# The Hinsdalean

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\*\*Community journalism the way it was meant to be\*\*







Hinsdale gardener's handiwork helps make season bright.

Page 9



Pair coordinates donation to support remote learning.

Page 14



**Go fly a kite** — or two. Brian Paul found the perfect spot in Robbins Park on Saturday afternoon to fly his two super-sized kites. He flew his Trilobite16 (54 square feet with 42-foot long tails) and an octopus kite (26 feet long) while sitting back in a lawn chair. He was forced to leave his relaxing post when it came time to reel the kites in. Paul first discovered this hobby while attending a recent kite flying festival in Naperville. (Jim Slonoff photos)



Holidays look different, but there's still plenty to celebrate.

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### DECEMBER DELI MENU

### DINNERS

### MONDAY

BEEF SHORT RIB BOURGUIGNONNE WITH BACON, MUSHROOMS, PEARL ONIONS AND MASHED POTATOES gluten free

GRILLED LEMON BUTTER & HONEY SALMON WITH MASHED SWEET POTATOES gluten free

### TUESDAY

CHICKEN PICCATA ON ANGEL HAIR PASTA

POT ROAST WITH SKILLET POTATOES AND BRAISED VEGETABLES gluten free

### WEDNESDAY

STUFFED ACORN SQUASH WITH GROUND BEEF POMODORO gluten free

ROSEMARY AND GARLIC ROASTED PORK SHOULDER WITH HERBED SPAETZLE

### **THURSDAY**

KRAMER'S HOMEMADE MEAT LASAGNA

CHICKEN ROMANO ON LINGUINE WITH LIMONE SAUCE

### FRIDAY

SALISBURY STEAK WITH MASHED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS, AND MUSHROOM GRAYY gluten free

GRILLED SALMON WITH CHERRY TOMATO BALSAMIC REDUCTION AND ROASTED ASPARAGUS gluten free

### SOUPS

### MONDAY

CORN CHOWDER WITH BACON gluten free

**CHICKEN TORTELLINI** 

### TUESDAY

CHICKEN, VEGETABLE AND WILD RICE gluten free

SPLIT PEA

### WEDNESDAY

ITALIAN MEATBALL

CURRIED PUMPKIN gluten free

### THURSDAY

WILD RICE AND BACON gluten free

HUNGARIAN GOULASH

### FRIDAY

BEEF CABBAGE gluten free

CHICKEN ALPINE gluten free

### **SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

CHICKEN NOODLE

BUTTERNUT SQUASH gluten free

### SUNDAY

FARMER'S MARKET TURKEY CHILI gluten free

### **HOT SANDWICHES**

MONDAY THE CUBAN - PULLED PORK, HAM, SWISS, MUSTARD AND PICKLES ON A FRENCH ROLL

TUESDAY SOUTHWESTERN ROAST BEEF WITH PEPPER JACK AND GREEN CHILIES ON WHITE

WEDNESDAY CLASSIC ITALIAN BAKED SUB WITH MOZZARELLA, ROASTED PEPPER MAYO AND VINAIGRETTE

THURSDAY RUEBEN - CORNED BEEF, SWISS AND SAUERKRAUT ON MARBLE RYE

FRIDAY PHILLY CHEESE STEAK - SAUTEED ONIONS AND PEPPERS WITH MOZZARELLA

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### **NEWS**

# Levies on local taxing bodies' agendas

### By Ken Knutson and Pamela Lannom

The Community Consolidated District 181 Board is poised to pass a \$67.1 million property tax levy on Monday, Dec. 7.

The proposed levy, which totals \$75.1 million when the debt service fund is included, was approved by the board Nov. 9. Richard Engstrom, assistant superintendent of business and operations, presented a so-called "balloon" levy request that would ensure the district captures all available revenue under the tax cap.

Board President Margie Kleber favored the balloon levy approach, noting that the board has the ability to abate tax revenue early next year when the district's financial picture will be clearer.

"We certainly don't want to take more than we need, but we want make sure that we're not hurting ourselves by taking less before we really know how much money we're going to get," Kleber said.

Board member Meeta Patel agreed, saying envisioned or potential investments in a permanent administration center, full-day kindergarten and world languages warrant the district not cutting itself off from available resources.

The levy represents a 4 percent increase over last year's extension, including the 2.3 percent consumer price index and \$22.2 million in estimated new construction.

Board member Bill Kotter cautioned the district against asking for the maximum without having a clear plan for the funds.

### **District 86**

On Nov. 19, the Hinsdale High School board approved an estimated 2020 levy for capped funds of \$87.8 million. Josh Stephenson, the district's chief financial officer, had told board members at their Oct. 29 meeting that the levy request, roughly 3 percent higher than the 2019 tax extension of \$85.3 million, would give the district latitude as it addresses uncertainty surrounding impending new labor contracts.

"As of right now, I wouldn't say there's anything significantly concerning in this report," Stephenson said as he laid out the financial forecast that informs that levy process. "But I would also caution that we have a lot of questions still out there. We have three negotiations that are in process that need to be resolved."

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2020 are just shy of

The levy represents a 4 percent \$100, a 3.35 percent increase over last year's extension, last year.

Board President Kevin Camden said he is wary of the state saddling school districts with unfunded mandates spawned by costs associated with the pandemic.

"I think there's going to be a budget impact as a result of that," Camden said. "We're trying to plan for that in some very conservative estimates."

Stephenson suggested close monitoring of the economic landscape.

"Probably it would be prudent to revisit this financial forecast early next calendar year to see how things have shifted and if we have a little more clarity on how financials may be trending," he said.

The board plans to adopt the final levy at its Thursday, Dec. 17, meeting.

### **Village of Hinsdale**

The Hinsdale Village Board is expected to approve a total levy of almost \$10.9 million at its Tuesday, Dec. 8, meeting.

The levy for capped funds is \$7.3 million, a 3.3 percent increase over the 2019 tax extension. The amount is the most the village expects to receive under the tax cap, which allows for a 2.3 increase plus an amount for new growth, estimated at \$19 million.

"We normally need as much money under the tax cap (as we can get) and that's typically what we levy for," finance director Darrell Langlois said. "With COVID, we don't have extra money laying around. We want to maintain reserves."

Village officials also are conscious of unfinished projects in the 15-year master infrastructure plan.

"We want to maximize our current revenue sources, because anything extra goes to infrastructure projects," he said.

Because the Hinsdale Public Library is not its own taxing district, its \$3.3 million levy is part of the village's total levy. The library's request is also up 3.3 percent.

"Though we expect lower on-site programming costs for the beginning of next year, we anticipate a growing demand for our digital titles, which can cost as much as three times as a print copy of the same title," Executive Director Karen Keefe said.

Funds also are being used to renovate the library, she said.

"We continue to move ahead on capital projects and have taken advantage of being closed to the public or having low occupancy to tackle disruptive projects like a skylight replacement and replacing the ramp in our community meeting room."

### Dancin' in the streets



Not auite. but Marcus of Hinsdale sponsored DJ Matt Roan in front of their store last month. Each Saturday this month the store will host a DJ spinning some holiday tunes inside. Also there will be champagne for any shoppers who visit. Also throughout the holiday shopping season the village of Hinsdale has a Secret Santa surprising in-store shoppers with \$25 gift cards good at Hinsdale establishments. (Jim Slonoff photo)

### **ONCE UPON A TIME**



Built for the road ahead — In 1917, Henry Buchholz and his brother opened Hinsdale's first car dealership on the corner of Garfield and Hinsdale avenues. According to Sandy Williams' book, "Images of America — Hinsdale," Henry Ford dropped in for a visit to the dealership when he was in the area visiting International Harvester's Alexander Legge, who lived in town. 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.

### **Happy Birthday!** Klara Bernqvist turns 16 Dec. 9

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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.

**Delivery**The Hinsdalean is available by

mail to those living outside of Hinsdale for \$79 for six months

or \$149 for one year. Email

### 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

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 puchase.

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### Understanding state's property tax cycle

### School districts and village setting 2020 levies that will determine 2021 tax bills

The property tax is largest single tax in Illinois and is the major source of revenue for Community Consolidated District 181 and Hinsdale High School District 86. It also is a significant source of funding for the village of Hinsdale, along with the Hinsdale Public Library, although the village has several other sources of revenue to support operations.

Taxing bodies are required each year to file a levy, or request for property tax revenue. Setting the levy actually is the fourth of six steps in the property tax cycle, which spans two years (see sidebar).

As the cycle begins, property is assigned a value that reflects its value as of Jan. 1 of that year. During the second year, tax bills are calculated and mailed and payments are distributed to local taxing districts.

Much of the information on this page is taken from The Illinois Property Tax System: A General Guide to the Local Property Tax Cycle, published by the Illinois Department of Revenue. An accompanying glossary provides definitions for several terms associated with the levy process.

### **Glossary**

abatement: a local taxing district may instruct the county clerk to abate, or not collect, any portion of its taxes

assessed value: the value placed on a property by the county assessor for tax purposes (theoretically 1/3 of market value in DuPage)

capped funds: generally speaking, a taxing district's operating funds (see tax cap entry for more)

consumer price index: the CPI used for tax cap purposes is the national CPI for all urban consumers for all items as published by the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPI that will be used in 2020 is 2.3 percent. The CPI since 2005 has ranged from a high of 4.1 percent to a low of .1 percent.

equalized assessed value (EAV): the assessed value multiplied by any state or county equalization factor. The result is the value from which the tax rate is calculated after deducting homestead exemptions, if applicable. Tax bills are calculated by multiplying an individual home's EAV by the tax rate.

extension: the actual dollar amount billed to property owners in a taxing district, which equals the taxing body's net equalized valuation multiplied by its tax rate as calculated by the county

levy: a taxing body's annual request for a specific amount of property tax revenue to support operations and debt payments

net equalized assessed value: the equalized assessed valuation of any property minus any legal exemptions, such as the Homestead

**new growth:** new construction or annexed property in a taxing district. The tax cap law provides an allowance for new growth in addition to the CPI increase.

property tax: the single largest tax in Illinois. It is sometimes called an "ad valorem" tax, which means "according to value."

tax base: the total net equalized assessed valuation of the taxing district

tax cap: officially known as the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, it is designed to limit increases in the property tax extensions for operating funds to 5 percent or the change in the previous year's consumer price index, whichever is lower, plus an amount for new growth. The cap does not apply to bond repayment.

tax rate: the county clerk calculates each taxing body's rate by dividing its levy by its total net equalized assessed valuation. That rate is then multiplied by a home's EAV to determine the tax bill for that property.



### Village of Hinsdale

2020 proposed levy all funds: \$7.61 million 2020 proposed levy capped funds: \$7.31 million 2019 tax extension capped funds: \$7.07 million Percent increase: 3.3

New growth assumed for 2020: \$19 million 2019 total EAV: \$1.9 billion

2019 tax rate capped fund: .3568 DuPage, .435 Cook 2019 tax rate all funds: .3724 DuPage, .454 Cook



### District 181

2020 proposed levy all funds: \$75.1 million 2020 proposed levy capped funds: \$67.1 million 2019 tax extension capped funds: \$64.4 million Percent increase: 4 New growth assumed for 2020: \$27 million 2019 total EAV: \$2.76 billion 2019 tax rate capped fund: 2.28 2019 tax rate all funds: 2.58



### **Hinsdale Public Library**

2020 proposed tax levy all funds: \$3.27 million 2020 proposed tax levy capped funds: same \*\* 2019 tax extension capped funds: \$3.17 million Percent increase: 3.3 New growth assumed for 2020: \$19 million 2019 total EAV: \$1.9 billion 2019 tax rate capped fund: .1597 DuPage, .195 Cook 2019 tax rate all funds: same



### **District 86**

2020 proposed tax levy (all funds): \$100 million 2020 proposed tax levy (capped funds): \$87.8 million 2019 tax extension (capped funds): \$85.3 million Percent increase: 3

New growth assumed for 2020: \$40 million 2019 total EAV: \$5.95 billion 2019 tax rate capped fund: 1.43 2019 tax rate all funds: 1.63

\* capped funds \*\* all library funds are capped

### Steps are part of taxing cycle in Illinois

### 1 Assessment

All property is appraised so values for property tax purposes can be determined. The chief county assessment officer (county assessor in Cook, township assessor in DuPage) ensures assessment levels are uniform and at the legal assessment level by applying a uniform percentage increase or decrease to all assessments in the jurisdiction, otherwise known as 'equalizing" assessments.

By law, most property is assessed at 33 1/3 percent of market value. Cook County is the exception; it has 13 classes of

property that are assessed at anywhere from 16 percent (residential) to 33 percent (commercial) of market value. Property is reassessed every four years in DuPage and every three years in Cook.

### 2 Review of assessment deci-

County boards of review determine whether local assessing officials have calculated assessed values correctly, equalize assessments within the county, assess any property that was omitted, decide if homestead exemptions should be granted and review non-homestead exemption applications.

Property owners and local taxing districts may appeal what they believe to be unfair assessments to their local county boards of review and, if dissatisfied with that decision, the State Property Tax Appeal Board or circuit court.

### 3 State equalization

The Illinois Department of Revenue equalizes assessments among counties and issues a state equalization factor for each county to bring the level of assessment to 33 1/3 percent of market value.

### 4 Levy

Taxing districts determine the amount of revenue they need to raise from property taxes, hold hearings if the levy increase is 5 percent or more and certify levies to the county clerk. Each tax-

### **NEXT WEEK**

### Hinsdale Village Board Committee of the Whole/ Finance Commission joint meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3 https://www.villageofhinsdale.org **On the draft agenda:** 2021 budget

### **Community Consolidated Elementary Dist. 181 Board**

7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7 https://www.d181.org

On the draft agenda: public hearing and approval of 2020 tax levy, COVID-19 update, internet safety and cyberbullying, special education update, annual financial report, Elm School 2020 Blue Ribbon Award celebration (6 p.m.)

### **Hinsdale Village Board**

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8 https://www.villageofhinsdale.org

**On the draft agenda:** special use permit and site plan for Lakeside Bank at 222 E. Ogden Ave., Chicago Avenue resurfacing project and Eighth Street reconstruction project, resolutions to abate taxes, approve 2021 budget

# Almost 100 new cases of COVID-19 in Hinsdale

Ninety-six Hinsdale residents have tested positive for COVID-19 over the past week.

The DuPage County Health Department reported 84 new cases and the Cook County Health Department reported 12 new cases.

That brings the total number of reported cases in the village to 773, up from 677 last week.

Amita Hinsdale Hospital was treating 35 confirmed COVID-19 patients and eight patients awaiting test results on Wednesday, a spokeswoman said.

Community Consolidated District 181 reported 16 new cases from Nov. 24 to Dec. 1, including 10 students, one teacher and five staff members.

Hinsdale High School District 86 reported 25 current positive cases on Friday, with 80 people in isolation and 118 in quarantine.

The rolling seven-day positivity rate for Region 8, which includes DuPage County, was 12.4 percent on Saturday, compared to 15.5 percent a week prior.

The health departments' websites are at https://www.dph.illinois.gov, https://www.dupagehealth.org and https://www.cookcountypublichealth.org.

# Steps are part of taxing cycle in Illinois

### Continued from Page 5

ing district must show a separate amount for each fund for which it levies. All levies must be filed with the county clerk by the last Tuesday in December, which is Dec. 29 this year.

5 Extension

The county clerk applies the state equalization factor, calculates the tax rate needed to produce the amount of revenues each taxing district may levy legally, apportions the levy among the properties in a taxing district according to their EAV so tax bills can be computed, abates taxes as directed by taxing districts and prepares books for the county collector. The term "extension" also refers to the amount of taxes actually billed.

6. Collection and distribu-

The county collector prepares tax bills, receives payments from property owners, distributes taxes to the local government taxing districts that levied them and administers sales of liens on real estate parcels due to nonpayment of





### Even reluctant shoppers find great gifts

Bourjaily finds everything from pizza to Pinot to a Picasso to give family, friends

By Pamela Lannom

plannom@thehinsdalean.com

John Bourjaily confesses he's not much of a shopper.

"I can sometimes shop for other people. I cannot shop for myself at all," he said.

Girls are difficult to buy for — no matter their age, the father of three offered as an excuse. So he relies on their mother, Jen.

"My wife is a professional shopper," he said. "She is outstanding at it"

Nevertheless, Bourjaily agreed to be one of The Hinsdalean's "guest shoppers" for the paper's annual gift guide series. This year, former contributing columnists are sharing their best gift ideas with readers.

Due to the pandemic, instead of making physical visits to most stores in town, they are shopping online from the comfort and safety of their own homes. (Note: there are a few stores on this list that require an in-person visit, and all are noted.)

Bourjaily, who usually spends a lot of time celebrating the holidays with extended family (he is one of five and Jen is one of eight), said he will relish spending some quiet days at home this holiday season.

"I'm looking forward to more quality time with just my immediate family," he said.

Some of them might be enjoying some of the gifts he selected.

• Friend Sally, who has a penchant for "unique" dolls and figurines, will enjoy a 9-inch Buddha paperweight. The Courtyard, \$20

https://shop the courty ard.com

• Wife Jennifer, who never splurges on herself, will love an 18-karat white gold tiny heart necklace. Browning & Sons, \$600

https://www.browningandsons.

com

• A deluxe Golden Days Basket is sure to bring some cheer to all the admins in his office who work way too hard and don't get nearly enough credit. Hinsdale Flower Shop, \$99

https://www.hinsdaleflowershop.

• Daughter Anna, who teaches high school in Michigan, will put elegant Kate Spade notecards with a gold monogrammed and foil-lined envelopes to good use and impress recipients with her professionalism

"She's big on communicating with parents," her dad said. Sass-N-Class, \$20 for set of 10 (purchase in store)

• Artist friend Teresa would totally appreciate the uniqueness of PIcasso's "L'Atelier 1927," which the legendary artist hand-signed with his etching pen. Expressions Galleries, \$49,500

(purhase in store)

• Bourjaily has fond memories of sitting down for a slice of pizza with his dad, who never saw a pizza he didn't like. The imported ingredients and crispy crust of the 4 Stagioni, which he can cook right in his own Western Springs kitchen, is sure to tantalize his taste buds. Altamura, \$17.95

http://www.altamurapizza.com

Phil, a pit bull, and Nancy, a
pit mix — both of whom belong to
John's sister — will get their fill of K-9
decaf with Starbarks Frenchie Roast
stuffed dog toys. Velvet Touch, \$19.99
(purchase in store)

• Daughter Caroline will enjoy a brand-new iPhone 12 with a case, tempered glass screen protector, wireless charger or portable battery and Bluetooth speaker or headphones. Mobile Generation (Verizon), \$850 (purchase in store)

• A recent obsession with quarter-zip sweaters and the feel of fine



**Real estate agent** John Bourjaily said his clients would enjoy receiving one of these great baskets from "the greatest fruit store in the western suburbs" this holiday season. (Jim Slonoff photo)

cashmere make a Henry cashmere sweater in gray stripe a great gift for him to give himself this Christmas. J McLaughlin, \$298

https://www.jmclaughlin.com

• Each of the five nieces and nephews that have been born in the past year will receive an adorable Beanie Boo snowman named "Buttons." Hinsdale News Agency, \$7

(purchase in store)

• A nice bottle of Pinot noir is just the thing for daughter Katie, who taught her dad the fine art of wine drinking while home from Boston University this past summer. (She is 21, he noted.) The popular wine is perfumed with fresh scents and mirrored flavors of Ranier cherry, peach and poached pear. Hinsdale Wine Shop, \$21.99

https://hinsdalewineshop.com

• Bourjaily, a real estate agent, will keep clients merry with a basket containing some 40 pieces of fruit, two pounds of nuts and other treats. The Fruit Store, \$100

(purchase in store)



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### **POLICE BEAT**

Hinsdale police released the following reports Dec. 2.

### **DUI arrest**

William M. Mctighe, 30, 3682 N. New Hampshire Ave., Chicago, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, improper lane use, following too closely and operating an uninsured motor vehicle at 9:30 p.m. Nov. 25 in the 200 block of East 55th Street. He was charged and released to appear in court.

### **Vandals damage property**

The AT&T electrical box at Garfield Avenue and Seventh Street and a street sign at the intersection were damaged sometime before 11:40 a.m. Nov. 26.

### **Identity thefts reported**

- A resident of the 10 block of North Bruner Street responded to a pop-up window that claimed the computer system had been compromised and gave remote access to a suspect, who gave instructions to purchase \$10,000 in gift cards to resolve the issue. The victim recognized the scam and did not purchase the gift cards. The incident was reported at 2:26 p.m. Nov. 23.
- Someone used the identity of a resident of the 400 block of The Lane to attempt to open a bank account and apply for two credit cards sometime before 5:57 p.m. Nov. 24.

### **Suspects file for unemployment**

Ten Hinsdale residents reported that someone had used their information to file an unemployment claim between Nov. 24 and 25

### **Business reports forged check**

The Hinsdalean reported a business check for \$2,614 was altered, made payable to an unknown suspect and cashed at a bank in Georgia. The incident was reported at 2:19 p.m. Nov. 30.

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.

# Contest seeks happiest baby in town to appear on front cover

The Hinsdalean is looking for Hinsdale's happiest baby to feature on the final front cover of 2020.

Readers who know a happy Hinsdale baby born since Jan. 1 of this year who would look great on our New Year's cover should email a photo to news@ thehinsdalean.com. Please include the baby's name and birthday along with the name, address and daytime phone number of the person submitting the picture.

The winning baby will be photographed by Jim Slonoff to appear on the Dec. 31 cover of The Hinsdalean.

The entry deadline is noon Thursday, Dec. 17.





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### **60 SECONDS**

### Hinsdale gardener helps hang holiday cheer

The season of the wreath has come around again, that symbol of continuous life with no beginning or end woven of enduring evergreen boughs.

Every year a sizable one adorns the Graue Mill and Museum building just north of Hinsdale in Oak Brook. The wreath, suspended high up and illuminated, is a holiday hallmark casting out Yuletide vibes for both visitors to the grounds and those motoring past on York Road. Hinsdale resident and Garden Study Club of Hinsdale member Pamela Coan has — for many seasons — helped construct it.

"Ît's one of the best types of collaborative activities that we do," Coan said, citing both the partnership with Graue Mill and all the contributors of the wreath-making material sourced from personal yards.

But with COVID-19, gathering a large group of club members to sort the flora and build the wreath was not an option.

"There are a fair amount of seasoned members that were not going to be able to participate," she said.

Instead, people were asked to create their own "bundles of greens" at home and drop them off at the Frederick Graue House.

"They would just leave their materials on the porch, and then there were eight of us who volunteered to come and sort and help attach them to the frame," she said.

The group convened during that beautiful stretch of weather in early November. Coan said the pandemic plan yielded a bounty of boughs.

"I think this year was by far the most variety that we had available," Coan said. "We have a lot of folks who are all gardeners in some capacity, so they go to their yards or work with their neighbors and trim off some six- to eight-inch pieces."

The bundled clippings were then sorted by the wreath-making team and attached by wire to a metal coil skeleton.

"People were very generous. I think it took us about an hour and half to make it. The final touch is a big red bow that one of our members makes," she related.

A Graue Mill crew then hoisted it to its elevated home, where it typically stays until about the end of January.

Coan she likes passing through the area to see its impact.

"It's amazing how may people visit those grounds. They do put a lot of light on it to accentuate it," she said.

Normally the club also would have made door swags for the mill's annual Christmas boutique. No boutique this year. But the wreath is there.

Coan was mindful to credit the full wreath team: fellow Hinsdaleans Kathy Adamec, Becky Moats, Rose Ross and Dawn Thanos along with project leader Suzanne Rohr and Joanne Barranco of Oak Brook, and Lynne Mcleod of Willowbrook

"What the wreath brought was a little bit of normalcy," she said. "We were so happy that we could carry on the tradition and bring a little bit of spirit to the community."

> – story by Ken Knutson, photo by Jim Slonoff



### **PAMELA COAN**

GREW UP ON CHICAGO'S SOUTHWEST SIDE • HAS LIVED IN HINSDALE FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS • MARRIED TO RICHARD • HAS BEEN GARDENING SINCE CHILDHOOD • ENJOYS BIKING



### **OPINION**

**EDITORIAL** 

### Stick to fire safety even when stuck at home

The Hinsdale Fire Department is once again participating in the annual statewide Keep the Wreath Red fire safety program. A wreath will be hung outside the station at 121 Symonds Drive. For each fire caused by holiday decorations, a red bulb will be replace with a white bulb.

The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to discourage people from traveling at the levels usually seen around the holidays, meaning more people will be spending the season at home. That shift, experts say, will lead to increased cooking activity and greater use of heating equipment at residences, in addition to the holiday decoration and Christmas tree fires typically seen.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, between 2013-17, U.S. fire departments responded to an annual 160 home fires on average that started with Christmas trees. The fires caused an average of three deaths, 15 injuries and \$10 million in direct property damage annually.

In 26 percent of Christmas tree fires and in 80 percent of the deaths, some type of heat source, such as a candle or equipment, was too close to the tree. A dried out tree will burn in less than 1 minute — much faster than one that has been watered regularly. Once the tree has become brittle, stop using the lights. And lights should never be left on when no one is home.

Firefighters also offer these reminders to help residents stay safe this holiday season.

- Check all illuminated decorations to make sure they are in good condition. Light strands with frayed or cracked wires should be thrown away and replaced with UL approved devices. Outside cords should be approved for exterior uses.
- Do not overload extension cords or outlets with excessive holiday lights. Follow the manufacturers' recommendations. Also, be conscious of where you place extension cords. Keep them away from heaters, out from underneath rugs and anywhere else they may become damaged.

• Never leave candles unattended and always

place them out of reach of children and pets. Make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily. Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles.

- Make sure your fireplace is in good working order and the chimney is free from obstructions and creosote build-up. Christmas wrappings and tree branches burn rapidly and should not to be put in the fireplace, as they can cause chimney fires and flames to extend out of the firebox into your home.
- Keep Christmas trees at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Trees should be disposed of shortly after Christmas or when they become dry.
- As always, check smoke detectors and make sure they are in good working order. If you did not change the batteries when you changed your clocks to daylight-saving time, change them now.

**COMMENTARY** 

### Kindness just the gift to give ourselves, others

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."

- the 14th Dalai Lama

Did you ever learn a new word and then start to see it everywhere?

Or encounter the same message or theme emanating from a variety of sources?

I've experienced both, and — as you might guess — am currently doing so right now. I keep discovering the same message from different people and places. It's simple and straightforward: Be kind.

While I was home in quarantine with a sick husband, I counted on taking an afternoon walk to preserve to my sanity, in part because I could listen to one of my favorite podcasts, "Ten Percent Happier" hosted by Dan Harris.

I was intrigued by his "Election Sanity Series," even though Election Day had passed a week before I discovered it. I found it works just as well as a "COVID Sanity Series."

Each of the four podcasts focuses on one of the four Brhama Viharas: loving kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy and equanimity. Or, as the pragmatic Harris translates them: friendliness, giving a crap, the opposite of schadenfreude and staying cool.

The four mental skills, Harris says, can be "powerful correctives against the vitriol that characterizes the modern political scene."

I discovered they also can be powerful correctives for just about whatever ails you.

Meditation teacher and author JoAnna Hardy kicks off the series, introducing all four mind states and delving in deeper on loving kindness.

The love that kindness leads to, Hardy believes, is not the romantic, sappy sort that we might see in a Hallmark Christmas movie or that makes us feel happy, but the ability to truly open our hearts and be authentic.

She talks about learning to send kindness and love to yourself, which can be much more difficult than it sounds. Fear — something that the COVID-19 pandemic has made abundantly present for many right now — blocks a clear



Pamela Lannom

mind and heart. But the rewards are great, she says, citing a favorite quote from James Baldwin: "Love takes off the masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within."

Then earlier this week I stumbled on the December 2020 Kindness Calendar on — where else? —

Facebook. I'm a big fan of calendars, and not just the cool Jacquie Lawson advent calendar on my computer or one at my house filled with chocolates. Calendars, in my mind, are closely connected with lists — and I love lists. (I learned from Harris that Buddhists love lists, too, which makes me feel more centered, less neurotic.)

This Kindness Calendar is perfect for me. It provides a task for every day of December to help us get past our difference and help each other.

Dec. 1, the day I start writing this, my directive is to share the Kindness Calendar with others and spread kindness. I'm writing this column to do just that, so check. If you're reading this on Dec. 3, the instructions are to offer to help someone facing difficulties at the moment.

And on it goes.

Some days the calendar identifies a specific thing to do, like practicing gratitude by listing the kind things others have done for you (Dec. 17). Other days, the goal seems to be more about changing your frame of mind, say by listening wholeheartedly to others without judging them (Dec. 10).

I'll share the calendar on our Facebook page so you can check it out for yourself.

This might not be the holiday season we imagined, with festive gatherings with family and friends and outings to see our favorite holiday performances. But with fewer distractions, perhaps we can make it more meaningful by focusing on loving kindness for ourselves and others. To borrow a phrase from Charlie Brown's friend Linus, that's what Christmas is all about.

— Pamela Lannom is editor of The Hinsdalean. Readers can email her at plannom@thehinsdalean.com.

### **OPINION**

**GUEST COMMENTARY** 

# Learning to listen one benefit of 2020

It's time to look back at the year that was and reflect on lessons learned. Of course, learning a lesson is not the same as applying it, and I am far from skilled at practicing what I'm preaching.

While I never got around to picking up a new language or learning a new instrument, I think I've developed an important

skill: the ability to listen. People at work and in my personal life have often told me to listen more. I would try, but actually I was basically still engaging with people with the purpose of convincing them of my view. The events of this year have made me realize that.

It all started with a self-imposed silence as we went into that first lockdown. I spent a lot of time listening to nature — but also to a great deal of Netflix and Reddit. My inner voice even quieted for a while. I guess it was in self-preservation mode.

That understanding of what listening meant really started to stick, however, when everyone else started communicating via Zoom and WhatsApp and Messenger and just picking up the phone. We couldn't be with each other, which seemed to make the sharing more deliberate — and increasingly, more intimate. I ached to hear what my friends and family had to say about how they were dealing with a daily life that seemed turned upside down. I had long conversations with people, including within my family, that I hadn't quite frankly bothered to do when life was "normal."

I was frustrated my own inability to solve this whole COVID thing. One result was that my mindset during these conversations switched from my reflexive mode of jumping in with advice to one where we basically commiserated and found peace in knowing that we were not alone.



**Beth Smits** 

Of course, I do like to help people fix things (metaphorically speaking — I am terrible at handiwork). And commiserating can far too easily turn into complaining, especially if it goes on for too long.

As we eventually settled in more or less to our "new normal," my appreciation for listening

became more nuanced. I realized that it's not about me speaking fewer words and being silent. It's about focusing on the other person and shutting out the distractions. It's about listening as a form of recognition and sharing and understanding. It's about having a conversation, not just giving an update or trying to get my own point across.

This understanding of listening has not just impacted my relationships with friends and family, bringing us closer together. It has profoundly changed my mode of interaction with my community and my country. I began to participate in discussions, such as around the elections, with active listening rather than just observing with silent support. Sometimes making more of an effort to really listen seemed like it would be easy, because I felt a general affinity toward a specific group or issue. It is actually quite difficult to do, however, because it involves moving beyond my grasping a feeling of empathy to listening and understanding the experience of others as very different from mine. And it is really challenging when I try to listen to people who seem not to share my values or world view.

I have a lot of work to do there but I'm grateful that I can point to a positive lesson learned from this COVID year.

— Beth Smits of Hinsdale is a contributing columnist. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.

### **CARTOONS**







### 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@thehins-dalean.com
- fax to (630) 323-4220
- mail to The Hinsdalean,

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

### Questions?

Call (630) 323-4422

### **OBITUARIES**

### Mary Genevieve Brown

Mary Genevieve Brown, nee Vanderbosch, 103, a longtime resident of Hinsdale, died Nov. 27, 2020.

She was preceded in death by her husband, A.J. Brown; her siblings, Elizabeth Decker Powell, Joan Shafer and William Vanderbosch; her brothers-in-law, Pete Decker, Bob Powell and Francis Shafer; and her sisters-in-law, Madalon Vanderbosch and

Lyla Vanderbosch.

She is survived by her daughter, Bonnie J. (James E. Murphy Jr). Brown; and her sister, Suzanne (Don) Agostino.

A private family interment service will be held at St. Joseph Valley Memorial Park in Granger, Ind.

Adolf Funeral Home in Willowbrook handled the arrangements.

### Joseph T. Cesario

Joseph T. Cesario of Elmhurst died Nov. 25, 2020.

Joseph was a retired attorney who practiced law for more than 50 years — more than 40 years in Hinsdale — and was honored by the Illinois State Bar Association for his pro bono service.

He graduated from Marquette University and earned his juris doctorate at the Northwestern University School of

Law. He was a former Elmhurst alderman and member/chairman of the city's board of police and fire commissioners as well as an active member of the Democratic Party of DuPage County.

He was preceded in death seven days earlier by his beloved wife, Genevieve B. Cesario, nee Stachnik.

He is survived by his children, Joseph R. (Ellen),



Cesario

Andrew (Diane), Katie (Chris Newitt) Cesario, Mary (Jeffrey) Harrold and Amy Cesario; his grandchildren, Elijah, Lily Rose, Rocco, Aza, Charles, Lauren and Casey; his siblings, William (Kathryn), James (Cindy), Marguerite (Frank) Dixon, Jeanne (James) Czerwinski, John (Paulette) and Michael (Stacy); his brother-in-law, John (Mary) Stachnik; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to IC Catholic Prep, 217 Cottage Hill Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126 to fund the new ICCP Library in memory of Joe and Gen or the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, 5526 West 13400 South, #510, Herriman, UT 84096.

Services have been held.

Gibbons Funeral Home in Elmhurst handled the arrangements.

### John Mitchell Gerty

John Mitchell Gerty, 96, a former Hinsdale resident, died at home with family by his side on Nov. 28, 2020.

Born in Chicago in 1924, he was the son of the Francis and Ursula, nee Mitchell, Gerty. He graduated from Hinsdale High School in 1942, and subsequently continued his studies at California Institute of Technology. He earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Illinois

engineering from the University of Illinois, and proudly served his country in the United States Navy during World War II.

In 1989, he retired as a program manager from Draper Laboratory in Cambridge after 26 years of employment. He was a member of the Rolls-Royce Owners Club, served as treasurer of the Society of Automotive Engineering and was a recipient of the Group Achievement Award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). He enjoyed sailing with Patty on the "Zephyr" and paddling in handmade wooden canoes.

He had been a resident of Concord since 1963.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Patricia

Gerty, nee Eggers; his children, John (Marcy Maller) Gerty Jr., David (Anne) Gerty and Rosemary Gerty; four grand-children, Sarah Bussolari, Lia Gerty, Mary Isabel Sarwacinski and Margaret Gerty; three great-grandchildren, Elizabeth, Matthew and Ezra; his sister, Helen Owens; his sister-in-law, Judy Gerty; and his brother-in-law William



He was preceded in death by his first wife, Isabel Gerty, nee Watling; his brother, Frank Gerty; and his sister, Mary Taylor.

Services will be private.

Taylor Jr.

He will be buried with U.S. Navy military honors at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord. Concord's town flag flew at half-staff Dec. 1 in honor of his faithful military service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Concord Council on Aging, 1276 Main Street, Concord, MA 01742; or Canine Companions for Independence, P.O. Box 446, Santa Rosa, CA 95402 (online at https://www.cci.org).

Dee Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Concord handled the arrangements.

### Albert C. Giusfredi

Albert "Al" C. Giusfredi, 92, of Hobe Sound, Fla., and Oak Brook, passed away Nov. 27, 2020.

He was born in 1928 in Chicago and had been president of a manufacturing company before retiring.

He is survived by his wife, Ilene; and his grandchildren, Paige, Alexis and



Giusfredi

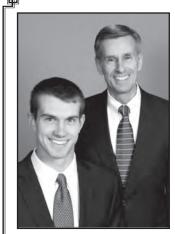
Randal Jr.

He was preceded in death by his sons, Randal (Kim) and Gary Giusfredi.

Services and interment will be private.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Obituaries continue on Page 16



Brian Powell, Sr. Brian Powell, Jr.

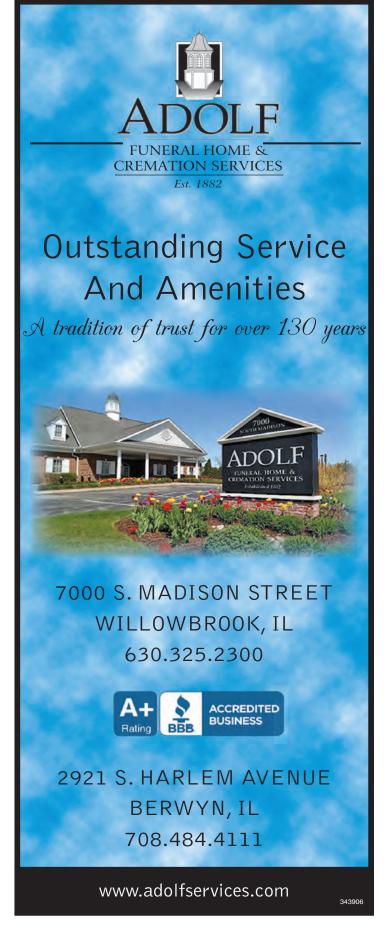
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### **ASK THE EXPERTS**

GREG HART AND DAVID ANDALCIO, PHILANTHROPISTS

# How will your donation support remote learning?

Hinsdale residents Greg Hart and David Andalcio have more in common than their addresses. They also share a desire to strengthen their community by supporting the needs of others.

When Hart, who represents his hometown on the DuPage County Board, realized that remote learning had the potential to negatively impact students without access to computers, he turned to Andalcio to tackle the problem. As CEO of Wynndalco, a technology services company in Mokena, Andalcio has long taken the company's commitment to investment in the community to heart.

"Wynndalco feels that whatever we do will be that much more impactful when we partner with the communities we serve," Andalcio said. "Our partnerships with people like Greg Hart and others in and around DuPage County really help determine where our efforts would be most valuable, and that's what we really want — to make as big of

a collective impact as possible for those students needing technology for distance learning."

With so many DuPage County schools moving to remote learning, Hart said the need for equipment like laptops has never been greater.

"The COVID-induced shift to remote learning is exacerbating inequality of opportunity for many students without access to sufficient technology," Hart said. "All students, regardless of their zip code or the color of their skin, should have access to equal educational opportunities. It was an honor to work with a great corporate citizen like David Andalcio to form a public-private partnership that will yield a positive impact for students and parents in need in DuPage County."

The shift to remote learning has been a challenge even under the best circumstances, Hart said. But he discovered families with multiple children, all trying to attend school on a single laptop. Others had no access to a computer.

Hart worked with school officials to identify the districts and the students who were most in need.

Thanks to the efforts of Hart and Andalcio and the resources of Wynndalco, more than 100 DuPage County students now have the computers they need to learn from home. Laptops were distributed to Leman Middle School in West Chicago, Keeneyville High School in Hanover Park, Fenton High School in Bensenville and College of DuPage. The donations totaled about \$100,000.

Having worked with Andalcio before, Hart said it made sense to approach him with the needs created by COVID-19. Like Andalcio himself, Wynndalco recognizes and fosters the connection between education, technology and opportunity. Education and technology invite opportunity. Technology and opportunity further education, and opportunity and education rely on technology. By donating laptops, the company keeps the cycle going.

In many cases, the pandemic didn't create the lack of access to technology, but brought it to light.

"The need existed before the pandemic," Hart said. "And the need will continue when it's over."

But for now, the pandemic is just a little easier to manage for dozens of students, thanks to the efforts of Hart and Andalcio.

— by Sandy Illian Bosch





Hinsdale residents Greg Hart and David Andalcio worked together to get about \$100,000 worth of laptops to students in need so they could more effectively participate in remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. (photos provided)





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### **OBITUARIES**

### Rosemarie Catherine Kash

Rosemarie Catherine Kash, nee Wirch, 85, of in Hinsdale. Clarendon Hills, died Nov. 30, 2020.

She was born in Chicago in 1935.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Francis T. Kash.

She is survived by her children, Gregory, Kimberly, Scott and Jeffrey Kash; her grandchildren, Ashley, Lauren and Kelsey Kash; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation is private at Sullivan Funeral Home

Private family interment is at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Alsip.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to the Alzheimer's Association at https://www.alz.org or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at https://www.stjude.org.

Support the Kash family by signing the online guestbook at https://www.sullivanfuneralhomehinasdale.com.

### Elizabeth "Betty" Janet Pepich

Elizabeth "Betty" Janet Pepich, nee Pate, 89, of Oak Brook, died Nov. 28, 2020.

Betty was an outstanding mother and grandmother who always put family first. She was a registered nurse and a stewardess for Trans Canadian Air Lines. She became a small engine pilot, a certified scuba instructor and traveled the world.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene (Gene) Thomas Pepich; and her daughter, Patty Ann Pepich.

She is survived by her children, Steven (Kristina) Pepich, Gena (Jeff) Andreasen and Juli (Steve) Konroyd of Hinsdale; her grandchildren, Adena, Isabella and Henry Pepich, Tessa and Hannah (Karl Yaacoub) Andreasen,

Danielle, Emily (Ryan) Spurrier, Declan, Braelyn and Stephen Konroyd; her brother, Peter (the late Marion) Pate; and her companion, Don Ourada.

A private family visitation and service were held Dec. 1 at Sullivan Funeral Home in Hinsdale.

Private family interment was at Bronswood Cemetery in Oak Brook.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to the American Heart Association at https://www.heart.org.

Support the Pepich family by signing the online guestbook and tribute page at https:// www.sullivanfuneralhomehinsdale.com.

### Edward F. Tausk

Edward F. Tausk died Nov. 29, 2020, seven days after his 90th birthday and just three and a half months after losing his wife of 64 years, Ellen.

Ed was born in 1930 to Emil and Teresa Tausk. He grew up in Chicago with his three siblings. Ed worked as a mechanical engineer and met his wife Ellen at work. They married shortly after and had three children, Teri (Chuck)

Goudie, Ed Tausk Jr. (fiancé Wendy Jurek) and Colleen (Steve) Gebavi.

Ed was known for many things including the numerous patents he received as an engineer and the fact that he designed and built the Tausk family home in Downers Grove. He was fun-loving and liked to perform his own version of a magic show. Fishing was his passion and the family spent many happy vacations on the lake in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Canada. When Ed retired from Navistar, he bought a fishing boat and ran salmon charters. He also mentored high school students in the First Robotics program.

Ed always stood up for doing the right thing and doing everything to the best of your ability. If someone had a flat tire, he would be the one to pull over to help. In that regard, he taught his family the importance of "paying it forward" long before the phrase became popular. His family asks everyone to consider doing an



**Tausk** 

act of kindness this holiday season to honor that mission.

Ed was a role model to his grandchildren, who called him "Papa," and was instrumental in providing a foundation of wisdom and life lessons. They are Caylen (Joe) Bufalino, Brittany (Chase) Davidson, Chas (Julie) Goudie, Keegan Goudie, Grace Goudie, Austin Tausk,

Danny Tausk, Carley Tausk, Kyle Gebavi, Braden Gebavi, Ethan Gebavi, and Garrett Gebavi.

He also is survived by his great-grand-children, who called him "big Papa." They are Henry Bufalino, Leo Bufalino, Brooks Davidson, Walker Davidson and Claire Goudie.

He also is survived by his siblings, Jerry (Carol), sister Vera and sister Mary Jane (George) Yoos.

All are welcome at a funeral Mass at noon Saturday, Dec. 12, at St. Mary's of Gostyn Church, 440 Prairie Ave., Downers Grove.

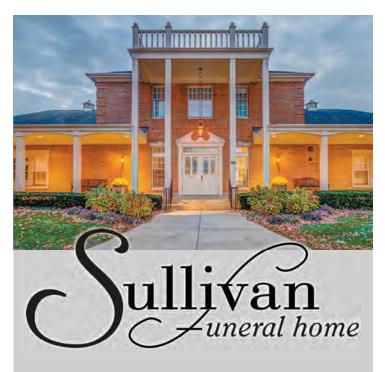
Interment will follow at Assumption Catholic Cemetery in Wheaton.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Ellen Tausk Kindness Foundation, Chase Bank, 1 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068 or electronically via zellepay.com at Tauskkindness@gmail.com

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Obituaries are published free each week in The Hinsdalean. Information may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to news@thehinsdalean.com. Obituaries will be edited for style and space. The Hinsdalean, 7 West First St., Hinsdale, IL 60521, (630) 323-4422, Fax (630) 323-4220

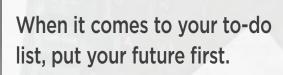
Obituaries are also available online at www.thehinsdalean.com.



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### **PULSE**

### Home for the holidays

Village, local groups navigate COVID safety protocols to deliver Yuletide treats

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Welcome to Holidays in Hinsdale: Pandemic Edition. Restrictions on gatherings have had a Grinch-like impact, stealing away the ability to hold numerous cherished seasonal programs and activities.

But like Whoville, the community has found ways to overcome the adversity, modifying events and leveraging the magic of technology to delight residents of all ages. Here a some to check out, and see the Holiday Happenings listing starting on Page 30 for more details.

Time slots for socially distanced Photos with Santa in Burlington Park sold out quickly this year, said Heather Bereckis, superintendent of Hinsdale's park and recreation department which sponsors of the event. But kids can still get their wish lists to St. Nick. Through Dec. 15, the mailbox at Village Hall will be receiving letters to Santa — just make sure to include the parent form, which is available through the village's website.

"(Santa's helper) will be sending them to Santa and he will write a personalized letter back to anyone who sends one," Bereckis said.

Help decorate the Hinsdale holiday trees in Burlington Park by making an ornament using weatherproof material. No sharp ends or heavy materials, please, and attach a 10- to 12-inch string or twine for hanging. Bereckis said ornaments should be delivered to village hall between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays by Dec. 7, but submissions a little later than that will be accepted.

"We've got quite a few already," she remarked.

The village's annual tree lighting was filmed for online viewing this year, and the parks and recreation department's most recent newsletter offers some ideas for activities families can do at home. Bereckis said her staff has tried to think out of the box in these unusual times.

"It's been very challenging, but we have a really creative group of people here to make anything happen," she said. "It takes a village, and it really has this year."

And that resorting to resourcefulness has given rise to concepts that will likely have traction





**Children will be** able to see, but not sit on, the jolly old elf at Hinsdale's Photos with Santa this year. The village is offering other pandemic inspired ways to celebrate the holidays, while the Salt Creek Ballet will present its annual "Nutcracker" performance both online and at a drive-in event (file photo; photo provided).

beyond the pandemic.

"It's given us some new ideas, and there's been a number of things — like the ornaments in the park — that we can add or modify for programs like the Easter event, whether it's COVID or no COVID," Bereckis said.

She also promoted the Secret Santa initiative, in which lucky Hinsdale store patrons will be surprised with a \$25 gift card valid at any Hinsdale retailer, spa or restaurant.

"Keep shopping local and they may be one of our winners," Bereckis said.

Over at the Hinsdale Public Library, families are invited to sign up for a gingerbread house kit starting Dec. 15, which they can pick up at the library. One kit per Hinsdale family, please.

### Dancers on big, small screens

The Salt Creek Ballet will present "The Nutcracker, Act II: Clara's Dream" to allow fans to experience the holiday classic from the comfort of home or in person at a drive-in movie Dec. 5 in Westmont.

Kyle Seguin, the troupe's ballet master who staged the performance, said the show is designed to both entertain and support the organization as a fundraiser.

"We are thrilled to bring keep the tradition of Salt Creek Ballet's 'Nutcracker' going, especially during these difficult times. We wanted to give our dancers the chance to perform and provide our audiences safe ways to enjoy a holiday classic," Seguin said. "Supporters can buy a ticket to the drive-in or a virtual ticket for online viewing."

Performances are at 6:15 and 8:30 p.m.

### A cancel-proof performance

The local BAMtheatre troupe has creatively adapted its production of the musical "Beauty & the Beast" to give theater fans a staged treat from the comfort of their homes

Filmed at the Christian Church of Clarendon Hills in early November, more than 100 students signed up to be in one of three casts. Each cast began rehearsals for their production in September, following COVID-19 protocols and breaking into smaller groups during rehearsal time to ensure social distancing. Claire Drews, one of the program's directors, praised the participants for their commitment throughout.

"Though our process looked different on a technical level,

what remained consistent and unchanged from shows past was our connection to each other. The students brought such amazing energy and positivity to the experience," Drews said. "I believe that putting on this show was so necessary for them to have a slice of normalcy in these stressful times. I think we can all safely say that this will be an experience to remember for a long time."

Jena Sugai, BAM's managing director, expressed gratitude that they could mount a production at all.

"In March, when the shutdown happened, we had to cancel two weekends of 'Sound of Music' shows that we had been preparing for months," Sugai said. "There were students who never got to perform what they had been working so hard to achieve. It was heartbreaking for the staff, and even more so for the students and their families. We wanted to do everything in our power to protect this from happening again.

"A lot of thought went into producing this show, from its inception to deciding to film it early," she added.

Visit https://www.bamtheatre.com for details on the show's release and tickets.

### **PULSE**

### Delve into discomfort, shift relationship to it

Two weeks ago, I wrote about focusing on tips for dealing with discomfort, something 2020 has provided us in spades. As we continue to experience the perfect storm of physical, psychological and financial distress, let's consider why things can feel uncomfortable and shifting your relationship with discomfort.

So, how comfortable are you with being uncomfortable? Some people seem able to go with it, while others fervently avoid discomfort. Some folks, consciously or unconsciously, are more comfortable living in an uncomfortable state. Sometimes, people remain stuck in discomfort because contending with the layers underneath is frightening. Most of us deal with discomfort but — let's face it — we'd prefer not to. Feeling uncomfortable often means we feel vulnerable, which can be scary.

A bevy of things can make us uncomfortable. Fear of the unknown, feeling judged or disliked, loss, making mistakes or not having enough are just a few. In addition, there are many reasons why it may be difficult to shift your relationship with discomfort. Perhaps it was the way feelings were dealt with in your family growing up or maybe you didn't learn self soothing skills that benefit rather than those that don't (i.e. using food or alcohol to comfort). We may look to

others to make us feel better instead of ourselves or have unresolved loss/trauma that's left us feeling sad or angry. We can become triggered by current experiences that remind us of a past developmental stage that was difficult. Discomfort can also often arise from what we wish something to be instead of what it is.

In thinking about shifting your relationship with discomfort, I invite you to consider that discomfort can



**Alisa Messana**On mental health

actually have an upside. Author Lisa Damour believes experiencing difficult times can create durability. I like the word durability because it doesn't minimize challenges we're experiencing, but rather suggests we can withstand them and remain functional. To become durable, it's important to possess awareness about the "what" and the "why"

when we're feeling uncomfortable. This involves vulnerability, and it's helpful to understand being vulnerable doesn't necessarily mean you're unsafe. Growth can come out of discomfort if we're open to it.

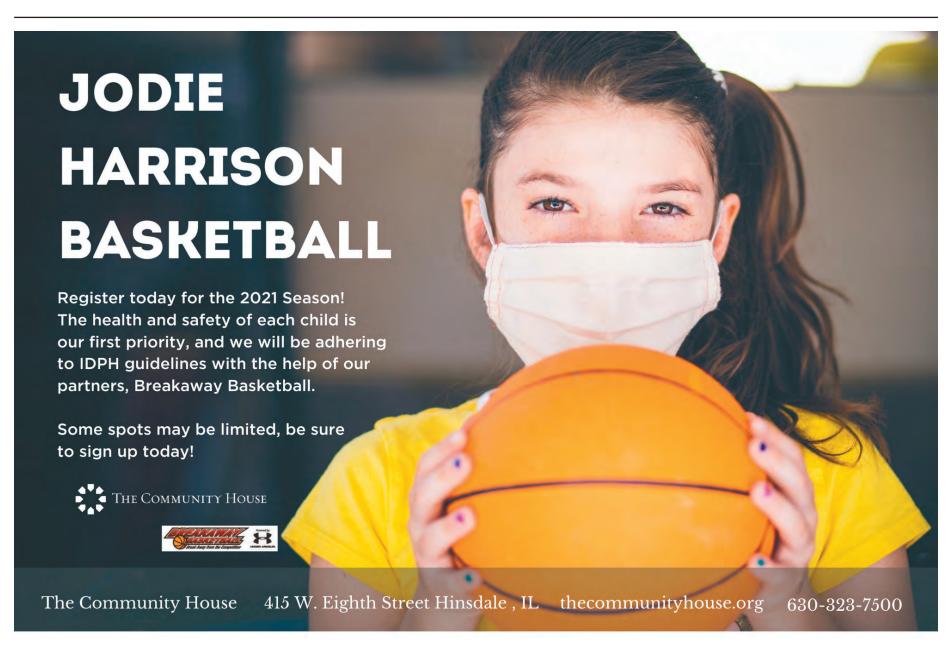
I've been thinking a lot about what our children are taking in around how we contend with discomfort. As parents, we currently have a major opportunity to impart lessons in dealing with difficult feelings to a future generation of parents. Modeling durability to our children isn't about never making mistakes or having bad days. The opportunities are in how we react to those mistakes and stressful days.

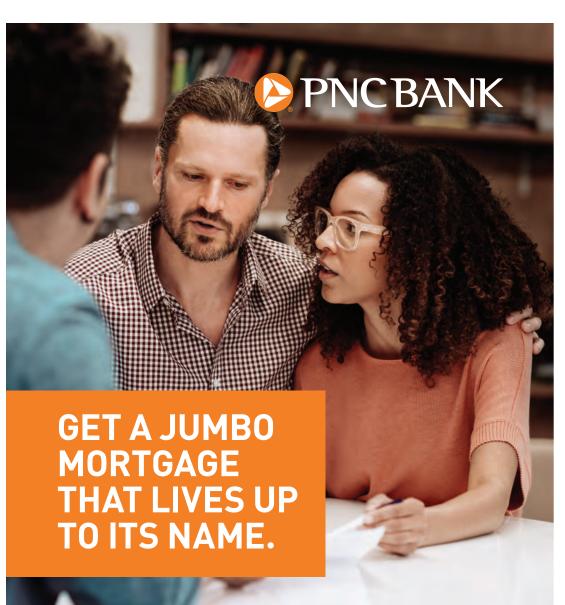
In order to make lasting changes to deal with discomfort, it's important to get to know your discomfort better. Becoming familiar with what specifically makes you uncomfortable and why it does so can be hard work. However, being emotionally durable and able to tolerate uncomfortable feelings is a such a key life skill applicable for many future situations to come.

As we move through this holiday season, I encourage each and every one of you to practice self-appreciation for the ways you've tackled discomfort and encourage you to keep doing so.

— Alisa Messana of Hinsdale is a licensed clinical social worker and a mental health consultant.

■ Most of us deal with discomfort but — let's face it — we'd prefer not to. Feeling uncomfortable often means we feel vulnerable, which can be scary.





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MORT PDF 0520-0121-1643902

### **PULSE**

### **ARTFULLY DONE**

### ■ The Fashions of Frida with Kathy Baum

Dec. 17

https://www.atthemac.org
Frida Kahlo's self-expression
went beyond paint and canvas. The choices she made in
what she wore communicated
her inner life and outward
persona. In this talk, explore
how she used costume as an
art form and influenced the
world of fashion through her
keen intelligence and artistic
vision. The program is free but
donations to McAninch Arts
Center are appreciated. Time:

### **■** Hinsdale Art Display

7 p.m. RR

Through Dec. 31 Hinsdale Public Library 20 E. Maple St. (630) 986-1976 https://www.hinsdalelibrary. info

The Hinsdale Public Library invites young Hinsdale artists to submit an original piece of artwork or a copy to be displayed in the Youth Services Department. Submissions will be accepted in person or via email at youth@hinsdalelibrary.info. Artwork will not be returned.

### **DINING LOCAL**

### ■ Altamura

9 W. First St. (630) 755-5252 https://www.altamurapizza. com

Curbside pickup, delivery and Grubhub delivery available for take-and-bake pizzas, cooked pizzas and other items. Hours: 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday, 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, 2 to 7 p.m. Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

### ■ Baldinelli Pizza

114 S. Washington St. (630) 654-4600 https://www.baldinellipizza.

Curbside pickup and free delivery available, plus frozen pizzas available. Hours: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

### ■ Café la Fortuna

46 Village Place (630) 537-1586 https://www.lafortunahins-dale.com

Curbside pickup and Door Dash available. Hours: 7 a.m.

to noon Monday to Saturday.

### **■** Casa Margarita

25 E. Hinsdale Ave. (630) 455-9000 https://www.casamargarita. com

Delivery available through DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats. Hours: noon to 9 p.m.

### **■** Egg Harbor

777 N. York Road (630) 920-1344 https://www.eggharborcafe. com

Curbside pickup and delivery through DoorDash available. Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

### **■** Fontano's Subs

9 S. Lincoln St. (630) 789-0891

Delivery, takeout and pickup available. Only three customers are allowed inside the shop at a time. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday.

### **■** Fuller House

35 E. First St. (630) 568-5466 https://www.fullerhousebar.

Outdoor dining in heated tent, takeout, curbside pickup and delivery through DoorDash and Uber Eats available. Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

### **■** Giuliano's Ristorante

40 Village Place (630) 734-1500 https://www.giulianospizza. com

Regular or noncontact delivery and carryout available. Hours: starting at 4 p.m.

### ■ Hua Ting

777 N. York Road (630) 789-0505 https://www.huatinghinsdale. com

Takeout available. Hours: 11:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, closed Tuesdays.

### **■** II Poggiolo

8 E. First St. (630) 734-9400 https://www.ilpoggiolohinsdale.com

Outdoor dining in heated tent, curbside carryout and delivery with DoorDash and Grub Hub available. Hours: noon to 2:30 p.m. weekdays for

### **PULSE**

### Continued from Page 19

lunch, 5 to 9 p.m. weekdays, 5 to 10 p.m. weekends for din-

### **■** Jade Dragon

43 S. Washington St. (630) 323-6959 https://www.jadedragonhinsdale.com

Carryout available. Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Fridays, 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays.

### ■ Nabuki

18 E. First St. (630) 654-8880 https://www.nabukihinsdale. com

Outdoor dining in heated tent, curbside pickup available. Hours: lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays, dinner 5 to 10 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 5 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

### ■ Page's Restaurant 26 1/2 E. First St.

(630) 323-9058 https://www.facebook.com/ pagesrestaurant

Carryout available. To preorder doughnuts, send a text to (708) 476-0900 with name, quantity and day to pick up. Hours: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily.

### ■ Sweet Ali's Bakery

13 W. First St. (630) 908-7175 https://www.sweetalis.com

Curbside pickup available. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday.

### ■ Toni Patisserie & Café

51 S. Washington St. (630) 789-2020 https://www.tonipatisserie. com

Carryout and delivery through Door Dash and Grub Hub available. Hours: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

### ■ Vistro

112 S. Washington St. (630) 537-1459 https://www.vistrorestaurant. com

Temporarily closed.

**■** Wild Ginger

44 S. Washington St. (630) 323-1888 https://www.wildgingerhinsdale.com

Carryout and delivery available. Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Sunday.

### ■ YiaYia's Cafe

13 Grant Square (630) 487-5600 https://www.yiayiashinsdale. com

Curbside pickup and delivery through DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats available. Hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily, plus 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday.

### **FAMILY FUN**

■ I'm a Scientist: I Need That Fat!

Dec. 17

https://www.fpdcc.com

(708) 839-6897

This Facebook Live program from Little Red Schoolhouse will investigate and conduct an experiment showing how animals stay warm in the winter. See the Little Red Schoolhouse Facebook page above for the materials needed. Time: 10

### **GREAT OUTDOORS**

**■** Forest preserve permit sale

Ongoing (630) 933-7248 https://www.dupageforest.

**DuPage County Forest** Preserve annual 2021 permits are currently on sale for off-leash dog areas, private watercraft, stand-up paddleboarding, model crafts and the archery range. Customers are encouraged to buy their permits online, by phone, via





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### **PULSE**

### Continued from Page 20

fax or U.S. mail due to the pandemic. The expiration date for 2020 permits has been extended to Jan. 31. Senior citizens age 65 and older and military veterans who have qualified for a free permit in the past will automatically receive credit for their 2021 permit upon completion of their online transaction. Visit the website above and click "Registration & Permits" and "Permits/Passes" to add the desired permit to the cart.

### **■** Winter Tree ID

Dec. 14 & 17 (630) 719-2468 https://www.mortonarb.org

Learn to identify trees after they shed their leaves for the winter in this Zoom class from The Morton Arboretum. Use clues found in buds, fruits, leaf scars, bark and branching patterns. The class will kick off with a self-paced online lesson, with reading material, short videos, interactive activities and quizzes to check understanding. The lesson be available from Dec. 7 and should

### **■** Botanical Names Demystified Dec. 17

be completed prior to the live

p.m. Cost: \$46. RR, MD

Zoom sessions. Time: 7 to 8:30

(630) 719-2468

https://www.mortonarb.org

Learn to call plants by their botanical names in this self-guided online class. Discover the in's and out's of the scientific naming of plants, understand why these naming conventions are useful and important and get tips and tricks for pronunciation while learning botanical names for 40 common plant species that are native to Illinois. The 90-minute self-paced program consists of e-learning modules with reading material, short videos, interactive activities and quizzes; it does not need to be completed in one sitting. Cost: \$23. RR

### **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

### **■** Deep Relaxation for Stress **Relief and Well-Being**

Dec. 5

https://www.wellnesshouse.

Yoga therapist Cecily Hunt will help participants raise their consciousness to a space of peace, well-being, harmony and balance in this online

course. Time: 11 a.m. RR

### **■** Self-Hypnosis for Healing **Power in a Contagious World**

Dec. 8

https://www.wellnesshouse.

The Rev. C. Scot Giles, a medical hypnotist, will teach how to use the power of the subconscious mind to cope with stress, fortify the body's health and vitality, and find ways to be hopeful and positive about the future. This program is for people who have been touched by cancer. Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m. RR

### **■** Overcoming Fatigue During

Dec. 17 https://www.wellnesshouse.

Dr. Sarah Thilges, assistant professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences at Loyola University Medical Center, will talk about why fatigue and sleep problems can occur during cancer as well as strategies and activities to help manage these effects. Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m. RR

### **JUST FOR KIDS**

### **■ Virtual Origami and Paper** Craft

Dec. 7-11 (630) 789-7090 https://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr

Kids ages 9-11 will learn to make beautiful creations from just a piece of paper in this KidzToPros virtual program. An instructor will lead kids through the creation of fantastic origami art with increasing complexity, including origami-enhanced media for sending one-of-a-kind notes and letters. Participants will need paper, pencils, coloring supplies and scissors/tape/ glue. Colored paper is optional. Time: 3 to 4 p.m. Cost: \$89. RR

### **■** Winter Reading Challenge

Dec. 14 (630) 986-1976 https://www.hinsdalelibrary. info

The weather might be cold, but the competition is heating up! Fill out your reading bingo card to win various prizes. Register online using the link under the events section.

### **■ Virtual Winter Camp**

Dec. 21-23 or Dec. 28-30 https://www.mortonarb.

org/learn-experience/ youth-and-family-programs

Kids in first through sixth grades can explore winter and wildlife in their own neighborhood during these three-day online programs that include self-paced content and a 30-minute online session daily between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. with an arboretum educator. Time Cost: \$65. RR, MD

### **NOTEWORTHY**

### **■** Mostly Mozart

Through Dec. 6 http://www.elmhurstsymphony.org/web/events.aspx

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra musicians will be joined by acclaimed pianist Ran Dank in performing Mozart's elegant Piano Concert No. 14 in E-flat Major through an innovative use of video technology in this virtual on-demand concert. Also featured on the program is a work by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, an imaginative composer of delightful and expressive music. Those purchasing tickets will receive a link to the program viewing screen. Tickets: \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors.

### **■** American Youth Symphony **Orchestra auditions**

Beginning Dec. 6 http://www.aysomusic.org/ auditions

Youth ages 7-18 who play strings, winds, brass and percussion (including piano) are invited to audition for the Downers Grove-based AYSO by video via Dropbox. Candidates should prepare one piece/movement, level appropriate, up to five minutes in length; memorization is strongly encouraged. Students must have a minimum of two years of instruction/playing experience on their instrument. Additional audition dates are Jan. 24, March 7, May 2 and June 27. Spaces are limited. Cost: \$25

### **■** College of DuPage's Chamber **Orchestra**

Dec. 8

https://www.atthemac.org The Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Philip Bauman, will perform this livestream concert. The

ensemble, consisting of student and community members, performs traditional

### **PULSE**

### Continued from Page 21

literatures for small orchestra/ chamber music from the 1600s through the 21st century as well as less traditional chamber orchestra styles such as jazz, contemporary classical, theater and film music. Registrants will receive an email with the link to access the concert online. Time: 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$7 per household.

### **■** College of DuPage Chamber Singers

Dec. 10

https://www.atthemac.org

This group specializes in vocal chamber music of all periods, with particular emphasis on Renaissance madrigal and motets, music of the 20th century and the music of many cultures. Contemporary music includes major composers, avant-garde music and arrangements of

folk, ethnic and popular music. Registrants will receive an email with the link to access the concert online. Time: 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$7 per household.

### ■ Amy Speace

Dec. 12

https://www.acousticren.com

A modern folksinger whose music nods to the genre's 1970s glory days, Amy Speace has spent two decades chronicling the high marks, heart-

breaks and hard roads of a life logged on the road. She will perform via livestream as part of the Acoustic Renaissance Concert series usually held at the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale. Time: 7:15 p.m. Tickets: \$12.

### **ON STAGE**

**■ SDFA Theatre Workshops** Dec. 10 & 17

https://www.stagedoorfin-

earts.com

Stage Door Fine Arts Theatre presents the virtual workshops "Nail Your Audition" on Dec. 10 and "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" on Dec. 17. The programs are for youth ages 7-17 and will benefit actors of all experience levels, offering tips on monologues, voice and diction, characterization, physical acting, and musical theater

Please turn to Page 24

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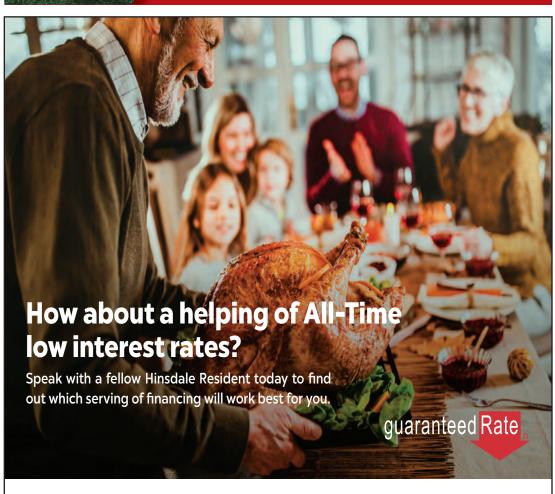
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### PULSE

### Continued from Page 22

dance using games, drills and simple scenes. Times: 4 to 5:30 p.m. for ages 7-12; 6 to 7:30 p.m. for ages 11-17. Cost: \$50. RR, MD

### ■ "It's a Wonderful (Western Springs) Life!

Dec. 12-Jan. 9 (708) 246-3380 https://www.theatrewesternsprings.com

"It's A Wonderful Western Springs Life" is a funny, heartwarming tribute to the classic holiday film and will be available digitally (streamed on Vimeo) in time for Christmas. It features a cast of more than 100 from The Theatre of Western Springs and The Children's Theatre of Western Springs and is co-directed by TWS artist-in-residence Greg Kolack and CTWS children's director Lindsey Branson,

with a screenplay by Eddie Sugarman, the executive artistic director at TWS. Tickets: a \$10 per viewer donation is recommended.

### **RUNS & WALKS**

### ■ Spruce Shuffle 5K Run and Walk

Dec. 12 Morton Arboretum 4100 Route 53, Lisle https://www.mortonarb.org/ events/spruce-shuffle-5k-runand-walk

Come run the newly imagined Spruce Shuffle 5K allowing runners to maintain a safe distance apart on a course through the breathtakingly scenic, early winter landscape of the arboretum. Participants select a start time when registering, Alternatively, runners can participate in the Virtual Spruce Shuffle on a course and date of their choosing.

Proceeds from the event go to support the arboretum's work to plant and protect trees. Hours: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost: \$45 through Nov. 30, then \$47. RR. MD

### **SIGN UP NOW**

### **■ Literary Gardens**

Dec. 4 (630) 719-2468

Please turn to Page 26



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### **PULSE**

### Continued from Page 24

https://www.mortonarb.org/courses/literary-gardens-on-line

Join master gardener and natural history writer Cindy Crosby in this online program looking at great (and not-sogreat) gardens in literature and poetry. From Agatha Christie's mystery series to Brother Cadfael's medieval herb garden to Michael Pollan's garden in "Second Nature" to the "secret garden" beloved of children's literature, there are so many gardens that helped shape the books we love to read. Discover how gardens and garden imagery figure in the works of Virginia Woolf, Elizabeth Goudge, Rumer Godden, May Sarton, Mary Oliver, Elizabeth Gilbert, Henry Mitchell, Barbara Kingsolver, Lewis Carroll and many more. Time: 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost: \$23. RR, MD

### ■ Hinsdale Bite Club: Online Cooking Resources

Dec. 15 (630) 986-1976 https://www.hinsdalelibrary. info

Share favorite cooking YouTube channels and blogs, including a recipe recommendation or two, and learn where other home cooks find their inspiration. Include an email address when registering to receive the online meeting invitation. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### ■ Virtual Dessert With History Dec. 10

https://www.cantigny.org
All ages are invited to mark
the remembrance of Pearl
Harbor Day with a livestream
presentation by Kirby Larson,
author of youth books about

World War II including "The Spirit of Aloha," the "Dogs of World War II" series and the Newberry Honor Book "Hattie Big Sky." Larson will speak about her experience as a writer, historical events that shaped her novels and the resilience of the characters. While listening, make the special WWII dessert uncooked chocolate pie (recipe available online). Time: 5 to 6:15 p.m. RR

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### Let's Keep Our Distance

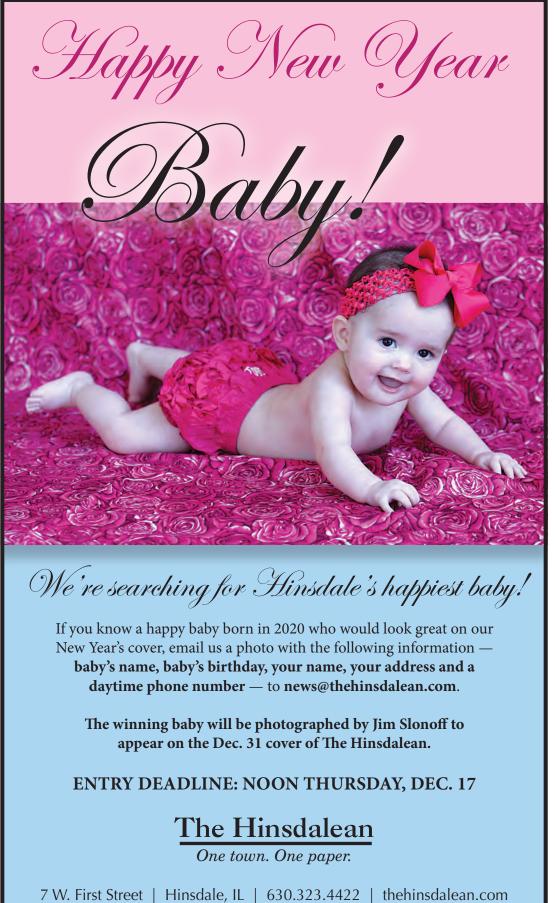
### & Keep COVID-19 Under Control

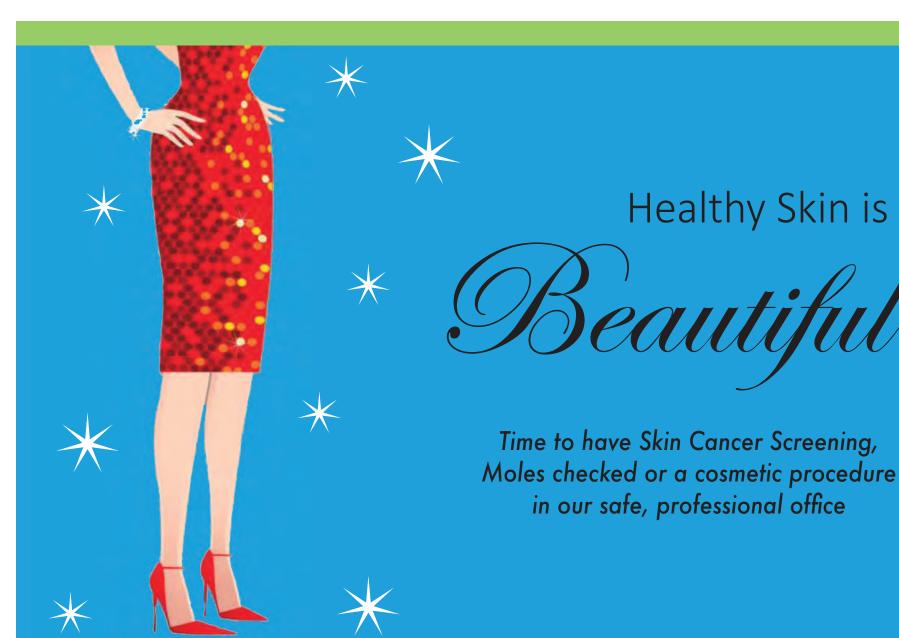


It's up to each of us to contain the spread of COVID-19. Here's how you can do your part:

- Keep at least 6 feet away from other people
- Wash your hands with soap frequently
- Avoid group gatherings
- Avoid touching your face
- Stay at home as much as possible
- Use services like delivery and curbside pickup whenever possible to avoid close contact with others









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### **PULSE**

### Pet pic of the week

Taffy is a beautiful gray and white cat who is looking for her forever home, with kids 5 and older. She's a sweet 14-year-old lady whose adoption fee is only \$25. The Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center is currently closed to the public, but anyone who is interested in adopting a pet can fill out an online application at https:// www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org and then call (630) 323-5630 for an interview. Temporary adoption hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 26

### **TEENS & TWEENS**

### **■** KidzToPros Virtual Web Design

Dec. 14-18 630) 789-7090 https://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr

Web Design Level 1 teaches students how to create dynamic, visually-appealing websites using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. By the end of camp, students will have created a portfolio website and showcased their programming project. Requirements: Windows, ChromeOS or MacOS laptop/desktop computer. Time: 3 to 4 p.m. Cost: \$89. RR

### ■ JackBox Party Games

Dec. 18 (630) 986-1976 https://www.hinsdalelibrary.info

Join this Zoom event for an action-packed afternoon of JackBox Party Games. Please provide an email address at registration. Time: 4 to 5 p.m. RR

### **WEE ONES**

### ■ Nature for Little Ones: Wish for Snow

Dec. 5

https://www.fpdcc.com

Early childhood learners and their parents will learn about snow and winter in this Facebook Live program from Sand Ridge Nature Center. Find the link on the website listed above. Time: 10 a.m.

### **■ Budding Naturalists**

Dec. 18 Lake View Nature Center 17W063 Hodges Road, Oakbrook Terrace (630) 789-7090 https://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr

Kids age 4-6 can take a closer look at nature and local wildlife through sketching, hiking, collecting, open play and more. This is a drop-off program and children should be dressed for the outdoors (weather permitting). Time: 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Cost: \$19. RR

Key RR - registration required MD - member discount

Breathtaking Lake Views







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6 bedroom 4.1 bath *Offered at* \$1,597,277

Lovingly designed and built by renowned architect owner who has skillfully designed this east coast shingled styled 6,800 sq ft home. The large lot covers 18,730 ft with 144 ft of waterfront. Enter the grand 30x20 living room with beautiful beams and indirect lighting and a spectacular 19x13 formal dining room with beveled glass door entrance. Cherry wood paneled library and cozy three season room comfortable most of the year. Four fireplaces with an elevator that stops at 4 levels.

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### **HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

### **■** Tree of Remembrance

Nov. 22-Dec. 25 Lincoln and First streets, Hinsdale (630) 856-6993

Amita St. Thomas Hospice once again will decorate its Tree of Remembrance outside of BMO Harris Bank. Community members are able to make a donation and have a loved one's name listed on the boards beside the tree. Envelopes will be available next to the tree. Questions? Call the number listed above or send an email to Rosemarie.Cohen@amitahealth.org.

### ■ Virtual Santa Visits

Dec. 5-19 https://www.mortonarb. org

Holiday traditions may look a little different this year, but children can still share in the excitement of Christmas by having a virtual visit with Santa (the very same Santa that has been at our "Breakfast with Santa" events the last few years!). Although Santa is in quarantine right now (so that he can make sure he is healthy and ready for all of his work around the holidays) families can experience the joys of talking to him with a private meet and greet on Zoom, beamed directly from the North Pole. Times vary; see website listed above for full schedule. Cost: \$25 RR, MD

### ■ The TWS & CTWS Snow Ball

Dec. 11 https://www.theatreofwesternsprings.com

This virtual fundraising party for the Theatre of Western Springs and the Children's Theatre of Western Springs features guest starts from past shows, auction items, an exclusive trailer premiere for "It's a Wonderful (Western Springs) Life!" and more. Purchase premium tickets to enjoy the cocktail/mocktail hour starting at 6 p.m. or receive a goodie basket. Time: 7 p.m. Cost: \$25, \$50 for VIP tickets, \$150 House Party ticket.

### **■** Honor Central Teachers

Through Dec. 11 https://www.hinsdalecentralfoundation.org

During these unusual times, rather than an individual gift, consider making a donation to the Hinsdale Central Foundation. This can include a teacher, coach, sponsor, counselor, or staff member. Parents also can donate in the name of their own former teachers/coaches. The honoree will receive a letter with the donor's personal message included and a special certificate to display. Donations help support programming that benefits teachers, students,

and families throughout Red Devil Nation. Send an email to clambert2362@gmail. com listing the personal to honor, his/her department or position, the amount of the donation and the personal message. Payment may be made at the website listed above or by Venmo to @HCHS-Foundation.

■ Winter Wonderland Hike Dec. 12-13 & 19-20

Morton Arboretum 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle (630) 968-0074 https://www.mortonarb. org

Families with children age 4 and older will discover the sounds of the winter land-scape and then warm up with s'mores, hot chocolate and a winter-themed musical play-along. Hikes are one-half to 1 mile long and

will stay on chipped, paved or mowed trails. Time: 11 a.m. to noon or 2 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$17 a person.

### **■** Toys for Tots

Through Dec. 12 https://www.toysfortots.org

The Marine Toys for Tots program is collecting new, unwrapped toys and money for new toys to deliver a message of hope that will

Please turn to Page 34

Mindele

SHOP HINSDALE FOR THE HOLIDAYS 2020

### SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLICHT

Shop. Dine. Relax. Local.

Featured Business:

# STOCKHOLM OBJECTS



### WHERE TO FIND THEM

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 $\underline{stockholmobjects.com}$ 



@StockholmObjects



@Stockholm.Objects



### SHOP HINSDALE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Put your where your is this holiday season!



### INTRODUCTION

Annette Brinkmeier of Stockholm Objects

### WHEN DID YOU START YOUR BUSINESS IN HINSDALE?

The business started in 2004 by the previous owners and Annette bought and continued the business since 2012.

### BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHY YOU STARTED YOUR BUSINESS:

Bringing Scandinavian Design and European inspired unique items to the community. Fun, unique items from fashion to home accessories.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT RUNNING A SMALL BUSINESS IN HINSDALE?

Being part of this wonderful community and knowing all our customers. Being a place in town where people stop by just to say hello and catch up on life is wonderful!

### DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIALS OR EVENTS PLANNED FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

Different featured sales - stay tuned on our social media!

### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:**

We appreciate the local support of this wonderful town especially this year as we all struggle to make things work despite all the 2020 challenges.

## HINSDALE WINE CLUB



### **Hinsdale Wine Club**

Each month we, at Hinsdale Wine Shop, will taste many wines from around the world and across the U.S. From these we will pick two that will gently stretch and increase your wine knowledge and pleasure. Let us surprise you each month with two carefully selected bottles of wine. Red or white or one of each depending on the season and what we discover.

### **Benefits include:**

- Two bottles each month of incredible wine
- 10% off all wine purchases
- Special alerts on wine offers
- Invitation to "Member Only" wine events

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Hinsd	laie -	wine	Glub

HINSDALE WINE SHOP 12 E. Hinsdale Avenue Downtown Hinsdale

Name (please print) Last		First	
Mobile Phone	Email		
Address	City		Zip Code
CHECK ONE: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa	☐ Amex	☐ Discover	
Credit Card #		Exp. Date	CVC #
This membership is for ME.  ☐ I will be billed \$34.99 + tax per month. ☐ 6 months \$209.94 + tax* ☐ 12 mont ☐ Initial Here *6-month and 12-month Wine Clu	ths \$419.88		onth" billing. May be cancelled at any time.
Want to give the gift of Wine C Fill out the form above with the gift recipient's  ☐ 6 months \$209.94 + tax* ☐ 12 mont ☐ Initial Here *6-month and 12-month Wine Clu	information a hs \$419.88	nd check one of the b + tax*	
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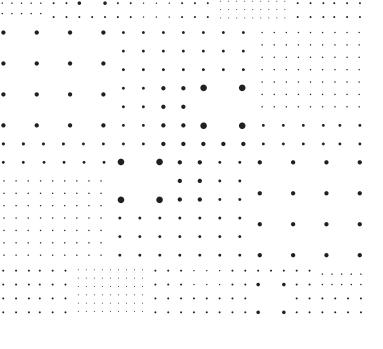
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\$2,895,000 | 5+1 BD | 4.3 BA



207 N Vine St., Hinsdale \$1,399,000 | 5 BD | 5.1 BA



621 E 6th St., Hinsdale

\$1,875,000 | 4+1 BD | 6.1 BA



203 Burr Ridge Club, Burr Ridge \$1,299,000 | 4 BD | 3.2 BA





Kris Berger Hinsdale 630.975.0088 kris.berger@compass.com www.krisbergergroup.com



### **HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

### Continued from Page 30

inspire youngsters in need to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens. Sites in Hinsdale include the Hinsdale Animal Hospital, 218 W. Ogden Ave.; Evergreen Bank, 1 Grant Square; Walgreens, 15 Grant Square; and Cody's Elves, 134 Maumell.

### **■** Blanket Drive

Through Dec. 13 Hinsdale Covenant Church 412 S. Garfield Ave. (630) 323-2318

The church is holding its annual drive, collecting new or used blankets of any type - lap throws, baby blankets, spreads, sheets and towels. Donations may be left inside the church's main entrance or placed by the front door on the benches. Pickups also can be scheduled. The items will be passed on to needy families in the inner city on Christmas Eve.

### **■** Hinsdale Humane Society Gift

https://www.prrcgiftshop.com Holiday ornaments are one of many items for sale at the

Hinsdale Humane Society Pet Rescue and Resource Center online gift shop. Clothing, mugs, water bottles and more are available for the humans on the gift list, with bandannas for furry friends. Purchases help the organization care for the animals at the shelter.

### **■** Schools Count Adopt a **Family**

https://www.schoolscountcorp.org

Schools Count Corp. is sponsoring its first adopt a family initiative to make sure those in need have something to be thankful for this holiday season. Donations will be used to buy food, gift cards and coats. If donors prefer, they can send a gift card to Aldi's, Target, Walmart, Jewel or a similar store. Make a donation online or email it to Richard Flesher, 12418 S. Compass Ave., Plainfield, IL 60585.

### **■** Sponsor a Homeless Animal https://www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org

Animal sponsorships are 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 and listing on the society's website, if desired. Sponsorships can be purchased online. Questions? Call Deborah Kraus at (630) 323-5630, Ext. 32, or email her at deborah.kraus@hinsdalehumanesociety.org.

### ■ Virtual New Year's Eve Concert

Dec. 31 https://www.atthemac.org (630) 942-3008

Conductor Kirk Muspratt and the New Philharmonic will help viewers ring in the new year with favorite Strauss waltzes and polkas, arias, light classical, pop tunes and movie music. A duet of "Bless This House" sung by soprano, Alisa Jordheim and tenor Jesse Donner reflects on the year past while the "Power of Love" propels all into the new year. And of course, secret surprises will be part of the fun as well. Time: 2, 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets: \$50 per household. RR

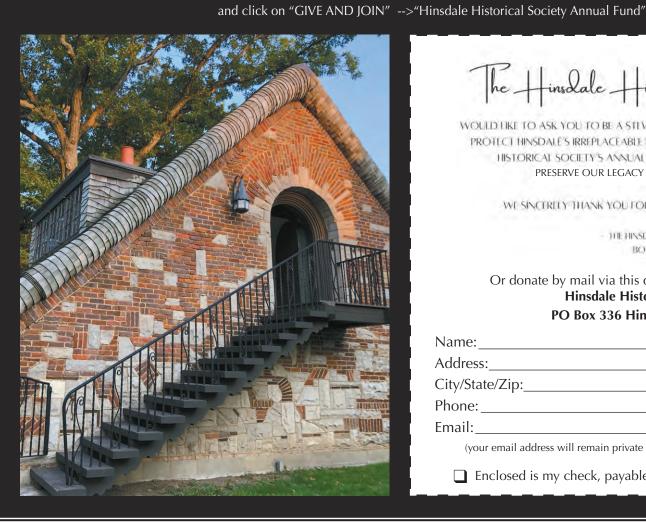


The iconic lion statues at Brookfield Zoo's south gate are decorated for the holiday season. Reservations are filling up fast for Holiday Magic, which runs through Dec. 31. (photo provided)

### The Hinsdale Historical Society Annual Fund

To Donate online, visit www.hinsdalehistory.org





The Hinsdale Historical Society

WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO BE A STEWARD OF OUR HERITAGE AND HELP PROTECT HINSDALE'S IRREPLACEABLE PAST. A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL FUND WOULD HELP US TO PRESERVE OUR LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE

WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

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Or donate by mail via this donation card and send to: **Hinsdale Historical Society** PO Box 336 Hinsdale, IL 60522

Name:
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Phone:
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(your email address will remain private and only be used for society purposes)

☐ Enclosed is my check, payable to Hinsdale Historical Society





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### **SPIRIT OF GIVING**

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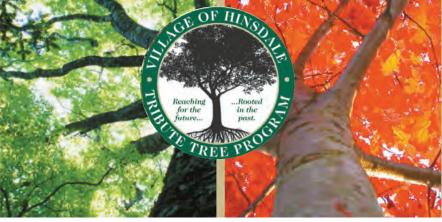
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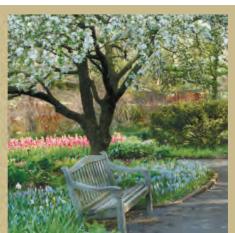
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So you think you're a real Hinsdalean, eh? Tell us where you think this picture was taken and you can win a Fuller's Ultimate Car Wash gift card. Send your answer to: The Hinsdalean, Village Posting Board, 7 West First St., Hinsdale, IL 60521. Winners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

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7 West First Street, Hinsdale, IL

(630) 323-4422 Fax: (630) 323-4220

### **Hours & Deadlines**

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

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

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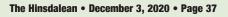
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### Painting & Decorating



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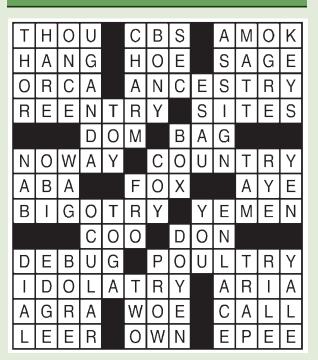
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Send your answer to: The Hinsdalean 7 W. First St., Hinsdale, Il. 60521 or email: tinaw@thehinsdalean.com

One winner will be chosen monthly from all correct entries and receive a Fuller's Ultimate Car Wash gift card.

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### Furniture For Sale

### BAKER FURNITURE:

Carlton desk (new \$3200. now \$1500.00 obo. Mahogany side table, Lyre sides \$1200.00 obo. Round leather top side table w/drawer \$450.00. Bombay chest 3 drawer \$950.00 and LaBarge mirror black/gold chinoiserie.

Location Oak Brook 630-253-7296

### Miscellaneous For Sale

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### WANTED TO BUY

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Benjamin Franklin

Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection.

Winston Churchill

### Help Wanted

### HINSDALE MOBIL Help Wanted

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### ALTAMURA PIZZA IS HIRING!

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### HINSDALE WINE SHOP

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### **KRAMER FOODS**

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### Autos For Sale

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7 S. Lincoln St., Hinsdale

Unit 8: 260 sq ft -\$250 monthly Unit 9: 560 sq ft -\$950 monthly Parking space

included with lease!
Please contact Rebecca
at 630.242.3104

or at info@mavon.com.

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

Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childhood days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveler back to his own fireside and quiet home!

Charles Dickens

Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is discarding the meaningless and stressing the true values. Thomas S. Monson



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### **Legal Notices**

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF DU PAGE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN RE THE ESTATE OF DONNA L. THROCKMORTON DECEASED

> CASE NUMBER 2020 P 001225

Notice is given of the death of Donna L. Throckmorton whose address was 555 Foxworth Blvd., Apt. 2017, Lombard, IL. 60148-6418. Letters of Office were issued on November 19, 2020 to Pamela Lannom Litster, 829 Kensington Ave., LaGrange, IL. 60525. as Independent Administrator whose attorney is Christine A. Boyle, Gross & Boyle LLC.

### NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES

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

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of CHRIS KACHIROUBAS, Circuit Court Clerk, 505 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois, or with the representative or both on or before \*June 4, 2021, any claim not filed within

### **Legal Notices**

that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Court Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney, if any, within ten (10) days after it has been filed with the Circuit Clerk.

Name: Christine A. Boyle DuPage Attorney Number: 28643

Attorney For: Representative Address: 15 Salt Creek Lane, Suite 207 City/State/Zip: Hinsdale, IL.

60521-8656 Telephone: 630-887-7070 Email:

cboyle@gbllc.law

Published in The Hinsdalean December 3, 10 & 17, 2020.

### **Public Notices**

CERTIFICATE NO. 77881 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 19, 2020 wherein the business firm of

SIMPLY STACEY NICOLE
Located at 140 E. Madison
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: Stacey N. Boykin,
140 E. Madison Street,
Elmhurst, IL. 60126

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 19th day of November, A.D. 2020. Jean Kaczmarek DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean November 26, December 3 & 10, 2020

### **Public Notices**

CERTIFICATE NO. 77893 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 25, 2020 wherein the business firm of

### TRUE BLUE

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Located at 1760 Plymouth
Court, Wheaton, IL. 60189
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: Sheri Fazzari, 1760
Plymouth Court B, Wheaton,
IL. 60189

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 25th day of November, A.D. 2020. Jean Kaczmarek DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean December 3, 10 & 17, 2020

Christmas is a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of

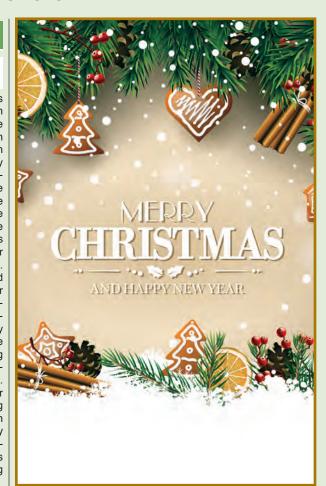
charity in the heart.

Washington Irving

### **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 this newspaper. Every housing advertisement published in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing





### So, you think you are a REAL HINSDALEAN - November photos



Nov. 5, 2020 KING KEYSER



Nov. 12, 2020 HINSDALE FURRIERS



Nov. 19, 2020 HINSDALE BANK & TRUST



Nov. 26, 2020 HINSDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



### OUR LUCKY WINNER FROM NOVEMBER IS: Ambrose Villalobos

who will receive an Ultimate car wash gift certificate from Fuller's Car Wash.



### **MIND GAMES**

	ACROSS
1	"GRAND"
5	LETTERMAN'S NETWOR
8	OUT OF CONTROL
12	SUSPEND
13	WEEDING TOOL
14	WISE ONE
15	KILLER WHALE
16	LINEAGE
18	ASTRONAUTS' DESCENT
	TO EARTH
20	LOCATIONS
21	COMIC DELUISE
22	SATCHEL
23	"FORGET IT!"
26	NATION
30	LAWYERS' ORG.
31	SLY ONE
32	NAY OPPONENT
33	RACISM, E.G.
36	ADEN'S LAND
38	BILL AND -
39	ADAMS OR AMECHE
40	CLEAN SOFTWARE
43	TURDUCKEN, E.G.
47	IMMODERATE DEVOTION
49	MET MELODY
50	TAJ MAHAL CITY
51	TROUBLE
52	RING UP
53	LECHEROUS LOOK
54	POSSESS
55	DUEL TOOL

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16			17				
18				19				20				
			21				22					
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30					31					32		
33			34	35				36	37			
			38				39					
40	41	42				43				44	45	46
47					48				49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

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

	DOWN
1	VALHALLA VIP
2	<b>AESOPIAN ALSO-RAN</b>
3	FORMERLY
4	LANDLOCKED
	AFRICAN NATION
5	AMULET
6	SKELETAL
7	MOMENT
8	DELEGATE
9	DILLON OR DAMON
10	SHREK, FOR ONE
11	JAILER'S JANGLERS
17	JACOB'S BROTHER
19	PLAYTHING
22	CARTON
23	APPREHEND
24	JAPANESE SASH
25	WITTY ONE
26	COQUETTISH
27	SCOT'S HAT
28	DELI BREAD
29	LONGING
31	TO AND
34	EYE-RELATED
35	FORUM GARMENT
36	SECOND PERSON
37	INTERTWINE
39	SENIOR MEMBER SOAP BRAND
40	ADVANTAGE
41 42	DRILL
42	FRONT OF A SHIP
43	SNARE
44	IRRITATE
46	NEW HAVEN CAMPUS
48	PAIR
40	FAIN

### Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

### **DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆**

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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THIS PUZZLE WILL GROW ON YOU! Hidden the above frame is a famous proverb. You can find the toy reading every other letter as you go around clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with "G" in the bottom rail: "Great

HERE'S AN EEEEEASY PUZZLE FOR YOU! Each of the five words needed to fill in our "word power grid" contain the same five letters. We give you one letter and plenty of hints below.

1. Famous western sheriffs. 2. Found in fruit trees.

 An ancient weapon.
 Reduces by cutting. A bowling score.

Answers: 1. Earps. 2. Pears. 3. Spear, 4. Pares. 5. Spare.



S	7	6	9	g	2	8	7	3	ı	Α
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U	3	9	ŀ	6	Þ	g	2	L	8	R



December 2020 Horoscopes · Week 2



CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, a quick call to a friend can easily turn into a lengthy conversation. There is much to say and catching up to do. CAPRICORN Enjoy the time you have with this person.



ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20 ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, exciting news could be coming your way that could bring much joy into your life. It's just what you need right now. Enjoy the ride in the coming days.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, be confident this week and do not take "no" for an answer. It can be easy to get thrown off course when others offer their views on how things should be done. Stand time.



CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22



LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23 LIBRA – Sept 23/0ct 23
Libra, if you know you have something important to share or do, be bold and make your move. Waiting for others to go first may cause you to miss an opportunity portunity.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, you may feel a bit pressured to start something you really aren't ready for. Take it slowly and think it through before you jump into the action. AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18



TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
People may be trying to convert you by telling you their thoughts and opinions, Taurus. You can listen, but follow your own mind with important decisions.



You may be surprised how cutting edge your thinking can be, Leo. Put some effort into innovative ideas. Be a leader at work this week and welcome any new suggestions new suggestions.



SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22 Scorpio, sometimes you are so resolute in your thinking that you feel the need to get your ideas across to everyone. Do not make promises unless you can keep them.



PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20 You may be anxious to get moving with a new plan that you've hatched, Pisces. If you have all of the facts, move ahead.



GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, before you try to prove your point to others, make sure you have all of the facts and proof to state your case; otherwise, sound thoughts may fall on deaf ears.

VIRG may fall on deaf ears.



VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Let others know you will not be a pushover, Virgo. Sometimes you cave to the pressures of others, especially when you feel the need to help out. Focus on your needs this VIRGO

VIRGO

VIRGO

VIRGO

Sometime pressures of others, especially when you feel the need to help out. Focus on your needs this



SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21 Sagittarius, even if your ways of doing things have served you well, it may be time to revise your modus operandi to improve effi-ciency and effectiveness. ciency and e

### **SPORTS**

THROWBACK THURSDAYS

### Looking back at decade of coverage

Throwback Thursday continues as play is suspended with COVID cases increasing

By Pamela Lannom

plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Players and coaches agreed the opportunity to compete in the fall was something to be grateful for, even with shortened seasons.

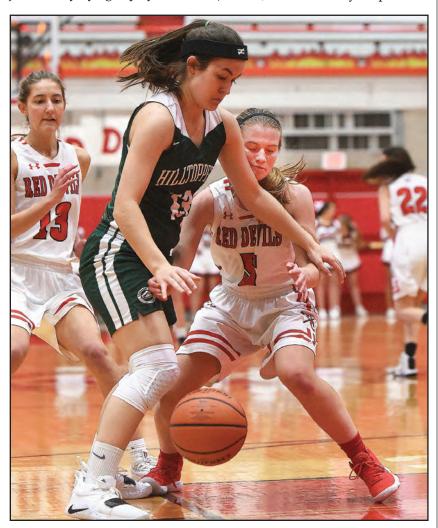
The student-athletes and coaches who had been anticipating the start of the winter season were obviously disappointed to learn last month that play would be put on hold. Until those sports resume and The Hinsdalean is able to cover them, Throwback Thursday installments will offer a look back at Red Devil sports over the past decade.

2019 "I feel like this group has done a really good job of really trying to play defense

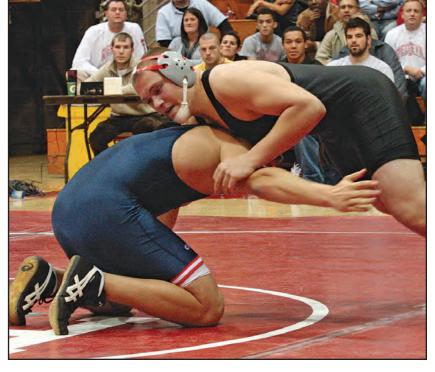
the way we want to play. We really want to make it tough for our opponent, and so far we have done a good job of that." — boys varsity basketball coach Nick Latorre on the team's performance in the first four games of the season

"I bowl two-handed. I'm able to throw the ball harder and put more spin on the ball with two hands rather than one. Not a lot of high schoolers are strong enough to develop that onearm strength to generate spin and hook the ball into the top of the pins." — senior John Zolpe on his bowing style

2016 "We don't have six kids that could do every stroke, but we are very deep in



**2010** Hinsdale Central's Tina Rivera drove the lane against a Glenbard West defender during a Dec. 3 home game. The Red Devils unfortunately fell to their conference rival Hilltoppers 19-51. (file photo)



**2018 Brian Allen, wrestling** at 215 pounds, won his match against his Naperville North opponent Nov. 23. Central won the meet 46-21. (file photo)

the sprint freestyles and several areas that are helpful in dual meets but make it more difficult when it comes to taper time. There's not enough space (on the roster)." — boys varsity swim Coach Bob Barber on the challenges the team's depth presented

"I like trying to teach people new ways to bowl, and helping people get better is part of it. You've got to help people get better to help the team. I feel like in a way I'm the captain, even though we don't really have one." — senior Nick Becker on mentoring underclassmen

"That would have to be hitting. It's a little more physical getting into the corners. You get into some battles with some of the forwards. It's pretty fun." — junior varsity hockey player Joseph Dipofi on what gives him the greatest satisfaction as a defenseman

2013 "We have a bunch of returning kids who are enthusiastic about being on the

team this year and will serve as leaders for some of the younger kids we have. There are some girls who have spent quite a bit of time in the off-season building on their skills. This is the first year we have multiple players who have bowled in the off-season and in private leagues." — girls varsity bowling coach Sanskruti Patel on the team's strengths

"Probably playing on my travel team with all my friends from soccer. We would always make up funny names for our set plays, like an isolation play we would call "Ryan's Backpack," which is from "High School Musical." — senior Lauren Zapka on her earliest memory of playing basketball

"It's an individual sport, but the team aspect is underrated. I really like being around a lot of guys that share my interests. We have pretty good camaraderie on the team." — senior Zac Bellman on what he enjoys most about bowling



# Thinking about moving or buying a second home in NAPLES, FLORIDA



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"Laurel was a pleasure to work with. From the moment we contacted her she worked extremely hard for us and always had our best interests in mind. We had a small window of time to find a house and she cleared her schedule to help us. We could not have found a better realtor and would recommend her to anyone looking for their perfect home."

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- Jim C., Downers Grove, IL

"There isn't enough words to describe what an amazing, driven, dedicated, and caring person Laurel is; not only as a person, but as a professional. I always say that in life you are either a driver or a passenger. She is a driver in a convoy of her own personal army. LOL... I have personally been in the real estate business in the past and you cannot find a more dedicated agent than her. I met her in a restaurant, she found places for me to see the next day. I made an offer in 24 hours and she had it wrapped in a bow and closed in around 15 days. A true blessing!!! I would recommend her any day of the week; 7 days a week; 365 days a year! She gets it done with a smile and charisma like no other! No need to look any further!" — Stephanie T., Toledo Ohio



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