

# The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, November 30, 2023 •

Hinsdale, Illinois •

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## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

**Sean Phenegar of the** Hinsdale Public Works Department takes a minute to make adjustments to the wreath on the corner of First and Washington streets. Public Works crews will hang more than 200 wreaths on light poles throughout the central business district this holiday season. Burlington Park has been turned into a winter wonderland with thousands of lights and Santa's workshop and post office. And, new this season, a special train will mark Hinsdale's 150th anniversary. (Jim Slonoff photo)



### Moore the merrier

Lifelong Hinsdalean shares memories, gift ideas in Part 2 of series.

**Page 5**



### Walk the walk

Chamber hosts 57th annual Christmas Walk this Friday night.

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### Previews, part 2

Boys swim and dive, boys and girls wrestling featured this week.

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## Final MIP expenses in 2024 draft budget

*Higher revenues mean more money for last year of village's 15-year infrastructure plan*

**By Pamela Lannom**

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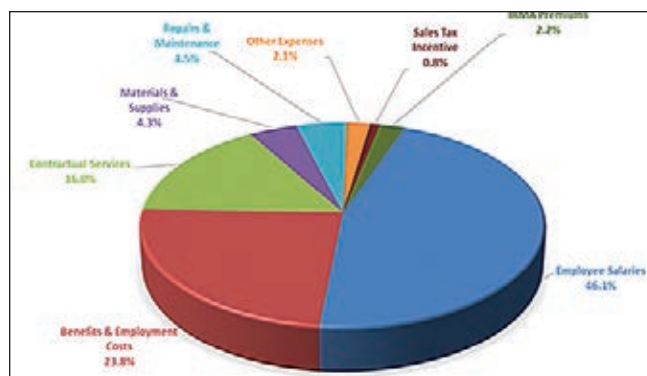
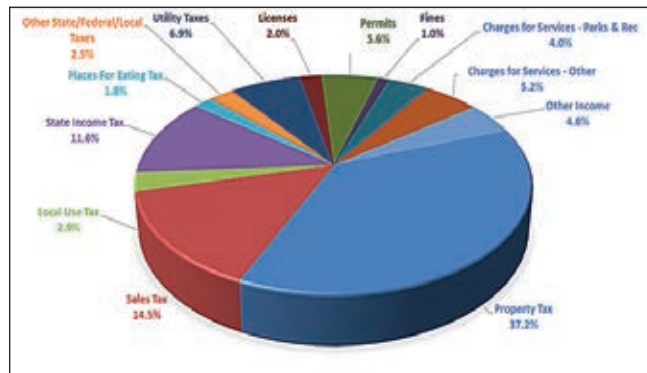
Higher than anticipated revenues in 2023 and rising revenues in 2024 will allow the village to invest more in master infrastructure plan and capital projects.

Permit revenue and interest income have outperformed budget projections this year, village manager Kathleen Gargano wrote in a memo to trustees for their Nov. 21 meeting. That, combined with lower employee salary costs due to long-term vacancies not being filled and decreased overtime costs, will leave the 2023 budget with a projected operating fund balance, after transfers, of 34.7 percent of operating expenses. Village policy calls for year-end balances of 25 percent.

Staff is recommending an increase from \$1.72 million to \$2.5 million in the budgeted transfer to the master infrastructure plan fund and an increase from \$1.4 million to \$2.3 million for the capital improvement plan. Looking ahead to 2024, the village anticipates a 7.2 percent increase in operating revenues in the general fund, bringing the total to \$24.2 million. That \$1.6 million increase includes \$200,000 more in interest income and an anticipated \$350,000 in donations related to 150th anniversary celebrations, both of which are nonrecurring revenues.

Property taxes, at an estimated \$9 million, account for 37.2 percent of general fund revenues. Other sources are sales tax at \$3.5 million, state income tax at \$2.8 million, utility taxes at almost \$1.7 million and permit fees at \$1.35 million.

While property taxes are the single largest source of revenue in the general fund, the village portion of a resident's property tax bill is less than 10 percent,



**These charts show** the breakdown of revenue and expenses by type in the village's 2024 budget. The village's largest source of revenue is property taxes, and its biggest expense is salaries for 118 village employees, followed by benefits. (charts courtesy of the village of Hinsdale)

Gargano noted. Districts 181 and 86 account for 79 percent of the property taxes residents pay.

"I think that's worth talking about," Village President Tom Cauley said. "A lot of people talk about the village and property taxes, but the village only gets 7.3 percent of property taxes. Most of it goes to the schools."

General fund expenses are expected to increase 5 percent to almost \$21.2 million. The village's largest expense — 70 percent — is for employee salaries and benefits, which are projected at \$14.8 million. Salaries are forecasted to increase by \$394,000 or 4.2 percent to cover merit/step increases and pay plan adjustments. The village also will be fully staffed in 2024 with 118.1 full-time equivalents.

Benefit and employment costs are anticipated to increase by \$590,700 or 13 percent, primarily due to

increases in pension costs and health insurance.

"The village funding of the pension funds is outside of the village's control," Gargano noted.

The village's required minimum contributions will increase 35 percent to \$993,000 for the police pension fund and 12 percent to \$1.3 million for the fire pension fund.

"That is significant when you think about where we're getting our revenue and our ability to support these pensions," Gargano said.

Broken down by department, the village spends most of its general fund revenues on police (\$6.2 million/29 percent), fire (\$5.4 million/25 percent) and public services (\$3.4 million/16 percent).

In addition to the general fund, the village has three other funds: water/sewer, capital improvement plan and master infrastructure

plan.

The water/sewer fund is estimated to have revenues of \$8.74 million from water/sewer user fees and \$530,000 from the fixed \$15 bimonthly charge for capital improvements. The village expects to spend almost \$4.9 million to purchase water from the DuPage Water Commission and \$2.5 million on infrastructure.

The capital improvement plan lists \$3.9 million in expenditures for 2024 (see sidebar).

The master infrastructure plan fund is expected to see revenues of \$2.1 million from the non-home rule sales tax, \$2 million from a general fund transfer, \$764,000 from the motor fuel tax receipts, \$520,000 from utility taxes and \$70,000 from the downtown parking deck special services area tax. The village has identified \$7.3 million in expenses (see sidebar), including work on Sixth Street.

"We've kicked this down the road a couple of times because it's extremely expensive," Cauley said.

Once the 2024 projects are finished, all the work identified in the 2009 master infrastructure plan will be complete. About 63 of the village' 69 miles of roadways have been rehabilitated, including 16 miles of water mains and 18 miles of sewers, Gargano said. As of 2023, the village no longer has any roads identified as "failing."

"This is really a significant milestone that the board achieved. It had a tremendous amount of forethought back 15 years ago to set up this plan. A small community doing this amount of work is really quite remarkable," Gargano said.

The board is expected to officially adopt the budget at its Tuesday, Dec. 12, meeting.

### 2024 MIP, CIP expenses

The 2024 budget lists \$7.3 million worth of projects funded by the motor fuel tax fund, the master infrastructure projects fund and the water capital fund, including the following.

- \$4.5 million for Sixth Street reconstruction
- \$850,000 for engineering, architectural work
- \$700,000 for asphalt resurfacing program
- \$440,000 for sewers
- \$200,000 for telecommunications equipment relocation (standpipe)
- \$150,000 for Second Street water main (Vine Street Station)
- \$150,000 for pavement preservation program
- \$100,000 for 50/50 sidewalk program

The budget also lists \$3.9 million for capital improvement plan expenses.

- \$850,000 for a new fire engine (grant)
- \$400,500 for public services vehicle replacements
- \$338,700 for Burns Field improvements
- \$195,000 for police department gun range repairs (partial grant)
- \$170,000 for public services boiler and AC units
- \$158,000 for police vehicle replacements
- \$115,000 for parking deck pedestrian enhancements (grant and Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce contribution)
- \$100,000 for exterior maintenance improvements to the Memorial Building
- \$100,000 for the Memorial Building plaza restoration project



ONCE UPON A TIME



**Places from the past** — Hinsdale’s building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, a Hinsdale Central graduate, moved to Hinsdale in 1971 and spent many years here in his youth. Having spent more than 40 years with the village, there isn’t a lot about Hinsdale he doesn’t know or hasn’t photographed. This photo from 1979 is of Schweidler & Mewherter at 8 E. First St., which is now home to Il Poggiolo. 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](mailto:jslonoff@thehinsdalean.com).



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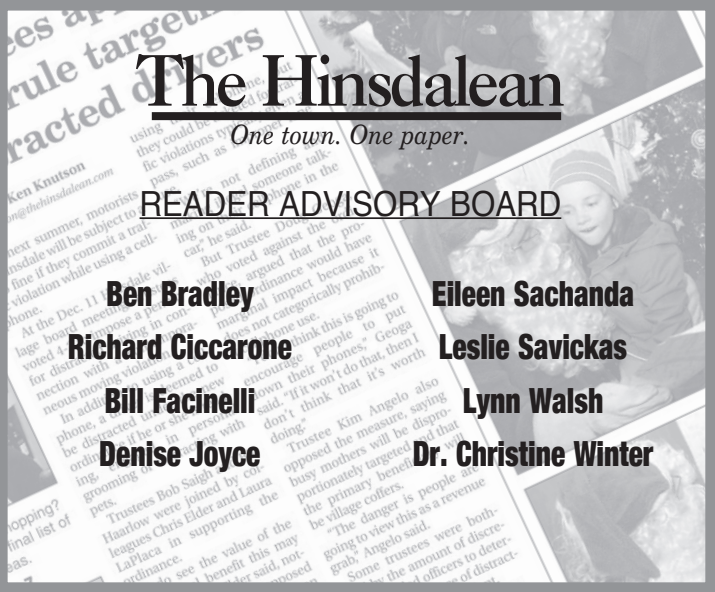
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# The Hinsdalean

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Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

**Obituaries**  
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# Shopper takes trip down memory lane

*Moore reflects on a fun childhood in Hinsdale while checking off his Christmas gift list*

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

In this year of embracing Hinsdale's heritage, Scott Moore has plenty of his own fond recollections of the town generations ago. The product of Oak School, Hinsdale Middle School and Hinsdale Central (Class of '77) moved back to town in the early 1990s with wife Elaine to raise their brood.

"I loved living here as a kid, and it just seemed natural to share it with my family," Moore said.

The impression left by his Oak principal even inspired the "Blanche Jaros" golf trip that reunites his old classmates every year. Moore recounted her strong perfume and even stronger administrative style.

"All the parents loved her because she was a very stern disciplinarian," he said.

Moore is the second guest shopper in our four-part gift guide series. He and Elaine have three adult children — Doug, Sander and Meaghan — and Moore serves on the village's plan commission.

Our tour of shops in Hinsdale's historic central business district prompted Moore to wax nostalgically about the times he and his cohorts would clamber up to building rooftops and people watch — like who emerged after a movie at Hinsdale Theater. Winter meant regular sessions of ice



**Scott Moore** picked out this MiniMax Big Green Egg grill at Fuller Home & Hardware as an gift he knows his newly married son and daughter-in-law, Doug and Megan, could make use of at their Chicago high rise.

With hockey on the seasonal rink that would be constructed at Burns Field.

"If they had ice, we would be over there every single day," he said.

Moore recalled the past occupants

of storefronts, fascinating the ladies at Alixandra Collections in particular by reminiscing of when the space housed a popular candy store. He's relished his work on the plan commission since joining last year.

"It's a really good group of people," Moore said of his fellow volunteer public servants. "We want to support the economy of the downtown. But we also want to keep the character of what it makes so special."

• Moore developed his downhill dexterity as member of Trolls youth ski club growing up and now enjoys "shredding the pow" with his family. His daughter's boyfriend, Sam, will keep warm while cutting a fashionable figure descending the slopes in an Ortovox fleece jacket in deep ocean color. \$200, King Keyser

• wife Elaine's holiday season will truly sparkle while wearing a 14-karat gold Eternity stackable diamond ring. \$800, Karat Jewelry Group

• Chicago-dwelling newlyweds Doug — Moore's son — and his bride Megan will appreciate the urban-sized MiniMax Big Green Egg grill with Nest package. \$1,069, Fuller Home & Hardware

• daughter and outdoor enthusiast Claire will be able enjoy her favorite tunes on all of her excursions with a turquoise Wave portable Bluetooth speaker. \$60, Verizon

• a ceramic 12-inch Fitz and Floyd Snowman with Mailbox cookie jar

will add a special seasonal touch to daughter Meaghan's decor. \$35, The Courtyard

• the entire Moore family will get a pair of synthetic silk "Coffee before Talkie" lounge pants for relaxing after all the hustle and bustle. \$29.99, Hinsdale News Agency.

• Claire will love accessorizing with a beaded Calliope bracelet featuring opal and aquamarine stones on a gun metal chain. \$29, Alixandra Collections

• for his music-loving son Sander, Moore chose a vintage vinyl copy of Chicago's "Live at Carnegie Hall" album. \$30, Hinsdale Antiques Underground

• A gift basket packed with 30 pieces of fruit, candy, crackers, cheese and nuts is sure to delight the host of an upcoming Christmas party. "Thirty pieces of fruit is a lot of fruit!" Moore exclaimed. \$100, Hinsdale Fruit Store

• A set of 20 personalized Cranes cards and lined envelopes will furnish son Sander with handsome stationery by which to send thank-yous for all his Christmas gifts. \$90, Sass & Class

• Megan and Claire will both appreciate a dozen gluten-free mega oatmeal Craisin cookies. \$38.28 per dozen, Sweet Ali's Gluten Free Bakery

• When it's time to wrap all the gifts, a dinner-for-two basket with pasta, sauce, napkins and a Christmas-tree shaped charcuterie board is just the no-fuss meal Moore and his wife can savor. \$50, Altamura



**In the midst of** relocating from Texas, Moore's daughter's boyfriend Sam is sure to need warmer outerwear, like this Ortovox fleece ski jacket at King Keyser. (Jim Slonoff photos)



## NEXT WEEK

### Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6  
Memorial Building  
19 E. Chicago Ave.

On the draft agenda: public hearing on demolishing home and building a new home at 425 E. Eighth St., sign code update, status update on Title 14 amendments, Sixth Street improvement project, Robbins Park Historic District gateway signs

## MEETING ROUNDUP

### Hinsdale Village Board

Among other business at their Nov. 21 meeting, trustees:

- held a public hearing on the 2023 proposed total property tax levy of \$15,577,075, including the library levy and village taxes to repay six bond issues. That almost \$3.2 million in debt repayment money will be abated when the board approves the levy at its Tuesday, Dec. 12, meeting. The village's portion on the tax bill of a \$1 million home will be about \$1,400, Trustee Matt Posthuma said. No one spoke at the hearing.

- voted 4-0 to approve the Vine Street Station planned development at 125 S. Vine St. and a portion of 116 S. Grant St. The project will convert the old Zion School building into 12 age-restricted condos.

"I think the project is going to be something everyone is going to be proud of," said Michael O'Connor, vice president of development and leasing at Holladay Properties.

"I agree," Village President Tom Cauley said. "Fantastic project."

- heard Trustee Michelle Fisher report that the village is in the final push of its fundraising drive for the Memorial Building plaza renovation and rail replacement projects. So far about \$60,000 has been donated.

## Celebrate season with Golden Ticket promotion

Celebrate the season, support local businesses and unwrap a special surprise by participating in the Hinsdale Golden Ticket promotion from Dec. 4-22.

Shoppers who visit participating local stores and get their ticket punched when a sale is made and/or at the discretion of the business, will receive chances to win a prize. One punch is equivalent to one raffle ticket. Participating shoppers can submit their Golden Ticket with one or more punches for a chance to win.

The more punches shoppers receive, the better their chance to win a prize. Raffle prizes will vary, but are themed around items from participating local businesses.

Golden tickets can be picked up at any participating business, Village Hall at 19 E. Chicago Ave. or the Hinsdale Public Library at 20 E. Maple St. Shoppers can drop off or mail their punched ticket to Village Hall or the library prior to the deadline. Winners will be notified.

Participating businesses are

- Washington Street — Airoom, Alixandra Collections, Kelsey Resale Boutique, Meredith Jaye, Razny Jewelers

- First Street — Alixandra Blue, Fuller House, Karat Jewelry Group

- Hinsdale Avenue — Hinsdale Wine Shop

- Village Place — Café La Fortuna

- Grant Square — Burhop's Seafood

- Chestnut Street — Jameson Sotheby's

- Ogden Avenue — The Pride of Hinsdale

- Maple Street — Hinsdale Public Library

- Chicago Avenue — Village of Hinsdale

The Pride of Hinsdale and Karat Jewelry Group are two of the businesses featuring festive holiday painted windows. The other two are Que Miso at 114 S. Washington St. and Hinsdale Orthodontist at 105 E. First St., Suite 201. For more information, visit [www.villageofhinsdale.org/golden ticket](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/golden ticket).



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# Girls sports have come a long way, baby

By Pamela Lannom  
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

With the Hinsdale Central girls wrestling team in the early days of its first regular season, it seemed appropriate to look back at the days when hardly any girls had the opportunity to compete in any sport, much less wrestling.

Below are excerpts from a column 17-year-old Sandra Bucha, a senior at Hinsdale Central, wrote for *The Doings* in November 1971. She opened by quoting Article II, Section 14 of the Illinois High School Association Official Handbook.

"Provisions Governing Contests for Girls: No school belonging to this association shall permit girls to participate in interscholastic athletic contests with the following specific exceptions: interscholastic contests in golf, archery, badminton and tennis may be permitted, and sports days may be held in field hockey, volleyball, softball, swimming, bowling, and track and field ... (One must also note that at these sports days, there can be

no organized cheering or extensive publicity of the sports day.)"

"At first glance, these state high school rules may seem to be quotes from an antique law book," Bucha began. "Actually, they are incredible rules in the 1970-71 Illinois High School Association handbook.

"There is widespread interest displayed by many people concerning sports for girls, yet any action to make amendments to aid this concern is certainly lacking in results. While there have been some states that include interscholastic sports for girls, Illinois is not among them. ...

"Hinsdale Central has won state titles in both swimming and gymnastics. I really have to congratulate our boys. They prove that hard work pays off. However, there is one thing that discomforts me quite a lot. The boys are the ones with teams and state titles and the girls are not even recognized.



Bucha

"There are many age-group programs around the country for various sports. These programs are open to any boy or girl who may wish to participate. However, only the males are able to continue their individual sports on high school teams. I am distressed by the fact that many capable girls have to be cut short of their athletic ambitions just because there is some

archaic rule prohibiting them from an active amount of sports in high school.

"I wonder if it would be such a terrible crime to include females on some of the different male athletic teams of the noncontact sports. I feel there should be equal opportunity for a girl to try out for a team based on her ability, not on her sex. ...

"Girls and athletics do mix. For this reason, they should not be discriminated against but be considered equally as important as the boys. Besides, if Sen. McGovern feels

women are qualified to sit on the Supreme Court bench, then perhaps a girl really isn't that bad."

Bucha graduated in 1972, a year before Congress passed Title IX legislation required school to provide, among other things, equal athletic opportunities for both sexes.

After graduation, she became a professional marathon swimmer. Between 1973 and 1975, she starred in the male-dominated sport of marathon swimming as the top-finishing female in the nine races she entered, in which only three men finished ahead of her.

As a principal in a successful lawsuit against the Illinois High School Association, her actions as a social justice advocate helped create opportunities for thousands of girls to participate in swimming and other sports.

She graduated from Stanford University with honors as an undergraduate and earned her juris doctorate at Indiana University. She was inducted into the Hinsdale Central Hall of Fame in 2012.



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# POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police released the following reports Nov. 28.

## Bank burglarized

Police were dispatched to a burglar alarm at Bank of America, 118 W. First St., at 5:14 a.m. Nov. 26. A suspect, who was seen on surveillance video rummaging through drawers inside the bank, fled before police arrived. An office window had been forced open. The suspect is described as a woman with a slender build wearing a red hoodie, red pants and a dark-colored hat.

## Jewelry stolen from home

The master bedroom of a home in the 400 block of East 57th Street was ransacked and jewelry was taken between 3:30 and 7:25 p.m. Nov. 22. There were no signs of forced entry, but windows were open when the victim returned home.

## Fanny pack, wallet taken

A woman reported her fanny pack containing a wallet, ID and credit cards was missing after she visited a patient at UChicago AdventHealth Hinsdale, 120 N. Oak St., on Nov 18. Later a fraudulent charge was made on her credit card. The incident was reported Nov. 22.

## Car rummaged through

Someone rummaged through the interior of a vehicle parked in the 600 block of West Chicago Avenue at 3:51 a.m. Nov. 27.

# Judge denies release for accused burglar

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Hinsdale Police Chief Brian King announced last week that Judge Joshua Dieden granted the state's motion to deny pre-trial release for a Chicago man accused of fleeing from police after allegedly stealing more than \$1,000 worth of merchandise from the Hinsdale Walgreens.

David Freeman, 31, of the 1100 block of 61st Street, appeared in First Appearance Court Nov. 21 charged with one count of burglary (Class 2 felony), two counts of retail theft (Class 3 felony), one count of aggravated fleeing and eluding a police officer (Class 4 felony) and several misdemeanor counts, including one count of endangering the life or health of a child.

Hinsdale officers responded at about 4:30 p.m. July 19 to a call of a retail theft in progress at Walgreens, 15 Grant Square. Officers were alerted to a Chevrolet Astro van allegedly driven by Freeman that was involved in the theft. When officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop, Freeman allegedly fled the scene. As officers pursued Freeman, he

disobeyed multiple stop signs and struck two Hinsdale squad cars, police said. Officers terminated pursuit out of safety concerns.

Prior to fleeing from police, Freeman is accused of entering the Walgreens and, while holding a 3- to 4-year-old child, selecting about \$1,005.74 worth of merchandise and leaving the store without paying. An arrest warrant was issued Oct. 11, and Freeman was taken into custody Nov. 20 without incident.

"This most recent case of fleeing from the police is extremely disturbing as it allegedly occurred in the middle of the afternoon in a busy strip mall," Berlin said. "Thankfully, no innocent motorists or pedestrians were injured or killed," he added.

"Freeman's conscious disregard for the safety of this child as he allegedly struck two police cars and fled from officers is truly alarming," King said. "I would like to thank State's Attorney Bob Berlin's office for their assistance in this investigation."

Freeman is scheduled to be arraigned Dec. 11 in front of Judge Daniel Guerin.

# MERRY

## Celebrate the joys of the season!

Maestro Peter Lipari leads the orchestra in beloved holiday music perfect for the whole family ... and welcomes Santa to join in the fun

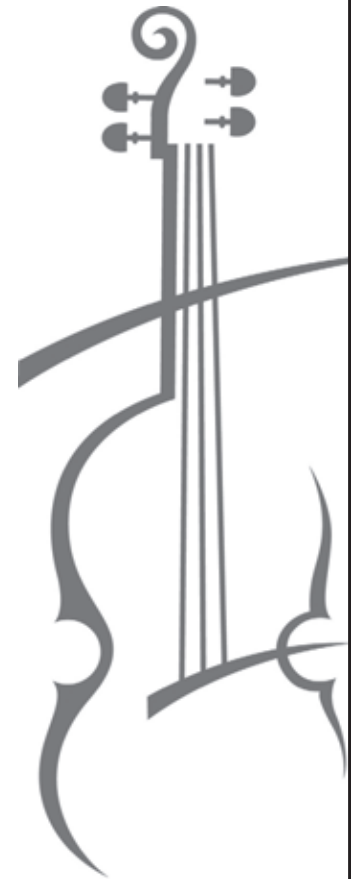
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## OPEN HOUSE

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■ “It has made me a more soulful person and somebody who is able to connect with others through the arts.” — **Lauren Doppke**

## Singer relishes last high school holiday season

Hinsdale Central senior Lauren Doppke will give her vocal chords a workout over the next couple weeks. A member of the school’s Chamber Choir, she and her fellow vocalists are making joyful sounds all around the community.

“We’re visiting Notre Dame Church (in Clarendon Hills) and we’re going to a retirement home, as well,” Doppke said. “We’re doing an event (at Central) in the morning where we sing while people grab coffee.”

“It’s definitely a busy time,” she added.

This week the group is gearing up for its Madrigal Concert from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, in the school’s auditorium at 55th and Grant streets. Doppke especially enjoys the diversity of music on the program.

“We have all of our standard Christmas carols, but we’re also singing a lot of different combinations of medieval music, which is interesting as well,” she said, making special mention of “Fair Phyllis,” a madrigal classic. “It features a lot of different harmonic rounds that go into it.”

Doppke said she finds performing time-honored pieces

from various periods enriching.

“We’re singing all of these traditional Christmas carols and simultaneously singing lesser known — but arguably more traditional — ballads from the medieval era,” she related.

The Chamber Choir is almost entirely seniors, Doppke noted, a testament to the resilience of a class that started high school with no in-person activities.

“Pretty rough,” she remarked of remote schooling. “We didn’t really have that foundational freshman choral experience.”

Despite, or perhaps in response to, that adversity, choir members have demonstrated a firm commitment to their craft, Doppke said..

“I really respect a lot of my peers for the devotion that they have to choir and the time that they dedicate to it,” she said.

Doppke’s comfort projecting her voice also is useful as part of Central’s debate team. Students Organized for Anti-Racism (SOAR) and Citizens Club are among her other areas of involvement.

“You have to learn to be confident in a lot of these



### LAUREN DOPPKE

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clubs and learn to present something that you’re proud of,” she said.

Making music is something of a family pursuit.

“My mom’s been a professional singer since she was 11. My dad plays the guitar and also sings. My older brother is currently majoring in music right now, and my younger brother is in (Central’s) bass choir,” she said.

The holiday season affords a special opportunity to unite

their shared passion.

“I sing in my church choir around Christmas time with my family,” Doppke said.

Doppke is thankful the college application process is behind her.

Wherever her path leads next, she said her love for singing will go with her. Doppke said high school has been a formative journey.

“I’ve very much appreciated the opportunity to partake in the arts with my peers and

create something beautiful,” she said. “It has made me a more soulful person and somebody who is able to connect with others through the arts.”

“As I’m closing out my career as a senior, I’m doing all of these wonderful things,” Doppke added. “It’s melancholy, sure, but it’s wonderful to be able to go out with such a string of concerts.”

— story by Ken Knutson,  
photo by Jim Slonoff



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# OPINION

## EDITORIAL

### Shop local a profitable mantra for all seasons

Small Business Saturday, a day to celebrate and support local shops and all they do for their communities, may have been observed last weekend. But that doesn't mean the need to show love to local merchants is any less critical.

Hinsdale stores are eager to welcome patrons with unique items hard to find elsewhere in the area. And we should welcome to the opportunity to patronize them. Here are some reasons why, as articulated in an essay by Forbes Finance Council member Joseph Lustberg:

- By making a commitment to shop local or support small businesses, you cycle money back into your community. Large chain stores in neighboring towns may have deals and a more extensive selection of merchandise. But revenue generated through sale taxes from local businesses goes to the local government to be reinvested in the community.

- One word: transportation. A local small business tends to make more local purchases, which requires less transportation, i.e. less pollution and congestion. Additionally, since they are set up in a town or city, it will generally reduce traffic,

habitat loss and resource depletion.

- According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses in the U.S. employ nearly half — 47.3 percent — of the private workforce. Small businesses are the backbone of the economy and help push economic growth and the local economy by opening up employment opportunities locally to people who may not want to be employed at big box businesses.

- Small businesses play a significant role in supporting local community charities and causes. It's clear that local businesses benefit from a strong community; therefore, the owners tend to be more engaged members of the community themselves. Small businesses donate 250 percent more than large businesses to local nonprofits, youth organizations and community causes, creating a positive cycle of giving back locally.

- When it comes to a small-business owner, all purchases, deals and positive reviews matter. Local store owners value each of their customers, and their very livelihood hangs on their satisfaction. Unlike big chains, local businesses often

hire people with proficient knowledge of the products they are selling or the ins and outs of the business they are running. Employees take the time to really get to know their clients and customers, making for an overall pleasant experience — and humans to quickly address any issues that come up.

- In order for small businesses to stay afloat, they need to stand out from their big box competition. This survival-of-the-fittest mentality compels small-business owners to innovate with fresh products that take new customers' specific situations into account when assisting with their personal needs.

Hinsdaleans take pride in their business districts for their charming blend of offerings and inviting atmosphere. So let's do what we can to put our shopping where our homes are and support the entrepreneurs who have made their passion their livelihood, created jobs and contributed to a community cherished for its quintessential village vibe. Take that gift list (see Page 5 for some great ideas) to some local stores and see what you find — and what finds you.

## COMMENTARY

### Many ways to count down the days 'til Christmas

My daughter Ainsley's favorite Advent calendars are the ones you can find just about anywhere for \$2.99. I've tried to substitute an upgraded chocolate calendar — whose windows contain more than a teeny tiny piece of the cheapest chocolate money can buy. But she wants the same kind of calendar her Gram and Papa, who are no longer with us, used to buy her.

I love holiday traditions — some might even call me a stickler — and apparently I've passed on my passion/obsession to Ainsley. She's still willing to pull the animals, shepherds and angels from the Fisher Price Little People nativity advent calendar one of my friends gave her for her very first Christmas. We've hung it on the fridge every Dec. 1 for the past 14 years.

I thought it might be fun this year to supplement her standard Advent calendar with one filled with bath or beauty products. A quick Google search led me to one from The Body Shop filled with products like coconut shower cream and strawberry lip butter that she would love. I did not love

the \$89 price.

Some more online searching uncovered a whole world of Advent calendars, some of which made \$89 seem like a bargain! You can get Advent calendars filled with beer, wine, tea, coffee, chocolate, popcorn, candy, cookies, even whiskey. You can find a calendar for fans of Disney, Pokemon, Bluey, Jack Skellington, Rudolph, Marvel, Star Wars, Harry Potter, Elf, Super Mario, LEGOs and Barbies.

I was so intrigued, I decided to create my own list of some of the most interesting and unusual Advent calendars for 2023, depending on who's on your gift list.

- for a man's man — order the Meaty Christmas calendar for \$99.99 by Mancrates and your favorite guy will enjoy beef and pork sticks and bits (what are bits?) in tasty flavors like cajun, orange habañero and honey bourbon.

- for cheese lovers — The Cheese Brothers 12 Days of Cheesemas calendar for \$102 comes from a



Pamela Lannom

company based behind the Cheddar Curtain. Recipients will enjoy everything from mundane cheese curds to an interesting-sounding Trappiste Ale-Washed gouda.

- most beautiful shape — La Maison Du Chocolat offers a snowflake-shaped chocolate calendar for \$95 that is filled with a "gourmet rendezvous of 24 chocolate surprises." Aesthetic and poetic.

- for man's best friend — if the dog is feeling left out while the kids open a window each day on their calendars, why not get this Wufers Advent Cookie Calendar for \$59.95? It's filled with handmade, hand-decorated dog treats made with locally sourced ingredients.

- for cat lovers — Fancy Feast's Feastivities calendar includes 24 3-ounce cans of wet cat food for \$32.99. Ick.

- grossest calendar — speaking of pets, the James Oops calendar, advertised as containing funny dog pictures and exciting puzzles, fea-

tures a picture of a dog with diarrhea on the cover. Yuck.

- most charming — the Wooden Christmas Village calendar by Balsam Hill for \$189 is a beautiful miniature lighted village that will make any mantle look extra festive. The only drawback is you have to buy your own treats to fill the little drawers.

- most educational — kids can open a new gemstone every day to add to their collection with the National Geographic Gemstone Advent calendar and dig out a special crystal on the final day, all for \$23.99.

- for Swifties — The Taylor Swift The Eras Tour Concert Film calendar for \$24.99 includes 23 ornaments and a stylish keychain.

- biggest splurge — Dior's The Trunk of Dreams contains perfume, scented candles and lipstick in an exquisite box that sells for \$4,200.

The Body Shop calendar is starting to look a lot more attractive. — Pamela Lannom is editor of *The Hinsdalean*. Readers can email her at [plannom@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:plannom@thehinsdalean.com).



## GUEST COMMENTARY

### The well-worn path of letting go

I recently enlisted my children to help organize our basement storage area, which houses everything from Christmas decorations and suitcases to sentimental items no one has the heart to part with.



Jade Cook

After the initial protests, my kids — now 13 and 10 — exclaimed at the hidden treasures we unearthed: onesies worn home from the hospital, bedraggled stuffed cats and frogs, baby doll beds with homemade quilts and pink princess castles.

Sifting through the objects, my daughter, Grace, looked into my eyes and said, “This feels happy and sad at the same time,” perfectly capturing my own emotions.

Truthfully it’s these emotions that kept me from sorting through our storage. When I open the closet to our memories, waves of nostalgia threaten to overwhelm me as I confront the reality that my children have grown into adolescents.

There will be no more tea parties with stuffed animal guests or walks around the neighborhood with baby dolls securely strapped into their strollers. Toy cell phones no longer receive calls, and while my kids delighted for a moment at the truly embarrassing amount of stuffed animals we uncovered, none of these forgotten friends were tucked into bed with them that night.

Consequently, it’s never been easier to purge unused items from our home as my kids no longer have the same

attachment to their toys, and the same is true for their relationship with me.

“Thanks, Mom, I can do it myself,” is a common refrain lately, and like the closets in my home, my days have a bit more margin. But while my children’s need for me

has changed, I’m mindful it hasn’t diminished.

During these days of burgeoning independence, I hold onto advice from sociologist Dr. Christian Smith: teenagers send out two conflicting messages simultaneously. The first is, “Get away, get away, get away,” and the second is, “Closer, closer, closer.”

So I lean in where I can with hair parties with my daughter and movie nights with my son, bike rides and dog walks and listening to stories about their friends. I cheer for them at their games and concerts and celebrate the independent young adults they are becoming.

It’s a bittersweet path that’s been traversed for generations. As we move into the holy season of Advent this Sunday, I think of a Heavenly Father who many years ago released His own Son into a world that needed Him.

Was it hard to let Him go, the way I find it hard to let my children grow into who they’re created to be? I can’t help but think it was, which makes Christmas all the more a gift worth receiving, in humble appreciation for all that it cost.

— Jade Cook of Hinsdale is a contributing columnist. Readers can email her at [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### D86 board resignees should offer better explanation

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board of Education consists of seven elected members. Two of those board members, Kay Gallo and Debbie Levinthal, recently resigned within weeks of each other. Both resignations were based on accusations that the D86 board is dysfunctional.

The problem is neither person explained the specifics of that dysfunction. When you make statements like that, the community and sitting board deserve the facts to back them up. Making broad accusations without explaining them is irresponsible.

And now, according to state law, it is

the responsibility of the sitting board to replace those two new board members.

School boards are suppose to be elected by the voters to insure they represent the community goals for their children’s education. But we will not elect the two new board members — they will be chosen by the sitting board.

And if Levinthal and Gallo are correct and the sitting board is dysfunctional, that is not good.

Debbie Levinthal and Kay Gallo are responsible for this. The community deserves a lot of answers from them. — Marie Bill, Clarendon Hills



## LETTERS POLICY

### Requirements

- 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
- no form letters

### Submission

- e-mail to [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com)
- fax to (630) 323-4220
- mail to The Hinsdalean,

Letters to the editor, 7 W. First St., Hinsdale IL 60521

### Questions?

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# OBITUARIES

## Edward Bergmann

Edward Bergmann, 83, a longtime Hinsdale resident, passed away unexpectedly Nov. 11, 2023, at UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale.

He was born in 1941 to Frederick and Terese Bergmann and grew up in Chicago with a deep thirst for knowledge and a strong desire to be the best at whatever he sought out in life. After graduating Hirsch High School in Chicago, he proceeded to Northwestern University and found a passion for the law. That passion directed him to Cornell Law University, where he found even more success and graduated magna cum laude.

In 1970 while serving in the Illinois Army Reserve, Ed met Mary Jo at her house in LaGrange Park and they married in May of 1971. Their young family grew with the addition of Terri in 1977 and Bill in 1979.

While he cherished his family deeply, his love and dedication to his craft is what drove him through an extremely successful 57-year law career. Ed joined what is now Seyfarth in 1966, where he has been credited for being the original builder of their wage-hour practice, which was a privilege and honor he carried



**Bergmann**

close to his heart. As his career developed, Ed's drive to be the best seamlessly carried on to his desire to make others be their best as well. His ability and willingness to not only help his coworkers and friends but to teach and share his knowledge could be seen by everyone who knew him.

If he ever had any spare time, he thoroughly enjoyed a weekly cigar, reading, trains, reading about trains and golfing on weekends with his close friends at Butterfield Country Club. Not surprisingly, he was involved there as a member of the board of directors along with pool and tennis committees. The loss of Ed will be felt by all that knew him but none as much as his five grandchildren, who all lit his heart in their own very special ways.

Ed is survived by his wife, Mary Jo; his daughter, Terri; his son, Bill (Kathrine); and his five grandchildren, George, Fritz, Brody, Hazel and Sydney.

Visitation is from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 8, at Sullivan Funeral Home, 60 S. Grant St., Hinsdale.

Interment is private.

## Thomas S. Garland Sr.

Thomas S. Garland Sr. of Hinsdale died Nov. 22, 2023.

Thomas was a model train enthusiast and a huge Cubs fan. He loved his dog, Gabriella.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia (nee Areddia); his sons, Thomas and Joseph; his mother, Barbara; his sisters, Kim (Thomas) Campbell and Jill Garland; and many nieces and nephews.



**Garland**

He was preceded in death by his father, Thomas.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. today, Nov. 30, at St. John of the Cross Church, 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs.

Burial will follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Hillside.

Hallowell & James Funeral Home in Countryside handled the arrangements.

## Patricia DeForest Hindman

Patricia DeForest Hindman of Hinsdale and Key Largo, Fla., passed away Nov. 24, 2023, leaving behind a legacy of laughter, love and unforgettable memories.

Pat was raised in Boonville, Ind., the only child of Raymunda Autry and Joseph W. DeForest. She developed a profound love of nature and the outdoors when her family moved to Bremerton, Wash., where she spent countless hours hiking and camping around Mt. Rainier and the northwest coast with her beloved father.

She attended high school in Indianapolis and went on to Indiana University, where she met her husband, Don J. Hindman. The couple moved to Chicago and settled in Hinsdale in 1954, where they built a wonderful life and raised four children.

She served as first vice president of the board of The Woman's Athletic Club of Chicago, and she was a member of the Junior League of Chicago, The Antiquarian Society, The Alliance Francaise, the Women's Board of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Delta Gamma.

Pat was an elegant woman who demonstrat-



**Hindman**

ed unwavering kindness to everyone she encountered. She enjoyed entertaining and built a lifetime of memories with Don, her husband of 72 years.

She loved practical jokes and had a way of making even the most mundane moments sparkle with her unique blend of wit and warmth. May Patricia rest in peace, surrounded by the laughter and love she so generously shared with all.

She is survived by her husband, Don J. Hindman; her children, Jeff (Gina) Hindman Sr., Leslie Hindman, Sally (Dan) Hindman Sawislak and Donald (Maron) Hindman; her grandchildren, Jeff (Nicole) Hindman Jr., Lacey (Mike) Hindman Bailey, Kirsten, Austin, Charlie, Hadley, Duke and Trudy Hindman and Sylvia Sawislak; and her four great-grandchildren.

A family celebration of life will take place in Florida.

Memorials may be made to The Morton Arboretum through their Tribute Gifts page at [www.mortonarb.org/join-support/make-a-gift/tribute-gifts/#overview](http://www.mortonarb.org/join-support/make-a-gift/tribute-gifts/#overview). To make an individual tribute gift honoring Pat, list her full name at the prompt.



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## OBITUARIES

### Courtney Joy Schrey

Courtney Joy Schrey, 42, of Oakbrook Terrace, passed away peacefully Nov. 13, 2023.

Courtney attended Hinsdale Central High School, Northwestern University and Illinois Institute of Technology. She loved swimming and crossword puzzles. Courtney taught and tutored many at College of DuPage.

She is survived by her father, Thomas; and her aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Iris.



Schrey

Visitation is from 10 a.m. to noon today, Nov. 30, at Hallowell & James Funeral Home, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside.

Burial will follow at 1 p.m. at Randhill Park Cemetery in Arlington Heights.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Denver Health Foundation, 601 N. Broadway, 9th Floor, Denver, CO 80204.

Designate that in the transmittal that the donation is for the ACUTE fund in honor of Dr. Mehler and the staff.

### John Joseph Scott

John Joseph Scott, 102, of Willowbrook passed away at home peacefully on Nov. 24, 2023, after a rich and blessed life.

He was born in 1921 to John and Grace Scott in Chicago.

John was a World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient. He bravely served in Gen. Patton's 3rd Army in the 177th Field Artillery Battalion in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany for two and half years.

When he returned home to Chicago, he met and married the love of his life, Marion. Marion and John celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary in October, and were an inspirational example of a true partnership. After Marion's recent passing on Nov. 1, it was clear that John did not feel complete without her and missed her greatly.

John was always an incredibly hard worker, professionally and personally. He was a co-owner of Kickert School Bus Line, one of the first school bus companies in the state of Illinois, and put in long, physical hours to make the business successful. What he will be remembered most for is how he loved his family; serving others was his love language. "Call me anytime, day or night" was his standing invitation to his family. Whether mowing the lawn, planting flowers, running an errand, dropping off a meal or giving a ride, John could not do enough for his loved ones. John also rescued countless cats and dogs, many of which he ended up keeping as his own pets. He had



Scott

a special gift. Animals loved and trusted John within a few minutes of being around him.

He loved working with his hands and there wasn't much that he couldn't figure out on his own. He painted rooms, installed wallpaper, built a dollhouse and even finished his daughter's basement, complete with a full wet bar. He had a beautiful singing voice, even at 102, and it was how he expressed his joy. He had

a wonderful sense of humor, and a caring spirit that put others at ease. One of John's favorite passions was golf and he played until he was 96.

John and Marion made Christ Church of Oak Brook their church home for many years. He was a strong and joyful believer.

He is survived by his daughter, Gayle (Philip) Perzek of Hinsdale; and his granddaughter, Rachel (Daniel) Egan.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marion; his five sisters; and one brother.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at Adolf & Powell Funeral Home, 7000 S Madison St., Willowbrook.

Services and interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Bible League International at [www.bibleleague.org](http://www.bibleleague.org) or Best Friends Animal Society at [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org).

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

### Mary Elizabeth Webster

Mary Elizabeth "Marybeth" Webster, 67, died peacefully at Park Ridge Care Center in Park Ridge, Nov. 17, 2023.

Marybeth was born in 1956 in Hinsdale. To know Marybeth was to love her. She wore her heart on her sleeve, was always cheerful and loved being around her family and friends more than anything else. She was loved by anyone who met her and continued to surprise her family, friends and doctors with her length of life despite her various illnesses and disabilities.

Marybeth was born with Down Syndrome and had an active lifestyle until a few years ago, when she was also diagnosed with Alzheimer's. She worked at Helping Hand Centers in Countryside and lived in one of their rehabilitation homes for several decades. When she was younger, she participated in the Illinois Special Olympics for track events and participated in Helping Hand's bowling and basketball events.

Growing up in Hinsdale, she was a member of the Farm Club in Burr Ridge (now the Hanson Center) that her parents Jack and Dort Webster co-founded for children with intellectual and



Webster

developmental disabilities. She loved riding the horses and she and the other students learned how to take care of the animals (including horses, goats and chickens) as well as participated in other recreational and educational programs at the club.

Marybeth was preceded in death by her sister, Susan Brown Tone; her parents, Dorothy and John "Jack" Webster; and her brother, Harry "Hank" Brown.

She is survived by her sister-in-law, Carol (Cutler) Brown; her sister, Julie (Jim Campbell) Webster; her brother-in-law, John Tone; her nieces, Tracy (Barry) Tone Hutchison and Catherine Tone; her nephew, Geoff (Lori) Brown; and four great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins all around the world.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at Park Ridge Care Center, 665 Busse Highway, Park Ridge. A private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the National Association for Down Syndrome online at [222.nads.org](http://222.nads.org) or Park Ridge Care Center, 665 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

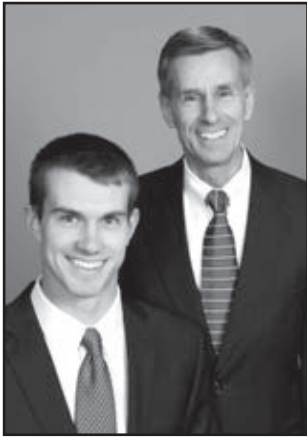
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# AGENT PROFILE

## CLAUDINE SCHRAMKO, BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES CHICAGO

As a 30-year resident of Hinsdale, Claudine Schramko said she is proud of the hometown she and her husband chose for their family. As a real estate agent, she finds joy in helping to make Hinsdale someone else's new home, too.

Schramko, an agent with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Chicago, specializes in residential real estate. After spending years at home caring for her three daughters, she decided to enter the world of real estate four years ago. While selling homes was a new venture for Schramko, sales was not.

"I had a fairly rigorous and successful career," Schramko said of her previous employment.

With her daughters grown, the time and energy she once dedicated to her children now is spent caring for her clients, Schramko said.

"I work for my clients. I represent the interests of my clients. I handle every assignment as I would for family," she said.

Schramko holds a degree in marketing and psychology from Loyola University. Both areas of study lend themselves to her work as a real estate agent.

A move, even if it is to a person's dream home, is full of both angst

and joy, Schramko said. She aims to remove as much of the stress as possible, allowing the buyer or seller to enjoy the process and focus on what's ahead.

"I get immense gratification from helping people find the joy in making a move," she said.

Schramko said marketing can be the difference between a home that attracts potential buyers and one that sits on the market. She recalled a Hinsdale home, listed by another agent, that sat on the market for about a year without a buyer. After taking over the listing, Schramko remarketed the home with fresh photos that showcased its charm and potential.

"I had three offers within the first month. We didn't even paint," she said.

Even in today's seller's market, Schramko said she advises her clients to make changes that allow a buyer to picture themselves in the house. Too much clutter or brightly colored walls can make it more difficult for buyers to see it as their own.

Schramko said those who desire a new home shouldn't be scared away by today's interest rates.

"You marry the house, you date the interest rate," she said, noting

that homeowners can refinance their mortgages when rates drop.

Similarly, those hoping to sell their homes should not be scared away by the holidays, Schramko said. She said she and her husband are living proof that homes can and do sell in December.

"We weren't even looking and had no intention of buying," she said. But while driving home from Oakbrook Center one winter day back in 1994, they spotted a house that would quickly become their first Hinsdale home.

"I continue to feel privileged to live in this town," said Schramko, who is an active member of the Infant Welfare Society Hinsdale Auxiliary, Brightpoint (formerly Children's Home & Aid), St. Isaac Jogues Church and the Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club.

Whether it's in Hinsdale or another Chicago suburb, Schramko said she works to help every client find a place they can love just as much as she loves Hinsdale.

"Whether buying or selling, it's my job to help my clients navigate the market to achieve their goals for themselves and for their families," she said.

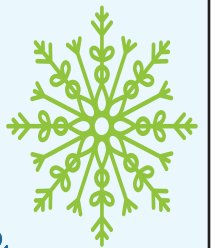
— by Sandy Illian Bosch



**Real estate runs** in the family for Claudine Schramko. Her father is also an agent, and her husband, Chris, works in commercial real estate. (Jim Slonoff photo)



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“To me, Christmas in Hinsdale is holiday concerts where Hinsdale Central musicians showcase their many talents for their families and community members. It is Chamber Choir singing in locations around town to bring holiday cheer to Hinsdale residents of all ages. My job as choir director these past 17 years reaches its peak each December as we bring the talent and musicianship of Hinsdale Central students out into the community. These performances not only enrich the lives of audiences, but build well-rounded students that will come back and contribute great things to this wonderful community.”

– Jen Burkemper

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– Leslie Savickas



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“This will be the 57th Christmas in Hinsdale for my husband and I. My fondest memories of the season are the yearly Christmas walk, visiting the shops, sipping cider and wishing happy holidays to all, decorating ginger bread cookies and visiting Santa in Burlington Park, sitting at the fountain for a Christmas picture, taking the horse drawn wagon ride through town with the grandchildren, and the tower bells ringing on Christmas Eve at Union church. Christmas memories will always be special since our family of five (now 21 of us) still live within 4 miles of this town we call home.”

– Diane Oostendorp



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– Ruth Ann Rocchio

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– Kirk Dillard



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“Christmas caroling and looking at luminaries. We also used to go sledding at Stough Park (the fire department flooded the park for us!).”

– Amy Wimmer Cox



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“Christmas Day is a quiet time for Bonnie and me since our family is spread out across the country. It is a day for us to reflect on our blessings, attend Mass and enjoy a holiday brunch. We enjoy the overall Christmas season in Hinsdale because of the beauty and friendly atmosphere of our community. The homes are decorated so beautifully and we enjoy our varied shopping and dining opportunities. We are blessed to live here.”

– Bill Facinelli



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“I have a few great memories of Christmas in Hinsdale – Singing “Riders on the Sleigh” (Our version of “Riders on the Storm” by the Doors) with my high school friends at the houses of all the cute girls in the area, usually during their holiday parties. Buying Christmas lights at Soukup’s and telling them to just charge it to my parents. Never had to carry cash back then. Getting our sled pulled by a rope through downtown Hinsdale by a friend’s car.”

– Dave Chiappe

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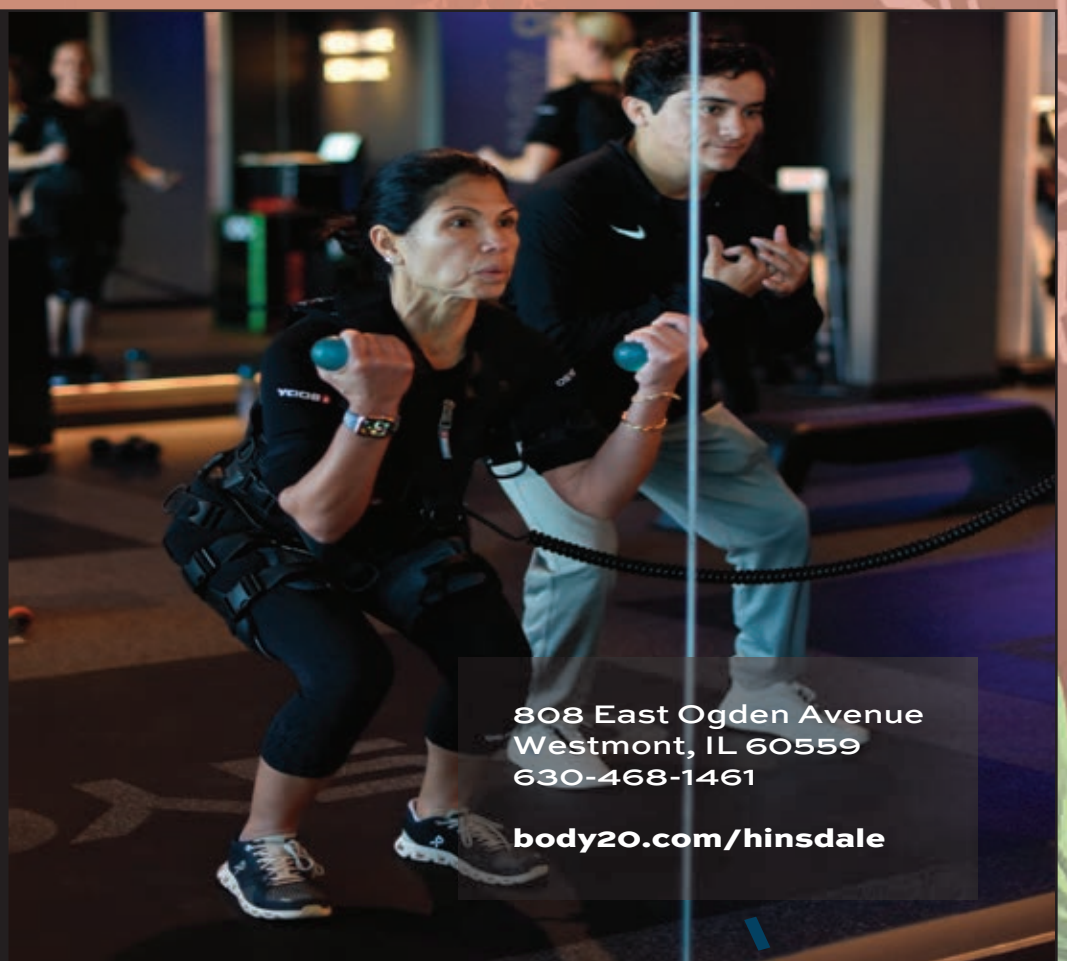
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“I recall driving around town to see all the decorations of light that adorned just about all the homes from Stough Street and into the Woodlands. I think my dad drove us around so Mom could wrap gifts.”

– Richard Webb



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“There are so many things to love about Christmas in Hinsdale. The entire town comes alive with dazzling lights and enchanting decorations that transform the town into a winter wonderland. My favorite memory is attending Christmas Eve Mass at St. Isaac Jogues with my family. After Mass, we have a festive Christmas Eve party filled with friends and family. I am very thankful for being able to experience living in such a wonderful town.”

– Jean Duggan

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“Christmas in Hinsdale is a special time for our music department. We put on our holiday concert that involves all our orchestras, bands and choirs. Our students love performing in that concert because it always brings in big crowds and gets everyone in the festive mood. We also put on holiday assemblies for the entire school the day before. It is a great time and the community loves seeing us getting them into the Christmas spirit.”

✧ — Serge Penksik



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“My favorite memory of Christmas in Hinsdale is the Christmas walk. When my kids were young, we invited aunts, uncles and cousins to join us in our walk to town and we all admired the lights and festive atmosphere. We stopped in stores for cookies, hot chocolate and visits with Santa. We enjoyed listening to Hinsdale Central carolers sing traditional Christmas tunes and watching ice sculptors create masterpieces from giant blocks of ice. It was a simple, joyous and magical time! Today, Dale and I still enjoy the Christmas walk and the wonderful sense of community we feel walking through Hinsdale’s beautiful downtown.”

– Margie Kleber

## Coffee and...



Goody Baskets



Gift Cards



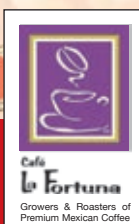
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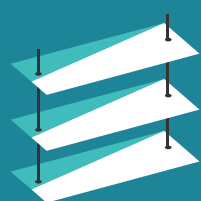
“I grew up in Hinsdale from 1975-93. My parents owned a small business in town (Paper & Lace), so Christmas for us was very busy. It started with the Christmas Walk the day after Thanksgiving. Everyone walked around town, drank wassail and waited for Santa to come. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season. We worked on Christmas Eve, closed early, put out our Luminaria and went to church. Our season ended the day after Christmas with a big sale. We would have a line down the block waiting for us to open so they could purchase half-price Christmas items. Hinsdale was a great place to spend the holidays!”  
– Teresa Mitchiner

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“I came home from college and each family went to the Memorial Building and lit a luminaria. They were placed in the shape of a large peace sign for the Vietnam war soldiers.”

– Merikay Higgins Derer



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## All the bells and whistles

*Ring in the holiday season — literally — at Hinsdale's Christmas Walk*

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

When Hinsdale's Memorial Building was constructed in 1929 as a tribute to the village's war heroes, its clock tower housed a bell. The bell was replaced by a carillon system in 1973 for the town's centennial but has been inoperable for years.

Until now.

A new carillon system was recently installed as part of this year's 150th sesquicentennial celebration, and visitors at the Christmas Walk tomorrow, Dec. 1, will be treated to a special unveiling of the new chimes after the 5 p.m. tree lighting on the south lawn of the Memorial Building at 19 E. Chicago Ave.

The ding-dong debut is sure to get the festivities off on the right note at the 57th annual holiday season kickoff event taking place from 5 to 7 p.m. throughout the downtown business district. Sponsored by the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce and Razny Jewelers, the Christmas Walk will include all the favorite features that have made it a cherished gathering for generations of residents and families.

The activities will begin with the arrival of Santa Claus by Hinsdale fire truck to join Village President Tom Cauley for the holiday tree lighting ceremony. Santa will then take up residence in his Burlington Park workshop to meet and greet young wish list bearers.

The rest of the fun will shift north of the railroad tracks, centered around the intersection of Washington and First streets, including the classic carousel, the trackless train, a bonfire to help celebrants warm up and fun characters to entertain and amuse kids of all ages.

Amanda Wagner, the chamber's marketing director, encouraged attendees to keep an eye out for new costumed visitors.

"We are looking forward to this year's Christmas Walk, as we have planned for some additional fun characters to be out at the event. One in particular I know kids and families alike will be surprised to see," she said, maintaining the ele-



**Christmas Walk revelers** fill Washington Street in downtown Hinsdale last year during the annual holiday event. This year's celebration will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. tomorrow and include familiar activities like the tree lighting ceremony with Santa and Village President Tom Cauley, as well as some fresh features for all to enjoy. (file photos)

ment of suspense.

Wagner said many chamber members will have booths set up along Washington Street, which will be closed to vehicle traffic from First to the railroad tracks, as will First between Garfield and Lincoln streets, and Hinsdale Avenue from Village Place to Lincoln.

"Washington Street is planned to be filled entirely with vendors on-site with plenty of fun activities or holiday treats at each booth," she said.

People are advised to park either in the two-level parking deck adjacent to Hinsdale Middle School or in the lot just north of the tracks between Washington and Lincoln.

Wagner said the event will not disappoint, and it's also a great opportunity to get a jump on some of their holiday shopping.

"Our trackless train and carousel are returning as those are a huge hit each year. We're looking forward to the tree lighting ceremony

with the new tree," she said. "We hope that all that attend walk away filled with the holiday spirit — and maybe some new ideas to add to their Christmas wish lists."

### Other holiday festivities

Beyond the Christmas Walk, here are some other activities coming to town to make the season bright.

- Children of Hinsdale residents can write a letter to Santa and drop it in Santa's Mailbox at village hall, 19 E. Chicago Ave., from Dec. 1-8. Writers will receive a personal letter back in seven to 10 business days. Be sure to include the parent form available on the website listed above under Special Events > Santa's Mailbox. Questions? Call (630) 789-7090 or send an email to [parkrec@villageofhinsdale.org](mailto:parkrec@villageofhinsdale.org).

- Kris Kringle is making a special lunch stop for his fans to experience Pizza with Santa from noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at KLM

Lodge, 5901 S. County Line Road. The event also will include dessert and photo ops. The cost is \$25, and reservations are required. Visit [www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr) or call (630) 789-7090.

- Take photos with Santa and enjoy music, holiday crafts and activities, visits with characters from "Frozen," and a hot chocolate bar and treats station at Winter Wonderland on Saturday, Dec. 3 at KLM Park, 5905 S. County Line Road. Sign up for a 9, 10 or 11 a.m. or noon time slot. The cost is \$20 per person. Toys for Tots donations also will be accepted there. Visit [www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr) or call (630) 789-7090.

- Celebrate the holidays by decorating gingerbread cookies, taking a horse-drawn carriage ride and visiting Santa at Hinsdale for the Holidays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 9 and 16, at Burlington Park, 30 E. Chicago Ave. Visit [www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr) for more information.



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cathybalice@atproperties.com



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\*\* Based on MRED closed sales 2023. \*\*\*Based on MRED 2022 Closed Sales.





## FAITH COMMUNITIES

### ■ Women & Girls Advent Service

Dec. 5  
Zion Lutheran Church  
204 S Grant St., Hinsdale  
Join this beautiful Advent Service featuring classic hymns by a soloist and strings musician. The program is geared toward women and girls age 8 and up. RSVP to dsajdak@zionhinsdale.org or (630) 323-0384. Time: 6:30 p.m.

### ■ Adult Inter-Faith Fellowship Lunch

Dec. 13  
Union Church  
137 S. Garfield Ave.  
(630) 794-0664

Hear the Hinsdale Central Chamber Choir at the group's December luncheon. The ultimate goal of the AIFF is inclusivity and fellowship, while also supporting charities that reduce hunger, domestic violence and other worthy causes through contributions. Reservations are due by Dec. 7. Call Elizabeth Jung at the number listed above or email her at ejung@uchinsdale.org. Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$15 per person by cash or check.

## FAMILY FUN

### ■ Family Homes

Dec. 3  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976

Families work together on creating their own dream home. Time: 2 to 3 p.m. RR

### ■ Nature Treasure Hunt

Dec 6  
Bemis Woods-South  
Ogden Avenue west of Wolf Road near Western Springs  
www.fpdcc.com  
(312) 533-5751

Kids and families can search for various natural items on a short-looped trail in Grove 7 and win a prize. Hours: 10 a.m. to noon.

### ■ Stairs, Stories & S'mores

Dec. 9  
Swallow Cliff Woods-North

Calumet Sag Road east of 104th Avenue near Palos Park  
www.fpdcc.com  
(312) 533-5751

Families are invited to drop

in and challenge themselves by climbing to the top of the Swallow Cliff stairs. Then enjoy the story trail and s'mores and, weather permitting, sledding/snowshoeing. Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### ■ Sunrise Hike

Dec. 10  
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center  
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs  
www.fpdcc.com  
(708) 839-6897

Come join this "before hours" hike to experience the dawning of a new day. Time: 6:45 p.m. RR

## GREAT OUTDOORS

### ■ Nature at Night

Dec. 6  
Morton Arboretum  
4100 Route 53, Lisle  
www.mortonarb.org  
(630) 719-2468

See the arboretum at night with a guide on a hike through the woods on trails lit only by the moon and stars. Take in the symphony of sounds and peaceful stillness of an evening outdoors, and look for signs of nocturnal wildlife. This program is for ages 16 and older. Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m. Cost: \$24. RR, MD

### ■ Forest Therapy Walk

Dec. 9  
Morton Arboretum  
4100 Route 53, Lisle  
www.mortonarb.org  
(630) 719-2468

Experience the healing and wellness-promoting effects of shinrin-yoku, the practice of bathing the senses in the atmosphere of the forest, on a three-hour walk along a tree-lined trail with a certified forest therapy guide. A tea ceremony will conclude the walk, with tea made from edible plants foraged from the forest. Time: 9 a.m. to noon. Cost: \$46. RR, MD

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### ■ Meditation for Holiday Stress

Dec. 11  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976

Join meditation practitioner Umesh Bhatia to learn the positive effects of meditation, including reducing stress-related responses, improving

concentration and enhancing clarity of thought and mental equilibrium to help with seasonal stress. Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m. RR

### ■ Burning Beats

Through Dec. 15  
The Community House  
415 W. Eighth St.  
www.thecommunityhouse.org  
(630) 323-7500

Participants will dance their way a healthier, happier self, enjoying the music, contagious energy and company of like-minded individuals while getting the heart pumping and burning calories. With easy to follow routines, this group exercise class is perfect for all fitness and skill levels. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle. Times: 9:30 a.m. Sundays, 10 a.m. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. Fridays. Cost: \$15 for walk-ins, \$5 for students, \$100 for a 10-class punch card.

## HELP WANTED

### ■ Volunteer for Wellness House

Dec. 23  
Cantigny Park  
1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton  
lhawkey@wellnesshouse.org  
(630) 654-5109

Volunteer for a 4-hour or 8-hour shift at the Christmas at Cantigny festival to help Wellness House receive \$5,000. Volunteers guide guests through the outdoor lights and exhibits and/or answer logistical questions. Training will be provided, and meals and breaks will be given. Wellness House will receive the grant if all shifts are filled. Sign up with Lizz Hawkey using the contact information above.

## LISTEN & LEARN

### ■ Surviving the Holidays

Dec. 6  
www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976

Psychotherapist and New York Times bestselling author Lori Gottlieb will share tools to help cope with stress in everyday life and especially while preparing for the holidays. This virtual event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

*Please turn to Page 33*

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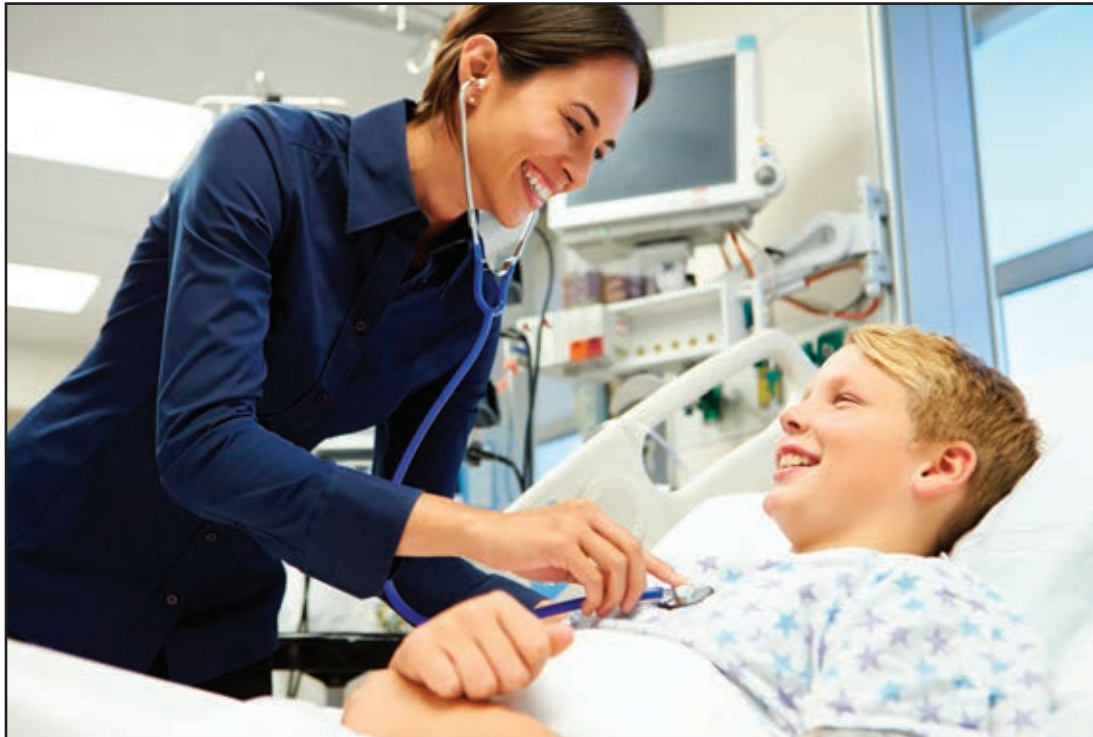
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for more information.

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# PULSE

## Continued from Page 32

■ **Pet First Aid & CPR Workshop**  
Dec. 9  
County Campus  
120 N. County Farm Road,  
Wheaton  
[www.dupagecounty.gov/government/departments/animal\\_services](http://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/departments/animal_services)

Learn techniques to address the most common emergencies pet owners may experience, including how to notice abnormalities and detect early warning signs in pets and how to perform essential pre-vet care. The class is available to those 16 and older. The exact location of the class will be provided after registration. Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost: \$100.

## ON STAGE

■ **'Seussical Jr' & 'Legally Blonde Jr' double feature**  
Nov. 30 & Dec. 1  
Performing Arts Center  
Lyons Township South Campus  
4900 Willow Springs Road,  
Western Springs  
[www.ticketpeak.co/bam/events](http://www.ticketpeak.co/bam/events)

Enjoy a double feature of musical theater as both divisions of the BAM Conservatory Ensemble perform their competition productions back to back. With no sets, props or costumes, the performances maximize the use of the actors' faces and bodies. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$22-\$26.

■ **'Schoolhouse Rock Live!, Jr.'**  
Dec. 3  
Nazareth Academy  
1209 W. Ogden Ave.,  
LaGrange Park  
[www.nazarethacademy.com](http://www.nazarethacademy.com)  
(708) 354-0061

Based on the award-winning 1970s cartoons, this student musical teaches lessons with clever, memorable songs such as "Just a Bill" and "Conjunction Junction." Time: 1 p.m. Tickets: \$5 at the door.

■ **'Mary Poppins Jr.'**  
Dec. 8-17  
Theatre of Western Springs  
4384 Hampton Ave.  
[www.theatreofwesternsprings.com](http://www.theatreofwesternsprings.com)  
(708) 246-3380

Young Jane and Michael Banks have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must

teach the family members how to value each other again. Times: 7 p.m. Fridays, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$16, \$13 for age 18 and under.

## SIGN UP NOW

■ **Magnolia open house**  
Dec. 2  
Magnolia Senior Living  
10 N. Washington St.  
(630) 214-1632

Take a tour of this retirement community in the heart of Hinsdale, which also offers assisted living and memory care. RSVP by calling the number above. Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. RR

■ **New Moms Book Group**  
Dec. 19  
Standard Market  
333 E. Ogden Ave.,  
Westmont  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Enjoy a night out with this monthly group for moms with children under the age of 5. The December selection is "Holding Pattern" by Jenny Xie. Books are available for on the library's book club holds shelf a month before each meeting. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

## STEPPING BACK

■ **Grace Bagley Exhibit Tour and Talk**  
Dec. 2  
Bagley House  
121 S. County Line Road,  
Hinsdale  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Join the Hinsdale Public Library on this visit to the Grace Bagley Exhibit at the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home currently being restored. Attendees can take a self-guided tour of the exhibit and hear a talk from historian, researcher and writer Julia Bachrach. The program is limited to Hinsdale residents and their guests. Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. RR

■ **Finding Grace Exhibit**  
Saturdays & Sundays  
through Dec. 17  
Bagley House  
121 S. County Line Road,  
Hinsdale  
[www.hinsdalehistory.org](http://www.hinsdalehistory.org)

The Hinsdale Historical Society presents Finding Grace: The Forgotten Story of

*Please turn to Page 34*



## Pet pic of the week

**Bunny** is a 1-year-old German shepherd mix with a beautiful, dark brindle coat. She had to have a back leg amputated, but you would never know it! She is an active and playful pup who needs an adopter willing to give her the exercise she needs. Bunny is spayed, vaccinated and microchipped. She has been approved for children 5 and older and her adoption fee is \$375. The Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center is open to the public 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, noon to 6 p.m. Wednesdays to Fridays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Visit [www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org](http://www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org) or call (630) 323-5630 for more information. (photo provided)



### Continued from Page 33

Social Reformer Grace Bagley, who began her extraordinary life of service in Hinsdale and became a pioneer in social reform on the national level. The 1894 home Frank Lloyd Wright designed for her and her husband is currently being restored by owner Safina Uberoi. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### TEENS & TWEENS

■ **Teen Game Time**  
Dec. 1, 8 & 15  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

The library is bringing out the Nintendo Switch for middle and high schoolers, so stop by for a Mario Kart race. Hours: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

■ **Teens Behind the Scenes**  
Dec. 3  
Little Red Schoolhouse  
Nature Center  
9800 Willow Springs Road,  
Willow Springs

[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com)  
(708) 839-6897

Youth ages 13-19 can join a naturalist and learn how animals at the nature center are cared for. Time: 2 p.m. RR

### ■ Teen Take Home Craft: Mystery Bag

Dec. 8  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Pick up a mystery bag of materials during regular library hours to create a unique craft.

### WEE ONES

### ■ Toddler Obstacle Course

Dec. 15  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Hop, skip and jump through the library's obstacle course. Time: 10 to 11 a.m. RR

Key  
RR - registration required  
MD - member discount

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## Join us for **FREE** Holiday Events in Burlington Park!

**Saturday | December 9th & 16th | 11am-2pm**

- **Gingerbread cookies**
- **Horse drawn carriage rides**
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- **Unique photo opportunities**
- **Visit Santa Claus & more!**

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# SPIRIT OF GIVING

## ■ Gavin Coyle: A Celtic Christmas

Dec. 1  
McAninch Arts Center  
College of DuPage  
421 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn  
www.atthemac.org  
(630) 942-4000

Revel in the holiday spirit with award-winning recording artist Gavin Coyle as he brings his annual "A Celtic Christmas" back to the MAC. Sing along with Gavin and his band, pianist Paul Burgess, harpist Karen Fernandez and flautist Joanne Diebold, as they perform traditional holiday favorites from America and Ireland. Ticket proceeds benefit People's Resource Center, a local nonprofit serving DuPage County since 1975. Donations of food, books and board games also will be collected at the performance. Time: 8 p.m. Tickets: \$40.

## ■ Photos with Santa Paws

Dec. 2  
Pet Rescue and Resource Center  
21 Salt Creek Lane, Hinsdale  
www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org/events/santa-paws  
(630) 323-5630

Hinsdale Humane Society will take family photos with Santa and friendly pet(s), complete with holiday vendors, activities for the kids and more. Pictures will be available for download after the event. Time: noon to 4 p.m. Cost: \$25 each. RR

## ■ Toy Drive

Dec. 2  
Burdi  
24 W. Hinsdale Ave.

The Burdi clothing store will host its third annual toy drive, collecting new, unwrapped, nonplush toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Specialty cars will be on display as well. Time: 10 a.m. to noon.

## ■ Holly Jolly Gingerbread Party

Dec. 3  
Brookfield Zoo  
3300 Golf Road  
www.czs.org/events

The Chicago Zoological Society's Women's Board is hosting this fundraiser to support the zoo. Families will be given pre-assem-

bled gingerbread houses to decorate. Professional gingerbread house builders and decorators will be on hand to lend their advice. Children can also decorate ornaments to take home. Families also will enjoy a mouthwatering holiday brunch buffet with all the trimmings. Youngsters can also sip on hot chocolate topped with marshmallows and Bloody Mary's and mimosas will be offered to adults. Santa will make a special appearance to hear all the children's wish lists and to pose for holiday family photos and several of the zoo's animal ambassadors will attend. Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: \$250, \$150 for children, \$2,000 for private table.

## ■ Blanket drive

Through Dec. 3  
Hinsdale Covenant Church  
412 S. Garfield Ave.  
(630) 323-2318

The church is holding its annual drive, collecting new or gently used blankets of any type — lap throws, baby blankets, spreads, sheets and towels. Donations may be left inside the church's main entrance. Pickups also can be scheduled. The items will be passed on to needy families in the inner city on Christmas Eve. Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays.

## ■ Happy Pawlidsays

Dec. 9  
Marcus  
101 S. Washington St.

Get your pet's picture taken with Santa Paws, enjoy raffles, drinks and light bites, and go home with a goodie bag at this event, with 10 percent of all sales benefiting Hinsdale Humane Society. Hours: noon to 3 p.m.

## ■ Juniors Jingle Dash 5K

Dec. 10  
Robbins Park  
Seventh and Vine streets, Hinsdale  
www.runsignup.com/race/IL/Hinsdale/JuniorsJingleDash

This third annual event will raise money to support the grants the Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club makes to local nonprofits. Enjoy post-race snacks and a photo opportunity

*Please turn to Page 38*

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# Happy New Year Baby!

## We're searching for Hinsdale's happiest baby!

If you know a happy baby born in 2023 who would look great on our New Year's cover, email us a photo with the following information — baby's name, baby's birthday, your name, your address and a daytime phone number — to [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com).

The winning baby will be photographed by Jim Slonoff to appear on the Dec. 28 cover of The Hinsdalean.

**ENTRY DEADLINE: NOON FRIDAY, DEC. 15**

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# SPIRIT OF GIVING

*Continued from Page 36*

with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Festive holiday dress is encouraged. Registration closes Dec. 9. Time: 8 a.m. Registration: \$40, \$20 for kids 18 and younger, strollers are free; \$5 more on race day.

## ■ Holiday Meal Program

Through Dec. 25  
www.solvehungertoday.org

The Northern Illinois Food Bank's 24th annual campaign to ensure all neighbors can enjoy a special holiday meal with loved ones is under way. This year, with the support of generous sponsors and volunteers, the food bank will provide 50,000 holiday meal boxes to neighbors facing hunger across 13 counties in suburban and rural northern Illinois. Each box serves a family of six to eight and is packed with traditional trimmings for a complete holiday meal. Every \$1 donated can provide \$8 worth of groceries for a neighbor in need. To donate, visit the website list-

ed above.

## ■ Tree of Remembrance

Through Jan. 1  
Lincoln and First streets, Hinsdale

www.adventhealth.com/hospice-care/advent-health-st-thomas-hospice  
Advent Health St.

Thomas Hospice's Tree of Remembrance will stand outside of BMO Harris Bank from Thanksgiving through the new year. Community members are invited to make a donation and have a loved one's name listed on the boards beside the tree. Visit the website listed above for details.

## ■ Hinsdale Humane Society Gift Shop

www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org

Find the perfect gift for an animal-lover at the Hinsdale Humane Society Pet Rescue and Resource Center online gift shop and help raise money to care for homeless animals. T-shirts, hoodies,

mugs, tote bags and stickers are available for the humans on the gift list. Purchases help the organization care for the animals at the shelter.

## ■ Sponsor a Homeless Animal

www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org

Animal sponsorships are a great way to support homeless animals and a great gift idea. For a minimum sponsorship of \$50, recipients will help provide care for an animal of their choosing, receive a personalized gift sponsorship certificate with the pet's photo and an optional listing on the society's website, if desired. Sponsorships can be purchased online. Questions? Call (630) 323-5630 or send an email to development@hinsdalehumanesociety.org.

## ■ 150th anniversary blankets

Village Hall  
19 E. Chicago Ave.  
(630) 789-7000

A limited edition cozy blanket with a delightful

design that incorporates the 150th anniversary logo, beautifully celebrating Hinsdale's rich history and vibrant community spirit, makes a great holiday gift. They come with a water-resistant backing, perfect for a picnic at KLM Park or any favorite spot. Proceeds help support local projects that preserve Hinsdale's beauty. Cost: \$20.

## ■ Secret Santa

www.lagrangerotary.org/service

The Rotary Club of La Grange and Pillars Community Health are once again asking for families for gift cards or monetary donations for their annual Secret Santa program, which serves children up to age 17 in need in Hinsdale and several neighboring communities. The most-needed items are Legos, board games, blankets, sports balls, children's books, toys for ages 1-3, art supplies and batteries (AA, AAA, C and D). Gifts also can

be purchased on Amazon through a link at the website listed above. A list of drop-off locations also is posted there.

## ■ Brookfield Zoo Adopt an Animal

www.czs.org/Kinda  
www.czs.org/AdoptMeerkat  
(708) 688-8341

The Chicago Zoological Society's Animal Adoption program is highlighting two species this holiday season: Kinda, the giraffe calf born Aug. 19 and the meerkat mob that arrived over the summer. Donations to the program are gifts that give twice — helping to provide expert care and feeding of an animal for one year as well as giving a thoughtful and unique present to a loved one. Other animals also are available. The basic package includes a photo, certificate, fact sheet and more. Price: \$35 basic package, \$165 for plush package (includes stuffed animal).



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- Filling out the online request form
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Sign up as snow shovel volunteer by:

- Filling out the online volunteer form
- Printing and mailing a completed paper request

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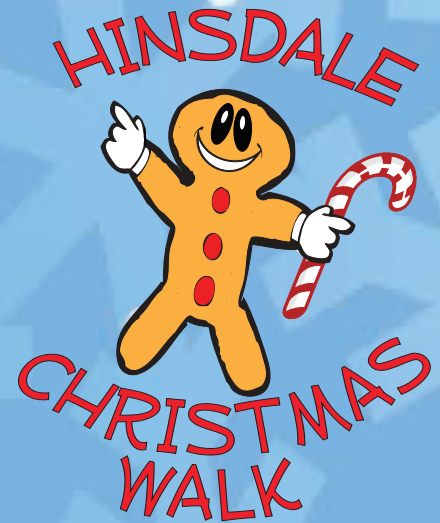
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[www.hinsdalechamber.com](http://www.hinsdalechamber.com)

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# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

## ■ Holiday Magic

Nov 30 & Dec. 1-31  
Brookfield Zoo  
3400 31st St.  
(630) 688-8400  
[www.czs.org/holidaymagic](http://www.czs.org/holidaymagic)  
Bright lights and magical nights await guests at the 42nd annual event. Visitors will enjoy more than 2 million twinkling LED lights, a 41-foot tall tree choreographed to seasonal tunes, photo opportunities in the ever-popular 20-foot-tall orb and 3D 16-foot-tall gingerbread house, a 600-foot-long "Tunnel of Lights" and more. Many of the zoo's animal buildings will be open as well restaurants and gift shops offering an array of unique items. View more than 600 decorated community and corporate trees along the malls and around Roosevelt Fountain. Advanced registration and tickets are required. Times: 3 to 9 p.m. on weekends and other dates. Admission: \$29.95 for adults, \$20.95 for ages 3-11, \$24.95 for seniors 65 and older plus \$15 parking. RR, MD

## ■ Christmas at Cantigny

Dec. 1-23  
Cantigny  
1S151 Winfield Road,  
Wheaton  
Visitors to this inaugural event are in for a special holiday treat, including McCormick House walk-throughs, ice skating and dazzling light installations. Hundreds of fresh poinsettias from Cantigny's own greenhouse will be on display throughout the home. Outside, 100-by-40-foot ice rink will add some wintry magic to the scene. Skaters can rent blades or bring their

own. Spectators and skaters taking a break can enjoy a warm holiday treat in the heated hospitality tent overlooking the rink. Visitors can also reserve a private "Cocoa Cabana," perfect for families and friend groups. Enjoy creative lighting displays, pop-up activities and more. Santa brunches are slated for Dec. 2-3 and 16-17 at the Cantigny Golf clubhouse. Hours: 4 to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with extended hours on weekends and for ice skating. Admission: \$15, \$5 for kids 4-15, free for 3 and younger plus \$10 parking.

## ■ Holiday Event

Dec. 2  
Signature Homes Office  
22 N. Lincoln St.  
Signature Homes will host its annual holiday event with a trackless train, doughnut truck, ice sculptor, music and a visit from Santa. Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## ■ Holiday Concert

Dec. 2  
First United Methodist Church,  
100 W. Cossitt, La Grange  
[www.saltcreekchamber-orchestra.com](http://www.saltcreekchamber-orchestra.com)  
This free performance is presented as part of the La Grange Holiday Walk. Under the direction of Tim Semanik, the orchestra will perform a mix of old favorites like "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," as well as newer holiday songs like "Christmas Once More" and music from "The Polar Express". The orchestra also will lead the audience in a carol sing-along. Time: 4 p.m.

## ■ Midtown Men holiday

## concert

Dec. 2  
McAninch Arts Center  
College of DuPage  
421 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn  
[www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org)  
(630) 942-4000  
The four stars of the original cast of Broadway's smash hit "Jersey Boys" celebrate with holiday classics including "Winter Wonderland," "Let It Snow" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," plus signature renditions of some of the greatest rock 'n' roll hits of the '60s. Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$62-\$72.

## ■ 'A Festive Nowell'

Dec. 2 & 3  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
203 S. Kensington Ave., La Grange  
[www.towerchorale.org](http://www.towerchorale.org)  
(708) 580-0997  
The Tower Chorale, under the direction of Patrick Gordon, offers its annual holiday concert, featuring well-known selections and an audience carol sing-along. Time: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Dec. 3. Tickets: \$25, \$22 for seniors and students.

## ■ Merry

Dec. 3  
Hinsdale Central High School  
auditorium  
5500 S. Grant St.  
[www.westsubsymphony.org](http://www.westsubsymphony.org)  
The West Suburban Symphony will perform familiar hits by Leroy Anderson, selections from Tchaikovsky's beloved "Nutcracker" ballet and Victor Herbert's nostalgic "Babes in Toyland" operetta and John Powell's charming "Happy Feet." Children will be able to greet Santa, and there's also a chance to win

a \$250 raffle prize. Time: 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30, \$25 for seniors, \$5 for teens, free for ages 12 and younger.

## ■ 'The Nutcracker'

Dec. 8  
The Community House  
415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale  
[www.ws ballet.org/performances](http://www.ws ballet.org/performances)  
Enjoy an intimate performance of the ballet by West Suburban Ballet Conservatory. Santa will greet families, snacks and crafts will be offered, and kids will have a chance to dance on stage with performers following the show as adults enjoy live music and cocktails. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Time: 6 p.m. Tickets: \$55 for adults, \$15 for children.

## ■ Holiday Favorites with the Jolly Boys

Dec. 9  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976  
Enjoy this performance of holiday favorites with Hinsdale's own Jolly Boys and embrace the season. Hot chocolate will be provided. Time: 3 to 4 p.m. RR

## ■ Holiday Concert

Dec. 9  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
1310 Shepherd Drive,  
Naperville  
[www.nhbdupage.org](http://www.nhbdupage.org)  
(630) 476-9072  
The New Horizons Band of DuPage will perform selections of holiday favorites. The concert will include sing-alongs, the New Horizons Concert Band, Brass Choir, German Band, Jazz Band and

Woodwind Consort. New Horizons consists of musicians from Chicago and the surrounding suburbs under the direction of Maryann Flock. Light refreshments will follow the concert. Time: 3 p.m. Admission is free; donations will be accepted.

## ■ 'What the Elf'

Dec. 9  
McAninch Arts Center  
College of DuPage  
421 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn  
[www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org)  
(630) 942-4000  
The Second City returns to deliver a heaping serving of seasonal satire in this show, which is the perfect alternative to those same old holiday performances. Nothing is off limits in this fast-paced, interactive, comedy revue filled with style, wit and plenty of that famous (and festive) Second City improv. The show may contain adult language and themes. Time: 5 and 8 p.m. Tickets: \$30-\$48.

## ■ Sounds of the Season

Dec. 9  
Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church  
149 W. Brush Hill Road  
[www.agaperingers.org](http://www.agaperingers.org)  
The Agape Ringers, Chicago's premier handbell ensemble, and guitarist Jeff Kust will perform a variety of holiday music familiar and exotic, including arrangements of "I Wonder As I Wander," "Brazilian Sleigh Bells," and "Winter Wonderland," as well as original compositions and other favorites arranged for bells. Kust will feature on the Puerto Rican cuatro. Time: 4

*Please turn to Page 42*



## What's on YOUR Holiday Menu?

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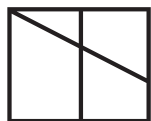


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# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

**Continued from Page 40**

p.m. Tickets: \$27-\$36.

## ■ **Holiday Art and Craft Market**

Dec. 9 & 10

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

Shop for quality artisan holiday gifts for family and friends. All ages are welcome; those under 18 must be with an adult. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10.

## ■ **Voctave**

Dec. 10

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

This a cappella sensation will leave audiences feeling merry and bright with a program packed with holiday favorites. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$65-\$75.

## ■ **Christmas Classics**

Dec. 15

Union Church of Hinsdale  
137 S. Garfield Ave.  
www.eventcreate.com/e/christmasclassics2023

Join the Ostrega Uhl Project in its Christmas festival performance of its second season. The concert will open with traditional favorites, starting with a unique arrangement of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" for violin, harp and piano, featuring guest harpist Nichole Young. Enjoy music from Christmases long, long ago to beautiful themes and melodies from favorite Christmas and holiday themed movies of today, culminating in a sing-along at the end of the concert. Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25 for adults, free for kids 12 and younger.

## ■ **Breakfast with Santa**

Dec. 16

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

Bring the family together for a delicious breakfast of

scrambled eggs, French toast, hash browns, pancakes, pastries, juice and coffee and, of course, pictures with Santa. Time: 9 to 10:15 a.m. Cost: \$35, free for babies under 1.

## ■ **'Nutcracker' virtual screening**

Dec. 16-17

www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976

The library is excited to provide access to a stage recording of "The Nutcracker" by The Royal Ballet that Hinsdaleans can watch at home. Time: all day. RR

## ■ **'Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley'**

Through Dec. 17

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

Two years after the end of "Pride and Prejudice," the Bennet family is spending Christmas at Pemberley when an unexpected guest joins the festivities in this

romantic comedy, rooted in the complications and joys of being part of a spirited family. The show contains adult themes and language. A pre-show talk with the director and designers will be held at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16; a post-show talk with the director and actors will be held Friday, Nov. 24. Times: 8 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25; no show on Thanksgiving. Tickets: \$44, \$42 for seniors.

## ■ **'A Christmas Carol'**

Through Dec. 30

Drury Lane Theatre  
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace  
www.drurylanetheatre.com  
(630) 530-0111

Continue a tradition or start a new one by gathering the whole family for this heartwarming 30th anniversary production of Dickens' Christmas classic. Complete with falling snow, magical illusions and special effects, the play is a visually-stunning

experience, and at one hour long, perfect for children of all ages. On select performance dates, families will have the opportunity to have breakfast or dinner with Santa Claus in Drury Lane's elegantly decorated dining room. Time: 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. performances offered on various dates.

## ■ **New Year's Eve concerts**

Dec. 31

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

New Philharmonic, under the direction of Kirk Muspratt, will perform three concerts to welcome 2024. All three performances will feature guest bass-baritone Richard Ollarsaba and include a highly entertaining program of waltzes, marches, polkas and light classical music, plus a champagne toast, party favors and more. Times: 1:30, 5 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets: \$70-\$80.

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P	A	R	F	A	I	T	S		C	I	T	E	
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S	W	E	D	E	N		L	B	J				
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O	S	S	A		L	A	I	T		A	N	I	
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Travis.Smock@PeoplesCompany.com | IL LIC 475187031

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SCAN THE QR CODE

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**SHOP  
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CELEBRATE  
GIVE  
RELAX  
ENJOY**

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**DELI COUNTER**  
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Must be at least 16 yrs old.  
**Apply in person at**  
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Up to \$15 per hour depending on shift.  
**Please contact Aslam**  
**8 Chicago Ave., Hinsdale**

## Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79253 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 2, 2023 wherein the business firm of **DMLEP + Associates, Inc DBA Doody Calls of Wheaton** Located at 2S625 Briarcliff Court, Lombard, IL. 60148 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: Dawn Sadorf, 2S625 Briarcliff Court, Lombard, IL. 60148.  
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 2nd day of November, A.D. 2023.  
Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
November 16, 23 & 30, 2023.

## Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79269 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 16, 2023 wherein the business firm of

### 657 CARDS

Located at 648 S. York Street, 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: Daniel Rohowsky, 648 S. York Street, Elmhurst, IL. 60126.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 16th day of November, A.D. 2023.  
Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
November 23, 30  
& December 7, 2023.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79260 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 9, 2023 wherein the business firm of

### WHITE RABBIT VINTAGE MARKET

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Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
November 23, 30  
& December 7, 2023.

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Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
November 23, 30  
& December 7, 2023.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79263 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 13, 2023 wherein the business firm of

### ASPIRING THREADS

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 13th day of November, A.D. 2023.

Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
November 16, 23 & 30, 2023.

## 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 perceived 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 determination. Under certain circumstances, advertisers may claim that because of the nature of the housing being advertised, they are not subject to the Fair Housing laws. Such claims are irrelevant for purposes of considering advertisements for publication in this newspaper. Every housing advertisement published in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing laws.

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.  
Calvin Coolidge

My brothers and sisters, may the spirit of love which comes at Christmastime fill our homes and our lives and linger there long after the tree is down and the lights are put away for another year. Thomas S. Monson

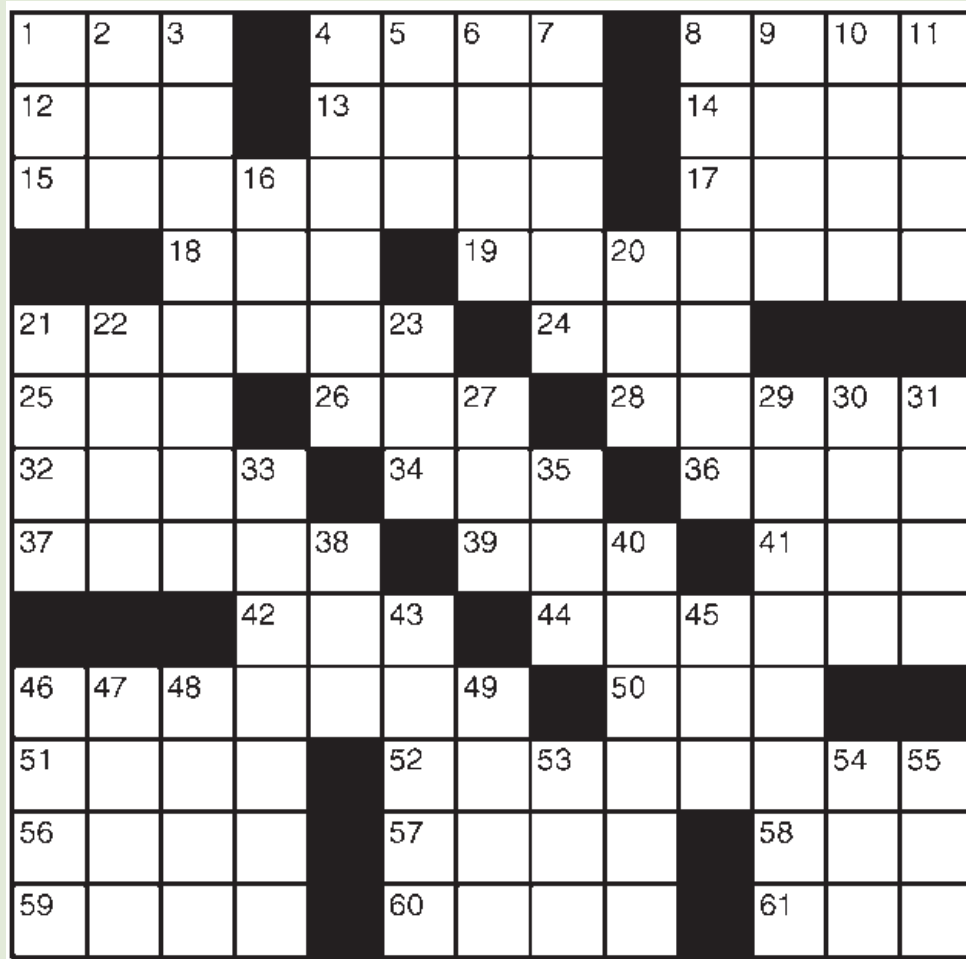
There comes a time when people get tired of being pushed out of the glittering sunlight of life's July and left standing amid the piercing chill of an alpine November.  
Martin Luther King, Jr.





# MIND GAMES

- ACROSS**
- 1 MICROWAVE
  - 4 JUBILATION
  - 8 SCRUFF
  - 12 "— BELIEVER"
  - 13 GIVE TEMPORARILY
  - 14 BIG-SCREEN FORMAT
  - 15 LAYERED DESSERTS
  - 17 REFER TO
  - 18 IRATE
  - 19 BREAKS AWAY
  - 21 STOCKHOLM'S LAND
  - 24 JFK'S VEEP
  - 25 FLEUR-DE—
  - 26 CUTTING TOOL
  - 28 PARLOR PIECES
  - 32 NOW, ON A MEMO
  - 34 LUAU BOWLFUL
  - 36 KARATE LEVEL
  - 37 PRISON-RELATED
  - 39 ATTY.'S TITLE
  - 41 MAUNA —
  - 42 SODA
  - 44 STEERING DEVICE
  - ON A SHIP
  - 46 LEAPING ANTELOPES
  - 50 HOSP. HOOKUPS
  - 51 DONALD DUCK'S NEPHEW
  - 52 LIKE A GOOD GOLF SCORE
  - 56 GREEK MOUNTAIN
  - 57 CANNES MILK
  - 58 BLACKBIRD
  - 59 FAVORITES
  - 60 PC PROGRAMS
  - 61 EWE'S MATE



- DOWN**
- 1 ENERGY
  - 2 DOCS' BLOC
  - 3 ITALIAN CHEESE
  - 4 FOREST CLEARINGS
  - 5 TIKI BAR NECKLACE
  - 6 TOLKIEN CREATURES
  - 7 '50S FORD
  - 8 "GREAT WORK!"
  - 9 DURING
  - 10 TOP OF THE HEAD
  - 11 FORMER MATES
  - 16 PASSING CRAZE
  - 20 "SURVIVOR" AIRER
  - 21 HIGH-FIVE SOUND
  - 22 SAGACIOUS
  - 23 SNOOZE
  - 27 MISERY
  - 29 CRYSTALLINE
  - MINERAL
  - 30 SKIN SOOTHER
  - 31 TWINKLER IN
  - THE SKY
  - 33 TROPICAL FRUITS
  - 35 LEB. NEIGHBOR
  - 38 TEXTER'S CHUCKLE
  - 40 CALMS
  - 43 "STRAIGHT UP"
  - SINGER ABDUL
  - 45 TIVO, FOR EXAMPLE
  - 46 DENNY'S RIVAL
  - 47 INSPIRATION
  - 48 NUISANCE
  - 49 BREAK SUDDENLY
  - 53 CHIPS GO-WITH
  - 54 SANTA — WINDS
  - 55 CRATER PART

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-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. Horde 2. Trace;  
3. Antic; 4. Image

*Today's Word*  
**CHAIR**



"Do you have a  
This may take a while!"

### SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Strong

RHODE

Proof

CRATE

Lark

INACT

Vision

GAMIE

**TODAY'S WORD**

S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	A
U	9	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N
D	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	S
O	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	W
K	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	E
U	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	R

# HOROSCOPES

December 2023 Horoscopes • Week 1



CAPRICORN

**CAPRICORN — Dec 22/Jan 20**

You may be coveting something of late, Capricorn. However, only when you stop actively wanting that thing or person will you finally get what you desire.



ARIES

**ARIES — Mar 21/Apr 20**

Aries, if you work or spend time with an introvert, reach out to him or her and strike up a conversation. This person may only need a little nudge to become a good friend.



CANCER

**CANCER — Jun 22/Jul 22**

This is a good week to begin something that you've been thinking about tackling, Cancer. You'll have pep in your step and others willing to lend a hand if it is needed.



LIBRA

**LIBRA — Sept 23/Oct 23**

Whatever you tackle this week, it shouldn't revolve entirely around money, Libra. Finances may have gotten in the way of things for some time; focus now on relationships.



AQUARIUS

**AQUARIUS — Jan 21/Feb 18**

Aquarius, your positive attitude is an asset in life. Even as challenges come your way this week, you can prove the naysayers wrong by maintaining your rosy outlook.



TAURUS

**TAURUS — Apr 21/May 21**

Taurus, a friendly competition that may have started out lighthearted is now starting to transform into something a bit more competitive. Dial it back a bit.



LEO

**LEO — Jul 23/Aug 23**

Leo, someone may offer you some honest feedback that is a little too raw for your ego at this point in time. You will simply have to take it with dignity and lick your wounds elsewhere.



SCORPIO

**SCORPIO — Oct 24/Nov 22**

Don't let a dream you had put you all in a tizzy, Scorpio. That was just your subconscious working through some things and not a prediction of things to come.



PISCES

**PISCES — Feb 19/Mar 20**

Pisces, standing up for yourself this week is challenging, but you need to do it to get your point across. Don't worry, you have many supporters in your corner cheering you on.



GEMINI

**GEMINI — May 22/Jun 21**

Gemini, things are starting to slow down in your life, and your to-do list has gotten shorter. Expect things to ramp up again soon enough, but enjoy the break for now.



VIRGO

**VIRGO — Aug 24/Sept 22**

You need to be the driving force on a project that will pop up, Virgo. Even though you're not sure of your readiness for this type of work, you can give it a good attempt.



SAGITTARIUS

**SAGITTARIUS — Nov 23/Dec 21**

Don't be shy about receiving credit for something that you did, Sagittarius. You deserve the recognition no matter how large or small the task. Celebrate all your victories.



STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE



**Greta Dani Hinsdale**

**How long have you played basketball?**

I think I started playing (in Hungary) when I was about 8. I was into swimming, too, but decided to fully focus on basketball when I got to high school.

**What do you like about the sport?**

I like that it's a team sport and that I get to play with other people and learn their playing styles. I like that we get to experience different emotions together. I'm competitive and I like to win, but I also like to put a lot of work into what I do.

**How have you evolved since freshman year?**

My freshman year I was more reserved and shy and I didn't play to my full potential. I have become more aggressive and have tried to develop a range of skills. I feel like I'm better team player than I was and a lot stronger with the ball.

**How would your teammates describe you?**

That I work well under pressure and that I try and encourage them on the court.

**What was it like moving here from overseas?**

The first half of my freshman year it was remote learning because of COVID. When we returned to in-per-

son school, it was challenging to know what to do and meet people. I was thankful that I spoke English.

**What's your goal for the season?**

I really want to be able to score more than I have in the past and be more confident in myself whenever I get the ball. I want to be able to take the shot when I have the chance instead of passing it up.

**What's your happy place?**

I like to travel whenever I have time. I love skiing and going on walks with my dog, Ellie.

**Siblings?**

I have a younger brother and an older step-brother and step-sister.

**Why does coach Erin Navolio like having Dani on the team?**

Greta has been a part of the program for four years. She is continuously working to improve her game, including time in the off-season. She has potential to be a standout this season and go on to play in college. As a teammate, she is respected by her peers and always displays positive sportsmanship. We look to Greta to continue to be a great role model for the younger players in the program.

— profile by Ken Knutson,  
photo by Jim Slonoff

RESULTS

**Basketball, boys**

Nov. 22 & 24 @ Oswego East/ Naperville North Invite vs. Oswego V wins 66-39  
Dan Orozco, 15 points, assist, steal  
Kozys, 8 points, assist  
Reddy, 8 points, 2 rebounds  
Thick, 6 points. 8 rebounds, 2 assists  
Bruzelis, 6 points, rebound, assist, steal  
Dillon Orozco, 5 points  
Gaffney, 4 points, 2 rebounds  
Kusak, 3 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals  
Dell, 3 points, rebound,

assist  
Deftos, 2 points, 2 rebounds, 4 assists  
Howell, 2 points, 3 rebounds  
Nedic, 2 points, rebound, assist  
Bilenko, 2 points, rebound  
Pohlenz, 3 rebounds  
Armstrong, rebound  
Banks, rebound  
Stach, rebound  
vs. West Aurora V loses 47-50

**Basketball, girls**

Nov. 28 vs. Glenbard West V loses 41-58  
Nov. 22 @ Whitesell Tourney

vs. Staggs V wins 55-41  
Dolan, 19 points  
Sherpitis, 16 points  
Dani, 8 points  
Gin, 6 points  
Sheehan, 3 points  
Skinner, 3 points  
vs. St. Ignatius V loses 45-57

**Bowling, boys**

Nov. 27 vs. Reavis V loses 2,267-2,602  
Westerberg, 524  
Berger, 460  
Dynis, 426  
Hester, 421  
Hyland, 413  
Kwon, 386

**Gymnastics, girls**

Nov. 22 @ Hornet Invite V places 6th with 127.325 points  
Vault  
Hamelka, 3rd, 9.35  
Driscoll, 11th, 8.6  
Dannhausen-Brun, 16th (tie), 8.3  
Sullivan, 30th (tie), 7.9  
Uneven bars  
Sullivan, 10th, 7.9  
Driscoll, 19th, 7.2  
Koulouris, 26th (tie), 6.7  
Hamelka, 32nd (tie), 6.4  
Balance beam  
Koulouris, 9th, 8.175  
Driscoll, 11th, 8.1  
Hamelka, 12th, 8  
Inabnit, 13th (tie), 7.85

Floor exercise  
Hamelka, 7th, 8.65  
Driscoll, 15th (tie), 8.2  
Hannah, 19th (tie), 8.15  
Inabnit, 28th (tie), 7.85  
All-around  
Hamelka, 8th, 32.4  
Driscoll, 10th, 32.1

**Wrestling, boys**

Nov. 24-25 @ Barrington Invite V places 18th with 71 points  
285 pounds  
Ivanisevic, 1st, fall 1:08  
175 pounds  
Kruse, 4th

SPORTS SHORTS

**ROADRUNNERS NO. 1 IN STATE**

The Nazareth Academy football team won its second consecutive state title and fifth overall in the IHSAA 5A championship game Nov. 25 in Normal. The team defeated Joliet Catholic Academy 38-20 in an exciting come-from-behind victory.

Hinsdale team members are sophomore lineman William Francis, sophomore defensive back/wide receiver Spencer Martin and freshman

lineman Luke Injaychock.

The team finished the regular season 4-5 before beating Prairie Ridge (35-28), Glenbard South (42-0), Carmel (21-17) and St. Francis (38-31) in the playoffs.

The team also won the state championship in 2022, 2018, 2015 and 2014.

**AMEGADJIE EARNS HONOR**

Hinsdale's Kiran Amegadjie

all earned first team All-Ivy recognition for the second time in his Yale University football career.

Amegadjie, a senior interior offensive lineman, was part of an offensive line that helped the Bulldogs win a share of the Ivy League title for the third straight season and finish second in the league in scoring offense at 29.9 points per game. Earlier this month the former Hinsdale Central standout announced his intention to enter next spring's NFL Draft.

Instant replay



**Hinsdale Central** freshman Bennett Westerberg competed Monday afternoon during the Red Devils home match against Reavis at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont. Westerberg shot a team high three-game total of 524, but the Devils fell to the Rams 2,602-2,267. (Jim Slonoff photos)



# SPORTS

## Central athletes facing first opponents

*Boys, girls grapplers have had first matches while swimmers, divers start season Friday*

By Pamela Lannom  
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

The Hinsdale Central boys swimming and diving team starts its season as the defending state champions and National Champions, according to Swim Cloud's ranking. The team hopes for a repeat at state.

The boys wrestling program, which lost a number of athletes to graduation in May, is looking to gain experience and fill some holes in the lineup.

The girls wrestling team is expected to improve as it transitions from the sport's inaugural season to a more typical competitive schedule.

This is the second in a three-part series of winter sports previews. Boys and girls bowling and hockey were featured in the Nov. 23 issue, and boys and girls basketball and girls gymnastics will be highlighted next week.

### Boys swimming and diving

**First meet:** Dec. 1 tri-meet @ St. Charles East

**Last year:** 1st at state, named National Champions by Swim Cloud

**Head coach:** Bob Barber

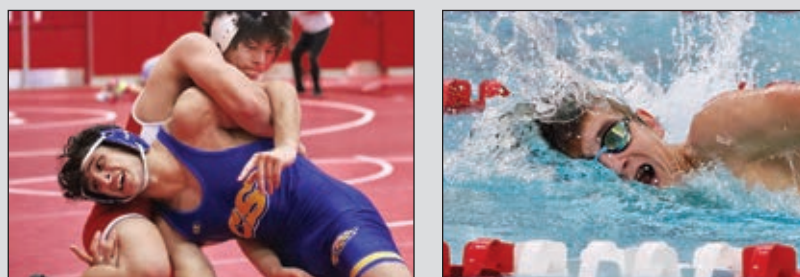
**Seasons as head coach:** 10th as head coach, 25 years coaching

**No. varsity team members:** 22

**Strengths:** Through a lot of hard work in the off-season, our guys continue to improve, making our team deeper and extremely talented.

**Challenges:** It's always a challenge to hold your place from the previous year when you've finished on top. I think internally our challenges will be finding the right spots to utilize all of these kids, and another challenge will be finding the right motivation. Most seasons, it's "Can we get to the top three?" "Can we trophy?" This season we would like to repeat and we would like to find a way to improve on last year's season, even with graduation (lost five swimmers and divers who competed at state).

**Who to watch:** You've got returning state champions Jeffrey Hou, Josh Bey, Brody Marcet. They're always fun to watch, and some of them are trying to hit some Olympic qualifying times in the next month,



**Last week marked** the first competitions for the Hinsdale Central boys and girls wrestling programs, and the boys swim and dive team will have its first meet on Friday. A handful of Red Devil swimmers hope to achieve Olympic qualifying times in the early weeks of the season. (file photos)

so it's a lot of fun to be part of that and have a role. We've got a lot of guys last year that broke all kinds of school, pool records that want a chance in the spotlight. There might be too many (to name). These are good problems, I guess. In diving, Zach Brown is a returning state qualifier. We have six divers this season, but we're not sure who our second diver will be.

**Outlook:** We're trying to have another undefeated dual meet season. Provided our athletes are in town, we'd like to go undefeated in invitationals. Last year we were one short of a perfect meet in sectionals, so we dream about trying to pull that off. That puts a lot of pressure on a few kids. We still believe we have a chance to repeat at the state level.

**Furthermore:** If you find time to come watch us, we're a very special team. We'd love to have the fans in the stands. It's going to be a very special year.

### Boys wrestling

**First meet:** Nov. 21 vs. Naperville North

**Last year:** won conference, two placed at state

**Head coach:** Jason Hayes

Seasons as head coach: 15

**No. team members:** 70 at all levels

**Strengths:** Our stronger guys are very strong. Our top guys have some experience.

**Challenges:** We graduated a lot of seniors last year. We have some newcomers, some sophomores in the lineup. It's a tough battle for the dual meets. Dual meets we're going to struggle a little this year. We've got some holes in the lineup, so we're going to take some lumps there. The challenge is keeping kids wrestling all four years. It's an extremely hard sport. It's very demanding. There's a lot more choices for kids to pick from.

**Who to watch:** Marko Ivanisevic is the returning fifth-place IHSA winner. He's got a lot of experience, a lot of off-season stuff. Zach Kruse wrestled a good tournament at Barrington. He has high goals this year. Barsum Rabanasa, he took 10th place at Barrington. He's only been wrestling for three years.

**Outlook:** We're hoping to get a few guys down to state — one, maybe two or three would be great. We've got our work cut out for us. We've got to keep grinding, stay focused. We'll have a lot of dual meets where we're outmatched, but

hopefully we'll make progress for the tournaments at the end of the year.

**Furthermore:** We won conference last year for the first time in school history. We've had some pretty good teams over the years. We're always close but never did it.

### Girls wrestling

**First match:** Nov. 21 @ Naperville North (4-0)

**Last year:** won about half the matches in an abbreviated schedule

**Head coach:** Pat Kohl

**Seasons as head coach:** second

**No. team members:** 11

**Strengths:** Last year, they were all first-year wrestlers. There were eight of them last year. They were real strong and aggressive. They competed well. This year, their technique is starting to get a little bit better. We had one match last week against Naperville North. We pinned all four of the girls. So far they are looking good. (This week) will be kind of a test. We go to Yorkville. That's a pretty big wrestling high school.

**Challenges:** We had a couple of injuries so far, and that's my biggest concern, keeping them healthy. It's changed dramatically since last year, considering we now have a girls schedule. There are a couple of tournaments. There are some quads.

**Who to watch:** There's Tiyanha Hart at 135. She wrestled last year, and in the sectional meet, she won five matches and placed in the top six out of 29 girls. She's looking good. She's probably, as of right now, the best wrestler.

Also Naomi Schaller. She's currently at 155 and she's a sophomore and she's also been very competitive. She's done a lot of off-season wrestling. There's about six of them right now that are looking pretty good as far as being more competitive than last year.

**Outlook:** I really don't know what to expect. The sport is so new. Last year we competed well. It's hard to say. Everybody seems like they will most likely be stepping up and the sport will be a little more polished. Everyone seems like they're progressing. We're definitely much better than we were last year.





# New Construction



322 N BRUNER ST, HINSDALE



Proposed new construction by Courtyard Custom Homes. It's to-be-built, so the design will be curated to your specific needs & desires. The 100 x 145 lot affords the opportunity for a wide and impressive street presence, a circular driveway and a backyard with elbow room to spare. The builder reports that approximately 7,000 square feet can be built. The finished lower level would be included in this number. 5-6 bedrooms. 5 1/2 bathrooms. 3 car garage.

Connect with our design team now to create a one-of-a-kind custom home that reflects your personal style. Build time expected to be 10-12 months.

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