4 PR

Suburban Life



State senator Curran files legislation banning emissions of cancer-causing gas

By JERRY NOWICKI
Capitol News Illinois
Jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com

State senator John Curran filed legislation July 30 that would ban emissions of a known cancer-causing gas in Illinois by 2022.

It also, he hopes, would decrease the likelihood that a Willowbrook medical supply sterilization company linked to increased cancer rates in its surrounding area would ever emit the chemical again.

The gas is ethylene oxide, to which chronic exposure can cause increased cancer risks, reproductive effects and other major medical problems, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Curran, a Downers Grove Republican, filed Senate Bill 2264, which would ban emissions of ethylene oxide in most manufacturing processes aside from medical supply sterilization by 2021, then entirely by 2022.

The bill is the latest development in a high-profile legislative and judicial effort by Curran and other lawmakers and activists to prevent Sterigenics, a medical supply sterilization company that emits ethylene oxide, from reopening in Willowbrook.

See LEGISLATION, page 2

8 02722 98030 7

Feeling crafty at the Makery



Kendall Hickok, 7, and her sister, Ellena, 11, of Elmhurst, cut paper July 26 with a press at the Makery.



Lauren Gaughan of Elmhurst ties flies July 26 at Elmhurst Public Library's Makery.



Diane Himes of Elmhurst makes a paper box.



Photos by Sarah Minor for Shaw Med Adrian Ramirez, 9, of Elmhurst makes a button July 2 at Elmhurst Public Library's Makery.