

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Hinsdale, Illinois

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Cue the color!

More than 750 people took part in The Community House's 17th annual Walk the Walk for Mental Health last month. The mile-long trek through village streets was extra colorful as walkers were greeted with splashes of color at the "celebration stations" staged along the route. After the walk wellness vendors and food trucks were available. Please turn to Page 26 for more pictures. (Jim Slonoff photo)



Heart of Hinsdale
Summer series continues with look at Memorial Building.
Page 5



Care for a cuppa?
150th anniversary program traces history of tea drinking.
Page 7



Cutting it loose
Hinsdale actress reprises iconic Kevin Bacon role in BAM show.
Page 14

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NEWS

Fatal shooting hits close to home

Tragedy occurs right before Community House starts summer camp in neighborhood

By Pamela Lannom

plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Less than 36 hours after a man was fatally shot June 18 in the vicinity of Hinsdale Lake Terrace, The Community House welcomed 72 kids in the neighborhood to the first day of summer camp.

"We made the decision to start summer camp as normal," said Dan Janowick, executive director of The Community House. "We had two members of The Community House social work team to start summer camp with us."

The Community House has been partnering for almost 30 years with Community Consolidated Elementary District 180 to provide after-school programs and summer camps to families. In 2022, the non-profit launched a plan to expand counseling services and provide additional community and youth recreation activities to family in the unincorporated and under-resourced neighborhood.

The man who was killed — identified on Chicago TV news as 31-year-old Reginald Meadows — was the father of two children who attend Burr Ridge Middle School, Janowick said.

A large number of celebrants had started gathering about 6 p.m. June 17 at Honeysuckle Lane and Route 83 near Willowbrook. Police were monitoring the scene, according to a press release from the DuPage County Sheriff's Office. Then they left at 12:25 a.m. to respond to a 911 call alleging a fight had broken out nearby.

"As deputies responded, they heard gunshots and immediately returned to the scene of the gathering," the release states.

An unknown number of suspects fired multiple rounds from multiple weapons, killing one person and injuring 22, the release states.

"Out of an abundance of caution for the safety of the victims, we will not be releasing their names, locations or individual conditions," a June 19 release from the sheriff's office states. "We understand and empathize with the media and public in their desire for more information, but we must balance that need with the need to preserve the integrity of our investigation. We want to assure everyone that we intend to be fully transparent once our investigation is completed."

Hinsdale police officers were dispatched to the scene after monitor-

ing a call for additional units from the sheriff's office, police reported. One Hinsdale officer stopped a vehicle on Route 83 north of Ogden that contained a gunshot victim. Officers provided First Aid to the victim prior to transport by the fire department to a local hospital.

Hinsdale officers also provided assistance at University of Chicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale Hospital. The hospital received three gunshot patients from the event, including Meadows, who arrived in cardiac arrest, a hospital spokesman said. Two arrived by private car and one via ambulance. One was in fair condition and transferred; the third was in good condition and transferred.

Detectives assigned to the MERIT investigative team continue to assist in the investigation.

A sense of normalcy

The start of summer camp Monday morning was perfect timing, "so the kids would have a sense of routine, a sense of normalcy," Janowick said.

Some families were not ready to start camp. Of the 96 kids registered, only 72 attended the first day, he said. Some were sick, but many fam-

ilies remained unsettled by the tragedy.

"There were a number of families that reached out and said, 'We're not ready yet,'" Janowick said.

He said staff made sure parents knew resources were available to help them help their children.

"There are developmentally appropriate ways to talk about this with your kids and you need to talk about it with your kids," was the message, Janowick said. Kids are certainly aware of what happened, he added.

"This is international news," he said.

The families in Willowbrook Corner, as The Community House refers to the area, have the same needs and desires for their kids as families in Hinsdale do, Janowick said, noting his frustration with some social media posts.

"For me it is disheartening to see groups of people dehumanized," he remarked. "I'm lucky to be on the side of it where the large majority of what I've seen is people from the community and organizations trying to ask, 'How can we help?'"

"The Community House is going to continue to be there and to help the families through this," he said.



Lunch and song on the lawn



Junie B! was first up in the Lunch on the Lawn program last week in Burlington Park. Sponsored by the Hinsdale Public Library and the village of Hinsdale, the events offer the perfect way to enjoy summer in the village. Next up is Miss Jamie's Farm on July 19 and Magic of Gary Kantor on Aug. 2. (Jim Slonoff photos)

ONCE UPON A TIME



Up on a hill — The Memorial Building in Hinsdale is an example of community spirit and cooperation, writes Sandy William in “Images of America — Hinsdale.” “The building was privately built, funded through a meticulous community campaign led by Philip R. Clarke that had Hinsdaleans contributing the entire amount necessary for its construction within a single week.” For more information on the building, see the story on Page 5. (Hinsdale Historical Society photo)



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IN THIS ISSUE



Happy Birthday!

Jack Bryan
turns 15 June 27

ASK AN EXPERT.....	14
CLASSIFIED.....	28
GOOD NEWS.....	10
NEWS.....	3
OBITUARIES.....	12
OPINION.....	11
OUT & ABOUT.....	16
POLICE.....	8
PROFILE.....	9
PULSE.....	15
PUZZLES.....	33
SPORTS.....	34



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Corrections

The Hinsdalean staff strives to provide an error-free newspaper each week. If a mistake is published, however, we are happy to correct it. Call or email Pamela Lannom to report errors requiring correction or clarification.

Letters to the editor

Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

Obituaries

Obituaries are published free each week in The Hinsdalean. Information may be mailed, faxed or emailed to news@thehinsdalean.com. Obituaries may be edited for style and space.

Photo reprint policy

Photographs that appear in The Hinsdalean may be purchased on our Web site at thehinsdalean.com. Occasionally additional photographs that have not been published in the paper may be published on the site; these also will be available for purchase.

Advertising policy

We reserve the right to edit and/or refuse all advertising submitted to The Hinsdalean.

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Memorial Building honors past, present

Community drive in 1927 raises funds to build structure that serves as living tribute

By Sandy Illian Bosch
news@thehinsdalean.com

The stately brick structure known as the Memorial Building sits atop a hill in the heart of Hinsdale. Built nearly a century ago as a standing, living tribute to those who fought in the first World War, it serves as a hub for the workings of the entire village.

After a call to action from the editor of *The Doings* newspaper in 1927, the community quickly came together to form the Hinsdale Memorial Building Committee. The committee of Hinsdaleans designed the plan for the building and went door to door in an effort to raise the \$150,000 needed to see the plan to fruition.

In less than a week, the goal was nearly met, and as the story goes, donations were obtained from all but two Hinsdale residents. In the end, Hinsdaleans contributed \$171,000, resulting in the building that today serves as Hinsdale's Village Hall and houses the Hinsdale Public Library, HCS Family Services and the American Legion.

The building was dedicated on Independence Day, 1928. Its rotunda, whose official name is "The Shrine of Memory," features a marble sculpture titled "The Victory of Hinsdale" and a plaque listing the names of those from the village who died in the military service of the country.

As promised in the original village proclamation accepting the gift of the Memorial Building from the people of Hinsdale, the building offers a permanent home, free from rent, to the American Legion and HCS Family Services, known in 1927 as the Hinsdale Nursing and Relief Association. While the proclamation makes the same promise to the American Legion Auxiliary and the Girl and Boy Scouts, those organizations no longer occupy space in the Memorial Building, said Bethany Salmon, village planner and Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission liaison.

Like Hinsdale itself, the



The Memorial Building, dedicated on July 4, 1928, has served as a symbol of the village for almost 100 years.

Additions were built in the 1950s, 1970s and late 1980s. (photo for *The Hinsdalean* by Yannis Arvanitis)

building has grown over the years. Since its completion in 1928, the Memorial Building has undergone several additions and renovations. According to the village website, the east wing was constructed in 1969, and the west wing in 1974. The northwest addition, housing the library, was built in 1989.

Molly Castor, former marketing and outreach manager at the library, said the library had several homes throughout the village before moving to the Memorial Building in 1929, where it has remained for 94 years. The library now occupies 30,000 square feet of space on the building's west side.

"We love being the building on top of the hill," Castor said.

The building's east side serves as the hub for the workings of the village. It is home to village administrators along with the parks and recreation, finance, community development, engineering and information technology departments.

Meetings of the village board, plan commission and other governmental bodies are

held in Memorial Hall on the building's first floor.

Salmon has worked in the building for more than two years. She said the Memorial Building is a busy place, and despite the option to pay bills by mail or online, Salmon said many residents choose to visit the village offices to settle their water bill, obtain a building permit or buy a vehicle sticker.

"There's still significant pride in this building," Salmon said.

The building's walkability to downtown and proximity to the library encourages visitors and allow employees like herself to easily enjoy a visit to the weekly farmer's market or Burlington Park.

Salmon said that through its many changes and additions, great care has been taken to retain architect Edwin H. Clarke's original vision for the building, which was declared a local historic landmark in 2001 by the Hinsdale Historic Preservation Committee.

While most Hinsdaleans have likely entered the Memorial Building at one time or another, Salmon said

there are details within its walls that are not often seen.

The upstairs area known as the "Scout room" is now used by HCS Family Services, but its walls still boast murals that beckon back to the room's original purpose, Salmon said.

Another little-known detail can be found on the bell inside the building's bell tower. It is inscribed with a dedication to the village's war heroes, dated July 4, 1929. Salmon said getting those bells ringing again is on the wish list of more than a few Hinsdale residents.

Just as the citizens of Hinsdale came together to build the original building, village leaders of today have announced Hinsdale's 150 Memorial Building Historic Plaza and Roof Railing Campaign. This fundraising effort will result in restoration of the building's original roof railing and a renewed patio area to the south of the building, commonly seen as the front of the building. The patio area will continue to welcome library patrons in search of a relaxing spot to enjoy a book, and it will serve

■ QUINTESSENTIAL HINSDALE

This is the another in a series of stories on places that make Hinsdale the town it is.

as a spot for planned events and community gatherings.

Andrianna Peterson, assistant village manager, said five donation levels are available to residents and friends of Hinsdale who would like to be part of the campaign. More information can be found at www.villageofhinsdale.org/150.

"To commemorate Hinsdale's 150th anniversary and in honor of our service members, we are asking the community to come together to help renew the Memorial Building Plaza, which has served as Hinsdale's natural front yard for nearly 100 years," Village President Tom Cauley said in a prepared statement. "This endeavor will further the legacy of the Memorial Building, which was originally funded by Hinsdaleans seeking to honor those who made the greatest sacrifice for our nation."

NEXT WEEK

Community Consolidated Elementary Dist. 181 Board

7 p.m. Monday, June 26
Hinsdale Middle School
100 S. Garfield Ave.
www.d181.org

On the draft agenda: public hearing and adoption of 2023-24 budget, kindergarten update, spring MAP and school improvement plan update, district office, middle school language arts resource approval

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, June 22
Hinsdale South High School
7401 Clarendon Hills Road, Darien
www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings

On the agenda: public hearing and adoption of amended FY 2023 budget, approve tentative FY 2024 budget, strategic plan goal updates, national superintendent search update, re-bid concealed weapons detection system,

Hinsdale Public Library Board

7 p.m. Tuesday, June 27
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info

On the draft agenda: travel reimbursement policy, approval of trustee reimbursements, personnel policy update, village patio project, master plan RFQ

Residents reminded of lawn sprinkling rules

Lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect in the village and should be followed through Sept. 15.

Sprinkling is permitted only between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. and 6 and 10 p.m. and only on even-numbered calendar days for even-numbered street addresses and

odd-numbered days for odd-numbered addresses.

No sprinkling is permitted on July 31 or Aug. 31.

For more information, call the water department at (630) 789-7051 or, after hours, the police department at (630) 789-7070.

Clarification

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," was a comment about the social studies curriculum made by Molly Hughes of College Bound Consulting in a letter read at the June 8 meeting of Hinsdale High School District 86. It was mistakenly attributed to school board member Debbie Levinthal, who was reading from the letter.

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A Century of Charles Christian Hansen III, Chuck, Dad, GrandChuck

1923 to 2023 and Beyond...



CCI100

Steeped in tradition, tea's allure endures

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

An invitation to a tea time may be misinterpreted in today's Hinsdale.

In the village's nascent era, however, tea parties were a way for women, in particular, to enjoy fellowship and enlightening discussions in a paternalistic society, according to Leslie Goddard, a historian known for her portrayals of figures from the past.

As part of the celebration of Hinsdale 150th anniversary, Goddard will present the program "Elegant Indulgence: History and Rituals of Afternoon Tea" from 7 to 8:30 p.m. June 26 at the Hinsdale Public Library (see Page 22 for details).

"In the late 19th century, there aren't a lot of places where women can go to socialize," Goddard said. "There were taverns, but that's not where unescorted women would go."

So home became the setting for socializing, and tea was a light, easy refreshment to prepare for small gatherings.

"And tea, going all the way back to

British times, still carried this connotation of being elegant and fancy," she related.

Goddard acknowledged knowing little about tea's legacy in the States beyond the Boston Tea Party before she was asked to give a presentation in another village. She discovered the internationally consumed beverage played an important role locally.

"The more I got into it, the more interested I got," she said. "Tea parties turned out to be a really important part of that whole story."

During her research, Goddard learned that Hinsdale's first merchants catered to tea's rising popularity.

"I was looking at an ad from Fox & Davis, an early grocery store in Hinsdale, and you could find tea ket-



Hinsdale native Leslie Goddard will serve up a program on afternoon tea June 26.

bles and other items likely sold to the matrons of Hinsdale for tea gatherings," she said.

Fox Brothers in neighboring Fullersburg sold British porcelain teapots, creamers and sugar bowls. The evolution of women's clothing also provides clues, as Goddard noticed the contrast between Hinsdale

High School's 1883 female graduates' tightly fitted dresses and the garb donned by their elders.

"Women entertaining at home started wearing tea gowns, loose fitting, something you'd wear only in the house," she said. "It affected fashion because women were regularly meeting in the houses, and you don't want to get all gussied up just to stay home. Tea gowns became this thing."

The customary dinner time had got-

ten later as the Industrial Revolution altered work rhythms, so the afternoon tea also helped tide over people's stomachs.

"What I really focus on is, in the Victorian age, this whole idea of stopping in late afternoon, you have a couple of little sandwiches and sweets and a cup of tea," she said. "I trace the history of afternoon tea through what Hinsdale women might have been doing."

The practice continued into the 20th century, with groups like the Hinsdale Woman's Club hosting a 1914 tea while hearing a lecture on prominent men and women of England.

Later public tea rooms began popping up, The rustic Spinning Wheel eatery that used to sit along Ogden Avenue just west of the Tri-State Tollway marketed itself as a restaurant and tea room. Following a decline over the last century, Goddard said there's been a resurgence of interest in tea gatherings.

"It hearkens back to a simpler, slower way of life," she said. "It seems like something we still crave to this day."




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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports June 21.

DUI arrest

Jose J. DeLaCruz Suarez, 36, 3545 W. 81st St, Chicago, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood-alcohol content higher than 08, disobeying a traffic control device, transportation of open alcohol and stopping, standing or parking where prohibited at 10:30 p.m. June 17 at Ogden Avenue and the Tri-State Tollway. He was charged and released to appear in court.

Business burglarized

The front door of Soltwisch Plumbing, 422 W. Chestnut St., was forced open, the interior ransacked and \$39,000 in tools stolen between 5:30 p.m. and 7:20 a.m. June 12.

Domestic battery report

A known suspect entered an apartment without permission and made contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the victim after a domestic dispute June 20. The victim reported the suspect had threatened to damage her vehicle, and the side mirrors were later observed to have been damaged.

Catalytic converter stolen

The catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle was parked in the lot at Hinsdale Covenant Church, 412 S. Garfield Ave., between May 15 and 22. The theft was reported on June 15.

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

Hinsdale man reports killing ex-wife before taking his own life

A 49-year-old Hinsdale man confessed to murdering his former wife in Geneva before taking his own life on June 14.

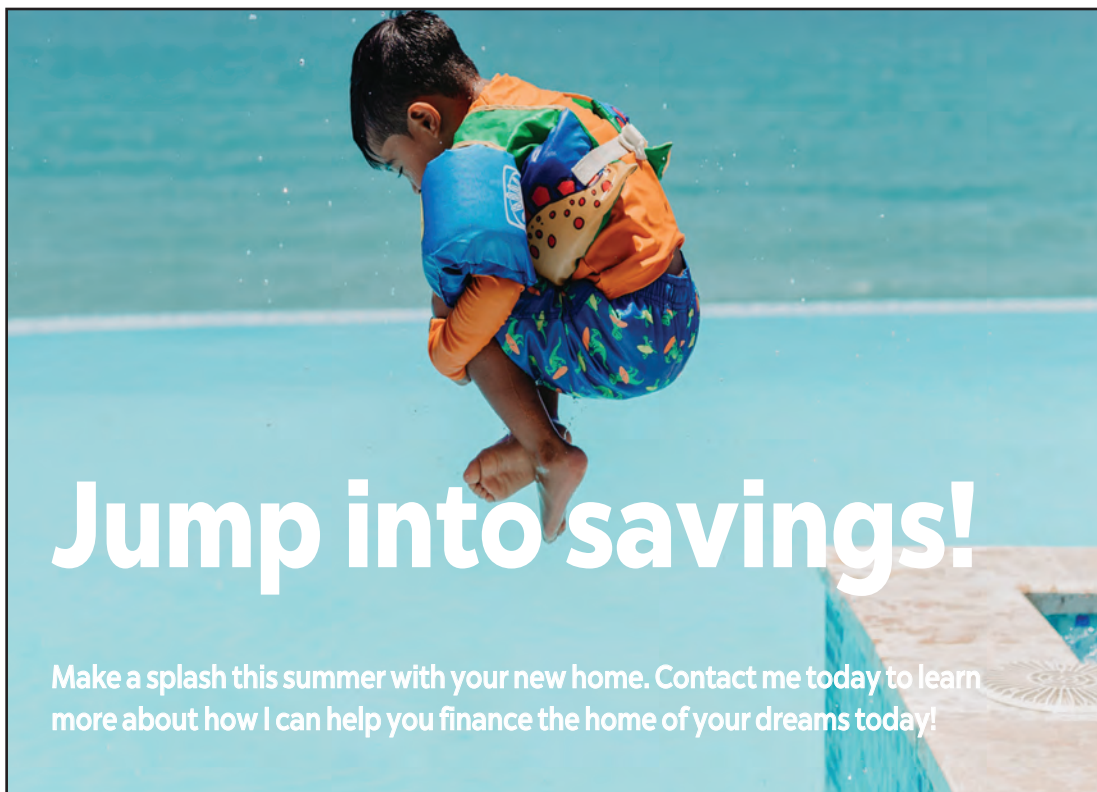
Police responded to the home of Amanda R. Dockery, 48, in the 1000 block of Pebble Beach Court at 5:22 p.m. after receiving a 911 call from her ex-husband, Chad L. Dockery, who said he had killed her, according to a news alert posted by the city of Geneva on its webpage. He told police he was armed with a pistol.

When police arrived, he was observed inside a vehicle at the end of the driveway. As the officer approached, a gun was fired and Chad Dockery was found with a self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to the alert. A 9mm pis-

tol was recovered from the scene.


Police entered the home and found Amanda Dockery suffering from two apparent gunshot wounds. Both were taken to Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital in Geneva, where she was pronounced dead at 6:06 p.m. and he was pronounced dead at 7:30 p.m., according to the alert. No other people were inside the home.

Geneva police and members of the Kane County Major Crimes Task Force are continuing to investigate the incident. Autopsy reports will take about 12 weeks to complete, according to Daniela Gicla, compliance and special projects coordinator at the Kane County Coroner's Office.




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■ Gupta's app, WeLevitate, is a free tool that lets the user match their fitness goals to the promise of a charitable contribution when that goal is met.

Technology helps Central teen merge passions

Both of Samiksha Gupta's parents work in computer science. But it wasn't until she took a class in the subject that Gupta discovered her own fascination with the field and its application to what she considers two of her greatest passions — exercise and giving to her community.

"You could create an entirely different world using this language," Gupta said of the computer coding she learned and used to create an app that allows users to link a commitment to fitness to community service.

Gupta's app, WeLevitate, is a free tool that lets the user match their fitness goals to the promise of a charitable contribution when that goal is met. App users can financially support their favorite charities while running, doing yoga or playing their favorite sport. New activities are regularly being added, Gupta said.

After creating a goal, the WeLevitate user can enter their activity manually or use a fitness tracker to track their progress. Eventually, she hopes to add features that allow users to form teams, share their progress with friends or challenge one another.

Gupta came up with the idea for WeLevitate during the COVID-19 lockdown of 2020. Unable to practice badminton with her team or to continue her work at the Hinsdale food pantry, she longed for a way to keep active while also helping her community. Three years after development of the app began, WeLevitate is now available for Apple and Android products.

"There were definitely ups and downs throughout the entire journey," Gupta said.

The biggest obstacle so far, she said, has been gaining the participation of nonprofits. After many weeks spent contacting dozens of charities, Gupta finally received the first positive RSVP from PERIOD. Since Gupta serves as public relations manager of the Hinsdale Central chapter of PERIOD, the organization that provides menstrual products to people in need is close to her heart. She hopes to see many other nonprofits join WeLevitate soon.

Gupta's college search is in full swing, with visits to universities in the Midwest and the east coast, including Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of



SAMIKSHA GUPTA

MANAGING EDITOR OF HINSDALE CENTRAL'S 'SOLSTICE' ART & LITERARY MAGAZINE • CAPTAIN OF THE CENTRAL VARSITY BADMINTON TEAM • HINSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER • AVID READER •

Technology Wherever her college search takes her, Gupta plans to study computer science and business and to one day use her education to create her own nonprofit organization.

Community service isn't just something Gupta does to complete her college resume. Volunteering is something she has always done and something that she plans

to continue throughout her life. In May of this year, she was honored for that service with the Ambassador Award from the United Nations Association of the U.S.A..

"I am thrilled," Gupta said of the recognition.

She will spend the last weeks before the start of senior year breaking in her newly obtained driver's license, traveling to Canada

with her family and working toward her own MyLevitate goal of 15 miles walked each week. But the highlight of her summer already has happened, said Gupta, who attended a Taylor Swift concert earlier this month in Detroit.

"It was the best weekend of my life," she said.

— story by Sandy Illian Bosch, photo by Jim Slonoff



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GOOD NEWS

COLLEGE STUDENTS MAKE DEAN'S LISTS

These students from Hinsdale earned a place on the dean's list or equivalent at their respective colleges and universities for the spring 2023 semester.

- Christina Aucion, University of Iowa
- Max Aziz, University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- Kelly Baird, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Rachel Bergstrom, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Caitlin Brankin, Marquette University
- Catcher Brown, University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- Declan Cain, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Meredith Callahan, University of Alabama**
- Joshua Cash, University of Kentucky
- Ella Centracchio, University of Alabama
- Hannah Eichelman, Marquette University
- Matthew Elder, University of Iowa
- Hana Freburg, University of Alabama
- Jenna Frizzell, University of Alabama**
- Dilan Garg, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Juliana Gee, University of Iowa
- Jack Glenn, University of Iowa
- Gabrielle Gottfried, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Eris Golden, Southern Illinois University
- Justin Gomez, University of Alabama
- Maia Groom, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Liam Halpin, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Julia Hanley, Marquette University
- Lauren Harris, Ohio State University
- Lily Hart, University of Iowa
- Tucker Hawthorne, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Michael Hinchman, Ohio State University
- Katie Hughes, University of Georgia**
- Maureen Isaac, Ohio State University
- Marie Iwanski, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Katelyn Johns, Marquette

- University
- Jonathan Kobus, University of Alabama
- Annie Krillenberger, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Elizabeth Larson, University of Kentucky
- Haley Lopez, University of Alabama
- Carly McClear, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Maeve McInerney, University of Alabama**
- Katherine Melvin, University of Alabama
- Michael Moser, Ohio State University
- Ruhi Nagarkatte, University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- Eva O'Hea, Ohio State University
- Emma O'Hea, Ohio State University
- Olivia Ostrowski, College of William & Mary
- Alexandra Pavalon, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Connor Phillips, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Olivia Plumpe, Ohio State University
- Matthew Ritz, University of Alabama**
- John Rivera, Ohio State University
- Julianne Roberts, University of Iowa
- Emma Schackart, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Joey Sullivan, Marquette University
- Cade Sweeney, University of Alabama
- Trey Tabachka, University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- Kylie Torsberg, Ohio State University
- Eloise Van Eekeren, University of Mississippi
- Emma Watcke, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Alegra Waverley, University of Wisconsin-Madison

* dean's honor list
** president's list/
presidential scholar

STUDENTS EARN THEIR DEGREES

These Hinsdale students earned their degrees in spring 2023 commencement ceremonies.

- Christina Aucoin, bachelor's in nursing, University

- of Iowa
- Adam Baluch, bachelor's, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Jacob Burr, bachelor's in art, University of Iowa
- Christopher Deligiannis, bachelor's in business administration, University of Iowa
- Griffin Doney, bachelor's in enterprise leadership, University of Iowa
- Sophie Eck, bachelor's in communication studies, University of Iowa
- Hannah Eichelman, bachelor's in nursing, Marquette University
- Tess Ellithorpe, bachelor's in business administration, University of Iowa
- Jenna Frizzell, bachelor's in education, University of Alabama
- Jack Glenn, bachelor's in communication studies, University of Iowa
- John Hofmann, bachelor's in computer science, University of Iowa
- Macalister McClear, certificate in leadership studies, University of Iowa
- Katherine Melvin, bachelor's and master's in management information systems, University of Alabama
- Charles Parse, master's in business administration, University of Alabama
- Joey Sullivan, bachelor's in marketing, Marquette University
- Tyler Jurack, master's in professional accountancy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Grace Risinger, bachelor's, Bucknell University
- Ethan Valeo, bachelor's in finance, Marquette University
- Thomas Willemse, bachelor's, Fairfield University

HINSDALE TEENS ARE NAZ GRADS

The following Hinsdale members of the Class of 2023 graduated from Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park at a May 21 commencement ceremony.

They are Diana Anos, Grace Carstensen, Dylan Colbert, Emma Francis, Jack Francis, Harrison Gianares, Zachary Hayes, Kenna Hewitt, Caroline Kelly, Brady Linn, James Mercurio, Lucas Smith and Tate Vaughan.



Brian Powell, Sr.
Brian Powell, Jr.

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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Clock is ticking on finding acting superintendent

Eight days from today will be Chris Covino's last day in Hinsdale High School District 86.

The assistant superintendent for academics is leaving to become superintendent of a La Grange elementary school district. His replacement was hired in May and will officially step into the role July 1.

So why is his last day worth noting on this page? He has been serving as acting superintendent since Superintendent Tammy Prentiss went on paid leave May 16. What will happen after he leaves?

No one knows.

The board did release a statement last week. Unfortunately it did not answer that question.

"To the extent necessary, the board will continue to ensure that a qualified administrator will be designated as the acting superintendent," it states.

To the extent necessary? What does that mean? Is board President Cat Greenspon arrogant enough to think the district doesn't need a professional in the role of acting superintendent?

dent?

The release goes on to state that the board "continues to seek and act upon legal advice from a special counsel with recognized experience in education and employment law."

That's all well and good, but again — what does it have to do with who will be leading the district come July 1?

We thought perhaps tonight's board meeting would include an agenda item to name an acting superintendent. It does not. The only related topic is an update on the national search for a new superintendent to start in 2024. Important, yes, but not quite as pressing as the need for an acting superintendent to start in a little over a week.

The board couches all of its communications on this topic in terms of "sensitivity" and "personnel matters." We understand that discussing the specifics of why Prentiss is on leave might not be advisable. But we're not talking about the reasons why she's on leave — we're talking about the board's plan to have an interim super-

intendent in place in eight short days.

We hope history will not repeat itself and the board is not planning to ask someone who is part of the administrative team to serve as acting superintendent. The district needs an experienced administrator to come in on an interim basis as a dedicated superintendent until either Prentiss returns to work or her successor is chosen. The viewpoint of an outsider who has worked in other districts and is not afraid to speak his or her mind would be of great benefit to the board as it moves forward. And it just might be of help as the board searches for its new superintendent.

The board's primary job is to hire a superintendent and hold that individual accountable. All other goals and objectives — including curriculum changes — must come after this priority.

The only reason we can think of for this delay is that the board is waiting on its legal team to figure out what to do with Prentiss before deciding on the next acting superintendent. Regardless of the reason, time's up.

COMMENTARY

A dozen years pass in the blink of an eye

Recently I was having a conversation with a mom of two school-age kids.

"Only 10 more weeks until school starts!" she said, already feeling drained with near constant summer activities and endless questions asked by her daughter. I nodded my head, because I vividly remember those days, running after three little boys and counting down the hours until my husband came home from work.

I reminded my friend of the saying, "The days are long and the years are short," a cliché so poignant for me right now.

Our oldest son just moved into an apartment in Salt Lake City, so he will not be coming home for an extended period this summer. Our middle son just graduated from Hinsdale Central, and will attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He left a few days ago to spend two

weeks with his big brother before reporting for basic cadet training at the end of June. Luckily, we still have our 15-year-old son at home, but he's busy with his activities and not around much, so the house is eerily quiet.

Was it just last weekend all the boys were home and our house was lit up late into the night with bantering and laughter? With our upcoming move to Houston, we enjoyed our last days in this house together as a family, reminiscing about our 12 years in Hinsdale. My heart was so full, I made a mental note not to forget that moment.

It doesn't seem that long ago that our boys were in preschool and now our youngest son can drive. Have I have been so busy,



Stephanie Seppanen

almost robotic, that the time has passed in the blink of an eye? Don't get me wrong, I love having big kids. We can travel and hike together, discuss politics and I don't have to nag them about picking up toys or getting homework done. It's been a real blessing to watch them grow into amazing young men, but now I'm

having a tough time letting go.

So here is my PSA to all the parents of young children who are feeling overwhelmed with the kids home for summer break. I know you love your children, and you are not a bad parent for wanting to get back into a routine. Do not feel guilty for wanting some "me" time and a break from the kids. These are normal feelings!

However, as a mom who has

been doing this for 21 years, I can assure you that they do grow up and your house will eventually be quiet. You may then feel a little teary that your nest is emptying and question if you appreciated all those long summer days enough.

I need to reframe my thought process and remember that the boys are grown, not gone. I can still be an active parent, just from afar. With big kids, I'm afforded more time to do the things I want to do. I could study Italian, learn how to play the guitar or climb a mountain. There are so many options! Today though, I need to clear out the winter coats, pack some boxes and start writing letters to my son at boot camp. For now, my new endeavors will have to wait.

— Stephanie Seppanen of Hinsdale is a former contributing columnist. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.

■ However, as a mom who has been doing this for 21 years, I can assure you that they do grow up and your house will eventually be quiet. You may then feel a little teary that your nest is emptying and question if you appreciated all those long summer days enough.

OBITUARIES

Marianne L. Fox

Marianne L. Fox, 84, a longtime Hinsdale resident, passed away peacefully June 19, 2023, surrounded by her family.

Marianne was born in Chicago in 1938, raised in Beverly and attended Longwood Academy and DePaul University. She met the love of her life, Bill, at a friend's party and they were married in 1959 at Saint Barnabas Church. Her favorite time was spent with family at Lake Geneva in Wisconsin and Stevensville and Sister's Lake in Michigan. She always had the best dance moves to Smiling Dave's music at the Abbey Springs Yacht Club.

Marianne was a person of deep faith and a devoted member of the Catholic church. She dedicated most of her time to her parish, St. Isaac Jogues in Hinsdale. She enjoyed spending time with friends practicing her faith, playing bridge and gardening.

Above all else, Marianne's legacy was her devotion to faith and family. She will be remembered



Fox

for her fun spirit, kindness, grace and generosity to all who loved her.

Marianne "Foxy" is survived by her husband, William; her children, Laura (Rick) Distler, Sue (Ron) Pircon, Colette (Chuck) Kaufmann and Dan (Maia) Fox; her grandchildren, Nik (Jess) Distler, Zack Issleib, Maggie (Tim) Lydon, Maddie (Paul) Duncan, Jennifer (Dan) Foye, Eva (Mitch) Grant, Will (Coty) Fox, Michael (Aly) Pircon, Sarah (Justin) Pircon, Hannah (Trent) Kaufmann, Adam Pircon, Charlie Kaufmann and Rachel Distler; and her great-grandchildren, Landon, Harper, Harrison, Margot and Levi.

Visitation will be held at 9 a.m. today, June 22, at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, 306 W. Fourth St., Hinsdale.

A funeral Mass will follow at 11 a.m. at the church.

Interment will be private.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Richard Albert Jager III

Rick Jager, 54, of Eau Claire, Mich., formerly of Grand Haven, Mich., passed away unexpectedly June 15, 2023.

He was born in 1969 in Grand Haven to Richard and Diana (De Gram) Jager. Rick graduated from Grand Haven High School in 1988 and also took three years of welding and house construction at the Careerline Tech Center.

Rick loved being outdoors and all his jobs were outside, working with his hands. For many years he did cement flatwork in Michigan. Nine years ago he moved to Florida and did marine construction, building docks, sea walls and decks for those in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. Many of those years in marine construction he worked with his brother Delbie, side by side. Rick just moved back to Michigan six weeks ago and was working on an island in Eau Claire helping to restore an old mansion and estate. There wasn't much Rick couldn't fix or create. He was a man of many talents.

Rick was always happy and loved life and lived it to the fullest. All who met Rick loved him. He was



Jager

so proud of both of his children and their accomplishments. He had a great sense of humor and always had everyone laughing. His absence will be very noticeable.

Rick is survived by his children, Cameron Richard Jager and Mackenzie Jeanette Jager; his parents, Richard and Diana Jager; his sister, Amy (Thomas) Jager-Prame of Hinsdale; his brother, Delbie (Barbara Hernando) Jager; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and

cousins.

Rick was preceded in death by both grandparents, Delbie and Ardel De Gram and the Rev. Richard and Marie Jager.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, June 25, at 1940 Bass Island Park Drive, Eau Claire, Mich. This is where Rick lived and worked on Pipestone Lake for the last six weeks, and he loved it there.

Memorials may be made to Learning Disabilities of America, 4068 Mount Royal Blvd., Ste. 224B, Allison Park, PA 15101, or online at www.lidaamerica.org/donate.

Nancy A. Lis

Nancy A. Lis, nee Senase, of Oak Brook passed away June 16, 2023, 33 days shy of her 100th birthday.

She was preceded in death by her husband, late Thaddeus; and her siblings, Joseph, Roger, James and Salvatore.

She is survived by her children, Larry Lis, Diane (Hank) Haff of Hinsdale, Ted (Cheryl) Lis and Robert (Eva Marie) Lis; her grandchildren, Elizabeth, Michael, Ryan, Matthew, Alexa, Kaylee and Mary Rose; and many nieces and nephews.



Lis

Visitation is from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 25, at Adolf Funeral Home, 7000 S Madison St., Hinsdale.

Family and friends will meet at 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 26, for a funeral Mass at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, Fourth and Vine St., Hinsdale.

Entombment will follow at Resurrection Cemetery.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Merle B. Smith Jr.

Merle B. "Smitty" Smith Jr., 93, of Burr Ridge, passed away June 12, 2023, from a fluke accident.

He is survived by his children, Chris (Tom) Cratin, Leslie Bloom, David (Anita) Smith and Michele (Jim) Meloy; his seven grandchildren; and his nine great-grandchildren.



Smith

A celebration of life will be held at 10 a.m. today, June 22, at Adolf Funeral Home, 7000 S. Madison St., Willowbrook.

Interment is at Clarendon Hills Cemetery in Darien.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.



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ASK AN EXPERT

MIETTE MORRIS, TEEN STAGE ACTRESS

What's rewarding about performing in 'Footloose'?

A year ago Miette Morris was recovering from reconstructive knee surgery.

Tonight she'll "kick off the Sunday shoes" as she cuts "Footloose" in BAMtheatre's production of the classic 1984 dance-heavy film. The double-cast musical runs tonight through Sunday at Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park (see Page 20 for details).

"This is one of the very first shows I'm back actually really dancing," Morris said, exclaiming, "I do not get a break!"

That's because Morris plays Ren, the lead — and traditionally male — character famously depicted by Kevin Bacon on screen. She admitted to not seeing the movie before learning of BAMtheatre's plan to stage it.

"That's when I fell in love with the character of Ren. I saw myself in him," Morris remarked of the outgoing Chicago kid transplanted to a repressive small town, "kind of being more of the outsider and the

person who's not really fitting in with the crowd all the time."

Morris approached the company's leadership about taking on the role as a female.

"It was a big ask," the Hinsdale Central rising senior acknowledged.

Depicting male Officer Lockstock in Central drama's staging of "Urinetown" this spring afforded her valuable insight into the challenges of such an undertaking. Some of her singing parts in "Footloose" needed adjustments to make sure they were within her register.

And the stamina required to project one's voice while in constant motion during a particular song also took some acclimation.

"We are full dancing and singing during this entire thing," she said. "(At first) they had me do in the original key, and I was like, 'This is kind of low for me to be out of breath and dying of choreography.'"

Eventually she and the creative team collaborated to find the right moves.

"They said, 'We are going to make this role fit you versus you fit the role because we want to you

shine,' and I cannot be more grateful," Morris said. "It's wonderful confiding in people that believe in me and making sure that they're comfortable with what I'm doing and vice-versa."

Morris, a competitive dancer before she shifted to acting, felt even her limits being pushed. "I think this is the hardest choreography I've done to date," she said.

Children of the '80s will appreciate the familiar score and nods to the era's fashion.

But instead roller skates for the drive-in servers, they wear 21st-century Heelys.

Morris noted the parallels between Ren as a barrier-breaking figure and the effort to show the audience a different interpretation of a character they think they know.

"(Ren) just wants everyone to accept each other as they are," she said. "Playing around with the gender has been really fun to explore.

"We don't want people to be scared of this change. It's about, 'I just want to see you at face value and what you have to offer,'" she added. "It's so nice to have a community of open arms and go along with what you have to offer."

— by Ken Knutson



Miette Morris said playing a male role in BAMtheatre's production of "Footloose" has stretched her acting chops. "I'm always up for a challenge," she said. "I'm lucky to have people that entrust me so much with this." (Jim Slonoff photo)







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Fill those summer nights with song

Four venues offer a variety of concerts to meet just about anyone's taste in music

By Sandy Illian Bosch
news@thehinsdalean.com

If live music is what you're looking for this summer, there is no shortage of ways to scratch the itch for an evening spent enjoying a performance out in the sun or under the stars.

Along with concerts hosted by various municipalities, venues such as the Brookfield Zoo, Morton Arboretum, Cantigny and College of DuPage become concert venues in the months between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

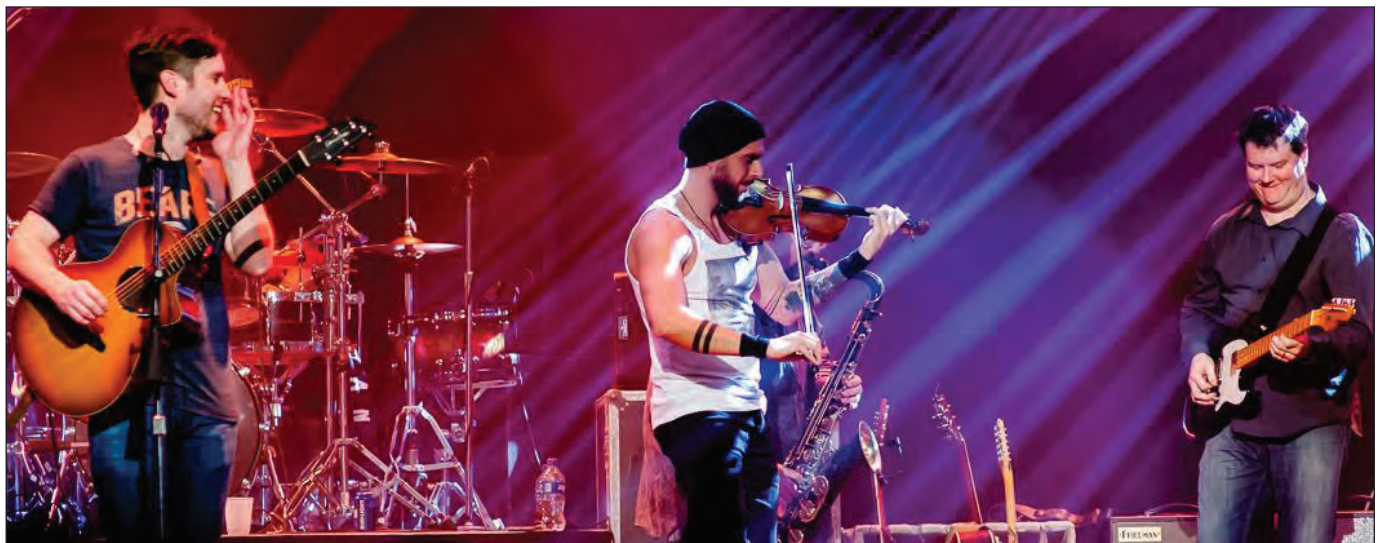
Brookfield Zoo

The zoo will open its east mall to concert-goers when it presents Concerts for Conservation on July 14, 15, 21 and 22.

Guests are invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets and settle in with friends and family to enjoy a wide selection of delicious food and beverages from vendors such as the Tacos Caja and The Coop food trucks, as well as the zoo's own restaurants. Guests are welcome to bring along their own picnics, but alcoholic beverages must be purchased inside the zoo.

Performances include Soul Asylum with special guest Verve Pipe on July 14, Macy Gray on July 15, Vertical Horizon on July 21 and the Plain White T's on July 22. Each concert ends with a 30-minute light show and dance party.

Tickets are \$40 for zoo members, \$45 for non-members and \$55 for VIP packages, which include early access and parking. The zoo is at 8400 31st St. Visit www.czs.org/ConcertsforConservation for more information.



The Trippin Billies will perform Sunday at Cantigny as part of the park's summer concert series. Cantigny is one of several venues offering outdoor music this summer. (photo provided)

Cantigny

Whoever coined the term "lazy days of summer" forgot to tell the folks at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, which is host to 19 weekend and holiday concerts, along with other special events throughout the summer.

"It's a really busy summer," said Jeff Reiter, senior manager of communications at Cantigny.

While performances and special events are scattered across the summer calendar, Reiter said the Sunday night series is a mainstay of summer.

"The Sunday lineup is really the bread and butter of our entertainment season," Reiter said.

Performances include a variety of acts, from symphonies to rock tribute bands. Guests are always welcome to bring their own picnics, or they can purchase food from on-site food trucks. Beverages also are sold at each event.

In addition to the Sunday concerts, Saturday performances are planned for July 15 and 29, and holiday concerts are scheduled for July 4 and Sept. 3 and 4.

Admission to Sunday concerts are per car and can be purchased in advance this year. Reiter said some of the Sunday performances can get crowded. Guests can guarantee they'll find parking by purchasing prior to their visit.

For details and a full list of events happening at Cantigny this summer, visit www.cantigny.org/events.

College of DuPage

The Lakeside Pavilion at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn will host a pair of concerts this summer, both of which have ties to the college's WARHOL exhibit at the McAninch Fine Arts Center.

The Pride Anthems Concert, set for 6 p.m. Saturday, June 24, features a lineup of accomplished performers in songs that have served as anthems for the LGBTQ+ community over the past 50 years. Included are familiar hits from Donna Summer, Lady Gaga, Queen, George Michael and many more.

At 6 p.m. Sunday, July 30, COD's New Philharmonic will present a collection of clas-

sical music, pop songs, movie scores and the Chicago-area premier of "Passacaglia in Primary Colors" from "Fifteen: Symphonic Fantasy on the Art of Andy Warhol."

Guests should bring a chair or blanket, with seating available one hour before the concert. Outside alcohol, coolers, kegs and umbrellas are not allowed.

Visit www.atthemac.org for more information.

Morton Arboretum

Wednesday is music night at the Morton Arboretum. Arbor Evenings is a 13-week series of outdoor concerts designed for friends and families of all ages to enjoy.

Each concert begins at 6 p.m., but entry starts at 5:15 p.m. to give guests a chance to scout out their spot on the lawn of Frost Hill. With their blankets and chairs arranged for the evening, guests are then welcome to wander the gardens and admire the arboretum's sculptures until showtime.

Jenelle Metcalf, Morton Arboretum's special events manager, said that

in lieu of a man-made band shell, the arboretum makes use of its natural landscape to create its own natural amphitheater, with Meadow Lake as its background.

"It really is a gorgeous backdrop," she said.

The next concert is June 28, and the series continues with a different band each week through Aug. 23. On the lineup are crowd favorites such as Semple Band and Arra, along with new acts like Classical Blast and Kaleidoscope Eyes.

"They're a Beatles-type cover band," Metcalf said.

Aug. 30 is reserved as a rain date.

"Most likely we will have a concert on that date," Metcalf said.

Tickets for Arbor Evenings concerts are \$13 for adults, \$5 for children, and free for children 1 and younger, with discounts for members. Outside food and sealed nonalcoholic beverages are welcome. Cocktails, wine, beer, water and other beverages, along with food truck options, will be available for purchase. For tickets and more information, visit www.mortonarb.org.

PULSE



The **Uniquely Thursdays** concert series continues tonight in Burlington Park with a performance by Serendipity. See Page 22 for details. (photo provided)

ARTFULLY DONE

■ D181 art on exhibit

Through Aug. 21
Hinsdale Bank & Trust
25 E. First St.

Twenty-seven pieces of art selected by teachers from the nine schools that were part of the D181 art show will be on display at the bank, with several pieces featured each week. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

■ Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop

Through Sept. 10
Cleve Carney Museum of Art
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

The multi-faceted, 11,000-square-foot exhibition will showcase 94 works by Warhol plus his original photographs, both black-and-white gelatin silver prints and color. Transitional spaces will feature official Warhol designed and licensed hand-

printed wallpaper and an interactive map of New York featuring key locations in Warhol's life. Other attractions include a Central Park-inspired outdoor space and a Children's Print Factory. Tickets: \$25-\$30 for timed tickets with \$2 discount for seniors/youth/military; \$40 for anytime tickets.

AUDITION CALL

■ 'The Lightning Thief'

June 26
The Community House
415. Eighth St., Hinsdale
www.stagedoorfinearts.com

Young performers are invited to audition for Stage Door Fine Arts' production of this musical adapted from Rick Riordan's best-selling book. Those entering second through fifth grades will sing a selected song from the show (available on the website above). Those entering sixth grade and up will sing a contemporary musical theater rock/pop song of choice in the style of the show, approxi-

mately 1 minute in length. An accompaniment track must be provided on a device that can plug in to an audio cable; no a capella singing will be allowed. A dance audition will be taught at the audition. Callbacks will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 27, if needed. The production will run July 27-30. Time: 1 to 4 p.m. audition slots. Tuition: \$500 plus costume fees.

CENTRAL TIME

■ Football club golf outing

July 10
Chicago Highlands Club
2 Bluebird Trail,
Westchester
www.hcfootball.com

Enjoy 18 holes of golf with a cart, drinks on the course, lunch, dinner and drinks, live music, on-course games and raffles at this fundraiser for the Hinsdale Central Football Club. Time: 11:30 a.m. lunch, 1 p.m. shotgun start, 6 to 9 p.m. dinner, drinks and live music. Cost: \$400 for golf, dinner &

Please turn to Page 18

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PULSE

Continued from Page 16

drinks, \$300 for under 18, \$125 dinner & drinks only. RR

FAMILY FUN

■ **Storytime at Burns Field**
Wednesdays through July 26

Burns Field
320 N. Vine St., Hinsdale
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Join favorite Hinsdale Public Library librarians at the park for stories, fingerplays and music. In the event of rain, storytime will move to the library. Time: 10 to 10:30 a.m.

FOR A CAUSE

■ **Climb in Hinsdale**

June 24
KLM Park
5901 S. County Line Road, Hinsdale
www.classy.org/team/493604

Climb Out of the Darkness, the world's largest event raising awareness of pregnancy and postpartum mental health disorders, will hold this local walk for survivors of postpartum depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder and psychosis to stroll together in solidarity of their collective rise out of the darkness. Proceeds raised by walk teams go to Postpartum Support International offering resources for parents around the world. Email Lauren Shelton at Climb. TeamCookDuPage@gmail.com for more information. Time: 9:30 a.m. RR

GAME ON

■ **Hinsdale Central Gymnastics open gym**

Fridays, June 23-July 28
Hinsdale Central High School
5500 S. Grant St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Youth ages 6-18 are invited by Hinsdale Central Gymnastics to use the new gymnastics room. Hours: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15 a session. RR

GREAT OUTDOORS

■ **Camping 101**

June 28
Camp Bullfrog Lake
9600 Wolf Road, Willow

Springs
www.dupageforest.org
(708) 771-1573

All ages are welcome at this free workshop covering basic camping skills. Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.

■ **Fireworks of the Prairie**

July 1
Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
12545 W. 111th St., Lemont
www.fpdcc.com
(630) 257-2045

Walk through the prairie to see the explosion of color this season. The program is for ages 12 & up. Time: 10 a.m. RR

■ **Wildflower Walk**

July 5 or 8
Fullersburg Woods
3609 Spring Road, Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 933-7248

Meet a plant expert for a leisurely walk to enjoy the first blooms of summer while learning about native wildflowers, how to identify them and which varieties to grow at home. The program is for ages 18 and up. Time: 10 to 11 a.m. Cost: \$5. RR

■ **Backyard Reptile Walk**

July 8
Fullersburg Woods
3609 Spring Road, Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 942-6200

Discover the local amphibians and reptiles that live in DuPage and the behaviors and adaptations that make them so unique. This program is for ages 8 and up. Those under 18 must be with an adult. Time: 9 to 10:30 a.m. Cost: \$5. RR

■ **'The Mama and the Papa Goose: A Rock 'n' Roll Fairytale'**
Saturdays & Sundays, July 8-Aug. 27

Morton Arboretum
4100 Route 53, Lisle
www.mortonarb.org

Morton Arboretum's Walking Plays are back, kicking off with this "mockumentary" following the life and times of the most famous rock band in Fableland music history, The Mama and the Papa Goose. The whole family will enjoy the 90-minute groovy, sing-a-long escapade, which will proceed through several natural backdrop locations along a one- to two-mile hiking route. Water, portable chairs or blankets, and bug

spray are advised. Certain performances are designed for low-impact, and others have an American Sign Language interpreter available; visit the website for details. Time: 6 p.m. Cost: \$25, \$15 for children. RR, MD

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ **Hot Topics in Breast Cancer**

June 23 to July 18
Wellness House
131 N. County Line Road, Hinsdale
www.wellnesshouse.org
(630) 323-5150

This annual event begins with the online Updates in Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer program from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 23, followed by the online Updates in Breast Cancer Treatment and Research Panel from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 24. The in-person Women's Workshop with PT Solutions: Lymphedema, Pelvic Floor and Exercise will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 27, and will include information on lymphedema, risk reduction and management, pelvic floor disorders and exercise. The Pink Ribbon Yoga and Picnic from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 28, is for those with breast cancer and will feature a special yoga session honoring and celebrating breast cancer survivors; no yoga experience is required. Visit the website above for additional programs.

■ **Yoga in the Woods**

June 25
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs
www.dupageforest.org
(708) 839-6897

Enjoy an all-levels yoga class with certified instructor Maura, then enjoy a self-guided walk. Ages 18 and up are welcome. Time: 10 to 11 a.m.

JUST FOR KIDS

■ **Washer Accessories**

June 28
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Kids in fifth through eighth grade are invited to create a washer necklace, bracelet, or keychain. Time: 2 to 3 p.m.

Please turn to Page 20



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June 5 - OCTOBER 9, 2023

7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Burlington Park 30 E Chicago Avenue

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**COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY**

Continued from Page 18

LISTEN & LEARN

■ Unforgettable Train Trips

June 29
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Learn about the experience and sights of opulent train excursions, through forests, along lakes and rivers and through the mountains, and featuring luxurious accommodations and first class dining. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

NOTEWORTHY

■ DuPage Symphony Orchestra

June 24
Cantigny Park
1s151 Winfield Road,
Wheaton
www.cantigny.org

The DSO presents the program Top o' the Charts, celebrating popular chart-topping music from the 1940s, 50s, 60s, and beyond, including the Beach Boys, Beatles, Mamas & The Papas, Simon & Garfunkel, and even a little Motown. Seating is on the lawn outside the First Division Museum; guests are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets and picnics. Concessions will be available for purchase. Time: 7 p.m. Admission: \$15 parking.

ON STAGE

■ 'Footloose'

June 22-25
Nazareth Academy
1209 W. Ogden Ave.,
LaGrange Park
www.BAMtheatre.com

BAMtheatre presents its production of this musical, set in the small town of Bomont, where dancing and rock music are strictly outlawed. New arrival Ren McCormack from Chicago meets Ariel, the preacher's daughter longing for escape. Together, they fearlessly challenge the community's suffocating status quo and inspire a rebellion among their peers. Times: 7 p.m. June 22-24, 2 p.m. June 25. Tickets: \$24-\$28.

■ 'The 39 Steps'

Through Aug. 13
Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook
Terrace

www.drurylanetheatre.com

Mix a Hitchcock masterpiece with a dash of farce and you have "The 39 Steps," a fast-paced whodunit for anyone who loves the magic of theater. Packed with nonstop laughs and over 150 characters played by four actors, this production is an unforgettable evening of riotous performances and inventive stagecraft that is sure to delight. Times: 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1:30 and 7 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, 2 and 6 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: start at \$85.

SIGN UP NOW

■ Lunch & Trivia

June 28
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Enjoy pizza and '50s trivia at the this monthly trivia and lunch event. Scott Johnson from Humana will lead this program, which will feature prizes for winners. Time: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$6. RR, MD

■ Peabody's Pages Book Club

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

Discuss great reads with fellow book fans, namely "The Day the World Ended" by Gordon Thomas in July; "The Mystery at Mount Forest Island" by Pat Camalliere in August; and "Oddball Illinois" by Jerome Pohlen in September. Ages 18 and up are welcome. Time: 10 to 11:15 a.m. Cost: \$10 for all three discussions. RR

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Fullersburg Days

June 24-25
Fullersburg Woods
3609 Spring Road, Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 850-8110

The DuPage County Forest Preserve District invites residents to learn about the rich past of this forest preserve at the Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center and Graue Mill and Museum.

Visitors at this open-house event can try their hand at fishing with cane poles and making dolls out of corn husks, join guided nature and plant hikes, go on a self-guided history walk and tour the historic Graue Mill, which will feature demonstrations of traditional corn-grinding techniques. S'mores kits will be available for purchase for \$5 at the mill, where there will be fire pits and roasting forks. Visitors also will learn about the Civilian Conservation Corps and its role in the preserve's development with a historic photo display and about mammoths during a talk. Hours: 3 to 7 p.m.

■ Summer on Tap

June 24
Morton Arboretum
4100 Route 53, Lisle
www.mortonarb.org

Sip beers, ciders and meads from popular local Illinois breweries at this festival along with a variety of seltzers and ready-to-drink cocktails. Tasting booths will be spread around the arboretum's Meadow Lake and along nearby wooded trails. Tickets are available at 15-minute intervals between noon and 1:30 p.m. and include 20 3-ounce samples. The grounds will be open until sunset for those who would like to stay. Non-drinking and underage guests can join ticket holders by reserving a timed-entry pass before arrival. Non-drinking guests can sample a selection of complimentary nonalcoholic brews provided by Naperville's Go Brewing. Hours: 11 a.m. VIP entry, noon to 3 p.m. Cost: \$60-\$70. RR, MD

■ Anniversary celebration

June 29
Hinsdale Ortho
105 E. First St.

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, Hinsdale Ortho is hosting a free community appreciation event in its parking lot, featuring concessions, games and a dunk tank. Time: 3 to 7 p.m.

■ Hinsdale in Lights

Wednesdays ongoing
Immanuel Hall
302 S. Grant St., Hinsdale
Hinsdale in Lights — Celebrating 150 Years will be open every Wednesday this

Please turn to Page 22

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Continued from Page 20

summer. The exhibit tells the story of Hinsdale and its residents via an animated and immersive light show featuring outstanding Hinsdaleans, organizations, architecture and events. Distinctive historic objects from the Hinsdale Historical Society collections will also be showcased, shining light on how the village became what it is today. For a private showing for a group or family, please contact the Hinsdale Historical Society at societymanager@hinsdale-history.org or (630) 789-2600. Time: 1 to 3 p.m. Cost: Free, \$20 donation suggested.

STEPPING BACK

History and Rituals of Afternoon Tea

June 26
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Historian and Hinsdale native Leslie Goddard to the year of Hinsdale's founding, when the luxurious custom of afternoon tea was at its peak. Learn correct tea etiquette, what a proper menu included, and why the custom's appeal endures today. Hinsdale residents only. Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m. RR

Picnicking for the Glorious Fourth

July 1
Kline Creek Farm
1N600 County Farm Road,
West Chicago
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 876-5900

Party like the Victorians by bringing a picnic to enjoy among the natural beauty of Kline Creek Farm at this free Fourth of July celebration. Explore a historical picnicking display, help make a special dairy treat using ice from the ice house, learn about period music, play historical games and watch model hot-air balloon launches. All ages are welcome. Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m..

SUMMER SERIES

Uniquely Thursdays

Through Aug. 17
Burlington Park
30 E. Chicago Ave.
www.hinsdalechamber.com
Hinsdale's annual summer outdoor concert series

continues tonight with a performance by the band Serendipity. Guests are invited to bring blankets and chairs and enjoy beer, wine and food available for purchase. Outside alcoholic beverages are not permitted. The series is sponsored by the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce and UChicago Medicine Advent Health Hinsdale. Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

Cantigny Summer Concert Series

Ongoing
Cantigny Park
1S151 Winfield Road,
Wheaton www.cantigny.org

The series continues June 25, with a performance by Dave Matthews tribute band Trippin Billies. The concerts are outdoors and feature lawn seating. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets, and picnics are welcome. Concessions are available; pets and alcohol are prohibited. Time: 3 to 5 p.m. Admission: \$30 parking; \$400 for a season pass. Time: 3 to 5 p.m.

Farmers Market

Mondays through Oct. 9
Chicago Avenue Burlington Park
www.hinsdalechamber.com/farmers-market
The 47th annual Hinsdale

Farmer's Market will feature farmers from around the Midwest lining Chicago Avenue between Garfield & Washington streets, with booths of fresh produce and unique finds from farms and stores. Hours: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TEENS & TWEENS

Practice ACT Exam

Please turn to Page 24



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Thursday Evenings

June 15 – August 17, 2023

Burlington Park

SUMMER SCHEDULE

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Pet pic of the week

Snookems is an adorable 2-year-old girl that loves attention and snuggles and would do best as the only cat in the home. She has been spayed and is up to date on her vaccinations. She is part of the Match Me Up program, and her adoption fee has been donated. If you're interested in adopting an animal, visit www.hinsdalehumane.org to fill out an application today and schedule an appointment during adoption hours. 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. Call (630) 323-5630 for more information. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 22

June 24
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

High school students can take a practice ACT proctored by The Village Tutors. Test takers will receive a personalized analysis of their results within two weeks of the test. Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Basic Car Maintenance

June 28
Fuller's Service Center
102 W. Chicago Ave.,
Hinsdale
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

High schoolers can learn the basics of car maintenance from the experts to avoid breakdowns and expensive repairs in this program offered through the Hinsdale Public Library. Learn how to check oil and tire pressure, refill washer fluid, change wiper blades, add air to tires, and what all those dashboard alerts really mean. Time: 4 to 5 p.m. RR

Teen Exploration Day: Biodiversity Meetup

June 30
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road,
Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897

Youth ages 13 and up are invited to this Teen Exploration Day program to learn about local species, ecosystems and conservation issues through field investigations, animal encounters, conversations and more. Time: 5 to 7 p.m. RR

Painted Seashells

July 6
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Middle schoolers can make a craft that is as relaxing as a day at the beach. Time: 2 to 3 p.m. RR

Key
RR - registration required
MD - member discounts



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IN FOCUS



True colors

The streets were alive with splashes of color last month as the 17th annual Walk the Walk for Mental Health wound through the village. The Community House event supports equitable mental health services in the community with counseling services and programming. The highest individual fundraiser was Deborah Kraus, the top team was the Hinsdale Central Red Devils Boys Track team and top school was The Lane. (Jim Slonoff photos)



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B	O	O		A	D	A		A	R	E	N	A
O	D	S		H	I	G	H	C	L	A	S	S
D	O	N		A	T	I	M	E				
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				A	D	D		S	E	R	G	E
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S	T	O	O	P		P	O	E		B	Y	E


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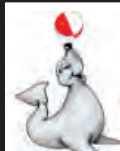
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 Located at 314 North Warwick Ave., Apt. 2B, Westmont, IL. 60559 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Jack T. McGowan-Retterer, 314 North Warwick Ave., Apt. 2B, Westmont, IL. 60559.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 13th day of June, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
 DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean June 22, 29 & July 6, 2023

CERTIFICATE NO. 79106 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on May 31, 2023 wherein the business firm of

ROSIE MUSIC
 Located at 436 Wesley Lane, Westmont, IL. 60559 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: Craig Roselieb, 436 Wesley Lane, Westmont, IL. 60559.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 31st day of May, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
 DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean June 8, 15 & 22, 2023

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79107 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on June 2, 2023 wherein the business firm of

ALLIED INVESTMENTS
 Located at 1027 Grove Lane, Lombard, IL. 60148-2309 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: Firasat Syed, 1027 Grove Lane, Lombard, IL. 60148-2309.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 2nd day of June, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
 DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean June 15, 22 & 29, 2023

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF DUPAGE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Case No: 23MR201

FOR CHANGE OF NAME (ADULT)

Public Notice is hereby given that on 6-26-23 at 9:00 A.M. in Courtroom No. 2005 at DuPage County Judicial Center, 505 North County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois, I will have my petition heard in the said Court for the change of my name from: Paul Joseph Campbell to that of Rebekah Lapis Campbell, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: March 29, 2023 at Wheaton, Illinois /s/Paul Joseph Campbell, Petitioner.

Published in The Hinsdalean June 8, 15 & 22, 2023.

Life is divided into three terms - that which was, which is, and which will be. Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present, to live better in the future.
 William Wordsworth

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF DUPAGE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Case No: 23MR349

FOR CHANGE OF NAME (ADULT)

Public Notice is hereby given that on 8-2-23 at 9:00 A.M. in Courtroom No. 2007 at DuPage County Judicial Center, 505 North County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois, I will have my petition heard in the said Court for the change of my name from: William Andrew Ming-Wei Ficht to that of Maggie Andrew Ming-Wei Ficht, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: June 8, 2023 at Wheaton, Illinois /s/ William Andrew Ming-Wei Ficht, Petitioner.

Published in The Hinsdalean June 15, 22 & 29, 2023.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79108 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on June 2, 2023 wherein the business firm of

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 Located at 1027 Grove Lane, Lombard, IL. 60148-2309 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: Firasat Syed, 1027 Grove Lane, Lombard, IL. 60148-2309.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 2nd day of June, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
 DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean June 15, 22 & 29, 2023

Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse and cool the earth, the air and you.
 Langston Hughes

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79119 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on June 12, 2023 wherein the business firm of

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Located at 358 Sandra Ct., Glendale Heights, IL. 60139 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: Barbara McCarty, 358 Sandra Ct., Glendale Heights, IL. 60139.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 12th day of June, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
 DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean June 15, 22 & 29, 2023


CERTIFICATE NO. 79127 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on June 20, 2023 wherein the business firm of

BELFORD MUSIC

Located at 7373 Blackburn Avenue, Apt. 201, Downers Grove IL. 60516 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Belford Hernandez, 7373 Blackburn Avenue, Apt. 201, Downers Grove, IL. 60516.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 20th day of June, A.D. 2023.
 Jean Kaczmarek
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Published in The Hinsdalean June 22, 29 & July 6, 2023

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Hello, SUMMERTIME!

MIND GAMES

- ACROSS**
- 1 FIREPLACE RESIDUE
 - 4 HEIGHT OF FASHION?
 - 7 "SERPICO" DIRECTOR
 - 12 SCARY CRY
 - 13 OKLAHOMA CITY
 - 14 SPORTS VENUE
 - 15 TAKES TOO MUCH, BRIEFLY
 - 16 FIRST-RATE
 - 18 MAFIA BOSS
 - 19 "ONCE UPON --"
 - 20 SEND FORTH
 - 22 AUTHOR UMBERTO
 - 23 HARDLY HIRSUTE
 - 27 DO SUMS
 - 29 COMPOSER PROKOFIEV
 - 31 NEW ZEALAND NATIVE
 - 34 DAYDREAMER WALTER
 - 35 HANSEL'S SISTER
 - 37 CENTER
 - 38 ROUND TABLE TITLES
 - 39 JARGON SUFFIX
 - 41 WINDS UP
 - 45 MICHELANGELO
 - 47 MASTERPIECE
 - 48 HAVE THE FLU
 - 52 FIRST-RATE
 - 52 BIKINI TOP
 - 53 WORTH
 - 54 SAMOVAR
 - 55 SLUGGER MEL
 - 56 BROWNSTONE FEATURE
 - 57 "THE BELLS" AUTHOR
 - 58 "SEE YA!"

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14				
15				16			17					
18				19								
20			21		22				23	24	25	26
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				45					46		47	
48	49	50	51							52		
53							54				55	
56						57					58	

- DOWN**
- 1 HOME
 - 2 SIN CITY
 - 3 EGYPT'S MUBARAK
 - 4 "FUNNY!"
 - 5 REDACTED
 - 6 WIZARDRY
 - 7 CHANTILLY, E.G.
 - 8 WEB ADDRESS
 - 9 "GIVE -- BREAK!"
 - 10 EM HALVES
 - 11 PROF'S HELPERS
 - 17 MED. PLAN OPTIONS
 - 21 SMALL FRUIT PIES
 - 23 ILLEGAL PAYMENT
 - 24 LITERARY REP
 - 25 ALLOW
 - 26 HOBBYIST'S ABBR.
 - 28 CONK OUT
 - 30 OUTBACK BIRD
 - 31 BRIT. SPORTS CARS
 - 32 ONASSIS NICKNAME
 - 33 NOT 'NEATH
 - 36 "STAR WARS" ROYAL
 - 37 STRAIGHT, FOR SHORT
 - 40 CLINCH
 - 42 MOGUL
 - 43 BEGRIMED
 - 44 ROOFING MATERIAL
 - 45 GET READY, BRIEFLY
 - 46 "RULE, BRITANNIA!"
 - 48 COMPOSER
 - 48 DEN SETS
 - 49 FEEDBAG BIT
 - 50 MIDEAST ORG.
 - 51 PAIR WITH AN AIR

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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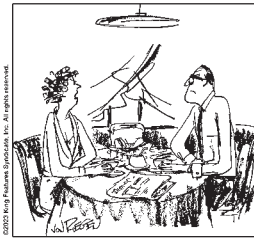
SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Fiber 2. Banish;
3. Ousted; 4. Pulse

Today's Word

BEAUTIFUL



"I'll be _____ when you get home—it takes time."

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!

- String
- Evict
- Freed
- Beat

TODAY'S WORD

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

HOROSCOPES

June 2023 Horoscopes • Week 4



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
A new understanding with others comes from improved communication and more flexibility, Capricorn. Optimism and understanding will spill into all areas of your life.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you will likely be giving much thought to your future and strategies that may increase your financial security. Reach out to your network for advice.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, a social gathering presents you with an opportunity to meet new friends who may become valued business contacts. Treat every introduction with care.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, you want to make a new start but may just need a little push to get you moving. Thankfully, your mind is clear from distractions that normally might derail your plans.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Your mind is on family and those close to you right now, Aquarius. Any decisions you make in the weeks ahead will be focused on the priority people in your life.



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, if communication has been difficult in the past, you will find that things change for the better in the days to come. You will gain a deeper understanding of others.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, you may be wondering what the next few months will hold for you. It is impossible to know all the details, but there are strong indications that there is a big change coming.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, soul searching is to be expected due to the positioning of the planets this week. Once you figure out your true goals you may be surprised at what you discover.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Information about investments and career potential may come to you soon. Take everything with a grain of salt until you can investigate.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Gemini, useful information reaches you this week, which helps you make important decisions about your finances. Use this opportunity to make changes.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Career goals may come together even further this week, Virgo. This enables you to move into a position that will not compromise your needs or ideals.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Take time out from some of the exciting things that have been happening to you, Sagittarius. Figure out if you're satisfied in your career. You may decide to make changes.

SPORTS

IHSA ends boys gymnastics state series

Too few schools participating, Hinsdale Central intends to maintain as club sport

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Hinsdale Central's boys gymnastics program was the envy of the state 50 years ago, winning four straight Illinois High School Association titles from 1970-73. The team's championship in 1995 made nine total, still more than any other school.

It's a record that may now never be broken as the IHSA has decided to discontinue the boys gymnastics state series due to low participation.

In a June 12 press release announcing the end of both the boys gymnastics and debate state series, IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson acknowledged the decision was difficult but in accordance with IHSA policy requiring at least 7 percent of member schools to have a team.

"After years of decline in participation, boys gymnastics and debate no longer meet the threshold required by IHSA policy to conduct a state series," Anderson said.

Girls gymnastics is not affected.

Mark Wanner, former longtime Hinsdale Central head coach and 2006 Illinois High School Gymnastics Coaches Association State Coach of the Year honoree, was aware the number of schools competing had dropped but was surprised at the abrupt nature of the

move.

"I didn't think they were going to end the state series now. I thought they were going to give us some time to try and right the ship," said Wanner, who was instrumental in preparing the new Krupicka Gymnastics Gym that opened at Central earlier this year. "It's unfortunate for us at Hinsdale Central because we got a new gym. We did so much work on getting this gym going."

Former Central gymnast Matthew Cihlar, now a sophomore at Rice University, remembered how going to state was the potential payoff for the rigorous hours of training and feels bad for the current Red Devils squad.

"The state meet was something the whole team could rally behind the entire season," he said. "I remember how hard our team worked to get there during my tenure, and I'm certain today's team is looking to repeat that experience."

In his statement, Anderson said the IHSA, a private nonprofit organization, showed patience before making the determination.

"Boys gymnastics and debate both dipped below 7 percent several years ago, and to our board of directors' credit, they provided a grace period in hopes that both might experience a rejuvenation after the pandemic, but unfortunately,

that has not occurred at a level that allows either to meet the policy," he related. "There is undoubtedly a level of disappointment that we feel for the impacted students and coaches. Yet, we also recognize that we must adapt in order to provide opportunities for as many students as possible."

Current Central head coach CJ Johnson suggested that many schools around the state either don't have the enrollment or the wherewithal to support a boys gymnastics team and all the equipment and gym space necessary. Even recruiting for Central's team has become increasingly challenging.

"The times are different and kids are different in terms in what activities they want to do," Johnson said. "We just don't get the numbers that we need to grow. We've got to sell ourselves harder."

The hope going forward, Johnson and Wanner said, is to maintain boys gymnastics as a club team and for the IHSGCA to coordinate an alternative state series, similar to the way high school ice hockey operates. It's unclear how many other schools would sign on to that plan.

"There's a lot of athletic directors that will drop it," Wanner said. "I don't foresee schools keeping three coaches, and a lot of coaches are going to lose some revenue because



The Hinsdale Central boys gymnastics team is now a club sport after the IHSA dropped it this month. (file photo)

there's going to be (stipend reductions)."

Johnson said Central leadership has told him that the program will be supported at current levels for at least another year.

"We have the opportunity to give our kids an experience for one more year," he said. "I hope (the IHSGCA) can come up with a solution to see if we can work on keeping this going. We hope to survive."

To help stoke interest in the sport locally, Johnson and his wife, Jeanne, a former gymnastics coach, are hosting open gyms for ages 6-18 Friday nights through July at the Krupicka gym (see sidebar). Johnson said

gymnasts tend to be shorter athletes that don't see themselves in other sports, and he wants to expose them to this option.

Wanner said the passion gymnasts feel for the sport motivate them to find a path to keep competing.

"Now it's just trying to reevaluate and just try to come up with a new idea going forward," he said.

Cihlar said losing IHSA status is a big blow but hopes high school gymnasts are given a new goal to soar for.

"Now that that's gone, there will definitely be a hole towards the end of the year that should be filled by something," he said.

If you go

What: Hinsdale Central Gymnastics open gym (in partnership with The Community House)

Who: Boys and girls ages 6-18, beginning or intermediate level, and high school training group level

Where: Krupicka Gymnastic Gym at Hinsdale Central High School, 5500 S. Grant St.

When: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday nights, June 23 to July 28

Registration: \$15 per person per night in advance

Details: visit www.thecommunityhouse.org

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