

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, February 29, 2024 •

Hinsdale, Illinois •

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Splash supreme

Hinsdale Central senior Brody Marcet plunges in the FMC Natatorium pool in Westmont with the IHSA boys swimming and diving championship trophy on Saturday. Central captured back-to-back state titles for the first time since the school won three straight from 1987-89. For the full story and more photos, turn to Page 38. (Photo for The Hinsdalean by Joel Lerner)



Volunteer extraordinaire
Church, school, TCH all benefit
from woman's efforts.
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Joke's on you
Community Revue back to spoof
all things Hinsdale.
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Sweet repeat
Central boys swimming captures
back-to-back state titles.
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NEWS

Social studies still simmering in D86

Tensions remain over district course alignment, even after a cooling off period

By Ken Knutson

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The Hinsdale High School District 86 Board lifted the pause on social studies curriculum work last week. But the hiatus clearly hasn't healed board divisions over how and what courses are implemented.

By unanimous vote, the board voted to allow staff to resume crafting a social studies program for both Hinsdale Central and Hinsdale South campuses to follow in pursuit of the goal to align offerings at the schools.

"The social studies department has not worked on curricular alignment work" since June 8, said board President Cat Greenspon.

That's the date the board voted to suspend the process after voting 5-2 against a recommendation to revamp the program with four new courses for the 2024-25 school year. Greenspon said the district had received considerable feedback on the issue from various stakeholders in the interim and suggested the

time to move forward had come. "In order for the social studies department and Jason (Markey, assistant superintendent for academics) to consider the feedback and take a look at where social studies is, we need to lift the pause," she said.

Board member Jeff Waters lobbied for world history honors, which is taught to freshmen at Central only to be added as an option at South.

"Is it possible to do that, as it relates to lifting this pause?" Waters asked. Markey responded that because students have already selected their courses for next school year, adding a new class at this stage would be "very challenging" and "cause a great deal of confusion."

Waters pressed the matter in his board comments.

"This is an alignment piece, and I'm just trying to find a way to make it work," he said.

Board member Terri Walker urged her colleagues to respect the administration's recommenda-

tions on curriculum, which included replacing freshman world history with human geography at both campuses before the pause.

"Our role is to operate at a high level. Most of us are not curriculum experts," Walker said.

Greenspon proposed that the administration apprise the board at its March 7 meeting of the extent to which adding World History honors so late in the process would disrupt scheduling and staffing considerations. On a separate front, she requested communication from any student or family who felt dissuaded from taking a class after a Hinsdale South parent claimed his child had been steered away from taking biology as a freshmen in favor of following the physics-first pathway.

Walker, during her board comments, expressed concern about a possible revision of district's new course piloting policy that would require three years of piloting before acceptance.

"I see this as simply another way

for this board to micromanage the administration," she said. "So while we have agreed to alignment, this policy change, if implemented, will just delay our opportunity to align our core courses at both campuses."

The district does not have an official policy or procedure to test out new courses, according to Alex Mayster, director of communications.

Waters indicated he supported piloting as part of the course vetting process.

"I, for one, am not interested in unpiloted courses to replace existing curriculum," he said.

Board member Peggy James, chair of the policy committee, said the committee will be "considering changes" to how courses are piloted at its next meeting and that stakeholder feedback will be part of the deliberations.

"We will continue to work through (the issue) until we come up with the appropriate policy," James said.



Getting into the swing of things

Hinsdale Central softball coaches and team members and alumni hosted a softball clinic earlier this month for fourth through eighth graders. Brittany Wolski, Central's softball coach, and Andrea Richards, former Red Devil and current member of Lewis University's team, address the players. Gabby Trejo hauls in a catch. The clinic covered all the essential skills needed for success for the players. (Jim Slonoff photos)



ONCE UPON A TIME



Places from the past — Hinsdale’s building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, took this photo in 1979. At the time the Hinsdale Barber Shop was located at 8 W. Hinsdale Ave. A few years ago it moved a little farther west to 20 W. Hinsdale Ave. Today County Line Audio Video occupies 8 W. Hinsdale Ave. Do you have a Hinsdale photo that is at least 25 years old? We’d love to share it with our readers. Stop by our office at 7 W. First St. or email it to jslonoff@thehinsdalean.com.



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Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

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IPM report shows methods are effective

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

The village's approach to managing insects, disease and weeds, which focuses on environmentally sensitive and economically sound practices, is working well.

That was the message of John Finnell, forestry and parks superintendent, at the Feb. 20 Hinsdale Village Board meeting, in his annual integrated pest management report.

"Every year we get this — just like we go to the dentist," Village President Tom Cauley joked before the presentation.

By the numbers

The village has a diverse program to manage insects, disease and weeds, and in 2023 completed the following activities:

- 11 acres aerated
- 1,650 pounds of seed applied
- 242 ash trees treated
- 22 infected ash trees removed
- 355 elm trees treated
- 8 infected elm trees removed
- 255 trees planted
- 1,705 trees pruned
- 7 Woodlands rain gardens rebuilt
- 2 prairie burns conducted



John Finnell used a drip torch to start the burn in the Charleston Road Aquatic Garden last March. That area and the Hinsdale Prairie are scheduled for burns this spring as well to keep invasive species under control. (file photo)

"Hopefully it's not quite as painful," Finnell quipped.

The village's integrated pest management policy dates back to the 1990s, he noted.

"I think this is important because it really sets the stage for village residents," Finnell said. "If you're walking to the park or walking the parkway under the shade trees or in the playgrounds or any of our youth activities, this program impacts those activities quite a bit." The plan focuses on five different areas: turf maintenance, prairie maintenance, tree preservation, sustainable landscapes and mosquito abatement.

Village staff maintain more than 114 acres of turf in village parks and more than 23 acres in additional green spaces and rights of way. The village uses several methods to improve turf condition: aeration, seeding, watering, fertilization, soil

amending and weed control. Chemical herbicides, which are used only when necessary, were not applied in 2023.

The Veeck Park soccer fields are the most heavily used in the village, Finnell said. "Turf quality has been improving steadily for several years due to annual aerations, top dressing and overseeding to mitigate turf from all the athletic events out there," he said.

The village is responsible for an estimated 14,769 trees on public property such as parkways, parks and street islands. Hinsdale has been managing the threat of emerald ash borer and Dutch elm disease with a variety of programs. The village also plants trees to replace ones that are removed and conducts pruning to improve trees' structure and health as well as to promote safe conditions for motorists and pedestrians.

The village currently main-

tains three sustainable landscape projects: the Woodlands rain gardens, the Burlington Park wall and planting beds in the central business district.

"The benefits of sustainable landscape beds and these rain gardens include the filtration of pollutants, the reduction of mosquito breeding opportunities and they also provide a pollinator habitat," Finnell said.

Hinsdale is home to two prairies — the Charleston Road Aquatic Garden (1.5 acres across from KLM Park) and the Hinsdale Prairie (3 acres on Jackson between Seventh and Eighth). In 2023, staff performed burns at both locations.

"Native species have adapted to withstand the heat from these prescribed burns, but many non-native or invasive species do not have this ability," Finnell said. "Both natural areas responded well from the

burns with native plants flourishing."

The 2024 prescribed burns have been scheduled for late March.

The village works with Clarke Mosquito Management in DuPage County and the Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District in Cook County. West Nile Cases were up in 2023, with 162 reported human cases in Illinois, including 61 in Cook County and 16 in DuPage County.

The November 1995 IPM policy requires an annual review meeting to be held before the end of February each year.

"I kind of poke fun at this report," Cauley said when Finnell concluded his presentation. "We really do appreciate what you do. I think you've done an outstanding job, particularly with tree preservation. We really love the passion you have for the work."

Homeowner will not be reimbursed for garage door

The owner of a home in the 9300 block of Jefferson in Brookfield is not entitled to reimbursement for a garage door that was damaged while Hinsdale police were serving a warrant Oct. 23, Chief Brian King told The Hinsdalean last week.

The owner of the property, which is rented to tenants, spoke at the Feb. 20 Hinsdale Village Board meeting, asking trustees for the \$450 he spent to repair his garage door. King disputed his account that the renters provided police with a key one time and refused to do so a second time when police wanted to enter again.

"They pretty much refused to open the door for us," King said. "We asked for consent."

Police then obtained a search warrant.

"Our detectives cut the lock and forced entry," King said.

Inside the garage, King said police found what they were looking for in relation to a bag that was stolen from a car in the Kramer Foods parking lot after the car window was smashed earlier that day.

"We seized the vehicle that we were looking for that was used in the burglaries and subsequently processed that vehicle back here at Hinsdale PD,"

he said. "Proceeds from other crimes were recovered in the course of that search. That satchel from our burglary was not, but evidence was recovered that tied them to the scene."

The investigation is ongoing, King said, adding that police have no liability unless they act in an overly destructive manner while conducting a search.

"The easiest way to breach a door is with a key," he said. "If they had given us a key, we would have used it."

—by Pamela Lannom

NEXT WEEK

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, March 7
Hinsdale Central High School
55th and Grant streets
www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings

Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

On the draft agenda: public hearing on properties for inclusion on Historically Significant Structures Property List

Hinsdale Village Board

7 p.m. Tuesday, March 5
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

On the draft agenda: credit card processing system, travel expense policy change, elm tree treatment contract, landscaping contract extension

MEETING ROUNDUP

Hinsdale High School District 86

Among other business Feb. 22, board members:

- tabled an administration recommendation to consolidate student fees, including text books, course fees, course supplies, academic field trips, student ID, PE uniforms, graduation and technology fees, into one comprehensive registration fee of \$475 for the 2024-25. Board President Cat Greenspon said board members still had questions about the proposal that needed to be answered before taking a vote. At the Feb. 8 committee of the whole meeting, board members inquired about families being able to opt out of the textbook portion of the fee if they were able to procure books independently. Administrators said an opt-out would prove extremely challenging because of the difficulty in determining which books would then not need to be ordered by the student, department or district.
- approved revisions to district policy governing open/closed session discussion of the superintendent's performance and goal setting, stating that setting of goals for the superintendent may be discussed in a closed session meeting as long as it is intertwined with discussion of the superintendent's performance. Otherwise goal setting must be discussed in open session along with the vote on those goals. The amendments were prompted by a recent Illinois Attorney General opinion that the board had violated the state's open meetings act in 2022 by talking about goal setting for the superintendent behind closed doors. The opinion was issued in response to complaint filed by resident Dale Kleber.
- heard a report on the 2024 summer school program, which will be held at Hinsdale South High School. Semester one will run from June 3-21, and semester two will run from June 24 to July 12. Classes will not meet on June 19, July 4 or July 5. Drivers education will be offered at Hinsdale Central's campus, too. Bus transportation will be available for all students for no additional fee. Registration opens April 15.

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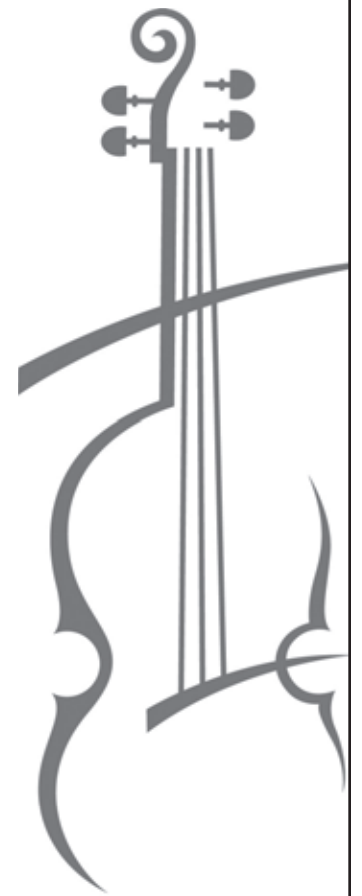
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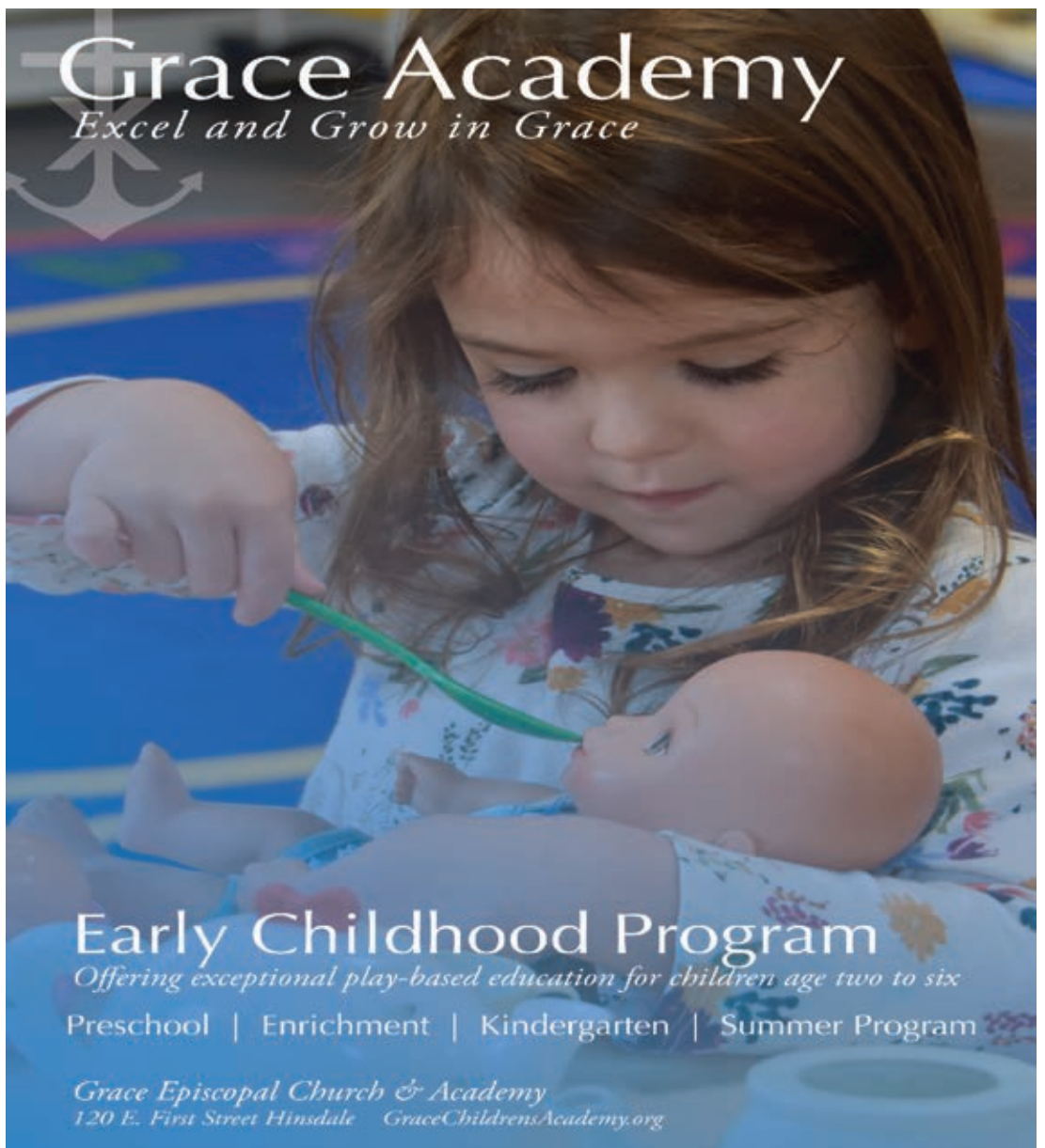
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Latino population growing in Hinsdale

Study shows number of Latinos has increased by 60 percent or more in 10 western suburbs

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Greg DiDomenico of Community Memorial Foundation hopes a report detailing the growing Latino community in the western suburbs will help nonprofit organizations and policymakers better understand the needs of the region.

"We always, as a foundation, have been working to understand the communities that we serve," said DiDomenico, president and chief executive officer. "We've done demographic studies in the past. Given the recent census, it was a great opportunity to work with the expertise of the Great Cities Institute, and so we funded the study in collaboration with Healthy Communities Foundation."

The report, which was completed last year by the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois Chicago, looks at 36 suburbs in Cook and DuPage counties that make up the service area of Community Memorial Foundation and Healthy Communities Foundation.

Almost 200,000 Latinos reside in the area, accounting for 32 percent of

the population. DiDomenico said the report's findings were not unexpected.

"It was not surprising, but I learn something new every time I open the report, because it really explores our shared service area by municipality. You can actually explore the overall data analysis, but you can also go municipality by municipality," he said.

Hinsdale is home to 948 Latinos who make up almost 5 percent of the town's population. The median household income of Hinsdale Latinos was about \$139,615 in 2015-19, lower than the overall median town income of \$203,368.

For the foundation, which has set a goal of making this region the healthiest in the country, access to health insurance is an important statistic in the report. Fifteen percent of Latinos in the study area are uninsured.

"While we have made progress in closing the gap, work still needs to be done," DiDomenico said.

He also pointed to the fact that 10 west suburban communities had an increase in Latino population of 60 percent or more between 2010 and 2020. That list

includes Hinsdale (60 percent), Western Springs (73 percent) and LaGrange Park (71 percent).

"Again, not surprising, but a data point that, as a foundation, will inform our grant making and have an opportunity to share this data with our grantees, colleagues and partners," he said.

One of those grantee partners is Wellness House in Hinsdale, which offered its first Spanish language class (yoga) in 2017. Today the nonprofit, which supports people and their caregivers on the cancer journey, offers a number of programs and a program guide in Spanish.

"We're recognizing, of course, our vision that all people impacted by cancer thrive," said Lisa Kolavennu, executive director. "If we want to be able to do that well, we need to be able to do that in different languages."

Spanish speaking participants are not limited to sites outside of Wellness House's Hinsdale location.

"We find Spanish language participants here at our main location," she said. "Also in the partner locations we have throughout the western suburbs

and Chicago, as well as our online programs."

The data in the report confirms the decisions Wellness House leaders have made, and it also will help going forward in terms of program development and fundraising, she said.

"We're seeing significant growth over the past 10 years and it appears that trend would continue," Kolavennu said. "Through this collaboration and the data they've compiled, it's useful for us to take to other foundations and funders as well to demonstrate the need that exists."

The work Community Memorial Foundation does truly makes a difference, she noted.

"Having access to this type of reliable and informative information is really critical for nonprofit organizations," Kolavennu said. "We are grateful to have partnership in this way with Community Memorial Foundation."

The report is available on the foundation's website at www.cmfdn.org/ resources.



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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports Feb. 27.

Obstructing justice arrest

Gabriel N. Lewis, 36, 12820 S. Wood St., Blue Island, was arrested for giving obstructing identification, driving with a suspended license, stopping/standing/parking where prohibited, transportation of open alcohol by driver and driving an uninsured vehicle at 8:16 a.m. Feb. 25 on Route 83 near 55th Street after being found parked on the side of the road asleep at the wheel. She was also found to have two active arrest warrants out of Vermillion County. She posted bond on the arrest warrants and was given a court date. She also was cited with local charges and released to appear in court.

Aggravated battery investigation

A known suspect fought with hospital security staff performing official duties at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale, 120 N. Oak St.

Backyard chair stolen

A chair valued at \$80 went missing between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Feb. 23 from a backyard in the 900 block of South Bruner Street.

Harassing text

A known suspect sent text messages of a threatening nature to a resident of the 500 block of Bonnie Brae Road at 7:34 p.m. Feb. 19.

Identity theft incidents

- Online bank accounts belonging to a resident of the 10 block of South Park Avenue were accessed between Feb. 6 and 18 after the victim received an email containing malware.
- The identity of a resident of the 5500 block of Childs Avenue was used in an attempt to open a bank account between Jan 22 and Feb. 20.
- Personal information belonging to a resident of the 600 block of South County Line Road was used to conduct credit inquiries on Feb. 14. The incident was reported Feb. 21.

Theft of medicine

Prescription medication went missing from a woman's bag between Feb. 18 and 21 in the 800 block of North Washington Street.

Arrests do not constitute conviction of a crime, and individuals listed here should be presumed innocent until proven guilty. If charges are dismissed or reduced or the accused is found not guilty, he or she can contact The Hinsdalean at news@thehinsdalean.com to provide us with documentation. Information will be updated online and in the next issue of the paper.



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■ “I always try to find things that are important to our family, and school is fundamental to that list.” — Sara Clary

Clary finds ways to help build community

Grace Episcopal Church of Hinsdale was a part of Sara Clary’s life long before she moved to the village in 2012. Grace was her grandmother’s church of choice, and visits to her grandmother often included visits to the church, Clary said.

“It just seemed like the logical place to continue going,” Clary said.

Today, Clary serves as senior warden at the church. Together with junior warden Sarah Tims, she helps interim rector Rev. Tom Crittenden make everything at the church run smoothly.

“We serve as the leadership,” Clary said. That includes making decisions about programming, the church budget and even the church’s worship leader. As senior warden, Clary will assist in the search for the next permanent rector.

Clary said providing a welcoming place for everyone is at the heart of everything that happens at Grace Episcopal Church, where “If you’re here, you belong,” is both a guiding statement and a promise to the community.

Her job as senior warden will continue for one more year before Tims steps up to the position and another

church member becomes junior warden. Until then, Clary said she’s enjoying her work at the church and the difference it makes for people who look to the church as their spiritual home.

“It’s super important to me,” she said.

An active member of the Hinsdale community as a whole, Clary’s work at The Community House and Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 likely will keep her busy when her job as senior warden is complete.

Clary and husband Rob helped chair the annual Community House Holiday Ball a few years ago, and Clary continues to serve on The Community House Board of Trustees. She said that like Grace Episcopal, The Community House has been an important part of her family’s lives and part of what makes Hinsdale such a special place to live. The Clary children frequently participate in Stage Door theater productions, and oldest son Oliver recently joined the facility’s junior board.

“It’s really become a family commitment,” Clary said. As a member of the



SARA CLARY
GRADUATE OF SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
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Academic Success Committee in District 181, Clary provides insight and feedback on topics related to teaching and learning. She said her work on the committee is both a way to stay involved in her children’s education and a way to give back. “It’s really provided so much for our family,” she said of District 181. “I always try to find things that are important to our family, and school is

fundamental to that list.” Clary’s commitment to helping others extends beyond her volunteer positions to her professional life. Prior to starting her family, Clary worked with Legal Services of Southern Piedmont in Charlotte, N.C., to provide legal help to people in need. She then joined the National Council on Aging in Washington, D.C., doing policy and advocacy work on

behalf of low-income older Americans. She continues to consult for the NCOA. Her decision to attend law school after college is one that continues to open doors, Clary said. “It teaches you how to think well and figure things out,” which helps in every part of life, she said.
— story by Sandy Illian Bosch, photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Learn Leap Day history, lore on this Feb. 29

We all know there are 365 days in a year, right? Well, not exactly. It takes the Earth 365 days, five hours, 48 minutes and 56 seconds to orbit the Sun. We account for those extra hours every four years by adding an extra day to the end of February. For the first time in *The Hinsdalean's* history, Leap Day is also publication day!

To celebrate, we've compiled this list of little known facts to provide both education and cocktail party conversation for the weekend.

Happy Leap Day!

- The Julian calendar, which Julius Caesar introduced in 45 BC, included an extra day every year. But the math wasn't exactly right, and the solar year was overestimated by about 11 minutes.

- In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII adjusted the calendar to compensate for the extra 11 minutes by eliminating Leap Day every 200 years. If a year is divisible by 100 but not by 400, leap year is skipped. This happened last in 1900 and it will happen again in 2100.

- There was no Feb. 29 in the Julian calendar.

Early leap years repeated Feb. 23

- Leap Day is also St. Oswald's Day, named after the archbishop of York, who died on Feb. 29, 992.

- Some cultures use calendars that do not apply the same leap year rules as the Gregorian calendar. The Chinese calendar adds a leap month every three years to keep in line with the Earth's rotation. The Ethiopian calendar adds one extra day at the end of the year every four years.

- Two families hold Guinness Book World Records related to Leap Day, one for producing three consecutive generations born on Feb. 29 and the other for having the most children born on Feb. 29 in the same family.

- In Greece, some believe it is bad luck to get married in a leap year or on Leap Day.

- A tradition dating back to fifth century Ireland allows women to propose marriage to a man on Leap Day.

- When Scotland added the above practice as law in 1288, women were required to wear

a red petticoat when proposing. A refusal also required compensation from the gentleman.

- Hattie McDaniel, known for her role as Mammy in "Gone with the Wind," was awarded the first Academy Award for an African American on Leap Day 1940.

- *La Bougie du Sapeur*, a French satirical newspaper, comes out only once every four years on Leap Day. It is named after a leaping character from an old French comic strip.

- Anthony, a city divided by the New Mexico-Texas boarder, claims to be the Leap Year Capital of the World.

- a Brit from Shoreham, West Sussex, started a petition this year to change Leap Day to a warmer month, like June.

- Famous leap year babies include writer Saul Williams, born in 1972; actor Dennis Farina, born in 1944; and actress Dinah Shore, born in 1916.

- Only about 5 million people in the world were born on Feb. 29. The odds of being born on Leap Day are about 1 in 1,461.

COMMENTARY

Signs, signs, everywhere there's signs

Signs provide us with all kinds of information.

"Slow, children playing" lets us know kids reside on a particular block. (Since kids live on many blocks that don't have such signs, these warnings also might indicate worried parents live on the block as well.)

Signs indicating downtown Hinsdale and the Robbins Park subdivision are on the National Register of Historic Places demonstrate the importance of the village's past to Hinsdaleans — or at least to those who are purchasing the signs.

Signs control traffic, alert us to the presence of schools and let us know when to get off the highway at lunchtime.

Signs also can make us laugh.

"Touching wires causes instant death. \$200 fine" reads one from the Newcastle Tramway Authority. (Hopefully the offender has at least \$200 in life insurance.)

"Whoever stole our AC units keep one — it is hot where you're going," says a sign from the Clays Mill Road Baptist Church.

One comedian — or wannabe — made the most of the early days of the pandemic on a sign that read:

"Due to the quarantine, I'll only be doing inside jokes."

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department in Redwood City, Calif., shows off its sense of humor in the fine print of a serious sign warning about coyotes.

"Call animal control if see you dangerous coyote activity such as: coyote carrying box marked 'ACME,' " the sign reads, along with coyotes detonating explosives, holding "detour" signs or dropping anvils from hot air balloons.

I can't help but wonder how many people younger than I am will get the joke.

I saw a new one this past Sunday in Holland, Mich., as we walked down the main street, checking out some new restaurants. Many were empty, even though there were plenty of tourists in town. We looked at the posted hours on the doors.

"Closed Sunday, Monday for Church • Family • Football" they read.

I have long known about the



Pamela Lannom

Dutch influence on Holland, which is obvious not only from its name, but the Nelis' Dutch Village attraction, the Windmill Island Gardens and all the wooden shoes on signs around town.

I was not aware that Holland is known as the "City of Churches" or that there are 170 churches in the greater

Holland area. Or that the city was founded as a haven for religious dissidents fleeing poverty, religious discrimination and social opprobrium in the Netherlands.

"The rhythms of life revolved around worship services, catechetical instruction and church societies," one historian wrote.

Apparently that still is true.

Football is also a serious enterprise in Michigan. Just ask a fan of the Detroit Lions — or try to invite one over for Thanksgiving dinner scheduled during the team's annual televised Turkey Day game. Or watch for the reaction if you think an acquaintance went to Michigan State and they really went to the University of Michigan.

And then there's family. I love my family, of course, but I have to wonder about its placement in the aforementioned lists, since you typically can see your family any day of the week. Maybe the original order was church-football-family, but it seemed kinder to list family second and football last.

Since I was hoping to dine at one of these Holland restaurants on a Monday, I was disappointed to see so many would be closed. But I have to admire the willingness to state your priorities, right there on the front door for all to see.

How much easier would life be if we all knew, up front, what those around us valued?

Like the zoo whose sign reads "If you fall, animals could eat you and that might make them sick."

Or an establishment called Smiths whose chalkboard sign offers this unique drink recommendation: "Come in and try the worst rum & coke that one guy on Yelp ever had in his life."

Honesty and a sense of humor? There's a place I'd like to frequent.

— Pamela Lannom is editor of *The Hinsdalean*. This column was first published July 21, 2022.

GUEST COMMENTARY

An extra day to have some fun

As I began to write this column, I realized it would be published on Feb. 29, a leap day. Now as everybody knows, leap years only come once every four years, making them a special and somewhat rare occasion. However, for me at least, and I'm sure for many, they aren't very significant. And I don't mean to be rude to the lucky (or perhaps unlucky) few who get to have their birthday only once every four years. I wish you all a very happy birthday.



Leah Packer

Anyway, as I was pondering the lack of pomp and circumstance, I was thinking we could all just decide to make this a more celebratory holiday. I mean, we have an extra day in the year! So, I made a list of easy, yet hopefully fun activities to do with a little extra time.

- Watch a favorite show. Sometimes we don't give ourselves the time to just binge a show with no regrets. I highly recommend the comedy series "Brooklyn 99," which is what I will be catching up on. It can be a time to plop on the couch, grab a handful of chips and enjoy seeing a comforting show.

- Listen to a podcast. My family and I have been listening to a true crime podcast, and I was a little annoyed at myself for not discovering this type of media earlier. You can find a podcast on any subject, from politics or sports to

more obscure topics like reviews on pens and stationery.

- Bake something. Not to be cliché, but baking a simple treat can make your dreary February day a little sweeter.

I am personally on the hunt for the perfect brownie, so if anyone has any great recipes, please share.

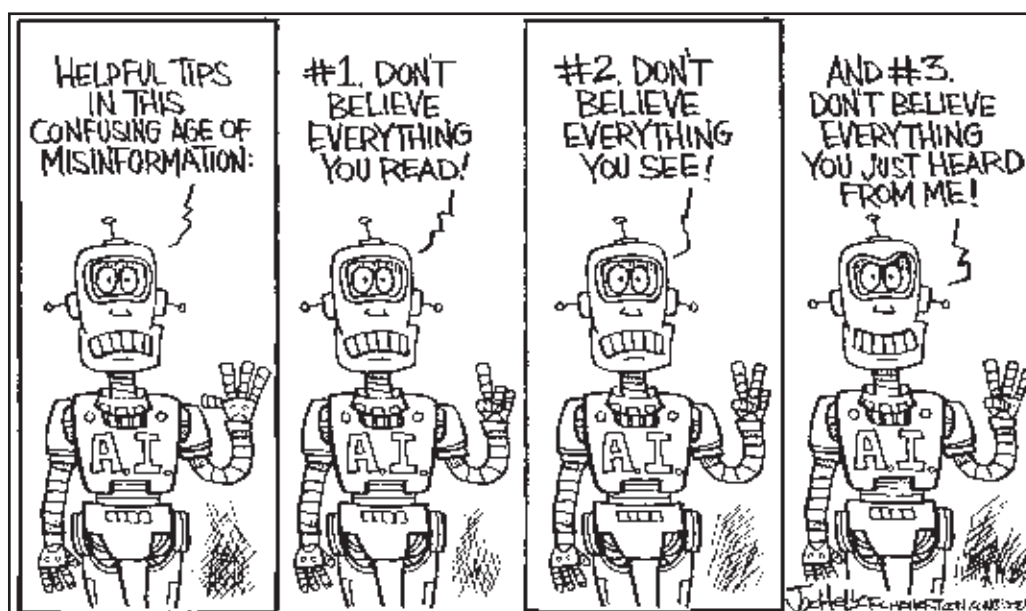
- Take a walk. Apparently Punxsutawney Phil has predicted an early end to winter this year, and although his success rate is only 39 percent, we can still embrace the possibility of an early spring and take some casual strolls.

- Go stargazing. Every once in a while, I'll come home late, peer up into the sky and remember how gorgeous the midnight blue hue looks littered with shining little dots. As long as it's not cloudy, it is actually possible to see stars out in Hinsdale. And it is so relaxing and enjoyable to do.

And there are more. You can ride a bike or play a board game or do a crossword or read a book. This "extra fun day" does not actually have to fall directly on Feb. 29; after all, it is just an excuse to have a little fun. And maybe make the day more memorable for the 24 year olds turning "6" this year.

— Leah Packer, a junior at Hinsdale Central, is a contributing columnist. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.

CARTOONS



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- 250 words or fewer
- include writer's name, address and daytime phone number

- documentation must be provided for numbers, statistics and other facts mentioned in the letter
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Questions?

Call (630) 323-4422

OBITUARIES

Carolyn Winifred Stein Stillman

Carolyn Winifred Stein Stillman of Clarendon Hills, a former longtime Hinsdale resident, passed away peacefully Feb. 18, 2024.

Anyone who has met Carolyn, even for just a short time, knows how her passionate presence and genuine ability to connect with people has left a beautiful and lasting impact on the world.

Carolyn was born in Chicago in 1926 to Aletta and Herman Stein, along with her brother, Herman Jr. While the world has changed significantly in the past century, Carolyn's vibrant spirit and love of learning has remained constant. It was very clear from childhood that she was meant to be an actress. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree at Smith College School of Theatre and her master's in creative dramatics for children at the University of Chicago.

In 1949, Carolyn married her Kenilworth neighbor and love of her life, DeWitt "Bud" Stillman, after just six dates. Carolyn and Bud raised three wonderful children together and created a loving home that was always open to strangers. Her openness and generosity were so well known that in a newspaper article celebrating one of Carolyn's many acting awards, the journalist wrote, "It is said that a short time using her third floor as your home address is a sure sign that your difficulties are coming to an end."

Carolyn loved to interact with people, give back and share her wisdom with others. Professionally, she did this both as a teacher at the University of Chicago Laboratory School and as a prolific actress. Carolyn built a repertoire of one-woman shows that she wrote and performed across the country, telling the important stories of women throughout history. Her boundless creativity both entertained and inspired others to learn about the world.

After Bud passed in 1996, Carolyn did not close the curtain, but found the strength to



Stillman

open her third act. She was a very involved grandma and Oma. She mentored many young people over the years through her sewing, acting and Sunday school classes. It is not an exaggeration to say that she is the reason many women can face life confidently today. She was a devoted volunteer to causes she cared about, including several political candidates and her beloved church community.

Carolyn especially loved playing tennis and was swinging her racket through the summer season of 2023. She continued to express love through her garden, which was brimming with beauty in every season. Her loved ones and community will be forever grateful for the inspiring and full life that Carolyn lived, and the way she generously shared it with the world.

Carolyn is survived by her children, William (Carla) Stillman, Richard (Susan) Stillman and Jande (Tim) Hansen; her grandchildren, Lauren (Rob) Nofsinger, Mark (Heather) Stillman, Rosie Stillman, Katie Stillman, Whitney (Nii) Dodoo-Amoo and Sarah (fiancé Austin Helmke) Hansen; her nephew, Bob Stein; her daughter's sister-in-law, Amy Hansen; her five great-grandchildren; and many extended family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Salt Creek Ballet at www.saltcreekballet.org.

A celebration of life will be planned for Carolyn in the future. To receive details, please send an email to c.stillman.family@gmail.com and include your name and contact information.

To see or share photos and memories of Carolyn or support for her family, visit her website at www.murial.life/carolynstillman. At the bottom of the website, visitors can post a "Lovekit" with words or photos they would like to share.

Vehicle stickers, animal tags on sale March 1 online, at Village Hall

Hinsdale vehicle sticker and animal tags will go on sale Friday, March 1.

Applications will arrive in the mailboxes of previously registered Hinsdale residents in early March. Stickers and tags must be displayed by May 1, or a \$25 late fee will be imposed. All vehicles registered in the state of Illinois with a Hinsdale address must also be registered with the village through the purchase of a vehicle sticker.

Residents have the option to purchase vehicle stickers

online using the pre-filled mailed application. There is no additional fee and residents will avoid waiting in line. Visit www.villageofhinsdale.org to access the portal and for additional instructions. Residents should receive their 2024-2025 vehicle sticker and/or animal tag in the mail in about one week after completing the online renewal.

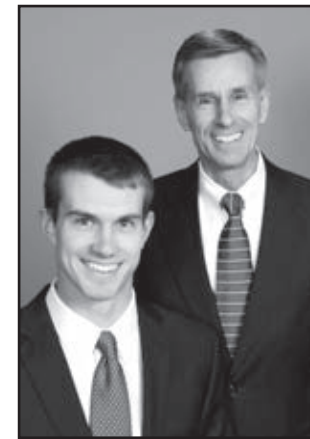
Residents can also use the drop-box outside of Village Hall (in the circular drive next to the library drop box), apply by mail or walk in to Village

Hall between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Village Hall is located at 19 E. Chicago Ave.

A completed application must accompany all payments. Please update the application form with any new or changed information and return it along with the proper fees. Please be sure to return both the top and bottom forms when submitting the application.

Questions? Call (630) 789-7001 or send an email to fin@villageofhinsdale.org.

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ASK AN EXPERT

STEVE CONSTANTELOS, BIRDING ENTHUSIAST

What's so cool about birding?

It's prime time to spot birds in their Hinsdale-area habitats, according to Steve Constantelos of the DuPage Birding Club.

"At end of winter and early spring, there are more birds around, and they're singing because it's breeding season," he explained. "This is sort of the best time of year because the leaves aren't coming out yet and the birds will be all geared up for spring."

Residents are invited to flock together on a Constantelos-led Winter Birding Walk from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 16, at Fullersburg Woods in collaboration with the Hinsdale Public Library (see Page XX for details).

"There are birds everywhere you go on the planet," said Constantelos, past president of the club. "They're pretty integral to the habitat. They eat a lot of the insects that bother people."

"They're just part of the very beautiful web of nature, and they help distribute plants with the seeds that they eat," he continued.

Constantelos said he's been an

avid birder for more than a decade, a hobby that took flight when he volunteered to do annual bird counts.

"I just got to know people who were involved I eventually started going (on walks) more often," he said.

From the owls that call this area home to the warblers who just pass through on their way back to Canada, Constantelos said the county is a treasure trove of winged wonder.

"You could count a couple hundred species just in DuPage," he said, attributing the bounty to abundant open space and protected forest preserve land, as well as golf courses. "There's even little tiny places like Dean Nature Sanctuary (in the Oak Brook Park District)," he said.

Fullersburg ranks high among his favorite sites. And the bird he keeps a special eye out for is the American crow.

"Ninety percent of their population died due to the West Nile Virus outbreak," he stated. "They've come back, but not in great numbers. They're a very interesting bird. They can be a little strange. They scavenge and they do their thing, and they're very intelligent and fun to watch."

Blue jays and chickadees also were virus victims but have rebounded well, Constantelos noted.

Climate change has led to local sightings that once would have been unlikely.

"We definitely see birds up in the DuPage area that really weren't around in many numbers 20 or 30 years ago," he said, citing the pileated woodpecker, venturing north from its traditional southern U.S. range.

For Constantelos, field trips are the optimal way to expand one's birding knowledge. But backyard birding is valuable, too, with the Merlin Bird ID app from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology enabling amateurs to identify birds by sight or sound.

"It's a really cool tool," Constantelos said.

He encouraged anyone who enjoys walking in nature and learning about what they're seeing and hearing along the way to register for a walk.

"All you really need is a decent pair of binoculars and proper attire for the weather," Constantelos said. "It's a pretty low threshold for entry."

— by Ken Knutson



DuPage Birding Club veteran Steve Constantelos relishes leading groups on field trips through natural areas like Fullersburg Woods, particularly at this time of year when the lack of leaves make species easier to spot. (photo provided)

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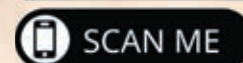
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THE COMMUNITY HOUSE



GOOD NEWS

COLLEGE STUDENTS ON DEAN'S LISTS

The following Hinsdale students earned a spot on the dean's list or equivalent at their respective colleges and universities for the fall 2023 semester.

- Patrick Boyle, College of the Holy Cross
- Quinn Cain, Tufts University
- Kate Hughes, University of Georgia*
- Sarah Lotsoff, Tufts University
- Sofia Masood, Elmhurst College
- Olivia Ostrowski, College of William & Mary
- Karina Patel, University of Minnesota Rochester
- James Regas, Elmhurst College
- Lia Reichmann, Drake University
- Kathleen Ryndak, Elmhurst College
- Jonathan Webster, York College

* *presidential scholar*

CENTRAL ADMIN EARNS AWARD

Ryan Maita, the assistant principal for operations at Hinsdale Central, has been named the Assistant Principal of the Year for the DuPage Region by the Illinois Principals Association.

This award recognizes and celebrates individuals who demonstrate a positive impact on education and advocacy for children, ensure the school climate is positive and reflects high staff and student morale, are willing to take risks to improve student learning, work collaboratively with teachers and other staff to improve student achievement, involve the community in the life of the school and other traits.

Maita and the other regional winners from across Illinois are now eligible for IPA's State Assistant Principal of the Year award, which will be announced in

late winter/early spring.

PHYSICIANS NAMED 2024 TOP DOCTORS

Forty-two physicians affiliated with UChicago Medicine AdventHealth have been honored as Top Doctors for 2024 by Chicago Magazine. The recognition, part of the "Chicago's Top Doctors" list, celebrates healthcare professionals across diverse specialties committed to delivering high-quality healthcare.

Compiled by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a renowned health-care research and information company, the list is the result of a study in which all licensed physicians nationwide were invited to nominate their peers for recognition as top doctors, either regionally or nationally. Castle Connolly's physician-led team of researchers employs a meticulous process to select top doctors, rigorously evaluating nom-

inees' educational and professional backgrounds.

Physicians on staff at UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale are listed below.

Allergy and immunology, pediatrics — Dr. Renee Lantner

Anesthesiology, pain medicine — Dr. Simon Adanin, Dr. Nitin Malhotra

Cardiothoracic vascular surgery — Dr. Paul Gordon, Dr. Valluvan Jeevanandam

Clinical cardiac electrophysiology: Dr. Martin Burke, Dr. Mohammed Khan

Family medicine — Dr. Guy Agostino, Dr. William Gros, Dr. Margaret Hannon, Dr. George Tomecki

Female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery, OB/GYN — Dr. Sandra Valaitis

Gastroenterology — Dr. Joseph Bresnahan

Internal Medicine — Dr. Jennifer Virant

Interventional Cardiology — Dr. Noel Camba

Nephrology — Dr. Leonard Potempa

Neurology, vascular neurology — Dr. Michael Rezak, Dr. Benjamin Ticho

Orthopedic surgery — Dr. Thomas Ehmke, Dr. Erling Ho, Dr. Ashish Patel

Orthopedic surgery, hand surgery — Dr. Leah Urbanosky

Otolaryngology, otology & neurotology: Dr. Alan Micco

Otolaryngology, sleep medicine — Dr. Regina Walker

Pediatrics — Dr. Marc Freed

Psychiatry, child & adolescent psychiatry — Dr. Ahmed Hussain

Pulmonary disease, critical care medicine — Dr. Kevin Kovitz

Radiation oncology — Dr. Arica Hirsch, Dr. Rajiv Patel, Dr. Ramji Rajendran, Dr. James Ruffer

Rheumatology — Dr. Judith Frank, Dr. Lynn Meisles

Surgery — Dr. Eric Yang

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Revue bringing laughs back to town

'Artificial Hinstelligence' parodies Hinsdale's social algorithms, all for a good cause

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Opening night is in less than two weeks, and the cast of "Artificial Hinstelligence" is rehearsing at The Community House.

Bags of high-heeled shoes, pairs of sequined gloves and a sack of Santa outfits are strewn about the room, raising some questions about what crazy plot twists this year's show will take.

Choreographer Amanda Snooks is leading a group through a dance number on stage while Hinsdale's Tim Fowler works through an Elton John song with help from music director Gail Mangurten and director Dave Heilmann. This is Fowler's third appearance in the biannual Community Revue show, which raises funds for The Community House.

"I've always loved participating in the revue and

helping to raise money for The Community House and just trying to put smiles on people's faces in the middle of winter," Fowler said.

He will play multiple roles in the revue, including a guy trying to figure out what artificial Hinstelligence is all about and the Hinsdale Little League commissioner.

"I enjoy that one because I get to play, in essence, my neighbors or people from town and make fun of that," he said of the latter character.

In addition to 11 veterans, this year's cast welcomed five new members, including Emily Campbell of Hinsdale.

"I saw the show for the first time two years ago and thought it was a hoot," she said. "I love singing and dancing and performing, so of course I jumped on the opportunity to join such an incredibly talented cast and crew."

Campbell brings the cre-



Choreographer Amanda Snooks works with cast members on one of the many dance numbers in "Artificial Hinstelligence." (Jim Slonoff photos)

dentials. She was a voice major in college, performs with two local rock bands, sings in two acoustic groups and is a preschool music teacher and vocal coach. She said she's enjoying her role.

"She is a bit of a ditzy character, so it's fun to play a role that is an easy target," Campbell said.

Fellow newcomer Maria Ziemer also has experience performing in middle school, high school and college shows. And she's a neighbor of returning cast member Allison Peters.

"Allison knew that I had a background in theater," Ziemer said. "She asked me if I could sing — and then I got scared — and said, 'Yes, I can carry a tune.' It was a casual conversation on the sidewalk, and I really didn't know what I was saying yes to."

Despite all the costumes she's had to order online ("I think we should put something in the program that the show is sponsored by Amazon," she said), she's enjoyed being part of the revue.

"Oh my gosh, it has been so, so fun. I forgot how fun performing is, how fun it is to be part of a show, how fun it is to be on stage, how silly the rehearsal process can be. There's a reason

why people love acting and performing. It lights a fire inside you," she said.

The show, as always, is written by a group of veteran cast members, including Susan O'Byrne of Hinsdale. This will be the seventh show she has been in and the fourth she has produced. She is happy with this year's script.

"I think for some reason we picked topics that are even more timely than we anticipated," she said. "We were almost prescient in our writing in a couple of different aspects. That makes it kind of hilarious."

Heilmann agreed.

"I'd like to think that we're grabbing the humor from the most topical events. I can't disclose any of them, of course, but it's what people are talking about that we then have fun with," he said.

The revue has traditionally relied on Broadway songs, rewritten with Hinsdale-specific lyrics, but this year's list of numbers includes more popular pieces, including one by Travis Kelce's girlfriend.

"We're hoping we draw the same crowds that Taylor Swift does," Heilmann quipped. "She's been invited."

O'Byrne said the cast is lucky to have so many new talented members, but she

misses some of "stalwart regulars" who had work conflicts, moved away or are not part of the cast for other reasons. That group includes Teri Goudie, who passed away in July 2022, four months after the last revue.

"It's been tough, but we know if there's one thing we've learned from being in revue is that laughter keeps us going and theater brings us all together," O'Byrne said.

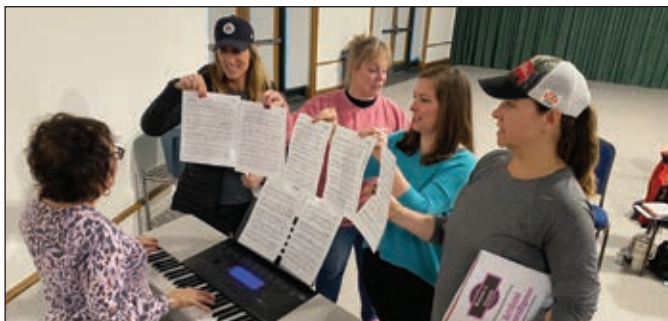
Heilmann, who has directed the revue since the first one in 1997, said the show provides a needed outlet.

"I have always come back because it's getting away from everything else in life — whether it's three or four nights a week for a few months — where you're laughing and you're letting everything else go," he said. "That's needed now more than ever."

He praised the cast for the hard work each one is putting into the show.

"I'm really proud of what they're doing and I think they're going to be excited on opening night when people enjoy all the work they put in," he said.

Performances are March 8-9 and 15-16. For details on show times and tickets, turn to Page 26.



Director Dave Heilmann and music director Gail Mangurten review music and lyrics for the show. Emily Campbell (from left), Megan Balderston, Allison Peters and Maria Ziemer rehearse their parts with Mangurten, holding up the music for her to play since her keyboard lacked a music holder.



Danú, a critically acclaimed traditional Irish musical group, will perform March 8 at the MAC at the College of DuPage. Turn to Page 24 for details. (photo provided)

ARTFULLY DONE

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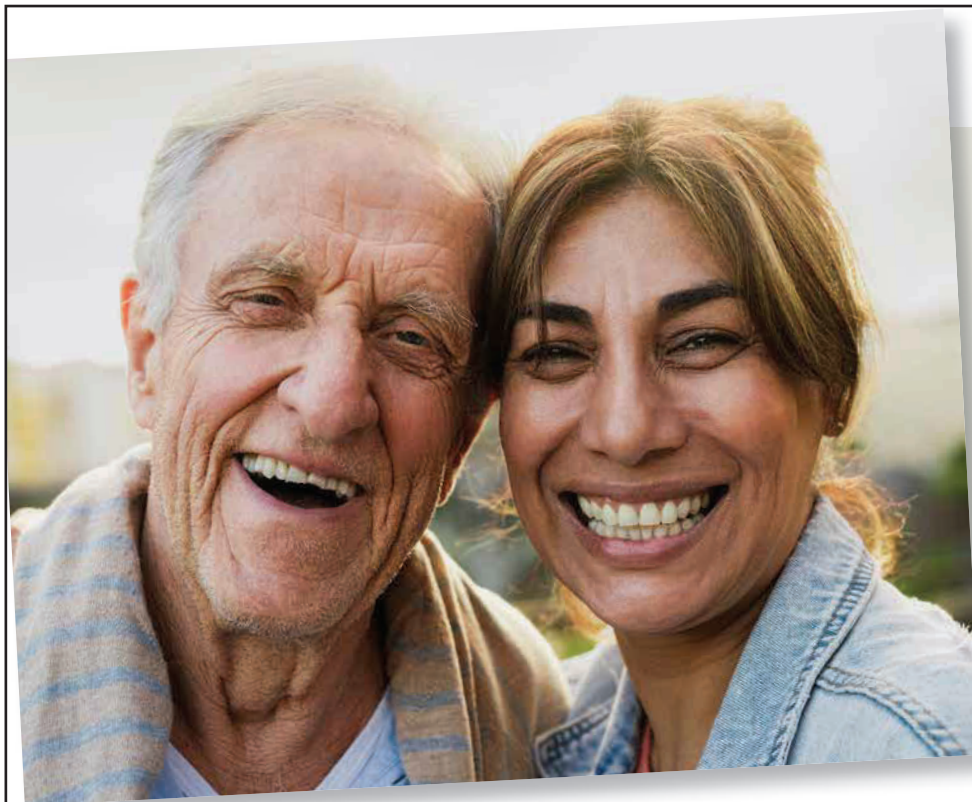
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Clarendon Hills
www.ticketpeak.co/bam/events

In this BAMtheatre Broadway Kids show, Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the wild and vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois. Cady and her friends take on the school's popular trio The Plastics to end ruthless leader Regina's reign. But what happens when the lines between the real Cady and her Plastic self get blurred? Time: 7 p.m. March 6 & 8, 2:30 p.m. March 9. Tickets: \$22-\$26.

■ **'101 Dalmatians Kids**
March 7-9
Avenue Christian Church
5750 Holmes Ave.,
Clarendon Hills

Please turn to Page 19



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215 55th Street | Clarendon Hills, IL 60514 | (630) 789-1135 | birches.net

Continued from Page 18

www.ticketpeak.co/bam/events

In this BAMtheatre Broadway Minis show, pet owners Roger and Anita live happily in London with their Dalmatians, Pongo and Perdita, until Anita's former classmate, the monstrous Cruella De Vil, plots to steal their dogs' puppies for her new fur coat. Can all the dogs of London help in a daring rescue of the puppies from Cruella and her bumbling henchmen? Times: 7 p.m. March 7, 5 p.m. March 8, 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. March 9. Tickets: \$20-\$24.

FILL YOUR PLATE

■ Troop 10 Pancake Breakfast
March 2
Union Church of Hinsdale
137 S. Garfield Ave.
www.troopwebhost.org/Troop10Hinsdale/index.htm
Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, samosas and coffee at this annual fundrais-

er. All proceeds support Troop 10 Scouts and their Scouting experience. Hours: 8 a.m. to noon. Cost: \$10, \$7 for students & seniors, free for ages 3 and under.

FOR A CAUSE

■ Unleashed 2024
March 2
Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center
21 Salt Creek Lane.
Hinsdale
www.e.givesmart.com/events/A6k
Celebrate and support the Hinsdale Humane Society in person or online at this fourth annual fundraiser. Enjoy live music, cocktails, appetizers, dessert and live and silent auctions while also meeting the furry, four-legged residents. Hear stories about the impact that last year's fundraising dollars had for the people and pets served. Times: 6 to 9 p.m. in person, 7 to 8 p.m. online. Tickets: \$100. RR

■ A Cup of Hope

March 3
Abbington Distinctive Banquets
3S002 Route 53, Glen Ellyn
www.solvehungertoday.org/events
Northern Illinois Food Bank and its Executive Women's Council will host this ninth annual fundraiser as a Parisian-themed tea party. Hinsdale's Judy Hsu of ABC7 News will emcee and special guest Jenny Riddle will perform in character as Jackie Kennedy Onassis. Guests also will enjoy food, drinks, a silent auction and a raffle. Proceeds benefit Northern Illinois Food Bank's meal programs and resources. Time: 1:30 to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$125. RR

■ Historical society benefit
March 5
J.McLaughlin
53 S. Washington St., Hinsdale
www.hinsdalehistory.org/upcoming-events
In celebration of International Women's Day, join hostess Walker Rediehs,

founder of The Bomb Moms Project, for a Sip & Shop event, with 15 percent of sales going to the Hinsdale Historical Society. Hours: 3 to 7 p.m.

■ Blood drive
March 7
Oak School gym
950 S. Oak St., Hinsdale
(847) 305-9998
Help Anna of the D181 neighborhood preschool community and her hospital friends by donating blood and/or platelets. Make an appointment through the link on the Oak School PTO Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OakSchoolPTO or call Versiti at the number listed above. Hours: 3 to 7:30 p.m.

■ Tablesapes 2024
March 10
The Drake Oak Brook
2301 York Road
www.hinsdaleiws.com/tablesapes2024
IWS' Hinsdale Auxiliary will hold its annual benefit for the Infant Welfare Society's Angel Harvey Family Health

Center. Guests will enjoy a three-course lunch, live music, shopping from the western suburbs' premier boutiques, a grand raffle, silent auction items and more. Additionally, each of this year's signature themed Tablesapes will be paired with a unique experience. Time: noon to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$175. RR

GREAT OUTDOORS

■ Maple Sugaring
Weekends, March 2-31
Kline Creek Farm
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 876-5900
All ages are invited to discover how sap becomes syrup by using tapping tools from the 1890s, checking the collection buckets and watching sap thicken over the fire. A admission donation of \$5 per person is suggested for ages 3 and up. Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

■ Sunrise Walk
March 10
Little Red Schoolhouse
Please turn to Page 22



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Continued from Page 19

Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road,
Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897

Join this a “before hours”
walk to experience the dawn-
ing of a new day. Time: 6:45
p.m. RR

■ Winter Bird Walk

March 16
Fullersburg Woods
3609 Spring Road, Oak
Brook
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

The Hinsdale Public Library
is sponsoring this program, led
by the DuPage Birding Club, to
find, identify and learn about
local birds. Binoculars will be
provided along with instruc-
tion on how to effectively use
them to view birds. Time: 9 to
11 a.m. RR

GREEN THUMB

■ **Start Your Vegetable Garden**
Thursdays, March 7, 14 &
21

www.mortonarb.com
(630) 719-2468

In this online Zoom course,
Kasey Eaves, owner of Vivant
Gardening Services, will teach
new gardeners how to start
and maintain a successful
vegetable garden, including
choosing the right spot and
timing, preparing the space for
planting, picking appropriate
plants and dealing with pests.
Sessions will be recorded.
Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m. Cost: \$49.
RR, MD

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Mindfulness Meditation Workshop

March 6
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.
org
(630) 323-7500

Chopra Center certi-
fied meditation instructor
Stephanie Frantz will teach
centuries old meditation and
breathing techniques to relieve
stress and increase one’s over-
all sense of well-being. Time: 1
to 1:50 p.m. Cost: \$44. RR, MD

■ Advances in Treatment of Neuroendocrine Tumors

March 12
Wellness House
131 N. County Line Road
www.wellnesshouse.org
(630) 323-5150

Drs. Xavier Keutgen and
Andy Liao of UChicago
Medicine will discuss advanc-
es in the treatment of neuro-
endocrine tumors. Time: 6:30
to 8 p.m. RR

JUST FOR KIDS

■ Safe at Home

March 9
Clarendon Hills Community
Center
315 Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/
pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 6-9 will learn
how to handle themselves
when confronted with a chal-
lenge, such as answering the
telephone or the door when
parents are away or occupied
elsewhere in the home, proper
use of keys, what to do in an
emergency, how to respond to

strangers and general house
rules. A workbook is included.
Time: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Cost:
\$36. RR

■ First Aid for Kids

March 9
Clarendon Hills Community
Center
315 Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/
pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 6-9 in this
American Red Cross class will
learn basic health and safety
tips focusing on shock, bleed-
ing, choking, the Heimlich
maneuver and more. Students
will receive a Red Cross certifi-
cate at the end. Time: noon to
1:30 p.m. Cost: \$30. RR

■ String Canvas Art

March 12
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Create a unique pattern on
canvas using string. Dress for
mess. Time: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
RR

■ Homework Helpers & Reading Ambassadors

Tuesdays to Thursdays in
March & April
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Students in kindergarten
through eighth grade can
drop in to receive one-on-one
homework or reading help
from a local high school stu-
dent volunteer. Time: 4 to 5
p.m.

LISTEN & LEARN

■ Endangered Tree Conservation

March 7
Morton Arboretum
4100 Route 53, Lisle
www.mortonarb.org
(630) 719-2468

Silvia Alvarez-Clare, the
arboretum’s director of global
tree conservation and lead for
the new Center for Species
Survival for Trees, will dis-
cuss projects aimed at pre-
serving and recovering tree

Please turn to Page 24

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Thursday
March 7



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www.d181foundation.org

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WHEATON
Armerding Concert Hall

Sunday APRIL 14, 3pm
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PULSE

Continued from Page 22

species. The work has earned Alvarez-Clare a spot among the National Geographic Explorers, which conserves and restores threatened tree species around the world, builds capacity within communities to do conservation work and raises awareness about the importance of preserving biodiversity. The program is offered in person and online. Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$24. RR, MD

■ Southern Illinois Travel

March 12
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Library staffer and noted Illinois enthusiast John Kokoris will share secrets to a successful visit to the Shawnee National Forest, including landmarks, hikes, lodging and food. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

NOTEWORTHY

■ John Gorka

March 2

Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
11 W. Maple St.
www.acousticren.com
(630) 941-7797

Enjoy the musical stylings of the performer whom the Rolling Stone once called "the preeminent male singer-songwriter of what has been dubbed the New Folk Movement." The show is part of the Acoustic Renaissance Concerts series. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$22.

■ Steinway Concert Series

March 3
Union Church of Hinsdale
137 S. Garfield St.
www.hinsdale.church

The series continues with a performance of Brahms and Piazzolla by pianist Svetlana Smolina and violinist Linda Veleckis. Time: 3 p.m.

■ Danú

March 8
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org

Please turn to Page 26

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Average Days on Market*

79%
Sale Price vs. List Price*

*Source: MRED LLC.com Data average 11/21/2023-02/21/2024. All information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.

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UNLEASHED

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Saturday, March 2, 2024

6-9 PM In-Person, Attendee Tickets: \$100
7-8 PM Online, Attendee Tickets: FREE!

Furry Friends | Drinks & Appetizers | Live & Silent Auction
Fund a Need | Animal Stories | Music by Stephanie Koklys

Come and celebrate with us at our fourth annual Unleashed fundraiser! You can participate in-person at the **Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center** or online from the comfort of your couch.

Visit **tinyurl.com/Unleashed24** or scan the QR code to register!



21 Salt Creek Lane, Hinsdale IL, 60521
630-323-5630 / hinsdalehumane.org



INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY Hinsdale Auxiliary TABLESCAPES LUNCHEON

**Last Day
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Tickets**

March 1, 2024

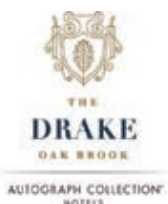


**Sunday
March 10**

**12 pm - 4 pm
Drake Hotel
Oak Brook**

HINSDALE AUXILIARY OF THE INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



Continued from Page 24

(630) 942-4000

This critically acclaimed traditional Irish musical group have been delighting audiences worldwide with their virtuosic players for over two decades. A pre-concert performance by the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance will take place at 6:40 p.m. in the lobby. Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$50-\$60.

■ 'Hollywood'

March 10
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave.,
Naperville
www.westsubsymphony.org
(630) 887-7464

The West Suburban Symphony orchestra and chorus will perform hit movie tunes by composers such as John Williams and Andrew Lloyd Webber and from films including "Saving Private Ryan," "Forrest Gump," "The Greatest Showman" and more. Time: 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30, \$25 for seniors, \$5 for teens, free for ages 12 and younger.

ON STAGE

■ 'The Outgoing Tide'

Through March 3
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

Set in Chesapeake Bay, this story of a family's struggle with memory loss and aging is sensitive, humorous and uplifting, as Gunner has a plan to safeguard the family's future while his wife and son have other plans. The play contains adult themes and language. Times: 8 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$44, \$42 for seniors.

■ 'Artificial Hinstelligence'

March 8-9 & 15-16
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

The Community House Players return to the stage for their hilarious antics and affectionate mockery of all things Hinsdale in this year's edition of The Community Revue. This original musical comedy promises to walk right up to the edge of appropriate humor and, sometimes, jump right by it. Proceeds benefit The Community House. Time: 6:45

p.m. Tickets: \$125. RR

SIGN UP NOW

■ Ambassador Animals

March 2
Little Red Schoolhouse
Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road,
Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897
Learn what, why and how

staff feed the animal ambassadors at the nature center. Time: 1 to 2:30 p.m. RR

■ HPL Spring Spice Club

March 11
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976
Receive a monthly spice selection curated especially for Hinsdale patrons along with information about the spice

and two recipes highlighting it. Return the box, including the spice jar, for new selections in April and May. RR

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Women in Conservation Walk

March 6
Bemis Woods-South
Ogden Avenue west of Wolf
Road near Western Springs
www.fpdcc.com

(312) 533-5751

Join this 1.2-mile walk and discussion about women who have made significant contributions in the fields of conservation, environmental activism and science. Time: 10 a.m.

STEPPING BACK

■ Native American Women in

Please turn to Page 28

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Pet pic of the week

Meet Rusty, a sweet 5-year-old boy who just wants to hang out and have his belly rubbed. He is a little shy around strangers, but warms up quickly if you give him pets. Rusty is sensitive to loud noises, so he would do best in a quiet home. He gets along well with other calm and gentle cats. Rusty is neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. His adoption fee is \$75 and he is ready to go home today. For more information, stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center, visit www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org or call (630) 323-5630. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 26

Illinois History

March 2
Mayslake Peabody Estate
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 206-9566

Dressed in native regalia, Kim Sigafus presents a history of native peoples in Illinois, with a focus on women, sharing stories of Singing Bird — the wife of Blackhawk — and more. Time: 2 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$5. RR

■ **The History of Barbie**

March 9
Clarendon Hills Library
7 N. Prospect Ave.
www.clarendonhillslibrary.org
(630) 323-8188

The library welcomes historian Leslie Goddard for a close look at the doll that's been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized and loved — Barbie. Learn about the history of Barbie and her inventor, the passionately creative — and intensely competitive — Ruth

Handler. Time: 11 a.m. RR

TEEN & TWEENS

■ **Teen Game Time**

March 1 & 8
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Play Mario Kart on the Nintendo Switch or enjoy a classic board game in the Community Meeting Room. Time: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

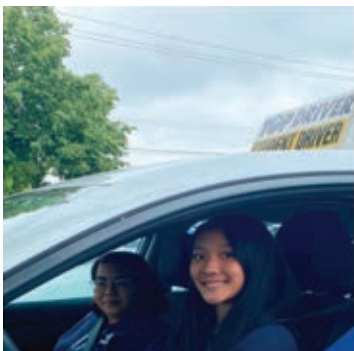
WEE ONES

■ **Baby Playdate: Fun with Music!**

March 15
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Baby and parent will explore interactive music and play stations. Time: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. RR

Key
RR - registration required
MD - member discount



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Hours & Deadlines

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified deadline:
Tuesday 4 p.m. for
Thursday's publication

Email:
tinaw@thehinsdalean.com



So you think you're a *real* Hinsdalean, eh? Tell us where you think this picture was taken and you can win a Fuller's Ultimate Car Wash gift card. Send your answer to: The Hinsdalean, Village Posting Board, 7 West First St., Hinsdale, IL 60521. Winners will be drawn from correct answers received weekly. *Good luck!*

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W	A	R	M		I	D	S		P	E	E	K
A	C	A	I		C	R	U		R	A	S	H
D	A	N	K	N	E	S	S		I	S	S	A
			A	A	S		P	I	S	T	O	N
W	E	E	D	Y		H	E	N	S			
E	N	D	O		D	A	N	D	Y	I	S	M
L	Y	E			N	O	I	S	Y		G	P
D	A	N	I	E	L	L	E		T	O	E	D
			O	W	L	S			F	A	R	C
B	R	O	N	T	E		S	O	Y			
L	O	R	I		D	A	N	G	L	I	N	G
A	R	E	A		U	R	I		O	V	E	N
H	Y	M	N		P	I	P		R	E	A	P

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2024
Happy



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2 Cemetery lots side-by-side
at Bronswood Cemetery.
Call 815-313-9678.

What lies behind you and what
lies in front of you, pales in
comparison to what lies inside
of you. Ralph Waldo Emerson

Help Wanted

Kramer Foods Now Hiring!
Deli Counter
Must be at least 18 yrs old.
PT Cashier, Bagger/Stock
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Apply in person at
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401K Plans & Healthcare
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Please contact Aslam
8 Chicago Ave., Hinsdale

Legal Notices

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DU PAGE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
ESTATE OF
DEBORAH L. OBIALA
CASE NUMBER
2024PR000064

Notice is given of the death
of Deborah L. Obiala whose
address was 10 North
Washington St., Hinsdale, IL.
60521. Letters of Office were
issued on February 6, 2024
to Daniel E. Obiala, 613 North
Noble St., Chicago, IL. 60642,
as Independent Administrator
whose attorney is Donatelli &
Coules, Ltd.

NOTICE TO HEIRS
AND LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given to
Daniel E. Obiala, Amy Brown
and Michael Obiala and
unknown heirs, who are heirs
or legatees in this cause.

The estate Will be administered
without Court Supervision,
unless under section 28-4 of
the Probate Act of 1975 (755
ILCS 5/28-4) any interested
person may terminate inde-
pendent administration at any
time by mailing or delivering
a petition to terminate to the
Circuit Court Clerk.

Claims against the estate
may be filed in the Office of
CANDICE ADAMS, Circuit
Court Clerk, 505 N. County
Farm Rd., Wheaton, Illinois,
or with the representative or
both on or before *August 22,
2024 any claim not filed within
that period is barred. Copies
of a claim filed with the Circuit
Court Clerk must be mailed
or delivered to the represen-
tative and to the attorney, if
any, within 10 days after it
has been filed with the Circuit
Court Clerk.

Name: Donatelli & Coules,
Ltd.
DuPage Attorney Number:
22064
Attorney For: Estate of
Deborah L. Obiala
Address: 15 Salt Creek Lane,
Suite 312
City/State/Zip: Hinsdale, IL.
60521
Telephone: 630-920-0406
Email: kathleen@
donatellcoules.com

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79326
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on January 19, 2024
wherein the business firm of
PATRICIA
LOPEZ-PULLMAN, LCSW,
COUNSELING SERVICES
Located at 555 Hampton
Lane, Roselle, IL. 60172 was
registered; and the following
changes were made: *The fol-
lowing named person or per-
sons should now be registered
as associates of the aforesaid
firm: Patricia Lopez-Pullman,
555 Hampton Lane, Roselle,
IL. 60172.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office in
Wheaton, Illinois, this 8th day
of February A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79348
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on February 9, 2024
wherein the business firm of
JJ ENTERPRISES
Located at 954 N. York Street,
Suite B, Elmhurst, IL. 60126
was registered; that the true
or real name or names of the
person or persons owning the
business, with their respective
post office address(es), is/are
as follows: James J. Juliano,
145 Elizabeth Court, Wood
Dale, IL. 60191.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office in
Wheaton, Illinois, this 9th day
of February A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79337
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on January 30, 2024
wherein the business firm of
AL BISM CLOTHING
Located at 2523 Versailles
Avenue, Apt. 204, Naperville,
IL. 60540 was registered;
that the true or real name
or names of the person or
persons owning the business,
with their respective post
office address(es), is/are as
follows: Farzeen Sultana Noor
Mohamed, 2523 Versailles
Avenue, Apt. 204, Naperville,
IL. 60540.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office
in Wheaton, Illinois, this 30th
day of January, A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
Wireless Edge Towers II, LLC
is proposing to construct a
170 ft Monopole Tower tele-
communications facility locat-
ed at 11599 W 31st Street,
Hinsdale, Cook County, IL
60523. Any interested party
wishing to submit comments
regarding the potential effects
the proposed facility may have
on any historic property may
do so by sending comments
to: Project 002562-PR-MH,
EBI Consulting, 21 B Street,
Burlington, MA 01803, or at
785.760.5938.
Published in The Hinsdalean
February 29, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79343
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on February 5, 2024
wherein the business firm of
CHRISTINA GALES
TRAVEL

Located at 1400 Ridgewood
Circle, Downers Grove, IL.
60516 was registered; that the
true or real name or names
of the person or persons
owning the business, with
their respective post office
address(es), is/are as fol-
lows: Christina Gales, 1400
Ridgewood Circle, Downers
Grove, IL. 60516.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office in
Wheaton, Illinois, this 5th day
of February A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79347
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on February 9, 2024
wherein the business firm of
J & J PROPERTIES
Located at 954 N. York Street,
Suite B, Elmhurst, IL. 60126
was registered; that the true
or real name or names of the
person or persons owning the
business, with their respective
post office address(es), is/are
as follows: James J. Juliano,
145 Elizabeth Court, Wood
Dale, IL. 60191, Jeffrey J.
Juliano, 24W239 North Lane,
Itasca, IL. 60143.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office in
Wheaton, Illinois, this 9th day
of February A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
February 15, 22 & 29, 2024.

There is no dignity quite so im-
pressive, and no one indepen-
dence quite so important, as
living within your means.
Calvin Coolidge

Equal Housing

It is the intent and goal of this
newspaper to have each
advertiser who wishes to place
a covered advertisement in
the newspaper comply with
the Fair Housing laws. Any
advertisement which is per-
ceived to contain language
contrary to these laws will be
rejected or changed to remove
the offending reference. There
may be situations where it is
not clear whether particular
language is objectionable.
Such advertisements should
be referred to a supervisor for
consideration and determina-
tion. Under certain circum-
stances, advertisers may
claim that because of the
nature of the housing being
advertised, they are not sub-
ject to the Fair Housing laws.
Such claims are irrelevant for
purposes of considering
advertisements for publication
in this newspaper. Every
housing advertisement pub-
lished in this newspaper is
subject to the Fair Housing
laws.

Hometown
In town
Neighborhood
Scoops
Delivered free
All Hinsdale
Local
Each Thursday
At your door
News

READ
IT
AND
REAP!

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10 AM

10 AM - Bid at firstmidag.com

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Michael Lauher, Mng. Broker
Mattoon, 217-345-8312
Michael.Lauher@firstmid.com

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No buyer's premium.

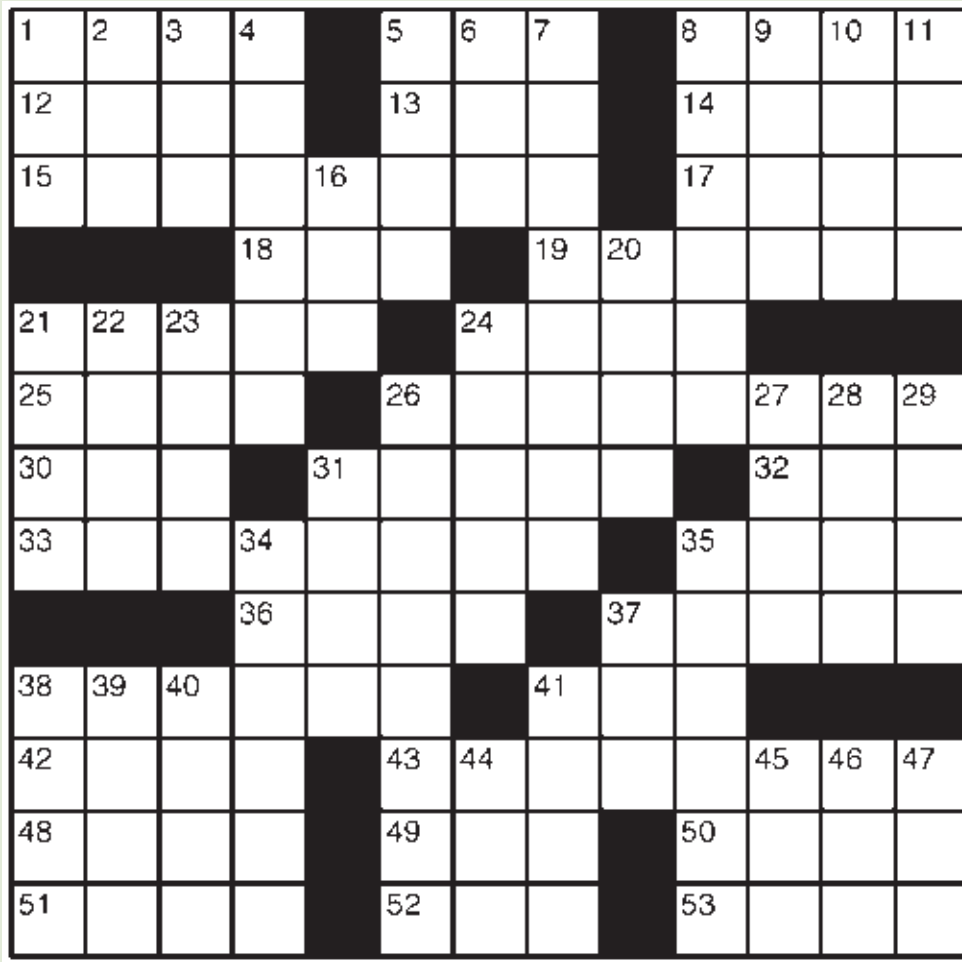
First Mid

AG SERVICES
Sellers' Attorney:
Mark Churchill 309-762-3643

LEAP YEAR DAY
FEBRUARY 29

MIND GAMES

- ACROSS
- 1 NOT SO HOT?
5 DOG TAGS, E.G.
8 QUICK LOOK
12 ANTIOXIDANT BERRY
13 FRENCH VINEYARD
14 IMPETUOUS
15 DUNGEON'S QUALITY
17 ACTRESS RAE
18 SMALL BATTERIES
19 DETROIT HOOPSTER
21 LIKE A NEGLECTED LAWN
24 COOP GROUP
25 WITHIN (PREF.)
26 FOPPISH BEHAVIOR
30 CAUSTIC CLEANER
31 LOUD
32 DEAN'S LIST STAT
33 WRITER STEEL
35 THREE- -- SLOTH
36 BARN BIRDS
37 TRAVESTY
38 "JANE EYRE" AUTHOR
41 TOFU SOURCE
42 CHICAGO'S MAYOR
LIGHTFOOT
43 HANGING LOOSELY
48 LOCATION
49 SWISS CANTON
50 ROASTING SPOT
51 CHURCH SONG
52 DOMINO SPOT
53 HARVEST



- DOWN
- 1 BANKROLL
2 OBAMACARE
ACRONYM
3 SCOOTED
4 JAPANESE EMPEROR
5 FROSTS A CAKE
6 HOSP. WORKERS
7 HITCHCOCK FORTE
8 OVERLY PROPER
9 BRIDGE POSITION
10 CANADIAN GAS
BRAND
11 "STAR TREK II"
VILLAIN
16 AYE UNDOER
20 "500" RACE
21 USE A BLOWTORCH
22 NEW AGE SINGER
23 GENESIS GARDEN
24 SALUTES
26 PRETTIFIED
COMPOSER
27 STRAVINSKY
28 DETAIL, BRIEFLY
29 CREATED
31 SALAMANDER
34 SEA OFF SICILY
35 "FEARLESS"
SINGER SWIFT
37 BOATING HAZARD
38 HUMDRUM
39 "GILMORE GIRLS"
DAUGHTER
40 UTAH CITY
41 USE SCISSORS
44 "EXODUS" HERO
45 "... HAD IT!"
46 MUSEUM-FUNDING
ORG.
47 ECON. MEASURE

ANSWERS TO TODAY'S CROSSWORD CAN BE FOUND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8				6			9	
		4	8					1
	7				9	5		
		3		8	4			7
	9		6			3		
2				1			4	
	8		4					3
		6			2	9		
3				7			2	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SCRAMBLERS

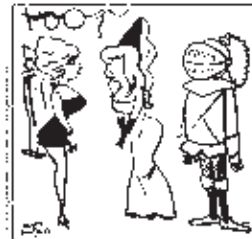
solution

1. Cipher 2. Dream;
3. Garble; 4. Notate

Today's Word
BLIND

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each hourglass to form an ordinary word. Then, rearrange the boxed letters to form the master's word, which will complete the page.



Solve

CHIRPE

Fantasy

ARMED

Quint

BLAGER

Second

ATTONE

TODAY'S WORD

S	9	Z	L	8	L	S	6	7	E	A
U	7	8	6	Z	E	L	9	5	L	N
D	E	S	L	9	6	7	Z	8	L	S
O	6	7	8	S	L	E	L	9	Z	W
K	S	L	E	L	Z	9	8	6	7	E
U	L	9	Z	7	8	6	E	L	S	R
	8	E	S	6	7	Z	L	L	9	
	1	L	6	E	S	8	7	Z	6	
	Z	6	7	L	9	L	S	E	8	

HOROSCOPES

March 2024 Horoscopes • Week 1



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Your busy schedule this week has everything feeling more hectic even if it really isn't, Capricorn. Carve out some time to sit quietly or enjoy some alone time to refresh.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, think about collaborating on a fun project with someone close to you. Find out if anyone needs help on something they may be working on if you don't have a project in mind.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, if you are feeling content with yourself and life in general lately, that is excellent. Embrace this positive state of mind and take the necessary steps to continue the good feelings.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Uncertainty regarding long-term plans may be driving emotions of shyness, Libra. If you are having trouble, plan excursions or events with friends you trust.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

This week you may be feeling especially charitable, Aquarius. Open your heart up to others who may need some extra support. This may be a stranger or someone you know.



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

An excitement concerning work goals or a business venture may compel you to take some action to get your ideas heard by higher-ups, Taurus. The audience will be receptive.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, this week you may be feeling nostalgic or sentimental. Look over old photographs or watch family movies for a bit. If you want to take it further, reach out to childhood friends.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, encouragement comes from people you may not feel are on your team. Take all of the support you can get as you start plowing through some long-term goals.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Some news from a family member may catch you off-guard, Pisces. You'll soon recover when you learn that it is extremely happy news. You may even get good news of your own.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, trying to resolve issues in a relationship this week may leave you feeling unsettled. It might be that you are trying to avoid sensitive topics that you will have to address eventually.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Find new activities that you can add to your daily routine, Virgo. This may be a sport, hobby or even a new club. Add a dose of creativity to each and every day for good effects.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

It's always the right time to tell others how much they mean to you, Sagittarius. It will not take grand gestures to do so, merely your loving words.

SPORTS

Devils swamp rivals for state title

Continued from Page 38

(New Trier) pushed us all season to make sure we stayed on our 'A' game," Barber said.

Junior phenom Josh Bey was at the top of his game, winning both the 200-yard IM and 100-yard breaststroke in state-record time (see Page 37 for full results).

"For the 200 IM, I had plans on breaking the state record," Bey said. "That was the main goal.

But the breaststroke specialist had higher ambitions for his other race.

"My goal was to put up a nation-leading time in the 100 breaststroke," he said.

In the prelims, Bey went fast enough to get a middle lane for the final.

"I wanted to make sure that I put myself in a comfortable position," he said. "I channeled as much energy into the finals as possible.

His time of 52.98 was the third fastest in the country this year.

"I really like the way the number looked," Bey said of the sub-53 second mark.

He also led off the first-place 200-yard medley relay, teaming with seniors Jeffrey Hou and Brody Marcet and sophomore Matthew Vatev to break the state record set by Central last year.

The versatile Bey swam backstroke in that quartet, then later swam in the 200-yard freestyle relay. Another Central win.

"Coming out of my sophomore year, my goal was to get myself a fourth event and make the 200 free relay," Bey said. "Freestyle was my weakest stroke so I focused more on my freestyle. I'm really glad I did."

Barber had trouble finding words for Bey's bonanza.

"I think we're all still in awe. We've always known that he was capable of hitting incredible times," he said. "I think once he reaches a benchmark, he just sets a new one. He's just that talented."

A final triumph in the 400-yard freestyle relay gave Central a clean sweep of the relays. Hou anchored in the 400 free relay and senior Nojus Bertulis led off both the 200 free and 400 free relays. Bertulis said capping



Josh Bey (clockwise from top) exults in his 200-yard IM victory, one of three state-record setting efforts he authored. Central fans made their support known at the nearby Westmont venue, roaring for other triumphs like in the 200-yard medley relay, which Brody Marcet and cohorts swam in the fastest time ever.



his four-year journey in such commanding fashion was gratifying.

"It was nice to end my career on an ecstatic win," he said. "The state team worked every day to win the state title and I'm proud of every single one of them. My favorite memories were definitely waking up early in the morning or when we would practice extra during the night because we all knew that we were working harder than our competition."

Senior Nate Harris, who placed third in the 200 freestyle, seventh in the 100 freestyle and joined Bertulis in the winning 200 free and 400 free relays, said celebrations were happening throughout the weekend.

"Going back to back is something really special, but

personally I'm going to never forget coming back to our team area after my 200 free prelims and seeing all of my teammates and coaches so hyped for me," he said after clocking a new school record time. "These people will be my family forever."

Marcet said Harris' exploit also was a special moment for him. He also had a busy meet, placing sixth in the 100 backstroke, 14th in the 50 freestyle and anchoring the 200 free relay in addition to the state record-setting 200 medley relay.

"I left the meet very content with how we did as a team," Marcet said. "Ever since I discovered the state record list in 2020 of my freshman year, I made it my goal to get the 200 medley relay state record. To finally have my name on that

relay record feels like I accomplished something for a kid who didn't know what he was capable of."

Barber said the entire squad showed what it was capable of, amassing more than 300 points for only the second time in IHSA history. The other instance? Central's 1974-75 squad during the Red Devil dynasty years under legendary coach Don Watson. Barber said this team is competing against themselves.

"One of our goals was to establish ourselves as better than last year," he related, a year in which Central was named the best team in the country. "One way to prove that was to go faster."

Central now owns six of the 12 state records, and the school's marks seem to be rewritten with

each competition.

"Talent attracts talent. I tell them, 'You guys work hard and make your goals happen,'" Barber said. "As a program we reached our goal of capturing our 20th title and having such a high level of performance for all the kids."

Barber pointed out that the school had gone 26 years without a state title before winning in 2015 (he starred on the 1988-89 Central team that had won the previous one).

"They're few and far between. We've gotten to 20, but we've got to cherish the ones that we get," he said. "This doesn't happen overnight. It doesn't happen all the time."

Bey, for one, doesn't think the program is done yet.

"I think we may even be a little bit better next season."

STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE



Mark Ortiz
Clarendon Hills

How did you get involved in track?

I did shot put for a little bit and discus in middle school before COVID, and then I had to stop because of COVID. My freshman year of high school, I didn't do it because we had football during the spring, also because of COVID. After that, I remembered I liked it a lot, so I started up my sophomore year and I've done it ever since.

How do you train?

I throw just about every day and then after throwing the first few days of the week we'll lift and then toward the middle of the week we'll do some plyometrics — some jumps and some sprints — and toward the end of the week we'll chill out because we usually have a meet coming up over the weekend. I like to lift on my own over the weekend just for fun.

How have you improved since your sophomore year?

As for the number, I've improved like 15 feet so far, so that's pretty big. For my technique, I've gotten a lot better, and I've gotten bigger and stronger. I feel like I've done a pretty good job but there's always more work to do.

Do you have any pre-meet rituals or routines?

I like to throw on a full stomach.

What is the best advice you've gotten from a coach?

My freshman year, Coach Kruse, he told me to man up.

What is your goal for the season?

It's definitely to qualify for state, because last year I just barely missed the cutoff. Other than that maybe place at state. And then have fun and support my teammates.

What are your plans for next year?

I plan on throwing in college (at) DePauw University. My mom and my grandpa went there, and my twin, Adam, is going there.

Anything else?

My grandma is probably going to read the newspaper, so can I say hi to my grandma?

Why does coach Jim Westphal like having Ortiz on the team?

Mark has been a tremendous leader vocally as well as through all of his hard work over the course of his track and field career. He always has a positive attitude and is constantly striving to be the very best athlete and teammate he can on a day-to-day basis.

— profile by Pamela Lannom, photo by Jim Slonoff

RESULTS

Swimming, boys Feb. 23 & 24 @ IHSA state championships V places 1st with 337.5 points 200-yard medley relay Bey, M. Vatev, Hou, Marcet, 1st, 1:29.13 200-yard freestyle Harris, 3rd, 1:37.54 L. Vatev, 8th, 1:39.28 200-yard IM Bey, 1st, 1:44.89 Hou, 2nd, 1:45.75 50-yard freestyle Bertulis, 7th, 20.64 Marcet, 14th (tie),	21.08 1-meter diving Brown, 20th, 300.6 100-yard butterfly Hou, 2nd, 47.45 Guo, 4th, 47.94 100-yard freestyle Harris, 7th, 45.48 Bertulis, 8th, 45.54 500-yard freestyle L. Vatev, 4th, 4:27.9 Pelinkovic, 11th, 4:34.99 200-yard freestyle relay Bertulis, Bey, Harris, Marcet, 1st, 1:21.96 100-yard backstroke	Guo, 4th, 49.04 Marcet, 6th, 49.32 100-yard breaststroke Bey, 1st, 52.98 M. Vatev, 54.8 400-yard freestyle Bertulis, Harris, Guo, Hou, 1st, 2:59.87	24.33 400-meter dash Morrissey, 6th, 53.24 Bots, 9th, 53.7 800-meter run Bandukwala, 1st, 1:53.67 Kamenev, 29th, 2:08.37 1,600-meter run Kurimay, 18th, 4:40.72 Miller, 24th, 4:46.25 3,200-meter run Doorhy, 25th, 10:11.45 Levin, 35th, 10:34.06 60-meter hurdles	Segers, 15th, 9.23 Olaitan, 29th, 10.02 4x200-meter relay V, 24th, 1:44.45 4x800-meter relay V, 10th, 8:45.13 High jump Prieto, 3rd, 1.95m Long jump Parkins, 6th, 6.51m Triple jump Eden, 42nd, 10.14m Pole vault Khatau, 10th, 3.65m Shot put Ortiz, 5th, 15.64m Stamer, 31st, 11.94m
	Track, boys Feb. 24 @ Lakes Clash 60-meter dash Segers, 23rd, 7.33 Lyne, 35th, 7.44 200-meter dash Bots, 17th, 24.02 Tresslar, 21st,			

Instant replay



Hinsdale Central's Kasra Mikaili tries to maintain an edge on his St. Ignatius counterpart during a relay race while track and field teammate Jeffrey Collier follows through on his shot put hurl at the Red Devil Invite Feb. 16 (Jim Slonoff photos)

SPORTS



Hinsdale Central's Josh Bey blasts into his backstroke to lead off the team's 200-yard medley relay during the IHSA boys swimming and diving state final Saturday at FMC Natatorium in Westmont. The quartet won the event in state-record time, with Central sweeping all three relays to capture the 20th state championship in the program's storied history. (photos for The Hinsdalean by Joel Lerner)

Devils swamp rivals for state title

Central boys flex their pool dominance at IHSA meet for second straight year

By Ken Knutson
kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Leave no doubt. That was the mantra driving the Hinsdale Central boys varsity swim and dive team into last weekend's IHSA state final. The Red Devils, the defending state champions and a

prohibitive favorite to repeat, were not interested in coasting on their substantial laurels. "The pressure was on," said head coach Bob Barber. "The expectation was that we would win and that we'd have the ability to win by a lot." Any doubt was submerged as the

Red Devils unleashed their tidal wave of talent and preparation to surge to a state record 337.5 points in securing back-to-back titles and the 20th championship in the school history. "It is a career best," Barber said, noting the rout really started with the team's perfect sectional per-

formance. "Then at the state meet, we got every swimmer to swim in Saturday's individual finals." In second place at the meet, held at FMC Natatorium in Westmont, was New Trier, whose 210.5 points would have earned them the crown in a typical year.

Please turn to Page 36



Red Devil swimmers, divers and coaches celebrate their state championship — the school's 20th — with a customary party in the pool at the FMC Natatorium on Saturday. The team's 337.5-point total is the most ever amassed. And with three more state records set at the meet, Central now owns half of the IHSA records for the 12 state final events. (photo for The Hinsdalean by Joel Lerner)

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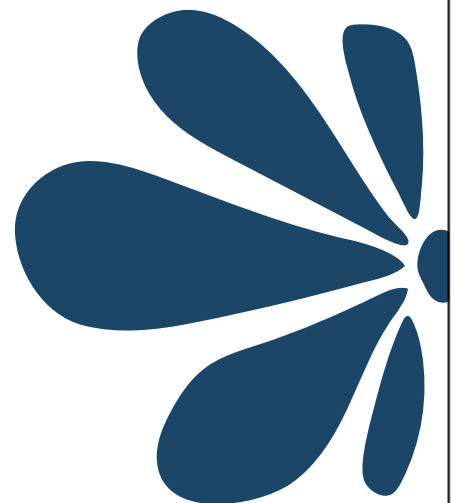
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