



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

Second Consent Agenda

for the

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, July 29, 2015, 11:00 AM

15-4684

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HONORING THE LIFE OF AMARI DARNELL BROWN

WHEREAS, On January 25th, 2008 Antonio Brown and Amber Hailey were blessed with a baby boy and named him Amari Darnell Brown; and

WHEREAS, Most would describe Amari Brown as inquisitive, energetic, and joyful with a contagious smile. He loved Ninja Turtles, Spiderman, and SpongeBob. His favorite foods were candy and donuts; and

WHEREAS, Amari's dreams consisted of doing well in school, and becoming a professional singer. He idolized Chicago artists D-Low and Kemo because they were positive influences in the community and he hoped to portray the same image as he grew older; and

WHEREAS, Amari's favorite subject in school was Science. One of his most distinguished moments was when he constructed a lava lamp alongside his cousin, which led to him receiving a special ribbon acknowledging his excellence and achievement; and

WHEREAS, Attending church with his mother at Mt. Vernon, and prayer service meetings at his Grandmother's home led him to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. His favorite Bible verse to share was John 3:16; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2015, the life of Amari Brown was cut short senselessly and brutally by an act of gun violence that should never take place in a civilized society; and

WHEREAS, the life of Amari Darnell Brown, if it is to mean anything, must galvanize all elected and community leaders to focus their efforts and their resources on ending the scourge of gun violence in Chicago and Cook County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Amari Darnell Brown is to be honored and remembered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution is to be presented to the mother of Amari Brown, Amber Hailey.

15-4685

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONGRATULATING EUNITA RUSHING ON THE CELEBRATION OF HER RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, Eunita Rushing felt most at home when she was in the presence of her plants, so it's no surprise that since 1999 she has been the enthusiastic president of the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance. The Alliance collaborated with the Park District to build and install a \$4.5 million permanent photosynthesis exhibit, which included winning a \$1.4 million grant from the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Eunita has thirty years of experience in nonprofit management and has led the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance's 20-member staff for 12 years; and

WHEREAS, she holds her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater and her Master's Degree in Education from Loyola University, Chicago; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Eunita Rushing, the Garfield Park Conservatory was brought to prominence as a national attraction through major exhibits such as the Dale Chihuly Glass Exhibit; and

WHEREAS, the work of Eunita Rushing and the Alliance to revitalize the Garfield Park Conservatory, facilitated the Alliance's designation as 'lead agency' for East Garfield Park by LISC/Chicago. This partnership has since brought about significant community-wide improvements that include neighborhood gardens, public murals, employment opportunities for youth, grassroots health initiatives, foreclosure prevention programs, new retail, and new schools to the East Garfield Park community; and

WHEREAS, Eunita Rushing is now embarking on a well-deserved, well-earned retirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Eunita Rushing is to be congratulated on the achievement of her retirement at Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, and that the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners is to be extended to Eunita Rushing for her service to her community.

15-4686

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONGRATULATING MILES BOYKIN ON RECEIVING TRIBUNE/WGN-9 HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

WHEREAS, Growing up, Miles Boykin was a basketball player. During his grade school years, Miles also became known for his strong arm in football. Upon entering high school his achievements on the football field began to exceed the expectations of a high school athlete. He is a stellar athlete in both football and basketball; and

WHEREAS, While attending high school at Providence Catholic High School in New Lenox, Illinois Miles showed his talent in ways that most students could not. He was both on the basketball team and the football team. He injured his pinky whilst playing football which delayed the start of his basketball season. Despite the rough beginning, he finished his basketball season strong. His team ended their season with a record of 14-3 and a regional title under their belt; and

WHEREAS, Miles is very dedicated to the teams on which he plays. Although he garners great praise for his football abilities, there is a chance that upon entering college he may return to his first love, basketball; and

WHEREAS, Miles is ending his high school career with a commitment to attend the University of Notre Dame, where he plans to take courses in the highly accredited business school. Not only is Miles Boykin talented on the field, but he is also an excellent student; and

WHEREAS, Miles Boykin received offers from many Universities across the country in states like Florida, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He also received offers from Ohio State and Ole Miss; and

WHEREAS, Miles Boykin was recognized this year as a recipient of the Tribune / WGN-9 High School Athlete of the Year Award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Miles Boykin is to be congratulated on the achievement of becoming the Tribune/WGN-9 High School Athlete of the Year, and that the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners be extended to Miles Boykin for his service to his Providence Catholic High School, his teammates, and his community.

15-4688

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONGRATULATING APOSTLE DONALD L. ALFORD ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE
90TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROGRESSIVE LIFE-GIVING WORD CATHEDRAL**

WHEREAS, Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral started in 1924 as a small residential prayer group. In 1925, Bishop William Roberts organized Church of God in Christ, which became the first church in Maywood, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, under Pastor James B. Alford's leadership, the church was incorporated in 1947. When Papa Alford saw that the church building was leaning, God gave him a vision of "progress." Thus the church name became Progressive Church of God in Christ. During renovations, the members added a basement to the structure, and propped the building up so that it stood straight; and

WHEREAS, Progressive had its first live radio broadcast in 1948, and began their Sunday Night broadcast on station WMAQ in the 1950's. Minister Donald Alford became the Minister of Music in 1975. God granted Minister Donald Alford the gift to write songs-making him the first ever song writer from the ministry; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, August 28, 1983, Papa Alford's work was completed and God called him home. God in His infinite wisdom had a plan. Papa Alford's youngest son, Donald L. Alford, was appointed as Pastor of Progressive Church of God in Christ by Bishop William Haven Bonner, Jurisdictional Prelate of the 6th Jurisdiction of Illinois of the Church of God In Christ, on September 4, 1983. Elder Alford was subsequently installed as Pastor on October 30, 1983; and

WHEREAS, the name Progressive Ministries was adopted in 1989 as an alternate name for the ministry, and the church withdrew from the Church of God in Christ organization on July 18, 1989. In January, 1990 the Lord spoke and directed the church to be renamed "Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral". The scripture foundation being John 6:63 "...for the words I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." As God gives grace, Apostle Donald L. Alford and Pastor Gloria along with the Progressive Family continue the legacy that "Papa" left;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Apostle Donald L. Alford is to be congratulated on the achievement of the 90th Anniversary of Progressive Life-Giving Word Cathedral, and that the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners is to be extended to Apostle Donald L. Alford for his service to his Church and to the wider community.

15-4702

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONGRATULATING REVEREND TYRONE CRIDER ON THE CELEBRATION OF HIS 12TH
ANNIVERSARY AS SENIOR PASTOR AT MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

WHEREAS, January 6th, 1959 Charles and Bernice Crider were blessed with a baby boy Tyrone Crider. Pastor Crider grew up in Maywood, IL and attended St. Paul Elementary and graduated from Walter Lutheran High School in 1977; and

WHEREAS, In Atlanta, Georgia Pastor Crider attended Morehouse College, the alma mater of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. While a college student Pastor Crider accepted his call to Ministry and preached his first sermon and became a licensed preacher on May 17th, 1978. Pastor Crider was ordained to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ on March 1, 1981 by Pastor Harry McNelty of the First Baptist Church of Melrose Park, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Crider graduated from Morehouse College and moved back to Chicago to head the National Push for Excellence Program in 1982. In 1983, Rev. Crider coordinated the youth voter registration campaign to elect Chicago's First Black Mayor, Harold Washington. Rev Crider then led the national voter registration campaign for the historic Rev. Jesse Jackson for President Campaign in 1984; and

WHEREAS, On December 31, 1994 Pastor Crider married Ms. Regina Leslie. God placed five children in their home: Sandra, Shantoya, Felice, Tyrone Jr., and Ti'Ana. Together with the prayers of the righteous, Pastor Crider and his wife, Regina, successfully fought his battle against cancer. The remarkable story of his healing through Regina's prayer and intercession has been published in a book entitled "A Living Testimony." Pastor Crider is also the publisher of the "Gospel Tribune;" and

WHEREAS, Pastor Crider was installed as Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois on July 27th, 2003. God has blessed him to celebrate his 12th anniversary as Pastor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that Reverend Tyrone Crider is to be congratulated on the achievement of his 12th Anniversary at Mount Calvary Baptist Church, and that the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners is to be extended to Reverend Tyrone Crider for his service to his Church and to the wider community.

15-4703

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO ALEXIS RANGEL, AMBRIA MAHOMES AND DANIELLE WATSON FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION AS SUMMER INTERNS TO THE OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER RICHARD R. BOYKIN, 1ST DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Danielle Watson, Ambria Mahomes and Alexis Rangel all served with distinction as summer interns with the Office of Cook County Commissioner Richard R. Boykin, 1st District; and

WHEREAS, Alexis Rangel has completed first year of Law School with Loyola University of Chicago, and is pursuing a career in public interest law; and

WHEREAS, Alexis Rangel's commitment to public service, which began in part with his work in the State Legislature in Texas, has stood him in good stead both as a law student, and as a summer law intern in the Office of the Cook County Commissioner Richard R. Boykin; and

WHEREAS, Alexis Rangel's contributions in the area of policy research, legislative drafting, constituent outreach and legal analysis formed an indispensable part of Commissioner Boykin's legislative efforts in the Summer of 2015; and

WHEREAS, Ambria Mahomes will commence her senior year at DePaul University this coming fall, where she studies business management; and

WHEREAS, Ambria Mahomes maintains a key interest in the law and plans to attend law school following her college graduation; and

WHEREAS, Ambria Mahomes' contributions in the area of messaging, constituent outreach and policy research were invaluable to the Office of Commissioner Richard R. Boykin in the summer of 2015; and

WHEREAS, Danielle Watson will commence her senior year at Western Illinois University this coming fall, where she majors in political science; and

WHEREAS, Danielle Watson plans to attend law school after completing her undergraduate education; and

WHEREAS, Danielle Watson was immensely helpful to the Office of Commissioner Richard R. Boykin in the summer of 2015, handling duties that were administrative, substantive, policy-related, and greatly helpful in the area of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Danielle Watson's stellar performance in her internship earned her a promotion, which resulted in her joining the Office of Commissioner Richard R. Boykin as a paid staffer during the summer of 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does congratulate Alexis Rangel, Ambria Mahomes and Danielle Watson on their outstanding performance as interns in the Office of Commissioner Richard R. Boykin, 1st District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread upon the official record of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and that ceremonial copies of this resolution be presented to Alexis Rangel, Ambria Mahomes and Danielle Watson as tokens of the sincere appreciation of Commissioner Richard R. Boykin, 1st District for their service to the people of the 1st District and Cook County.

15-4704

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING DOMINIC CANDELORO FOR RECEIVING THE CAVALIERE DELL'ORDINE DELLA STELLA D'ITALIA

WHEREAS, Dominic Candeloro was presented with the Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia at the Festa della Repubblica celebration hosted by Italian Consul General Adriano Monti; and

WHEREAS, Dominic Candeloro was born in Chicago Heights to Ludovico Candeloro, a veteran of the Italian Army in World War I, and Yolanda (Gianetti) Candeloro; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Bloom Township High School in 1958, Dominic Candeloro was awarded a full scholarship to Northwestern University; and

WHEREAS, Dominic Candeloro was the first in his extended family to graduate from college and one of the first Italian Americans in Chicago Heights to receive a Ph.D.; and

WHEREAS, in graduate school at the University of Illinois, Dominic Candeloro served as an assistant to famed Italian American Studies Professor Rudolph Vecoli; and

WHEREAS, Dominic Candeloro married Carol Cutlip during his tenure teaching history at The Ohio State University, Lima Campus; and

WHEREAS, when he returned to Illinois in the mid-1970s, Dominic was appointed to teach Italian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago; and

WHEREAS, when Dominic Candeloro was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for more than \$300,000 to document and share the history of Italians in Chicago, it set off a whirlwind of activities for the next three years that included 110 oral history interviews; the collection of thousands of photos, documents, and memorabilia; three national conferences; three exhibitions; and involvement by hundreds of volunteers working out of the university and the Italian Cultural Center to bring the project to fruition. The Italians in Chicago exhibit is now permanently displayed at the Italian Cultural Center; and

WHEREAS, since the 1980s Dominic Candeloro has been involved in the Italian American Studies Association, which led him to a visiting professorship with the Anthropology Department at the University of Rome, an exhibit at the Italian National Archives in Rome, invitations to Italian conferences, and speaking engagements in all parts of Italy; and

WHEREAS, Dominic Candeloro was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in Italy from 1981-1982 and has written or edited more than a dozen books and thirty academic articles and reviews; and

WHEREAS, in the last few years, Dominic has focused on the Florence Roselli Library and the publication of books by Casa Italia and is now well on his way to raising \$500,000 to be matched by Loyola University to create an endowment to support a professorship of Italian American Studies into perpetuity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby congratulate Dominic Candeloro for being awarded the Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Dominic Candeloro.

15-4711

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MARY ELLEN “LAL” FELDMAN, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Mary Ellen “Lal” Feldman (nee Robin) from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the beloved wife of Joseph Feldman; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the loving mother of Joseph (Debbie) Feldman, Mary Carole (Mike) Prasse, Margaret Ann (Bruce) Moore, Colleen (Scott) Ernsting, Michaeline (Lee) Barnes, and Timothy Michael Feldman; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the cherished grandmother of Joey, Robyn, Tommy and Nick Feldman, Sidney, Christen, Michael and Clara Prasse, Danielle, Rachel, Bruce, Shelly, Sam, Lexi, Billy, Chris and Sean Moore, Bryan, Kaity (fiancé, Jeff Kohl), Chris, John, Bobby, Matt, Jackie, Scottie and the late Mary Beth Ernsting, Nicole, Lee, Lauren, Kathryn, Caroline, Jennifer and Jillian Barnes; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the devoted daughter of the late Alfred and Mary Robin; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the dear sister of Denise (Bernie) Nelligan, Jack (Carol) Robin, Rich (Diane) Robin, Ray (Sue) Robin, Teree (Jim) Fields and the late Sally (the late Brad) Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman was the daughter-in-law of the late Sidney and Ann Feldman, sister-in-law of Ellen Ryan, and fond aunt, great-aunt and friend of many; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen grew up in Chicago’s South Side Canaryville neighborhood, was a member and attended grade school at St. Gabriel Parish, and was a 1958 graduate of Mercy High School; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Feldman touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew her; and

WHEREAS, all who knew her will attest that Mary Ellen Feldman 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 and many friends of Mary Ellen Feldman, 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 Ellen Feldman so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

15-4712

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HONORING THE LIFE OF THE FIRST GENTLEMAN OF MAYWOOD, REV. LESLIE HAROLD PERKINS, SR.

WHEREAS, on Thursday, June, 25th 2015 God in his infinite wisdom called forth Maywood's First Gentleman Rev. Leslie Harold Perkins Sr. to join him; and

WHEREAS, the Perkins Family moved to Maywood, IL, where Rev. Perkins accepted Christ at an early age at First Baptist Church in Melrose Park, IL. He was actively involved in the church and sang in the choir; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Proviso Township High School in 1959, Rev. Perkins joined the United States Army and served active duty from 1959-1962. He also served in the National Guard for many years. Rev. Perkins also received his Associates Degree from Triton College and later graduated from DeVry Institute of Technology in March 1969. He completed four years of seminary at Chicago Baptist Institute and three years of seminary at Chicago State University; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Leslie Perkins Sr. married Edwenna Sharpe and together they were blessed with three children: Anita, Thea, and Leslie Jr. Rev. Perkins and the Honorable Mayor Edwenna Perkins celebrated 55 years of marriage on December 28th, 2014; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2013, history was made when Rev. Leslie Perkins Sr. became the First Gentleman of Maywood Illinois. He could be seen helping and supporting the efforts of his wife, the Honorable Mayor Edwenna Perkins who was the first African American female elected to the position; and

WHEREAS, at First Baptist Church, Rev. Perkins served as a Trustee and a counselor for the Roselle Smith Angelic Choir. On March 1, 1991, Rev. Perkins became an ordained minister under the leadership of the late Pastor Harry McNelty. While serving as Chaplain for the H. McNelty School, he would judge science fair projects, tutor students, and extend the right hand of fellowship to the youth at the children's

chapel service each Friday;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners that First Gentleman Rev. Leslie Harold Perkins Sr. is to be honored and remembered on the achievement of his lifetime, and that the sincere appreciation of the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners be extended to First Gentleman Rev. Leslie Harold Perkins Sr. for his service to his Church and to the wider community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to the Honorable Edwenna Perkins, Mayor of the Village of Maywood.

15-4717

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREDDIES

WHEREAS founded in 1990 by Fred and Denise Bertucci, Fabulous Freddie's Italian Eatery is celebrating 25 years in business, and

WHEREAS in 1981, young Fred Bertucci opened up a meat market in suburban Chicago as he had always dreamed of owning a business and his family had been butchers for three generations, and

WHEREAS Fred soon realized that his heart wasn't in operating a butcher business, and

WHEREAS after selling his butcher shop and working as a manager in his new wife Denise's family restaurant, his dream began to take shape, and

WHEREAS Fred loved the restaurant business, and at midnight, after finishing his managerial duties, he would often go straight to the kitchen and work until the morning perfecting his Italian recipes, and

WHEREAS finally, in 1990, after years of planning, Fred and Denise made the leap and opened up "Freddie's," in the historic Bridgeport neighborhood, and

WHEREAS Fred and Denise focused on offering the finest homemade Italian sausage, beef, meatballs, pizza, sauces and soups, with a strong emphasis on carryout, and

WHEREAS with a lot of hard work and help from family members, Freddie's soon became a Bridgeport icon, where customers come for the food, friendliness, and familiar sight of Fred and Denise greeting

customers, and

WHEREAS over the years, Freddie and Denise’s three daughters, Christie, Stephanie, and Brittany, joined them in the family business by contributing their own special talents, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County does hereby congratulate Fred and Denise Bertucci, and pays tribute to all the employees past and present, who have built the company into the successful and respected operation that it is today; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the Official Proceedings of this Honorable Body, and that a suitable copy of the same be tendered to Fred and Denise Bertucci in commemoration of this occasion and in grateful acknowledgment of the important contributions to the economy of Cook County made by Freddie in the course of its 25 years in business.

15-4722

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE DONNA GERSON

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson represented the best qualities of citizenship and humanity through her life-long work as an elected official and community leader. She served as an Evanston Alderman, Library Trustee and was active in politics her entire life. When she died on July 10, 2015 she left behind a family, countless friends and a community profoundly enriched for having known her; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. She met her husband of over 61 years, Stan Gerson during her first year of law school at Case Western Reserve. Both Donna and Stan took career detours and left Akron for Chicago, and finally settled Evanston. She left the law for teaching and the two settled in South Evanston where they raised their two children Lisa and Michael and became politically involved in the movements promoting fair housing and school desegregation in addition to many other local issues; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson had a lifelong interest in politics that began very early in life; she was a self-described “political junkie” who enjoyed discussing politics. When the Gersons were in their 40s, they spent a year in London during her husband’s sabbatical. While there, Donna was exposed to a radio show that interested her. When she returned, she pitched the idea of doing a similar program to WBEZ, Chicago’s Public radio station. Donna became a radio host of a program that featured interesting content from current magazine articles; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson was an admired and longtime member of the League of Women Voters of Evanston, generously supporting the organization for decades and tirelessly mentoring the organization’s

newest leaders; her generosity with her time was legendary. As a valued member of the League she worked tirelessly, advocating for justice and equality for all. She was active on the North Shore Summer Project, an open housing initiative and was a passionate supporter of Evanston's school integration initiative. She was also an extremely talented writer whose talents were put to good use when she became the editor of the League's newsletter, *The Intercom*. She honed her leadership skills during her early League years and it was with their strong support and encouragement that she ran and won a seat in Evanston's City Council; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson's love of politics and leadership abilities were put to work for her community when she was elected by the voters of Evanston's Ninth Ward to be their Alderman. She diligently represented the ward from 1979 to 1983. She also served on Evanston's Zoning Board of Appeals. She forged strong bonds with her fellow elected officials that outlasted their terms of office and spanned decades. They gathered once a month meeting socially to talk about everything from Evanston politics to their grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Donna was a lifelong learner who had a passion for poetry and loved, in particular Shakespeare's sonnets. She attended classes at Northwestern University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and later became a coordinator. Her appreciation for the written word and devotion to her community was acknowledged and she was appointed to be an Evanston Library Trustee. There was no better advocate for the Evanston Public Library. She served two terms, and will long be remembered for her work supporting the expansion of evening hours and the renovation of the aging Chicago Avenue facility. She was also the voice of wisdom during the Youth Service Renovation Project of 2009 and for successfully and diplomatically guiding the process when the library transitioned to a separate tax-levying district; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson was a great champion of the principles of participatory democracy and was innovative in her work to further those standards. She coupled her in-depth understanding of government and her talent as a writer to author an instructional piece on how to be an effective advocate before a board or commission which was published in Illinois Issues Magazine; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson entered Cook County politics in the late 70's, when she became Administrative Assistant to Commissioner Joanne Alter at the Chicago Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. Later she became a management analyst at the Chicago Metropolitan Sanitary District and retired in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson was a cherished member of her synagogue, Beth Emet. The congregation has a tradition of anonymously delivering food to ill or housebound members of the synagogue. Despite the anonymous nature of the program, it was widely known that in many cases, the items had either been prepared by Donna or delivered by her, or both. Few could match her culinary skills or thoughtfulness. She was also a talented seamstress who learned to sew from a treasured aunt and frequently sewed her children's clothing; and

WHEREAS, the community has lost a great friend in Donna Gerson and she will be sorely missed by her two children Lisa Gerson and Michael Gerson but her loss will be felt most acutely by her husband of 61 years, Stan Gerson and her dear friends of over fifty years, a group of intrepid women known as the “Quintessentials;” and

WHEREAS, Donna Gerson possessed the unique combination of passionate political activism and diplomacy. She regularly achieved her goals without rancor and, as a result was genuinely admired and respected by her peers. She formed and nurtured strong relationships with fellow elected officials and friends that lasted over fifty years; 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 commemorates the extraordinary life of Donna Gerson and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions she 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 Donna Gerson.

15-4724

Sponsored by: DEBORAH SIMS, County Commissioner and TONI PRECKWINKLE, President

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN MEMORY OF MRS. BETTIE MCMULLEN

WHEREAS, almighty GOD, in HIS infinite wisdom has called Mrs. Bettie McMullen from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bettie affectionately known as Madear was born in Greenwood, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Bettie was a homemaker and glue that held the family together, while remaining grounded in her personal relationship with Christ; and

WHEREAS, in 1958 the family migrated to Chicago, Illinois and took full advantage in the Construction Industry; and

WHEREAS, she was the loving mother of fifteen children, five preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, she was the adored grandmother of fifty-three grandchildren, four who preceded her in death, a hundred and three great-grandchildren, sixty four great-great-grandchildren, and two great-great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Bettie McMullen throughout her rich life was loved and cherished by her family, friends and neighbors, her memory will forever be cherished in the hearts of those individuals whom she touched and loved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the 5.3 million residents of Cook County, do extend their deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family as well, to the many friends and loved ones of Mrs. Bettie McMullen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitable copy of this Resolution is tendered to the family of Mrs. Bettie McMullen, that her memory may be so forever cherished.

15-4730

Sponsored by: JESÚS G. GARCÍA, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING ECUADOR INDEPENDENCE DAY AND COLONIA DE COTOPAXI

WHEREAS, on August 10, 1809, Ecuador was the first country in Latin America to claim Independence; and

WHEREAS, the Colonia de Cotopaxi and the Ecuadorian Community of Chicago will be celebrating the 206th anniversary of the First Cry of Independence in Latin America; and

WHEREAS, those who fought for an end to foreign domination in Ecuador merit special honor, for their long and difficult struggle, which began with the establishment of self-government in Quito on August 10, 1809 and resulted in victory in May 24, 1822; and

WHEREAS, the Ecuadorian community in Chicago makes a rich and significant contribution to the strength of this County and the City of Chicago by devoting their talents, traditions, and viewpoints to the collective good; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners appreciates the Ecuadorian community for their ongoing valuable contributions to this county; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners wish the Ecuadorian community continuing success as it enhances the cultural richness that makes Illinois the gem of the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners commend the Colonia de Cotopaxi and Jorge Burbano, Executive Director, for highlighting the importance of the First Cry of Independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the citizens of Cook County, do hereby proclaim Monday, August 10, 2015 to be “Ecuador Independence Day” in Cook County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the Colonia de Cotopaxi to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

15-4731

Sponsored by: JESÚS G. GARCÍA, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING ECUADOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

WHEREAS, on August 10, 1809, Ecuador was the first country in Latin America to claim Independence; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Consulate of Ecuador and the Ecuadorian Community of Chicago will be celebrating the 206th anniversary in observance of the First Cry of Independence in Latin America; and

WHEREAS, those who fought for an end to foreign domination in Ecuador merit special honor, for their long and difficult struggle which began with the establishment of self-government in Quito on August 10, 1809 and resulted in victory in May 24, 1822; and

WHEREAS, the Ecuadorian community in Chicago make a rich and significant contribution to the strength of this County and city, devoting their talents, traditions and viewpoints to our collective good; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners appreciates the Ecuadorian community for their ongoing valuable contributions to this county; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners wish the Ecuadorian community continued success in enhancing the cultural richness that makes Illinois the gem of the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners commend the Honorable Carlos Lenin House, Consul of Ecuador in Chicago, for highlighting the importance of the First Cry of Independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the citizens of Cook County do hereby proclaim Monday, August 10, 2015 to be “Ecuador Independence Day” in all of Cook County.

15-4733

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, County Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF H. WOODS “WOODY” BOWMAN

WHEREAS, H. Woods “Woody” Bowman, chief financial officer for Cook County, former state representative from the 18th district, treasured college professor and dedicated community advocate died on July 10, 2015 leaving behind a devoted family, countless friends and a community profoundly enriched for having known him; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman was born and raised in Charleston, West Virginia. His talents revealed themselves very early in life. He was an exceptional student; receiving a dual degree in physics and economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He later earned a Master’s Degree in public administration with highest honors and a Ph.D. in economics from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University; and

WHEREAS Woody Bowman came to Chicago as a young man to work as a research economist for the Federal Reserve Bank. During that same time he shared his exceptional talents with his students when he taught economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago;

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman immediately became known for his scrupulous integrity and wisdom in the area of economics and ethics. His expertise in budgetary issues was unparalleled and later made him a trusted advisor to many not-for-profit organizations, politicians and students; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman was elected to the Illinois General Assembly by the voters of the 18th district and served for over a decade as their state representative. While there, he made his mark early as a staunch supporter of human services and education. He was a tireless advocate for civil rights and the rights of the mentally ill. More than anything, he is widely credited with vastly improving the accountability and transparency of the budgeting process while acting as chair of the House Appropriations Committee. He had the unique ability to achieve his political goals without rancor and as

a result was genuinely admired and respected by those on both sides of the aisle; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman’s financial expertise was recognized by Cook County Board President Richard Phelan who selected him to serve as Cook County’s chief financial officer, a position he held for four years. Through the years he has continued to serve the citizens of Cook County, most recently as member of Cook County’s task force on unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman returned to academia in 1995, becoming an assistant professor at DePaul University. He was uniformly regarded as generous instructor, colleague and mentor who respected and took seriously his responsibility to shape the next generation of leaders. Later, he became professor emeritus at DePaul University’s School of Public Service where he remained until he retired. Although he had stopped teaching, he remained a vital part of the campus and was active on various projects at the school; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman was a prolific nonprofit researcher and author; he was a regular contributor to the Nonprofit Quarterly *Ethicist* column. Among his other articles were “*Issues in Nonprofit Finance Research: Surplus, Endowment, and Endowment Portfolios*,” with H.P. Tuckman and D.R. Young, “*The Contribution of Corporation Law to Civil Society*,” and “*The Economic Value of Volunteers to Organizations*.” His writing was insightful and informative and was frequently singled out for recognition; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman was honored with many awards including the Hodgkinson Research Prize from the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) for his book, “*Finance Fundamentals for Nonprofits: Building Capacity and Sustainability*.” The prize is given to the best book on philanthropy and the nonprofit sector that informs policy and practice; he was later honored with the Best Reviewer Award. DePaul University honored him with their Excellence in Public Service Award in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bowman will long be remembered for his thorough work and achievement, his high ethical standards, professionalism, and excellent character. Above all, he will be remembered as a model of kindness and affability; and

WHEREAS Woody Bowman was also well known as a man who was extremely generous with his time. He was a member of the Board of Housing Options for the Mentally Ill in Evanston and member of many of its committees for more than twenty-five years. He briefly served as interim president and CEO on a pro bono basis for Goodwill Industries of Metropolitan Chicago. He served on the board of ARNOVA for many years and chaired the planning committee for the 2010 annual conference. He also was a member of the Governor’s Taxpayer Action Board and the Civic Federation’s Cook County Modernization Committee in; and

WHEREAS, the impact felt by the loss of Woody Bowman is significant and has left a tremendous void in the community. His loss will be felt most acutely by his wife of nearly 30 years, Michele Thompson; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board on behalf of the nearly the 5.2 million residents of Cook County commemorates the extraordinary life of H. Woods “Woody Bowman, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois;

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 Woody Bowman, that his memory may be so honored.

15-4739

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE, MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MEMORY OF VOYLE “GENE” BELL

WHEREAS, Voyle “Gene” Bell, pioneering community leader, father figure to countless students and championship winning basketball star passed away on Thursday, July 9. He has left behind a devoted family, countless athletes, friends and a community enriched for having known him; and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell recognized the deep void left when the City of Evanston cut back its middle-school athletic program in 1968. As a result he helped found the Fellowship of African American Men “FAAM”. Not only did FAAM fill the void, it profoundly changed the community and made it a better place. Decades later it remains a much admired and thriving community program that provides good role models for kids, and instills in its athletes the principles of teamwork, discipline and respect for the coaches and officials. Gene Bell was the organization’s greatest champion and became known as “Commissioner for Life;” and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell moved to Evanston as a young child. He attended Evanston Township High School where he quickly became an athletic star and local legend on the school’s basketball and baseball teams. After graduating he was recruited to attend Upper Iowa University on basketball and baseball scholarships; and

WHEREAS, his education was interrupted by the call of family obligation. Gene Bell returned to Evanston to assist the woman who had raised him, his beloved grandmother Leora Bell, after the passing of her second husband. He credits much of his success to her. “My grandmother made sure I did the right thing. She was the matriarch of our whole family. She meant everything to me;” and,

WHEREAS, Gene Bell accepted employment with Row, Peterson Publishing, which later became Harper & Row. When the business moved to Kansas 16 years later, he started his career at Evanston Township High School, first on the custodial staff and later in security, where he became a popular fixture in the school and friend to all. He retired in 1995; and,

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Gene Bell worked tirelessly to ensure the success of FAAM. Under his watch it expanded to reach thousands of kids. Today, FAAM has fourteen boys' teams, six girls' teams and three cheerleading squads, comprising approximately 350 youngsters and 70 volunteer coaches/administrators; and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell's pioneering efforts with FAAM had a far reaching impact on thousands of lives. Nirba White, a FAAM player who played professional basketball overseas, said "Words can't describe what his leadership and mentoring have meant to the African American community;" and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell's spirit remains alive in FAAM's mission to empower youth through athletics and education. A former student-athlete himself, he well understood the importance of excellence on and off the court. Today, FAAM tracks school performance, requires players to maintain a minimum grade point average, and provides a study program with teachers and tutors on hand after school and on Saturdays to help with homework; and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell's leadership was not limited to athletics. He played a major role in organizing a union for the Security Department at Evanston Township High School. He was a member of the Candidate Nominating Committee for the school boards of District 65 and District 202 and he served as Co-Chair for the 'Save Our Children' community project. His love for baseball led him to become a Little League Umpire for the recreation department of Evanston from 1979 to 1986; and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell's exceptional abilities singled him out for distinction and the community presented him with numerous honors. In addition to others, he received the William E. Harper Award from the McGraw YMCA and the Distinguished Community Service Award from the NAACP. He was also awarded the "Those Who Excel" honor from the Illinois State Board of Education, the Community Service Award from the Illinois Park and Recreation Association, and the SGMA Heroes "Man of the Year," and

WHEREAS, Gene Bell is survived by his wife, Constance "Connie" Bell, three daughters Renee Johnson, Gina Bradley and Morma Russell, one son David, one grandson Aaron, three granddaughters Karisa, Shaniece and Tatana, one great grandson and two sisters. Along with many other relatives and friends the community mourns the loss of Gene Bell; and.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board on behalf of the nearly the 5.2 million residents of Cook County takes great pleasure in commemorating the life of Gene Bell, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the coworkers, family, and many friends of Gene Bell and joins them in sorrow at the sudden loss of this remarkable and accomplished civil servant and community

leader; 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 Gene Bell, that his memory may be so honored.