



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

**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois (Board Room
Closed to Public - Meeting Virtual for Public)**

Consent Agenda

Thursday, July 28, 2022, 10:00 AM

[22-3992](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

2022 UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND NATIONAL WALK FOR EDUCATION

WHEREAS, in 1943, Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute suggested to the presidents of other private black colleges that they pool their monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 1944, the United Negro College Fund (“UNCF”) was incorporated with twenty-seven member colleges as a not-for-profit entity established to assist its member institutions of higher education to raise funds from the public for their mutual support; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the United Negro College Fund, and the historically Black colleges and universities it supports, promotes the value of higher education as well as the traditional values of family and heritage that have made this nation great; and

WHEREAS, over the past seven decades the UNCF has grown to become the nation’s oldest and most successful African American higher education assistance organization in the country by having raised more than \$5 billion and having helped more than 500,000 students not just attend college, but thrive, graduate and become leaders; and

WHEREAS, each year UNCF awards more than 10,000 student scholarships worth more than \$100 million and provides financial support to 37 historically Black colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, the UNCF raises funds by means of various events including a Walk for Education in various cities of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 National Walk for Education is a nationwide fundraising event to help students become active participants of society through a high-quality education; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Chicago Walk for Education is being held on Saturday, September 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has proudly supported UNCF’s efforts for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle is the honorary chair for the 2022 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize and express Cook County’s support for the 2022 UNCF Chicago

Walk for Education and commitment to provide assistance and resources to ensure its success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that under the leadership of the Bureau of Administration, various Cook County departments and agencies will collaborate with UNCF to plan, coordinate, and otherwise support the 2022 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bureau of Administration shall be further authorized to utilize County resources, as necessary, to promote, plan and otherwise support the 2022 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby acknowledge and commend the UNCF for its continued positive impact throughout the United States and express the County's sincere appreciation and gratitude for selecting President Preckwinkle as the honorary chair of the 2022 UNCF Chicago Walk for Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to UNCF in expressing Cook County's well wishes for a successful 2022 National UNCF Walk for Education.

[22-4406](#)

Sponsored by: DEBORAH SIMS, STANLEY MOORE, 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, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MISS ILLINOIS TEEN USA DAWN PARKS

WHEREAS, Dawn Parks was born January 21, 2003, to Kimberly and DeWayne Parks; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 8, Dawn Parks recalls feeling small and undervalued by teachers, coaches, and peers; and

WHEREAS, Dawn graduated from Rich Township High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society, Scholastic Bowl, Mathlete Team, Student Agency Board Treasurer, Captain of the Varsity Pompon team, a three-sport athlete: basketball, volleyball, and softball; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks is the founder of Stand Tall, an organization focused on empowering young people to be confident in their body; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks is mission oriented in giving back to her community by speaking to the youth; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks gives most of her pageant success to Ms. Aftan Brown, her first pageant coach who inspired her to dream big; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks Pageant accomplishments includes, Miss Prairie State Pre-Teen 2016, International Junior Miss Illinois Jr Teen 2018, Miss Illinois High School America 2020, Miss Teen Illinois International 2021 and the 1st African American to win this title; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks was crowned Miss Illinois Teen USA, Monday, May 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn is currently a culinary student at Joliet Junior College Culinary Arts, she is currently a member of the Culinary Competition Team and aspires to become a world-renowned chef; and

WHEREAS, at 5'10 inches, Ms. Dawn Parks remains steadfast and immovable in her quest to showing how you can turn pain into purpose; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dawn Parks has partnered with the Dove Self-Esteem project, using their tools and resources to help share her message to embrace all that they are and walk in the body God gave them; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor and congratulate Dawn Parks on her achievement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to Dawn Parks as a symbol of our respect and esteem.

[22-4528](#)

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, JOHN P. DALEY, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BILL LOWRY, KEVIN B. MORRISON, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

JAMES E. RYAN, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom called Jim Ryan from our midst on June 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was the beloved husband of 54 years to his high school sweetheart, Marie, nee Pahls; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was the devoted father of John (Stacie), Jim (Jennifer), Matthew (Melissa), Amy, the late Patrick, and the late Ann Marie; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was the proud grandfather of Caitlyn, Joey, Sarah, Grace, Emma, Stella, Elly, Sophie, Sam, Michael, and Molly; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was the cherished brother of Maria (Terry) Koch and Margaret (John) Noldan; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was the dear uncle to Terry (Stacey) Koch, Tom (Kim) Koch, John Noldan, Katie (James) Chivilo, Jenny (Pete) Jahn, and Maggie (Dan) Gallagher; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan was born in Chicago and grew up in Villa Park. His father, Edward, was a homebuilder, and his mother, Elisa, was an Italian immigrant and homemaker; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan graduated from St. Procopius Academy, now Benet Academy, and what is now Illinois Benedictine University before getting his law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan started his legal career with the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office and was promoted to first assistant state's attorney after three years; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Jim Ryan left his state's attorney job to enter private practice; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Jim Ryan ran for DuPage County State's Attorney-a position he held for three terms; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Jim Ryan won the election for Illinois Attorney General, and in 1998, he easily won again; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan endured a string of personal tragedies and challenges, including the deaths of two of his children, nearly losing his wife to a heart illness, beating cancer three times, and recovering from heart surgery; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan founded the Center for Civic Leadership at Benedictine University to bolster student involvement in civic life; and

WHEREAS, Jim Ryan and his family sponsored annual events, raising money for brain-tumor research and for families dealing with suicide; and

WHEREAS, perhaps out-shadowing all of Jim Ryan's political accomplishments is the way he lived his life-through family, faith, and service to others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Jim Ryan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the family of Jim Ryan so that his memory

may be so honored and ever cherished.

[22-4535](#)

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, JOHN P. DALEY, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BILL LOWRY, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

MARILYNN J. MAY, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom called Marilyn May from our midst on May 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May was the beloved sister of Nancy Taccio Cacciato and John Taccio; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May was born to the late World War II Veteran Nick Taccio and the late Betty Taccio nee Monahan in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May raised her two sons, the late Anthony and the late Nicholas, in River Grove; and

WHEREAS, while raising her sons, Marilyn was involved with a variety of community organizations, such as River Grove baseball and softball, the local PTAs, the River Grove Beautification Committee, River Front Fest, Cub Scouts Troop 142, the River Grove Lions, River Grove Moose Lodge #780/River Park Moose Lodge #2578, the American Legion Auxiliary, and Friends of River Grove; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May also served the Village of River Grove professionally in many capacities, including Assistant to the President, Deputy Village Clerk, and Director of Personnel; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May's commitment to the community branched out to encompass Leyden Township when she was elected as a trustee to the township board in 1993, serving the township until her retirement in 2016; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2000, Marilyn began her service as a member on the Village of River Grove Board of Trustees and was re-elected in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn May was appointed as Acting Village President in 2004, elected President of the Village of River Grove in April of 2005, and re-elected to office in 2009 and 2013; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn also served as a member of the executive board of the West Cook Solid Waste Agency, sat on the executive board of the West Central Municipal Conference, and was a member of the Cook County Community Development Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Marilynn May was acknowledged for her many accomplishments throughout her career, including being presented with the Illinois Woman of Achievement Award from the State of Illinois, in partnership with the League of Women Voters and the Illinois Municipal League; and

WHEREAS, Marilynn May also received the Leonardo DaVinci Award for Outstanding Achievement in Government from the Order of the Sons of Italy Grand Lodge and was honored as Woman of the Year by the Triton College Foundation for her commitment to education and public service; and

WHEREAS, Marilynn May was a true public servant, always willing to help with a smile on her face and often a beautiful hat on her head.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend their deepest condolences to the family and friends of Marilynn May; and

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

[22-4567](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANKLIN R. SAFFORD

WHEREAS, Franklin R. Safford, 87, known to family, friends, and colleagues as Pancho, served as Chair of the Northwestern History Department from 1986-89 and again from 1992-94. He was also the Associate Dean for the Social Sciences from 1994-98 and 2001-2002 and Director of International Studies from 2002-06. He died June 16, 2022 in Evanston, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Pancho married his beloved wife, Joan Bainbridge, in 1959. They raised their two sons, Mark and Joshua, in Evanston, where they found a caring, engaged group of friends and neighbors that they were involved with on many issues that improved the life of all; and

WHEREAS, Pancho avidly supported his performing artist children and shared responsibility raising them when his wife's legal career with the United States Department of Justice blossomed; and

WHEREAS, he was a partner to his wife and children as well as to his students and colleagues in encouraging their growth and success in any endeavor; and

WHEREAS, his leadership at Northwestern and his community participation in Evanston has led to many people being inspired to give back to the Cook County community their talents to enhance our society; and

WHEREAS, "While Pancho loved research and scholarship, and was highly respected in his field" his wife Joan said, "his joy was in empowering and mentoring his students and young colleagues. They became emboldened by his enthusiasm, supportive criticism and humor." The esteem of his colleagues was acknowledged when he was selected to serve the History Department and University in multiple capacities; and

WHEREAS, Pancho was born in El Paso, Texas, June 4, 1935 and graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard College in 1957. He received his MA (1958) and PhD (1963) from Columbia University; and

WHEREAS, after two years of doctoral research in Colombia, in 1962, he joined the faculty of Dartmouth College as an Instructor and Assistant Professor of Latin American and American history. In 1966, he accepted an appointment at Northwestern University as an Assistant Professor of History, became an Associate Professor in 1972 and Professor in 1976; and

WHEREAS, he was named the inaugural Gerald and Marjorie Fitzgerald Professor of Economic History in 1995. At his retirement in 2010, he became Professor Emeritus. After his retirement, in 2011, he taught as Professor in the School of Management at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia; and

WHEREAS, Pancho also taught as a Visiting Associate Professor in 1972-73 at the University of Texas at Austin where he served as editor of the Hispanic American Historical Review. In 1995, the Republic of Colombia named him to the Orden de San Carlos for his seminal works in Colombian economic history. In 2011, the National University of Colombia in Bogotá awarded him an Honorary Doctorate in Engineering for his pioneering study of technical education in Colombia; and

WHEREAS, his many books and articles in English and Spanish included *The Ideal of the Practical: Colombia's Struggle to Form a Technical Elite*, Austin (University of Texas Press, 1976), published in Spanish (El Ancora Editores, Universidad Nacional, 1989), and *Colombia: Fragmented Land, Divided Society* (with Marco Palacios), Oxford University Press, 2002; published in Spanish (Editorial Norma, 2002).

WHEREAS, Pancho and his wife enjoyed many adventures all over the world with extensive travel in Latin America and residence Bogotá, where he was doing research and teaching. He was an active man, preferring to ride his bicycle everywhere and playing tennis into his early 80's with a company of friends referred to, affectionately, as the geriatric tennis league; and

WHEREAS, Pancho was a fierce but scrupulously fair competitor in his tennis league. He had a legendary spinning trick shot which was feared and treasured depending on who was fortunate enough to have him for a partner. Those who had the honor of playing with him were improved not just in skill but by having known and learned from him in tennis and in world affairs which were discussed on a regular basis on the court and at end of season celebrations. His wit and kindness on the court will be deeply missed by every one of his tennis friends.; and

WHEREAS, survivors in addition to his wife include his two sons, Mark and Joshua, their partners Krista Pearson and Rebecca O'Keefe, granddaughter, Meera Pearson Safford, his brother Richard Gillett and his wife Anne as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins who dearly loved Pancho.

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 work of Franklin R. "Pancho" Safford and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he 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 same be tendered to the family of Franklin R. "Pancho" Safford.

[22-4568](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN MICHAEL CARSON

WHEREAS, loyal, former employee of the Cook County Clerk David Orr's office, who was known for quality constituent services and for exceptional leadership as an election official; and

WHEREAS, John was born in 1957 to Mary Jo Carson and John Hatvagner. After his father died, Mary Jo married Merrill Carson who adopted John and raised him as his son; and

WHEREAS, John was raised in Thornton Township by his loving mother, along with his faithful brother David. John attended Thornton Township High School before going to college at South Suburban College. He later took courses at the University of Illinois at Chicago while working for the Cook County Clerk; and

WHEREAS, John moved to Evanston in 1992 and immediately became a key member of the Democratic Party of Evanston serving in various leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, John was employed in the Cook County Clerk's Office from 1991 to 2010 and held multiple constituent outreach and election positions; and

WHEREAS, John had a reputation for being laser-focused on whatever task he undertook. One of his favorite projects was voter registration. He set records for registering new voters at many public events. He especially liked working 4th of July parades in Evanston, Morton Grove and Skokie where one year he registered over 500 new voters from the crowds watching the various parades; and

WHEREAS, John was always a team player looking for ways to help others and contribute to the team efforts on any task; and

WHEREAS, John overcame many health challenges during his life. In 2010, he was forced to retire because of illness. For the last 12 years, he has lived in a health care facility where he showed grace under difficult circumstances; and

WHEREAS, John is survived by his brother David Carson, and his cousin, Mary Olsson.

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 work of John Michael Carson and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he 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 same be tendered to the family of John Michael Carson.

[22-4570](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE OF JIM SCHWALL

WHEREAS, Jim Schwall, singer-songwriter, photographer, and co-founder of the legendary Siegel-Schwall Band died at the age of 79 at his home in Tucson, Arizona; and Jim was born in Evanston and grew up in Wilmette, attending New Trier High School; and

WHEREAS, growing up, Jim bought his LPs from legendary Chicago record store owner Bob_Koester. “He played Lead Belly records and a lot of bluegrass and blues music, like Lightnin’ Hopkins, Ahmad Jamal,” his brother said. “There was a lot of folk music happening,” his brother said, “and at a party once, one of his friends brought a guitar down from the attic.” It was a Gibson B-25 acoustic. He started to play and just took off with it, continuing to perform with that same B-25, later amplified; and

WHEREAS, Jim played guitar, mandolin, bass guitar, accordion, and other instruments. He studied music at Roosevelt University where he met Corky Siegel and became interested in electric blues music. They formed the blues duo in 1964 and began playing at Chicago bars and clubs. They played with and were inspired by blues greats Muddy Waters, Howlin’ Wolf, and Willie Dixon as well as the next generation of blues legends, including Buddy Guy, Junior Wells and Little Walter; and

WHEREAS, Siegel-Schwall got a regular Thursday night gig at Pepper’s Lounge at 43rd and Vincennes, where they apprenticed with blues greats. When the Paul Butterfield Blues Band left Big John’s in Old

Town to hit the road, Siegel-Schwall started a residency, performing there with others influenced by the blues musicians, including Mike Bloomfield and Harvey Mandel. One of their records, “953 West,” is named for another favorite venue: the old Quiet Knight at 953 W. Belmont Avenue, by the “L”; and

WHEREAS, the Siegel-Schwall Band became quite popular, and by 1967, were touring nationally, playing San Francisco’s famed Fillmore West with Janis Joplin and the Jefferson Airplane, producing a demo for Joni Mitchell’s “The Circle Game,” and performing with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops. The group recorded for Vanguard Records, RCA’s Wooden Nickel, Deutsche Grammophon and Alligator Records; and

WHEREAS, they charmed Seiji Ozawa, then music director of the Ravinia Festival, which led to the commissioning of a piece by William Russo, “Three Pieces for Blues Band and Orchestra.” They performed that piece with orchestras across the country; and

WHEREAS, “Jim Schwall created a unique blend of folk-blues guitar and electrified Chicago style,” said Alligator Records founder Bruce Iglauer. “His playing was melodic and subtle, and his original songs were filled with humor and fun. He could always make an audience feel better because his music was full of joy;” and

WHEREAS, “The songs that I like tell a story,” Jim once told the Wisconsin State Journal, “or paint a picture of a person or place.” His solo albums included the 2014 release “Bar Time Lovers” on the Conundrum InterArts label. One of his most popular compositions, “I Think It Was the Wine,” includes lines that invited singalongs: “I’ve always been a pacifist, been known to run from a fight. I didn’t never hit nobody with no 2 X 4 till last night... Maybe that old moon was full - but I think it was the wine;” and

WHEREAS, except for some long sabbaticals and solo and side projects, the band came together to play in different incarnations each decade from the 1960s until 2016, with Mr. Schwall and Siegel always at the core. Schwall was also the leader of his own blues-rock band, the Jim Schwall Band. This band formed in the mid-1970s, and versions continued playing live on an intermittent basis into the 2000s; and

WHEREAS, Jim was also involved in numerous other musical projects. He played guitar and accordion in the band So Dang Yang and was the bassist for the Cajun Strangers. While at Roosevelt University, he wrote operas. But Jim never wanted to be pigeonholed, saying, “I’d rather operate a drill press than play Chopin.” He was a deejay in Madison at WORT-FM and in Davenport, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, he earned his doctorate in music composition from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and taught music at the college level. As a composer, he specialized in ballet, opera, and other music for the stage; and

WHEREAS, Schwall was also a professional photographer, and did different types of photography. In his later years he worked at creating art prints that combined human figures and natural landscapes. He sometimes used 19th-century photographic techniques such as kalotype, cyanotype, and gum printing, non-silver techniques that predate the gelatin silver process; and

WHEREAS, Jim was also politically active. He ran for mayor of Madison in 2002 and worked to get funding to reduce homelessness. He retired to Tucson in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Jim is survived by his brothers William “Chico” and Stephen Schwall.

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 work of Jim Schwall and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he 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 same be tendered to the family of Jim Schwall.

[22-4599](#)

Sponsored by: LUIS ARROYO JR, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, 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, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING ERIE FAMILY HEALTH DURING NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

WHEREAS, in 1957, Dr. Robert Snyder, an internist at Northwestern University Medical School, began providing onsite medical care for senior citizens at Erie Neighborhood House, a community center for immigrants in West Town; and

WHEREAS, by 1970, Erie Family Health Centers had evolved into a full-service community health center and was officially incorporated as a separate entity from Erie Neighborhood House; and

WHEREAS, today Erie provides care to over 87,000 patients a year, serving people from over 150 zip codes across Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Health and Human Services recognizes Erie as a “Health Center Quality Leader” for providing care that ranks in the top 10% nationally for quality. In 2021, during a continued pandemic, Erie’s quality scores were ranked #1 in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, during the pandemic, Erie has provided over 120,000 COVID-19 vaccines, over 60,000 COVID-19 tests, and care and support to 7,000 patients who tested positive for the virus; and

WHEREAS, Erie Family Health Center and staff are motivated by the belief that healthcare is a human

right while providing affordable care to support healthier people, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Erie Family Health Center is celebrating National Health Center Week from August 7th through the 13th in honor of those front-line providers, staff, and beloved patients who have lost their lives during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and members of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of Erie Family Health during National Health Center Week.

[22-4600](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), SCOTT R. BRITTON, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRANDON JOHNSON, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, the month of July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, a month-long initiative to bring awareness to the unique mental health struggles of all racial and ethnic minorities across the country; and

WHEREAS, National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month was brought before Congress, to be formally recognized on June 2, 2008, in honor of Bebe Moore Campbell with the goal of bringing forth solutions to the unique mental health struggles of racial and ethnic minorities; and

WHEREAS, in Mental Health America's 2022 state ranking report, Illinois ranked 12th overall which indicates lower prevalence of mental illness and higher rates of access to care; and

WHEREAS, despite Illinois's high overall ranking, according to an article published in BMC Public Health, many minority groups in Illinois have disproportionate differences in access to health care which affects their health-related quality of life; and

WHEREAS, despite experiencing mental health issues at a similar rate to white Americans, only about 1 in 3 Black and Hispanic Americans receive mental health care; and

WHEREAS, poverty level impacts mental health status and improving a person's economic situation reduces their risk of anxiety and depression, as evidenced by Black and Hispanic Americans living below poverty level being twice as likely to report serious psychological distress than Black and Hispanic Americans living over twice the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, Black and Hispanic Americans are overrepresented in poverty compared to population percentage due to inequitable historical practices; and

WHEREAS, according to a systemic review and meta-analysis published in BMC Public Health, racial minorities experienced more stigma than racial majorities for common mental disorders and according to an article published in The Commonwealth Fund, 70% of Black Americans say they have been mistreated by America's health care system and 55% of Black Americans say they distrust it; and

WHEREAS, provider bias is a cause of mental health disparities among minorities, documented by a 2019 American Psychological Association report stating that 83% of psychologists are white while only 17% are minorities, and a study published by the American Psychological Association found that while most psychologists received cultural training only 37% went through a program that allowed them to engage with other cultures; and

WHEREAS, in the same study, when asked, participants expressed that clinical experiences were more important than training in terms of creating culturally competent psychologists; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body wishes to raise awareness to the issues presented herein by promoting National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month in Cook County;

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 Minority Mental Health Awareness Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in conjunction with National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month that the month of July be hereby declared as National Minority Mental Health 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 National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

[22-4601](#)

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE PARK RIDGE PISTOLS FOR WINNING THE USSSA SPACE COAST WORLD SERIES

WHEREAS, the Park Ridge Pistols girls' travel softball team won the 16B USSSA Space Coast World Series held in Viera, Florida on July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Pistols were dominant the eight games they played, with a perfect 8-0 series and 7 shutouts. They outscored their opponents an astounding 52-5; and

WHEREAS, the Pistols opened the tournament by beating the Atlanta Flames 7-0, the Louisiana Patriots 2-0, the Southern Indiana Hotshots 8-0, the Carolina Thunder 5-0, and the Argyle Xtreme Aces 8-0 in just the first two days of competition; and

WHEREAS, the Pistols proceeded to beat the Tennessee Mojo with a 6-0 shutout and the Atlanta Premier with a remarkable 10-0 shutout; and

WHEREAS, the Pistols finished the tournament by facing the Tennessee Mojo once again and succeeded in winning 6-5 to secure the championship; and

WHEREAS, the Park Ridge Pistols faced 21 teams from around the country and had the most points scored and the fewest points given up throughout the tournament; and

WHEREAS, this impressive team of talented young women consists of Ava Amelio (Maine South), Jessica Hoffman (Maine South), Hannah Hoffman (Maine South), Ryan Mullarkey (Maine South), Maura Lawlor (Maine South), Maeve Lawlor (Maine South), Charlotte Baumann (Maine South), Ashley Gricius (Maine South), Angela Mazukelli (Maine South), Mackenzie Bickhaus (Niles West), Genciana Ortiz (Niles West), and Grace Dorgan (Resurrection); and

WHEREAS, the Pistols were led by their dedicated coaches, Ralph Amelio, Matthew Baumann, Richard Hoffman, Dan Lawlor, and Terry Mullarkey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby congratulate the Park Ridge Pistols on an amazing season and tournament and commend them and their coaches for their determination, talent, and teamwork; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the team as a token of our appreciation for its great teamwork and accomplishments.

[22-4623](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE SOUL CHILDREN OF CHICAGO

WHEREAS, the Soul Children of Chicago's (SCC) organization is the nation's oldest internationally acclaimed, Grammy award winning youth gospel choir, and is a 501(c)3 professional youth organization whose mission is to Educate, Elevate, and Illuminate "EEI" our youth ages 7 through 17; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, the establishment of the organization began under the leadership of Dr. Walter Whitman Jr. with a vision to help develop our youth and their gifts, catapulting them into becoming the next generation of global leaders by assisting in the areas of Family, Religion - (Spirituality), Business - (Economy, Finance), Politics - (Government), Education, Media - (Communication), Arts - (Entertainment, Celebration, Sports) where they not only advance in life and people skills, but improve in their everyday skills; and

WHEREAS, using creative arts as a catalyst, SCC strives to provide an incentive for inner city youth to remain free of gangs, drugs and teen pregnancies while maintaining academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Soul Children of Chicago prides themselves in their “Outreach Efforts” by giving back to the community with businesses and companies such as The Olive Branch, Bright Star Community Development, Father Michael Pfleger & Saint Sabina’s War on Gang Violence, and Truth Hope & Justice foundation; and

WHEREAS, founder and CEO, Dr. Walter W. Whitman, Jr, has been in the forefront of youth choirs for the past 40 years taking the Soul Children and its brand across the world; and

WHEREAS, SCC have also built wells in Monrovia, Liberia, which established global networks with Soul Children choirs around the world in countries such as Oslo Norway, Sweden, Indonesia, Germany, England, and South Africa; and

WHEREAS, the over 40-year history of the Soul Children of Chicago is filled with the names of successful participants, and the efforts of SCC has spawned graduates, artists, pastors, community leaders, professionals, doctors and lawyers, entrepreneurs, successful businessmen and women to name a few; and

WHEREAS, from 1981 until present times, Soul Children of Chicago has helped communities and numerous youths contribute more than 16 billion volunteer hours with their nonprofit organization, and today the nonprofit sector affects nearly every citizen in one way or another, from concerts and fundraisers, trips to show different demographics to our youth, partnering with the Olive Branch Mission and other groups that enrich young people and service our community, toy drives, to social services agencies that provide food, clothing, housing and training for those less fortunate; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Walter Whitman and The Soul Children of Chicago are dedicated to encouraging our youth and providing hope and inspiration in a world filled with challenges and despair; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of the work done by The Soul Children of Chicago / One Soul in the lives of our citizens, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners are pleased to honor The Soul Children of Chicago and Dr. Walter Whitman Jr.;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the President and Members of the Cook County

Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, honor The Soul Children of Chicago, and thank them for over 40 years of service in the public interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, July 27th, 2022, be hereby declared Soul Children of Chicago Day in the County of Cook; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to Dr. Walter Whitman Jr. as a symbol of our respect and esteem.

[22-4625](#)

Sponsored by: BRANDON JOHNSON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES COLE FOUNDER OF SHINE KING

WHEREAS, James Cole was born in Humboldt, Tennessee, to sharecroppers Gertie and Vernon Cole; and

WHEREAS, James Cole and his family arrived in Chicago around ninth grade and he attended Marshall High School on the West Side; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole's entrepreneurial streak was evident early on. He would shine shoes outside a pool hall at Madison Street and Kedzie Avenue to make some money for extra curricula activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole's first brick-and-mortar business was at a record store at 3205 W. Madison St. By 1964, he started renting the store himself; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole's Shine King store has become a vestige in the community. His stores have provided jobs for people in the community. His shops have also been a safe haven where people network, shoot the breeze with friends, and have a laugh; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole has inspired a generation of entrepreneurs. He was a generous man who believed in helping those who were at-risk, neglected, and forgotten by society. Those who needed a second chance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole's business was successful enough to allow him to expand his entrepreneurship into real estate, roofing and tailoring; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole is survived by his daughters Karen, Darlene and Ariel, sons Steve and Jameson, 25 grandchildren and his great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cole will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend our most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of James Cole; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of James Cole as a sign of our honor and respect.