

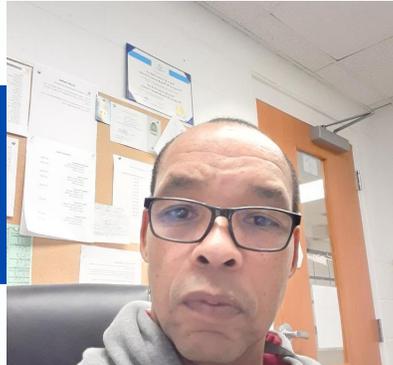


BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF FREEPORT & STEPHENSON COUNTY

CLUB HOUSE CHRONICLES

Newsletter of the Boys & Girls Club of Freeport & Stephenson Co.
Connecting to the Community

DIRECTOR'S DESK



Christmas is truly the most wonderful time of the year, but once it has passed there is no reason that we should stop having the spirit of giving, both in terms of exhibiting caring acts of kindness and charitable support. At the Boys & Girls Club we see this occurring throughout the course of the year. So many individuals offer their time and effort to support and ensure kids get the physical, social and emotional support they need to be successful. They serve as mentors, coaches, tutors, instructors, and supervisors for programs and special events, and many do it from year to year. In the same spirit many different donors continue to give regularly, or on a periodic basis. Long after the Christmas trees and decorations have been put away volunteers and donors continue to share their time, talents and donations both in season and out of season.

BOARD MEMBERS

JAMES RHYNE, DIRECTOR
RYAN SHIRLEY, PRESIDENT

DENISE BOOK
RONNIE BUSH

TAMMIE JAMISKA
JOE KANSKY

PATRICIA NORMAN
TED ODENDAHL

PETE SERVATIUS
REV. ADRON SIMMONS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE BCG, PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE AT BCGFREEPORT.COM OR SEND CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS TO:

511 S. LIBERTY AVE.
FREEPORT, IL 61032



AMITY HAUNTED HOUSE

AFTER A 2 YEAR HIATUS DURING THE PANDEMIC, AMITY'S HAUNTED HOUSE MADE A SUCCESSFUL RETURN TO THE KING CAMPUS. THE SET UP WAS BASED OFF OF THE POPULAR TELEVISION SERIES AMERICAN HORROR STORIES. CLOSE TO 500 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE HAUNTED HOUSE WHICH HAD 30 PLUS VOLUNTEERS FROM AMITY, BGC, AND HEAD START PITCHING IN TO GUARANTEE A SUCCESSFUL RETURN.





The woman king

“You are more powerful than you know, do not give that away.”

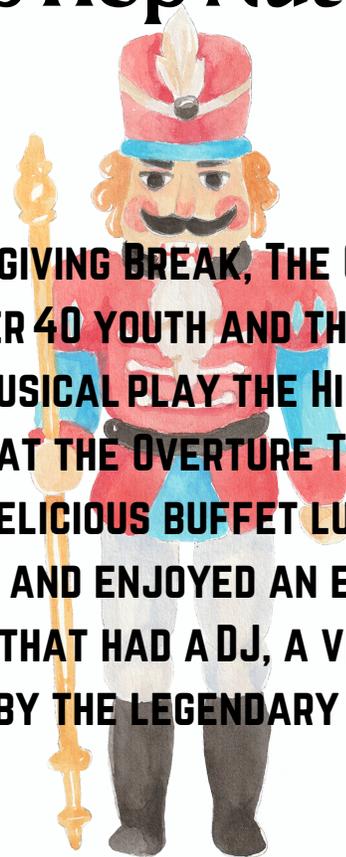
– Izogie (the woman king)

THE CLUB TOOK A GROUP OF 40 YOUNG LADIES TO THE LINDO THEATER TO SEE THE EMPOWERING MOVIE, THE WOMAN KING STARRING HEROINE ACTRESS VIOLA DAVIS. THE GIRLS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY WOMEN CHAPERONS FROM THE NACCP, CITIZENS UNITED FOR RIGHTS, RESPECT AND EQUITY (CURRE) AND LOCAL COMMUNITY.



The Hip Hop Nutcracker

OVER THANKSGIVING BREAK, THE CLUB TOOK A GROUP OF OVER 40 YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES TO SEE THE MUSICAL PLAY THE HIP HOP NUTCRACKER AT THE OVERTURE THEATER. THEY ATE A DELICIOUS BUFFET LUNCH AT PIZZA RANCH, AND ENJOYED AN ENERGY FILLED SHOW THAT HAD A DJ, A VIOLINIST, AND WAS HOSTED BY THE LEGENDARY MC KURTIS BLOW!



Birding Club



ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH BOYS & GIRLS CLUB BIRDING CLUB PARTNERED WITH AUDUBON SOCIETY, TRAVELED TO SAND BLUFF BIRD OBSERVATORY TO WATCH HOW BIRDS ARE TRACKED AND MONITORED AS THEY MIGRATE. WE WERE ABLE TO EXPERIENCE THE BANDING OF THE FIRST FEMALE RED-TAILED HAWK. STUDENTS WERE GIVEN A BIRD OBSERVATION DIARY, PICTURES OF COMMON BIRDS OF THE AREA AS WELL AS A PATCH. WE HOPE TO PLAN A TRIP IN JANUARY TO SEE THE BALD EAGLES AT LOCK AND DAM 13.



Did you know??

- **Female red-tailed hawks are much larger than their male counterparts, and this is the best way to tell them apart.**
- **Female red-tailed hawks are powerfully built birds of prey. When seen in flight they have broad wings, with obvious primary feathers that look like fingertips.**

Kids Christmas Party 2022



Lots of FUN was had at our Kids Christmas Party 2022. Kids did arts and crafts in the gym while the teenagers created their version of an “ugly” Christmas sweater. Bingo, decorating gingerbread houses, and games were held. We had pizza from Cimino’, bouncy house and a visit from Santa! Then came gifts donated from FHN and bicycles donated by the police department. It was a great event with many smiles. A special shout out to the event sponsor SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group.



COLLABORATION AND CELEBRATION



Staff members from Amity, Head Start and BGC attend 1st Campus wide team building exercise, and celebration of service and partnership.

Employee spotlight **Meet Sanãa Cauthen**

Sanãa has been coming to the boys and girls since she was 10 years old. She has been in many different programs and enjoyed coming to club everyday. Sanãa started working here at the club as a junior staffer at the age of 15. Despite the covid outbreak Sanãa graduated from Freeport High School in 2020 with her high school diploma and is now a part time employee. She is also the assistant coach of our very own dance team, BGC Nation. Sanãa enjoys working with our kids here at the club. She has a great work ethic and is always willing to lend a helping hand to others. She always has a positive outlook and is a great asset to the team. We appreciate everything you do, Sanãa !



WE NEED YOUR HELP

THANK YOU!

The BGC is also supported by IL Department of Human Services, IL State Board of Education, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, IL Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, United Way of Northwest IL, Community Foundation of Northern IL, Freeport Township, Northern IL Community Action Agency, Freeport School District & Amity Learning Center

The floor tile in the Game Room and Jazzercise Room is over 28 years old, it's cracked and starting to detach from the foundation. As a temporary fix we have replaced several individual tiles. At this point a total replacement is the only real long term solution. We have received bids and the replacement cost for both rooms is \$9,688. If you can help us please make your check payable to Boys & Girls Club Of Stephenson County and designate to "Floor Tiles".