

19th
WARD

Quarterly

A Publication of the 19th Ward Youth Foundation
Matthew J. O'Shea

AUGUST 2019

Beverly CoLab Fitness Festival



Fitness lovers mark your calendars! The first-ever Beverly CoLab Fitness Festival will take place Saturday, August 10th at Morgan Park Academy, bringing the very best fitness studios and trainers from the area, together in one convenient location. It is truly a one-stop shop for those looking to experience the best businesses in the neighborhood, while improving their health and well-being.

Guests will have the opportunity to sample three, thirty-minute fitness classes from the top local studios and trainers. Participating fitness studios and trainers include: Barre It All, Beverly Barre, Beverly Yoga, Blazin' Cycle, Core Pilates, Fit Code, Froyo to Fitness, Live and Believe, personal trainer Monica Bright, Morgan Park Sports Center, and Treadfit.

"The Beverly, Morgan Park and Mt. Greenwood areas are booming with amazing fitness studios and businesses that offer workouts and training that are really second-to-none," said Jenny Harkins, owner of Treadfit, which is a sponsor of Beverly CoLab Fitness Festival. "This is a great way for our local businesses to collaborate and come together to showcase all that our neighborhood has to offer. All of our participating fitness studios are family-run, and committed to providing their customers with an incredible workout, in a more intimate setting than you would find at a larger chain gym. This event is a great opportunity for attendees to sample a number of fitness pro-

grams and find the one that works best for them." In addition to fitness classes, live music, a tennis clinic, and a recovery zone will also be showcased. Several local restaurants, salons, and retail businesses will also be onsite for festival-goers to sample, sip, and shop from. Participating businesses include: Banis Beets, Belle Up, Beverly Bank, Beverly Ride On, Beverly Tennis, Brow Boutique, Capsule, County Fair, Devin Nutrition, Home Run Inn, Horse Thief Hollow, Impact Physical Therapy, Keir Foot and Ankle Specialists, Little Company of Mary Hospital, Live and Believe (LAB), Marathon Sportswear, Marlo, Mrs. King's Art Camp, Murrays Browse and Brews, Nicky's Grill, Open Outcry, Relaxation Station, Running Excels, Solution Graphics, Southtown Health Foods, Tranquility, True North Acupuncture, Turkey, and You Glow Girl.

Tickets are \$35 for adults; \$25 for students ages 16-21. Only 500 tickets will be sold and the event is expected to sell out quickly. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased on the Mindbody app under Beverly CoLab. The Beverly CoLab Fitness Festival is sponsored by Treadfit, County Fair, Beverly Bank, and Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Morgan Park Academy is located at 2153 W. 112th Street. Ample on-site parking is available. For more information on the Beverly CoLab Fitness Festival, please email beverlycolab@gmail.com, or visit the event Facebook page.

Peace of Pizza Opens on 95th Street

Peace of Pizza, the innovative restaurant that marries classic Chicago food with the effort to curb violence in the city, held its grand opening on July 31st at 1801 W. 95th Street. Peace of Pizza is more than a great place to grab a delicious meal. It's a social enterprise that will serve a dynamic non-profit and youth in need. A quarter of the profits will fund the efforts of MASK (Mothers/Men Against Senseless Killings). MASK began in 2015 with mothers sitting on the corner of 75th & Stewart in Englewood after the murder of a woman at the intersection. Their cookouts during the summer months transformed vacant lots to a new community resource center. The restaurant will also be a jobs training program to give teens the skills they need to succeed.

Many local residents learned about MASK when founder Tam-



Tamar Manasseh

Peace of Pizza open now at 1801 W. 95th St.

ar Manasseh spoke to a packed house at the recent "You Are My Neighbor" event at St. Barnabas Church. The event featured Fr. Gregory Boyle who founded Homeboy

Industries, the largest violence intervention program in the world, in Los Angeles 30 years ago. Homeboy, just like MASK, started a small bakery as a job training enterprise for young men trapped in cycles of poverty and violence. Homeboy has a 30-million-dollar budget, 17 thriving businesses and is a crown jewel of the city of Los Angeles. Peace of Pizza has a great roadmap for success. Stop by for pizza, wings, burgers, pasta, sandwiches and salads.

Register Today for the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K

The 11th annual Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K Run and Family Walk returns on Saturday, November 30th, offering participants the opportunity to walk or run the beautiful tree-lined streets of the historic North Beverly neighborhood. The race kicks off at 9:00am at 9201 S. Hamilton Ave. Proceeds from this year's 5K will once again benefit the John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and the 19th Ward Youth Foundation.

Individual registration is available for \$35 per person or \$75 for the family walk. Children under age 19 can register for \$30. Please note, register by November 1st to receive a hooded sweatshirt at no additional cost. To sign up, please visit www.the19thward.com.

More than 2,000 participants are expected to take part in the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K, which has been an annual Thanksgiving weekend tradition for families with children of all ages, for over a decade. Runners and walkers of all ages and skill levels are invited to join this fun event and burn off some Thanksgiving calories.



Fr. Larry Sullivan, Amy McNicholas, Ann Marie Riordan and Matt O'Shea at the 2018 Beverly Hills Turkey Trot

The 5K will be chip-timed on a CARA certified 5K course, while the family walk will be untimed. Runners will be divided by age and gender according to CARA recommended guidelines, with awards given for each age group. All participants will receive a long-sleeved race t-shirt and a goody bag.

On the morning of the Turkey Trot, the 19th Ward and Original Pancake House (Beverly), will host a pancake breakfast immediately following the race. Admission is \$5 per person; or \$25 for a family. For more information on the Beverly Hills Turkey Trot 5K Run & Family Walk, please visit www.the19thward.com or (773) 238-8766.

CAPS Meeting Calendar

BEATS 2211 & 2212

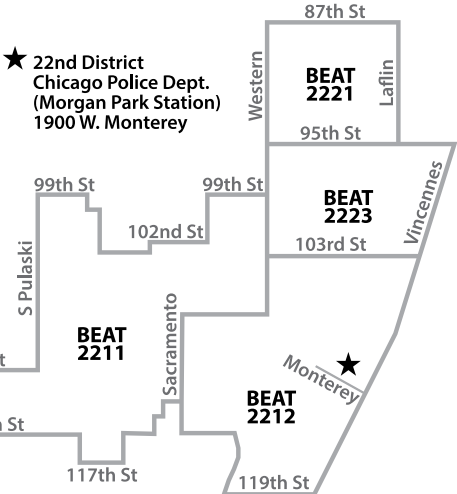
First Thursday of the month at 7pm
March, May, June, Aug, Oct, Dec
22nd District Police Station,
1900 W. Monterey Ave.

BEAT 2213

Second Thursday of the month
at 6:30pm
March, April, May, June, July,
Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov
Ridge Park,
9625 S. Longwood Dr.

BEAT 2221

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



Octapharma Plasma Coming to 95th Street

Octapharma Plasma will complete a full renovation of the property located at 1947 W. 95th Street later this Fall and plan on opening the new plasma center in December, 2019. The rehabilitation of this building is a two-million dollar investment and created 60 construction jobs.

Octapharma Plasma, Inc. is headquartered in Charlotte, NC. They collect, test, and supply human blood plasma for manufacture into life-saving therapies. Octapharma Plasma operates 90+ donation centers with locations in 27 states. Octapharma Plasma's parent company, Octapharma AG, manufactures plasma-based therapies for millions of patients in more than 113 countries. These therapies treat rare, genetic, and chronic diseases such as hemophilia and immune deficiency disorders. They are also used for trauma and burn victims and for critical care procedures like major surgeries, cancer treatments, organ transplants, and more.

Each Octapharma Plasma location hires locally where possible, creating up to 70 new permanent

jobs. Octapharma Plasma donation centers positively impact local communities by providing compensation for donors' time, supporting local businesses, providing job and training opportunities, and more.

Octapharma Plasma is a responsible business neighbor in the communities where we live and work.

Our staff, donors, and suppliers are local residents AND consumers. They shop area businesses and support a thriving local economy.

Each Octapharma Plasma center has the potential to funnel an additional \$6+ million into the local economy annually.

Octapharma Plasma partners with local Chambers of Commerce and other professional associations to better connect with businesses in the communities we serve. We support multiple healthcare and patient advocacy organizations at national and local levels. Octapharma Plasma Center staff get involved in their communities by participating in career and health fairs as well as volunteering with local organizations and/or emergency services.



Utility Bill Clinic

Alderman Matt O'Shea and the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) will host a utility bill clinic on Tuesday, September 24th from 6:00 - 8:00pm and Thursday, September 26th from 11:00am - 1:00pm at the 19th Ward Office (10400 S. Western Ave.). Residents are invited to bring copies of utility bills (gas, phone and electric) for review with the Citizens Utility Board to make sure you aren't overpaying. There



is no cost for this event. Join us and learn how to spot unnecessary charges on electric, natural gas or phone bills. Also, find out which energy efficiency programs or rebates might help you. Space is limited! To reserve your spot today, please contact Anairis Boror at aboror@citizensutilityboard.org with the subject line "19th Ward - 9/24" or "19th Ward - 9/26" or call her at (312) 263-4282, extension 111.



PET EXTRAVAGANZA



Responsible Pet Ownership

*Co-hosted by Alderman Matt O'Shea,
State Senator Bill Cunningham,
State Representative Fran Hurley and
Chicago Animal Care and Control*

Saturday, September 14, 2019

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Open to the first 100 pets only

**Chicago High School
for Agricultural Sciences
3857 W. 111th Street**

**Featuring a Low-Cost Vaccine Clinic
by the City of Chicago Animal Care & Control**

Open to City of Chicago residents. All pets over 4 months of age MUST have current rabies vaccination and a current dog license or will be required to purchase one at the time of clinic (proof needed). All dogs MUST be on a leash or in a carrier; an cats MUST be in a carrier. Pets requiring muzzles MUST be muzzled at the event. You Must be able to handle your pet around other animals.

CASH ONLY, please bring exact change.

Fees: \$7 for DA2PPPL and FVRP vaccinations, \$15 for Rabies vaccination, \$15 for Micro-chipping \$5 for Dog Registration (neutered dog) or \$50 (un-neutered dog).

Matt O'SHEA
19TH WARD ALDERMAN

Bill Cunningham
ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR 18TH DISTRICT

Fran Hurley
STATE REPRESENTATIVE 35TH DISTRICT



CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S

Summer in the Parks




Concert in the Park: Coyote Riot
Thursday, Aug.8
7:00 p.m.
Mt. Greenwood Park, 3721 W. 111th St.

Concert in the Park: Liam Durkin
Thursday, Aug.15
7:00 p.m.
McKiernan Park, 10714 S. Sawyer Ave.

Yoga for First Responders & Family
Tuesday, Sept. 3
6:30 p.m.
Mt. Greenwood Park, 3721 W. 111th St.

Stay Informed! Follow the 19th Ward on Social Media

 @mattoshea19  oshea_matt

HOSTED BY:

Bill Cunningham
ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR 18TH DISTRICT

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

BEVERLY BANK
A TRUST COMPANY N.A.

Fran Hurley
STATE REPRESENTATIVE 35TH DISTRICT

LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY
HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE CENTERS

PEOPLES GAS®
We Keep Life Moving

HMS HOST
Feeling Good on the Move®

Mount Greenwood
COMMUNITY & BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Streetscape Improvements Continue on 95th Street

The City of Chicago recently awarded a \$3.3 million contract to extend Streetscape improvements on 95th Street from Damen Avenue to Wood Street. Sumit Construction was the lowest bidder and is currently obtaining permits. Work is expected to begin later this month.

In addition to completing the third phase of the streetscape project, Sumit will also address some repairs that are needed in the first two phases of the project. When designing new projects, CDOT uses a Complete Streets approach that prioritizes safety and accessibility for all users of the right of way.

The 95th Street project highlights include:

- Full width roadway resurfacing
- New curb and gutter
- New sidewalk with ADA ramps
- Sidewalk parkway pavers
- Site furnishings including bike racks and waste containers
- New shade trees
- New decorative street lighting with energy efficient, LED light
- Light Pole Community Identifiers
- In ground sidewalk planters
- Decorative stamped crosswalks

O'Shea Ordinances Tax and Regulate Sale of Cannabis

A pair of ordinances introduced by Alderman Matt O'Shea would create some baseline, common sense restrictions on the sale of cannabis and establish 3% excise tax on any products sold in the City of Chicago. The General Assembly recently legalized the sale of recreational marijuana in Illinois effective January 1, 2020. Under O'Shea's ordinance, retail sale of cannabis products would have the same restrictions currently in place for the sale of tobacco.

If passed, the ordinance would prohibit the sale of recreational marijuana products within 500 feet of any building or other location used primarily as a school, child

care facility, or for the education or recreation of children under the age of 18. It also prohibits the sale of any cannabis products to persons under 21 years of age.

State law also empowers local municipalities to establish a 3% excise tax on cannabis products. O'Shea's ordinance not only creates that tax, but also specifies that revenue must be used to address the City's beleaguered employee pension funds. "Absent new revenue streams, Chicago property owners will be faced with a considerable increase next year. It is our responsibility to find new and different ways to address this crisis," O'Shea said.

Appeal Your Property Tax Assessment

The Cook County Board of Review is now accepting property tax appeal applications for homeowners in our community for 2019 taxes (payable in 2020). The appeal paperwork is very simple and can result in significant savings. There is no fee involved for applicants and appealing through the Board of Review cannot increase current assessments.


Board of Review Commissioner Larry Rogers Jr., Alderman Matt O'Shea, Senator Bill Cunningham

and Representative Fran Hurley will co-host an appeal assistance night on Thursday, October 17th, 7:00pm at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences. Staff from the Board of Review will be available to help residents complete appeal paperwork and address any questions or concerns. All homeowners are encouraged to attend this meeting. Please bring your tax bill or property index number to complete the paperwork. If you are not able to attend, you can also file an

appeal online at www.cookcounty-boardofreview.com. If you have any questions, contact Colleen White in Alderman O'Shea's office at (773) 238-8766 or colleen@the19thward.com.

The Board of Review does not assess property, set tax rates, or collect taxes. There is no fee to file an appeal, and in most cases an attorney is not necessary. Filing an appeal with the Board of Review CAN NOT result in an increase in your taxes; the appeal will either reduce

your taxes or leave them at the current level. Board of Review complaint forms can be obtained at the office of Commissioner Larry Rogers, Jr. in the Cook County Building located at 118 N. Clark St. - Room 601. They may also be found and filed on the Board of Review website at: www.cookcountyboardofreview.com. For more information about appealing property taxes, contact Commissioner Rogers' office at (312) 603-5540. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.



Lori E. Lightfoot
Mayor of Chicago

Department of Housing
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 1000
Chicago, Illinois 60602
www.chicago.gov
[@ChicagoDOH](https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoDOH)

2020 ★★☆☆

Roof & Porch Repair Program


A grant program for income-eligible Chicago homeowners to make repairs on their roofs or porches. Interested parties must register in a lottery for a chance to apply for the funds.

SIZE OF HOUSEHOLD	80% AREA MEDIAN INCOME
1 person	\$49,950
2 people	\$57,050
3 people	\$64,200
4 people	\$71,300
5 people	\$77,050
6 people	\$82,750

ONE-DAY LOTTERY REGISTRATION
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019
 online at www.chicago.gov/roofandporch
 or call 311

The lottery drawing will take place in late October at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. Results will be posted online the following week.

For more information
 312-744-3653
www.chicago.gov/housing
doh@cityofchicago.org



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR



August 28, 2019
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 (Doors Open at 9:30 a.m.)

KENNEDY-KING COLLEGE
 740 W. 63rd St., Building U
 Chicago, IL 60621

The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) will host a community career fair showcasing hundreds of full- and part-time jobs at Chicago's airports. On-site workshops to develop job searching, resume writing, interviewing and employable skills will also be available. Don't miss the opportunity to meet representatives from companies looking to hire individuals to work at O'Hare & Midway International Airports in the following areas:

- AIRLINES
- CARGO
- CONCESSIONS

- CONSTRUCTION
- APPRENTICESHIPS
- SECURITY AND MORE

FREE WORKSHOPS

How to get into an Apprenticeship Program • 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Resume Writing • Noon - 12:45 p.m.

Safer Foundation Transitional Job Session • 1 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.



Register Online for the Career Fair:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2JJKHPC>

[@fly2ohare](https://twitter.com/fly2ohare)
[@fly2midway](https://twitter.com/fly2midway)

[@fly2ohare](https://www.instagram.com/fly2ohare)
[@fly2midway](https://www.instagram.com/fly2midway)

[/fly2ohare](https://www.facebook.com/fly2ohare)
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O'HARE & MIDWAY
 INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

**BUILDING A
BETTER WORKFORCE**
[#cdacareerfair](https://www.cdacareerfair.com)

CDA
 CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

Water Meter Program Suspended

In 2016, the City launched a study to look at the possible impact of both water main construction and meter installation on residential levels of lead in water. In November 2018, preliminary data from the water meter study showed a statistically significant increase in water lead levels. In some cases, these increases put those residences over the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's benchmark level for lead of 15 parts per billion. At that time, Alderman Matt O'Shea publicly called on the Department of Water Management to halt meter installation until more analysis could be completed.

Last year, the Department of Water Management mailed a letter explaining these preliminary findings to all residents who had received a meter, offering free filters

to residents with meters, encouraging free lead testing, and began requiring informed consent for anyone receiving a meter. In the intervening eight months, additional data from meter installations has been collected and analyzed, showing that 7.1% of the approximately 500 homes in the study saw an increase that puts their water lead levels above 15 parts per billion.

Exercising an abundance of caution, Mayor Lightfoot suspended the water meter program effective June 28, 2019. Moving forward, the City will continue to collect and analyze data and investigate various types of meters and the possible impact they may have on residential lead levels. The Department of Water Management will still be accepting registrations for water meters and will add those customers

to a waiting list to be notified if and when installations begin again.

Please be aware that lead-based paint remains the primary source for childhood lead poisoning in Chicago. For context, more than 135,000 meters have been installed since 2000, and in that same period child lead poisoning rates dropped dramatically - from one in nine children in 2000 to about one in 150 children today, as the Department of Public Health has focused education and prevention of lead paint hazards.

These are important steps that homeowners can take to ensure that they have the highest quality water possible:

1. Request a filter set. For residents with a meter in their homes, the City is offering free water pitch-

ers and six cartridges that are NSF-certified to filter out lead if used correctly. These homeowners have been contacted in the past about the free filters, and we will be reaching out to residents again with information on how to request free filter sets and water testing.

2. **Water testing.** DWM offers free water testing by an independent certified lab and notifies residents of their results. This can be done by calling 3-1-1 or visiting www.ChicagoWaterQuality.org.
3. **Flushing.** One of the most effective tools in promoting water quality is simply letting a faucet run for 5 minutes every time that water has been stagnant for 6 hours or more. Taking a shower or running a washing machine or dishwasher is another option.

Strengthening Our Community Against Hate

On Monday, August 12, 2019, Alderman Matt O'Shea will host "Strengthening Our Community Against Hate" a conversation with Christian Picciolini and Nora Flanagan, two Chicago Peace Advocates, at 7:00 pm at Saint Barnabas Church (10134 S. Longwood Dr.). This program will explore ways residents can work together to combat racism, bigotry and anti-Semitism. Following the discussion, lite refreshments will be provided in the

church basement.

Christian Picciolini is an award-winning television producer, a public speaker, author, peace advocate, and a former violent extremist. Christian's involvement in, and exit from, the early American white-supremacist skinhead movement is chronicled in his memoir *White American Youth*. He now leads the Free Radicals Project, a global extremism prevention and disengagement network, and has

helped over 300 individuals leave hate behind. This work is spotlighted in his MSNBC documentary series *Breaking Hate*. His forthcoming book, *Breaking Hate: Confronting the New Culture of Extremism*, will be released in February 2020.

Nora Flanagan is a veteran high school English teacher in Chicago and has researched and organized against racism for decades. Efforts have included speaking to law enforcement and other government

agencies, school administrations, community groups, and media outlets about the intersection of bigotry and youth culture. She recently co-authored *Confronting White Nationalism in Schools*, a toolkit designed to help schools thoughtfully and effectively respond to incidents of racial hostility and proactively strengthen school communities.

All residents are invited to participate in this important discussion.

ADB AMERICA'S DOG & BURGER

KIDS UNDER 9 EAT FREE!

VALID SUNDAYS 1-4 PM

Not valid with other promotions. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Free kids meal with adult meal purchase. See store for additional details.

Locally owned & operated, brothers George & Manolis are proud to now be a part of the Beverly & Evergreen Park Community!

Order online at UberEats

Stop by Saturdays during August & help support families of fallen first responders!

5% OF SATURDAY SALES WILL BE DONATED TO CHICAGO POLICE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

9646 S. Western • www.adbfresh.com
Evergreen Park Plaza Mall
 (in front of Whole Foods)

From a traditional Chicago-style hot dog to a fresh Black Angus burger, hand-cut fries & milk shakes, locally owned & operated by 2 brothers delivering fresh, never-frozen better burgers, signature hot dogs, chicken, salads & more.

High School Admissions 101: A Seminar for Parents

Attention parents of 6th, 7th and 8th graders! Now is the time to start your search for the right high school. Alderman Matt O'Shea will host High School Admissions 101, a seminar designed to help guide parents through the high school selection process on Thursday, September 12, 2018 at 7:00pm at Sutherland Elementary School, 10015 S. Leavitt St. Representatives from Chicago Public Schools will be on hand to explain the process for applying to selective enrollment high schools. Additional information will be provided about the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences and Morgan Park High School.

19th Ward families have a lot of choices when it comes to high school. How can you make sure the school you choose is the right fit for your student? Speakers will explain the CPS application process, provide an overview of the private school admissions process, give guidelines for how to choose a school that is a good fit for your child, explain criteria for various public and private high school programs, offer tips on navigating open houses and high school shadow days, and more.

Space is limited and reservations are appreciated. Adults only please. Reservations can be made at www.the19thward.com.

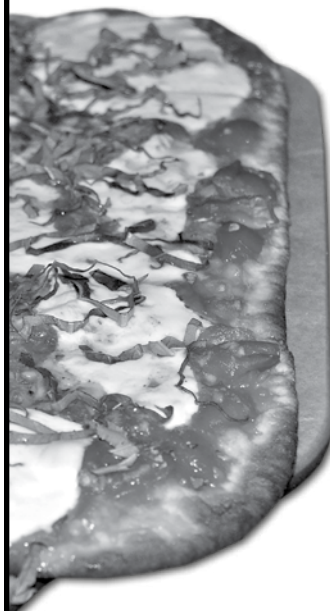
Free Flu Shots

Alderman Matt O'Shea, Senator Bill Cunningham, and Representative Fran Hurley will partner with the Chicago Department of Public Health to provide free influenza immunizations on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the 19th Ward Office, 10402 S. Western Ave. Flu vaccines are offered at no cost to adults of any age and children over six months olds. No appointment is necessary and vaccinations are provided on a first come, first served basis.

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 (773) 238-8766 or ward19@cityofchicago.org.

ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S Rooftop Happy Hour

TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHICAGO



Thursday, October 10, 2019

6:00 - 8:00pm

Franconello Italian Restaurant
Rooftop Patio, 10222 S. Western Avenue

FREE admission

Drink specials, appetizers and raffles will be provided

SPECIAL GUEST BARTENDERS INCLUDE:

- State Representatives Kelly Burke & Fran Hurley
- Former Cook County Sheriff Michael F. Sheahan
- Skinny Sheahan
- Judges Erin Antonietti & Dan Maloney

All tips and raffle proceeds benefit
Special Olympics Chicago

For more info, contact mattoshea@the19thward.com

**Matt
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19TH WARD ALDERMAN

**Bill
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ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR 18TH DISTRICT

**Fran
Hurley**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE 35TH DISTRICT



19th Ward VETERANS DAY Breakfast



Friday, November 8 ★ 9-11am

Barraco's ★ 3047 W. 111th Street

★ Complimentary Breakfast

★ Sweet Reminder performing the hits of yesterday

All 19th Ward veterans and people currently in U.S. military service are invited to attend this event honoring their service to our community and our country.

Please contact Margie Olsen, 19th Ward Office, 773-238-8776
or
rsvp online www.the19thward.com
PROVIDE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL AND BRANCH SERVED

★ SPONSORED BY ★

BAPA
Beverly Area
Planning Association

**Mount
Greenwood**
COMMUNITY & BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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Barraco's

19TH WARD DOCUMENT SHREDDING

Please note, this event is for document shredding only.
We will not have electronics recycling available.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019

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

CROSSWINDS CHURCH
10835 S. PULASKI RD.

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:

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Staying healthy, staying involved



Mercy Circle resident Sister Ellen Marie Ryan, RSM with rehab manager Joanna Ruzich

*Thanks to Mercy Circle's short-term rehab,
I'm already back in step as a volunteer at
Mother McAuley High School. I taught
music at McAuley for more than 30 years.
Now helping out there is a great encore.*

- Sister Ellen Marie Ryan, RSM

**Call 773-253-3600 to learn about
our next Open House
or to schedule a private tour.**



Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest

Independent Living • Assisted Living
Memory Support • Skilled Nursing Care
Rehabilitation Therapy

3659 West 99th Street | Chicago, IL
773-253-3600 | mercycircle.org



RESIDENTIAL ELECTRONICS RECYLING PROGRAM

Now it's easier than ever to get rid of your old electronics!

- Computer
- Computer Monitor
- TV
- Printer, Fax, Scanner
- Keyboards & Mice
- VCRs, DVD Players, DVD Recorders
- Video Game Consoles
- Portable Digital Music Players
- Digital Converter Boxes
- Cable & Satellite Receivers
- Small-Scale Servers

Recycle them at one of the City's drop off locations:

Location	Operating Days	Hours
1150 N. North Branch St. Chicago, IL 60642	Every Tuesday Every Thursday 1 st Saturday of every month	7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
6441 N. Ravenswood Ave. Chicago, IL 60626	1 st Wednesday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
4808 W. Wilson Ave. Chicago, IL 60630	1 st Friday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
4619 W. Homer St. Chicago, IL 60639	2 nd Wednesday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
3800 S. Iron St. Chicago, IL 60609	2 nd Friday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
2300 W. 52nd St. Chicago, IL 60609	3 rd Wednesday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
900 E. 103rd St. Chicago, IL 60628	3 rd Friday of every month	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

New &
Convenient
Locations!

It's the law – and it's good for the environment, too.
Please note that once the truck is full, no more electronics will be accepted.

Materials should not be left at the locations outside of operating hours.
Commercial electronics will not be accepted.

To review the full list of acceptable items and for more information about this pilot program,
visit www.chicago.gov/hccrf.



Saturday, August 24th
St. Christina Fields and Mt. Greenwood Park
11100 South Central Park, Chicago

On Saturday, August 24th over 1200 women will
play ball to make a difference.

They play to raise funds for a cause that has touched so many,
they play to honor a friend or a loved one,
they play to support teammates recently diagnosed
and they play to have fun along the way.

STEP UP TO THE PLATE AND STRIKE OUT BREAST CANCER



Go to our website www.y-mesoftball.com
for details how to register a team, sponsor or donate.

Cunningham: Gambling expansion to fund pensions and local construction projects

The Illinois General Assembly approved a massive expansion of gaming this spring, which will provide a much needed infusion of cash for Chicago's public safety pensions, as well funding for local school and park construction projects.

The new revenue will come from the establishment of a Chicago casino, legal sports wagering, and several other new gaming options. But according to State Senator Bill Cunningham, the expansion won't happen overnight.

"The Illinois Gaming Board has to review and approve all the applications for new casinos and other gaming licenses," Cunningham said. "This has traditionally been a slow and deliberate process, as it should be. It's more important to get it done right than it is to get it done quickly."

The proposed Chicago casino would allow for up to 4,000 "gaming positions," which would make it more than three times as large as any existing Illinois casino. Revenue from the new casino will be equally split between the city, state, and the private operator approved by the gaming board to run the facility.

"Estimates vary for how much revenue a Chicago casino would

bring in, but the Rivers Casino in Des Plaines provides a pretty good guide," Cunningham said. "Last year, Rivers brought in more than \$440 million in gambling revenue with only 1,200 gaming positions. It's not unreasonable to assume a Chicago casino would total well more than twice that amount."

By function of state law, any revenue collected by the city from a casino must go to Chicago's police and fire pension funds and can't be spent on any other city operations or programs.

"Chicago-based legislators took a position that the city can't keep going to property taxpayers to fund pension debt," Cunningham said. "So a few years back, we passed a law that said if Chicago ever gets a casino in the future, the resulting revenue must go to the pensions to make up for past underfunding practices."

The location of the Chicago casino has yet to be determined. The Illinois Gaming Board has hired a casino consultant to review possible sites and make recommendations this fall. The new gaming law

allows the city to establish a temporary site while the permanent casino is built. As a result, it's possible that a casino could be operating in Chicago in 12 to 18 months.

The new gaming law also allows for legalized sports betting in Illinois. Existing casinos, horse racing tracks, and a limited number of Off Track Betting facilities can apply for licenses to offer in-person wagering on professional

and college sports, though bets will not be allowed on college games that occur in Illinois. Additionally, up to seven professional sports stadiums can receive licenses to offer sports-only wagering. Online sports betting will be permitted as well, but will require participants to set up wagering accounts in person at a participating casino or racetrack. And the state lottery will be permitted to develop sports wagering games like parlay cards that can be sold at select lottery retail sites. According to Cunningham, at least some form of sports wagering is expected to be operating by the end of the upcoming football season.

Much of the revenue generated

by gambling expansion outside of the Chicago casino will go to help fund the state's "Rebuild Illinois" capital construction plan. While dollars generated from the state motor fuel tax will exclusively pay for road repairs and transit projects, revenue collected from gaming sources will fund construction projects at state universities as well as local schools and parks. More than \$1 million dollars has already been set aside to fund projects in the 19th Ward.

Nearly \$7 million in new statewide gaming revenue will fund expanded gambling addiction treatment and related mental health programs, which is more than eight times the current amount spent by the state.

"Gaming is not the most ideal way to fund government projects, but it is a better option than increasing property or income taxes," Cunningham said. "And when you consider the millions of dollars Illinoisans spend at casinos in Indiana, and the millions illegally wagered on sports today, it makes sense for Illinois to expand legalized gambling and capture gaming dollars that are already being lost to other states, illegal bookmakers, and off-shore internet sites."





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A New Direction looks to 9th annual benefit to fund growth

A New Direction Beverly Morgan Park (AND), the community's only domestic violence agency, will host its 2019 fundraiser on Saturday, October 26, 2019, 7:00 - 10:00pm at Ridge Country Club, 10522 S. California Ave. Musical entertainment, open bar and hors d'oeuvres highlight this annual event, along with a grand raffle and silent and live auctions. The benefit is AND's largest annual fundraiser and, traditionally, all proceeds help the agency sustain AND's programs and services, including Legal Advocacy, Education and Counseling, Children's Therapy and Teen Outreach Program.

"We are counting on this year's benefit to generate sufficient revenue so we can help more survivors and their families by doing more than simply sustaining our current programs and services. In 2018, the proceeds from this benefit represented 100 percent of our operating budget. While AND has earned

financial support from grants, we are proud to say the community we serve is our primary source of funding. Now it's time to build on our successes and grow as an organization. With continued support from our community, we are confident that we can do this," stated Jessica McCarihan, Board President.

To support the 2019 benefit, individuals and businesses can become a sponsor to underwrite a variety of facets of the popular event. Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$5,000. AND also welcomes items for live and silent auctions.

For more information, please contact Monica Carey at monica@anewdirectionbmp.org or Jessica

McCarihan at jessica@anewdirectionbmp.org. Tickets for the event cost \$75.00 and can be reserved beginning on September 1, 2019.



Pictured (left to right) Jamenda McCoy, owner, Belle Up Boutique, and Jack and Kelly Stanley.

According to McCarihan, A New Direction continues to focus on its mission to ensure area residents can live

safely, free of domestic violence and abuse. "Thanks to the tremendous generosity of individuals, organizations and businesses in our community, the number of victims who receive support from AND continues to grow," she said.

McCarihan, however, added she and other Board members are moving forward with the next phase of their strategic planning process to determine new ways for AND

to build awareness throughout the community and to offer life-altering guidance and support to victims of domestic abuse. "While more and more people are becoming aware of the harm DV presents to our entire society, statistics show that we still have so much work to do. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, nearly 20 people each minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States," said McCarihan.

As A New Direction's second phase in developing a comprehensive plan for the next three years, McCarihan said AND is working again with Executive Service Corp (ESC). In June, ESC's team of volunteer business leaders interviewed AND's Board and staff. In August, they will participate in a retreat to evaluate current programs and services and to explore new opportunities.

Tax on Million Dollar Homes to Fund Pensions

Alderman Matt O'Shea recently proposed increasing the real estate transfer tax on property values in excess of \$1 million to benefit Chicago's pension funds. The City of Chicago is facing a budget deficit that has been reportedly in excess of \$700 million this year. "Pension

debt is our most dire financial crisis. I am committed to exploring any and all new revenue streams to mitigate our reliance on property taxes" O'Shea said. An analysis of previous real estate transfer shows that this increase would have generated \$26 million in 2016, \$14 million in 2017,

and \$14 million in 2018.

The City of Chicago taxes real estate transfers at a rate of \$3.75 for every \$500 of property value; O'Shea's plan would increase that by \$1 for values in excess of \$1 million. Such a change requires approval from both the City Council

and the voters in the form of a ballot referendum in the March 17, 2020 election.

"While this referendum will certainly not fully address the pension crisis, it is a new revenue stream that will not impact the middle class," O'Shea added.



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Great Things Happening at 95th Street Farmers' Market

The 95th Street Farmers' Market is in full swing! There is still plenty of time to make a visit to the market operating in the city owned commuter lot located on the corner of 95th and Longwood Drive, 1835 W. 95th Street, part of your Sunday routine. Our market operates each week from 8:00am - 1:00pm rain or shine. We continue to partner with many different 19th Ward and Chicago organizations who join us on a rotating basis in our Community Tent. Other popular features include live music each week from 10:00am - 12:00pm and complimentary face painting for children from 10:00am - 1:00pm every other Sunday. We are also excited to regularly host the children's librarian from the Beverly Branch Library. She joins us throughout our season to offer children's crafts and activities.

Some of the highlights for the rest of our season include a cooking demonstration from local chef, Alvin Green, visits from the Chicago Park District who will join us twice in August to provide information about their fall programming in the 19th Ward, and 95th Street's Fall Fest. This popular event returns this year but will be hosted at the market on Sunday, October 13, 2019. We will have lots of activities for kids that day and hope you will join us.

We continue to be indebted to our sponsors: Beverly Bank (Premier Sponsor) 19th Ward Youth Foundation, Senator Bill Cunningham, Representative Fran Hurley, Southtown Health Foods, Pacor Mortgage, BAPA, Alderman Matt O'Shea, and the 95th Street Business Association. We also thank the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences for their help with our market.

Here is our schedule of events for the month of August:

August 4 – The Chicago Park District will join us in the Community Tent to update residents on fall programming at the parks in the 19th Ward. Joel Barr will provide our music from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

August 11 – The Vanderpoel Improvement Association (VIA) will join us in the Community Tent to share information about their Resource Extravaganza scheduled for Saturday, August 17, 2019. Mark Taylor will provide our music from 10:00am - 12:00pm. The children's librarian from the Beverly Branch Library will join us with a craft activity in the Children's Tent from 10:00am - 12:00pm, and we will have complimentary face painting from 10:00am - 1:00pm.

August 18 – One Tail at a Time will join us in the Community Tent with a dog available for adoption from

9:00 – 11:00am. The children's librarian from the Beverly Branch Library will join us with a craft activity in the Children's Tent from 10:00am - 12:00pm. Ruta Spencer will be our disc jockey from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

August 25 – The Chicago Park District will join us in the Community Tent to update residents on fall programming at the parks in the 19th Ward. We will offer complimentary face painting from 10:00am - 1:00pm. The Beverly All Stars will provide music from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Please be sure to "like" our 95th Street Facebook page to stay up to date on our weekly schedule for the market. You can also visit the Farmers' Market tab on our website, www.95thstreetba.org, for more information.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the market!

Free Oak Saplings

This Fall, Alderman Matt O'Shea and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District are providing free oak saplings to all 19th Ward residents. These saplings, which are approximately six to ten inches tall, can be reserved online at www.the19thward.com, and will be available for pickup on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at the 95th Street Farmers Market from 10:00am - 12:00pm. Instructions for planting and care will also be provided.

The tree population throughout the City has been decimated by emerald ash borer infestations and extreme weather. Oak trees help provide an energy saving green canopy for the community and help absorb rainwater that might otherwise flow into the sewer system and possibly flood residential basements. A medium size oak tree can absorb up to 2,800 gallons of rainfall per year.



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6-9pm

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A black and white photograph of three teenagers smiling and laughing. A young man with curly hair is on the left, a young woman with long blonde hair is in the center, and another young man with long hair is on the right. They are all looking towards the camera.

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Midway Fly Away 5K Family Run & Walk for Special Olympics

The Midway Fly Away 5K Run & Family Walk lands at Midway International Airport on Sunday, September 8th, offering runners, walkers, and families an incredible race experience. With breathtaking views of the city skyline, and an up close and personal look at the jets taking off and landing, the Midway Fly Away 5K takes place directly on the airfield of Midway International Airport and is open to all ages and fitness levels. Now in its seventh year, the race benefits the 7,500 athletes of Special Children's Charities/ Special Olympics Chicago.

Registration today by visiting www.sochicago.org in advance of the event. Race participation is \$40 for adults, and \$20 for children 16 & under; The Midway Miler, open to kids 10 and under on race day, is \$15 per child. On-site registration will be available for \$50 for adults. Special Olympics athletes with valid medicals on file run for free.

Registered participants will receive a souvenir race t-shirt, post-race refreshments and free parking in the Midway Airport Economy Parking lot, located across the street from the Southwest Airlines Hangar, at 5050 W. 55th Street.

A variety of pre-race activities, including raffles with amazing prizes, as well as a myriad of family activities such as face painting, and much more, will take place at the event hangar on the airfield.

The Midway runner, the person who places in the middle of the race, will also win Southwest Airlines tickets. Those who raise more than \$250 will automatically be entered to win two round-trip Southwest Airline tickets to anywhere in

the continental United States that Southwest Airlines flies. Medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place male and female winners each CARA (Chicago Area Running Association) age group. All registered participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Doors to the Southwest Airlines hangar will open at 8:00am. The Southwest Airlines Hangar is located at 5035 W. 55th Street at Midway International Airport. Upon arrival, participants will be shuttled to the event hangar on the airfield. All participants are required to bring a photo id for check-in, and must

arrive prior to 8:30am. Shuttle service will end promptly at 8:30am. No backpacks / bags will be allowed on the course, however, there will be gear check available the

day of the race. No "wheels", including strollers, bicycles, tricycles, rollerblades, inline skates, will be allowed on the airfield.

The Midway Fly Away 5K Run & Family Walk is part of the Special Olympics Chicago 2019 #CanDoRaceSeries. Participants can earn rewards by participating in races featuring incredible lakefront views, unique opportunity to run/walk directly on the Midway International Airport airfield, and the chance to dress up in your favorite school colors and compete for your Big Ten team. Register and donate today: <https://sochicago.org/can-do-race-series/>

The Midway Fly Away 5K Run & Family Walk is presented by the Chicago Department of Aviation at Midway International Airport, Southwest Airlines, and Special Children's Charities/Special Olympics Chicago.



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August 12th
Mental Health Monday
First Responder
Wellness Training
7pm - 8pm
10400 S Western Ave, Chicago

August 20th
Senior Tech Tuesday
10am - 12pm
10400 S Western Ave, Chicago
Call For Appointment

August 21st
Satellite Office Hours
3pm - 5pm
Palos Heights Public Library
12501 S 71st Ave, Palos Heights

August 24th
Y-Me Softball Tournament
7am - Until?
St. Christina Fields
11140 S Central Park Ave, Chicago

September 14th
Coffee and Conversations
9am - 10am
Dunkin' Donuts
6707 W 111th St, Worth

September 25th
Satellite Office Hours
3pm - 5pm
Worth Public Library
6917 W 111th St, Worth

September 26th
Hiring Event
10am - 1pm
Orland Park Civic Center
14750 S Ravinia Ave, Orland Park

For More Information visit
www.FranHurley.com or contact us
at repfranhurley@gmail.com
or call 773-445-8128.

Hurley Hosts Mental Health Mondays

State Rep. Fran Hurley, D-Chicago, is announcing plans to start a monthly series of events titled “Mental Health Mondays.” These events will take place one to two times per month and will cover a wide variety of topics using an even wider variety of event types. Hurley hopes to build on her work with mental health during this past legislative session within her community.

“Mental health awareness is a priority for me in our district,” said Hurley. “We have engaging event ideas that I believe will help inform the community about these issues in many different ways. There is a



stigma around mental health that can be dangerous to many people. I am looking forward to hosting opportunities to address that stigma directly.”

In addition to the Mental Health Monday program, Hurley will also be creating a citizens advisory committee for mental health issues. This advisory board, which will be similar to her existing Senior Advisory Committee, will meet with Hurley on a monthly basis to discuss issues relating to mental health, provide input and recommendations regarding pending and possible future legislation, assist with Mental Health Monday event planning, and

other items. Hurley is looking for energetic and enthusiastic constituents who can offer a diverse viewpoint on mental health issues and mental health awareness to join.

“It has always been important to me that my constituents play an integral role in the work I do, not just in Springfield but here in the 35th district as well,” said Hurley. “As I look to continue my work in advocating for mental health issues across our state, I hope to assemble a group of constituents who share the same commitment to promoting positive mental health as I have.”

If you, or someone you know, is interested in hearing more about the Mental Health Advisory Committee, or simply interested in hearing more about the work being done regarding mental health, please contact the district office at 773-445-8128 or via email at RepFranHurley@gmail.com.

Burke Discusses Progress Made during 2019 Legislative Session

During the Illinois General Assembly’s productive 2019 Legislative Session, State Rep. Kelly Burke, D-Evergreen Park, passed multiple pieces of legislation that will benefit local first responders and homeowners.

“Partnering with the Fraternal Order of Police, I introduced legislation that will benefit the law enforcement officers who have sacrificed their own safety to protect our families,” Burke said. “If an officer is harmed in the line of duty, he or she should be able to focus on getting better without worrying about how they’re going to pay the bills.”

“Right now, members of our police force whose disability benefits have been wrongfully terminated are forced to pay thousands of dollars for court and attorney fees to appeal that decision and receive the benefits they’re owed for putting their lives on the line. I passed a bill requiring the board responsible for denying those benefits to pay for these legal fees if it’s discovered that an officer should have continued receiving the benefits they deserve.”

Burke advocated to ensure the wellbeing of first responders by passing House Bill 2767, which requires the in-service training attended regularly by police officers to

include instructions on recognizing signs of depression in themselves or colleagues and information about the resources available to officers who are struggling with their mental health. Burke’s House Bill 2766 institutes additional supports for law enforcement officers who may be struggling with their mental health. Both bills passed the House and Senate with unanimous support.

“Police officers carry a burden, both on and off duty, that most could not imagine,” said Burke. “The stress of this incredibly demanding job is a heavy burden to bear alone. Any officer struggling with depression or thoughts of suicide should be able to access mental health resources without fear of judgement or the possibility of losing their job.”

As property taxes continue to skyrocket in Chicago and the southwest suburbs, Burke worked to find creative solutions to curb the over-

whelming bills faced by homeowners.

“I worked to pass a bipartisan, balanced budget that invests more in our local schools. This not only ensures that all of our kids receive a quality education – it’s the first step to controlling property taxes,”



Burke said. “Additionally, I will be a member of the new Property Tax Task Force; it was formed to find strategies for controlling or decreasing property taxes for homeowners throughout the state. The increase in property taxes has alarmed residents and we must find creative solutions to keep our communities affordable places to live and raise families.”

In the coming months, Burke is looking forward to input from the community and encourages local residents to reach out to her district office at (708) 425-0571 or kburke@kellyburkerep36.org with questions, concerns and ideas for future legislation.

Residents Organize Against Climate Change

The inaugural meeting of the Beverly chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) took place at the 19th Ward Office on June 23rd. Alderman Matt O’Shea welcomed the group and introduced Justin Pelczarski who spoke about the national and Chicago area Citizens Climate Lobby organizations.

Several veteran CCL volunteers

explained House Resolution 763, the Energy Innovation and Citizen Dividend Act of 2019 now with 60 congressional co-sponsors, including Congressman Dan Lipinski. When HR 763 becomes law, it will use the power of the market to reduce CO2 emissions in the US and later around the world thus reducing the seriously underestimated climate threat. It

will also provide new jobs in the renewable energy industry.

Rollin Dix, who organized the meeting, then spoke about Canada’s fee and dividend program. He noted that the Canadian province of British Columbia increased its Climate Action Tax Credit to \$135 per adult and \$40 per child. The 19 attendees wrote letters to be sent to the Illinois

Congressional Delegation asking their support of HR 763.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 13th, 7:30pm at the 19th Ward Office (10402 S. Western Ave.) For more information on the Beverly chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby, visit our website at www.cclusa.org, call (312) 448-0125 or just show up.


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Romeo and Juliet



William Shakespeare

Mar 12 - Mar 14, 2020

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Tams Witmark

Mar 20 - Mar 22, 2020

next to normal





Apr 16 - Apr 19, 2020

When it Comes to Mental Illness, Looks Can Be Deceiving.


columbinus

Stephen Karam

PJ Paparelli



May 14 - May 17, 2020



ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda



THE MUSICAL

May 28 - May 31, 2020

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

William Shakespeare


Jun 11 - Jun 14, 2020

Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind

BLACK BOX


mothers and sons

Terrence McNally



Jun 25 - Jun 28, 2020



Generations Collide When a Mother's Love Meets a Partner's Love.



DREAMWORKS

MADAGASCAR

A MUSICAL ADVENTURE JR.

Jul 24 - Jul 26, 2020



MONTY PYTHON'S

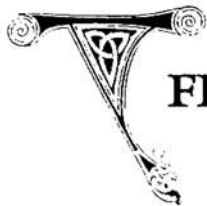
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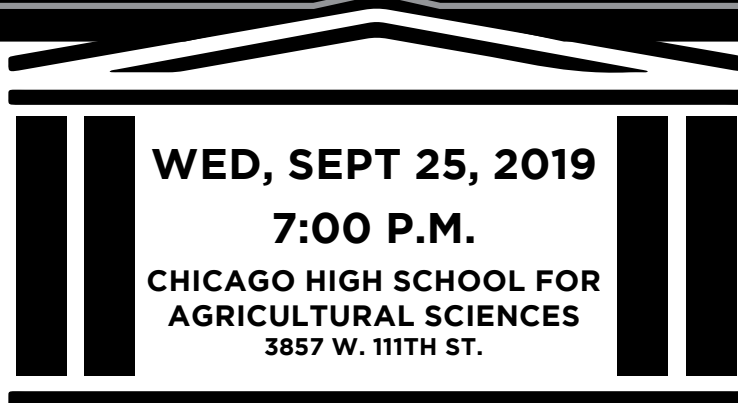
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TOWN HALL
MEETING**



WED, SEPT 25, 2019

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Please join us for a discussion of community events. Representatives from various government agencies will also be present to address any concerns or questions you may have.



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Smith Village resident celebrates life with 90th birthday bash

Smith Village resident Paul Slosar recently turned 90, but the milestone was not so much about growing older as taking the opportunity to celebrate life with Slosar's usual sense of style and panache.

Slosar loves a good time. He's known for going for the gusto and taking a positive approach, even in the most challenging situations.

Last year, Slosar convinced family members to accompany him for a helicopter ride outside of Las Vegas. During a 2016 trip to Rome, he managed to catch a glimpse of the Pope. In 2015, when his now deceased wife, Maureen, was confined to a wheelchair, he found a way to dance with her anyway at a Smith Village New Year's celebration.

"I just enjoy life," said the retired school principal. "I figure, 'Why not? You just have to make up your mind to go for it.'"

Since moving from his North Beverly home in 2007, Slosar has celebrated and hosted many parties with family and friends at Smith Village. He appreciates the life plan community's active lifestyle and considers himself "very lucky to live in a special place that makes entertaining large groups possible."

"To be alive at 90 is great! I enjoyed hearing everyone talk about

me now while I'm here. I'm so grateful," he said.

On Saturday, June 22, close to 70 people showed up Slosar's birthday bash. Slosar's two sons Eddie and Paul, Jr. as well as daughter Maureen, along with their families joined his friends including Smith Village residents and administrators, as well as Cook County Commissioner John P. Daley and his wife, Mary Lou.

"It was a wild celebration--for somebody turning 90," Slosar said with a laugh.

Slosar's son Eddie, a member of Chicago's Stockyard's band, played the bagpipes. "Just three songs, but still, it added a nice touch. Their mother was Irish."

Describing the onsite pub, which features a bar, stone wall and flat screen TVs, Slosar said, "The Oak Room provided the perfect ambience for us. It's cool looking and neat, a real plus for our community and for my family and friends who enjoy socializing over drinks and food." During his party, guests also enjoyed nearby patio seating as well as extra room in the Smith Village Community Hall.

Twelve years ago, Slosar and his wife moved from their home in North Beverly to a two-bedroom apartment at Smith Village. That ar-



Smith Village resident Paul Slosar, second from right, poses during birthday festivities with his daughter, Maggie, and sons Paul, Jr., and Eddie.

range ment suited them for almost a year until Maureen was diagnosed with primary aggressive aphasia dementia, which would rob her of speech and memory. But rather than falling apart, Slosar opted to pull together with his family. He visited her daily in Smith Village's skilled nursing care wing and always made sure she was beautifully dressed and could tour the campus for a change of scenery.

He attended monthly meetings offered at Smith Village for caregivers of adults with dementia and encouraged others facing similar circumstances to participate as well.

"These meetings were a tremendous help," he said.

Maureen passed away in 2015, but Slosar continues to reside in a smartly decorated independent living apartment.

Due to his infectious enthusiasm, Smith Village recruited him as poster boy for the senior living at its best. As a result, a larger-than-life image of Slosar appears on a banner over Western Avenue. He gets a kick out of seeing the banner each time he passes under it.

"But that's how you have to do it," Slosar said. "That's how you have to live life, enjoying all the happy moments, no matter what."

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Consequences of sudden onset of infection requires intensive physical therapy to rebuild energy, balance and independence

Mercy Circle provides short-term stay rehab, therapies for residents

Sister Helen Cahill OP recently walked out of Mercy Center, a continuing care retirement community at 3659 West 99th Street in Chicago, less than one month after arriving in a wheelchair thanks to an intensive physical therapy regime provided by its team of physical and occupational therapists.

“I came here in a wheelchair directly from the University of Chicago Medical Center, where I had been receiving antibiotics intravenously for several days to combat an infection which I had somehow contracted,” according to the certified spiritual director at The Claret Center in Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood. “Just a few weeks ago, I could not walk. I could not lift anything. I was stripped of all the energy I typically enjoy.

“Now, I feel ready to get back to work, focusing on others seeking the resources to enrich their journey through psychotherapy, spiritual direction, body therapies and other educational resources offered at our Center,” said Sister Helen.

When she found herself at home and not feeling well for a few days, Sister Helen decided it was time to seek medical assistance. As she was getting ready, her situation was compounded when Sister Helen

slipped, fell and fractured a rib. Very soon after she arrived in U of C’s Emergency Department, Sister Helen learned about her very elevated white blood cell count, a sign of a systemic infection her body was trying to fight. She was admitted to the hospital for almost one week.

“I marvel at the progress I’ve made thanks to the thoughtfully planned series of therapies I have received at Mercy Circle,” said Sister Helen, who credits two 60-minute therapy sessions six days a week for nearly three weeks to her rapid recovery. “First, I learned how to safely use a walker to get around and keep my balance. Then, with stretching and balance exercises, I strengthened my core so I could soon abandon that walker.”

“The discharge staff at the U of C Hospital recommended Mercy Circle, and I was very pleased to stay at a faith-based senior living

community. In addition to Mercy Circle’s principles and values that guide its daily operations, I appreciated how I could attend liturgy six days a week,” Sister Helen added.

“In addition to learning how to bounce back from a horrific infection, I also learned to pay closer attention to signs and symptoms that might indicate the presence of an infection,” said the Cambridge, Mass., native.



Mercy Circle physical therapist Bernadette Okrasinski OT/R helps Sister Helen Cahill regain her balance and stamina with a series of exercises. Photo Credit: Gary Middendorf

During a sabbatical in 1989 she found herself in Chicago for a re-orientation after participating in a 3-month program in Israel and Palestine sponsored by the Catholic Theological Union, also in Hyde Park. And for the past 30

years Sister Helen has called Chicago her home.

In addition to her work at The Claret Center, Sister Helen serves as a consultant to assisted living communities in California. For them, she leads team-building programs

which affirm the value and exceptional work of frontline caregivers. “I was pleased to experience such thoughtful care during my therapy sessions at Mercy Circle. The staff here made me feel like they were on my team,” concluded Sister Helen.

About Mercy Circle

Welcoming older adults from all walks of life, Mercy Circle is on the southwest side of Chicago near the Village of Evergreen Park. Opened in 2013, it is among the newest senior living communities in the top 19 in Chicago recognized by U.S. News & World Report for excellence in skilled nursing care and short-term stay rehab programs. In Chicago, there are 90 registered senior living communities with skilled nursing care.

The not-for-profit CCRC has a no-entrance-fee policy. Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest, 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 and friendship opportunities.

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

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