kind, perhaps try to reduce usage
- No plastic shopping bags

 perhaps try to reduce usage, and if you do have these, many grocery stores and Walgreens/CVS have bins where you can drop them off
- No polystyrene/foam #6, as in no disposable cups! This includes the red Solo cup, clear plastic to-go cups, coated cups from coffee shops
- No electronics, cords, pots or pans

Some Useful Websites:

Full list of regulations and items that are and are not allowed in the blue carts can be found on the City's website:

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/streets/supp_info/recycling1/recycling.html/

Or at this companion site, and includes an interactive quiz:

http://www.recyclebycity.com/chicago

In 2015, Curious City, a WBEZ segment, followed the path of a blue cart from house collection to the sorting facility. It's an interesting look, and can be found at:

https://www.wbez.org/shows/wbez-news/what-really-happens-to-chicagos-blue-cart-recycling/42d45307-001f-48ee-a649-9a63c7cceba2

O'Shea Opposes Strip Club Ordinance

Dear Neighbors:

Last month, the Chicago City Council considered an ordinance that would permit the sale of alcohol in adult entertainment venues that feature live, fully nude entertainment. Currently, strip club owners must choose between offering alcohol with partial nudity, or full nudity without alcohol. As this measure advanced through the legislative process, I found myself asking why such a change was necessary, and more importantly whom it would benefit?

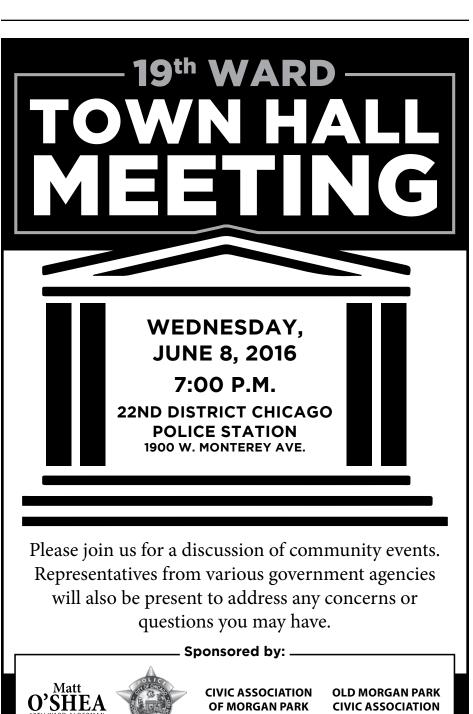
According to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, strip clubs have become a hub for human trafficking and the exploitation of women. Moreover, a Center for Impact Research study on women involved in the sex trade in Chicago found that exotic dancers are subjected to "a great deal of violence, including being threatened with a weapon or threatened with rape." We should not respond to such problems by relaxing the few restrictions currently placed on these businesses. And no matter the amount, the proposed ordinance's financial incentives for domestic violence and sexual assault programs cannot offset its contribution to the root problems these programs exist to address.

Is the adult entertainment industry in Chicago failing and therefore in need of this intervention to remain competitive? There is certainly no evidence to suggest this is the case; during the last sixteen years, not one Chicago legal strip club has gone out of business.

During my five years in the City Council, I have worked with and supported organizations that seek to stem the tide of sexual violence in our city. The passage of this ordinance would have been a huge step backwards. Thankfully, this ordinance has not yet been called for a vote. Should that change, I hope that all Chicagoans can stand together in opposition to this policy blunder.

Mou

Matthew J. O'Shea Alderman, 19th Ward



Beverly Hills Cycling Classic Plans Bikes and Brews Fest

Bikes and Brews are on the bill for spectators at the Beverly Area Planning Association's (BAPA) 14th annual Beverly Hills Cycling Classic on Friday, July 15. The pro/am racing event will feature top riders competing in the Prairie State Cycling Classic's CLASSIC Intelligentsia Cup and a festival of craft beers,



food trucks, entertainment and children's activities on the grounds

of Beacon Therapeutic Center, 10650 S. Longwood Drive

Beverly Bike/Vee-Pak Racing Team is the major sponsor of the Beverly Hills Cycling Classic, and team riders are expected to compete. The BHCC is planned and presented by the Beverly Area Planning Association.

For information, call 773-233-3100 or email bapa@bapa.org.



Outdoor Fitness Equipment Coming to Mt. Greenwood Park

Play equipment isn't just for kids anymore! The Chicago Park District is installing an outdoor fitness station at Mount Greenwood Park. The project will include a mix of equipment pieces designed to encourage an active lifestyle. The equipment will include pieces that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

All equipment has been ordered and installation will occur this summer. This \$50,000 project was partially funded through a grant from Greenfields Outdoor Fitness. Many thanks to the Chicago Park District for continuing to invest in our local parks!





CAMP

ICE HOCKEY

CAMP

ICE SKATING

CAMP

SUMMER CAMP at **MORGAN PARK SPORTS CENTER**

ALL SPORTS JUNE 27TH - JULY 1ST 9 AM - 3 PM **CAMP** JULY 18T H - JULY 22ND 9 AM - 3 PM

AUGUST 8TH - AUGUST 12TH 9 AM - 3 PM **GYMNASTICS**

JUNE 27TH - JULY 1ST 9 AM - 3 PM JULY 18TH - JULY 22ND 9 AM - 3 PM AUGUST 8TH - AUGUST 12TH 9 AM - 3 PM

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JUNE 27TH - JULY 1ST 9 AM - 3 PM JULY 18TH - JULY 22ND 9 AM - 3 PM AUGUST 8TH - AUGUST 12TH 9 AM - 3 PM

JULY 11TH - JULY 15TH 1 PM - 4 PM JULY 25TH - JULY 29TH 1 PM - 4PM AUGUST 1ST - AUGUST 5TH 1 PM - 4 PM AUGUST 15TH - AUGUST 19TH 1 PM - 4 PM

JULY 27TH - JULY 29TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM AUGUST 17TH - AUGUST 19TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM

JULY 27TH - JULY 29TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM AUGUST 17TH - AUGUST 19TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM

JULY 13TH - JULY 15TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM AUGUST 3RD - AUGUST 5TH 8 AM - 9:15 AM

JULY 13TH - JULY 15TH 9:30 AM - 11 AM AUGUST 3RD - AUGUST 5TH 9:30 AM - 11 AM

Registration is Now Open for 2016 Summer Camps at Morgan Park Sports Center!

Register online by visiting www.ChicagoParkDistrict.com

Morgan Park Sports Center 11505 S.Western Ave, Chicago, IL 60643 (773) 840-4622 www.MorganParkSportsCenter.com







Beverly Area Planning Association's 39TH ANNUAL

RIBGERUN

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016

Race to the Finish and the Fest!

Whether this is your first year competing or you've been running every Memorial Day for decades, the Beverly Area Planning Association's 39th Annual Ridge Run is the place to set your pace on the morning of Monday, May 30th.

Combined with the Beverly Hills/Morgan Park/Mount Greenwood Memorial Day Parade, the Ridge Run offers several options from the Ridge Run Challenge that includes both the 10K and 5K, to the untimed 5K walk or marching in the Parade.

Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers is presenting sponsor of the Ridge Run, and generously supply the Ridge Run doctor and first aid tent as well as on-site free blood pressure checks and general health information. Children are invited to learn about good health and receive a free gift (while they last)

from the Little Company of Mary volunteers.

A vital partner in keeping our community healthy, Little Com-

medical services and health education opportunities or to find a physician, visit www.lcmh,org.

Dr. Ginny Hendricks returns as the Ridge Run doc-

as the Ridge Run doctor. With specialties in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine, Dr. Hendricks is just the

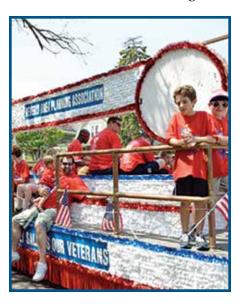
right physician to tend any medical emergencies that may arise during the races on Memorial Day. Dr. Hendricks attended Ross University School of Medicine, did her residency at University of Indiana/Methodist Hospital, and completed a fellowship at Resurrection



Stepping Up the Pace for Fun

This year, the Ridge Run Committee has really been stepping up the pace for even more runner amenities and family fun at the Ridge Run!

The Ridge Run begins with the 10K at 8 a.m. followed by the youth mile at 8:10 and 5K at 9:30. The 10K route has been revised and recertified. It will stay north of 111th Street, sending runners up the hill on 110th Street, winding down Bell and Oakley Avenues to 108th Place where it reconnects to Longwood



Drive at the bottom of the hill. Mike Haggerty Buick, GMC. Volkswagen is sponsor of the 10K and supplies the Ridge Run pace car.

Beverly Yoga Center will be leading pre-race warm-ups. Comedian Pat McGann and WGN-TV newsman Patrick Elwood will be announcing the race and emceeing the morning's activities.

The finish line has been moved off Longwood Drive and into Ridge Park, taking runners right into the new post-race festival area. Runners and spectators are invited to enjoy food and beer, children's activities, sponsor information, race results and runner refreshments. Cork and Kerry is the festival sponsor.

Kids are invited to hone their sports skills with the Bulls/Sox Youth Academy, enjoy the Nature's Creatures Petting Zoo, get some exercise in a patriotic jump house, compete in the free Tot Trot, get their smiling faces painted, and indulge in an Original Rainbow Cone. Beverly Bank is sponsoring the children's area.

Running Clubs Team Up for Fun

Families and school running teams will be well represented in this year's Ridge Run! A dozen local schools are participating in the youth training program developed by Treadfit and co-sponsored by BAPA and Running Excels. Through the program hundreds of kids will be ready to run the 5K.

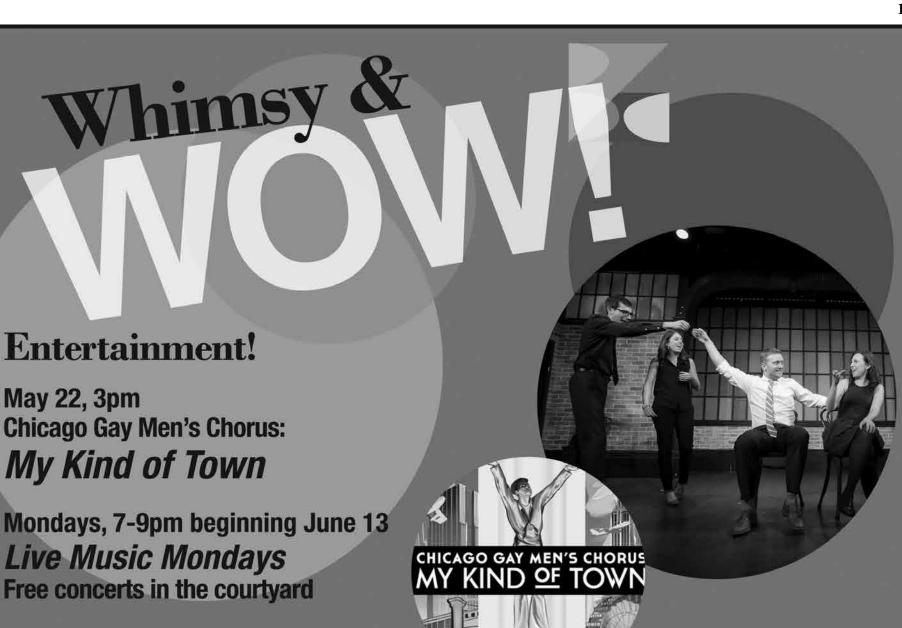
The Youth Mile, sponsored by Southtown Health Foods, is open to children age 6 to 13. Members of the Chicago Special Olympics at Mount Greenwood Park will be leading the Youth Mile this year.

One of Chicago's favorite neighborhood races, the Ridge Run is well-known for the thousands of spectators that line the route, cheering on the runners, offering water and playing music. Neighbors are encouraged to be part of this amazing event, add your voices to the cheering, and make your way to Longwood Drive for one of Chicago's oldest community Memorial Day parades.

Race Registration

Ridge Run registration is open at www.bapa.org. Register online for the 10K run, 5K run/walk, Ridge Run Challenge (10K and 5K), and Youth Mile. For a printed application or more information, call 773-233-3100, email bapa@bapa.org or stop by the BAPA office, 1987 W. 111th St., Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Online and mail-in registration closes Mon., May 23 at noon.

Advance packet pick-up and registration will be May 24-28, 3 to 7 p.m. at Running Excels, 10328 S. Western, and Sun., May 29, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ridge Park, 9625 S. Longwood Dr. Race day registration opens at Ridge Park at 6:30 a.m. and closes a half hour prior to each race.





June 25, 8pm

ARTS CLASSES + SUMMER CAMPS!

Toddler to Senior

AUDITION FOR OUR SUMMER STUDENT PERFORMANCES!

The Best of Second City

IMAGINE



DISCOVER

BAC STAR PRODUCTIONS WHERE TOMORROW'S STARS SHIRE TODAY

Dr. Doolittle Jr.
Auditions: Jun 1 & 2, 4-6pm
Ages 5-12

Hairspray
Auditions: Jun 1 & 2, 5-7pm
Ages 13-22



Summer Classes & Camps begin Jun 13

ool of Fine Arts

REGISTER NOW AND DON'T MISS THE FUN!

3 WAYS TO REGISTER

Online@ beverlyartcenter.org In person or at 773-445-3838



Find our full schedule of shows and events, more information and tickets at 773 445 3838 or



Secretary of State Suspends Mailing of Vehicle Registration Renewal Reminders

* Hlinois

Due to the budget stalemate Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced recently that his office will suspend mailing out vehicle

registration renewal reminder notices to the public effective immediately.

Normally notices are sent to vehicle owners several weeks

before license stickers expire. Unfortunately, this courtesy will no longer be available to motorists.

Vehicle owners are encouraged to be mindful of their vehicle registration status to ensure they renew in a timely manner and avoid driving on expired vehicle stickers.

People can still get notices by email if they register online.

They need to do that through the secretary of state's website, www. cyberdriveillinois.com. Those people will also have the information needed to renew their license stickers online.

Those who don't have access to email or a computer will have to go to a driver's license facility in order to renew their stickers.

To register online for renewal reminders, please visit www.cyber-driveillinois.com.

Chicago Seeks Election Judges

The Chicago Board of Elections is currently recruiting judges of election for the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election. Election Judges are the officials responsible for administering the election in each polling place. The judges of election 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 5:00 am, conducting a fair, impartial and secure election, allowing voting from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm, and tabulating the vote totals and transmitting them to the Board of Elections after the polls close. Judges of election are paid \$170 upon completion of training and service on Election Day. Ex-

tra compensation is paid to judges who pick up the key envelope on either the Saturday or Sunday prior to Election Day, allow the use of their cell phone by all judges within the polling place on Election Day, or return the election materials to a receiving station on Election Night, or serve additional days in absentee voting, nursing-home voting or in post-election counting activities in the warehouse.

Please note, to serve as an Election Judge, you must be a registered voter in Cook County, and be able to speak, read and write English and perform basic math. Applications for Election Judge are available at the 19th Ward Office, 10400 S. Western Ave., or online at www.chicagoelections.com.

Mt. Greenwood Library's 25th Anniversary

On Wednesday, June 8, 2016, join us for a day of reminiscing and celebrating 25 years serving the Mt. Greenwood community from this location. Browse community CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

p.m. Then at 4:00 p.m. Jeanie B! gets your singing and dancing. Cake & refreshments served and our contest winners will be announced.

For more information, contact Jessica Jeffers (312)

refreshments from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 747-2805.

and branch archives & enjoy light

Free Tree Saplings Available

The University of Illinois Extension is distributing free tree saplings.

Pick up weekdays only between 9 am – 4 pm 9415 S. Western Ave, Suite 201 Chicago, IL 60643

Varieties available include: Shagbark Hickory, Pin Oak, Red Oak, Bur Oak, Hackberry, Shingle Oak, Swamp White Oak.

Please bring a bag and newspaper or towel to transport your saplings home safely. Please tell the Receptionist that you are here to select a tree sapling.

Questions: sbatka@illinois.edu





TRADITION/INNOVATION

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Legislative Update

How Illinois' education funding policies affect Chicago Public Schools

By State Senator Bill Cunningham

The Chicago Public School System is facing a severe financial crisis. As a result, many are looking to Springfield – either to assign blame or ask for a solution.

And the truth is, policymakers in Springfield deserve most, (but not all,) of the blame for the current CPS financial problems. In 1995, the General Assembly passed and Governor Edgar signed the Chicago School Reform Amendatory Act. By almost any measurement, it has proven to be an unmitigated disaster. The current structural and financial problems at CPS were almost all caused by provisions of the 1995 Act.

That "reform" plan weakened the influence of Local School Councils and gave complete control of the School Board and central administration to the mayor. Independent, community-based school board members were replaced by mayoral appointees, most of whom came from corporate and banking backgrounds. In the two decades since, pliant school boards have approved a succession of bankfavoring borrowing schemes and no-bid consulting contracts. Each passed with few questions and even fewer dissenting votes.

Worst of all, the 1995 Act is almost solely responsible for creating the CPS pension crisis. It eliminated a law that required CPS to dedicate a portion of its tax levy to directly fund the Chicago teachers retirement system, which was in solid financial shape at the time. The school board was freed to spend those tax dollars anyway they wanted. And if that wasn't bad enough, the 1995 Act explicitly authorized the school board to skip future pension payments. Today, the nearly half-billion dollar hole in CPS's budget can be almost entirely blamed on pension debt created by these policy changes.

The dedicated pension levy that was eliminated in 1995 was important because it helped keep the teachers pension fund solvent despite a quirk in Illinois state law that is unfair to Chicagoans. As long as anyone can remember, the state has paid the regular employer pension costs for teachers in all suburban and downstate school districts, but not for Chicago teachers. Last year, the state spent about \$7.5 billion on teacher pensions, almost all of it for suburban and downstate schools, and next to nothing for Chicago.

There are a handful of proposals pending in Springfield that could help solve these financial problems. One is House Bill 3695, which would force CPS to once again automatically dedicate a portion of its property tax levy to the teachers pension fund. Additionally, legislation has been proposed to change the state's complicated school funding formula, like Senate Bill 231. This plan would funnel more state financial aid to districts, like Chicago, that have a high number of student who live in poverty, speak English as a second lan-



guage, or have special education needs.

In an effort to promote possible solutions to the problem, the CPS administration is busy promoting a campaign they call "20 for 20." Currently, CPS students make up 20 percent of Illinois' total number of school children, but CPS only receives about 15 percent of state school funding. This disparity is almost entirely attributable to the state picking up all pension costs for every school district in the state except Chicago. The "20 for 20" campaign is seeking to bring Chicago equity in school funding.

To learn more about this topic, I urge all 19th Ward residents to attend an upcoming "20 for 20" meeting at Mount Greenwood School on Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00pm.

Legislative Update from Rep. Kelly Burke



HIGHER EDUCATION STOPGAP FUNDING BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

Millions of dollars in promised state financial aid for college students will finally arrive under a sweeping, bipartisan budget deal approved late last week by lawmakers and signed by the governor.

The deal - essentially a fiscal stopgap for students and universities teetering on crisis for nearly a year - approves spending on the state's Monetary Award Program for college students and starts sending state dollars to public universities and community colleges, some of which were on the verge of shutting down.

While this funding is welcome and much needed, Rep. Burke recognizes the legislation is a short-term solution and a broader budget fix is needed. Students and university employees want real answers and long-term stability rather than the chaos that's been created the past year. They want the state to start solving problems rather than creating problems.

REP. BURKE SUPPORTS PROPERTY TAX FREEZE BILL

Last week the House passed HB696, which would freeze tax levies for all non-home rule units of government. Under the bill's provisions, these units of government would generally need to take increases in their tax levy to the voters through a referendum.

The property tax freeze issue has been before the House many times before and Rep. Burke has consistently supported the bills. HB696, however, is the first bill to pass, earning the "yes" votes of a bipartisan group of law-makers.

REDISTRICTING AMMENDMENT CO-SPONSORED BY REP. BURKE

HJRCA58 would change the way that legislative and congressional maps are drawn after each census. The task would be turned over to a redistricting commission rather than the current arrangement in which the legislature draws the maps. If HJRCA58 passes both chambers of the legislature, the proposal would be a question on the ballot in November, giving Illinois voters the chance to weigh in.

Hurley Pushes for Fair Education Funding

Among Illinois' most important responsibilities is ensuring every student in the state has access to a first class education. What students learn now, in grade school through high school, is pivotal to their ability to be successful when they move on to college or the workforce. Currently I'm supporting a proposed constitutional amendment that would change education from a goal to a right, and would require the state to take greater responsibility for financing public schools.

If we want our kids to be ready to solve tomorrow's problems across Illinois, we have to make the right kind of investments in their future now. Last year, I supported a budget that increased money to schools across Illinois, House Bill 3763, which increased funding for education across the state by \$244 million. I'm pushing to increase this investment now for next fiscal year. This is the only way our students will have access to the 21st century education they deserve.

Illinois is in the midst of an unprecedented budget impasse. However, ensuring that students in every corner of the state don't become victims of Springfield's problems remains among my highest priorities. Many school districts in Illinois don't have access to the kind local property tax revenues it will take to keep them afloat, and the possibility of schools not being able to open their doors on time is a very real possibility. This result is unacceptable and all state leaders should agree that we have a responsibility not to let that happen.

Politicians in Springfield and in Chicago have failed our kids and their schools for too long, and that's why I'm supporting efforts to create an elected school board in Chicago to provide more transparency and community input into the governing of our schools and ensure they get the resources they need.

Sincerely,

Frances A. Hurley / State Representative, 35th Distric



Smith Village helps retirees move to carefree lifestyle

Spring and summer are the peak season for selling a home, so now is a good time for retirees living in the 19th Ward to consider measures to help them sell their homes.

"For those still with homes no longer serving their needs, it may help to realize selling a property in order to downsize or move to a retirement community is not just a business transaction, it's about freeing the home owner of the burden of taxes, insurance, maintenance and repairs," says Marti Jatis, Smith Village executive director

Smith Village, a life plan community at 2320 W. 113th Place, has enlisted a variety of experts in preparing and selling homes. The community recently asked Mike Elwood, a broker for Baird & Warner, and Mark Palahniuk and Suzanne Cronin, marketing representatives from Homeowners Club of America, to educate older adults during a public workshop about a variety of financial considerations for putting their homes on the market.

Residential real estate on upswing

"Fortunately for many home sellers, market value in Chicago has held strong and is increasing," says Elwood. "In the Beverly and Morgan Park neighborhoods, there's a shortage of good homes on the market—which works to the seller's advantage. But it's still about pricing properties to sell. Even if you stage your home and enhance its curb appeal, it won't sell if the price is too high."

For older adults who typically don't want to invest in upgrading their homes, Elwood suggests giving consideration to their home's current condition, and pricing accordingly. There are a few improvements, however, all home sellers should consider including removing clutter, applying fresh paint on exterior trim and inside the home, and making sure landscaping is manicured.

Perks for those considering Smith Village

"The Homeowners Club of America is comprised of local real estate lawyers, realtors and top performing brokers who recognize the significant increase in closing costs in recent years, " says Mark Palahniuk, HCA marketing director. "HCA is offering discounts to current and future Smith Village residents that help them reduce their costs. Our program also gives them free access to a network of seasoned professionals who facilitate the home sale process."

Because Smith Village has forged a relationship with HCA, Smith Village residents and prospective residents can access HCA member benefits which include discounts on up to three services provided by professionals involved in the home sale process—including realtors, real estate attorneys and mortgage lenders, including Wintrust, owner of Beverly Bank.

New City of Chicago program for home buyers

Another fortunate development for older adults wanting to sell homes in the 19th Ward is that the City of Chicago is making it easier for individuals and families to purchase homes in Chicago. The City of Chicago's Home Buyer Assistance Program can provide home buyers who qualify up to 7 percent toward their total loan amount. For most conventional loans an income cap of \$133,000 applies. An income cap of \$87,000 applies to buyers seeking FHA, VA and USDA loans. For more information, buyers can visit http:// Chicagoinfrastructure.org.

Elwood suggests the following steps for home sellers:

- 1. Contact a realtor to perform a market analysis and discuss whether performing repairs or upgrades will add significant value to your home.
- 2. Consider paying for an inspection to determine if major repairs will be needed.
- 3. Clear away clutter and invite

relatives to take items that you no longer need. Give the remainder to charity. Consider contacting a home organizer such as Creative Home Services to assist with downsizing, preparing your home for sale, and moving into in your new residence.

4. Paint in neutral colors.

"Living in a life plan community like Smith Village liberates retirees from home maintenance issues," says Jatis. "Our goal is to help residents attain a joyful, carefree lifestyle." Smith Village provides added security, meals prepared by an executive chef, a variety of lifeenriching activities and services, access to fitness facilities, rehab services and medical support if and when they are needed.

About Smith Village

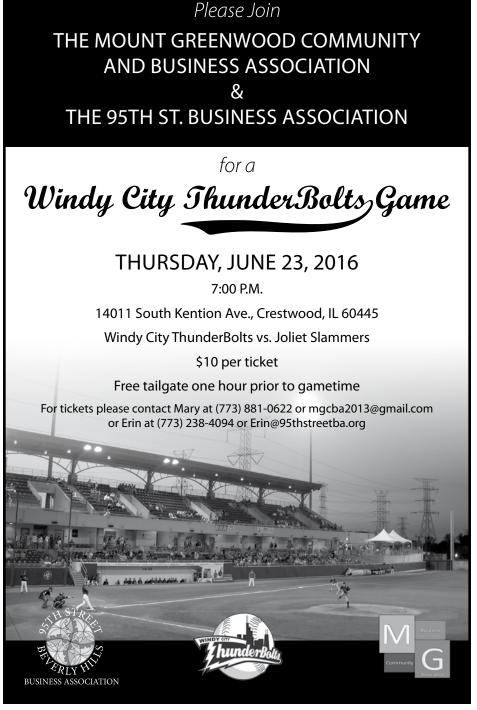
Smith Village is sponsored by Smith Senior Living, a not-for-profit organization serving older adults since 1924. It provides spacious residences and engaging programs for independent living, as well as assisted living, memory support and skilled nursing care. Smith Village also offers short-term rehabilitation services for residents and others requiring assistance after surgery or a medical incident. For more information, call 773-474-7300 or visit SmithVillage.org.



11134 S. Western, Chicago, IL 60643 (773) 779-6085 itzfitz@sbcglobal.net

"Whether you are buying or selling, Fitzgerald Real Estate "FITZ" your needs"

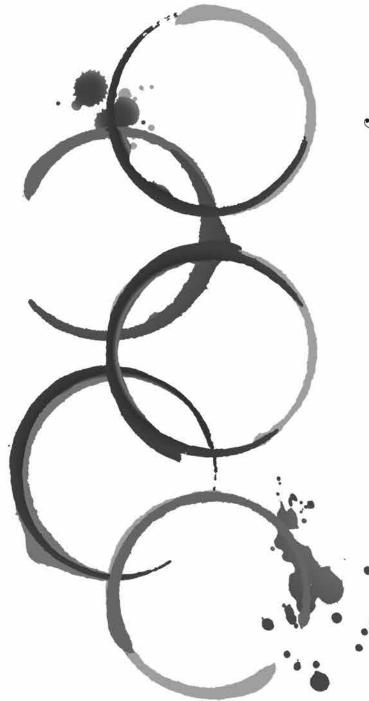




The Beverly Arts Center

invites you to an exclusive evening of

graham & grapes



Friday, June 24th, 7pm Gallery 1028 1028 Hooker St, Chicago

\$350 a person

Limited seating available

All proceeds benefit the Beverly Arts Center

Tickets available at the Beverly Arts Center, by phone 773.445.3838, or online at www.beverlyartcenter.org



Join Chef Graham Elliot and California Winemaker John Evan Marion, from Big White House Winery & John Evan Cellars, for an evening of culinary delight.

Chef Elliot has created a special menu paired especially with the exquisite wines from the John Evan's exclusive library.

The evening will culminate with a special performance by Tony Nominated actress Felicia Fields.

Elite prizes will be raffled during the evening.





Retirement is a bit of a misnomer: it's not about not working, it's about trading the things you have to do for the things you love—the things that keep you young. The maintenance-free lifestyle at Smith Village gives you the freedom to swap housekeeping, cooking, lawn care and the "honey do" list for more interesting pursuits. As a resident, you can choose from a full calendar of daily activities, including fitness classes led by our full-time exercise physiologist, guest lectures, religious services, and music, art and foreign language classes. You can also take advantage of activities outside of the community, or simply take a walk, read a book or chat with a friend. The point is: at this point in your life, what you do is entirely up to you.

You're going to love your life at Smith Village. Get started today by calling (773) 451-9764, or visit us online at SmithVillage.org.

Ask about our -

"Plan Ahead" incentive program, where you can choose the savings that are right for you!





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Application Now Open To Coach One Million Degrees Scholars

Local, homegrown nonprofit recruiting 500 professionals to mentor community college scholars

One Million Degrees (OMD) a Chicago nonprofit organization that empowers low-income, highly motivated community college students to succeed in school, in work, and in life—is now accepting applications for its volunteer coaches. OMD Coaches work with

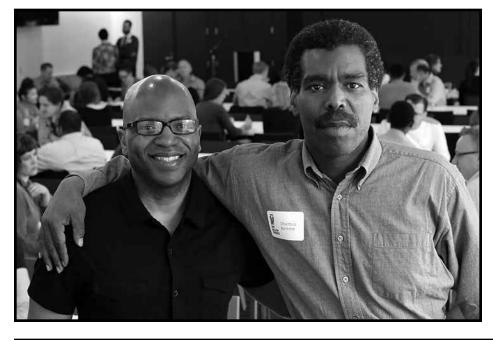
scholars in a one-onone or small group setting to

provide professional and personal support throughout the academic year, while helping to broaden scholars' horizons of career aspirations and possibilities. Coaches are supported with ongoing training by OMD to ensure a positive and productive volunteer experience, and also have opportunities to connect with fellow coaches to expand their own professional networks.

Coaches give just a few hours each month and make a profound difference in the lives of OMD Scholars. "I have loved my mentee and everything about my mentor-

ing experience at OMD," said

The Community College Project coach Neha Gupta, HR Spe-



cialist at PricewaterhouseCoopers, "The two hours I spend monthly with my mentee are easily the two most meaningful hours of my month!"

OMD provides a variety of holistic supports-financial assistance, mentoring, academic interventions and professional development—to hundreds community college students across 11 Chicago-area community colleges each year. It is one of the only organizations in the country working directly with low-income community college students. OMD Scholars graduate from college at over three times the national average. Upon completion, its scholars transfer to four-year colleges and universities to earn their bachelor's degrees and enter the workforce in high-demand fields, such as health care, IT and engineering. OMD Scholars build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities, while helping to strengthen the local and national economy.

OMD is rapidly expanding the number of students it serves in Chicago and the suburbs. In the 2015-2016 academic vear OMD served 440 scholars, and in the 2016-2017 academic year, OMD will have the capacity to serve up to 700 scholars

across all of its program locations including Kennedy-King College, Olive-Harvey College, Richard Daley College, Harry S. Truman College, Malcolm X College, Prairie State College, Harper College, and College of Lake County.

Learn more about coaching and apply at www.onemilliondegrees.org/get-involved/coach-ascholar. For questions about the program or applications, call Michaela McGill at 312-920-9605 ext. 310 or send an email to mmcgill@ onemilliondegrees.org.

About One Million Degrees

One Million Degrees believes that when given a solid system of support, every student has the ability to reach his or her full personal and professional potential. Since 2006, One Million Degrees has provided critical supports to help empower hundreds of community college students to succeed in the classroom and beyond. One Million Degrees Scholars are graduating at roughly three times the state average and are equipped with the skills necessary to help them reach their full potential in school, in work, and in life.

To learn more about One Million Degrees, please visit www. onemilliondegrees.org.



Seven New Members of the Chicago Ag Family Born February 2, 2016



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A nationally recognized college preparatory curriculum, preparing students for professions and careers in the agricultural sciences.





Saturday, May 15, 2016 10:00 A.M.

McKiernan Park 10714 S. Sawyer Ave.

For more information contact: Ellen Youpel at (773) 445-8128 or e.youpel35@gmail.com

Alderman Matt O'Shea's



Wednesday, June 8, 2016 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

115 Bourbon St. 3359 W. 115th St.

Admission: \$5 – Reservations Required

Let's shake, rattle & roll at this fun-filled event! Wear your best sock hop costume and join us for a great music, dancing, and a family style fried chicken luncheon.

For reservations, please contact Moira Curran at (773) 238-8766 or moira@the19thward.com.

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