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A Day to Give Thanks

Happy Thanksgiving!

I am looking forward to seeing my family and friends come together this year, unlike last year. We are all vaccinated, and some have gotten booster shots, which is we can enjoy the holiday with some of my family members who high risk. My family along with many other families experienced significant number of family members passing this year, it makes this year extra special that we celebrate together for our annual Thanksgiving meal and bowling tournament while also being very mindful to be careful.

This past weekend, I was able to spend time in Virginia with my son, who is currently serving in the US Navy. He has duty on Thanksgiving so won't be able to be home for the holiday. While we were able to visit with him, many families cannot spend time together with their loved ones that are on active duty, serving our Country. Please keep all our service members in your thoughts and prayers during this holiday season.

This week I am giving thanks to my family, friends, fellow Veterans and all of you! The support of my loved ones combined with the wonderful people of the 84th District makes being your state Representative tuly a blessing.

While the holidays is a wonderful time for some, it's also important to acknowledge that not everyone is as fortunate. I encourage anyone who is struggling in any situation to please call my district office (630) 585-1308. My constituent services office will be able to provide any assistance or resources so that we can help you as winter approaches. I have listed some upcoming events below.

I am wishing you and your family and friends a wonderful Thanksgiving and remember to Shop Local and support our small businesses in our community.

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P.S. Don't forgot to drop off a new and unwrapped toy for our 2021 Toys for Tots donation boxes in our office!

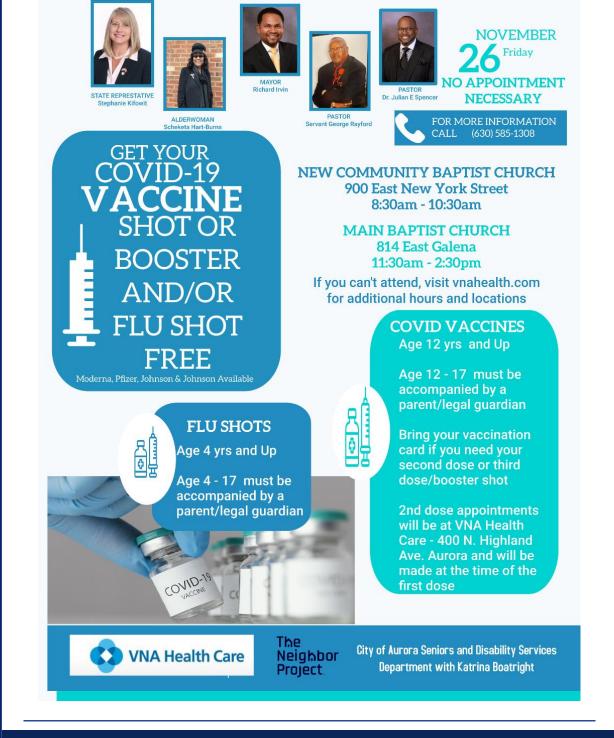


FREE Covid-19 Vaccine Shot or Booster and/or Flu Shot Event Friday November 26

I'm excited COVID-19 booster shots are becoming more and more available with holiday travel upon us. Thank you for doing your part in getting the vaccine or a booster, wearing a mask when needed, hand sanitizing, and keeping your distance to stop the spread.

This week I am partnering with Alderwoman Schekta Hart-Burns, Mayor Irvin, Pastor Rayford, and Pastor Spencer in hosting a FREE vaccine and/or flu shot event. You can get your Covid-19 vaccine, booster shots, and a free flu shot! Family gatherings are an important part of the holiday season and in celebrating the festivities. Getting your vaccines not only keeps you healthy and safe, but everyone else around you as well. If you have any questions on this event call my office at (630)-585-1308, or see below for more info.

If you are in need of more information on the vaccine, booster shots, and travel guidance for the 2021 holiday season please visit **IDPH** for information!



Shop Small Saturday on November 27th

You might not realize it, but everytime you pick up a cup of coffee from your favorite neighborhood cafe or buy a gift from a local artist or shop, you're shopping small and making a difference. One way to support local businesses is to buy gift cards now for later use, or guy gift cards as gifts, thank yous, or as random acts of kindess. Or you can visit the store and find that unique items for that special someone.

Aurora: For fun shoping in Downtown Aurora visit Auroradowntown.org

Montgomery: For fun shopping in Downtown Montgomery visit Chamber of Commerce.

Oswego: For fun shopping in Downtown Oswego visit GoOswego.org

Naperville: For fun shopping in Downtown Naperville visit DowntownNaperville.com

Giving Tuesday, November 30th

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement which allows people and organizations to transform communities and the world. This year Giving Tuesday falls on November 30th, and is a day where you can make a change in your community.

Donate and support your favorite charity or multiple charities on Giving Tuesdsay.

We are accepting Toys for Tots until Dec 9th

My office had an overwhelming amount of toys last year, and I'm happy to announce one of our boxes is already filled up! Let's continue to donate and fill the other box to the brim. Our office is 1677 Montgomery Road between the dentist and florist.

Please consider donating to Toys for Tots, the boxes are in the District office! Toys for children of all ages are welcome, but specifically ages 0-2 and 10-12 are needed more so for both boys and girls. Your donations go a long way in making a child's Holiday Season both joyful and memorable. Call our office at (630)-585-1308 with any questions.

The orignal Toys for Tots project was founded in 1947 by Marine Corps Reserve Major Bill Hendricks, and it became a nonprofit public charity at the behest of the Marine Corps in 1991. The organization is still run exclusively by Veteran Marines.



Toys for Tots 2020

Health Coverage Enrollment Runs until January 15 2022

YOUR HEALTH COVERAGE ENROLLMENT STARTS HERE



Open Enrollment for the ACA Marketplace Begins Nov. 1

Open Enrollment for the ACA Health Insurance Marketplace started on Nov. 1, 2021. Don't forget to review and compare your health plan options before you choose or renew for 2022. Free assistance is available to help you enroll and you may qualify for financial help. Visit: <u>https://GetCoveredIllinois.gov</u>

Diabetes Awareness Month

Get Tested and Spread Awareness!

This Month is Diabetes Awareness Month. Diabetes is the 7th leading cause of death in Illinois, but early detection and preventative measures can help save lives. That's why this year, I supported a new law, <u>SB0667</u>, to expand access to life-saving preventative diabetes screenings for Illinoisans. This requires insurers to cover tests for people with or at risk of developing diabetes.

In Illinois, roughly 1.3 million adults have Diabetes but roughly 341,000 are unaware that they have it. This is why testing is not only a crucial, but an important first step in combating the disease. Tests are available and affordable and can help individuals detect Diabetes. Learn more about the disease by clicking on **IDPH**.



Facebook Live Every Monday at 9:00am

I continue to host Monday Morning Coffee live via Facebook at 9:00am-10:00am where you can post your comments and questions.

I realize not everyone has Facebook. The good news is that you can still participate. If you would like to join us on Monday mornings, you can join in via ZOOM! Once connected via ZOOM, you'll be able to interact just as if you were on Facebook. Don't worry you will not be on live - your video feed and mic will be muted.

The ZOOM link will be emailed to everyone separately for Monday morning participation.

If you would like to join us, please email <u>Michelle@ILDistrict84.com</u> or call the office at 630.585.1308

