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IL 25TH DISTRICT NEWSLETTER: MARCH 3RD, 2022

Dear Friend,

It is hard to believe that we are starting the month of March! Spring is fast approaching and I'm looking forward to seeing more sunshine. March is Women's History Month and National Social Work Month. I am excited to dedicate this month to celebrating the social work profession and acknowledging all the great achievements that women have contributed to our society.

### **Women's History Month**

Join the DuPage County Historical Museum and Confident and Courageous on Sunday March 6th at 1pm to celebrate Women's History and Black History months by honoring Black women who have been trailblazers in DuPage County. These strong women were essential parts of their communities, serving with honor, humility, and reverence for the greater good. Meet these women, past and present, by learning their stories, struggles and triumphs to create lasting change in DuPage County. You can register for the free event here or call 630-510-4941

#### Reminder: Tax Filing

With COVID-19 infections on the rise, the IRS is warning families to file their taxes as soon as they can to avoid return delays. The 2022 tax filing season began Jan. 24, which is 17 days earlier than last year. To avoid processing delays, file online. File your taxes for free with one of the IRS Free File options before Monday, April 18. Find the best options here.

## Northern Illinois Food Bank Volunteering Event

The Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva is hosting a volunteering event on April 9th from 9am to 12pm where you'll have an opportunity to support your community by helping in packaging food for families in need and get to connect further with fellow community members. Sign up with your colleagues, friends, neighbors or by yourself as a



way of getting involved. You can Register now using the link, and see the power that volunteering provides in supporting and connecting with your community.

### **Reminder for Motorists to Renew Online**

The secretary of state's office continues to remind the public to conduct transactions, such as license plate stickers and renewing driver's licenses and ID cards online instead of visiting a driver services facility. Visit <a href="https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com">www.cyberdriveillinois.com</a> for more information.



### Illinois Treasurer's Charitable Trust Grant

This is a grant opportunity for non-profits working on Food Programs, Housing Programs, and Workforce and Economic Development. Eligible nonprofits have to have an operating budget of less than \$1 million. Applications close on March 31, 2022. Click here for more information.

#### **HVAC Training Course for Teenagers**

TEC Training in North Aurora is offering a hands-on HVAC Course for teenagers on March 30th from 8am to 3pm. Class size is limited to 10 students due to the hands-on nature. Much of the time will be spent in their live-fire lab. Lunch is provided. You can find more information and register here.

# West Chicago Community High School Girls Wrestling Champion

Congratulations to West Chicago student Jayden Huesca Rodriguez (far left) on being a Girls

Wrestling champion! These young girls are making history as the first-ever class of IHSA Girls Wrestling Champions!



#### Infant Formula Recall

The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) is advising that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers not to use certain powdered infant formulas made at Abbott Nutrition's Sturgis, Michigan, facility amid an investigation into four infant illnesses. All four cases related to these complaints were hospitalized and Cronobacter may have contributed to a death in one case.

Parents and caregivers should discard Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare powdered infant formulas if:

- the first two digits of the code are 22 through 37;
  and
- the code on the container contains K8, SH or Z2;
  and
- the expiration date is 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later.

To find out if the product you have is included in this recall, visit similacrecall.com and type in the code on the bottom of the package, or call +1-800-986-8540 (U.S.) and follow the instructions provided. No action is needed for previously consumed products.

# Illinois Emergency Homeowner Assistance Fund

Illinois has received approval on its Illinois Homeowner Assistance Fund (ILHAF) program to provide assistance to homeowners who have struggled to pay their mortgage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting in April 2022, the state will start accepting applications from homeowners for grants of up to \$30,000 to help

eliminate or reduce past-due mortgage and property tax payments. Click <u>here</u> for more information on how to apply.

#### 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. Our senior advisory committee will meet on March 11th at 10am, email: <a href="mailto:seniors.25th@gmail.com">seniors.25th@gmail.com</a> to receive the zoom link and agenda.

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 and stay warm!

Karina Villa, MSW State Senator, 25th District