

The Hinsdalean

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Thursday, November 16, 2023 •

Hinsdale, Illinois •

Volume XVIII, Issue 9 •

\$1 on Newsstands, 48 Pages



She's a beauty!

Hinsdale estate chosen as House Beautiful's 2023 Whole Home.

Page 15



Holiday classic

Ballet companies ready to delight with 'The Nutcracker.'

Page 19



Making waves

Central swimmers come in fifth at IHSA state meet.

Page 46



A colorful pledge

Several District 181 schools hosted special Veterans Day programs Friday. At Monroe School, Maren Haarlow and with her fellow classmates stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. The program started with members of the Hinsdale American Legion Post 250 presenting the colors. The program featured songs, a presentation by the student council and an introduction to the members of the post as well as students' family and friends who served. Please turn to Page 36 for more pictures. (Jim Slonoff photo)

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NEWS

December time for fa-la-la-la-levies

Village, school boards prepping to file requests for property tax revenue next month

By Pamela Lannom
and Ken Knutson

Hinsdale taxing bodies are poised to approve their levies — or annual requests for property tax revenue — at meetings next month.

These levy requests will then be submitted to the clerks in DuPage and Cook counties, who will translate them into tax rates that will appear on homeowners' bills in 2024.

Charts breaking down each of the levies, an explanation of the taxing cycle and a glossary appear on Page 7.

Village of Hinsdale

The Hinsdale Village Board plans to file a total 2023 property tax levy of \$8.7 million, up 5.7 percent from last year.

The increase includes the 5 percent stipulated by the tax cap plus a \$719,900 allotment for new growth as allowed under the cap.

Inflation was actually at 6.5 percent at the end of 2022, exceeding the ceiling set by the tax cap, Trustee Matt Posthuma noted in a levy discussion at the Nov. 7 Hinsdale Village Board meeting.

The village also is responsible for filing the levy for the Hinsdale Public Library. With the library levy, the total levy is almost \$12.4 million, an increase of about 5.7 percent.

Because the increase is more than 5 percent,

the village is required by law to hold a public hearing on the levy. That will take place at the village board's next meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Memorial Building, 19 E. Chicago Ave. Formal adoption of the levy would be on the board's agenda at its Tuesday, Dec. 12 meeting.

The village is following past practice in setting the levy, Trustee Luke Stifflear observed.

"Consistent with past years, we're levying the maximum that we can," he said. "Inconsistent with past years, it's going to be less than CPI."

Hinsdale Public Library

The library's levy request of \$3.67 million will be added into the village levy, as the library is not its own taxing district.

The request is 5.5 percent higher than last year, taking into account the 5 percent cap plus an amount for new growth. In 2022 the library board decided to levy less than it could have, but that thinking changed this year, Executive Director Karen Keefe said.

"We have engaged an architect to work with us on a space audit, and we want to add more to our capital reserves to be able to act on some of the suggestions that we are expecting to come from that," Keefe said. "We're really hoping they can give us some ideas of how to make the building more flexible."

Events like the "After Dark" series are fun to host but time-intensive when it comes to rear-

SEE COVERAGE ON PAGE 5

ranging space, Keefe said. An architect will help officials make sure they have an overall vision for any changes they make.

"We want them to look at all of the options and help us come up with the best way to orient and arrange things within the building," she said.

The decision to engage an architect was based on feedback from the strategic plan, which was completed at the end of 2022.

The library levy will be part of the village's public hearing next week.

District 181

The Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 Board Monday approved a resolution to adopt a 2023 property tax levy of \$76.7 million for operating funds.

That represents a 5.5 percent increase over last year's tax extension of \$72.2 million. Including debt service, which is exempt from the state's tax cap law, the district will ask for \$80.1 million, 6 percent above last year's extension.

"We think we'll be entitled to a 5.6 percent increase, and we're asking for slightly higher than that at 6 percent," Mindy Bradford, assistant superintendent for business and operations, told board members, noting that the county ultimately determines the amount of taxes received.

Please turn to Page 6



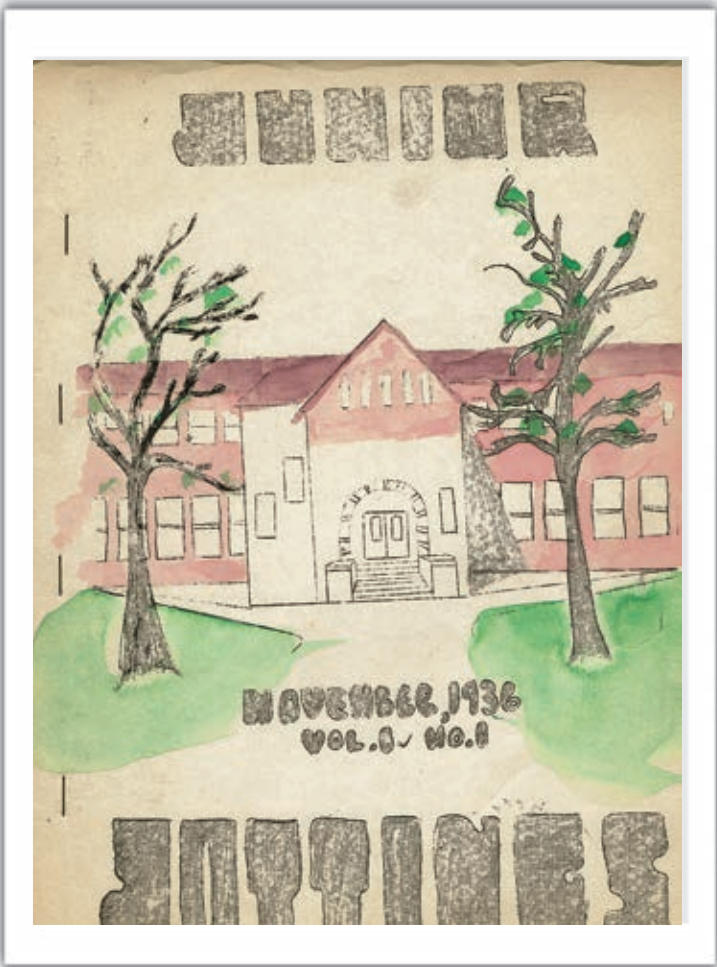
Day of Service

The Hinsdale Central Red Devil Service Club hosted its Day of service Oct. 21. Students were spread out throughout the western suburbs, volunteering at various nonprofits. One of the chores at the Hinsdale Public Library was making a "seed library" for residents. The students opened large packets of seeds and then made several smaller packages so more people could be served. Jocelyn Dodenhoff, Kate Empamamo, Jessica Iacoban and Sanjan Komanduri work on the packets. (Jim Slonoff)



ONCE UPON A TIME

Junior Jottings — In 1936 the first edition of the Junior Jottings was published by the Literary Committee of the Junior High Student Council at the then Monroe annex. Dick Burridge came across this copy of the publication recently. His father, John, served as the editor in chief. Go to our Facebook page to see a couple pages of the Jottings at www.facebook.com/thehinsdalean. Do you have a Hinsdale photo that is at least 25 years old? We'd love to share it with our readers. Stop by our office at 7 W. First St. or email it to jslonoff@thehinsdalean.com.





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Happy Birthday!
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turns 12 Nov. 21

IN THIS ISSUE

ASK AN EXPERT	14
CLASSIFIED.....	39
IN FOCUS	36
NEWS.....	3
OBITUARIES.....	12
OPINION	10
OUT & ABOUT	20
POLICE	8
PROFILE	9
PULSE.....	19
PUZZLES	43
SPORTS.....	46

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

Letters to the editor
Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

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

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Understanding state's property tax cycle

School districts and village setting 2023 levies, which will determine 2024 tax bill

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. The village of Hinsdale also relies on property taxes as a sig-

nificant source of funding, as does the Hinsdale Public Library, although the village has several other revenue streams to support operations.

Taxing bodies are required each year to file a levy, or a request for

property tax revenue. Setting the levy actually is the fourth of six steps in the property tax cycle as outlined below. 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, and documents created by local taxing districts. The accompanying glossary provides definitions for several terms.

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

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 for 2022, which will be used in the 2023 levy, is 6.5 percent. Its highest was 7 percent in 2021 and its lowest was .1 percent in 2009.

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.

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

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 Exemption

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.

truth in taxation: a district must publish a legal notice and hold a public hearing if the levy is more than 105 percent of the previous year's extension



Village of Hinsdale

2023 proposed tax levy all funds: \$8.7 million
2023 proposed tax levy capped funds: \$8.4 million
2022 tax extension: \$8.2 million
Percent increase: 5.74
New growth assumed for 2022: \$17.83 million
2022 tax rate all funds: .385



Hinsdale Public Library

2023 proposed tax levy all funds: \$3.67 million
2023 proposed tax levy capped funds: \$3.67 million
2022 tax extension: \$3.4 million
Percent increase: 5.5
New growth assumed for 2022: \$17.83 million
2022 tax rate all funds: .163



District 181

2023 proposed tax levy all funds: \$80.1 million
2023 proposed tax levy capped funds: \$76.7 million
2022 tax extension: \$75.6 million
Percent increase: 5.9
New growth assumed for 2022: \$24.9 million
2022 total EAV: \$3.07 billion
2022 tax rate capped funds: 2.47
2022 tax rate all funds: 2.57



District 86

2023 proposed tax levy all funds: \$112.4 million
2023 proposed tax levy capped funds: \$100.3 million
2022 tax extension: \$107 million
Percent increase: 5.7
New growth assumed for 2022: \$50 million
2022 total EAV: \$6.51 billion
2022 tax rate capped funds: 1.54
2022 tax rate all funds: 1.73

Steps of Illinois taxing cycle

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 decisions

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 nonhomestead 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 taxing 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. 26 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 distribution

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 taxes.

NEXT WEEK

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16
Hinsdale Central High School
55th and Grant streets
www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings

On the agenda: Illinois School Report Card overview, 2023 tax levy estimate, approve program of studies for 2024-25, award bids for roof and railing replacements at Central

Hinsdale Village Board

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

On the draft agenda: public hearing on tax levy, Vine Street Station development approval, fingerprint ID system, train station snow removal and salting

December time for fa-la-la-la-levies

Continued from Page 3

Bradford said property taxes comprise nearly all of a district's financial resources.

"In this district, the operating levy is 89 percent of our operating revenue, so a very significant source of revenue," she related.

As part of the board's strategy to maintain fund balances between 30 and 50 percent of operating revenue, the levy assumes a \$2 million abatement, or give-back, which would be finalized in March. Bradford this approach would save the owner of a \$500,000 home \$109 on taxes while protecting the district's ability to collect all the revenue the tax cap allows in the years ahead.

"(Using an abatement) gives a lot more flexibility to both the current board and future boards, because you've got that ability to turn on or off the abatement," she explained.

A public hearing on the levy will held at the Dec. 18 board meeting, with subsequent adoption expected in order to file it by the Dec. 26 deadline.

District 86

The Hinsdale High School District 86 Board at tonight's regular meeting is slated to approve a 2023 property tax levy of \$100.3 million for capped funds and \$112.4 million when debt service is included.

In his levy presentation

Oct. 26, Josh Stephenson, the district's chief financial officer, told board members that although the Consumer Price Index for 2022 was set at 6.5 percent, the district is limited by the state's Property Tax Extension Law Limit to an increase of 5 percent, plus an amount for new construction.

"The last two years CPI has exceeded 5 percent, but because we are in a tax cap district, we cannot ask for more than 5 percent," Stephenson stated.

Board member Jeff Waters pointed out that because of contracts with teachers and other staff, the district needs to levy enough revenue to cover those significant costs.

"The ask for 5 percent is, to a very large extent, somewhat required when staffing accounts for 75 percent of our budget," Waters said.

Stephenson concurred that staff contract increases and purchased services are typically closely tied to CPI. Asked how much of a difference zero-based budgeting makes on the levy amount, Stephenson said any savings is negligible.

"They're not going to make a large enough difference to say we only need to levy 3 percent versus 5 percent because there's not that much discretionary spending," he said.

A public hearing on the levy will be held at the Dec. 21 board meeting, with subsequent adoption expected.



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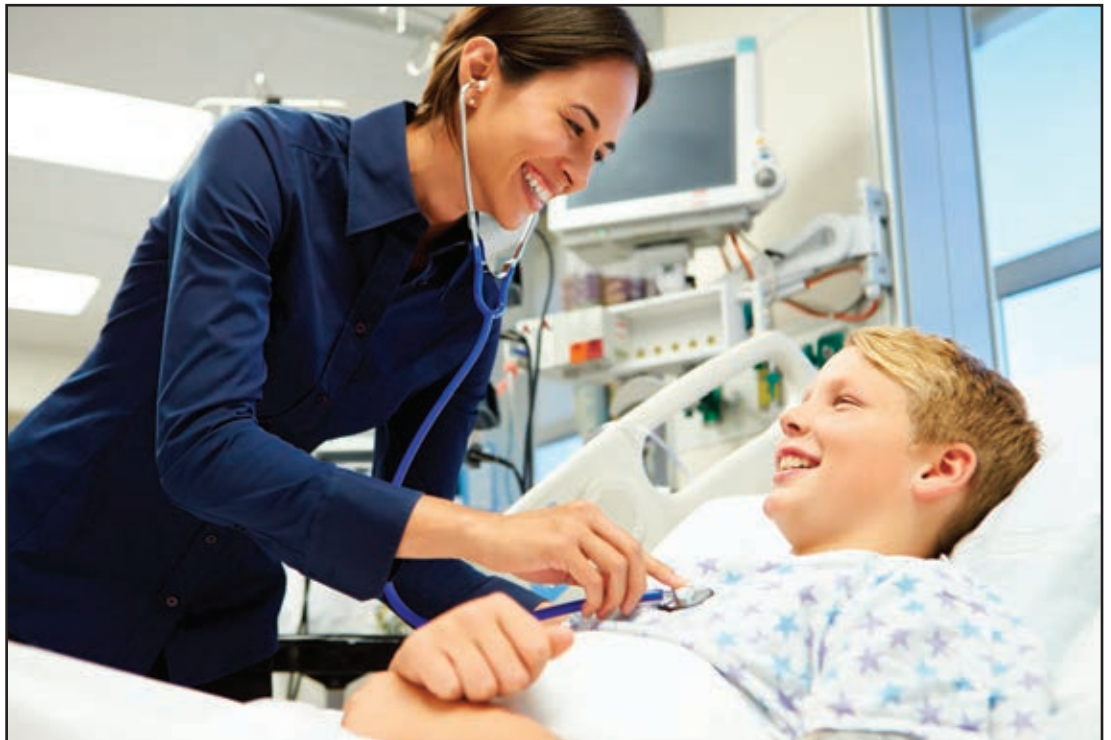
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Meal giveaway shows appetite for sharing

HCS Family Services doesn't date back to Hinsdale's 1873 incorporation, but the organization's history of meeting needs in the community runs deep. One of its biggest annual outreach activities is the Thanksgiving meal distribution before the holiday.

Asked how far back that tradition extends, Executive Director Wendy Michalski said she wasn't sure. So she asked around.

"The best guestimates are that we have been distributing Thanksgiving meals for at least 10 years and that we have distributed over 3,000 meals," she responded.

In 2017 The Hinsdalean showed up to Anne M. jeans School in Willowbrook to check out the operation. Here's what we reported. Helping pass out the 135 meals collected for the event were volunteers from Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club.

"We're excited to be able to take a minute away and connect with families who need a little bit of a helping hand this season," HCJW President Shazia Sultan said.

Stan Cook, then-executive director for HCS, said being able to stage the distribution at Anne M. Jeans, where the agency also operates a weekly food pantry, was important.

"This particular area is an under-served area, and it's an area that is in need," Cook remarked, citing



Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club members prepare to hand out turkeys during HCS Family Services' Thanksgiving meal distribution at Anne M. Jeans School in 2017. (file photo)

data ranking DuPage County second only to Cook County among the the state's largest food-insecure populations.

Guests each received a turkey, a bag of potatoes and side dishes, thanks to generous donors. Cook noted that youth played a big role, including Hinsdale Cub Scout Troop 10.

"They collected at their schools and among their families, and they generated about \$700 to buy turkey dinners," said Cook, who also lauded the generosity of area churches, supermarkets and an anonymous donor of 25 turkeys. "It's definitely a community effort."

HJWC member Denise Marron organized a pop-up clothing market of gently used items for guests to peruse while picking up their meals.

"I sent the message out to friends and family and collected a lot of stuff," Marron said. "I just want to give back, and I'd rather give the items to someone I know is going to use them."

Unclaimed turkeys were taken to Hinsdale to be distributed at Wednesday's food pantry in Memorial Hall.

Sultan said having teen members of both the HJWC and HCS junior boards pitching in was a powerful way to plant the seed of service in the hearts of the next generation. Even her two little boys had come out to support the effort.

"They were like, 'Are we giving turkeys out?' Yes! This is our favorite time of the year to do that," she said.

— by Ken Knutson


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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police released the following reports Nov. 15.

DUI arrest

Preston H. Wittwer, 21, 1699 59th Place, LaGrange Highlands, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood-alcohol content higher than .08, speeding, disobeying a traffic control signal and improper lane use at 2:03 a.m. Nov. 12 in the 100 block of East Ogden Avenue. He was charged and released to appear in court.

Trespassing arrest

Angela E. Mackie, 34, 16W626 Honeysuckle Rose Lane, Willowbrook, was arrested for criminal trespass to property for refusing to leaving UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale, 120 N. Oak St., after staff discharged her at 8:22 a.m. Nov. 10. She was cited and released to appear in court.

Suspected DUI

Police were dispatched to a report of a vehicle that crashed into a tree at 10:05 a.m. Nov. 10 at Madison Street and Hinsdale Avenue. The driver submitted a blood sample and was released. Charges are pending the lab results.

Thieves hit home, stores

- Jewelry was taken from a bedroom closet in the 100 block of East First Street while workers were in the home. The incident was reported Nov. 8.
- A known suspect took two cartons of cigarettes from Shell Food Mart, 210 E. Ogden Ave., and left without paying at 3:40 a.m. Nov. 13.
- Someone took bottles of cologne from Bluemercury, 21 E. First St., at 1:18 p.m. Nov. 13 without paying for them.

Burglary to vehicle

Someone entered an unlocked car parked in the 700 block of Justina Street and rummaged through it sometime before 7:29 a.m. Nov. 9.

Hinsdale police help out in area incidents

Hinsdale police assisted other suburban departments several times over the past week, according to Chief Brian King.

- Officers were able to spike a vehicle that had been chased from the scene of a Mercedes Benz of Westmont dealership burglary at 11:35 p.m. Nov. 11. The vehicle, spiked in front of the Land Rover on Ogden Avenue near Oak Street, became disabled on southbound Interstate 294, and one suspect was taken into custody. He was turned over to the DuPage County Sheriff.

- A Hinsdale officer spiked a car involved in an armed robbery in Schaumburg's Woodfield Mall in which a woman with a small infant was held up at gunpoint by a male offender at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 9. The offender's vehicle had been spotted in Oakbrook Center, Downers Grove and Westmont before the Hinsdale officer spotted it traveling eastbound on Ogden

Avenue at Route 83.

The vehicle was pursued eastbound on Ogden by Hinsdale police units and an Oak Brook tactical unit. The offender threw a gun from the car at Ogden and Elm Street. The pursuit continued southbound until the car was ultimately disabled at Interstate 294 and 47th Street. The subject was taken into custody without incident and the robbery proceeds were recovered from the vehicle.

The offender was out on bond for a shooting/attempted murder at the time of the robbery. He was charged and detained as a public safety threat by DuPage County. He faces charges from the armed robbery in Cook County.

- Hinsdale officers found a vehicle at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13 that had been taken earlier in the day during an aggravated vehicle carjacking in Chicago. They stopped the driver on 55th Street in Countryside and turned the offender over to Chicago detectives.

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■ “If I were not singing in this choir, I would be sitting in the audience. There are times during rehearsal when I’m not singing and I just sit and listen.” — **JR Tomkinson**

Resident finds his voice through Hinsdale Chorale

JR Tomkinson was a new Hinsdale homeowner in 2020 when he noticed a window poster for the Hinsdale Chorale while visiting neighboring Western Springs.

“I had sung with choirs before, but it had been four or five years since I had,” Tomkinson said.

Joining the group during the pandemic made for a different musical experience than he’d ever had. The return to normalcy has been welcomed by the chorale, which will mark the holiday season with its concert *Welcome Yule!* Nov. 25 and 26 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in La Grange (see Page 28 for details).

Tomkinson said the program, which also features Chicago Sinfonietta Orchestra principal harpist Faye Seeman, will deliver a full helping of holiday sounds.

“The first half of the program is Benjamin Britten’s ‘A Ceremony of Carols,’ and ‘Welcome Yule’ is the big opening movement of that work,” Tomkinson, a tenor, said. “It’s just beautiful music.”

The second half showcases both traditional and more contemporary pieces in four different languages. He said

singing for audiences this time of year is especially rewarding.

“It’s a very festive and fun experience to make music with other people,” he said.

His choral pursuits began post-high school.

“In college I performed in a band regularly, and a friend of mine encouraged me to try out for the chorale,” he said. “I loved it.”

During his time living in Chicago, Tomkinson was a member of the St. Clement Church Choir. He was happy to find a talented group in Hinsdale through which to revive his passion.

“It’s an incredibly talented and committed group and a community of really good people, and I look forward to rehearsal every week,” he said, reserving special praise for artistic director Mary Hopper and accompanist Kathy Christian. “They’re just amazing professionals and they set a very high bar of excellence for the singers to follow.”

He also appreciates his walkable commute to rehearsals at Redeemer Lutheran Church and marvels at the distances some travel.

“They come from remote suburbs to be part of this every week,” he said. “There’s



JR TOMKINSON

NATIVE OF FT. WAYNE, IND. • MARRIED TO JEANNIE • GRADUATED FROM DARTMOUTH COLLEGE • PLAYS THE GUITAR • VICE-PRESIDENT OF SITE LEADERSHIP AT COLLEGE POSSIBLE

a standard of excellence that attracts people who enjoy singing and singing together.”

Caroling as part of Hinsdale’s Christmas Walk is another delight of the season.

“We get great audiences, very receptive,” Tomkinson said. “If I were not singing in this choir, I would be sitting in the audience. There are times during rehearsal when I’m not singing and I

just sit and listen.”

He, his wife Jeannie and their two sons, a freshman a Hinsdale Central and a seventh-grader at Hinsdale Middle School, are enamored with the village they call home.

“We love the sense of community here. The schools are tremendous, and we love the parks and green space and being able to walk and enjoy

everything Hinsdale has to offer,” he said.

As a family they like to travel and go camping — and do whatever the kids are into.

“What they enjoy becomes what you enjoy,” he quipped.

He hopes people enjoy ‘Welcome Yule!’

“It’s not a performance that I would miss after hearing it.”

— story by Ken Knutson, photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Generosity is one of the hallmarks of season

Mark the holidays by making a life-impacting gift to a local nonprofit agency on Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28.

At the Hinsdale Humane Society, funds donated as part of #GivingTuesday2023 will help save animals' lives by enabling the organization to offer the programs and services people and pets in more than a dozen area communities rely on. Contributions will be used to shelter strays, adopt out hundreds of homeless pets and provide veterinary care for animals in need. Visit www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org/donate.

Gifts to Wellness House made before Dec. 31 will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000, by the Greer Foundation. Nearly 48,000 individuals and families affected by cancer have walked through the agency's doors since it opened in 1991 to find support at the main location in Hinsdale and partner locations all around Chicagoland — all at no cost thanks for generous donors. Visit www.wellnesshouse.org/give.

Or perhaps you want to commemorate Hinsdale's 150th anniversary by donating to the village's Memorial Building historic plaza and railing campaign to help fund the upgrade and enhancement of this cherished landmark, which was initially funded almost solely on donations

from Hinsdaleans. Visit www.villageofhinsdale.org.

This sesquicentennial year also is a great time to make a gift to the Hinsdale Historical Society in support of the group's efforts to preserve local history. Maintaining architectural and educational treasures like the Hinsdale History Museum, Immanuel Hall and the R. Harold Zook Home and Studio, along with the work of the Roger and Ruth Anderson Architecture Center, ensures that the village's rich legacy will live on for generations to come. Visit www.hinsdalehistory.org/give.

Other nonprofits in town that would benefit from your support include HCS Family Services (www.hcsfamilyservices.org), Candor Health Education (www.candorhealthed.org) and The Community House (www.thecommunityhouse.org).

In addition there are specific opportunities available for people to show their charitable side. The Spirit of Giving listing on Page 34 has all the details, but here are a few of the outreach invitations close to home sure to have a far-reaching impact:

- New or used blankets will help keep the homeless warm on Christmas Eve. Donate them

to Hinsdale Covenant Church through Nov. 26. They also are accepting lap throws, baby blankets, spreads, sheets and towels.

- Get a great picture for your Christmas card and support the Hinsdale Humane Society's Pet Rescue and Resource Center by scheduling a photo session during Photos with Paws Dec. 2.

- Help Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club support local nonprofits by racing in the Junior Jingle Dash at 8 a.m. Dec. 10 in Robbins Park.

- Herb Melin is once again collecting unwrapped toys the weekend after Thanksgiving for kids ages 1-14 to be donated to a local Marine Reserve's Toys for Tots program.

- Remember a loved one while supporting AdventHealth St. Thomas Hospice by making a donation to its Tree of Remembrance, which will stand outside BMO Harris Bank from Thanksgiving through the new year. The names of those honored or remembered will be listed on boards beside the tree.

As we've learned researching the history of Hinsdale over the course of this sesquicentennial year, philanthropy was in our community's lifeblood from the beginning. Let's keep that tradition going strong at this most wonderful time of year.

COMMENTARY

Hinsdale falls behind competition on latest list

I am sorry to report Hinsdale once again has fallen short of the North Shore.

One of those fancy "W" towns — Winnetka — beat out Hinsdale for the No. 1 spot on the latest list published by HomeSnacks.

What is HomeSnacks, you ask?

We're not entirely sure, but it produces lots of lists — safest states, most dangerous states, even dumbest states. You can read all of these lists on its Facebook page (which contains no information about who is preparing them or why).

And what does this latest list proclaim, you wonder?

The 10 snobbiest places in Illinois for 2023.

Yes, that's right, Hinsdale is less snobby than Winnetka. It's also less snobby than Glencoe, based on home prices, incomes and education levels.

Ridiculous, isn't it?

They list claims only 81 percent of Hinsdale's population is highly educated, that residents' median income is \$224,185 and that the median home price is \$880,000.

That simply can't be right, can it?

Winnetka allegedly tallied 91 percent highly educated, a \$250,000 median income and a \$1.1 million median home price.

Glencoe supposedly had 86 percent highly educated, a \$212,000 median income and a median home price also north of \$1 million.

This so-called data is from something called Saturday Night Science, which sounds like it's based on a Saturday Night Live skit.

"Because place-based rankings aren't peer reviewed, we are trying to achieve a level of accuracy you'd have with friends arguing at a bar," the website states.

I am not reassured.

The site goes on to tout its launch way back in 2015, that it has a "Real Estate Review Roundtable" and that some dude named Nick has been to every state in the country and catalogs his adventures on their YouTube channel. Is that sup-



Pamela Lannom

posed to make me feel better?

What does make me feel better is that Hinsdale ranked above another "W" town, Wilmette, along with Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Northfield, Hawthorne Woods, Deerfield and our neighboring "W" town, Western Springs.

In case you're wondering, Illinois is the 14th

snobbiest state in the country. (The snobbiest is Massachusetts, which surprised me. I would have guessed Connecticut, but it came in third.)

Clearly Hinsdale could have performed better.

I doubt Nick has even been to Hinsdale. Has he seen the \$10 million house for sale on County Line Road? The number of Teslas parked downtown on a Friday afternoon? Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club members dressed for a night on the town?

Of course I jest.

The first column I ever wrote

was in response to a piece in SmartMoney magazine titled "Deconstructing Hinsdale," in which the author said Hinsdale was filled with "IGMs" (I've Got Mine) — people who have to have the biggest house, the best car, etc. I created quite a lengthy list of people whose generosity proved that accumulating wealth and showing it off was not the goal of every Hinsdalean. (I also created some truly horrible acronyms in the process!).

Like other towns, Hinsdale is filled with all types.

Are some people in Hinsdale snobs? Sure.

Are some people in other towns snobs? Certainly.

Is Hinsdale a great place to live? Better than the North Shore's "W" towns? Absolutely.

Just check out HomeSnacks' list of the 10 best places to live in Illinois. Hinsdale is right there at No. 2 — just after that darned Western Springs!

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Those dear old analog days

Once upon a time, in the good old days of analog, I could do no wrong. In fact, some said — mostly me — that I was the King of Analog. Yes, as the song goes, “Those were the days.”



Bill Barre

During those dear old analog days, I was smarter than all my kitchen appliances. And they darn well knew it. Yes, I knew how open the fridge, turn on the stove and even use the oven without a YouTube tutorial. Now, all my kitchen appliances are smarter than me. My fridge knows when I’ve left the door open too long — “Beep, beep, beep.” And I know what it’s thinking — “Close the fridge, dummy.” Yeah, really irritating. And I know they’re talking behind my back, too, giggling in their “Beep beep” way. Don’t they think I can hear the sarcasm? “Beeeeeeep. Beeeeeeep.” So arrogant.

In the good old analog days, I entered my car with total confidence. I could turn on the ignition, turn on the radio, roll down the windows and even master those newfangled CDs (eventually). Now, since I don’t have a degree in software engineering, my entertainment screen just stares at me, waiting for me to do something. But I never do.

In those days of lore, there was no such thing as butt dialing your landline phone. Trust me, I tried it. Now, I inadvertently butt dial long lost relatives that I’ve been avoiding for

years — with dire consequences like invitations to reunions with even more relatives I’ve been avoiding for years.

Before everything was zero and one, one and zero, zero and one. I didn’t have

to scour the Internet whenever I wanted to travel. I didn’t have to play airfare roulette to get the lowest fares. No, I simply visited my travel agent and she did the rest. And, get this, it was free!

In the old days, no one in Russia, China, North Korea or Iran could steal my financial and personal data because it was in a safe deposit box and only I had the key. (If I could only find it.)

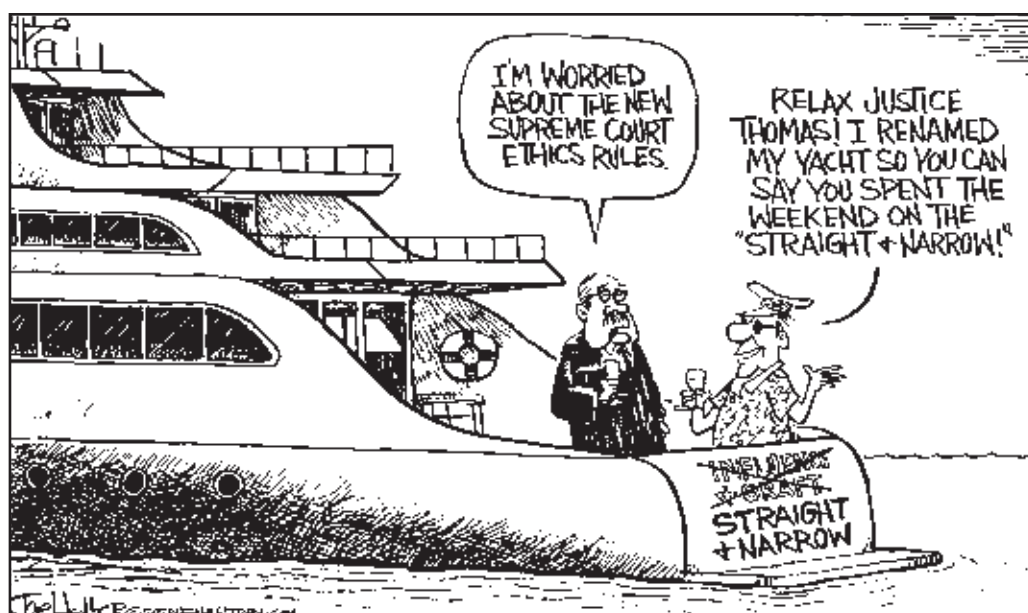
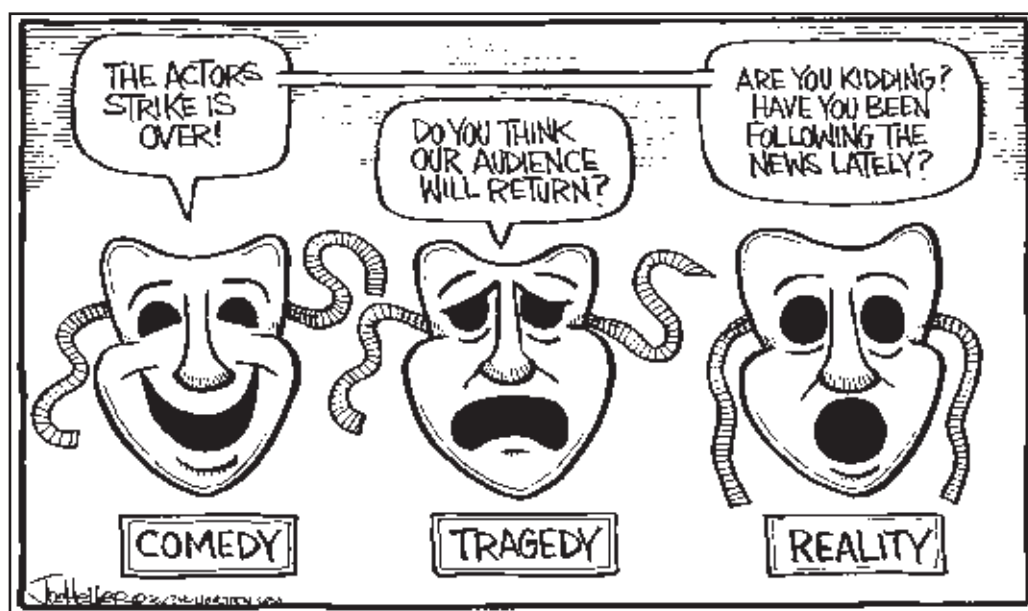
In the good old analog days, all mail was snail mail — slow and plodding, just like me. It never demanded immediate answers because the United States Postal Service had trained us for years not to expect anything immediately. Now, if you don’t answer emails within the hour, you’re branded as a total moral failure.

Oh, I could go on and on about those dear old analog days. But remembering how competent I was back then just depresses me. Yes, those definitely “were the days, my friends.”

If you feel the same, butt dial me and we’ll talk.

— Bill Barre of Hinsdale is a contributing columnist. Readers can email him at news@thehinsdalean.com.

CARTOONS



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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

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

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OBITUARIES

Maureen Girkins

Maureen "Moe" Girkins, 69, passed away at her Oak Brook home in the care of family Nov. 12, 2023, following a courageous battle with cancer.

Moe was a brilliant leader and innovator, equally kind-hearted and hard charging. She was inspiring, welcoming, attentive, straightforward and successful. After graduating from Northwestern University, she held executive positions at AT&T, Motorola and Dell and served on several public company boards. Later, she earned her master's in divinity, serving in several theological roles, including as the first female CEO of Zondervan, a 92-year-old Christian media company, and as an elder and trustee of Christ Church in Oak Brook.

Along the way, she owned and operated Oak Hills Country Club, authored multiple books and chaired several nonprofit organizations. Her family proudly witnessed her launch Four Minute Bible Study, a book and app offering an easy way to study God, just days before her passing.

Moe loved family vacations, particularly to Hawaii and Siesta Key, long walks on the shores of Lake Michigan and nearby in



Girkins

Fullersburg Woods, her dog Leucos, golfing, and every moment with her grandchildren.

Moe is survived by her spouse, Kevin Condon; her children, Brian (Emily) Grzelakowski and Michael (Erica) Grzelakowski; her grandchildren, James, Ava, Luke, Jack, Will, Gianna and Ben; her stepchildren, Lindsey (Colin) Moynihan, Kelly Condon and Katie (Matt) Grace; her step-grandchildren, William, Quinn, Rory, Aven and Thomas; her father, Jim; her siblings, Joyce (Bill) Ruhaak, Guy (Barb) Barry, Deb (Joe Maschek) Barry, Jim (Claudia) Barry and Marilyn (Elvo) Bucci; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Toni.

Visitation is at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at Christ Church, 501 Oak Brook Road, Oak Brook. A memorial service will follow at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Four Minute Bible Study at www.fourminutebiblestudy.com/donate.html

Sullivan Funeral Home in Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Kathleen Ann Jaszka

Kathleen Ann Jaszka, 93, died peacefully Nov. 7, 2023, in her home at The Birches in Clarendon Hills.

Often known as Kate or Kay, she was also known as Red for her beautiful red curly hair. Kate was born in Chicago on in 1930 to John and Bridget Cahill, the third child of seven. She graduated from St. Mary's High School in Chicago, married at a young age and quickly became the mother of four boys. Infant son Peter died shortly after birth. She and her husband Joe raised their family in Elk Grove Village. After being a stay-at-home mother for many years, Kate started a job at the local school district offices in Elk Grove Village, honing her skills as a sharp and accurate bookkeeper. She worked there until her retirement.

Kate was a gracious lady, always polished in her appearance and speech. Kate loved to travel and went to England and Ireland numerous times. Her travels fueled her interest in English and Irish books and music. Kate was an avid reader, often finishing a book in a day — especially a good British detective story. Kate was known to her family as an amazing baker, and would crank out chocolate chip cookies by the dozens for her boys. Dessert was always her favorite course of any meal and she always had room for it.

After the loss of two more of her sons in 2013 and 2014, Kate moved from Elk Grove to Burr Ridge to be closer to her niece, Mary Bauer of Hinsdale, with whom she enjoyed a deeply bonded relationship. In her later years, Kate

participated in many Bauer family gatherings, parties and outings.

Not only did Kate exhibit a sweetness, she was also fiery and resilient. She weathered many a storm in life with grace and dignity and taught all who knew her how to behave in adversity and sorrow. But it was Kate's lifelong Catholic faith that enabled her to do so. It was Irish strong, a source of joy, comfort and peace. She was especially devoted to Blessed Mother and the Rosary. Her tender heart will always be remembered.

Kate is survived by her son Paul (Laarnie) Cahill; her grandchildren, Jason Jaszka and Jacqueline (John Saito) Jaszka; her great-grandchildren Oliver and Christopher Saito; her niece, Mary (Pat) Bauer; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, a great-great-niece and a great-great-nephew.

She was preceded in death by her children, Peter Jaszka, Joseph Jaszka and Steven Jaszka; her ex-husband, Joseph Jaszka; and her siblings, Dolores Eslinger, Daniel Cahill, Rev. John Cahill, Timothy Cahill, Richard Cahill and Patrick Cahill.

A funeral Mass was said Nov. 13 at St. Isaac Jogues Church in Hinsdale. Interment was at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

Memorials may be sent to The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Development Office, 1100 Carmel Drive, Dubuque, IA 52003-7991 or online at www.bvmsisters.org Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.



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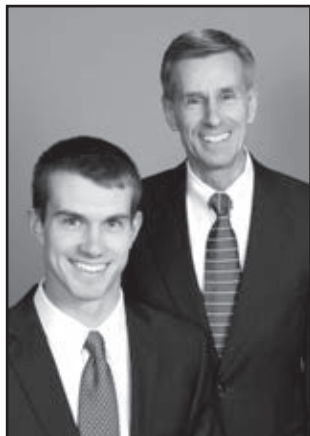
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Information may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to news@thehinsdalean.com.

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OBITUARIES

Samuel Elia

Samuel Elia, a lifelong resident of Burr Ridge, passed away Nov. 1, 2023.

Sam, 71, was born in Hinsdale in 1952 and was the proud owner of Elia Sealcoating, a local business that he built and loved. He enjoyed working with his employees and customers, many of whom became his friends.

Everyone liked Sam, who was kindhearted, funny and talented. Sam loved to play the guitar, write songs and sing — and yes, he was good.

He was a huge Bears fan, being a season ticket holder for many years. He was also an avid motorcycle enthusiast, his Harley Davidson was always polished and ready for a weekend ride.

A more recent love was that for his two dogs, Toby and Augie, who brought a new joy to his life. Sam



Elia

will be remembered by all those who knew him as a good man, a man to be remembered.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Normand and Dorothy Elia of Hinsdale.

He is survived by his partner, Joan Kelly; his brothers, Daniel, Mark (Lisa) and David; his sister, Judith Elia; Joan's sons, Carlo and Angelo; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. A celebration of life will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20, at

The Lodge at Katherine Legge Memorial Park, 5901 S. County Line Road, Hinsdale.

Interment will follow at 2 p.m. at Clarendon Hills Cemetery in Darien.

Memorials may be made online to the Hinsdale Humane Society at www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org.

Heather Jane Johnston

Heather Jane Johnston, 55, of Chicago, a former Hinsdale resident, passed away unexpectedly Nov. 5, 2023.

Heather was passionate about life, finding joy in boating, tennis, golfing, skiing and philanthropy. When she was not in Chicago, Heather cherished time spent with her family in Saugatuck, Mich., and Key Largo, Fla. Heather Jane's vibrant spirit will be forever cherished in our hearts.

She is survived by her children, Ryan McCann and Haley Weil; her mother, Jane Johnston



Johnston

of Hinsdale; and her brothers, Duke Johnston and John Johnston.

She was preceded in death by her father, Billy Johnston.

Interment was private at Bronswood Cemetery in Oak Brook.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to PAWS Chicago at www.pawschicago.org. A celebration of Heather's life will be planned for a future date.

Sullivan Funeral Home in Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Jocelyn Elizabeth Manderico

Jocelyn Elizabeth Manderico, nee Massie, 38, died unexpectedly Nov. 10, 2023, at her Darien home.

She was born in 1984, and came home to her family, James and Christine Massie, in Hinsdale on Dec. 17 of that year.

Jocelyn attended Monroe School, Hinsdale Middle School and Hinsdale Central, graduating with the class of 2003. She was a fun, spirited soul who had many interests. As a child and young adult she traveled widely with her family and was an accomplished skier and swimmer. She trained as a nursing assistant and brightened the lives of many seniors in long-term care. When well, she was an upbeat and joyful person. She was a loving mother to her children and dedicated to her husband, Benju. She enjoyed cooking, knitting and music and her greatest joy was caring for Benju and their children, Maiyari and Lilyah, and also her stepson, Joey, and her firstborn child, Jayden.

Jocelyn is survived by her husband, Benju; her



Manderico

children, Maiyari, Lilyah and Jayden; her stepson, Joey; her parents, James and Christine Massie; her in-laws, Julie and Benedicto Manderico; her aunts, Frances Winter and Janis Massie; her brother, Jonathan Massie; her sister-in-law, Jenny (Veel) Massie; her brothers-in-law, Ben Jr. (Lynda) Cruz, Leo, Jube (Chris) and Mars; her sister-in-law, Joanna (Derek) Smitheram; and her nieces and nephews, Joan, Ava, Junior (Jonathan), Vincent, Karina, Zackary, Cody and Alyssa.

Visitation is from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at Sullivan Funeral Home, 60 S. Grant St., Hinsdale.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, at Church of the Holy Nativity, 275 S. Richmond Ave., Clarendon Hills, with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of DuPage at www.namidupage.org, or Church of the Holy Nativity at www.holynativity-church.org.

Dorothy Ann McDermott

Dorothy Ann McDermott, nee Moody, 82, of Hinsdale, Marco Island, Fla., and Delavan Lake, Wis., passed away peacefully Nov. 12, 2023, surrounded by her family.

Dorothy graduated from Visitation High School and Elmhurst College. Jack and Dorothy raised their three boys in Hinsdale and spent their summers in Delavan Lake — Assembly Park.

Dorothy spent countless hours as a dedicated volunteer at the McDermott Center. Dorothy also enjoyed spending time with family and friends in Marco Island, Fla., during the winter months.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John "Jack;" and her siblings, Patsy (the late Bob), Joan (the late Jim) Morgan and Tom "Tucker" (Pat) Moody.

She is survived by her children, John (Leslie), Kevin and James (Julie); her grandchildren, Emily, Sean, Michael, Jimmy, Maggie and Katie McDermott; her siblings, Coyle, Jack (Ann) Moody, Marge (the late Jim) Rodgers, Bob (the late Dawn) Moody and Jim Moody; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation is from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at Hallowell & James Funeral Home, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside.

A memorial Mass will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at St. John of the Cross Church, 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to the Haymarket/McDermott Center at hcenter.org/donate/.

ASK AN EXPERT

BRANISLAV DEDIC, HOSPICE CHAPLAIN

What do you do as a hospice chaplain?

At 56 years old, plenty of people begin to think about the day when they will report to work for the final time and begin a more leisurely life. Not Branislav Dedic.

Twenty-two years ago, at the age of 56, Dedic was about to embark on a new job as hospice chaplain at AdventHealth St. Thomas Hospice. Today, the 78-year-old credits the job for keeping him young and for strengthening his faith.

As hospice chaplain, Dedic's job is to make a patient and their loved ones as comfortable and peaceful as possible as they await the inevitable. He said it isn't unusual to see a dying person smile and describe seeing their deceased loved ones just before taking their last breath.

"They look at peace," Dedic said.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has been part of Dedic's life from the beginning. He grew up in the church, where his own father was a pastor. After leaving his native Yugoslavia in 1965 to study theology in France, he worked as a pastor in Yugoslavia and later as a missionary in Cameroon in Central Africa.

Dedic said Cameroon and its people continue to hold a special place in his heart.

In 1987, Dedic arrived in Chicago, where he served as pastor of a Yugoslavian Adventist church for 14 years before accepting the position of hospice chaplain.

"I never consider this a job," Dedic said.

The headquarters for AdventHealth St. Thomas Hospice is in Hinsdale, but Dedic rarely spends time there. His days are spent driving from patient to patient, visiting homes, nursing facilities and other places where patients are spending their final days.

"I loved being pastor. I adored being a missionary," said Dedic.

But he said the ability to comfort someone in one of life's most difficult moments is a privilege he finds humbling.

Dedic said he ministers only to families and patients who request his presence. Some, he said, seek to reconnect with their faith. Others have questions or simply want someone to pray with them.

His job is never to share his own beliefs. He is there to listen, to hold a person's hand, and like everyone on the hospice team, to offer comfort

and support.

"If they express a desire for a chaplain, I am coming much more to listen than to preach," he said.

Dedic said he recalls a time when a Muslim patient asked him to pray with him. Dedic was hesitant, because he didn't know any prayers from that man's religion. The patient assured Dedic that a prayer to God to relieve his pain was all he needed, regardless of the words that were chosen.

"There is just one God," the man reminded Dedic.

"It was very touching for me," Dedic said.

Dedic married his wife Vera 53 years ago and credits a healthy lifestyle for making his long marriage, his long career and his long life possible. He eats a vegetarian diet of organic foods, has never had a single taste of alcohol, and begins each day with prayer while driving his daughter to school at the Seventh-day Adventist Academy in Hinsdale.

It's typical for Dedic to drive more than 100 miles each day as he travels from patient to patient, but he still can't see an end to his half-century-long career.

"I cannot imagine," he said.

— story by Sandy Illian Bosch



Hospice chaplain Branislav Dedic said he is privileged to help make a person's last days more pleasant and comfortable with a prayer, a touch or a listening ear. (Jim Slonoff photo)



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— **Carisha Swanson, director of editorial special projects for House Beautiful**



The 22-room, 13,879-square-foot estate at 505 S. County Line Road was completely redesigned over the summer for House Beautiful magazine.

Hinsdale home is in national spotlight

J. Jordan Homes, Krehbiel mansion picked for House Beautiful’s 2023 Whole Home

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

The estate at 505 S. County Line Road is a one-of-a-kind property. And it’s the subject of a one-of-a-kind endeavor.

The former home of the late Fred Krehbiel, Molex founder and CEO, and his wife Kay, is House Beautiful magazine’s 2023 Whole Home renovation project.

The magazine selected

Hinsdale builder Julie Laux of J. Jordan Homes to lead the project after she was recommended by a designer friend who worked on last year’s home in Atlanta. Laux then chose the 13-room home that dates back to the early 1900s for the project.

“They wanted a woman builder and there has never been a national-level show-house in the Midwest,” Laux said.

“We could not be more thrilled to be taking on this historic renovation in Hinsdale with this innovative build team, inspiring group of designers and our design-leading brand partners,” Carisha Swanson, director of editorial special projects for House Beautiful said when the project was announced. “When homeowners choose a house, whether historic or brand new, they often wonder

what elements to keep and what’s worth updating.

“Our goal this year is to empower our audience with big ideas and smart takeaways that give them the confidence to transform their home into a place they’ll love for decades to come,” she added.

In addition to supporting the 15 women on the all-female design team, Laux and her team completely transformed the kitchen and renovated all but one of the bathrooms.

“I had my ideas of what the house needed. The biggest one was the kitchen,” Laux said.

“We took five rooms and made a proper kitchen. That was the most construction that we did.

“The kitchen is off the chains to me,” she said. “The kitchen is as good as you can do.”

Laux designed the baby’s room on the second floor and the original bowling alley in the basement as well. She also hired the five paint and five wallpaper crews that prepped the house.

Sponsors donated furniture, artwork, light fixtures and other items worth \$1.5 million

to create rooms with a lived-in feel. Another \$500,000 went toward the renovations, Laux said.

This is the sixth Whole Home project House Beautiful has done. In previous years, the articles ran over five pages in the magazine. The one that appears in this month’s issue is 42 pages, Laux noted with pride.

“I don’t think it could have been any better, given the time frame, the budget, the challenges. I’m super proud of what we did,” she said.

Laux hopes the renovation will help attract a buyer who wants to preserve the house.

“The thing about preservation is everybody wants someone else to do it,” she said. “This is the best chance, and that’s why I did it. If no one shows up to buy it, we just have to accept that. It is what it is.”

No matter what happens to the house, Laux has no regrets.

“In my life accomplishments, it’s on the list,” she said.

Please turn to Pages 16, 17



House Beautiful’s feature on the home is available online today, Nov. 16, and the issue will hit newsstands Nov. 28. (photos courtesy of House Beautiful)

NEWS



Among the designers who participated in the House Beautiful 2023 Whole Home Renovation were Caitlin Wilson Design, first floor living room; Colordrunk Designs, oval dining room; Centered by Design, sunroom; Society Social, upstairs bedroom; Architectural Grille, sitting room and shutters; and J. Jordan Homes, kitchen. More than 2,000 people bought

tickets to tour the home, and more than \$100,000 was raised through ticket sales and an online auction for Humble Design, which changes lives and communities by custom designing and fully furnishing home interiors for individuals, families and veterans emerging from homelessness in Chicago and other cities. (Jim Slonoff photos)

Home and its history worth preserving

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

As impressive as the home at 505 S. County Line Road is today, it might have been even more stately when it was built on about 50 acres of land in 1901 for Lemuel Hinton Freer.

The house stood four stories tall and was surrounded by a coach house, stable, silo, gardener's cottage, multiple barns and world-famous kennels, according to a tour of the home created by Katharine Andrew, manager of the Hinsdale Historical Society, and available at hinsdale.stqry.app.

La Grange-based architect Joseph Corson Llewellyn designed the home, which was built by well-known Hinsdale contractor (and village board member) Adolph Frosscher.

Before the home was finished, Roger Sullivan, owner of Sawyer Biscuit Co. (which later became part of Keebler) purchased it. Its next owner was coal magnate Francis Stuyvesant Peabody, who bought it for his son, Stuyvesant "Jack" Peabody. The Peabodys hired David Adler to redesign and renovate the main floor.

While the Peabodys owned

the home, the ballroom on the third floor was used as a boxing ring, according to the app, and in the 1920s, The Players of Hinsdale performed comedies and plays on the lawn.

The home was sold in 1934 to William and Florence Thompson, who rented out the house. Among the renters were the Raymonds, whose daughter married Bill Veeck, Fred Krehbiel's uncle, in the home in 1935.

During the Thompson's ownership, the top two floors were removed. Conflicting accounts as to the reason why exist, but the decision likely was financially motivated.

A decade later the home was sold again, this time to Vacia Duncan, who, with her husband, owned the old Spinning Wheel Restaurant. The couple passed the home on to their daughter, Wilma Duncan Castle, who ultimately sold it to Fred and Kay Krehbiel in 1974.

The Krehbiels had extensive work done on the house, led by Chicago architect Thomas Beeby. In addition to major renovations, two sun rooms and guest apartments were added. The family left the old bowling alley in the basement, where it remains to this day.

"(T)his residence is not



This early photo of the home was taken in the early 1910s, before its top two stories were removed in the 1930s. (Hinsdale Historical Society photo)

merely one piece of architectural history," the historical society's preface to the tour states. "It's a mosaic of styles and eras put together seamlessly, blending the historic and Victorian with the new and modern."

Fred Krehbiel died in June 2021, and the property was sold in 2022 to Mihai Sava for \$7.5 million, according to an article in The Real Deal.

The home was among the first 46 properties added to the village's Historically Significant Structures List earlier this year, which means it is eligible for incentives such as relaxed or waived zoning regulations, property tax rebates and matching grant funds. An explanation of available incentives is on the village's website at www.villageof-hinsdale.org by clicking on the "Residents" tab and then "Historic preservation."

Coldwell Bankers' Dawn McKenna, listing agent for the 13,879-square-foot home boasting 8 bedrooms and 7.2 baths, gathered a panel of experts at the house Jan. 19 — months before it was selected by House Beautiful for its 2023 Whole Home renovation — to discuss saving the iconic property. More than 200 architects, landscapers, writers, contractors, interior designers and others attended.



The property initially was three lots and can be sold as such. "No one wants to see that happen," village planner Bethany Salmon said. "The village would obviously love to see this be kept as one lot."

At that time, the house needed some love, said Hinsdale village planner and panelist Bethany Salmon. And it's gotten just that.

"Before it was a hodge-podge maze," Salmon said. "Now you want to be able to walk through this maze and see what it brings you. Before you didn't want to walk through it."

She said Julie Laux's work to help transform the home (see accompanying story) is a great example of preservation.

"This is a member of our community going above and

beyond what they had to do to help save the house and hopefully find a buyer that is going to purchase the house and all the land with it," Salmon said. "It's not just a good Hinsdale story. We get some national attention from it, which is wonderful."

A buyer of the home and all three lots, listed at \$9.99 million, would own one of the largest properties and one of the grandest estates in Hinsdale, Salmon said.

"We'll give them bragging rights if they can do it," she said.



Fred and Kay Krehbiel purchased the home in 1974 and hired Chicago architect Thomas Beeby to add and renovate space. The couple owned the property until after Fred passed away in 2021. (Hinsdale Historical Society photo)

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

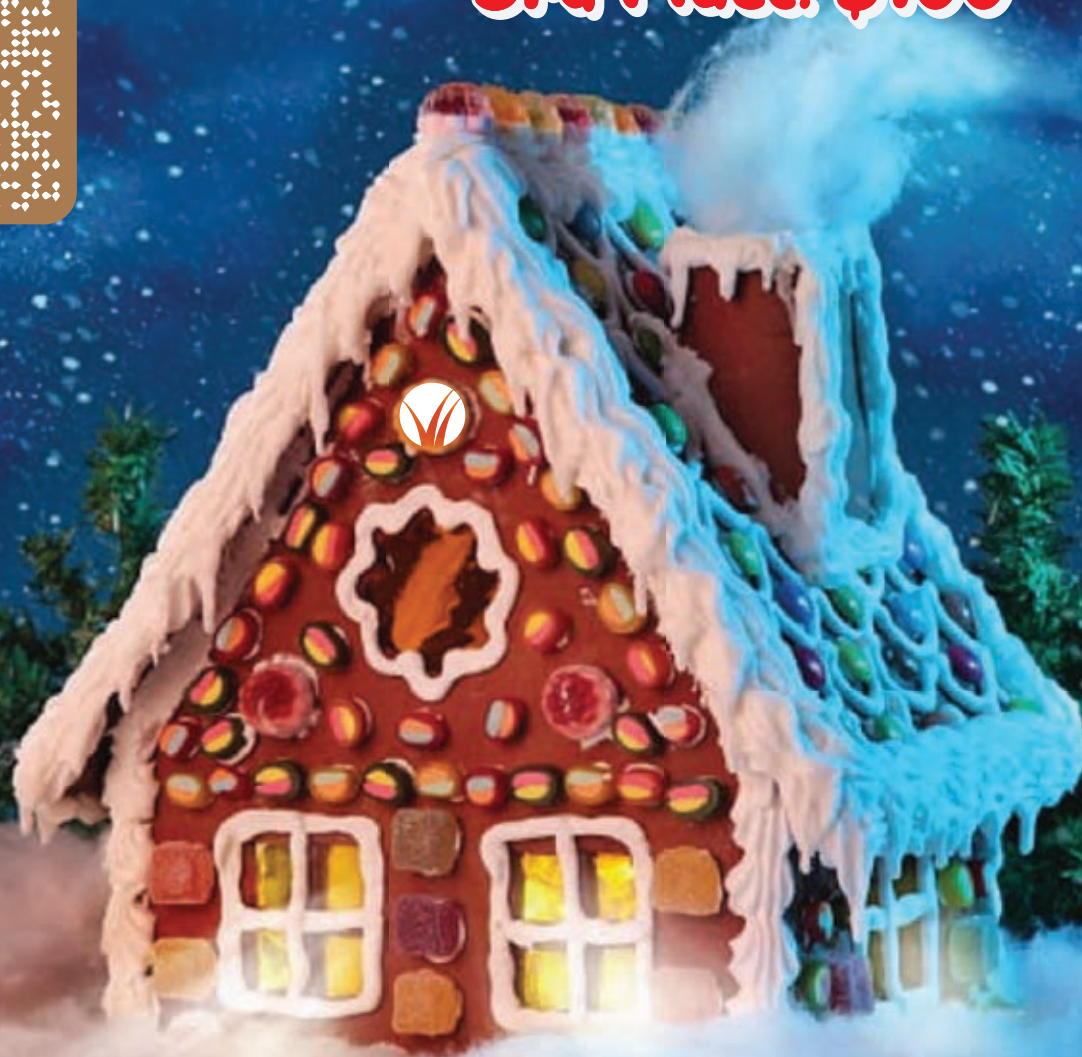


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En garde, Mouse King!

Local ballet companies breathe new life into renditions of 'The Nutcracker'

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

It's not the holidays without "The Nutcracker," and several local ballet troupes are performing the classic story over the next several weeks.

Hinsdale Dance Academy this weekend will pirouette its 11th annual production of "The Nutcracker" into St. Francis Preparatory's Kuhn Cultural Arts Center at 2130 Roosevelt Road in Wheaton.

Jennifer Grapes Croughan, HDA founder and artistic director, said audiences are in for an immersive experience.

"From the moment you walk into the door you're transported to a winter wonderland," she said.

The set features pieces courtesy of the Milwaukee Ballet, including a brand new growing Christmas tree that rises 25 feet high. Even those who have seen previous versions will be dazzled by reimagined choreography and professional guest dancers from the Minnesota Ballet.

"It really is kind of like it's received a fresh new look that we're super excited to share with our audiences," Croughan said. "You don't often get to see this caliber of production in the suburbs."

Croughan said her hope is to deliver a memorable show that all can relate to.

"We want to create a production that resonates with our audience members, an experience for all the senses.

"It's part of our Christmas tradition," she continued. "There's still something about seeing a live production and that element of anything can happen. You can feel the energy in the room, which is something you can't recreate on a screen."

Due to popular demand, the 2:30 p.m. Sunday show and Meet the Sweets event afterward already has sold out.

The shows at 7 p.m. tomorrow, Nov. 17, and 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, still have tickets available, priced at \$38-\$42. Visit ticketpeak.co/hda/events.

Salt Creek Ballet

Hinsdale eighth-graders Lily Bier



Several local dance companies will help audiences ring in the holiday season with performances of "The Nutcracker," including (clockwise from left) West Suburban Ballet, Hinsdale Dance Academy and Salt Creek Ballet. (photos provided)

and Caroline Hurley remember their "Nutcracker" debut a decade ago with Salt Creek Ballet.

"We were 'Toy' together," Lily said.

"I was Chinese toy and you were Russian toy," Caroline said to her company mate.

This year they share the portrayal of lead Clara as she and the Nutcracker battle the Mouse King and embark on a magical journey in Salt Creek's performances Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 25-26, in the Hinsdale Central auditorium, 5500 S. Grant St.

Erica De La O, co-artistic director of the troupe, spoke of the joy in watching dancers grow up through the cast.

"You can start so young and just go through all the roles. Every year's a new milestone," she said.

Audiences will enjoy the snow scene — with flakes drifting in their seats — and archangel characters have been added to this year's production. Santa Claus will be available for pictures on Saturday. And the Sugar Plum Party is always a hit for audience members, who can meet the characters, step onto the

stage and enjoy refreshments in a winter wonderland.

"The goal is to make it a special experience from the moment they arrive to the moment they leave," De La O said. "We have a huge winterland theme for the children that will be really engaging visually."

The Nutcracker Boutique will be open for all performances, offering a selection of Nutcracker-themed holiday decorations and ornaments for purchase.

For Lily and Caroline, the show is an annual highlight.

"I don't think of it as winter, I think of it as 'Nutcracker' season," Caroline said.

Showtimes are 2 and 7 p.m. Nov. 25 and 1 p.m. Nov. 26.

Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$42 for seniors and ages 12 and younger on Nov. 25; then \$50/\$47 on Nov. 26 to include the Sugar Plum Party. Visit www.saltcreekballet.org.

West Suburban Ballet

The West Suburban Ballet will bring the magic of the season to The Community House, 415 W. Eighth

St., on Friday, Dec. 8, with its production of "The Nutcracker."

Kyle Seguin, founding director of the company, said the emphasis is on the performance.

"We keep our performance really simple because it's really about the quality of the dancing," he said, noting there are just 13 in the cast. "We try to keep the level and quality of the technique and artistry really high."

With that vision, The Community House is a tailor-made venue, Seguin suggested.

"I just think the theater is really intimate," he said. "The lobby we set up to be very warm and welcoming. It feels quite a bit more personal than our mainstage performances."

Santa will greet families, snacks and crafts will be offered, and kids will have a chance to dance on stage with performers following the show.

"And we'll have live music and cocktails for the adults. It's a nice event for all ages," Seguin said. "We try to make it a really friendly time for everyone."

The performance is at 6 p.m., and tickets are \$55 for adults and \$15 for children. Visit www.wsballer.org.



Lissa deGuzman stars in the title role of Drury Lane's production of "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella," on stage through Jan. 7. See Page 30 for details. (photo by Brett Beiner courtesy of Drury Lane)

ARTFULLY DONE

■ 'Your Dreams Remember You'

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

This stunning gallery exhibition from local artist Stephanie Lenchard-Warren takes visitors on a journey through centuries of vampire mythology and symbolism. Explore the hidden layers of vampire lore and legend, and experience the artistry of immortality in all its glory.

CENTRAL TIME

■ 'Puffs'

Nov. 16-18
Hinsdale Central High School
5500 S. Grant St.
www.ticketpeak.co/hcdrama/events

Hinsdale Central Drama presents its fall show, "Puffs (Or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain

School of Magic and Magic)," which follows a certain boy wizard who went to a certain Wizard School and conquered evil, but telling the story of the Puffs, who just happened to be there, too. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10, \$5 for kids, free for Central students.

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■ Café la Fortuna

46 Village Place
(630) 537-1586
www.lafortunahinsdale.com
Hours: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon Sunday.

■ Casa Margarita

25 E. Hinsdale Ave.

Please turn to Page 22



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Learning to reframe failure is an important life skill

With students well into a new school year and exploring the excitement of new learning opportunities, friendships and extra curriculars, it is inevitable that at some point, they will hit a bump in the road and experience a setback or failure.

As human beings, especially kids, we sometimes tie self-worth or our value to these outcomes.

As parents, guardians and teachers, we have a terrific opportunity to help our kids look at mistakes as learning opportunities and reframe how they view failure. Failure in life is a certainty. Imagine what it could mean for our kids if we could help them look at failure as an opportunity to become their best self.

Failure is a normal

As adults we have the advantage of learning over the years that failing at something is different from failing as a

person. To a teen, the mere thought of failure can illicit feelings of embarrassment, hurt, anger and disappointment. They do not know what we do, that challenging times can be a benefit in the long run.

Adults are in a great position to not only normalize struggles and setbacks, but model how to address them successfully. Let your kids see you struggle, but also, how you navigate disappointment and challenges. Engage in conversations with them on how failure made you better or how it was useful.

Failure helps us learn

Failure can be an incredible teacher. We learn from our mistakes, and as a result, we become problem-solv-



Susan Foley
On mental health

ers, learn new knowledge, gain valuable experiences, create relationships and build resiliency. While our instincts might suggest we rush in and rescue our kids from mistakes or gloss over them when they occur, it is far better to let them produce their own workable solutions. By allowing for this, they can develop skills necessary to navigate life, while still under

your guidance.

Let them initiate a conversation with their coaches, teachers or friends when problems arise. Allow them to work through big feelings. The experience they gain will benefit them throughout life and instill confidence in their ability to do so.

Don't avoid failure

Failure can cheat us out of who we are meant to be. Do not let it.

Many are familiar with stories of people who experienced devastating failure but kept pushing forward. Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team. J.K. Rowling's novel, "Harry Potter," was rejected 12 times.

The idea of failure can be scary, but if we make it a point to avoid it at all costs, it can cheat us out of what could be or who we can become. Discuss with your kids what could happen if they fail, but also what could happen if they don't.

Failure is going to happen in life, but how we learn to look at it and navigate it can make a lifelong difference in the experiences we have and who we become. Help kids normalize it, navigate it and become who they are meant to be.

— Susan Foley is a health educator at Candor Health Education in Hinsdale.

■ Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team. J.K. Rowling's novel, "Harry Potter," was rejected 12 times.



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www.eggharborcafe.com
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(630) 974-6162
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■ **Fuller House**
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(630) 568-5466

www.fullerhousebar.com
Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to midnight Friday & Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Giuliano's Ristorante**
40 Village Place
(630) 734-1500
www.giulianospizza.com
Hours: 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, 4 to 10 p.m. Friday & Saturday.

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8 E. First St.
(630) 734-9400
www.ilpoggiolohinsdale.com
Dine-in, delivery and takeout.
Dine in hours: 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Jade Dragon**
43 S. Washington St.
(630) 323-6959
www.jadedragonhinsdale.com
Dine in, delivery and take out. Hours: 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. weekdays, 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.

■ **Nabuki**

18 E. First St.
(630) 654-8880
www.nabukihinsdale.com
Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday to Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday & Saturday, 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday & Monday.

■ **Page's Restaurant**
26 1/2 E. First St.
(630) 323-9058
www.facebook.com/pages-restaurant
Dine in and carryout. Hours: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily.

■ **Que Miso**
114 S. Washington St.
(630) 570-0217
www.quemiso.com
Hours: 3:30 to 9 p.m.
Monday to Thursday & Sunday, 3:30 to 11:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday

■ **Sweet Ali's Bakery**
13 W. First St.
(630) 908-7175
www.sweetalis.com
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, closed Sunday and

Monday.

■ **Toni Patisserie & Café**
51 S. Washington St.
(630) 789-2020
www.tonipatisserie.com
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Monday to Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Vistro Prime**
112 S. Washington St.
(630) 537-1459
www.vistroprime.com
Hours: 4:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday; 4:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday.

■ **Wild Ginger**
44 S. Washington St.
(630) 323-1888
www.wildgingerhinsdale.com
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Sunday.

■ **YiaYia's Cafe**
13 Grant Square
(630) 487-5600
www.yiayiasinsdale.com
Hours: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily

FOR A CAUSE

■ **Humane Society Bake Sale**
Nov. 18
Hinsdale Humane Society
21 Salt Creek Lane
www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org

This bake sale fundraiser will benefit the Zach Leathers Emergency Medical Fund. All items are donated by home bakers. Those interested in contributing baked items should send an email to Erin Palumbo at erin.palumbo@hinsdalehumanesociety.org. Hours: noon to 4 p.m.

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■ **Cast-Iron Cooking: Thanksgiving**
Nov. 19
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Please turn to Page 26



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COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY

Continued from Page 22

meal over an open campfire while learning tips for cooking with cast iron. Ages 8 and up are welcome; those under 18 must be with an adult. Time: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$20. RR

■ Waterfowl Walk

Nov. 26
West Branch
West Army Trail Road west of Fair Oaks Road, West Chicago
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 942-6200

Take a guided autumn bird walk to search for the bright, colorful feathers of migrating waterfowl. Ages 12 and up are welcome; those under 18 must be with an adult. Time: 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Cost: \$5. RR

■ Moon Walk

Nov. 27
Little Red Schoolhouse
Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897

Walk in the largest Urban Night Sky Place in the world. Time: 6:30 p.m. RR

GREEN THUMB

■ Kokedama: String Gardening

Nov. 18
Mayslake Peabody Estate
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 206-9566

Spend a relaxing afternoon learning from a local organic flower farmer the history and techniques of Kokedama, the Japanese art of string gardening. Time: 1 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$60. RR

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Hot Topics in Blood Cancer

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

Join top oncologists, surgeons and healthcare professionals in the Chicagoland

area to learn about the latest updates in the research and treatment of blood cancers. Dr. John Quigley of the University of Illinois Cancer Center and Dr. Anand Patel of UChicago Medicine will discuss updates in the treatment and research for blood cancers from 9 to 11 a.m., with a Q&A from 10:30 to 11 a.m.. Social worker Denisse Martinez of the University of Chicago Medical Center will speak on coping with a transplant from 11 a.m. to noon. Time: 9 to noon. RR

■ Burning Beats

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

Participants will dance their way a healthier, happier self, enjoying the music, contagious energy and company of like-minded individuals while getting the heart pumping and burning calories. With easy to follow routines, this group

exercise class is perfect for all fitness and skill levels. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle. Times: 9:30 a.m. Sundays, 10 a.m. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. Fridays. Cost: \$15 for walk-ins, \$5 for students, \$100 for a 10-class punch card.

HELP WANTED

■ Volunteer for Wellness House

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

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

above.

NOTEWORTHY

■ The Refugees

Nov. 18
Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
11 W. Maple St.
www.acousticren.com
(630) 941-7797

Cidny Bullens, Deborah Holland and Wendy Waldman formed their unique and innovative group in 2007, entertaining audiences with soaring harmonies, indelible musicianship and an unforgettably humorous stage presence and featuring musical styles that blend country, rock, folk, blues and Americana. The concert is part of the Acoustic Renaissance Concerts series. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20.

■ 'Paris: The Show'

Nov. 18
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org

Please turn to Page 28

THE HINSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

The Opening Night Of: FINDING GRACE

The forgotten story of social reformer
Grace Bagley

Thursday Nov. 16

6 PM to 9 PM

Frank Lloyd Wright's Bagley House

121 S County Line Rd, Hinsdale

Light bites and beverages to be served

For free registration, please visit

<https://www.hinsdalehistory.org/upcoming-events>

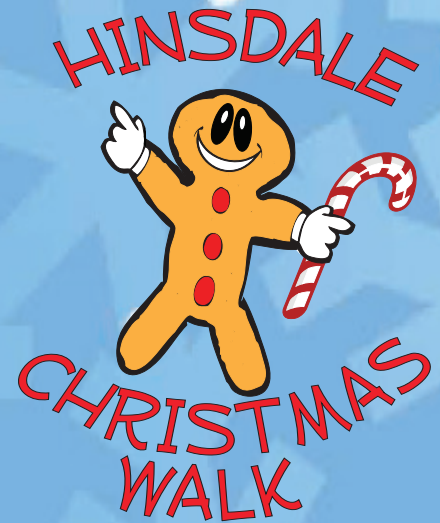
Exhibition: Saturday & Sundays (11/18-12/17) 10 AM – 5 PM



Razny Jewelers &
Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce Present

Hinsdale's 57th Annual Christmas Walk

Friday
December 1, 2023
5 pm – 7:00 pm
In downtown Hinsdale



- ❄️ Santa's Arrival & Tree Lighting 5 pm
- ❄️ Take a Ride on “Cookie’s Carousel”
& “Kiddie Express Train”
- ❄️ Animated Holiday Characters & Strolling Carolers
- ❄️ Giveaways and More

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Focus Point Training • Hinsdale Animal Hospital • Hinsdale Historical Society • Hinsdale Humane Society
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Marabella Home • Phillip's Flowers • MPI Wealth Management • Tesla Motors
The Sheridan at Oak Brook • The Law Offices of Jonathan Merel

www.hinsdalechamber.com

Shop, Dine, Discover Hinsdale for the Holidays!

Continued from Page 26

(630) 942-4000

This celebration of the greatest French songs of all time will transport audience members from Montmartre to the stages of the great Parisian cabarets to hear the music of Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel, Josephine Baker, Maurice Chevalier, Lucienne Boyer and more. Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$50-\$60.

■ Magic of the Magyars

Nov. 18
Wentz Concert Hall
171 E. Chicago Ave.,
Naperville
www.dupagesymphony.org
(630) 778-1003

The DuPage Symphony Orchestra will perform this concert highlighting the music of Hungary and featuring bassoon soloist Eleni Katz. The program includes Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 1 and "Les préludes," Kodaly's "Hary Janos Suite" and Weber's "Andante e Ronda ungarese." Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$38-\$43, \$34-\$39 for seniors, \$15-\$20 for students.

■ Nathan Gunn: A Stroll Down Broadway

Nov. 19
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

Operatic and Broadway legend Nathan Gunn returns to the MAC, accompanied by pianist, vocalist — and wife — Julie Jordan Gunn, to present a program filled with classical musical theater works from Rodgers and Hammerstein, Jerome Kern and their contemporary heirs. Time: 3 p.m. Tickets: \$58-\$68.

■ 'Welcome Yule!'

Nov. 25 & 26
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
203 S. Kensington Ave., La Grange
www.hinsdalechorale.org
(312) 510-1823

Hinsdale Chorale will perform its annual holiday concert, featuring the holiday favorite, "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten. Harpist Faye Seeman, principal harpist with the Chicago Sinfonietta Orchestra, will perform with the chorale. The program will also include a variety of traditional and more

contemporary Christmas pieces sung in German, Latin, Spanish and English. Times: 7 p.m. Nov. 25, 3 p.m. Nov. 26. Tickets: \$20, \$15 for students and seniors.

■ DuPage Community Jazz Ensemble

Nov. 30
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

The ensemble's concert will feature guest artist Melissa Aldana on saxophone along with artists-in-residence saxophonist Anthony Bruno, trombonist Catie Hickey, trumpeter James Davis and pianist Kevin Fort performing compositions by Aldana along with works by Debussy, Ellington, Monk, Chick Corea and more. Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$7.

■ Merry

Dec. 3
Hinsdale Central High School auditorium
5500 S. Grant St.
www.westsuburbansymphony.org

The West Suburban Symphony will perform familiar hits by Leroy Anderson, selections from Tchaikovsky's beloved "Nutcracker" ballet and Victor Herbert's nostalgic "Babes in Toyland" operetta and John Powell's charming "Happy Feet." Children will be able to greet Santa, and there's also a chance to win a \$250 raffle prize. Time: 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30, \$25 for seniors, \$5 for teens, free for ages 12 and younger.

ON STAGE

■ 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical'

Nov. 16-19
Westview Hills Middle School
630 65th St., Willowbrook
www.westmontparks.org/wpa

The Herdmans are the worst kids in the history of the world, so when they crash Sunday school and demand parts in the Christmas pageant, the whole town panics. Soon everyone is calling for reluctant director Grace Bradley to cancel the whole thing. It's up to the Bradleys and the reverend to help their community see the Christmas story and

Please turn to Page 30



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Join us for our monthly in-person and virtual
Thrive with Pride Café! Our goal is to provide
a space for **LGBT+ seniors** who are interested in
age-related or LGBT+ related topics,
discussions, and social opportunities.

Topic Schedule

October 28: Managing Stress & Trauma
November 25: Age My Way
December 30: Noon (ish) Year's Eve Party

For questions, information, or input on presentations, please contact:
Hanah Sebek at hsebek@agingcareconnections.org or
P: 708-603-2270

How to Attend - Join us via Zoom or in person
Via Zoom - Contact Hanah for Zoom information
In person: Aging Care Connections, 111 W. Harris Ave., La Grange, IL 60525

**FOURTH SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH
11 AM - 12 PM**

For information:
hsebek@agingcareconnections.org





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The District 181 Foundation partners with individuals and businesses in our community to encourage and support creativity, innovation and excellence in education for all District 181 students.

Learn more about our programs and partnerships at www.d181foundation.org

PULSE

Continued from Page 28

the Herdman kids through new eyes. Times: 7 p.m. Nov. 16 & 17, 2 & 6 p.m. Nov. 18 & 19. Tickets: \$20.

■ 'Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley'

Nov. 16-Dec. 17
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

Two years after the end of "Pride and Prejudice," the Bennet family is spending Christmas at Pemberley when an unexpected guest joins the festivities in this romantic comedy, rooted in the complications and joys of being part of a spirited family. The show contains adult themes and language. A pre-show talk with the director and designers will be held at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16; a post-show talk with the director and actors will be held Friday, Nov. 24. Times: 8 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25; no show on Thanksgiving. Tickets: \$44, \$42 for seniors.

■ 'The Laramie Project'

Nov. 17-19
Theatre of Western Springs
4384 Hampton Ave.
www.theatreofwesternsprings.com
(708) 246-3380

The Theatre of Western Springs' High School Repertory will perform this powerful and thought-provoking play based on the true story of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man who was brutally attacked and left for dead in Laramie, Wyo., in 1998. Due to language and content, the show is recommended for ages 13 and up. Times: 7 p.m. Nov. 17, 3 & 7 p.m. Nov. 18, 2 p.m. Nov. 19. Tickets: \$16, \$13 for age 17 and under.

■ 'Twelfth Night'

Thursdays to Sundays through Nov. 19
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn
www.atthemac.org
(630) 942-4000

In Shakespeare's tale of unrequited love, shipwrecked Viola disguises herself as a man and is recruited by Duke Orsino to woo Lady Olivia on his behalf, only to find herself trapped in an love triangle in

this hilarious and heartbreaking play. The play features adult themes and language. Times: 8 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$16, \$14 for students.

■ 'Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella'

Through Jan. 7
Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace
www.drurylanetheatre.com

Experience the classic Rodgers + Hammerstein adaptation of the beloved fairytale this holiday season. Featuring the songs "In My Own Little Corner," "Impossible/It's Possible" and "Ten Minutes Ago," this magical musical is sure to entrance families of all ages. Times: 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1:30 and 7 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays, 3 & 8 p.m. Saturdays, 2 & 6 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$100.75-\$111.25.

SIGN UP NOW

■ Geology of the Sag Valley

Nov. 18
Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
12545 W. 111th St., Lemont
www.fpdcc.com
(630) 257-2045

Come along for a tour of the Sag Valley to observe and interpret its geologic formations. Participants drive their own vehicles to each location. The program is for ages 16 & up. Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. RR

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Magnolia open house

Nov. 25 & Dec. 2
Magnolia Senior Living
10 N. Washington St.
(630) 214-1632

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

STEPPING BACK

■ Finding Grace: Opening Night

Nov. 16
Bagley House
121 S. County Line Road, Hinsdale
www.hinsdalehistory.org

The Hinsdale Historical Society presents Finding

Please turn to Page 32

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Average Days on Market*


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Sale Price vs. List Price*

*Source: MRED LLC.com Data average 08/06/2023-11/06/2023. All information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.

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Guide is out now! Registration
begins first week of December**





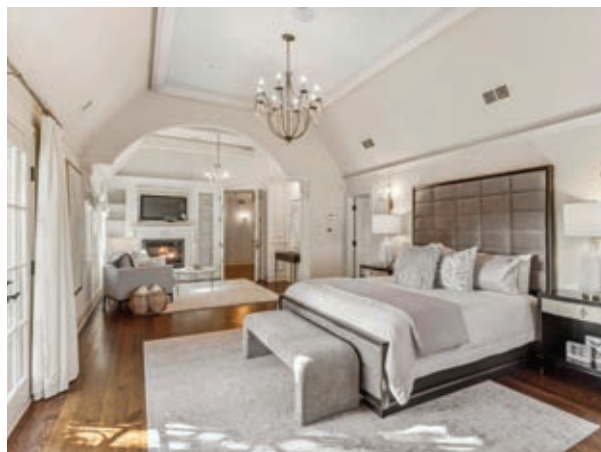

For more info, visit: villageofhinsdale.org/pr

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Pet pic of the week

Winter is coming, but that doesn't mean you can't have a lovely garden year round! Meet Garden, a gregarious 3-year-old who wants to be everyone's best friend. Garden is a big girl who doesn't quite know her own strength, so she would do best with older kids and/or adults. She is fully vaccinated, spayed and microchipped and her adoption fee has been donated. The Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center is open to the public 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, noon to 6 p.m. Wednesdays to Fridays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Visit www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org or call (630) 323-5630 for more information. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 30

Grace: The Forgotten Story of Social Reformer Grace Bagley, who began her extraordinary life of service in Hinsdale and became a pioneer in social reform on the national level. Local historians Jean Follett and Julia Bachrach will lead the program at the 1894 home Frank Lloyd Wright designed for her and her husband, Frederick, which is currently being restored by owner Safina Uberoi, president of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy. Light bites and beverages will be served. An exhibition in conjunction with the program will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays & Sundays, Nov. 18-Dec. 17, at the house. Time: 6 to 9 p.m. RR

TEENS & TWEENS

■ **Teen Game Time**
Nov. 17 & 24
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

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

WEE ONES

■ **Tiny Wonders**
Mondays, Nov. 27-Dec. 18
Clarendon Hills Community Center
315 Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 3-4 will explore a range of sensory, fine motor and artistic activities using diverse materials to unleash their creativity, while simultaneously engaging in play and discovery. Time: 2 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$72. RR

Key

RR - registration required

MD - member discount

SALT CREEK BALLET

Presents

The Nutcracker

November 25 see Santa

November 26 attend Sugar Plum Party
Hinsdale Central High School

December 1 & 2
North Shore Center
for the Performing Arts

December 16 & 17
McAninch Arts Center
College of DuPage

FOR TICKETS

OR TO GO:
www.saltcreekballet.org

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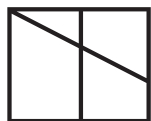


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SPIRIT OF GIVING

■ Operation Christmas Child

Through Nov. 20
Hope Church
5707 Wolf Road, LaGrange
Highlands
www.samaritanspurse.org
Fill a shoe box with toys,
hygiene items and school
supplies to help The
Samaritan's Purse deliver
millions of shoe boxes to
boys and girls in more than
100 countries this year. Find
directions on the "How to
Pack a Shoebox" link on the
website listed above and then
drop off donations at the
church. Cash donations also
can be made on the website.

■ Blood drive

Nov. 22
American Legion Post 1941
900 S. La Grange Road, La
Grange
www.redcrossblood.org/elf
Donations are critical to the
blood supply as the holiday
season — a time when blood
donations often decline —
draws near. The American Red
Cross is encouraging people
to add a new tradition and
spread cheer with a blood or
platelet donation. Those who
do so by Nov. 30 will receive
an exclusive pair of "Elf" + Red
Cross socks, while supplies
last. For other dates and loca-
tions, visit the website listed
above. Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

■ Blanket drive

Through Nov. 26
Hinsdale Covenant Church
412 S. Garfield Ave.
(630) 323-2318
The church is holding its
annual drive, collecting new
or gently used blankets of
any type — lap throws, baby
blankets, spreads, sheets and
towels. Donations may be
left inside the church's main
entrance. Pickups also can be
scheduled. The items will be
passed on to needy families
in the inner city on Christmas
Eve. Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
weekdays.

■ Gavin Coyle: A Celtic Christmas

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

Revel in the holiday spirit
with award-winning record-
ing artist Gavin Coyle as he
brings his annual "A Celtic
Christmas" back to the MAC.

Sing along with Gavin and his
band as they perform tradi-
tional holiday favorites from
America and Ireland. Ticket
proceeds benefit People's
Resource Center, a local non-
profit serving DuPage County
since 1975. Donations of food,
books and board games also
will be collected at the perfor-
mance. Time: 8 p.m. Tickets:
\$40.

■ Photos with Santa Paws

Dec. 2
Pet Rescue and Resource
Center
21 Salt Creek Lane,
Hinsdale
www.hinsdalehumanesoci-ety.org/events/santa-paws
(630) 323-5630
Hinsdale Humane Society
will take family photos with
Santa and friendly pet(s), com-
plete with holiday vendors,
reindeer food for the kids and
more. Pictures will be avail-
able for download after the
event. Check the website for
more details as they become
available.

■ Juniors Jingle Dash 5K

Dec. 10
Robbins Park
Seventh and Vine streets,
Hinsdale
www.runsignup.com/race/IL/Hinsdale/JuniorsJingleDash
This third annual event will
raise money to support the
grants the Hinsdale Junior
Woman's Club makes to local
nonprofits. Enjoy post-race
snacks and a photo oppor-
tunity with Santa and Mrs.
Claus. Festive holiday dress is
encouraged. T-shirts are guar-
anteed for everyone who reg-
isters by Nov. 24. Registration
closes Dec. 9. Time: 8 a.m.
Registration: \$40, \$20 for kids
18 and younger, strollers are
free; \$5 more on race day.

■ Secret Santa

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

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

■ Tree of Remembrance

Through Jan. 1
Lincoln and First streets,
Hinsdale
www.adventhealth.com/hospice-care/advent-health-st-thomas-hospice
Advent Health St.
Thomas Hospice's Tree of
Remembrance will stand out-
side of BMO Harris Bank from
Thanksgiving through the new
year. Community members
are invited to make a donation
and have a loved one's name
listed on the boards beside the
tree. Visit the website listed
above for details.

■ Hinsdale Humane Society Gift Shop

www.hinsdalehumanesoci-ety.org
Find the perfect gift for an
animal-lover at the Hinsdale
Humane Society Pet Rescue
and Resource Center online
gift shop and help raise money
to care for homeless animals.
T-shirts, hoodies, mugs, tote
bags and stickers are available
for the humans on the gift list.

■ Sponsor a Homeless Animal

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

■ Brookfield Zoo Adopt an Animal

www.czs.org/Kinda
www.czs.org/AdoptMeerkat
(708) 688-8341
The Chicago Zoological
Society's Animal Adoption
program is highlighting two
species this holiday season:
Kinda, the giraffe calf born
Aug. 19 and the meerkat mob
that arrived over the sum-
mer. Other animals also are
available. The basic package
includes a photo, certificate,
fact sheet and more. Price: \$35
basic package, \$165 for plush
package (includes stuffed ani-
mal).

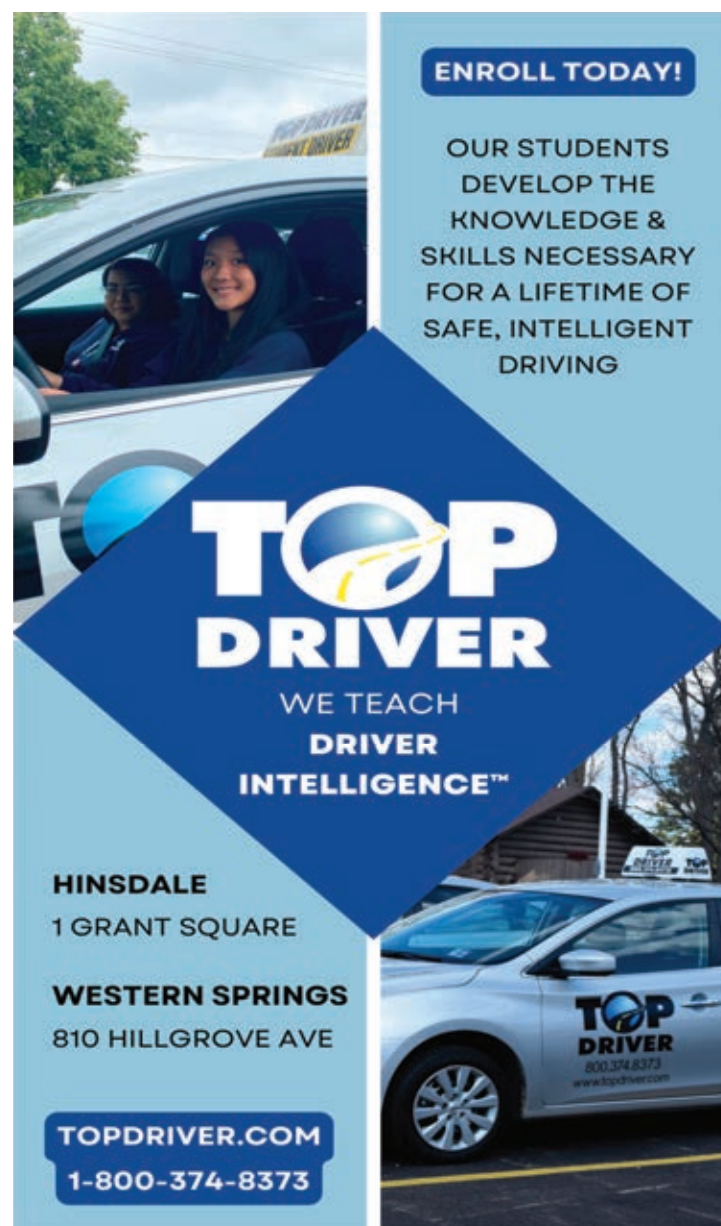


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Saluting veterans

Monroe School held an assembly Friday to honor veterans. The program featured songs, photos and an introduction of members of Hinsdale’s American Legion Post 250. Post members Jay Sedivy and Joe Craig salute during the National Anthem. Anna Eberfeld, Isabella Favia and Eloise Goar sing along during the anthem as well. Members of the Post presented the colors to kick off the program. (Jim Slonoff photos)



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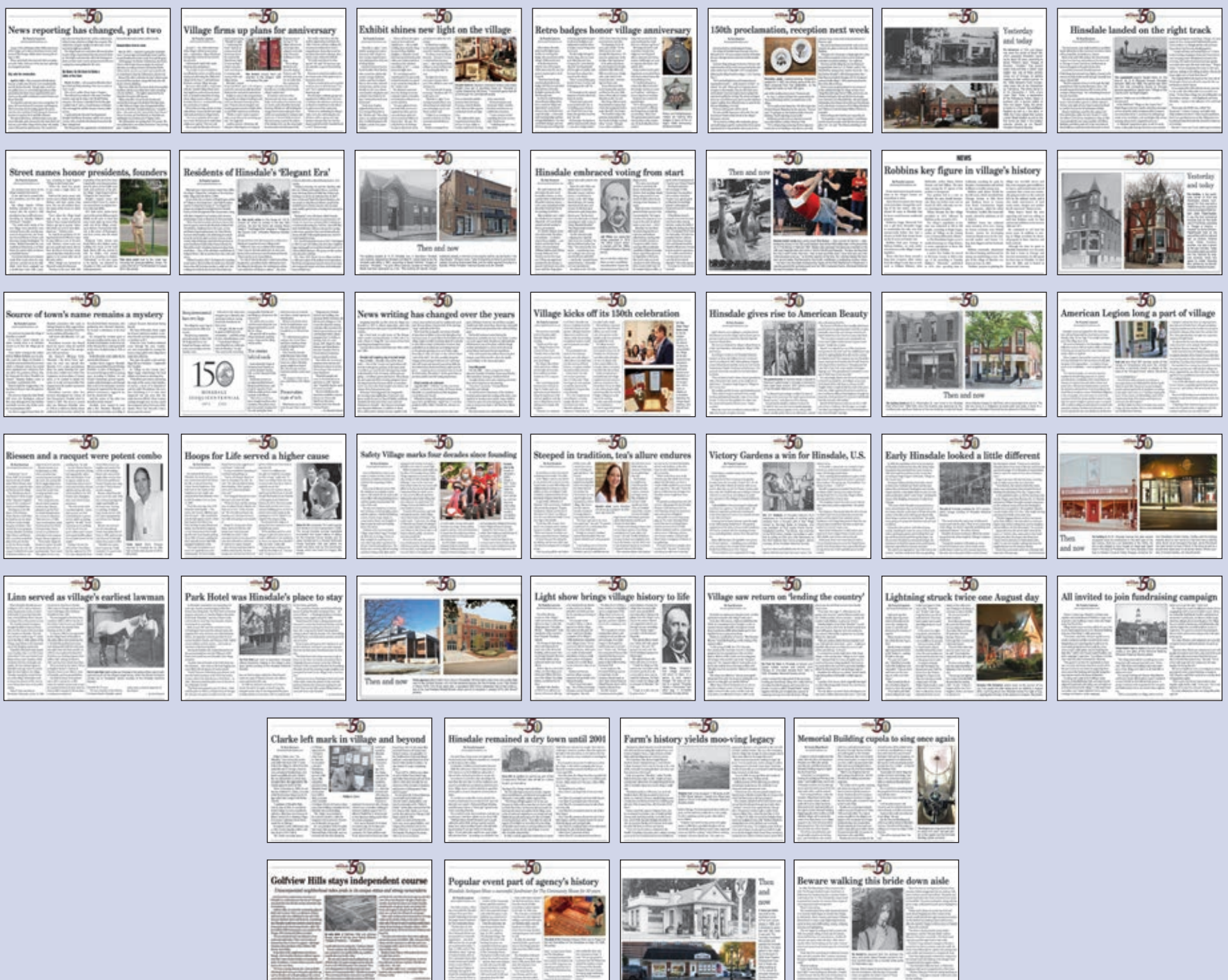
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A	N	N	E	F	R	A	N	K		O	I	L
			E	R	A	S		A	D	U	L	T
P	L	A	Z	A			S	N	I	T		
R	U	L	E		F	A	N	C	I	F	U	L
E	L	L		B	A	S	I	E		A	S	A
P	U	F	F	E	D	U	P		A	C	E	R
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C	U	M	I	N		A	F	R	O			
A	R	A		A	N	N	U	A	L	F	E	E
T	I	L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

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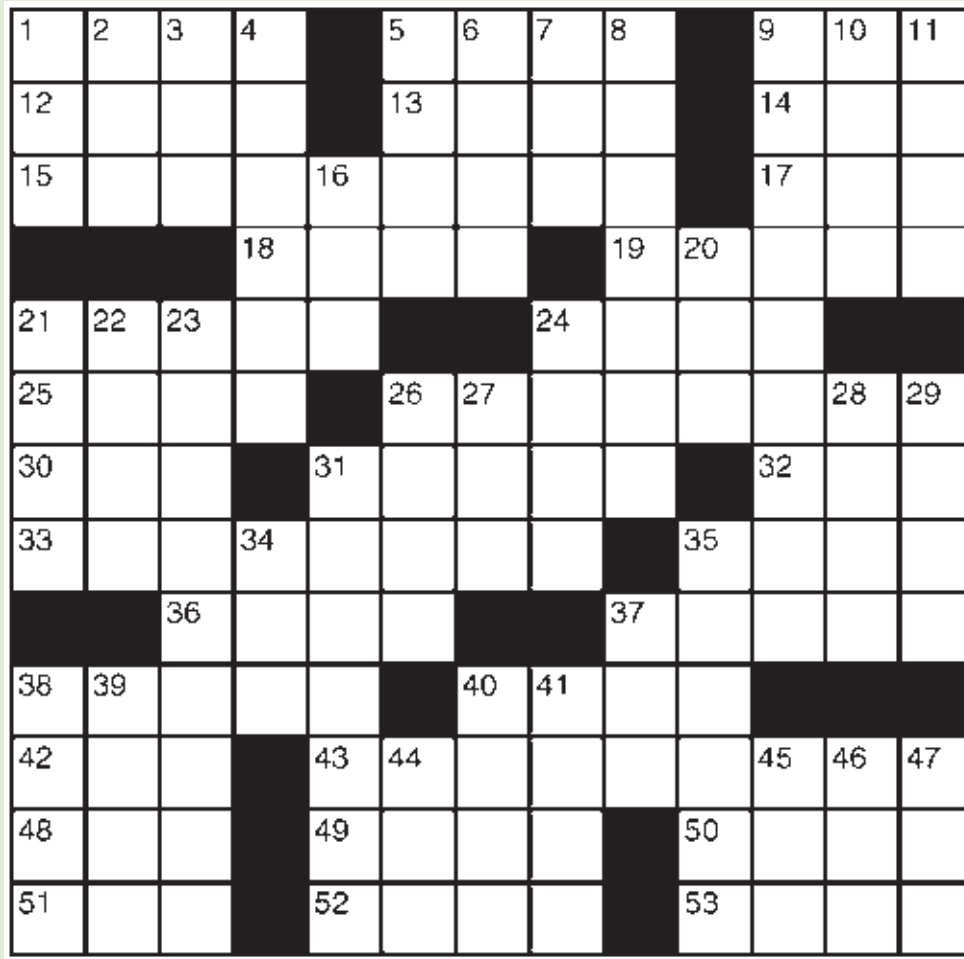


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32 SIMILE CENTER
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35 COMPUTER BRAND
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38 CURRY SPICE
40 ROUNDISH DO
42 PALINDROMIC CONSTELLATION
43 YEARLY CHARGE
48 UP TO
49 OBOE INSERT
50 CUPID'S REALM
51 COMPASS DIR.
52 COLUMNIST MAUREEN
53 MILKY GEM



- DOWN
- 1 EARL GREY, E.G.
2 HAVE
3 GENTS
4 LIGHT WIND
5 POET POUND
6 MEADOWS
7 DAY LIGHT
8 WITH SUSPICION, AS A LOOK
9 COMPLETE REVERSAL
10 BANISTER
11 BEER INGREDIENT
16 MONK'S TITLE
20 CATO'S 502
21 GET READY, BRIEFLY
22 HUMDINGER
23 LIKE THE SUPREMES AND THE POINTER SISTERS
24 USE SCISSORS
26 LOSE COLOR
27 TEMPE SCH.
28 ADDICT
29 ZHIVAGO'S LOVE
31 NOVELIST MALAMUD
34 MEMO LETTERS
35 LUNAR PROGRAM
37 MOUTHS (LAT.)
38 FELINES
39 "THE HAJ" AUTHOR
40 FROM THE START
41 ELMER OF CARTOONS
44 "THE MATRIX" ROLE
45 DANDY GUY
46 ACTRESS MENDES
47 MORAY, FOR ONE

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2				3				7
		8	7			4	1	
	4				6		3	
	1	3	8				5	
		7			9			6
5				7		2		
1			9					5
		2	6		1	8		
	8			4				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 numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

... 2023 K... ..

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Regain 2. Deluge;
3. Caste; 4. Diner

Today's Word
ENGAGED

SCRAMBLERS



Unscramble the letters and each scrambled to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the letters to form the missing word which will complete the story.

Schedule
AREIGN
Flood
GUELED
Tune
ASECT
Bottle
RIDEN

TODAY'S WORD

S	E	G	I	L	D	E	S	S	A
U	E	L	E	L	S	S	E	E	N
D	S	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	S
O	9	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	W
K	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
U	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	R

HOROSCOPES

November 2023 Horoscopes • Week 4



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, things may work out if you give them another chance. Don't throw in the towel on your ideas just yet. Figure out a new angle and then get started on a new course.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
It's important to pay attention to your physical health this week, Aries. It's key to give your body plenty of rest and healthy foods to strengthen your immune system.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, do not turn anyone away if they come to you looking for assistance. Someone in need is likely to seek you out in the days to come and you should be ready.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, you could feel sluggish a few days this week. Once some friends urge you to get out and do something, you'll quickly feel reenergized and ready to have a good time.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Take the blinders and rose-colored glasses off, Aquarius. You can't adequately handle a situation unless you know all of the facts and have a clear grasp of reality.



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Something out of the ordinary may happen to you this week, Taurus. You don't know what to expect, but be aware of your surroundings and the people you meet.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
There is no shame in taking a day off or slowing down for a breather, Leo. Spend the day in bed or lounging on the couch if you desire. Give yourself a break if you've been running around.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, failure can be a tough pill to swallow, but if you don't succeed at something you have to get back up and simply try again. Don't let one setback eat at you for long.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
If things are starting to feel boring, it might be time for a change of pace, Pisces. Simple things like changing around the furniture or taking a new route home can help.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
This is a perfect time to review your goals or to-do list, Gemini. If you don't have things jotted down, brainstorm with friends on what you may want to accomplish, then make plans.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
If emotions are high, Virgo, you might need to figure out a way to relieve some stress. Turn on the music loudly and dance around in your home while singing along.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Don't let your pride get in the way of rekindling a friendship, Sagittarius. Rather than drum up old news, talk about the things you look forward to doing together.

Relays, Bocos help teammates place fifth

Continued from Page 46

in first through fourth place at state (led by Rosary with 243 points) have young teams as well, Barber expects Central to build on this finish next year.

"The experience that all those first-time state competitors got is going to carry us to another level next year," he said.

Grace Klobach placed 20th in the diving semifinals and Meghan Martell placed 24th in the preliminary round.

Barber offered his congratulations to Lyons Township High School, which beat Central by eight points at sectionals and by 12 at state to come in fourth.

"I thought they had the best meet out of all the teams," he said. "It was fun chasing them."

Lahmann, who will swim next year for the University of Massachusetts—

Amherst, said while she is excited for the next chapter, she loved her time at Central.

"I wish I could relive my four years," she said. "I think this time of year has always been my favorite and this team, I love it. I could talk about how great our team is for hours. It truly is a family."

Bocos, who hopes to make a decision in the next week or so about where she will swim in college, agreed the team was a special one.

"I was super nervous about swimming this year on Hinsdale Central just because my best friends were all seniors last year," she said. "I feel like I've become so much closer with so many people that I was not expecting to be. Those are the friendships that I'll never forget and the memories I'll never forget."

"It was a fun season," she said.



Elizabeth Lahmann competed in three relays and the 200-yard freestyle, where she took eighth.

SPORTS SHORTS

ATHLETES COMMIT TO COLLEGE TEAMS

Several Hinsdale Central students and Hinsdale students who attend private schools signed letters of intent to continue their high school athletic careers on Nov. 8, National Letter of Intent Signing Day.

Hinsdale Central

- Aden Bandukwala, cross country/track, Duke University
- Nate Harris, swimming, University of Wisconsin-Madison,
- Aidan Hernandez, tennis, Davidson College
- Jeffrey Hou, swimming, University of Pennsylvania
- Elizabeth Lahmann, swimming, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- Brody Marcet, swimming, Ohio State University
- Maisie McDaniel, softball, Davis & Elkins College
- Martin Montoya, soccer, Northern Illinois University
- Jack Mulligan, golf, Northern Illinois University
- Caroline Owens, golf, University of Notre Dame
- Alex Rasmussen, golf, Loyola University
- Elizabeth Sessa, volleyball, Brown University
- Luella Sheehan, basketball, Benedictine University

Private schools

- Fiona Allen (St. Ignatius), lacrosse, University of Virginia
- Shannon Early (Benet Academy), lacrosse, University of Notre Dame
- John Hughes (Nazareth Academy), baseball, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

RED DEVIL BREAKS SCORING RECORD

Luca Davies scored 26 goals this season, breaking a 20-year-old scoring mark for the Hinsdale Central boys soccer program.

Davies, a senior, said he spent most of the season trying only to improve on the 19 goals he scored last year. Then he scored three goals in the last regular-season game against Addison Trail Oct. 12 (which Central won 4-3) for a total of 22.

"I think it was at that time I thought, 'I'm close now — let's go for it,'" he said.

The three goals he scored in Central's 8-0 win against Hubbard in the regional semifinals Oct. 17 pushed him past the record of 24.

"I was very happy of course," he said. "Winning that (game) was great. Obviously the team was incredible as well to perform well in the first playoff round. It was a big win for us."

Davies, who started playing at 4 or 5 years old when he lived in Amsterdam, said he wants to continue competing in college. He credited his team for his success.

"It would have been impossible without them," he said. "It was really just more fun overall."

Varsity head coach Mike Wiggins said Davies played at a high level both his junior and senior years.

"There's ability and then there's goal scoring ability, he has both," Wiggins said. "His 26 goals set the new standard as the all-time leader in goals scored in a season, breaking Jack Smithson's mark of 24 back in 2003. "Luca impacted the game every time he stepped on the field and did it with class."

QUAST EARNS SPOT ON TEAM

Jake Quast from Hinsdale, who is studying business at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, has earned a roster spot on the Warhawk men's basketball team for the 2023-24 season.

"I'm just really excited about the guys we have in our program," first year interim head coach Jarod Wichser said. "They understand what it takes to play high-level basketball."

"The buy-in from our play-

ers to meet our expectations has been exciting," he added. "There are some really good guys and some really talented players in our locker room and I'm excited about our culture moving forward."

The Warhawks reached the NCAA Division III national semifinals last season, finishing with a 25-8 record. UW-Whitewater, which is ranked No. 2 in the 2023-24 D3hoops.com Preseason Poll, returns 98 percent of its scoring and eight players who averaged 10 or more minutes played per game last season.

The team began its season Nov. 10, against Gustavus Adolphus. For a complete season schedule, visit: www.uwwsports.com/sports/mens-basketball/schedule.

KRAMER NOW A CARDINAL

Hinsdale's Doug Kramer, formerly of the Chicago Bears, was claimed off waivers by the Arizona Cardinals Monday, according to report from the Cardinals. The 25-year-old center, who starred at Hinsdale Central and the University of Illinois before being drafted by the Bears in the sixth round of the 2022 NFL draft, spent all of last year and most of the current season on injured reserve. Kramer was waived to create a roster spot when the Bears

activated starting left tackle Braxton Jones from the IR.

MCCLEAR BAGS ANOTHER HONOR

Hinsdale's Mac McClear last month was named the 2023 Chicago District Golf Association co-player of the year. The fifth-year senior at the University of Iowa won the award after he finished fourth in player of the year points in 2022 and second in 2021. The award is determined by an accumulation of points based on performances in various local and national events. McClear's second straight victory in the Illinois State Amateur Championship this summer was key to the honor, which he shares with TJ Barger.

GIRL RACES AT NATIONALS

Hinsdale's Morgan Jimenez competed at the AAU Junior Olympic Games 2023 this summer at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Jimenez, a third-grader at Madison School and a member of the Chicago Flyers Track Club, competed in preliminary heats for the 100-meter dash, the 200-meter dash and the 400-meter dash. She posted times of 15.79, 34.11 and 1:21.95, respectively.



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SPORTS

Relays, Bokos help team place fifth

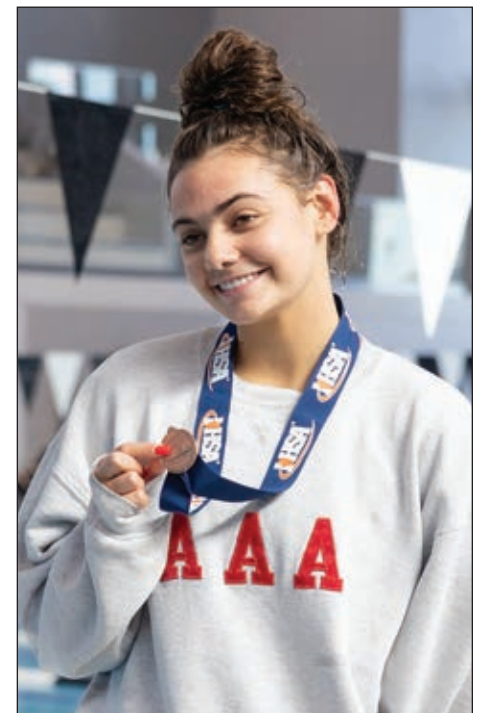
Central girls swim, dive team earns five top-five finishes at IHSA championships

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

The Hinsdale Central girls swim and dive team's fifth-place finish at the IHSA state finals last week-end at FNC Natatorium in Westmont doesn't truly reflect all the girls accomplished.

"It was perfect," varsity head coach Bob Barber said. "I think the girls swam really well."

Senior Burley Bokos broke two school records at the meet. Her time of 2:03.12 in the preliminaries for the 200-yard individual medley beat the record held by the late Kendall Pickering. Bokos also broke



Burley Bokos, who broke the school record in the 200-yard individual medley in the preliminaries, swims breaststroke during the finals. She earned a medal for her fourth-place finish. (photos for The Hinsdalean by Rob Lange Photography)

IHSA state finals

Central, 5th, 144 points

500-yard freestyle
Bokos, 2nd, 4:54.40
V. Barber, 15th, 5:09.4

200-yard medley relay
Miller, Zinis, Lahmann, L. Barber, 3rd, 1:44.14

400-yard free relay
Lahmann, Miller, L. Barber, Zinis, 3rd, 3:27.42

200-yard IM
Bokos, 4th, 2:03.73

200-yard free relay
Zinis, L. Barber, Lahmann, V. Barber, 5th, 1:35

200-yard freestyle
Lahmann, 8th, 1:54.75

100-yard freestyle
Zinis, 13th, 51.67

100-yard backstroke
Miller, 14th, 57.39

the 1998 record held by Nicole Egan for the 500-yard freestyle, again in the preliminaries, with a time of 4:54.19.

"I really wanted to get the 500 record just because it was the oldest record on the woman's side," Bokos said. "After I saw that I got that after prelims by a full second, I was super happy."

Only one record prior to 2000 remains on the board, Barber said.

"It's crazy," he said.

Bokos ended up with second place in the 500-yard freestyle and fourth in the 200-yard IM in the finals.

"I think this is difficult, for girls in particular, to be able to get better each year, and Burley finished her four year career on top, lifetime bests, grabbing school records, placing in the top four in both her events, helping the relays

get through," Barber said. "She played a major role in our team's performance and was a great leader all year long."

The school's three relays all placed in the top five at state. Senior Elizabeth Lahmann, junior Kamile Zinis and freshmen Karina Miller and Lilia Barber took third in both the 200-yard medley relay and in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Lahmann, Zinis, Lilia Barber and junior Vija Barber took fifth in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Lahmann also placed eighth in the 200-yard freestyle.

"She did a great job," Barber said of Lahmann. "We set up a couple of moves to help protect different athletes throughout the weekend. Elizabeth was the benefit of only swimming the 200 free on Friday, and then she was our faster choice on

Saturday for the medley before the 200 free. It may have cost her timewise, but she earned the spot. She helped our relay get third in the medleys.

"Her senior year was special as well," Barber said.

Lahmann, who attended state last year but did not compete, said she was happy to drop time and perform well.

"Honestly, a highlight of the meet for me was when my team just came together and decided, 'We are going to have fun with this,' " she said. "We all know if you take it too seriously, you get in your head and you perform not that great."

Lahmann agreed with Barber that swimming her individual event right after the relays was tough.

"I knew I would have to make that sacrifice for the team, but I don't regret it at all. In the end I truly

believe that was the best decision for my coach to make," she said.

The state meet was the first for Miller, Lilia Barber and Zinis, a transfer student.

"I have three girls that were new to the team swim three or four events each at the state finals, playing major roles for our team's success," Barber said. "They're all just learning the process, because none of them had been there before."

Barber said he enjoyed watching both his daughters compete.

"Regardless of the last name, Vija Barber probably had the swim of the meet for us in prelims, dropping an additional five seconds in her 500 (yard freestyle) to qualify for finals, which none of us anticipated," he said.

While the other teams

Please turn to Page 44

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great fullness of the heart.

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Thanksgiving
full of love and plenty.***



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