



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[20-2794](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), DENNIS DEER, DEBORAH SIMS, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOHN P. DALEY, LARRY SUFFREDIN, PETER N. SILVESTRI, SEAN M. MORRISON, BRIDGET GAINER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SCOTT R. BRITTON, LUIS ARROYO JR, ALMA E. ANAYA and FRANK J. AGUILAR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH, ALSO KNOWN AS EMANCIPATION DAY

WHEREAS, for over 150 years, Juneteenth, also known as “Emancipation Day,” and “Freedom Day,” continues to be the most recognized and the oldest African American holiday observed in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on September 22nd, 1862, amid the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, which declared that as of January 1, 1863, slaves in the Confederate states, “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free;” and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation laid the groundwork for the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which abolished slavery throughout the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, two and half years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No 3, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were free; and

WHEREAS, African Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19th, commonly known as “Juneteenth Independence Day” as the anniversary of their emancipation; and

WHEREAS, African Americans from the Southwest continued the tradition of celebrating Juneteenth Independence Day as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

WHEREAS, for more than 150 years, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor and commemorate African American freedom throughout the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Board, along with the Cook County Board of Commissioners, recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the Nation; supports the continued celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of Cook County to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped our great Country; and hereby commemorate the day of June 19th as Juneteenth Independence Day in Cook County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be spread upon the official proceeding of this Honorable Body to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

[20-2879](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MARY J. TADIN, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Mary J. Tadin from our midst, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the loving and adored wife of the late Anthony, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the loving mother of Michael (Lee), George, Debbie (the late Mile) Kodzoman, Cheryl (Anna) Tadin, Thomas (Deborah) Tadin, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the proud Baba of Michael Jr., Bianca, Carolyn, Leigh, Anthony, Chelsea, Christina, and Catherine, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the the proud Great Baba of Jack, Michael, Charlie, Miles, Nicholas, Avery, Marco, Leo, and Enzo

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the beloved daughter of the late Antonio and Antonia Bertucci, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was the dear sister of four Bertucci brothers (1917-1920), and the late Frank “Kosh”, Rose, Theresa, Charles “Chap”, Catherine “Bobbie”, Anthony “Minnie”, Ann “Auntie Ann”, Dominic “Mick-Bert”, Helen “Pelnash”, James “JJ”, and Antoinette “Cutie”, and

WHEREAS, Mary J. Tadin was a fond aunt of many nieces and nephews, and

WHEREAS, all who knew her will attest that Mary J. Tadin was a kind and compassionate woman, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her family, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and many friends of Mary J. Tadin, and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of same be tendered to the family of Mary J. Tadin that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[20-2884](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET DEGNEN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF TOM FENCL, OWNER OF THE DAVIS THEATER

WHEREAS on April 5, 2020 Tom passed away after battling lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, Tom Fencl, 54, was a lifelong Chicagoan who attended John F. Kennedy High School and attended both Northern Illinois University and DePaul University; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Tom bought the Davis Theater at 4614 N Lincoln Ave, saving it from demolition. The theater was built in 1918 after World War I and was originally named the Pershing Theater. In 1930 it was renamed the Davis Theater; and

WHEREAS in 2016, Tom began construction on the Davis Theater, bringing the theater back to its original Art Deco glory. The \$4 million renovation included a state-of-the-art sound system, and the addition of a restaurant, Carbon Arc; and

WHEREAS Tom's renovations earned recognition in 2018, when it was awarded the Landmarks Illinois Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Award for Rehabilitation, 100 years after its original opening; and

WHEREAS the Davis Theater continues to serve as a theater, as well as a community hub where people gather for community events, fundraisers, and townhalls; and

WHEREAS the Davis Theater is a historical landmark in Lincoln Square and the longest continually run theater in Chicago; and

WHEREAS Tom was also an accomplished real estate broker and developer who often worked with the North Center Chamber of Commerce, Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce, and the Ravenswood Community Council. He was also Chairman of the popular North Center Ribfest Committee; and

WHEREAS Tom played a crucial part to the history of the iconic theater and Chicago, and will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and community. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Mary Fencl, and his children Emma, Grace, Lillian and Dennis.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby offer its deepest condolences to the family of Tom Fencl, and celebrate and honor the life and contributions of this outstanding Cook County resident; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of Tom Fencl, as well as the Davis Theater.

[20-2889](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET GAINER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF ILLINOIS FOR PROMOTING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois (LGBTCC) promote economic opportunities for the LGBT community be being an advocate and resource for all member businesses that encourage equality; and,

WHEREAS, in 1995, Tracy Baim of Lambda Publications and Kevin Boyer of Communications Management, Inc founded and launched the Chicago Area Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce; and,

WHEREAS, today LGBTCC serves over 300 members that employ over 2,000 people in the Chicago area, with gross revenues that exceed \$200 million; and,

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, LGBTCC continues to provide support and information to businesses through information on available funds, virtual workshops and health resources; and,

WHEREAS, June marks LGBTQ+ Pride Month and LGBTCC supports LGBT events and celebrations through the Chicago area, year-round, including the Pride Parade; and,

WHEREAS, LGBTCC continues to heighten awareness of LGBT issues and successes, creating an increasingly positive public image that gains respect for LGBT businesses and consumers; and,

WHEREAS, LGBTCC strengthens the community-at-large with educational projects and neighborhood initiatives that benefit everyone; and,

WHEREAS, LGBTCC functions as a support system that empowers the LGBT community, both socially and economically.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners and residents

of Cook County honor LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois for promoting economic opportunities for the LGBT community.

[20-2836](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING JUNE AS GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June as the sixth National Gun Violence Awareness Day, to help honor Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager from Chicago who was shot and killed weeks after marching in the presidential inaugural parade in 2013, as well as all other gun violence victims and survivors commemorating this day by wearing orange; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries, and more than 100 are killed by gun violence daily on average with more than 13,000-gun homicides each year and 100,000 Americans are shot and injured each year; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the most recent year for which complete data is available, 39,773 people died from gun-related injuries in the U.S., according to the CDC. This figure includes gun murders and gun suicides, along with three other, less common types of gun-related deaths tracked by the CDC: those that were unintentional, involved law enforcement or whose circumstances could not be determined; and

WHEREAS, suicides have long accounted for the majority of U.S. gun deaths. In 2017, six-in-ten gun-related deaths in the U.S. were suicides (23,854), while 37% were murders (14,542), according to the CDC; and

WHEREAS, in Illinois, more people are killed by guns than by cars. In 2014, 924 people were killed in car crashes, and more than 1,167 people were killed by firearms in Illinois, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation and CDC respectively; and

WHEREAS, on a per capita basis, there were 12-gun deaths per 100,000 people in 2017 - the highest rate in more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, according to the Cook County Medical Examiner Statistics there were 582 victims of gun homicides in Cook County in 2019, 114 of which took place in suburban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association (AMA) has long advocated against the culture of violence in America, and advocates to find workable solutions to reduce gun violence and the culture of

violence in America; and

WHEREAS, the AMA considers the epidemic of gun violence to be a public health issue, and while gun violence claims the lives of so many Americans daily, there has been virtually no publicly funded research on it for almost 20 years because Congress has effectively imposed a ban on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding for conducting research on gun violence and how to prevent it even extending the research ban to the National Institutes of Health (NIH); and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Cook County Health's Stroger Hospital cared for more than 1,100 patients with gunshot wounds, and spends an average of \$30,000-50,000 to treat a patient who has been the victim of gun violence, amounting to an annual expenditure of between \$30- 40 million, which only accounts for the cost of the initial hospital treatment, not the extensive outpatient or rehabilitation many patients require; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is a symptom of complex socioeconomic disparities that disproportionately impact disenfranchised communities, and although there is no single solution to the problem of gun violence, it is clear that any public health response to violence must include approaches that understand the role trauma plays in shaping behavior and promote opportunities for addressing and healing from trauma in addition to other factors such as educational and economic opportunities, as well as federal gun laws; and

WHEREAS, youth violence and trauma are inextricably linked, with at-risk youth reported exposure of an average of 10 different types of traumatic stress, mostly chronic, beginning on average at age 6, and exposure to ongoing violence shapes a person's personality and developmental capacities, including their ability to regulate emotions and to read safety and danger cues; and

WHEREAS, youth injured by violence are among those most at risk for future violence and injury, which is why it is important that support is provided to address the psychological trauma that can drive this cycle of violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge National Gun Violence Awareness Day, which took place on June 5, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the month of June be hereby declared Gun Violence Awareness Month in the County of Cook; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body in recognition of Gun Violence Awareness Month.

[20-2900](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE AS NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of June recognizes, that despite advances in medical technology and research, men in Cook County and across the nation continue to live on average five years less than women; with African-American and Native American men having the lowest life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is home to 2.5 million men that represent rich and diverse backgrounds who have made significant contributions to both the region and the nation as a whole. It is imperative that all men who live in our area are educated about the value of preventive health, participate in health screenings, and model healthy choices for their families; and

WHEREAS, fathers who maintain a healthy lifestyle serve as role models for their children and have happier, healthier children, and families as a result; and

WHEREAS, the Men's Health Network worked with Congress to develop a national men's health awareness campaign in order to educate men, boys, and their families about the importance of positive health attitudes and preventive health practices; and

WHEREAS, National Men's Health Month encourages men to adopt healthier lifestyles and promote screening and testing for a range of health issues, including heart disease, diabetes, mental health, and prostate, testicular, and colon cancer; and

WHEREAS, increasing the awareness of a healthy lifestyle, maintain consistent physical exercise, and regular medical checkups can reduce the rate of mortality amongst all men in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the spread of the virus has severely impacted communities of color across Chicago and Cook County. African-American and Latino communities have tested positive and died from COVID-19 than any other ethnic group. It is critical that an emphasis on the health of African-American and Latino men are addressed during this time to slow the spread of this virus within these populations; and

WHEREAS, now, more than ever, campaigns such as National Men's Health Month is vital to ensure that all men in Cook County take care of their physical, mental, and emotional health in these challenging and evolving economic, health, and societal times; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County does hereby declare June as Men's Health Month in

Cook County and encourages all male residents to pursue preventive health practices and early detection efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body in recognition as National Men's Health Month in Cook County.

[20-2905](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF KENNETH E. HOLMES

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes was called home to be with the Lord on June 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes was born in Melbourne, Florida, to Amos and Bertha Holmes, on December 11, 1947; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes attended Brevard Junior College where he earned his A.A. Degree. He went on to earn his B.A. in History, with a minor in Sociology and Education, from Florida State University. While attending Florida State University, Kenneth was initiated as a member of the Chi Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, after completing his college degree, Kenneth E. Holmes enlisted in the Army where he served in Munich, Germany from 1971-1973; and

WHEREAS, upon completing his military duty, Kenneth E. Holmes started his career in public service in 1973 as an Employment Interviewer and Veterans Specialist with the Florida Department of Commerce-now known as the Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security. His hard work and dedicated service would lead to a transfer to the Division of Unemployment Compensation where he earned promotions as Office Manager, Area Administrator, and Chief of Staff of the Bureau of Claims and Benefits; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes' deep knowledge and expertise in unemployment compensation and labor matters elevated him to become Assistant Director where he served as the Acting Director of the Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security. Two years later, he would be appointed as the Director of the Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security (FDLES); and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Kenneth E. Holmes, FDLES received numerous awards including the Davis Productivity Award/Exemplary Agency (1993); Sterling Quality Achievement Award for Leadership and Team Based Approach (1996); Sterling Quality Achievement Award for Strategic Planning (1997); Governor's Sterling Award (1998); and Tallahassee Democrat Volunteer of the Year Award/Business Category, (1998). Kenneth E. Holmes would be recognized for his excellent public

service through the Secretary of Labor Leadership Award, Bronze Leaf Superior Accomplishment Award; and

WHEREAS, prior to his 35-year retirement as a public servant, Kenneth E. Holmes served as the Relationship Manager in the Division of Internship & Career Development Programs in Florida A&M's School of Business and Industry. He retired in 2006 and became an avid bowler where he won numerous local and regional tournaments; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes an active member of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church where he served as Chairman of the Deacon's Board and the Board of Trustees. He also served in numerous leadership roles including a mentor and tutor to students at Nims and Leonard Wesson, the first African-American Board Member of the Florida Commerce Credit Union Board of Directors, and a Board member of the Tallahassee United States Bowling Congress; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth E. Holmes greatest joy was spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Von Cole Holmes, his daughters, former 7th Ward Alderman Natasha Lynnette Holmes and Adrienne R. Holmes, his brother Ronald L. Holmes, his sister R. Marie France (Edward), Cecil L. Bell, and a host of nieces and nephews; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County does hereby honor and celebrate the life of Kenneth E. Holmes and his many contributions bettering the lives of all residents in Melbourne, Florida; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of Kenneth E. Holmes.

[20-2846](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING HITESH GANDHI

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Hitesh Gandhi works in healthcare at Loretto Hospital; and

WHEREAS, he is active in the current fight against COVID-19 and is doing brave work on the frontlines of this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gandhi is part of Loretto Hospital’s Task Force Team Against Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, his work against coronavirus included helping to train over 800 employees on how to combat the virus and stay safe; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gandhi’s work also included acquiring PPE and food for employees at the hospital; and

WHEREAS, he has served in many leadership capacities with the non-profit organization, Gandhi Samaj of Chicago, including currently serving as President; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gandhi joined FIA (Federation of Indian Associations) in 2013 and is currently serving as executive Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Cook County’s strength is in its diverse leaders helping their communities and that is evident with Mr. Gandhi; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Mr. Hitesh Gandhi for the outstanding work he does in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Hitesh Gandhi.

[20-2847](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING SUNIL SHAH

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shah a graduate of Mumbai University and a successful business entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, he came to United States in June 1990; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sunil Shah, Registered Representative NYLIFE Securities LLC and Financial Services Professional, completed 24 successful years with New York Life Insurance Company from the Greater Chicago General Office; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shah is the Founder and President of Federation of Indian Associations, Chicago, Lifetime member and Ambassador, Asian American Hotel Owners Association and also proud member of Schaumburg Business Association; and

WHEREAS, he is also a life and qualifying member of Million Dollar Round Table. He has received several times the National Quality Award, National Sales Achievement Award, and Life Star Award; and

WHEREAS, he has served as a board director with New York Life Insurance Company in Downers Grove, IL; and

WHEREAS, he is also a Lifetime member of the Jain Society of Metropolitan Chicago, Gujarati Samaj of Chicago and Gujarati Cultural Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shah has been a resident in Schaumburg, IL and the 15th Distric for the last 20 years with his wife Rita Shah and two sons Sahaj and Swapnil; and

WHEREAS, Cook County’s strength is in its diverse leaders helping their communities and that is evident with Mr. Shah and his dedication to helping his community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Mr. Sunil Shah for the outstanding work she does in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Sunil Shah.

[20-2848](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING MR. NEIL KHOT

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Neil Khot has contributed greatly both professionally and personally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Khot is the founder and CEO of Rely Services, Inc, a global Information Technology and business process outsourcing (BPO) company; and

WHEREAS, he has over 250 employees worldwide, headquartered in Schaumburg, IL, with multiple locations including India, UAE, and Australia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Khot is the currently elected as President of Woodfield Office Condominium Association; and

WHEREAS, he serves as the President of Federation of Indian Associations, Chicago, a non-profit based in Northwest Suburbs; and

WHEREAS, he is an active member of the Village of Schaumburg Committee Sister-City Exchange, Prairie Arts Center, Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce, Hoffman Estates Economic Development Committee and Emerging Technology Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Khot worked together with St. Rep. Fred Crespo, of the 44th district, to create awareness and help draft legislation for House Bill 3368, which gives preference to local Illinois business in securing Illinois State Work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Khot is a passionate entrepreneur, an avid traveler, and likes to play golf. He resides in the northwestern suburbs of Chicago with his wife Annu, who serves as VP of Finance, and son Aryan; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's strength is in its diverse leaders helping their communities and that is evident with Mr. Neil Khot; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Mr. Neil Khot for the outstanding work he does in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Neil Khot.

[20-2850](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING DR. ANUJA GUPTA

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anuja Gupta a physician and real estate developer based in Chicago, IL; and

WHEREAS, after practicing as a Cardiologist in Chicago for 10 years she recently switched to pursue a fulltime career in real estate development; and

WHEREAS, she currently serves as the Managing Partner of Verandah Retirement Community, a \$43 Million senior living facility in Schaumburg township, in the 15th District, designed to uniquely serve both Indian and American lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gupta was the recipient of the Cook County Asian Leadership Award 2019 & 2018, and The Daily Herald Influential Women in Business Award 2018; and

WHEREAS, she is the cofounder of the Women's Empowerment Campaign Chicago (WE), a networking and empowerment platform for Indian & Southeast Asian women entrepreneurs in the Chicagoland; and

WHEREAS, she is also the cofounder of the Voice of Indian-American Voters (VIA) a non-partisan platform for civic engagement. Her other notable accomplishment includes being a board member of the ISKCON temple; and

WHEREAS, she attributes her professional accomplishments to grit & tenacity that help her overcome successively bigger obstacles. Her personal motto is to keep challenging herself to be more impactful; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gupta is married to Dr. Gaurav Kapoor and has one daughter; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's strength is in its diverse leaders helping their communities and that is evident with Dr. Gupta; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Dr. Anuja Gupta for the outstanding work she does in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Dr. Anuja Gupta.

[20-2851](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF LARRY KRAMER

WHEREAS, Larry Kramer passed away on May 27, 2020 at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, Larry Kramer was one of the first and most vocal activists against government apathy during the AIDS crisis of the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Kramer and several friends started the Gay Men's Health Crisis to help provide

services to those who were sick early on in the AIDS crisis that were not able to get help anywhere else; and

WHEREAS, the GMHC provided, for many years, the most amount of support for those dying from AIDS as the government and medical community ignored or shunned those people; and

WHEREAS, he was also an accomplished screenwriter, playwright, and novelist; and

WHEREAS, Kramer wrote the play, *The Normal Heart*, inspired by his own experience in the fight against AIDS, starting GMHC, and his frustration with his own organization for not doing enough. The play's legacy is still felt today as a seminal piece of LGBTQ art; and

WHEREAS, upon being ousted from GMHC for his confrontational style, Kramer helped found ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), a direct action protest organization; and

WHEREAS, ACT UP focused on large scale civil disobedience with a focus on government agencies and corporations who Kramer explained were largely ignoring the AIDS crisis and were letting LGBTQ Americans die; and

WHEREAS, Kramer's activism to fight on behalf of LGBTQ people continued until his death; and

WHEREAS, Larry Kramer gave voice to the anger and despair of so many LGBTQ people during a time when they felt ignored, unheard, and left to die; and

WHEREAS, Kramer's legacy of activism and direct action is an inspiration; and

WHEREAS, Larry Kramer's fearlessness and persistence in fighting the powers that tried to ignore him, saved thousands of lives by making sure the U.S. government paid attention to those dying from AIDS; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Larry Kramer for his endless contributions to the fight for LGBTQ rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be sent to ACT UP NY to be able to offer our condolences to a group Larry Kramer founded and loved.

[20-2852](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING RAMADAN FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR VIATOR HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY AND BETHANY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

WHEREAS, Viator House of Hospitality and Bethany House of Hospitality are two organizations that provide housing and support services to young immigrant men and women that seek asylum in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the missions of these organizations are to provide unaccompanied young men and women with an alternative to detention centers. In creating a supportive living environment, they provide the means necessary for these young people to attend school, improve language skills, grow spiritually and emotionally, receive medical attention, and work while they await court proceedings; and

WHEREAS, between 2014 and 2017 over 200,000 unaccompanied children from countries including Bangladesh, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Guatemala, Venezuela, and Syria entered the United States; and

WHEREAS, services helping these communities are vitally important in the 15th District and across Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the last two years, in the last two years, Muslims from the northwest suburbs and those from across the Chicagoland area along with their neighbors of others faiths have dedicated their fundraising efforts to help these important organizations during Ramadan, a month of fasting, reflection, and giving; and

WHEREAS, last year a group of 150 donors raised close to \$40,000 for Viator House of Hospitality and Bethany House of Hospitality, two safehouses for young immigrants seeking asylum; and

WHEREAS, this year the group came together calling this effort, Your Support Matters to Unaccompanied Young Men, Women, and Kids; and

WHEREAS, over a dozen Islamic and interfaith organizations and about 200 Muslims and their friends from diverse religious and secular backgrounds came together to raise close to \$85,000 during the 2020 Ramadan month's fundraiser; and

WHEREAS, the organizers stated that with the global COVID pandemic, not only are our migrant youth being impacted here in the U.S., but they are also concerned about their families back home in developing countries, where many live in poverty and health care systems are fragile; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals have been leaders in this tremendous effort: Anisha Ismail Patel, who has spearheaded this effort since 2019, Farah Abid, of South Barrington, IL, Farah Noor Cheema, of Oak Brook, IL, Ikbal Koseli, of Arlington Heights, IL, Liz Shrenk, of Arlington Heights, IL, Naazish YarKhan, of Glendale Heights, IL, Nikita Desai, of South Barrington, IL, Rasha Ali, of Des Plaines, IL, Sameena Shamsuddin, of Inverness, IL, Samira Qureshi, of Vernon Hills, IL, Sara Ahmed, of South Barrington, IL; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's strength is in its diverse leaders helping their communities and welcoming new neighbors and this effort shows the very best in our community; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor these individuals who participated in the Ramadan fundraiser to benefit the impactful work of Bethany House and Viator House of Hospitality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the beneficiary organizations and individuals involved.

[20-2841](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF HECKY POWELL

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2020, the City of Evanston lost a friend, activist, role model, father figure and mentor to many young people, philanthropist, restaurateur and unofficial "mayor" in Hecky Powell. Hecky never wanted to be called "Mr. Powell," as he reserved that designation for his father, Forrest Powell; and

WHEREAS, Harry William Powell was born on November 6, 1948 at the then-Cook County Hospital in Chicago (now John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital). His mother Verna (Jenkins) Powell, a New Orleans native of Creole descent, was forced to deliver at Cook County because there was no room at the Community Hospital of Evanston, the only hospital in Evanston at that time that accepted black patients; and

WHEREAS, Hecky, one of nine siblings, inherited his name from his uncle. He had a wild streak as a teenager, which served him well in his later work as he mentored young people with similar tendencies. He earned a college degree at the University Without Walls, a nontraditional degree program at Northeastern Illinois, while working as a community organizer and social worker. He became the Executive Director at Neighbors at Work and created the Forrest E. Powell Foundation in 1994, a

work-skills program for those without a college degree. He served as president of the Evanston branch of the N.A.A.C.P. He also served on the Evanston/Skokie District 65 School Board from 2001-2005, including a short stint as president of the Board. More recently Hecky was a member of the City of Evanston's Economic Development Committee and the Mayor's Employer Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Hecky met his wife, Cheryl Judice, a sociologist, while working together on community initiatives. In 1983, when the restaurant next to Hecky's office came on the market, they bought it. Though neither knew anything about running a restaurant, his mother Verna did. She and Forrest dove into the business offering a full barbecue menu for takeout, delivery, and catering. Thus, "Hecky's", a beloved local institution, was born; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Pang, a food writer in Chicago, wrote that by having a restaurant in Evanston, Hecky introduced the wider world to South-side style barbecue, prepared in an aquarium smoker and slathered in sauce. From that restaurant, he served such notables as William "the Fridge" Perry, a Chicago Bears lineman; the Chicago Bulls, catering the team's private plane at All-Star forward Scottie Pippin's request; the Chicago Bears and Northwestern Wildcats, the entire Pasadena (CA) City Council following a lost Rose Bowl bet; and so many others in the community from high school students looking for help and Northwestern students who could not go home for Thanksgiving. He was the mainstay at Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's summer barbecue; and

WHEREAS, Hecky always attributed the success of his enterprise to the sauce. "It's the sauce," became the restaurant's motto. Both the sauce and his spice packs, which now have nationwide distribution, were inspired by his mother's Creole heritage and recipes. His ribs were prepared by first applying a dry rub, followed by 24-48 hours of grilling in the smoker, and finally slathered with his special sauce. In addition to providing excellent food, Hecky's also provided the first job to many young people in Evanston and supported many local youth sports teams; and

WHEREAS, never afraid to speak his mind, Hecky caused a dust-up when as a member of the District 65 School Board he questioned a survey that categorized biracial students as either black or white. "In American, we're all mutts," he said. "I'm a mutt." After weeks of political backlash, he added a Mutt Special to his menu (a combo platter of fried chicken, rib tips, and hot links). Hecky explained the name as an acronym for "Me Uttering the Truth." Hecky felt vindicated later when, in 2008, President-elect Obama declared himself a "mutt", too; and

WHEREAS, in a statement prepared by the Powell family, they wrote, "The outside world knew Hecky as a successful business owner and philanthropist in the Evanston community. However, we knew him best as the most generous and greatest father, husband, brother, son, cousin, friend and mentor anyone could ask for. We are so lucky and grateful to have had him in our lives and being the bedrock of our family.;" and

WHEREAS, Hecky is survived by his wife Cheryl; his mother Verna; his children Sharmin, Terry, Dawn, Joy, Hecky Jr., Jason, and Gigi, as well as seven siblings; and

WHEREAS, the community celebrated Hecky with a parade of cars driving slowing past his home, saluting Ms. Judice with their horns as she sat in front of their brick home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the life and contributions of **HECKY POWELL**, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of **HECKY POWELL**.

[20-2860](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HONORABLE BURTON “BURT” NATARUS

WHEREAS, the Honorable Burton “Burt” Natarus, Alderman of Chicago’s 42nd Ward for 36 years, died on June 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Natarus was born and raised in Wausau, Wisconsin, where his mother and father operated a dry goods store with a lunch counter. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of Wisconsin before studying government at Harvard. He also served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserves; and

WHEREAS, Natarus settled on the Near North Side in 1960 and started his life-long love and admiration for those who lived there.

WHEREAS, Burt Natarus taught government classes at Loyola University before embarking on his City Council career in 1971 with the first of nine consecutive winning elections; and

WHEREAS, Ald. Natarus supported Mayor Harold Washington, one of only a handful of white aldermen to do so, when Washington was elected the city’s first African American mayor in 1983. Natarus played a key role in helping to elect Alderman Eugene Sawyer as the acting Mayor during the marathon City Council meeting that followed Washington’s death; and

WHEREAS, Ald. Natarus was Chairman of the Traffic and Safety Committee. He also served on six

other committees: Finance; Zoning; Rules and Ethics; License and Consumer Protection; Budget and Government Operations; and Housing and Real Estate. In addition, he was a member of the Chicago Plan Commission, the Central Area Planning Task Force, the Regional Transportation Task Force and the Zoning Reform Commission.

WHEREAS, Ald. Natarus was the self-proclaimed “janitor” of the downtown 42nd Ward and known for a series of quirky quality-of-life crusades waged over his tenure. He tackled everything from loud motorcycles, street musicians and blaring car radios to valet parking and tacky store advertising on North Michigan Avenue; and

WHEREAS, an avid outdoorsman, Natarus enjoyed taking his son on childhood trips rafting down rivers in the western United States; and

WHEREAS, Natarus is survived by his son, Michael; daughter, Jill; and grandchildren Jacob and Jenna.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the life and contributions of **THE HONORABLE BURTON “BURT” NATARUS** and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of **THE HONORABLE BURTON “BURT” NATARUS**.

[20-2866](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MOHAMMAD RIAD HUSSAIN ISMAT

WHEREAS, Riad Ismat, former Syrian Minister of Culture, succumbed to Covid-19 on May13, 2020. Riad was a playwright, cultural critic, Shakespearean scholar, director and ultimately minister of culture. He was a figure not unlike the late Vaclav Havel, playwright and former president of the Czech Republic. His death set off an outpouring of grief among Syrian exiles and diplomats, as well as academics and students at a variety of educational institutions including Northwestern University, Columbia College, and North Central College in Naperville; and

WHEREAS, born in Damascus, Syria, Riad earned his degree in English literature at Damascus

University. He then earned a postgraduate diploma in theater directing at Dardiff University, U.K. and subsequently received a certificate in television production and direction from the BBC. From 2013-2014, he served as a visiting professor at Northwestern University's Buffet Center for International and Comparative Studies. From 2014-2015, he was a scholar-in-residence at the North Central College in Naperville, where he taught playwright, acting and directing as well as lectured on Syrian and Arabic literature and drama; and

WHEREAS, Riad came to Evanston as part of *Scholars at Risk*, an international group dedicated to human rights and academic freedoms, known for finding homes for people speaking out against oppression. As Syria became embroiled in conflict Riad found himself trying to stake out a humanist position distinct from both warring sides. Although he supported the people's movement, he stood firm against terrorism. He took positions against Bashar al-Assad's authoritarian actions and against the so-called military/security solution, which used force instead of engaging in a political dialogue in response to the demands of demonstrators for tangible and quick reform; and

WHEREAS, Riad was prolific - he penned 35 books and directed more than a dozen major theatrical productions, all while (once) running Syria's state radio and television, serving as Syrian ambassador to Pakistan and Qatar, and then serving as its Minister of Culture, a powerful position close to a president with whom he parted ways; and

WHEREAS, Riad refused to call himself a politician, preferring to be known as a dramatist who wrote about politics. He believed that culture exists to unify a nation, not to divide it. During his tenure as minister, he emphasized the role culture should play in promoting values of tolerance, diversity, pluralism, democracy, and freedom of expression. He observed that many of the artists and writers he met in the opposition believe in secularism, reform and democracy, not in terrorism and dismantling the state; and

WHEREAS, cognizant of Syria's illustrious past, Riad saw a crucial role for the arts in the future of a free Syria. His own writings incorporated a thriving cultural scene in Damascus populated by daring artists with their ear to the concerns on the street. "Riad understood the power of connecting people through art and culture," wrote Jamil Khoury, the founding artistic director of Silk Road Rising in Chicago and a fellow Syrian emigre; and

WHEREAS, Sami, Riad's son, said that his father had come to love living in Evanston, giving talks on "Shakespeare and the Middle East" at the Evanston Public Library, or comparing acting to diplomacy for small groups in Naperville, all while leading the life of a quiet but persistent scholar. Shortly before he died, Riad received word that his son, Karim, had been received into the doctoral program in neurobiology at Boston University. Meanwhile, Sami, graduated with a master's degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, following in his father's footsteps; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his sons, Riad is survived by his wife, Azzah.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County honors the life and contributions of the

MOHAMMAD RIAD HUSSAIN ISMAT, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of the **MOHAMMAD RIAD HUSSAIN ISMAT**.

[20-2871](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARIA WHELAN

WHEREAS, Maria Whelan, one of Illinois' most impactful and effective advocates of early childhood education died suddenly on June 11, 2020. She was the longtime President and CEO of Illinois Action for Children, after working at The Carole Robertson Center for Learning and Erie Neighborhood House; and

WHEREAS, Maria was born to Mary and Duane Whelan on December 4, 1950 in the Northwest woods of East Hampton, New York. She was the third of twelve children and grew up in a home full of stories, songs, art, debate, social activism, literature and noise. A self-described "failure" as a high school student, she thrived at Clarke College, where she was surrounded by women who became her lifelong sisterhood, and where she first learned to recognize and apply her sharp intellect. She later earned a Master's degree in Social Services from The University of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, an authority in the early care and education field, Maria possesses over 30 years of experience in human services. Prior to joining Illinois Action for Children, she served as the founding Executive Director of the Carole Robertson Center for Learning. when Maria first began working at the St. Mary's school that became the Carole Robertson Center for Learning, she knew little about early childhood education or running an organization. That did not stop her. Over the next sixteen years, she helped grow the Center into the multicultural nonprofit partnership among parents, youth and communities on Chicago's West Side providing high quality early childhood education to children; and

WHEREAS, Maria embodied the Illinois Action for Children's mission to support strong families and powerful communities where children matter most, by working to advance innovative social service programs and responsive public policies that improve conditions for low-income families in Illinois. She studied early childhood practices and policies in other countries like Sweden and used that knowledge, as well as her own observations and experience, to push for more progressive policies for Illinois; and

WHEREAS, her leadership has been recognized through special awards and fellowships, including the

Community Service Fellowship from the Chicago Community Trust, and Leadership Greater Chicago. She served on several boards, including the Illinois Early Learning Council, Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Early Childhood Advisory Committee - Chicago Public Schools and Illinois Child Care Advisory Council - Illinois Department of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, Maria's passion for social justice, while embodied in her life's work was not limited to her work. She was as comfortable participating in and speaking at rallies demanding action by government officials as she was addressing boards and committees. On May 18, 2020 Maria appeared on WTTW to defend Gov. Pritzker's Restore Illinois Plan and the plan 's proposal for a gradual re-opening of childcare centers to protect young families and children during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Grace B. Hou, Secretary, IDHS, in reflecting on Maria's passing wrote, "For those of you who had the opportunity to know (Maria), you can understand how hard it is to describe her. She could instantly captivate a room with her presence - joy, ferocity, passion, love, and intelligence. Her presence filled a room, but never overshadowed the mission. She was a compassionate warrior, relentless in her fight for children and for social, economic, and racial justice. She did that through her early childhood work as a way to lift up all families. She made us better. She made our early childhood system better. She made IDHS better. She made our state and country better;" and

WHEREAS, as her daughter wrote, "Her capacity for love was endless. Her love of gossip, deep. Her interests, quirky and specific. And her spirit and laugh filled every room she entered. To know Maria was to love her, to be charmed, to be interested, to be listened to, to be interrupted, to be entertained. She brought people together and demanded we all do better, especially in building a world where children are important and where they matter. She took solace in reading, in classical music, and in the beauty of Vermont where she shared a home with her siblings.;" and

WHEREAS, Maria leaves behind her husband, Jack Wuest - Executive Director of the Alternative Schools Network; her daughters Catherine Mary (Ian) Merritt, Ellen Rose Whelan-Wuest (Connor Stinson), Maeve Margaret Whelan-Wuest (Virgilio Larralde), and grandchildren Teddy and Archie Merritt, Evie --Stinson, many siblings, nieces and nephews, and friends., who will all miss her dearly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County honors the life and contributions of the **MARIA WHELAN**, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of the **MARIA WHELAN**.