



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

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, October 7, 2021, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[21-5659](#)

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HINDU HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world with more than 1 billion followers worldwide, 6 million in the United States and over 250,000 in Illinois, and

WHEREAS, Cook County is proud of its rich cultural history and the many people who call our state home; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is home to a vibrant Hindu community; and

WHEREAS, Hindu-Americans have made a significant contribution across all fields, including science, education, medicine, law, politics, business, culture, sports, and more; and

WHEREAS, Hindu heritage, culture, traditions and values have enriched our great state; and

WHEREAS, during the month of October 2021, the Hindu community across the Cook County and across our nation will collectively celebrate Hindu heritage; and

WHEREAS, Hindu Heritage Month provides an opportunity to focus on Hindu culture and its diverse spiritual traditions rooted in India.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing October 2021, as Hindu Heritage Month.

[21-5661](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), DONNA MILLER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2021 AS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is an annual campaign to increase awareness and public knowledge of this disease, especially the importance of early detection of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, more than 281,550 women and approximately 2,650 men are diagnosed with new cases of invasive breast cancer according to the Susan G. Komen Foundation; and

WHEREAS, at this time there are more than 3.8 million breast cancer survivors in the United States which includes women still being treated and those who have completed treatment; and

WHEREAS, for women in the United States, breast cancer death is the second leading cause of cancer death, rates are higher than those for any other cancer, besides lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer became the most common cancer globally as of 2021, accounting for 12% of all new annual cancer cases worldwide, according to the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the chance that a woman will die from breast cancer is about 1 in 39 (about 2.6%); and

WHEREAS, as a result of early breast cancer detection through mammogram screenings and increased awareness lead to the death rate decreased from 2013 to 2018 by 1%; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that 43,600 women and 530 men will die from breast cancer in 2021; and

WHEREAS, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health, the projected female breast cancer incidence for Cook County from 2018-2022 is 21,130 (5-year count) with an average annual count of 4,225; and

WHEREAS, African American women face both disproportionate exposure to breast carcinogens and the highest risk of serious health impacts from the disease, and in women under 45, breast cancer is more common in black women than white women, and overall, black women are more likely to die of breast cancer with African American women having a 31% breast cancer mortality rate - the highest of any U.S. racial or ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, a woman's risk of breast cancer nearly doubles if she has a first-degree relative (mother, sister, daughter) who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, mammography screenings are still important during the COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to promote breast cancer screenings and overcome barriers to healthcare access for populations with low screening rate must be at the forefront of our focus; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners recognizes breast cancer patients, survivors, and their families; recognizes the courage and strength of the individuals who are battling this terrible disease; and remembers loved ones whose lives have been affected by breast cancer.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board President and Members of the Board of Commissioners do continue to increase awareness on Breast Cancer in Cook County; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[21-5687](#)

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

ANNE C. WHEALAN, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Anne C. Whealan from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was the dearly beloved wife of the late James M. Whealan; and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was the devoted mother of Jimmy, Modie Lavin, Michael (Jeanine), Robert, Jennifer (Bill) Jepsen, and Amy (Jason) Mikuzis; and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was the proud grandma of the late Cpl. Conner T. Lowry, U.S.M.C and Grace Lavin, Rachel and Becca Whealan, Rosemary and Marty Jepsen, and Modie Jane and Mitch Mikuzis; and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was the dear sister of Ellen (john) Reilly, Sheila Connors (Joe Bottomly) and Laura Connors (Douglas Calisch); and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was the beloved daughter of the late Modwene (nee Nelson) and Robert Connors; and

WHEREAS, Anne C. Whealan was a native of South Shore and attended St. Philip Neri Grammar School, St. Xavier Academy/Mother McAuley H.S., and St. Xavier University; and

WHEREAS, all who knew her will attest that Anne C. Whealan 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; and

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 of Anne C. Whealan 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 the same be tendered to the family of Anne C. Whealan so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[21-5718](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILDRED “MILLIE” JOYCE CLEMON CRUZAT

WHEREAS, on February 17th, 1927, Mildred “Millie” Joyce Clemon Cruzat was Born into humble beginnings to Sevar Clemon and Florence Richardson Clemon. Millie was the third of four daughters; and

WHEREAS, Millie credits her older sister MaryAnn with teaching her the fundamentals of ballet as well as inspiring her to pursue a career as a dancer. Millie’s sister Bella, known affectionately as “little mother,” and the second oldest, introduced Millie to her husband, Teddy. Sevara, the youngest sister, shared a dancing career with Millie in New York. They were a close-knit family and were known to friends as “those Clemon Sisters; and

WHEREAS, Millie embarked to New York City to pursue a career as a professional dancer after completing two years at Highland Park Junior College in Detroit, Michigan. Millie supported herself working as a sales associate at Bloomingdale’s by day and attending dance classes at night at the American School of Ballet at Carnegie Hall; and

WHEREAS, Millie eventually landed a role in several productions including; Larry Steele’s “Shuffle Along”, “Smart Affairs”, and “Spider Burkes’ Television Show. Millie performed with the likes of Brock Peters, Lena Horn, and Harry Belafonte. Millie actively practiced and perfected the attributes of wisdom, discernment, and frugality, which allowed her to become a self-sufficient woman; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 1954, Millie married Edward “Teddy” Cruzat, in Detroit, Michigan. The couple subsequently moved to Chicago where Millie became a lifelong resident. Millie and Teddy welcomed Sevara Pia in 1956 and Edward Pedro II, or “Tuffy” in 1958, and Liza in 1963 to complete their family; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, at the age of 50, the Joseph Holmes Dance Theater asked Millie to join their troupe where she was once again the “lone sheep”. Tepid but determined, Millie inserted herself into this young, up and coming successfully and vitally gifted troop of dancers. Millie was an ardent admirer of the director Joseph Holmes and determined to push herself relentlessly and tirelessly through the classes and rehearsals. This experience not only catapulted her career, but inspired her to rise to all that she was meant to be; and

WHEREAS, upon leaving the Joseph Holmes Dance Company, Millie expanded her dance and athletic repertoire, including:

- 1981 - Served as Ballet and Fitness instructor with Tony Wilson Dance Co. and Bell School of Performing Arts;
- 1983 - Joined the Chicago Urban League working in the Young Parents Center teaching fitness and dance to young mothers;
- 1983 - Opened the Millie Cruzat Total Fitness Center;
- 1985 - Instructed the dancers at the COPE program at the U of Chicago who were teenagers with children;
- 1987 - 1995 - Began her stint as an instructor of ballet at the Beethoven Elementary School forming the Beethoven Ballerinas;
- 1992-1995 - Hired by Lake Meadows as a fitness instructor;
- 2002 - Joined the Stewart Modeling Agency;
- 2013 - Served as a ballet instructor with the Chicago Contemporary Dance Theater until her death;
- 2016 - Honored with a part in the Bronzeville Musical Theater; and

WHEREAS, Millie remained forever concerned and committed to supporting, uplifting, and encouraging the lives of black children, women, and men, she took every opportunity to impart teachable moments. Millie had a knack for being a steady source of encouragement; and

WHEREAS, Millie remained an athlete and mover and shaker her entire life. She began her days stretching followed by a brisk 3-mile jog along the lakefront. This soon turned into 5 miles and then 8 then running the Chicago Marathon. Millie's granddaughter, Alyia, continues to honor Millie's legacy by collaborating with Millie to create and continue the existence of "@agelessly_beautiful", an Instagram page focused on the importance of stretching and longevity; and

WHEREAS, on July 28th, 2021, at the age of 94, Mildred "Millie" Joyce Clemon Cruzat - History Maker, dancer, model, artist mother, and wife - made her transition. Millie was a woman of her time and ahead of her time, an outspoken woman who kept her own counsel. Millie remained committed to the enrichment and empowerment of all people and her people, Millie was a champion of and friend to anyone disadvantaged or challenged with the adversities of everyday life; and

WHEREAS, Millie passes on an amazing legacy, rich with wisdom and common sense to her children; Sevara, Liza Edward, and daughter-in-law Tasha; and her three granddaughters, Shanna Cruzat, Aliya, and Carley Brooks, of whom Millie was immensely proud. All three of Millie's grandchildren have put their exquisite marks on the world of dance in their own unique ways. Millie also leaves her remaining sister-in-law Stella Cruzat Redmond, a myriad nieces and nephews, and a plethora of life-long friends with whom she created and shared in many loving memories, including her respected God-daughter Toni Cook Bush, her cherished friend Bea Welters, and extended family at CCDT; and

WHEREAS, Millie peacefully transitioned, enveloped in the love of her children and surrounded by those who cherished her. Millie was resolute in the life paths she chose to explore, determined to be her "authentic self" since age eleven. Throughout her life, Millie made bold choices with a voice that

embodied female empowerment and social activism. Millie's altruism and unfettering bravery in her pursuit of uplifting the Black community served as an inspiration to many; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL LOWRY, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER of the 3rd DISTRICT, do hereby stand, and salute the phenomenal life of Mildred “Millie” Joyce Clemon Cruzat; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a suitable copy of this Resolution will be presented to the family of Mildred “Millie” Joyce Clemon Cruzat;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: a copy of this Resolution will be filed within the **Office of Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry 3rd District.**