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...from the Illinois General Assembly

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Senate President Cullerton and State Rep. Feigenholtz Health Fair Attracts 200 Senior Citizens

CHICAGO – State Senate President John Cullerton (D-Chicago) and state Representative Sara Feigenholtz (D-Chicago) partnered with Weiss Memorial Hospital to host a senior citizen health fair on Monday.

The fair, held at Weiss Memorial Hospital in Uptown, attracted over 200 senior citizens anxious to take advantage of free cholesterol and blood sugar screenings, a mini-lecture series by some of the hospital's top specialists, and one-on-one question and answer sessions with doctors and pharmacists. Dieticians were on hand to give personal consultations; after their consultation, attendees were able to receive a healthy cooking lesson from a volunteer chef, who taught seniors how to make healthy snacks at home. Various vendors from the Uptown area provided information on services available to seniors in the community.

"There was no better place to host this fair than at Weiss Memorial Hospital; their emphasis on preventative care and healthy everyday living is the direction our health care delivery should be moving toward," said Feigenholtz, who had her cholesterol checked by hospital volunteers. "It is so important that especially as health care costs rise, folks equip themselves with the tools to stay healthy now so that they do not end up needing costly urgent care in the future. Seniors were able to walk out of this fair with a better grasp of their own health options."

In addition to health-related activities, state agencies were on hand to help seniors navigate services. Many seniors found money owed to them through the state Treasurer's "Cash Dash" program, while others received assistance with the Circuit Breaker application through the Illinois Department on Aging.

"These events are important, making seniors aware of the options available to them," Senate President Cullerton said. "We need to make sure our seniors are informed, comfortable and have the resources they need for a happy, healthy life."

For more information, contact Feigenholtz's constituent services office at (773) 296-4141.

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