



# TERRA COSTA HOWARD

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 42

Dear Terra,

Being a parent can be the best job in the world – and it can also be one of the hardest, especially if you are very young and don't have all the resources you need.

Teen Parent Connection, a non-profit based in Glen Ellyn, has set up a great new program to help teen parents in DuPage County provide a happy holiday for their children. Through the Holiday Sharing Program, parents can earn "Holiday Bucks" by participating in parenting classes and other programs. They can then spend those Holiday Bucks on toys and other gifts for their children.

**That's where we come in.** Teen Parent Connection is asking us to donate those new toys, books, games, winter clothing, diapers, and baby wipes (as well as gifts for Mom and Dad). To make it easy to give, you can donate directly from their wishlists on [Amazon](#), [Target](#), and [Walmart](#). You can also scan the QR codes in the graphic above.

Teen Parent Connection will be accepting donations through Monday, Dec. 18, and it would be great if we could provide every single gift on the list. They're hoping to make this a happier holiday for 100 young families, so they need plenty of help.

If you can, please give. And if you are interested in learning more about the Holiday Sharing Program, please contact Heather Moyer at [heatherm@teenparentconnection.org](mailto:heatherm@teenparentconnection.org).

**Teen Parent Connection**  
parenting. prevention. empowerment.

**GIVE A LITTLE JOY THIS SEASON**  
BY SUPPORTING TPC'S

*Holiday Sharing Program*

**BRING JOY TO YOUNG FAMILIES BY DONATING BRAND NEW ITEMS:**

- Toys that promote learning (ages 0-5)
- Books and games
- Warm winter jackets & clothing (ages 0-5)
- Diapers, baby wipes & other baby supplies
- Gifts for Mom & Dad: Pajamas, robes, purses, wallets, bath products for adults, candles, housewares, etc.
- Gift cards: Walmart, Target, Jewel, Aldi, Amazon etc (\$10 increments preferred)

**SKIP THE STORE! ORDER AND SHIP DIRECTLY FROM OUR WISHLISTS:**

Amazon: <https://a.co/fMWXpvr> | Target: <https://tinyurl.com/TPCTarget> | Walmart: <https://tinyurl.com/TPCWalmart>

**LET US DO THE SHOPPING!**  
Make a monetary donation: <https://givebutter.com/mJGUWW>

Kindly make all donations by December 12, 2023. Please contact Heather Moyer with any questions at [heatherm@teenparentconnection.org](mailto:heatherm@teenparentconnection.org)

### Enjoy Bingo Night in Glen Ellyn TOMORROW

After a long work week, it can be nice to kick back and enjoy an evening of family-friendly fun. So tomorrow (Friday, Dec. 15) you're invited to Family Bingo Night at Ackerman SFC, 800 St. Charles Road in Glen Ellyn.

No registration is required; just drop in between 5:30 and 7 p.m. It's open to all ages, but children aged 15 and under must be with an adult. Bingo cards are \$1 each. You can click [here](#) to learn more.



### Kids are invited for Sports and Fun with Santa SATURDAY – but don't forget to pre-register!

I never think of Santa as a sports figure, but maybe that's just me...

Anyway, you're invited to join Santa and his fitness elves

for a morning of festive games, sports, arts and crafts, and more from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 16 at Ackerman SFC, 800 St. Charles Road in Glen Ellyn.

A pizza lunch will be provided. This event is for children ages 3 to 12. Advance registration is required. The fee is \$25 for residents and \$35 for nonresidents. You can click [here](#) to register.



## Give holiday joy at the Lombard Fire Department Toy Parade on SATURDAY

The Lombard Fire Department needs your help to bring a little holiday magic to local families in need.

At 10:30 a.m. this Saturday, Dec. 16, festive fire trucks will depart from Station 45, at 50 E. St. Charles Road, and collect donated toys and gifts as they proceed south on Main Street to Glenbard East High School.



Can't make it on Saturday? You can still take part in this traditional Lombard event by donating new, unwrapped toys and baby supplies at the [following locations](#):

- Fire Station 45, 50 E. St. Charles Road
- Fire Station 44, 2020 S. Highland Ave.
- Lombard Village Hall, 255 E. Wilson Ave.
- Sunset Knolls Recreation Center, 820 S. Finley Road
- Madison Meadows Athletic Center, 500 E. Wilson Ave.
- Helen Plum Library, 411 S. Main St.
- Lombard Ace Hardware, 837 Westmore Meyers Road
- Clark Orthodontics, 23 N. Main St.

Requested items include new, unwrapped toys, sports equipment, formula, wipes, and diapers. Donations will benefit Toy Express and Teen Parent Connection.

## Recycle electronics in Lisle SATURDAY

Looking to clear out some room in your home before the holidays? You're in luck! The Village of Lisle is hosting its quarterly electronics and textile recycling event from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 16, in the Commuter Parking Lot just west of Village Hall on Burlington Avenue.

Residents of DuPage County can bring outdated electronics to be recycled. Depending on size, old televisions, flat screens, and projection TVs will be accepted for a small fee (\$25/\$35). You also can drop off textiles such as clothing, shoes, accessories, bedding, and other household textiles in any condition. Even old towels, toys, purses, and rags can be recycled.

To learn more about the event, pay in advance, see a map of the location, or review a list of acceptable items, you can click [here](#).



## It's the season of giving, so please roll up your sleeves and donate blood in Lombard SATURDAY

On Saturday, Dec. 16, the Lombard Masonic Lodge #1098, will

host a blood drive from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at First Church of Lombard, 220 S. Main St.

Donors will receive a limited-edition Versiti 2024 calendar, while supplies last. Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are also welcome. You can click [here](#) to schedule an appointment.



## Kids (and parents) can enjoy a Night Out with Tri-Town YMCA on SATURDAY

Parents, do you have some holiday shopping to do? Are you looking for a sitter? Tri-Town YMCA may have the solution for you.

Just register today for Kids Night Out, from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16 at St. Alexander Parish School, 136 S. Cornell Ave. in Villa Park.



Tri-Town will be sure to keep your kids busy with plenty of crafts, activities, games, and more. A pizza dinner is included, and it costs \$10 if you register in advance. You can click [here](#) to register.

## Need crutches or a wheelchair? Check out Lisle Township's Medical Lending Closet

Lisle Township's Medical Lending Closet offers access to gently used medical equipment at no cost to those in need. Residents may borrow medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, rollators, knee scooters, and shower chairs.



Equipment is loaned out for 90 days. They also happily take donations of the above listed items. Please call the Township office at (630) 968-2087 to check for availability of rental pieces you may need.

## Learn to dial back your inner critic TUESDAY

Do you find yourself beating yourself up and criticizing yourself as a parent? You're not alone.

The Glenbard Parent Series will present a webinar at noon and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19, to help you learn to silence that critic in your head and show yourself a little kindness instead.



Lisa Baylis, a parent, educator, author, and school counsellor, will talk about the importance of treating yourself with compassion and forgiveness, especially during these stressful times. It is important to have compassion for ourselves at a time where compassion fatigue and burnout are happening far too often. Leave with a compassionate perspective and a moment of pause that will help you through the holiday season.

As you may know, GPS is a locally based educational consortium dedicated to presenting distinguished, relevant, high-profile authors, clinicians, and educators who share research-based knowledge and practical wisdom. The group's mission is to enhance the resilience and well-being of all students by helping them build relationships, develop coping strategies, and forge responsible decision-making skills.

You can go to [glenbardgps.org](http://glenbardgps.org) for further information and the link to these webinars. To be placed on a reminder list for GPS events or submit a question in advance, send an email to Gilda Ross, Glenbard District 87 student and community projects coordinator, at [gilda\\_ross@glenbard.org](mailto:gilda_ross@glenbard.org).

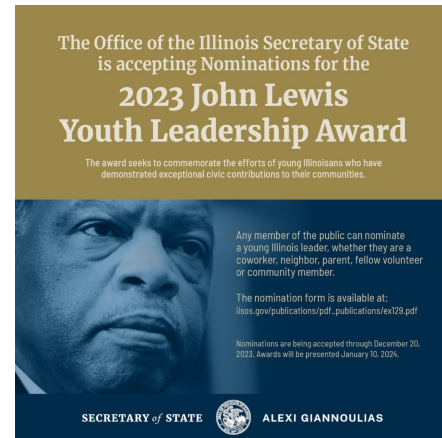
## Nominate a 'good troublemaker' for the 2023 John Lewis Youth Leadership Award

The late, great Congressman John Lewis famously advised a young friend: "Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

If you know a fearless young leader who lives by that principle, the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State is now accepting applications for the 2023 John Lewis Youth Leadership Award. The award seeks to commemorate the efforts of young Illinoisans who have made exceptional contributions to their communities.

The John Lewis Leadership Award, established by the National Association of Secretaries of State in 2021, aims to honor Congressman Lewis' impact and extraordinary legacy. Throughout his career as a U.S. Representative, Lewis strongly advocated for voting rights and consistently encouraged young people to participate in the democratic process.

I hope you'll take a few minutes and nominate an outstanding coworker, neighbor, parent, fellow volunteer, or community member. Nominations are currently being accepted through Dec. 20. To learn more, click [here](#). The nomination form is also available [here](#).



## Indulge in Christmas spirits at Cantigny

Experience the spirits of Christmas on Thursday evenings from 4 to 9 p.m. at Cantigny, 1S151 Winfield Road in Wheaton.

For \$60 per person, you'll get festive cocktails served along a charming walk, including a special drink in the McCormick House Freedom Hall Bar. You're invited to cheer and toast to a festive evening under the twinkling lights!

To learn more, you can click [here](#).



## Downers Grove asks for donations of gently worn cold-weather clothing to their Winter Coat Drive

The Village of Downers Grove is collecting donations of new and gently worn coats, winter hats, and scarves for all ages now through Dec. 29. The drive will benefit organizations such as Sharing Connections and DuPage PADS.

Donations can be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Public Works Facility, 5101 Walnut Ave. and Fire Station 2, 5420 Main St. The Village asks that clothing items be clean and wearable.



## Upcoming Events

We have lots of events coming up, so please take a look and mark your calendars today!

**Dec. 22: [Whoville Holiday](#)** from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Maryknoll Park, 845 Pershing Ave., Glen Ellyn

**Dec. 31: [Glen Ellyn Park District's Last Chance Burn](#)** from 7 to 10 a.m. at Ackerman SFC, 800 St. Charles Road. For ages 14 and up.

**Jan. 1-7: [Glen Ellyn Park District's Fitness Free Week](#)** at Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center, 800 St. Charles Road.

**Jan 7: [19th Annual World Peace Day Interfaith Prayer Service](#)** at 3 p.m. at the Wentz Concert Hall at North Central College, 171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville

**Jan 13: [Frozen Fest](#)** from 10 a.m. to noon at Lake Ellyn Park, 645 Lenox Road, Glen Ellyn

**Jan. 15: [Animals Around the World](#)** from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Main Street Recreation Center, 501 Hill Ave., Glen Ellyn

**Jan. 26: [Ackerman Arcade Night](#)** from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Ackerman SFC, 800 St. Charles Road, Glen Ellyn

If you have any questions about pending legislation or other issues related to your state government, please don't hesitate to contact my office at 630-812-9292 or [RepTCH42@gmail.com](mailto:RepTCH42@gmail.com).

Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay strong,



Terra Costa Howard  
State Representative  
42nd District  
913 S. Main St.  
Lombard, IL 60148  
(630) 812-9292



---

IL State Representative | 913 S Main, Lombard, IL 60148

[Unsubscribe reptch48@gmail.com](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [reptch42@gmail.com](mailto:reptch42@gmail.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!