



State Senator Karina Villa

IL 25TH DISTRICT NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 18TH, 2021



Hello friends & neighbors,
This week is Transgender Awareness Week! During this time, we strive to uplift the voices and experiences of members of the nonbinary and transgender community. This is also a time to educate individuals and call for action. November 20th is the Transgender Day of Remembrance. This day encourages all people to come together to honor the lives lost to anti-transgender violence. I am a proud ally of this courageous community.

Grants Available for Community Projects

The Federal Economic Development Administration's Economic Adjustment Assistance program will help hundreds of communities across the nation plan, build, innovate and put people back to work through construction or non-construction projects designed to meet local needs. \$500 million is available to fund an estimated 300 projects that cost between \$500,000 and \$5 million each. There is a rolling deadline with a suggested submission date of March 31, 2022. Webinars and more information can be found [here](#).

Fona Groundbreaking

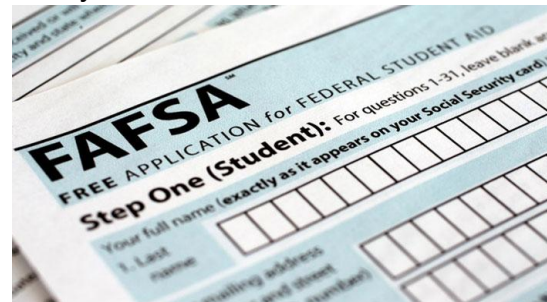
On Monday, I attended Fona's Groundbreaking in Geneva. They are in the works of expanding 15,000 square feet of manufacturing space which is an exciting journey ahead for McCormick and FONA. These two came together 1 year ago and have been busy. Fona

has been in the flavor industry for 130 years with more than 14,000 ingredients. They believe that growth creates value for their employees, customers, community and their global business.



FAFSA Applications

Applications are now open for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Anyone considering post-secondary education for the 2022-2023 school year should file their FAFSA as soon as possible for greater opportunities to qualify for federal, state and institutional aid. Visit [here](#) or the myStudentAid mobile app to start your FAFSA form.



Menstrual Product Drive

We are hosting a Menstrual Product Drive in partnership with Representative Hirschauer and Go With the Flow! We will be collecting menstrual hygiene products from November 1st until November 28th. For more information regarding drop off locations, click [here](#).

National Apprenticeship Week

Apprenticeship Illinois is celebrating Apprenticeship Week 2021 by hosting a range of events, in-person and virtually, and amplifying local and regional celebrations of apprenticeships. This week provides apprenticeship sponsors the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities, and apprentices in their community. It provides those curious about apprenticeships a way to learn about the benefits that come from learning and earning. You can learn more [here](#)!

Illinois Rental Assistance

Vulnerable renters and landlords have already received \$505 million of emergency rental assistance, as Illinois leads the nation in distributing this federal funding faster than any other state to help more than 57,000 households. The Illinois Housing Development Authority will open a new round of assistance Dec. 6, and the Illinois Department of Human Services is currently accepting applications for rental assistance. Struggling households can find resources [here](#).



Snow Pants & Snow Boot Drive

Our office is partnering with DuPage County Board Member Sheila Rutledge to collect Snow Pants and Snow Boots from November 2nd to December 2nd for WeGo Together for Kids. We will be accepting snow boots and snow pants at our office, Daniel & Associates, and the Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce.

Thanksgiving

Happy Thanksgiving! As this holiday approaches, we have the opportunity to gather and spend time with friends and family. I'm so grateful to have a wonderful network of loved ones to cherish! I also give thanks for the wonderful constituents in my district and my ability to serve them.

What's Next?

Our office partners with State Representative Maura Hirschauer and co-runs four advisory committees: Environmental and Agriculture, Mental Health, Seniors, and Education. These committees are a limited public forum led by volunteer chairs and seek to create compassionate conversation among the voices of the 25th/49th districts in order to help build our legislative agenda and grow our knowledge in these areas.

On November 16th at 6pm our office will be co-hosting our Mental Health Advisory Committee. To join via Zoom email mentalhealth.49th@gmail.com

My staff and I look forward to hearing from you. I encourage you to reach out to us at 630-326-9319 (English), 630-326-9419 (Spanish) or constituentservices@senatorvilla.com.

Be well!

Karina Villa, MSW
State Senator, 25th District