

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

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The wonder of art

With the day off school, children who attended the LyArts Kids Open Art Studio at The Community House Jan. 15 had an opportunity to experiment with many types of media to create works of art. Mallory Champ finished her snowman snow globe, gave it a shake and loved the result. (Jim Slonoff photo)



Coming home

Artist's love of Hinsdale reflected in her work.

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Showtime

Audiences can enjoy variety of shows this winter.

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Career coach

Parpet dedicates life to helping student-athletes.

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NEWS

Vacation rentals might be regulated

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

The Hinsdale Village Board Tuesday agreed to ask the plan commission to look at new regulations for short-term rentals in the village.

The proposed ordinance change would set a six-month minimum for rental homes, including those booked through services such as Airbnb or VRBO. As part of its process, the plan commission will hold a public hearing, but a handful of residents spoke out Tuesday night.

Michelle Crowe, who lives at 200 S. Bodin St., said some 20 groups rented the house next door through Airbnb between Thanksgiving of 2022 and St. Patrick's Day of 2023.

"At first it was just a nuisance. Then as the bookings picked up,

and they were cycling through sometimes two groups in a week-end, it became really unsettling and at times quite frightening," she said, citing one large Super Bowl party and garbage piling up in the alley. "We didn't buy next to a hotel, certainly not one without a security staff."

Since then, new owners of the home are renting it out for six months at a time with no incidents.

"I urge you to adopt this amendment, to clearly communicate it to the real estate investment community and to make the fines onerous enough that no one will just roll it into their cost of doing business," Crowe said.

Ashley Hill, whose family has owned the home at 822 W. Eighth St. for four generations, said the community needs to have rental options

when people are between closings or undergoing home renovation projects or emergency repairs.

"We are all very happy that you are allowing this topic to go through the planning and zoning commission," she said. "We all live in a changing society. Your draft is a good starting point, but we hope for some more flexibility from the village."

A man who manages two Airbnbs on Justina Street said a six-month minimum could hinder Hinsdale residents' ability to stay in town if, for example, home repairs won't take that long. He said the renters of the Justina homes each have been there more than six weeks.

"These people I stay in contact with are very nice," he said. "They follow rules. I think it's beneficial for a lot of people."

Village President Tom Cauley

suggested the plan commission look at whether exceptions might be made for Hinsdale residents. Trustee Alexis Braden wondered if the village could require an application for homeowners who want to rent their homes on a short-term basis. Trustee Scott Banke, who noted that having an Airbnb is the equivalent of running a business, asked whether any licenses are required.

"This is kind of uncharted territory, and that's the very reason the plan commission is going to consider it," community development director Robb McGinnis said.

Cauley invited the residents to attend the plan commission's public hearing, which has yet to be scheduled. That matter ultimately will come back for the village board for final approval.



Red goes black

Friday afternoon's pep rally at Hinsdale Central cast an unusual glow on things, as the source of lighting was black lights, along with a colored spotlight every now and again. With performances by the cheerleaders and pommers, the main gym was filled with cheers and shouts of encouragement. A four-way tug of war between the classes was a big hit as was a quick staff vs. students basketball game. They might have looked good, but the staff fell short in the game, only scoring one basket. (Jim Slonoff photos)

ONCE UPON A TIME



Places from the past — Hinsdale’s building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, a Hinsdale Central graduate, moved to Hinsdale in 1971 and spent many years here in his youth. Having spent more than 40 years with the village, there isn’t a lot about Hinsdale he doesn’t know or hasn’t photographed. This photo from 1979 is of Hinsdale Shoe Service, which was located at 18 W. Hinsdale Ave. The building is now home to Adore Nail Salon. 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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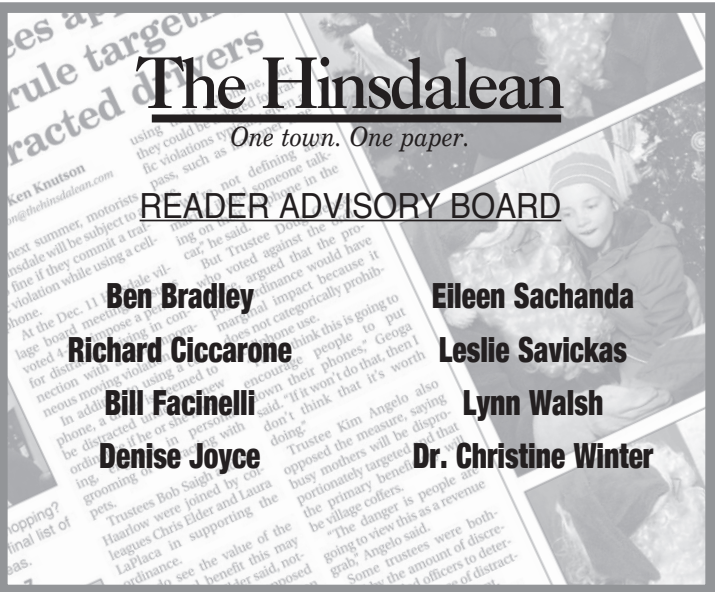
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Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

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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Sixth Street work postponed until 2025

Residents have until July 1 to decide how they want to proceed to save historic brick street

By Pamela Lannom

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Work on Sixth Street planned for this summer will be postponed until 2025 so residents have more time to determine their options to save their brick street.

"We budgeted \$4.5 million for the work on Sixth Street," Village President Tom Cauley said at Tuesday night's Hinsdale Village Board meeting. "If we do an all-brick Sixth Street, that would be a \$6.5-million project for four blocks. That is a lot of money for the village."

Cauley spoke in response to a plea from Sixth Street resident Jennifer Reenan, who wants to see the brick street preserved.

"While we are hopeful that the bids end up being lower than expected, we also hope, over the next few months, to make a stronger case to you, our elected trustees, as to why brick streets are financially manageable, ecologically responsible and important to the entire community of Hinsdale," Reenan said.

Cauley re-iterated that the village is willing to spend \$800,000 for brick crosswalks but is not willing foot the entire bill.

"If you think this is a community benefit, there is one

way to test that — have a referendum," Cauley said. "I have my views as to how that would turn out."

A referendum also would need to be held to form a special service area that would tax Sixth Street residents an additional amount each year for a set number of years to generate the \$2 million, Cauley said. Or a larger SSA for all of the Robbins Park Historic District, which includes First Street (also brick), could be approved. The First Street work would add about \$1 million to the total.

"Those are the three alternatives," Cauley said. "You have until July 1 to decide which of those three alternatives you want."

"You can come every meeting from now to July 1 and ask me, or the board, to pay for the entire \$2.8 million to do four blocks in all brick and the answer from me is always going to be the same: No," he told Reenan. "We can continue to have this conversation but you're not going to change my mind."

Cauley said the village will work with contractors to get more accurate estimates of how much the work will cost. He said village staff also will look to secure any grant money that might be available for such a project.



Sixth Street residents hope to save their brick street when it is reconstructed despite the higher cost. With the work postponed until 2025, they now have until July 1 to determine if they want to try to create a special service taxing area or hold a villagewide referendum to generate the \$2 million needed. (Jim Slonoff photo)

"I'm not holding out a lot of hope, but we'll try that," Cauley said.

Sixth Street resident and former Trustee Bill Haarlow thanked village officials for meeting with him and his neighbors Monday night.

"We felt like we made some good progress and are finally having the sort of collaborative conversation we wanted to have all along," he said.

He asked Cauley what would happen if an SSA to generate \$2 million was approved and then actual bids came in higher. Cauley said the amount would be capped for residents, and unless the amount was insurmountable, it would be up to the village to pick up the difference.

Cauley also told Haarlow he believes residents should decide who will be included

in the SSA if they are going to put one on the November ballot.

"The upside of including more people is you spread it around more. The downside is people who are more on the periphery are more likely to vote no and you have to have 51 percent to do this," Cauley said. "Tactically it's in your best interest to make those decisions."

Board gives D181 summer projects green light

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 Board members Monday approved \$2.2 million in summer improvements across the nine-school district.

Facilities director Mike Duggan, in his presentation to the board recommending the work, reported that the total is lower than had been forecasted when the projects were initially brought forward in October.

"We were expecting to come in at around \$2.4 million for this coming summer, but we did get some good prices," Duggan said.

The single biggest cost of \$500,000 is to replace the flooring at Monroe School. But Duggan said the price tag could have been higher.

"We got that in at what we estimated the amount to be, and the good news is we had no moisture mitigation that was required, which can be expensive," he reported.

Playground improvements at Madison, Monroe

and The Lane schools will be completed with poured-in-place surfacing. Madison and The Lane came in higher than projected at \$222,824 and \$141,836, respectively, while the bid for Monroe was below estimates at \$76,324.

"We've also been working with the (Parent Teacher Organizations) on potential contributions to supplement what the district provides for the playgrounds," Duggan said.

Earlier in the meeting, board members approved the hiring of an owner's representative to oversee construction work starting this summer at six of the seven elementary schools to accommodate full-day kindergarten, which will launch with the 2025-26 school year.

Duggan said the confluence of the separate capital improvement programs and under-budget bids furnished an opportunity to accelerate playground work at Walker and Prospect schools.

"We shifted some of the work that would actually have fallen under the full-day kindergarten umbrella," he said, "So we're able to include the completion of Walker and Prospect playgrounds rather than

extend those projects over a two- or three-year period, which we have done with other playgrounds."

In addition, the renovation of the Madison MRC came in at \$225,000 instead of the estimated \$297,000 after they decided to handle the project in house rather than hire an architect.

"It came in under budget for that reason," Duggan noted.

The \$75,000 bid to retrofit and replace LED lighting at The Lane surpassed the projected cost by \$10,000. But Duggan said the overage likely would be offset by ComEd financial incentives for LED installation. Board member Bill Cotter suggested that the owner's representative hired for full-day kindergarten work be kept in the loop on summer project activity to ensure crews aren't battling for access.

"My greatest familiarity is with The Lane because that's where my kids go to school, and there's kind of one way out," Cotter said. "To avoid traffic jams and squabbling among a general contractor and the providers for these projects, that's certainly a service the owner's rep can provide and help with."

NEXT WEEK

Hinsdale Firefighters Pension Board

9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 1
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

Hinsdale Village Board

7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

MEETING ROUNDUP

Community Consolidated Elementary Dist. 181 Board

Among other business Monday, board members:

- heard a report on the packaging of bids for the estimated \$20.7 million in construction projects related to the district's implementation of full-day kindergarten in the 2025-26 school year. Facilities director Mike Duggan said Oak School was bid separately due to the \$5.8 million in work required, while Elm School and The Lane were bid together as smaller projects with a \$3.5 million combined cost estimate, as were Madison and Monroe schools with a \$5.5 combined cost estimate. Roughly half of the work is anticipated to be done in this summer, with the remaining work completed during the 2024-25 school year and following summer. Bids were scheduled to be opened today, Jan. 25.

- authorized a contract with Turner & Townsend Heery to serve as owner's representative for the district for full-day kindergarten construction work in an amount not to exceed \$418,759. Mindy Bradford, assistant superintendent of finance and operations, told board members that the firm was recommended over another firm that submitted a lower cost proposal in part because Turner has significant K-12 education facility experience and a track record of identifying cost savings that typically save their clients between four to eight times their fee.

- approved the 2024-25 school fees. Student registration fees are projected to generate \$1.43 million in revenue in the coming school years. For the current year the district billed \$1.28 million and has so far collected \$1.20 million. Officials said historically about 10 percent is not collected but that efforts are being made to reduce that shortfall. Among the optional fees, the milk fee will increase from \$52 to \$88 to reflect the actual cost after several years of no increases, according to Bradford.

Hinsdale Village Board

Among other business at Tuesday's meeting, trustees

- agreed to approve grants and property tax rebates as preservation incentives for the owners of 217 W. Hickory St., 515 S. Lincoln St. and 605 E. Third St. The item will be on the consent agenda at the board's Feb. 1 board meeting.

- listened as Sara Barclay demanded the village conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Chicago Avenue and Lincoln Street, saying employees of Fuller's Car Wash continue to drive and park vehicles on the sidewalk. Village President Tom Cauley said the village will issue citations if necessary.

"We are going to do everything we can to make sure the cars do not park on the sidewalk and we'll take action," he said.

- agreed to spend \$84,131 to buy new police vehicles from Thomas Dodge Chrysler in Highland, Ind. The new vehicles will replace a 2020 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor with 82,000 miles that is part of the patrol fleet and a 2011 Ford Explorer with 70,000 miles that is assigned to the deputy chief. The item will be on the consent agenda Feb. 1.

- referred to the plan commission an ordinance amending the Hinsdale Zoning Code to address buffer and landscape regulations for development projects adjacent to residential properties. The new language would increase the height of screening from 6 to 10 feet within a 5-foot-wide buffer and require an 8-foot tall solid fence along side or rear lot lines.

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HINSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY - TRIAD ART GROUP - HERITAGE AUCTIONS

Crime on senator's radar for early '24

Glowiak Hilton looks to help state fight retail crime racks and to support veterans

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Suzy Glowiak Hilton, elected to represent the 23rd District in the Illinois Senate in 2018, said she prioritizes constituents, whether they be individuals, businesses or municipalities.

She points to the most significant accomplishment of the last legislative session — working with the Illinois Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to modernize the licensing system — with that in mind.

"That was one of the things that I was the most excited about in the recent session that we just ended, because it really is going to make a difference to people in their lives, to getting back to work or getting their license to do what they are passionate about."

A new software system will eliminate the need for applications to be sent in the mail.

"What are we doing here with paper forms?" Glowiak Hilton asked.

As she looks to the spring session of the 103rd General Assembly, which started last week, she is focusing on crime.

"DuPage County has just been riddled with retail theft. There is a real problem with retail theft and organized retail crime issues," she said, noting that Oakbrook Center is within her district. "This is definitely not someone who is going into a store and stealing something for themselves because they need to something to eat."

The goal of her proposed legislation is to fortify the state's ability to prosecute specific individuals responsible for organizing the criminal activity.

Glowiak Hilton also would like to make it easier for veterans to participate in recreational activities that require licenses, such as fishing and hunting.

"The way to do that, I think, is by lowering the fee and extending the time, so instead of a three-year license it's a four-year license, just to get veterans interested in participat-



Glowiak Hilton

ing in these activities."

Spending time in nature is can be a wonderful option for individuals suffering from PTSD or who are having trouble re-entering society.

"They have given us so much, and I really feel like we can help them," she said.

As a former Western Springs trustee, Glowiak Hilton said she tries to do all she can to support the small communities in her district.

"I am very sensitive to the needs of our small villages like Hinsdale," she said. "I was really happy to help Hinsdale procure a new fire truck. That's in the works right now."

Glowiak Hilton secured an \$850,000 grant last year to allow the department to replace a fire engine that's more than 20 years old, Hinsdale Fire Chief John Giannelli said. Due to production backlogs, the order will take 2 1/2 years to fill.

"I'm really happy to support our small communities in whatever way they need," she said. "I work very

closely with DuPage Mayors and Managers (Conference) and what they need and how I can help them."

In addition to hearing from constituents who contact her, Glowiak Hilton said she tries to be out in the community when she can.

"We have a lot of outreach," she said. "We do some mobile DMV trucks that come out to the district. We do shred events where people come and have all their documents in their car. It's great. When people drive up in line, I'm there, and I talk to them about things."

Her office also gives her the opportunity to provide more direct assistance, as she did by working with several DuPage County legislators to sponsor a recent collection for #LovePurse.

The organization distributes purses filled with toiletries and other products to women in need and survivors of domestic violence. "It was just really heartwarming to have people come up to me and say, 'This really made a difference,'" she said.

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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports Jan. 23.

DUI arrest

Noe Rodriguez, 32, 5435 S. Seventh Ave., Countryside, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood-alcohol content higher than .08, speeding and failing to signal when changing lanes at 10:13 p.m. Jan. 18 at Ogden Avenue and County Line Road. He submitted to testing that indicated he was over the legal limit before being charged and released to appear in court.

Residential burglary

Jewelry and a safe were taken from a home in the 700 block of South Elm Street between Jan. 8 and 17 after someone broke into the home and rummaged through bedrooms. The victim was not home at the time of the burglary.

Counterfeit currency

Someone attempted to pay for merchandise using a counterfeit \$100 bill at Walgreens, 15 Grant Square, at 3:29 p.m. Jan. 16.

Forgery

A suspect used a fraudulent check and fraudulent ID with someone else's identity to attempt to make a transaction at Chase Bank, 400 E. Ogden Ave., at 3:12 p.m. Jan. 17.

Property damage

Someone cut the lock at a construction site in the 100 block of Monroe Street between 2 p.m. Jan. 16 and 9:30 a.m. Jan. 17. There were no signs of entry to the house under construction.

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

County offers program for seniors on scams

Senior citizens, caregivers and family members are invited to join representatives from several county offices for a free, informational session on avoiding scams and fraud aimed at senior citizens and the elderly from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, in the first floor auditorium of the JTK Administration Building Auditorium, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton.

Attendees of "Safe from Scams: Protecting Seniors and their Assets" will learn how to spot common scams including phone, internet, dating and social media schemes.

They'll receive tips on keeping their money secure and learn how to report financial fraud if they suspect they are a victim.

Representatives from the county offices of the recorder, treasurer, state's attorney, sheriff and information technology will present.

The event will be live-streamed on the county's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC45o1-gzYfebGvZ3OLhzCIA>) and will be available to watch on YouTube following the program.



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■ “I feel like the churches in town are particularly infused with history and spirit and community.” — **Rachel Weaver Rivera**

Hinsdale native discovers home is where the art is

Home. That was the theme of the West Chicago art show Rachel Weaver Rivera participated in a few years ago. For Rivera, home as a child was in Hinsdale, and life’s unfolding had now brought her back mid-life.

“I would be driving through the town thinking, ‘Oh my gosh, I remember this event or that person,’ ” she related. “I thought I should do my own home show, because this is where my story began.”

Rivera drove around town snapping images of buildings and sites that epitomized Hinsdale for her. She then turned each photo into a mixed media collage.

“I needed to reconstruct and layer, which is like the process of memory itself,” she said.

Her collection of recollections is currently on display in the Quiet Reading Room of the Hinsdale Public Library, with a reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. tonight (see Page 18 for details).

The vibrant pieces dazzle the eyes.

“These are all like funky, groovy-palate kind of colors,” said Rivera, noting she grew up in the 1970s. “I was trying to evoke that time, but also

that sense of joyfulness and kindness that was part of my upbringing in this town.”

Art has long held Rivera’s heart, and a teacher her creative skills to help others surface their inner feelings. More recently she became a counselor at North Central College.

“I’m just really interested in people telling the story of their lives in any type of language that resonates with them,” Rivera said. “The first part of my life was helping people express themselves with visual arts materials. And now I help people express themselves with their words (and) find a sense of meaning and purpose in their lives.”

Art as a medium is powerful revealer of truth, she suggested.

“I’m just interested in the mysterious part of life, the magic, what can’t be expressed fully or understood fully and what is communicated between people and about places through visual language,” Rivera said. “I love art because it has energy — not only of the artist that brings it life, but the energy that’s brought by the viewer and what associations and connections they make with what they’re seeing.”



RACHEL WEAVER RIVERA, ARTIST

GRANDFATHER WAS A HINSDALE DENTIST, MOTHER GRADUATED FROM HINSDALE CENTRAL • HAS WORKED AS PRESCHOOL TEACHER AND HAD ART STUDIO AT UNION CHURCH • MOM TO DAUGHTER, HADLEY, AND SON, MO

Her fond memories of growing up are reflected in her nostalgic yet whimsical works.

“I just remember a deep sense of kindness,” Rivera said. “I feel like I was raised in a place where people really were attentive to how to support each other.”

Faith communities in particular captivate her. Along with the smaller collages of

churches in the exhibit, she also has composed large paintings of them.

“I like the idea that these places were holy or sacred spaces where amazing events happened for people — they got married or marked baptisms or the passing of life,” Rivera said. “I feel like the churches in town are particularly infused with history and spirit and community.”

She thinks art has a unique ability to inspire and connect all.

“I think the arts are central to every community,” Rivera said. “They are the universal language and the way in which we can truly communicate without defensiveness and with the desire for understanding.”

— story by Ken Knutson, photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Candor's impact healthy as ever on 50th birthday

Candor Health Education is marking a milestone this year.

Exactly a half-century ago, the organization's precursor, the Robert Crown Center for Health Education, moved into 21 Salt Creek Lane in Hinsdale, becoming the nation's first fully independent health education center.

According to the agency's website, the moniker was a tribute to the Robert Crown Family, who had provided funding for the groundbreaking endeavor.

The agency's actual incarnation dates back to 1958 as the Hinsdale Health Museum, a locally organized resource to enrich the community's health education. The 1960s ushered in a new social and political climate shaped by the Vietnam War, Civil Rights protests and the sexual revolution's focus on liberating sexuality as a normal physical and emotional part of human existence. However sexually transmitted disease and unplanned pregnancy among young people also were becoming more prevalent.

To provide a broader and more intensive style of health education that could impact the health of youth in metropolitan Chicago, a larger space was needed to deliver a comprehensive exploration of the reproductive system to visiting

students. Addressing sexual health in public schools certainly faced resistance early on, but most welcomed the more thorough and scientific approach to reproductive health education.

The organization implemented its first substance abuse prevention program in 1972, first focusing its curriculum on brain development and the science of addiction.

The program continued to evolve over the years, always informed by prevailing neurology research. In response to the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, the agency rolled out AIDS prevention programming, combating hysteria with science and dispelling myths associated with the disease.

Untold numbers of area schoolchildren visited the center on field trips over the decades, making Valeda, the anatomical transparent woman, a local icon. By 1987, its health educators were traveling to schools in eight different counties to deliver their expertise in the classroom. Between 1983 and 1993 during America's personal fitness boom, the organization more than doubled its impact, providing health education to approximately 215,000 students each year.

In 2001, the organization opened a satellite

center in Chicago's Homan Square neighborhood to bring programs to an under-served population free of charge. An obesity prevention program and a Science Behind Drugs curriculum were launched in response to the misuse and abuse of opioid pain pills as well as an online program addressing the heroin epidemic that enabled a access to a much larger audience.

In 2017 the Robert Crown Center shifted entirely to an in-school model, leaving behind the Salt Creek Lane building and rebranding in 2020 as Candor Health Education. Just about the same time, the organization served its 6 millionth student. It had transformed from a small local health museum to a national outreach education provider.

As the agency turns 50, Candor also celebrates a just concluded 2023 in which 3,051 health education programs were delivered — in person or online — to 673 schools across 14 Illinois counties as well as in New York and Wisconsin, per its annual report. Essential health topics were taught to 86,884 students, 23 percent more than in 2022.

Hinsdale's celebrates with you, marveling at your enduring mission to help young people be the healthiest version of themselves.

COMMENTARY

Putting celebration over competition is way to win

I'll admit it.

I joined a Ted Lasso Fans Community page on Facebook a while back.

I was hoping the posts would share lots of great inspirational quotes from Ted. And there are some.

But many of the posts are from fans — fanatics, in the truest sense — asking what book Trent Crimm carried through the office in Episode X Season Y or explaining the double in/double out rule during Ted's dart game against Rupert or wondering if anyone else caught the nod to "Hamilton." Oh, and way too many questions about the episode with Jamie's mom.

Don't get me wrong. There are some gems on the site, too — mostly great photos of the cast at awards shows or sporting events or crossing Abbey Road.

I also love the recommendations for similar shows I might enjoy or movies and shows that feature "Lasso" cast members.

But the best post so far is one Brett Goldstein penned after the

Emmys, which was shared to the page.

"What a fxxxing night!" Goldstein wrote in true Roy Kent fashion. "It does not get any less surreal to be at the Emmys. Saw friends, met heroes, got to present with my girl @ junotemple and got to celebrate with my boy @ phildunster. Turns out not winning is also fun!"

I love it.

Not winning was a theme after the Golden Globes last year, too, when a photo of Jamie Lee Curtis cheering as Michelle Yeoh's name was announced as best actress (comedy/musical) for "Everything Everywhere All at Once" went viral.

"Her mouth is open in what can only be called a roar ... It was a portrait of the purest kind of sisterhood — selfless, riotous, unconditional, terrifying to behold," Zoe Williams wrote in The Guardian.

Williams focused on Curtis setting a new bar for female friendship. I don't disagree. But I also believe the



Pamela Lannom

real beauty of that shot is that it shows the ability to celebrate someone else's success on a night when you don't win. Curtis lost the best supporting actress award that night to Angela Basset in "Wakanda Forever" (but went on to win the Oscar.)

It's so easy to focus only our own success, whether

we're competing as individuals or part of a team. Hinsdale Central varsity girls bowling coach Paul Parpet talked to me last week (for today's sports feature) about his focus on victories during his early days coaching. He realized, over time, that playing is just as important as winning to athletes, sometimes more so.

Shortly after that epiphany, he instructed all his position coaches to bring index cards bearing their players' name to each game and mark when they had a chance to be on the field. Each name had to be checked off by the end of

the fourth quarter.

Let's face it. There's at least one person who doesn't win every contest.

I always laugh when I watch "Chopped" on Food Network and one of the chefs says how shocked they are after they are eliminated, when they know going in that three of the four are chopped every show.

The same is true at awards shows. Multiple nominees, one winner.

Among the 13 Emmys "Ted Lasso" has won over its three seasons, Goldstein brought home two, winning best supporting actor in a comedy in 2022 and 2021. So he knows exactly how much fun it is to win.

But he followed the advice of Buddha (or whoever said this, as there is some controversy):

"When you move your focus from competition to contribution, life becomes a celebration. Never try to defeat people, just win their hearts."

Brett Goldstein won mine.

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

What the tide could bring

My dad and I do not look one bit alike, but I did get one distinguishable trait from him: his love for movies. My own admiration began when I was a kid, when he would take my brother and me to see the big new movie.



Katie Hughes

I loved the hours spent in the cold, dark theater, but my favorite part of these outings began when the movie ended. My dad would take us out to eat (Chipotle, California Pizza Kitchen, Portillo's) to review and discuss the movie — what our favorite scenes were, which of our predictions had been right and who our favorite characters were.

At some point during that conversation, my dad would switch from mindless, excited ramblings to the message of the movie. He'd ask us questions that would make us think — and would make me either reassess or reaffirm my concept of life.

"Why does the hero win in the end?"

Because he was chosen.

"And who was he chosen by?"

God.

"Exactly."

This has been our routine throughout the years, and although so many things in my life have changed, one thing remains the same. My dad will always help me see great movies for more than what they appear to be.

"The Dark Knight Rises," loved by both of us equally, is one such example.

And like all genius movies, it is a reflection of life.

The villain Bane — a tyrant

set on destroying a city under the pretext that he's fixing it — is not so fictional after all. And those who originally think that a world without order, without structure, without justice is an improved one, soon learn that his words — the web

of lies and false promises — are worth far more fear than Bane himself.

But its ending, riddled with hope, is what stays with me the most. For the most powerful movies are the ones in which you recognize your world, your life and yourself, where one moment can reach you, touch you and stay with you for years to come.

One of those moments comes in the form of a quote from Tom Hanks, who, after years of being "cast away," finally finds his way home.

It is this famous quote that my dad reminds me of time and again, and it is this quote that will stay with me for good.

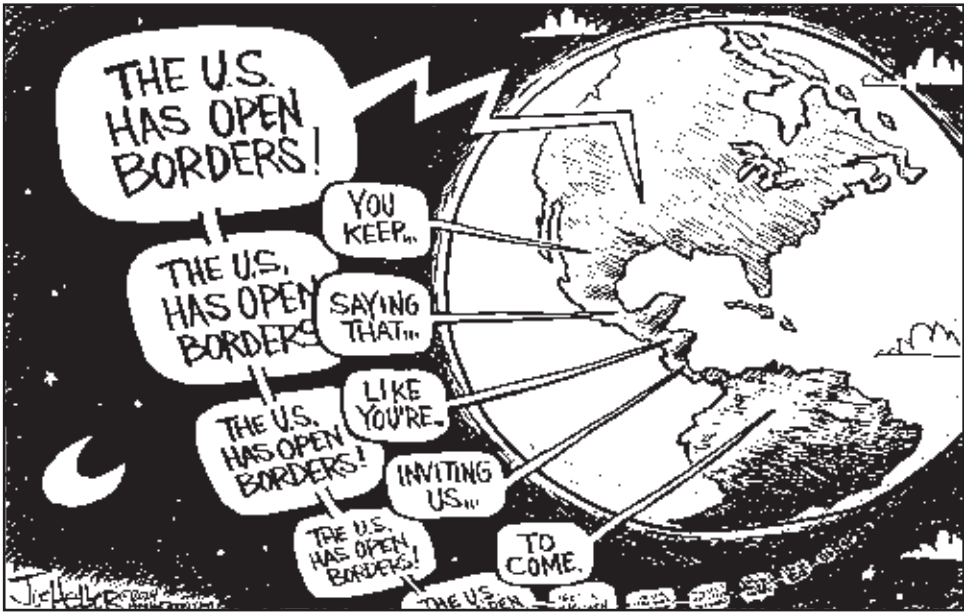
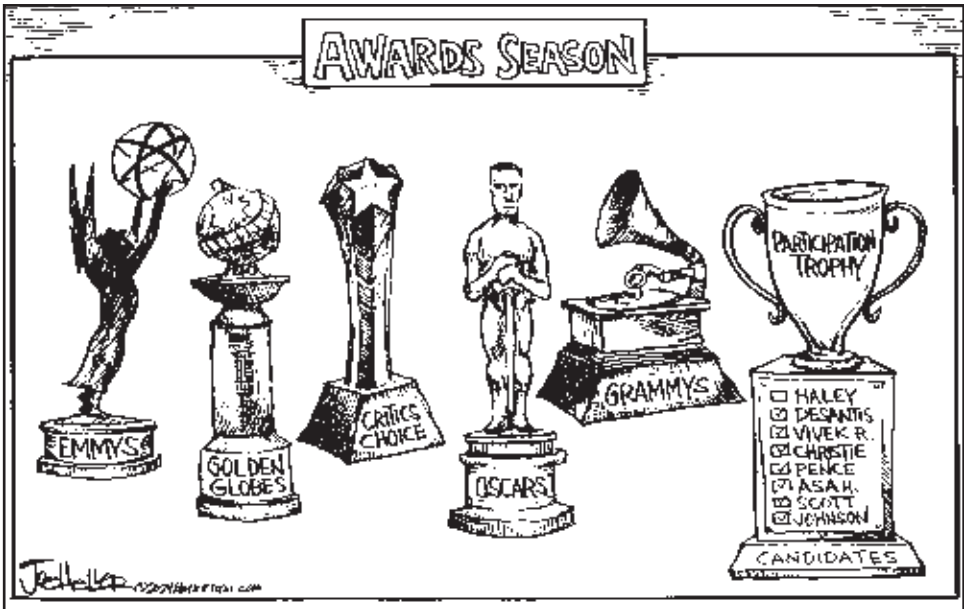
The comfort of movies is found in the certainty of them. That even when you don't know what's going to happen, you trust that the right thing will happen. Life doesn't offer us that same grace.

But what it does give us is one more day, one more chance.

After all, "tomorrow the sun will rise. Who knows what the tide could bring?"

— Katie Hughes of Hinsdale is a senior at the University of Georgia. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



LETTERS POLICY

Requirements

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

- documentation must be provided for numbers, statistics and other facts mentioned in the letter
- no form letters

Submission

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

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

Questions?

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OBITUARIES

James Baker

James Michael Baker, 89, of Clarendon Hills died peacefully Jan. 20, 2024, surrounded by family.

Jim was born in 1934 to Elizabeth Hengels and Gilmer Baker and raised in La Grange, in large part by his many sisters. He worked hard from an early age, graduating from Lyons Township High School and entering the U.S. Army, where he earned airborne wings and served honorably. Jim then completed trade school as an apprentice plasterer, discovering his love of the trade and career path. Jim and his longtime friend Skip partnered on countless jobs for more than 45 years.

Jim was an avid golfer and bowler with a love of playing and coaching. He made many friends throughout his life. His legacy as husband, dad, grandpa and great-grandfather always brought a big smile to his face and a loud chuckle that could be heard far and wide.

He was respected for being loyal, warm, hard-working and welcoming, a good man who will be



Baker

missed by all.

Jim was preceded in death by his son, James Michael Jr.; and his siblings, Barbara, Madeline, Joanne, Gilmer, Margaret and Doris.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Janet Myrna Retzel Baker; his children, Jay Allan (the late Lisa), Jeanne Baker (the late William Walsh) and William Arthur (Dawn Rita); his grandchildren, Michael (Aime), Casey (Megan), Neena Jade, Zachary, Kiona and Owen; his great-grandchildren, Ellie and Noah; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A visitation will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, at Cappetta's West Suburban Funeral Home, 4920 Main St., Downers Grove.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at Zion Lutheran Church, 204 S. Grant St., Hinsdale. A luncheon reception in the church fellowship hall will follow.

Burial will be at Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Oak Brook.

Irene Mae Coomer

Irene Mae (Henning) Coomer passed away on her 90th birthday on Nov. 17, 2023.

Five and half months of being separated from her husband Jim in death was all her broken heart could handle.

Irene was born in 1933 in Oak Park to Louis and Florence (Kindman) Henning. She was the baby of the family with two older brothers, Louie and Glenn, and a beloved cousin, Bunny, who grew up in their household.

Following high school, Irene left Chicago to attend Northern Illinois State Teacher's College (now NIU) in DeKalb to fulfill her lifetime dream of becoming a teacher. She taught briefly in Chicago, and then in California, until her mom passed away unexpectedly in July 1958. This event brought Irene home to Chicago to live with her dad while he coped with this loss. Thankfully, Irene started attending the Clearing United Methodist Church in Chicago in 1959, where she met the love of her life, Jim Coomer. Both were seriously dating others at the time, but that all changed quickly. At a New Year's Eve party ringing in the new year, 1960, Jim asked Irene to marry him and six months later, on June 11, 1960, Jim and Irene were wed.

Jim and Irene moved to their "starter home" at 5666 S. Thurlow St. in Hinsdale where they raised their two daughters and then stayed for 55 years. Irene returned to teaching at the Maercker Elementary District 60, where she taught first- and third-graders for 18 years.

Shortly after moving to Hinsdale, Jim and Irene joined a very new church, Hinsdale United



Coomer

Methodist Church. Irene was very active there for nearly 60 years, serving on numerous committees, Mother-Daughter banquets, Madrigal dinners, circles, choirs and in various positions, including president of the United Methodist Women. She was in charge of the HUMC prayer chain for many years because being a prayer warrior for family and friends was of upmost importance to her.

Irene had personal ministries that were also important to her. She faithfully wrote letters of encouragement to countless college students and always included a dollar or two to buy a coke. She was a gift giver as well. Many loved ones have Irene's crocheted dish rags, counted cross-stitch pictures or even a Methodist spatula.

She continued making new friends when Irene and Jim moved to Oak Trace in 2013 and became Ambassadors there, welcoming new residents.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, and husband of 63 years, Jim.

She is survived by her daughters, Laura (Daniel) Bauer and Cari Coomer; and her granddaughters, Melanie (Robert) Trenkler and Bethany (Robert) LeLaurin.

Irene was buried at a private service on Nov. 22, 2023 at Mount Emblem Cemetery in Elmhurst.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at Hinsdale United Methodist Church, 945 S. Garfield Ave.

Memorials may be made to Hinsdale United Methodist Church, 945 S. Garfield Ave., Hinsdale, IL 60521. Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Jill Hughes Newcom

Jill Hughes Newcom, 75, of Hinsdale, passed away Jan. 17, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Jill was a kind and loving soul who will be missed and remembered by the many lives she touched.

She is survived by her husband, Steven G. Newcom; her children, Scott (Heather) Newcom, Stephanie (Marco) Acerra and Jeffrey (Sarah) Newcom; her grandchildren, Alessandra, Luca, Nora, Caroline and Graham; her step-grandchildren, Alexis



Newcom

(Kevin) Melancon and Savannah Anders; and her step-great-grandchildren, Lydia, Emilia and Elijah.

A funeral Mass was held Jan. 24, at St. Isaac Jogues Church in Hinsdale.

Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials made be made online to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network at www.pancan.org.

Sullivan Funeral Home Hinsdale handled the arrangements.



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OBITUARIES

Dr. Leo J. Roberts

Leo J. Roberts, M.D., 90, of Oak Brook passed away Jan. 15, 2024, while surrounded by his children.

Leo was born in 1933 in Chicago to Leo and Marjorie (Palmer) Roberts. After a childhood filled with fishing and serving as an altar boy, Leo attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary.

He completed his bachelor's degree at Loyola University Chicago in 1956, and in 1958 he earned his medical degree with Latin honors from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, followed by an internship at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. Leo completed an internal medicine residency in 1960 at the Westside VA Hospital in Chicago.

After completing his residency, Leo joined the U.S. Air Force as a medical corps captain. Upon conclusion of his military service, Leo completed a second residency in ophthalmology at the University of Illinois Ear and Eye Infirmary in Chicago. In 1965 he was awarded a Retinal Disease Fellowship at the UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles.

In 1966, after completion of his fellowship, he returned to Chicago and opened a private ophthalmology practice in Hinsdale while being on the surgical staff at Hinsdale, Good Samaritan and Loyola hospitals. During this time, Leo was also a medical professor at the University of Illinois Ear and Eye Infirmary from 1966-70 and then at Loyola University Hospital from 1970-92. His great love of learning led him to earn his master's degree in 1992 from Loyola University of Chicago.

Leo was board certified in ophthalmology and earned the distinction of Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He was a proud member of the American Medical Association,



Roberts

the Illinois State Medical Society, the DuPage Medical Society, the American Intra-Ocular Implant Society and the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Leo was a 50-plus year member of the Hinsdale Golf Club.

Leo was a devoted husband and father. He had a tremendous love for airplanes, history, science, opera, dogs, chocolate, cigars, beer, German food, watching football games, playing golf, museums and traveling the world. Never one to mention it himself, Leo was an avid philanthropist, giving to countless charitable causes and organizations throughout his life. For many years after retirement from his practice, he continued to practice medicine by donating his services to clinics in underprivileged urban areas.

Leo is survived by his wife, Joyce Ann Roberts, nee Woods; his children, Mary Joyce Roberts, Bessy (Ryan) Friedrich, Jennifer (Jason) Matiyow, Nelly Musso, Robby Roberts and Jessica Roberts; his grandchildren, Kelsey, Jacob, Jonah, Wyatt, Willa, Odin, Behrett, Henry, Hudson, Duke, Scout, Boone, Quincy, Lilly, Aiden, Avery Lane and Olivia; and his brother, Lawrence (the late Pat) Roberts.

Visitation is at 9 today, Jan. 25, at St. Isaac Jogues Parish, 306 W. Fourth St., Hinsdale. A funeral Mass will follow at the church at 10 a.m.

Interment is at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org.

Sullivan Funeral Home Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Ruth Wilkes

Ruth Wilkes of Hinsdale passed away Jan. 10, 2024, after facing lung cancer with admirable strength.

Born in Benton Harbor, Mich., as one of 12 siblings, she led a life filled with diverse achievements and adventures. Her journey began with being crowned Miss Photoflash, leading to a Hollywood stint and a successful modeling career, gracing numerous ads and commercials. She was beautiful inside and out. Embracing marriage and motherhood, she also loved traveling, exploring the world, and engaging in diverse cultures. Ruth enjoyed volunteer work, including cooking and delivering Meals on Wheels. As a lifelong learner, Ruth's curiosity led her to study a range of fields, from health to technology. In her final years, she even took club dancing classes and auditioned and booked three commercials. The children's book she wrote, "Dancing Fruit



Wilkes

Put on a Show," won the Dragon Fly Award for Children's Book Excellence.

A devout Catholic, Ruth found strength in her faith and in Bible studies, maintaining robust health and mental sharpness till the end. Her resilience, especially after a late-life fall, demonstrated her extraordinary strength, discipline and spirit. Ruth's unique blend of style, elegance and grace made her truly one of a kind. Her enduring spirit continues to inspire all who knew her, a testament to a life well-lived.

She is survived by Elaine Wilkes, Connie and Keith Bishaf, Kate and Gabrielle Eugene, Janie Wojdula and Diane, Eli and Ali Longbottom.

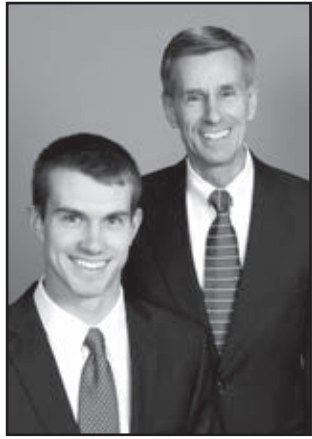
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Northern Illinois Food Bank at www.solveHungerToday.org or St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church at www.osvhub.com/sij/giving/funds.

Obituaries are published free each week in The Hinsdalean. Information may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to news@thehinsdalean.com.

Obituaries will be edited for style and space.

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ASK AN EXPERT

JEFF KIDA, CERTIFIED REMODELER

How can homeowners avoid remodeling woes?

Hiring someone to complete a home improvement project can be an exciting step for any homeowner. But to ensure the work is done right, the consumer has some work to do, too, said Jeff Kida, a certified remodeler and owner of DDS Design Services LLC of Hinsdale.

A remodeler for more than 20 years, Kida said much of his work involves kitchen and bath remodels for architects and general contractors.

"They need someone with design experience, cabinet experience and sometimes some building experience, as well," said Kida.

While there are plenty of talented designers and skilled remodelers in the Hinsdale market, homeowners must beware of scammers and opportunists, Kida said. To avoid such unpleasant encounters, he suggests talking to family and friends who have been through a home improvement project. Once a potential remodeler has been identified, ask for references and take the time

to call them, Kida said.

"If someone is unwilling to give you references, that's a big red flag," he said.

A quality remodeler should be able to present the homeowner with a detailed budget, a plan that includes material choices and a timeline before the first hammer is swung, Kida said. It is appropriate for a designer to expect payment for a set of initial plans, which can take many hours to complete. But someone who is too eager to get a check up front should be handled with caution.

He also urges caution when encountering someone who is willing to do work at a price much lower than their competitors. The individual might be setting the homeowner up for a scam or underbidding the job, which can lead to unexpected costs and an unhappy outcome.

Just as there are red flags to look for, there also are signs that a remodeler is a good choice for the job.

"Look for a certain willingness to give back to their profession," said Kida, who has been a member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry for 14 years and serves as chairman for the NARI

of Greater Chicago Chapter. He also serves his community as a member of the Hinsdale Rotary Club Board.

Kida encourages homeowners to visit www.narichicago.org for a list of member professionals, all of whom agree to a code of ethics.

Anyone hired for a job should be licensed and insured, Kida said. After asking to see a certificate of insurance, Kida said the homeowner should ask to be named as "also insured" on the policy. It costs the remodeler nothing but offers extra protection for the homeowner.

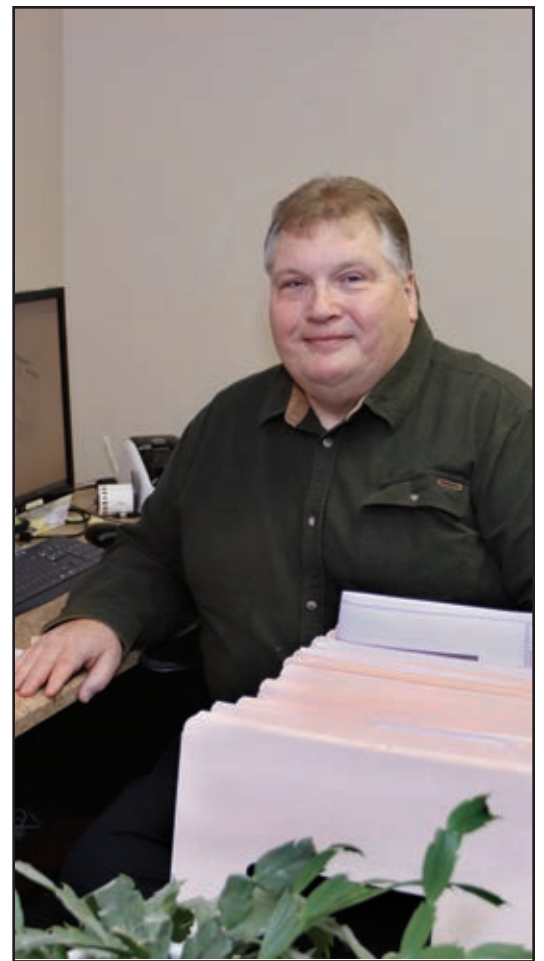
While it's possible to do work without pulling the proper permits, Kida doesn't advise it.

"It doesn't really pay not to pull a permit in the long run," he said.

Finally, Kida encourages homeowners to go into a project with realistic expectations. Shiny showrooms and carefully edited television shows and magazine articles don't tell the whole story.

"You don't see what happened to get to that point," he said, and projects are almost never as quick, easy or inexpensive as they look on television.

— by Sandy Illian Bosch



Jeff Kida, owner of DDS Design Services LLC, moved his business to Hinsdale from Villa Park about two years ago. He offers free consultations to get homeowners started on their new bath, dream kitchen or other project. (Jim Slonoff photo)

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Cabin fever? Live theater beckons

The season of snow is also a great time for shows with lots of local options

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Melt away the winter malaise with some engaging theatrics this season. Stages around the area are coming alive with shows tailored for kids, just for adults or for full family enjoyment.

Get a good seat at a great price compared to downtown Chicago acts. For an overdue date night, a friends' outing or just to get the crew off their devices and out of the house, consider one of these close-to-home productions.

- The troupe at Stage Door Fine Arts' invites all to dive headfirst into an family-friendly undersea adventure packed with song, dance and a tidal wave of fun as the citizens of Bikini Bottom face a volcanic threat — and hope for unexpected heroes to rise.

Shows begin tomorrow, Jan. 26, and run through Sunday, Feb. 4, at The Community House, 415 W. Eighth St. Performances are 7 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Thursday, Feb. 1; 2 p.m. Sundays and Saturday, Jan. 27; and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28.

Tickets are \$25 to \$30. Visit www.stagedoorfinearts.com.

- Bruce Graham's "The Outgoing Tide" is the latest offering from the Buffalo Theatre Ensemble at the College of DuPage's McAninch Arts Center. Set on Chesapeake Bay, the story follows Gunner and his vision for safeguarding the family's future. Stunned, his wife and son have other plans. Both surprising humor and powerful emotion are woven together in this highly relatable play, which poses thoughtful questions about personal choice, and what



Among the local live theater opportunities to take advantage of this season is the current Drury Lane Theatre production of "Fiddler on the Roof," with shows running through March 24. (photo provided)

it means to truly love someone.

Shows run Feb. 1 to March 3 at the MAC, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, with shows at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. A pre-show discussion with the director and designers will be held at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1. A post-show discussion with director, cast and crew will be held following the performance on Friday, Feb. 9. An ASL performance will be given Thursday, Feb. 22. The play contains adult themes and language.

Tickets are \$44 for general admission and \$42 for seniors. Visit www.atthemac.org or call (630) 942-4000.

- Don't miss the Theatre of Western Springs' production of George Bernard Shaw's classic comedic drama "Pygmalion," in which linguist professor Henry Higgins and gentleman Col. Pickering make a whimsical bet to pass off Eliza, a low-class street

flower girl, as a respectable royal lady of high society. Pickering offers to cover the expenses of the experiment if Higgins can pass Eliza off as a duchess at a garden party in six months. After undergoing grueling training, Eliza successfully "passes" in high society, having in the process become a lovely young woman of sensitivity and taste. But when Higgins dismisses her abruptly as a successfully completed experiment, she finds belonging in neither the upper class of her new mannerisms and speech, nor in the lower class from which she came.

The show opens tonight and runs through Sunday, Feb. 4, at 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2:30 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays at the theater, 4384 Hampton Ave.

Tickets are \$28 for general admission and \$15 for ages 18 and under. Visit www.theatrewesternsprings.com or call (708) 246-3380.

- Elmhurst University's

Theatre and Dance Department presents "The Lifespan of a Fact" as Jim Fingal, a fresh-out-of-Harvard fact checker for a prominent but sinking New York magazine, comes up against John D'Agata, a talented writer with a transcendent essay about the suicide of a teenage boy. When Fingal is assigned to fact check D'Agata's essay, a comedic yet gripping battle ensues over facts versus truth.

Shows are at 7 p.m. Thursday to Sunday, Feb. 1-4, at Mill Theatre, 253 Walter St. in Elmhurst.

Tickets are \$15. Visit www.elmhurst.edu/events or contact Trish Thoren at walterp@elmhurst.edu.

- Hinsdale Central Drama invites audiences to enjoy "80 minutes of adventure" with a student-directed adaptation of Roald Dahl's beloved "James and The Giant Peach."

Shows are at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, and 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, in the Hinsdale Central auditori-

um, 5500 S. Grant St.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 for students and children. Visit ticketpeak.co/hcdrama.

- Also at the Theatre of Western Springs this month is "The Other Place" about successful neurologist Juliana Smithton, whose life seems to be coming unhinged. Her husband has filed for divorce, her daughter has eloped with a much older man and her own health is in jeopardy. Piece by piece, a mystery unfolds as fact blurs with fiction, past collides with present and the elusive truth about Juliana boils to the surface, revealing to herself and the audience that her version of things is skewed and incorrect.

It runs Feb. 15-25, with performances at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, at the theater, 4384 Hampton Ave.

Tickets are \$28 for general admission and \$15 for ages 18 and under. Visit www.theatrewesternsprings.com or call (708) 246-3380.

- Experience Drury Lane Theatre's production of "Fiddler on the Roof" as Tevye tries to protect his daughters and instill them with traditional values in the face of political and social change in his tight-knit Jewish community in Czarist Russia.

The musical runs through Sunday, March 24, at 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. Performances are 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays; 1:30 and 7 p.m. Thursdays; 7 p.m. Fridays; 3 and 8 p.m. Saturdays; and 2 and 6 p.m. Sundays.

Tickets are \$100.75 to \$111.25. Visit www.drurylanetheatre.com or call (630) 530-0111.



PreK, Kindergarten and New Student Registration



ONLINE REGISTRATION

February 5 – 29
[D181.org/Registration](https://d181.org/Registration)



ONSITE REGISTRATION

Friday, March 1
9:00 a.m – 3:00 p.m.
Home Schools

MORE INFORMATION:

arangel@d181.org
(630) 861-4900



To register, you will need a photo ID, child's birth certificate, residency and health forms.

PULSE

ARTFULLY DONE

■ Artist Reception: Rachel Weaver Rivera

Jan. 25
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Meet the Hinsdale artist behind this beautiful art exhibit currently on display in the library's Quiet Room. Enjoy light refreshments while examining the pieces by Rivera, a professional artist and mental health therapist. Time: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

FAMILY FUN

■ Saturday Storytime and Craft

Jan. 27
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Stop by to share stories, songs and complete a craft at the end. Time: 10 to 10:45 a.m. RR

■ Bingo Boogie

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

Play a few rounds of book BINGO and dance to some favorite tunes. Time: 4 to 5 p.m. RR

■ Story Stroll

Through Jan. 31
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Enjoy a casual stroll in the library's Youth Services Department while reading "A Blue Bird and Her Little Tree" by Jin Bo and Zhao Guangyu.

GAME ON

■ Jodie Harrison Night

Jan. 30
Hinsdale Central main gym
5500 S. Grant St.

Hinsdale Central girls basketball will host its inaugural Jodie Harrison Future Red Devil Night to celebrate the instrumental role The Community House's Jodie Harrison league has had in launching the playing careers of many of the Central girls basketball players. The event, held in conjunction with Central's home game against Riverside-Brookfield, will begin

with pre-game festivities at 6:45 p.m. Jodie Harrison players will receive a free T-shirt and take part in a halftime shooting contest. Time: 7 p.m.

■ Softball clinic

Feb. 3
Hinsdale Central fieldhouse
5500 S. Grant St.
www.hinsdalecentral.8to18.com

Kids in fourth through eighth grades are invited to learn the essential skills needed for success on the diamond from Hinsdale Central softball coaching staff and current Red Devil players. Participants will be split into two grade-level groups and should bring a glove, water and a bat, if available. Time: 1 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$30. RR

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Yoga for Strength and Stability

Tuesdays, Jan. 30-March 5
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

This six-week class is designed to mindfully build strength, flexibility and balance. Time: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$80. RR

LISTEN & LEARN

■ Children's Character-building Setbacks

Jan. 31
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.d181foundation.org

Michelle Icard, author of "8 Setbacks That Can Make a Child a Success," will help parents understand what to say, what not to say and what to do to help their children develop character and grit after situations like a bad report card or a poor behavioral choice. The talk is part of the Community Speakers Series sponsored by District 181, District 86 and the District 181 Foundation. Times: 9:30 to 11 a.m. or 7 to 8:30 p.m. RR

■ Navigating the World of Vacation Rentals

Feb. 1
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

In this virtual Hinsdale Public Library program, learn about the rewards and risks of vacation home rentals to help make your next vacation a suc-

cess. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

NOTEWORTHY

■ SBC Concerto Finalists

Jan. 28
St. Paul's UCC
5739 Dunham Road,
Downers Grove
www.sinfoniettabelcanto.org
(630) 384-5007

The Sinfonietta Bel Canto presents the finalists of the group's 2024 competition, including works by Haydn, Mozart, Bruch, Dittersdorf, Massenet and Liszt. The SBC also will perform Haydn's Symphony No. 99 in E-flat major. Awards will be given at the end of the concert. Time: 3 p.m. Tickets: \$25, \$22 for seniors, \$8 for students.

■ Bruce Molsky

Feb. 3
Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
11 W. Maple St.
www.acousticren.com
(630) 941-7797

This Grammy-nominated musician is best known for his work on the fiddle, but his banjo, guitar and distinctive, powerful vocals also resonate with listeners, combining technical virtuosity with relaxed conversational wit. Streaming tickets also are available. The performance is part of the Acoustic Renaissance Concerts series. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20.

SIGN UP NOW

■ The Great Jigsaw Puzzle Race

Jan. 27
Clarendon Hills
7 N. Prospect Ave.
www.clarendonhillslibrary.org
(630) 323-8188

Take on other puzzle fans in the competition between teams of one to six people putting together a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle. The first team to finish will be honored as Master Puzzlers. Ages 8 and up are welcome. Time: 1 to 3 p.m. RR

STEPPING BACK

■ 'Miniature Rails, Massive Impact'

Feb. 3 & 17
Hinsdale History Museum
15 S. Clay St.
www.hinsdalehistory.org
The exhibit showcases miniature models of trains to tell



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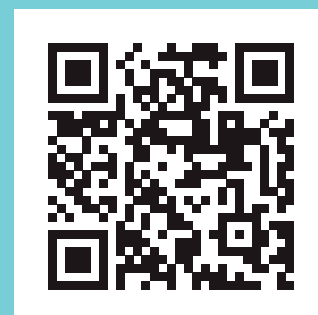
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Please turn to Page 22

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Everyone invited to come see what is growing at HPL

There is a time and a place for everything, and few years back I decided both the time and the place had passed for the rectangular space in my backyard that housed my now-grown children's playset. That space had once been shaded by a large 200-year-old oak but was now bathed in full sunlight after having to remove the diseased tree. As I looked out our kitchen window wondering what would take its place, it hit me — we should transform the space into a vegetable garden!

That seed of an idea took root, and early that spring I chose a few heirloom tomato, pepper and cucumber seeds, set up a grow light and began to prepare the garden plot. As the seeds started to sprout, so did the interest of my teenage daughters, who would check on the progress of the delicate seedlings each day.

After the threat of frost had passed, we transplanted them outdoors and watched with anticipation as the plants blossomed and the first signs of fruit appeared. In just a few short months we were rewarded with the

satisfaction of a bounty of cucumbers and tomatoes that tasted extra sweet knowing we had grown them from seeds.

Those tiny heirloom seeds that grew into the sprawling plants in the garden are truly amazing. They contain all the genetic material necessary to create an exact replica of the plant from which they were saved. As it turns out, they also carry the history of the people from all corners of the world who brought their cherished seeds with them when they left their home, providing a living reminder of the past.

Take for example the Cherokee Trail of Tears black bean seeds. These seeds were carried in the pockets of the Cherokee people, brought as a symbol of hope as they were forced to march from the Smoky Mountains to Oklahoma in the winter of 1838. The seeds of the Martino's Roma T=tomato have a different story. They were brought to



Susan McBride
Check it out

the Finger Lakes region of New York by Italian immigrants tucked into suitcase linings and hat bands.

Beginning Feb. 17, these heirloom seeds and hundreds of others will be the newest additions to the Hinsdale Public Library's collection, the new HPL Seed Library.

Aligning with our mission to provide innovative educational and cultural experiences and our goal to offer experiential learning opportunities, the Seed Library will give HPL cardholders access to flower, vegetable and herb seeds to plant and grow at home.

To help get you started, we've tapped experts to teach classes on everything from starting seeds in the early spring to saving seeds at the end of the growing season.

- Feb. 17 — Seed Starting: Give Your Garden a Head Start
- April 20 — Vegetable Gardening in Containers and Raised Beds

- Aug. 10 — How to Save Your Seeds

My vegetable plot is not large, but I have learned many important lessons from it as I experiment with different types of seeds and growing methods. I have even tinkered with growing vegetables in containers and raised beds, successfully growing French green beans in pot. During the short cold days of winter, the joy of planning a garden, starting seeds and anticipating their growth can provide a welcome source of warmth.

Our Seed Library is possible thanks to the generous donations of seeds from several sources, including Hinsdale's own Vern Goers Nurseries Inc., and our partnership with Hinsdale Central High School's Ecology Club and the HPL Junior Advisory Board, whose members packed and labeled each seed packet.

— *Susan McBride is programming coordinator at Hinsdale Public Library and a longtime Hinsdale resident.*



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Pet pic of the week

Dinah is a beautiful senior girl who just needs a good home. Her owner sadly passed away and she has been learning to adjust to her new life. She would love to be the only pet in a home so she could get all the love to herself. Dinah is 8 years old, spayed, microchipped and fully vaccinated. Her adoption fee has been donated. For more information, stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center, visit www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org or call (630) 323-5630. (photo by Laura Dajoraite provided)



Continued from Page 18

the story of Hinsdale's railroad history. Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

TEENS & TWEENS

American Red Cross Babysitters Certification

Jan. 27
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Youth ages 11-15 can learn the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly provide care for children and infants. Participants receive a workbook and training materials as well as a certificate; attendance is required for the entire day to receive certification. Participants should pack a sack lunch. Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$105. RR, MD

Stitched Valentine Bird

Feb. 2
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Stop by the library any time and stitch a sweet felt bird to keep or give to a loved one. RR

WINE & DINE

Chef Fest

Feb. 1
Drury Lane Theatre & Conference Center
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace
www.emhfoundation.org/events
(331) 221-0388

The Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Foundation will hold its annual benefit featuring signature menu items from chefs of more than 20 local restaurants, bakeries and caterers, who donate their time and talent. An open bar is included, and tables of 10 can be purchased. Proceeds support Elmhurst Hospital's commitment to delivering state-of-the-art healthcare to the community. Time: 6 p.m. Tickets: \$150.

Key

RR - registration required
MD - member discount

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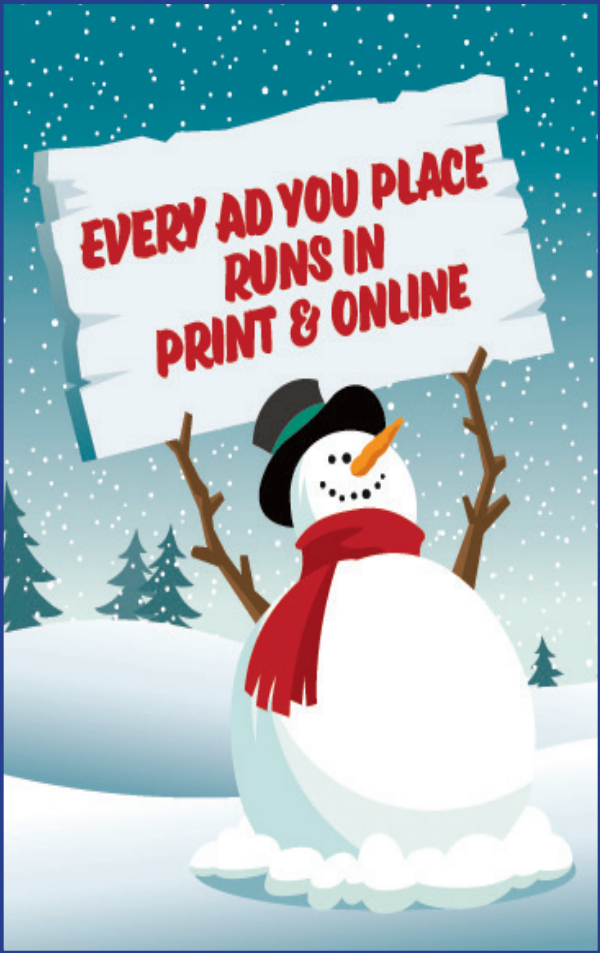


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CERTIFICATE NO. 79314 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on January 9, 2024 wherein the business firm of MoWerx Located at 312 Park Avenue #275, Clarendon Hills, IL. 60514 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Christopher White, 18 Gilbert Avenue, Clarendon Hills, IL. 60514; Bridgette White, 18 Gilbert Avenue, Clarendon Hills, IL. 60514. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 9th day of January, A.D. 2024. Jean Kaczmarek DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean January 11, 18 & 25, 2024.

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79255 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on November 2, 2023 wherein the business firm of GR8-HUNTER LLC Located at 1519 Pinehurst Drive, Darien, IL. 60561 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Roy E. Rivett, 1519 Pinehurst Drive, Darien, IL. 60561. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 18th day of January, A.D. 2024. Jean Kaczmarek DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean January 25, February 1 & 8, 2024.

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79288 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on December 8, 2023 wherein the business firm of KG SPELLZ WELL Located at 6421 Briarcliff Ct., Lisle, IL. 60532 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Kristopher M. Gravel, 6421 Briarcliff Ct., Lisle, IL. 60532. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 8th day of December, A.D. 2023. Jean Kaczmarek DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean January 18, 25 & February 1, 2024.

Equal Housing



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

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Each Thursday

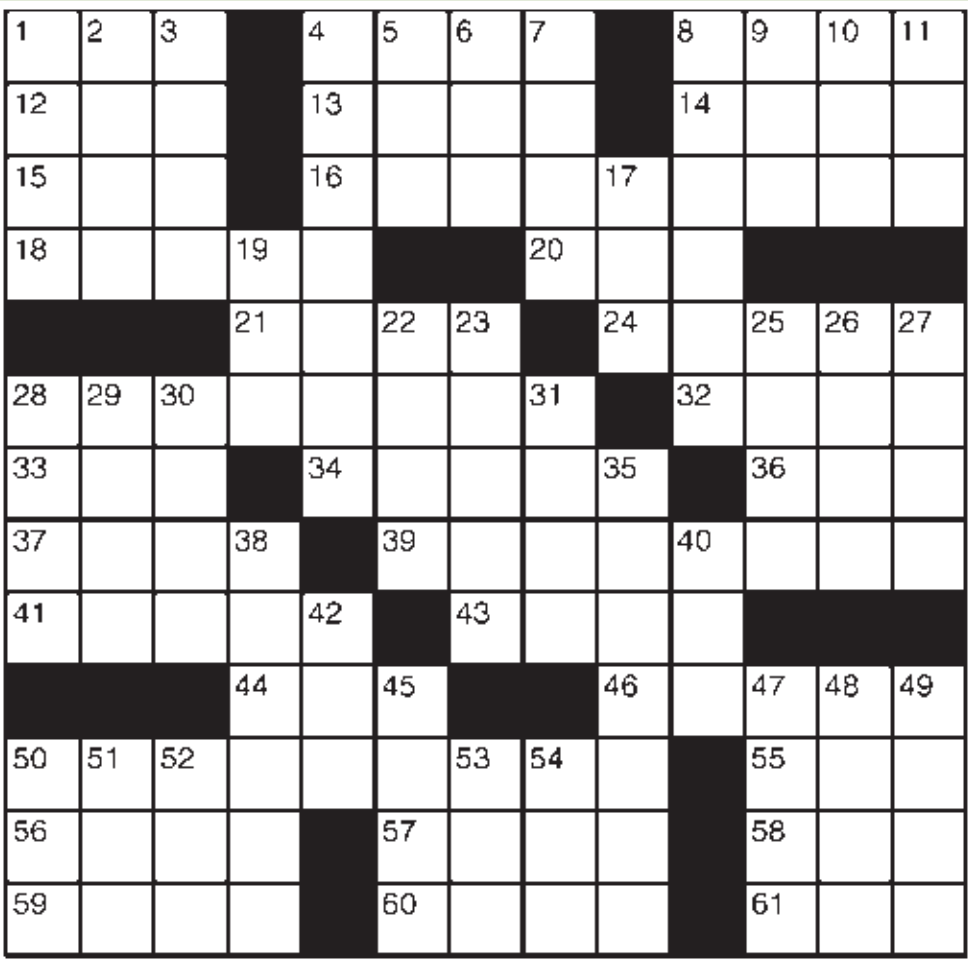
At your door

News

READ IT AND REAP!

MIND GAMES

- ACROSS
- 1 HOT TUB
4 PACK (DOWN)
8 HONEYCOMB DIVISION
12 JOKE
13 TEEN FAVE
14 CELESTIAL BEAR
15 CAPOTE NICKNAME
16 DIFFICULT PROBLEM
18 CELERY UNIT
20 PANTHEON MEMBER
21 MORAYS
24 TWILIGHT, POETICALLY
28 "BRAVO!"
32 WRY BOMBECK
33 RAW ROCK
34 BEGETS
36 MELODY
37 ACTRESS MEG
39 MAINTAINS
41 WHEEL CONNECTORS
43 BAKE SALE ORGS.
44 - VICTOR
46 DUGOUT SEATING
50 SOCIABLE AND LIVELY
55 "CAUGHT YA!"
56 MEDICINAL PLANT
57 VOGUE RIVAL
58 SINGER PHAIR
59 REPORTER'S QUEST
60 WORKOUT COUNT
61 MIMIC



- DOWN
- 1 BOOT CAMP VIPS
2 SECTION
3 WATER, IN MEXICO
4 HEARTS, SLANGILY
5 BIG FUSS
6 CALENDAR ABBR.
7 ADVERTISE
8 GET COZY (WITH)
9 BLUNDER
10 BATON ROUGE SCH.
11 FELON'S FLIGHT
17 EGGY QUAFF
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26 DURING
27 RED PLANET
28 MRS. DITHERS OF
"BLONDIE"
29 AFRICAN ANTELOPE
30 "HUD" ACTRESS
PATRICIA
31 FAXED
35 EQUINE HOMES
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LION
48 INTEL PRODUCT
49 VISIBILITY
HINDRANCE
50 FIRE
51 FLAMENCO CHEER
52 AT ONCE
53 -- DE-FRANCE
54 JUNGFRAU, FOR ONE

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Noble 2. Heist;
3. Usher; 4. Amend

Today's Word
HUSBAND

SCRAMBLERS

Use the letters in the words below to create new words. Each word must be at least 4 letters long and must contain at least one letter from the word below.

Grand
ELBON
Theft
THEIS
Faint
SHURE
Other
NAMED

TODAY'S WORD

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

HOROSCOPES

January 2024 Horoscopes • Week 5



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, even though you are conservative by nature, this week you are ready to take a chance of some sort. Enjoy the journey even if the efforts do not bring you enormous success.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Something will occur this week that surprises you, Aries. You may even wonder if it is a trick being played on you. It is no trick, so buckle down for an adventure.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, you might not be able to control what is happening this week, but you can control how you react to different situations. Keep your distance if an altercation arises.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
More than anything right now, this week, you need to relax and unwind, Libra. Take things at a slow pace, and spend more time at home with family than at work.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, a kind word from you may be all that is needed to bring a smile to someone's face. Do not underestimate the power of a kind and simple gesture.



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
You have pushed your mind and body quite far over the last several days, Taurus. Now you have to slow down or pay the consequences. Do not add anything else to your list.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Something you discover about a friend this week could leave you reeling, Leo. The signs have been there for awhile and you really should have seen it coming.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Try not to take any financial risks right now, Scorpio. If you are planning to invest, then you may want to get all of the facts before gambling too much in the stock market.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
You don't usually lack confidence, Pisces. But you may not want to push ahead with a project for fear of failure. You should be more adventurous and not worry too much.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, you may believe you have discovered a good thing and it could be right. But don't wait too long to act since this good thing has an expiration date. The clock is ticking.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, if you are on the move this week, there is a chance that you will experience some interesting people along the way. At least one person might be a good networking contact.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
This week you will be back to your best, Sagittarius. Things will work out, so use your positive attitude to the benefit of yourself and others.

STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE



April Wu
Hinsdale

When did you start bowling?

I started during COVID. My dad is actually a bowler, so I would bowl with him and then just decided to join the bowling team.

What do you enjoy about the sport?

I like the social aspect of bowling and how it can bring people together while also being competitive. When I'm bowling with friends or playing in a league or on the Central team, it's a fun and relaxed environment. I've also made a lot of friends with players from other schools.

How have you improved over three years on the team?

When I started I was around a 130 average. Now I average, like 170 or 180, usually. I have better technique and feel like I've learned a lot about having emotional discipline. After having bad shots, I can tell myself to calm down more and am a lot better at correcting my own mistakes. I feel like that has helped me in my academics, too.

How would your teammates describe you?

I would say competitive, reliable and supportive.

What gets you pumped up?

The biggest thrill is getting strikes and spares, knocking down all the pins.

What's your goal for the season?

It's always to make it to state in Rockford. I made it to sectionals last year and was two places away from getting to state.

What else are you into?

I've been playing the violin since sixth grade. I love playing the violin, and I'm in the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. I love being on a team and working with other people. I also love reading — my favorite genre is probably mystery or horror, anything by Steven King — and doing math. And I love dancing in my free time, like modern hip hop.

How are you feeling as you approach graduation?

I'm excited to graduate but I'm also sad that I'm going to leave all my friends.

Why does varsity girls bowling head coach Paul Parpet like having Wu on the squad?

April is a very classy young lady. She works very hard to be the best she can be in everything she does. It's been a pleasure having the opportunity to coach her the past three years. Her goal is to be a state qualifier.

— profile by Ken Knutson,
photo by Jim Slonoff

RESULTS

Basketball, boys Jan. 20 @ Batavia Shootout vs. Wheaton-Warrenville South V wins 53-46 Jan. 19 vs. LT V loses 45-48	V loses 2,084-2,610	Hockey Jan. 20 vs. DuPage V wins 5-4 Draudt, 2 goals Anderson, goal Crabb, goal Simmons, goal Romberger, 2 assists Dwyer, assist Weller, assist Yu, assist Jan. 17 @ Plainfield V wins 5-3	Harris, 1st, 1:56.43 Benington, 3rd, 2:01.03 50-yard freestyle Bertulis, 1st, 21.36 Marcet, 2nd, 22.05 100-yard butterfly Bertulis, 1st, 51.35 Gao, 3rd, 54.06 100-yard freestyle Guo, 1st, 47.2 Shiell, 5th, 50.4 500-yard freestyle L. Vatev, 3rd, 4:45.95 Pelinkovic, 5th, 4:51.5 100-yard backstroke Hou, 2nd, 51.75 Guo, 3rd, 52.44 100-yard breaststroke Bey, 1st, 58.7 Harris, 2nd, 59.25 400-yard freestyle relay Pelinkovic, L. Vatev, Marcet, Bertulis, 1st, 3:08.84 Jan. 18 vs. Downers North V wins 284-68	Jan. 20 vs. Leyden V wins 52-21 132 pounds Muñoz, fall 2:49 150 pounds Kirsch, fall 3:02 175 pounds Kruse, 13-0 major dec. 190 pounds Galeckas, fall 3:42 285 pounds Ivanisevic, fall 1:27 Jan. 19 @ LT V loses 22-58
Basketball, girls Jan. 23 @ Downers South V loses 40-46 Jan. 20 @ Glenbard West V loses 53-69 Jan. 18 vs. Proviso West V wins 63-42	Gymnastics, girls Jan. 17 @ LT V loses 131.1-138.65 Vault Hamelka, 1st, 9.2 Driscoll, 4th, 8.5 Hannah, 5th (tie), 8 Danhaussen-Brun, 9th, 7.6 Uneven bars Hamelka, 1st, 9.1 Driscoll, 3rd, 8.7 Hannah, 8th, 7.5 Danhaussen-Brun, 9th, 7.3 Balance beam Driscoll, 3rd, 8.8 Inabnit, 6th, 8.5 Nawracaj, 7th, 8.1 Hamelka, 9th, 7.5 Floor exercise Inabnit, 3rd (tie), 8.7 Driscoll, 6th, 8.25 Hannah, 7th, 8.1 Danhaussen-Brun, 9th, 7.25 All around Driscoll, 2nd, 34.25 Hannah, 5th, 30.4	Swimming, boys Jan. 20 @ St. Charles Invite V places 1st with 384 points 1-meter diving Brown, 5th, 354.75 Kassir, 6th, 338.45 200-yard medley relay Hou, Bey, Guo, Harris, 1st, 1:35.25 200-yard freestyle L. Vatev, 1st, 1:42.49 Tarnauskas, 5th, 1:50.4 200-yard IM	Wrestling, girls Jan. 23 vs. Glenbard West V wins 42-30 125 pounds Neskovic, fall 1:41 130 pounds Hart, fall 1:36 155 pounds Schaller, fall 5:36 190 pounds Black, fall 1:40 Jan. 19 @ LT V wins 42-24	Wrestling, boys

Instant replay



Hinsdale Central wrestler Tiyanha Hart gets in position to pin her opponent while teammate Naomi Schaller looks to get the upper hand in her match during Central's meet against visiting Glenbard West Tuesday night. Both girls claimed victory, bringing their respective season records to 17-3 and 12-1, and helping the Red Devils defeat the conference rival Hilltoppers 42-30. (Jim Slonoff photos)

Registration for 2024 NOW OPEN!



Register and Pay Online @ www.hinsdalell.org

A Great Program Right Here in Hinsdale – Details are as follows:

- Fee \$250.00 Per Player 6yo/7yo, \$275 8yo/9yo/Minors/Majors
- Registration is for Hinsdale school children born before Sept. 2019 up to age 12
- Registration will close on 2/16, if your son/daughter is not registered before 2/16 they will NOT be able to play

HLL Website – Please follow accordingly:

- Register at www.hinsdalell.org
- Click register from your phone or computer
- Login or follow prompts to create a new account
- Follow steps to register your child



Mandatory Workout Day tryouts – 2/4/24:

- Where: Hinsdale Central High School Field House
- When: Sunday, February 4, 2024
 - 6yo – 8:00 a.m.
 - 7yo – 8:45 a.m.
 - 8yo – 9:30 a.m.
 - 9yo and any older kids new to HLL – 10:15 a.m.
- If you are unable to make your assigned time, please come when you are able.

Coach Volunteers:

- As you register your child, there will be a section where you can volunteer to coach
- You will be subject to a background check
- Please note we cannot guarantee everyone will be able to coach as there may not be enough spaces – we will contact coaches shortly after registration closes

Tentative 2024 Season Schedule



- Registration started 1/8/24
- Mandatory Workout Day 2/4/24
- Registration closes 2/16/24
- HLL draft day 3/2/24
- Practices start first week in April (weather permitting)
- Opening Day to be early April
- Watch your emails for more info!

SPORTS

Parpet added fourth sport to his resume

Girls varsity bowling coach has spent decades coaching football, baseball, basketball

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Paul Parpet had been a high school coach for four decades before signing on as the varsity girls bowling head coach at Hinsdale Central almost nine years ago.

"This fall I just completed my 50th consecutive year of coaching high school football," Parpet said. "I'm proud of that. That's why I brag about it."

Parpet has logged 30 years as head football coach, 21 as head baseball coach and 30 as a freshman basketball coach. After he retired from teaching at Addison Trail High School in 2010, he coached at Downers North, Downers South, Lisle and Metea Valley (where his nephew John was head coach) before coming to Central in 2015.

"I have been busy," he said.

It's no surprise that he's continued to coach, since it has been a passion since he was a student at Morton West High School.

"We had study halls that we had to go to and there were 200 people in the study hall back then," he said. "I would practice signing my name for hall passes, because I wanted to teach and I wanted to coach."

After graduating from Western Michigan, where he played baseball on a scholarship, he was hired at St. Cyprian in River Grove, where he worked for two years until he was hired at Addison Trail. He eventually became department chair of physical education, health and drivers ed.

"I coached three sports my entire career except for four years, when I went to watch my son play baseball at Glenbard West," he said.

His coaching philosophy has evolved over the years, he said, noting his early

focus on winning. He had an early taste of success when his Addison Trail football team played in the state championship game two years in a row.

"I thought that was me," he said. "It wasn't me — it was the players."

His student-athletes helped him realize there was more to high school sports than wins and losses. He recalled the 2004 football season at Addison Trail, when 37 varsity football players were suspended after a weekend house party. The team lost its next game 49-0 to Willowbrook.

Parpet said he asked one defensive back named Ryan Martin, who played every down on defense instead of sitting on the bench, what he thought of the game. He was taken aback by the response.

"Coach, that was the most fun I've ever had in my whole life," Parpet recalled him saying. "Right there it made me realize, for these kids, it's not about winning and losing. Three weeks later, everybody got to play. They don't care if they play for five plays — they played," he continued. "It's probably one of the best things that I've ever done, and that was because of Ryan Martin."

Parpet also believes it's critical to focus on fundamentals. Athletes need to progress, with the goal of becoming "unconsciously competent."

"If you have to concentrate and concentrate and concentrate all the time, that's not good," he said.

For his Red Devil Bowlers, that means not having to think about where to stand or what target to aim for. And that comes through hard work.

"Everybody is focused on the results and you can't always control the results, but you can control the pro-



Hinsdale Central girls varsity bowling head coach Paul Parpet said he works to earn the respect of the athletes he coaches. "Just because you have a title doesn't mean you get respect. You have to show respect," he said. (Jim Slonoff photo)

cess," he said.

Part of the process for some bowlers is simply learning the sport. While many football and baseball players start competing as young kids, Parpet sees a number of bowling newcomers on his squads.

"If you don't have bowlers in your family, it's not something that is done at a young age, especially in Hinsdale," he said. "In Hinsdale, when I first took over, we had some big bowling families. Now that's not the way it is."

Student-athletes also have other obligations. April Wu, his best bowler, is an accomplished violinist and second chair of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

"She's doesn't have enough matches to make All Conference," he said. "She's 18 pins from making it to (state in) Rockford."

Parpet also has seen a decline in the number of girls on the team.

"I usually have a squad of anywhere from 15 to 18. This year, I've got nine," he said, noting other teams are

seeing smaller rosters as well.

"We have to up our numbers," he said. "We're going to the junior highs, the feeder schools, and putting together some open nights at the bowling alley in the early fall."

Even with a smaller team, he's happy with the season. "The bowling at Hinsdale this year has been good," he said. "We haven't won a lot of matches, but (last Wednesday) we bowled at Downers South and the girls competed really well. We had two girls who had high scores."

Central varsity girls track head coach Pat Richards is a longtime fan of Parpet.

"He is someone when I was a younger coach I looked up to," said Richards, who also coaches football. "He's passionate about coaching and well-rounded. It never surprises me to look up and see him coaching another sport. I'm not sure where he gets his strength from as he keeps going."

Assistant bowling coach-

es Jen Jaczak and Lauren Otahal also commented on Parpet's energy levels.

"His enthusiasm and love of coaching is something truly to be admired by aspiring coaches," they wrote in an email. "He creates an environment that is both competitive and fun to encourage the girls to make this a fun lifelong hobby/activity."

"We are lucky to have his coaching experience for our staff and bowlers alike."

Parpet spends his time away from coaching at the secretary of state's office in Naperville, where he works from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. five days a week.

"All I do is road tests because of my drivers ed background. I live two miles from there. It's a great job. There are a lot of nice people in this world," he said.

He has no regrets about dedicating his life to coaching.

"It has been a good choice, what I chose to do," he said, "because I really enjoy it."



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March 8-9, 15-16

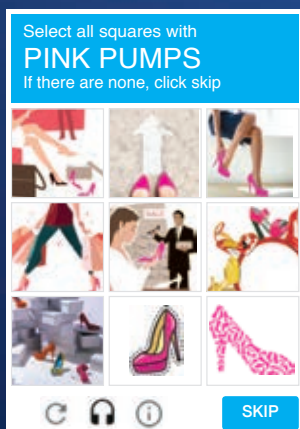
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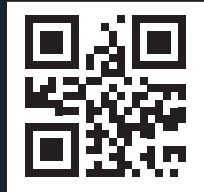
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*Informal discussion of three major strategies
on selling your home for top dollar*

WHEN: February 20th, 2024
6:30 - 7:30 pm

WHERE: @properties Christie's International Real Estate
4472 Lawn Ave., Western Springs, IL

HOW: Limited seating - Registration required

*Based on Zillow and Google for Clarendon Hills, Hinsdale, Western Springs, Oakbrook, and Burr Ridge as of 01/11/2024.
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I have had the unique opportunity to be a meaningful part of the Hinsdale and West Suburban real estate market for several years. A broad depth of knowledge of the community has allowed me to bring value and success to hundreds of satisfied buyers and sellers. My experience spans from historical homes to new construction and everything in between. Dedication to integrity and a high level of personal service, is the secret to my success.



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January



The boys varsity basketball team poses with its trophy after beating Oswego East to win the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic Dec. 29 for the first time since the inaugural tourney in 2015. (photos courtesy of Adam Pitra/AWP Photography)

■ “In my tradition, there is no principle more central than grace. Everyone could use a little more time and space, a chance to try again or an acknowledgment that perfect might not be possible this side of heaven. Knowing how much God loves us, in 2023 let’s offer grace to everyone we meet, not forgetting to save some grace for ourselves.” — *Katie Hines-Shah, senior pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, on how to get the new year off to a great start*

■ “Definitely one of the highlights was opening our doors back up and having people in the building connecting. Being a source of support for so many has been a big highlight for us.” — *Lisa Kolavennu, Wellness House executive director, looking back at 2022 for the annual nonprofit year in review*

■ “We couldn’t do any of that without the support of our community. It’s just unbelievable the community support that is here. It truly takes a village and the village steps up, every time. We’re so grateful for that.” — *HCS Family Services Executive Director Wendy Michalski on the hundreds of families who received holiday meals from the agency’s food pantries*

■ “It’s a fun time of year because the prep leading into the tournament is hectic and the kids are super busy with getting ready for finals, and then it’s kind of a nice relief to just focus on playing. I like it for that — it’s just basketball.” — *Hinsdale Central boys varsity basketball coach Nick Latorre on the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic, which the team won for the first time in December 2022*

■ “It’s taken me a really long time to really use my training in a way that was meaningful to me. My art isn’t just decorative. It’s meant to be out in the world, helping people appreciate science in a way that’s more accessible to them.” — *Lindsay Olsen, whose “Art, Science and the Elegant Universe” exhibit went on display at the Hinsdale Public Library in January*

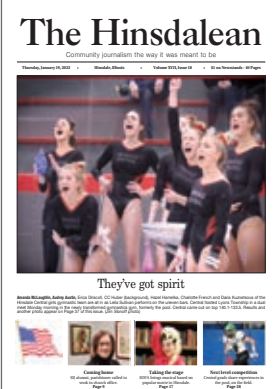
■ “That first college touchdown was something I’ll never forget. That was huge for me and my confidence and feeling that I could play at this level.” — *senior Luke Skokna on his time playing football at the University of North Dakota*

■ “To say that I have been unsatisfied with the half-day kindergarten in this district would be an understatement. My son, who has always loved school, complains regularly about kindergarten because it’s essentially all work and no play.” — *Laura Knisley, one of many parents who attended a Jan. 23 meeting in District 181 advocating for full-day kindergarten*

■ “Hopefully with this palette of incentives that people can avail themselves of, you can remove some questions so people are more willing to take a chance on an old house rather than deciding at the outset to scrap it because it’s easy.” — *Rob McGinnis, Hinsdale’s community development director, after a panel discussion at 505 S. County Line Road hosted by listing agent Dawn McKenna, who hoped to see the property saved*



The Hinsdale Humane Society’s Junior Board held a Jingle Ball party last month. Allie Downes works with party guests Gwenth Burtker and Miya Schmid on some snowflakes during the evening. (Jim Slonoff photo)



February



■ “We are literally beating each other up. We’re all very different people, but wrestling has brought us together. The community that it’s created allows us to have this bond that we know will go beyond this season.” — *Hinsdale Central wrestler Ren Pang on being part of the school’s new girls wrestling program*

■ “At the end of the day, we can still enforce the zoning code provision that no more than three unrelated people living in a home in a single-family residential district is the rule in Hinsdale. I strongly believe that the village and this board has a legitimate interest in protecting its zoning code.” — *Hinsdale Village Board President Tom Cauley on announcing a consent decree with Trinity Sober Living and the U.S. Department of Justice to settle a lawsuit regarding Trinity’s attempt to operate a group home in a residential neighborhood for those recovering from substance abuse*



■ “It’s pretty apparent that this decision should be reserved for a future board. Eighteen months before a contract is set to expire, to me that’s a clear and transparent attempt to protect the superintendent and to tie any board’s hands, including this one.” — *District 86 board member Jeff Waters on the 4-3 vote to extend Tammy Prentiss’ contract to her intended retirement date of July 31, 2024*



■ “It definitely is a science. Everything matters. The air temperature around you matters, what humidity the building is at, all that.” — *Page’s Restaurant owner Cissy Rallo while instructing editor Pam Lannom on making the eatery’s popular*



Mark Lin can hardly contain his disbelief that his king has fallen to Dominick Levinthal’s queen in an after school chess match at Elm School. More than a couple dozen Elm school students were participating in the chess club under the direction of the Illinois Chess Teachers. The group that offers the club to schools across District 181. (Jim Slonoff photo)

ular apple cider doughnuts

■ “I was worried. Will this just be committee members looking at each other’s booths? I was very surprised at how much the community loved it and how engaged they were.” — *Hinsdale’s Grace Shin on launching Culture Night at Oak School four years ago through the school’s PTO in an effort to raise awareness of and celebrate the community’s diversity*

■ “It was just super exciting. I met my mentor, one of the editors at ‘TIME for Kids.’ She gives me my assignments. If I have any questions — and I have a lot of questions about the assignments — she always answers them.” — *Hinsdale Middle schooler Celsey O’Hare on being selected by “TIME for Kids” to be one of the publication’s youth reporters*

■ “Really it’s just consistency every day. Track has a lot of boring

stuff. Especially as sprinters, we need to warm up tediously every day, push-ups and stretching. Even the little things that we don’t love to do outside of the workout we have to do well, and we have to do it every day. Doing the small things well every day is the example I try to show.” — *Hinsdale Central track sprinter Mehlum Anjarwala on being a model for younger teammates*

■ “We don’t want to get into a situation where we end up building one or two more classrooms ... and then five years from now we all of a sudden have a spike in the number of students coming to our school district and not enough facilities.” — *District 181 Superintendent Hector Garcia on his recommendation for the district to launch full-day kindergarten with the 2025-26 school year instead of 2024-25 to give an ad hoc committee time to evaluate long-term needs*



The Hinsdale Central girls wrestling team won 14 matches at last Saturday’s IHSA sectional meet. Kohl credited his first-time wrestlers for having the courage to step into a uncharted endeavor and for making significant progress within an abbreviated inaugural season schedule. “Overall we won about half the matches we wrestled. I was really surprised,” he remarked. (Jim Slonoff photo)



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March



■ “Seeing Andrew Fix embrace his father after his insane 100 breast, giving him the third fastest time in the state. A year ago he missed the state cut and over the summer he almost quit swimming entirely, but he came back this season and wanted it more than I’ve ever seen out of anyone. I don’t think I’ll ever be more happy to see someone succeed.” — *Hinsdale Central junior Nate Harris on what he would remember most from the state meet, when the swim and dive team won the title with the fourth most points in meet history*



■ “I show my work as frequently as I can, and whenever I get an invitation I just say, ‘Yep, I’ll do it.’ It’s important to show (students) that their teachers are still producing work.” — *Clarendon Hills middle school art teacher Michael Bale on being part of the Faculty Art Exhibit at The Community House*



■ “It was so great to have five out of the six at state be seniors, because it was kind of like our last hurrah. It was a huge celebration when we won. It was a lot of fun.” — *Hinsdale Central senior Shannon Stover on winning the state tennis championship in the fall of 2022*



■ “I’d rather have the kids hearing this on a daily basis, a really organic wooden piano. It just hums differently than my keyboard. It has a lovely tone. I want them emulating that in class.” — *Hinsdale Middle School choir director Ashley Sipka on the Pramberger Signature Series model baby grand piano donated to the school with the*



Hinsdale Central head coach Bob Barber takes the traditional victory plunge into the FMC Natatorium pool in Westmont after the team earned the state championship trophy on Saturday. The title was Barber’s second as head coach and 19th in the program’s rich history.



Hinsdale Central students performed in the annual Variety Show last week. With 16 acts, 32 performers and 17 on the stage crew, the shows came off without a hitch. Ethan Hallberg took a leap on stage while performing with the rest of the band, “Down The Hall.” Fellow band members include Gio Carlini, Owen Hallberg and Logan Melia. To see more pictures from the show, please go to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/thehinsdalean. (Jim Slonoff photo)

help of Hinsdale’s John Cordogan

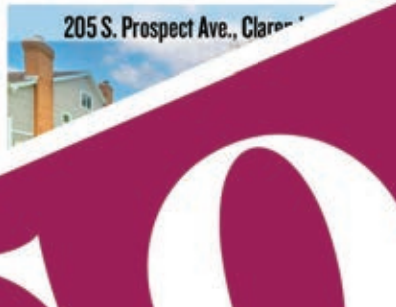
■ “Before the title game we huddled up and said, ‘This is our last ride together, we’ve got to leave it all on the court.’ To see that hard work pay off is one of the most rewarding things that I’ve experienced.” — *senior Grace Carstensen on the Nazareth Academy girls basketball team winning the program’s first state title*

■ “It’s a lot of work putting together teams for 500 kids in flag football, 800 kids in Jodie Harrison (basketball), but it is great, after all of the hard work, you show up on game day and it’s a blast watching it all come together.” — *Kelci Bednar, newly hired as program director at The Community House*

■ “Win state. That’s always our goal. We only have one goal. We don’t mess around. If we don’t get it, we’re disappointed. That’s the legacy of the great Jay Kramer. I think you need that to win. If you don’t have that, if you’re like, ‘Third place is great,’ I just don’t know if you’re going to get first or second. I think you rise to the level of your expectations.” — *Hinsdale Central varsity boys tennis coach John Naisbitt on the team’s goal for the season, which they achieved in May*

■ “(S)till memorable is the time one of my sisters enthusiastically sang out the words of a hymn, oblivious to a typo on the printed song sheet. To this day, I will still sign ‘Holy, Holy, Holy’ out loud, but it my head, it’s always ‘Holy, Holy, Moly’ thanks to that typo.” — *contributing columnist Denise Joyce*

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April



■ “I just couldn’t stop smiling. It almost didn’t feel real. I felt like I was in a dream because I had dreamt of that moment for so long.” — *Hinsdale’s Cayleigh O’Hare on winning first place with her 16-19 age group team at the Irish World Dance Championships in Montreal*

■ “I think that’s going to be the responsibility of the board president, whomever that is — I have no idea. It has to be very clear the mission of the board is to support the district, all students, all employees and the entire community.” — *newly elected District 86 Board member Cat Greenspon, who was subsequently chosen board president*

■ “I was 54 and the youngest guy there by over a decade. I think the biggest thing for me is they were able to help me personally with social and emotional support, which I didn’t know I needed. We just formed a great friendship.” — *cancer survivor Bob Klinger on joining Wellness House’s men’s prostate cancer support group, which participates as a team every year in the Walk for Wellness*

■ “It was a lot of fun for the gymnasts and the coaches because when the meet ended we didn’t have to move equipment down the hallway.” — *Mark Wanner, Hinsdale Central assistant girls gymnastics coach, on the first season of having a dedicated practice and competition space with the opening of the Neil Krupicka Gymnastic Gym*

■ “By pushing the commuters out, we’ll open 30 to 40 spaces a day, which should actually alleviate park-



ing right in the central business district.” — *Hinsdale Police Chief Brian King on the village’s plan to enact a six-hour limit for parking in the deck to deter train commuter use*

■ “(Carole King’s team) wanted to



John Finnell, Hinsdale’s forestry and parks superintendent, uses a drip torch to start burning the prairie along Charleston Road in Hinsdale late last month. The annual burn along Charleston and the Jackson Street prairie occurs each spring to keep invasive species at bay and give room for the preferred prairie plants to grow. (Jim Slonoff photo)

The Memorial Building and Police/Fire departments are sporting Hinsdale’s Sesquicentennial flags installed last week. The logo was designed by Kyle Poff, a former resident and son-in-law of Hinsdale resident Cynthia Curry. With a spring storm providing a bit of dramatic lighting and high winds, the flags were in all their glory April 20. The Hinsdalean continues its year-long coverage of Hinsdale’s 150th on Page 7. (Jim Slonoff photo)

do a video for the 50th anniversary of ‘Tapestry’ and feature our quilts in it. We sent the quilts off to L.A. and those guys made a video, which you can see on YouTube.” — *Salt Creek Quilters Guild President Joan Chao on the guild’s brush with fame*

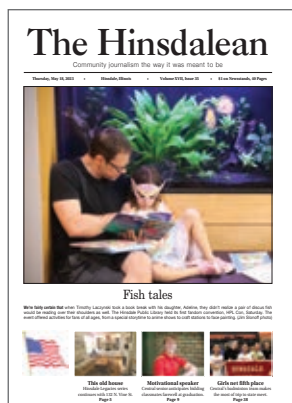
■ “It’s great to know that people care what we’re talking about. It’s about driving that knowledge and awareness around mental health.” — *Gargi Girotra on the podcast ‘The Mental Plateau’ that she and her younger brother, Shreyas, started as Hinsdale Central students*

■ “Everybody gives of themselves to the children. You see people do so much. I get the joy of the scar and physical representation, but I’ve been inspired by so many stories of what people have done for their families.”

— *Dan Janowick, executive director of The Community House, who donated 20 percent of his liver to his son, Will, for a transplant to treat his biliary atresia*



May



Members of St. Isaac Jogues Church distributed more than 4,200 bags across the village to collect food and paper good donations April 15. With rain in the forecast April 22, the sorting of the donated goods was moved indoors. Hundreds of volunteers loaded up bags to be donated to The Little Sisters of the Poor, People's Resource Center, the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and the Missionaries of Charity. (Jim Slonoff photos)

■ "I just love old homes, mainly because they're so unique. They just have so much character, and nobody else has this house." — Katie Gjeldum, owner of the 1911 Craftman home at 510 N. Lincoln St. with husband Dan

■ "It's in the Congressional record forever, so maybe people will refer to it 150 years from now when Hinsdale celebrates its tercentenary. I looked that up." — U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García at the village's first official sesquicentennial celebration

■ "I always wanted to be a teacher, since I was a kid. I can name every one of my elementary school teachers and tell you something about them. They made such an impression on me." — Barbara Dawes, first-grade teacher at The Lane, where she spent 34 years before retiring at the end of the 2022-23 school year

■ "I became a nationally board certified teacher and a coach directly because of my Red Devil softball commitment. Four very formative years in the Red Devil program exponentially impacted many more young students and athletes by developing us into strong future community leaders." — Kathryn Sjöholm, Class of 1992, as the pro-

more than once or twice. I figured it's a great way to bridge the gap." — Hinsdale's Jen Chillo, a teacher who organizes a prom boutique at Morton West High School where kids can choose dresses, tuxes and accessories for free

■ "It feels weird to think that this was my last chance playing badminton as a Red Devil. The experience was pretty impactful on my life — unforgettable bonds." — Hinsdale Central senior Jessica Hahn after the team came in fifth at the state meet

■ "We were going to move somewhere trendy and cool, like California or Georgia. This is the only house that would get me to stay here." — Jack London, who owns the historic home at 518 S. Garfield Ave. with his wife, Sarah, a Hinsdale native

■ "Being able to have the two-night stay at the state final with the team is where a lot of us make our best memories. I'm definitely really happy with all four seasons. Throughout my time here, I've learned a lot from my coaches and teammates." — Hinsdale Central senior Catie McCabe after competing in the state finals with the girls track team, where she earned second in the 1,600 meters and the 4x400 relay and the team came in ninth

gram celebrated its 50th anniversary

■ "I'm a fashion girl who has just always loved to wear clothes and just recognized that living in Hinsdale, there are a lot of people who have a lot of things, and a lot of times they don't wear them



Students from the Clarendon Hills Middle School had a huge reaction to the group of sumo wrestlers who played musical chairs during the annual talent show. The wrestlers (inset photo) were Bryce Erway, Benji Allanson, Colin Crowley and William Smith. The show was held in conjunction with Pizza Wars at the school on April 20. (Jim Slonoff photo)



■ “They want to stay and just play catch in the outfield after a game because they miss it so much. It makes you remember how things used to be.” — *Hinsdale Little League President Garrett Skiba on high schoolers who attend games, in part, to nostalgically connect with their past Little League experience*

■ “We’re going to start off the night with some exciting news.” — *Rick Engstrom, District 181 assistant superintendent for business and operations, before recommending that board members vote to acquire the 13,275-square-foot office building at 133 Ogden Ave. in Hinsdale to serve as the district administration center*

■ “We had a lot of great athletes and awesome coaches that came through during my tenure. I just happened to be at the right place at the right time.” — *Dan Jones on his retirement after serving 11 years as Hinsdale Central athletic director, during which time Red Devil teams won 33 state championships*

■ “If you’re not going to have one or two individual titles, you need to have a whole team effort, and that’s absolutely what we did and what we preached all year.” — *Hinsdale Central head boys varsity tennis coach John Naisbitt on capturing the IHSA state championship for a record 28th time*

■ “It’s so much better when you actually get to meet your customers. You’re out there getting to know the person who’s collecting your work, and they’re getting to know who

you are. It’s a firsthand experience.” — *sculptor Scott Causey on exhibiting at the Fine Arts Festival, which turned 50 in 2023*

■ “A few kids will be dressed up as little mini-Loie Fullers, and I will be dressed up as Loie Fuller. I’ve been working on making a Loie Fuller costume.” — *Hinsdale Historical Society manager Katharine Andrews on the plan to honor the dancing pioneer and one of the village’s most famous natives at the Independence Day parade*

■ “There are so many different approaches you can take with a short story, and trying different genres exercises different mus-



Retiring Hinsdale Central athletic director Dan Jones said being an AD is a lot like being a coach, only for every sport. “I feel for the coaches and the kids after a tough loss. I also share in their enthusiasm after a victory. I really, really enjoyed my 18 years as an AD more than I thought I would.” He hopes to be remembered for being hard-working, caring and putting athletes first. (Jim Slonoff photo)

The label “COVID class” was given to the Hinsdale Central Class of 2023. The freshman who started in the fall of 2019 had no idea what was ahead for them as they began their life as Red Devils. In March of 2020 as the world shut down, Red Devil Nation hunkered down and redefined their educational experiences. A severe storm with heavy rainfall and strong winds — which pelted northeast Hinsdale — barely touched Dickinson Field a couple hours before the start of the outdoor ceremonies. The 671 seniors graduated under clear skies and mild temperatures — perhaps a good omen for their future. Maddie Mollis shares the moment with her friends and family after receiving her diploma. (Jim Slonoff photo)

cles.” — *Hinsdale Central’s Analise Budziak, who took first place in the inaugural Randall Albers Young Writers Award contest sponsored by the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame*

■ “I’ve had a problem with curriculum adoption since before I got seated on this board. The whole (social studies) department did not have a broad discussion about this ... and it certainly didn’t come to the board for any refinement.” — *District 86 board member Debbie Levinthal before the board voted 5-2 to halt implementation of a previously approved social studies curriculum designed to align courses at the district’s two schools*



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July



Hinsdale's Owen Simmons gets good distance off the tee with his driver, but it's his putting prowess that he credits for helping him register his first IJGA win June 30 at Heritage Bluffs Golf Club in Channahon, Illinois. Simmons has been competing on the local youth summer golf circuit for several years, making friends with likeminded competitors from all around the Chicago area. He hopes to carry the confidence he's gained in his play into the Hinsdale Central golf season this fall. (Jim Slonoff photo)

■ “We’re all friends outside of running. You can’t coach that love for each other that we have, and I think that really helps our team thrive in those meets. We’re doing it for each other. We’re not doing it for anybody else.” — **Hinsdale Central grad Dan Watcke** on winning nationals in the 4x800-meter relay in the second fastest time in U.S. high school history

■ “Just the amount of traction the website gained was like nothing I could have imagined. I’ve just heard a lot of support from a lot of people.” — **high school senior Dylan Singla**, creator of the *Sustain AI Planet* podcast, on his website, which had been viewed in more than 50 countries

■ “I just try getting to the middle of the green every single shot. Instead of going so aggressive, I try playing more safe. I ask myself, ‘What’s the best way I can save strokes.’” — **Olivia Zhang** on her breakout season on the summer Illinois Junior Golf Association tour

■ “Stage presence can’t be overstated. When you have fun, you give the audience permission to have fun, too.” — **John Nugent**, general manager of Hinsdale’s School of Rock

■ “Don’t be afraid that saying his name will make someone sad. We’re already sad. Instead it will bring us joy to know that others remember his spirit and that his memory is being kept alive.” — **Brian Richards**

in his eulogy for his 14-year-old son, Sean

■ “I just love the feeling of being on stage, having the lights on, looking out and seeing all the people watching, just seeing their faces enjoying what’s happening.” — **Reagan Scott**, Hinsdale Central junior, who was in *The Theatre of Western Springs’* production of “Mean Girls”

■ “We know that our well-traveled community enjoys learning about other cultures, and we want to reflect a variety of interests and

experiences.” — **Karen Keefe**, executive director of the Hinsdale Public Library, on a variety of cultural arts programs scheduled for July and August

■ “This is kind of how life is, isn’t it? You can be comfortable with a certain sameness: for example, stable health, family, friends. Then something unexpected occurs and you find yourself on a different version of your charted path. You are on the other side of your street. Life just deposited you there. It is indeed discombobulating.” — **contributing columnist Kelly Abate Kallas**



Valencia Ptak puts the finishing touches on a bow she tied around a tree near Fontano’s Subs Friday morning in Hinsdale. She was a classmate of Sean Richards at St. Isaac Jogues School. Sean passed away July 20 after sustaining injuries in a tragic accident. Ptak, along with other members of Sean’s class and friends and family, spent Friday and Saturday tying bows around trees across the village. The color green was selected because it was Sean’s favorite color. Please turn to Page 5 for the story and more photos. (Jim Slonoff photo)

August



As part of Hinsdale's sesquicentennial, the village sponsored "Hinsdale History — Illuminated," an outdoor audio visual celebration of 150 years of history using the Memorial Building as a screen. The production followed one of the largest gatherings of people who attended the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce's Uniquely Thursday concert, which featured recording artist Seventh Heaven. (Jim Slonoff photos)

■ "I finished my round in 20th place, sat down and had lunch, and by the end of lunch I had moved from 20th to, like, fifth." — *Hinsdale native and University of Iowa golfer Mac McClear on the weather-impacted journey to winning his second Big Ten Championship*

■ "The ministry of presence is really important. Just going and sitting, being there. (Asking), 'Would you like to take a walk? Could we spend some time together?'" — *retired pastor Linnea Wilson of Hinsdale on how to support someone grieving the loss of a loved one*

■ "Many times a customer is in one of the checkouts and another customer in another, and all of a sudden you hear a squeal. They haven't seen each other for a long time." — *Kramer Foods co-owner Kim Ludwigson on the family-like feel of Hinsdale's time-honored grocery store*

■ "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain." — *Hinsdale Middle schooler Savannah Wood, quoting writer Vivian Greene, at a party celebrating Wood's successful battle with bone cancer*

■ "My teachers. I've had a lot of teachers that were fun or inspiring or interesting or annoying, and there are a lot that are memorable for different reasons." — *Hinsdale*

Central graduate and track and field team member Alex Burt on what he'd remember about high school as he prepared for his new student-athlete life at the University of Chicago

■ "I think most great leaders will see that as an opportunity, and you want a great leader. You need a great leader." — *superintendent search firm consultant Kevin O'Mara assuring District 86 board members that recent district turmoil wouldn't suppress candidates for the open position*

■ "Pale and sunken cheeks become rounded and rosy. Sad and care-worn faces ... grow ... bright



Finding the perfect spot to take a summer break — right outside of Every Day's a Sundae on Hinsdale Avenue — this group of boys polished off ice cream in all forms Monday afternoon. Reid Matos, Matthew and Patrick Rogers, Daniel Matos and Peter Rogers kept cool with their cones and shakes. (Jim Slonoff photo)

and cheerful with proper nourishment, pure air and additional clothing." — *Fresh Air Home matron Augusta Loeb's quote on the effects of the summer retreat center in Hinsdale that welcomed under-resourced women and children of Chicago from the late 1800s to the early 1900s, included in a 150th anniversary series story*

■ "No one uses lockers anymore. They just carry their stuff. So it's nice that now they have space to actually put it under their desk." — *Hinsdale Central Assistant Principal Ryan Malta on new classroom desks that were part of the district's Future Ready Facilities improvements*

The Hinsdalean



The Hinsdalean



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September



Hinsdale police officer Andy Gallik lends a hand to a woman setting out to visit the Hinsdale Hospital Foundation Junior Board's Ice Cream Social last week in Burlington Park. The police department will hold its annual Hinsdale Citizen Police Academy beginning Sept. 13. The 11-week free course is designed to give residents and people working in Hinsdale a better understanding of law enforcement and the Hinsdale Police Department. (Jim Slonoff photo)

■ "I did relatively well, and I said, 'This is fun, let's do it again.' So I went again, and again, and we've just been going ever since." — **14-year-old comic Ronin Joshi on his first open mic nights**

■ "I think they would be really proud of us. The little old shack that could is now this big building." — **Samantha Cheatham of the Hinsdale Humane Society on the women who founded the organization 70 years earlier**

■ "I'm always amazed by the passion and resources of our little village to work toward helping others. I also believe in walking the walk, looking beyond the glitz and glamor, to fully understand where the funds are going and why supporting a certain cause is important." — **society columnist Allison Peters in her inaugural column**

■ "I think it's consistently been my teammates, the camaraderie and friendships you can make from the sport." — **Hinsdale Central senior Elizabeth Sessa on why she had played volleyball for almost a decade**

■ "My personal guiding principles, though, have led me to conclude that my moral and ethical compasses are too divergent from, and are clearly irreconcilable with, those of the board majority. I am no longer willing to tolerate what, in my opinion, has become the resultant

toxic exercise in futility and frustration. Therefore, I am resigning from the board." — **District 86 board member Debbie Levinthal in her resignation letter**

■ "It allows me to be me a little bit and have fun with the character a little bit. I could be this guy!" — **Art Andersen on playing harried Broadway producer Mr. Feldzeig in Westmont Performing Arts' production of "The Drowsy Chaperone"**

■ "When you have someone read what you may have spent a lot of time working on and they want to tear it up a little, it's hard to take. Hopefully I've been able to help

my students with the job of getting feedback and how to give feedback as well." — **Hinsdale Central English teacher Angelique Burrell, shortly after publishing her first novel, "A Mark in the Road"**

■ "The section has consumed a lot of time and energy since early this summer, not just for me, but for everyone who worked on it. We wanted, as we state in the introduction on Page 5, to create a truly special section that would celebrate the village's sesquicentennial." — **editor Pamela Lannom in her Sept. 28 column, the day The Hinsdalean published its 120-page special section on the village's 150th anniversary**



Hinsdale Central brought back the old-school tradition of a bonfire before Homecoming Tuesday night. After the grounds crew assembled the wooden "structure" on the Grant Street field, dozens of students gathered to watch the mini-inferno. A Hinsdale Fire department engine was on hand just in case. (Jim Slonoff photo)



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October



Some 240 Falcon football players, 40 football coaches, 100 cheerleaders and 15 cheer coaches were at Dickinson Field Friday for Falcon Night at Hinsdale Central High School. "It is the event all of the Falcon players and parents look forward to every year," Falcon Football board member Kay Sharples said. Central also hosted its annual Salute to Service Friday night. (Jim Slonoff photo)

■ "School always felt like an extension of home. The teachers that I was in class with were also at our house on weekends." — *Monroe School Principal Erin Eder on growing up in a small town with a teacher for a mom*

■ "I've got a fever, and the only cure is more cowbell." — *former Hinsdale Central athletic director Dan Jones, quoting Christopher Walken from a famous Saturday Night Live skit, as Jones entertained the crowd during his new gig as booth announcer for Red Devil football home games*

■ "This is like validation of everything you've been working on academically. It's so gratifying to receive that." — *St. Isaac Jogues School Principal Carol Burlinski on the school earning the National Blue*

The 38-step staircase inside 420 S. Park St. is one of the elements Mimi and Dan Collins restored to its former splendor when they purchased the century-old chateau nearly two years ago. A beneficiary of the village's recent efforts to preserve vintage properties, the home was opened to the public earlier this month to show how a historic home can be renovated for modern living. (Jim Slonoff photo)

Ribbon Award for the first time since 1990

■ "If it's got little balls, it won't cook all the way through." — *Yia Yia's Cafe owner Demetrios Panos while showing The Hinsdalean editor Pam Lannom the proper way to make pumpkin pancakes*

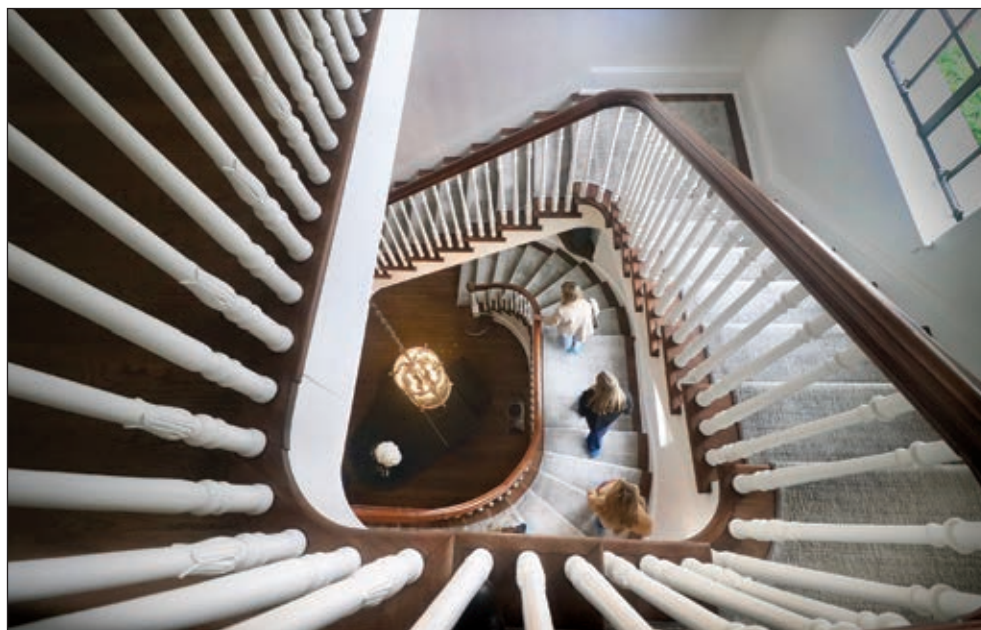
■ "That was definitely my breakout meet for me to become a swimmer who had potential to make Team USA at an international level." — *Hinsdale Central senior and swim team member Josh Bey on his performance at the Speedo Sectionals in Indianapolis in March, which qualified him for the USA Olympic Team Trials*

■ "It becomes calcified and you actually have to jackhammer it out. But that's why it's also in great

shape, because it's so structurally sound." — *Hinsdale's Mimi Collins on the Pyro-Bloc material originally used to construct the 100-year-old home at 420 S. Park Ave. that she spent two years renovating*

■ "The peacefulness of this place is under-appreciated. It often hides its beauty, but it's there if you look hard enough. The woods might appear to be aged and in decay, but it's alive and quietly thriving." — *contributing columnist Kevin Cook on his love of Fullersburg Woods*

■ "I love to hear what the other commissioners have to say because they come from all different walks of life. Their opinions are more interesting to me than my own." — *Steve Cashman, Hinsdale native and chair of the village's plan commission*



February Fish Dates

There are a lot of events in February that warrant great fresh seafood - plan ahead! For special days with high demand, we strongly recommend placing an order, 630-887-4700.

Mark Your Calendar...

February 9 - 13 for Souper Bowl

Sunday (11th) & Mardi Gras Celebrations

Entertain with ease & style - we will have our Shrimp Etouffee, prize-winning Seafood Chili & cocktail shrimp on sale, plus our spreads & lobster roll kits. Great food, almost no time in the kitchen! **(Pick up on Saturday for Super Bowl - we are closed Sundays).** Ask us for ideas. Let the good times roll!

February 14 - Valentines Day & Ash Wednesday



Treat that special person in your life to a New England Lobster Boil: **Pre-order only.** Whole cooked Maine lobster, potatoes, corn, clams, herbs and spices plus coleslaw, Burhop's tarts for dessert. Also Lobster Roll kits on sale. Back again - **Legs are for Lovers Sale** - save on crab legs! Don't forget some oysters...



February 16 - 1st Friday in Lent So many Fridays to enjoy great, fresh fish!



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6:30-9:30PM

The Lodge at KLM Park

Cozy up at The Lodge in Katherine Legge Memorial Park for an evening of spectacular wine, delicious food, great company, and a little education. At *Corks & Forks*, **taste nine unique wines** chosen by Hinsdale Wine Academy...**paired with six tapas style courses.** Enjoy time spent with friends and neighbors while learning the basics of wine and food pairing that you can easily apply at home.

THE FEAST

The menu, chosen to compliment the wine, will feature delicious food prepared by one of The Lodge's preferred caterers. Limited dietary requests will be accommodated with this set menu.

THE TICKETS

Individual - \$150
Table of 8 - \$1100

Max of 80 tickets available.
Must be 21+ years

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November



■ “This contract reflects a competitive package that rewards teachers for their service to D181, while allowing the district to attract and retain high-caliber educators. In turn, all D181 staff continue to provide the best possible educational opportunities and experience for our students.” — *Hinsdale-Clarendon Hills Teachers Association President Sarah Hoffman on a new four-year contract with District 181*

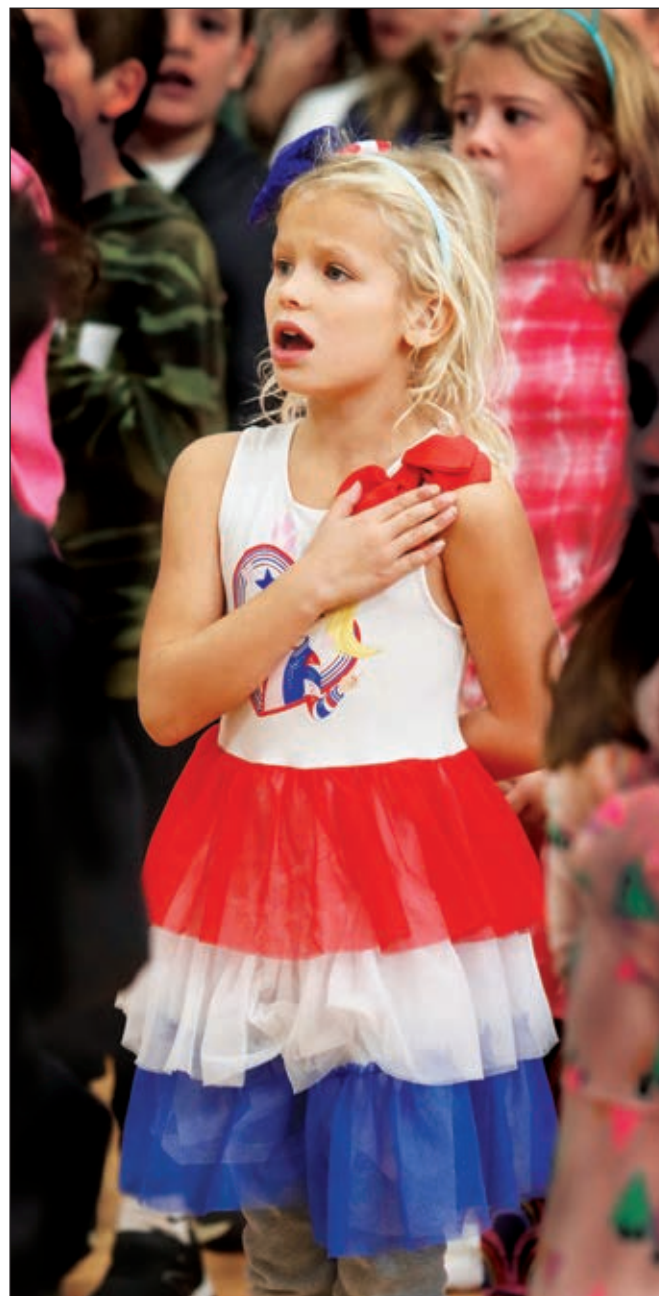
■ “I have no faith in this board’s leadership. Should the board leadership continue in its current trajectory, I fear more damage than good will result.” — *District 86 board member Kay Gallo in her resignation letter*

■ “I remember thinking that my goal was just to be on the state team my senior year.” — *Hinsdale Central senior Aden Bandukwala, the program’s only state champion, on winning the state title at the IHSA boys cross country meet for the second year in a row*

■ “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.” — *60 seconds subject JR Tomkinson*

■ “I really wanted to get the 500 record just because it was the oldest record on the woman’s side. After I saw that I got that after prelims by a full second, I was super happy.” — *Hinsdale Central senior Burley Bokus on breaking a 25-year-old record in the 500-yard freestyle at the*

With his Italian last name pronounced “Jez-ee-are-oh,” Central’s new athletic director Mike Jezioro said most people just call him “Jez.” (Jim Slonoff photo)



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. (Jim Slonoff photo)

state swimming and diving meet. She placed second in the event.

■ “Your time is the greatest gift you can give to your family and your friends and your community. I saw a need that I could fulfill with Bogey.” — *Cathy Daly on volunteering for the Hinsdale Humane Society’s Therapaws program with her 11-year-old cavapoo*

■ “A lot of people talk about the village and property taxes, but the village only gets 7.3 percent of property taxes. Most of it goes to the schools.” — *Village President Tom Cauley during a budget discussion at a Hinsdale Village Board meeting*

■ “If you find time to come watch us, we’re a very special team. We’d love to have the fans in the stands. It’s going to be a very special year.” — *Hinsdale Central varsity boys swim coach Bob Barber on the team, which hopes to defend its state title in March*





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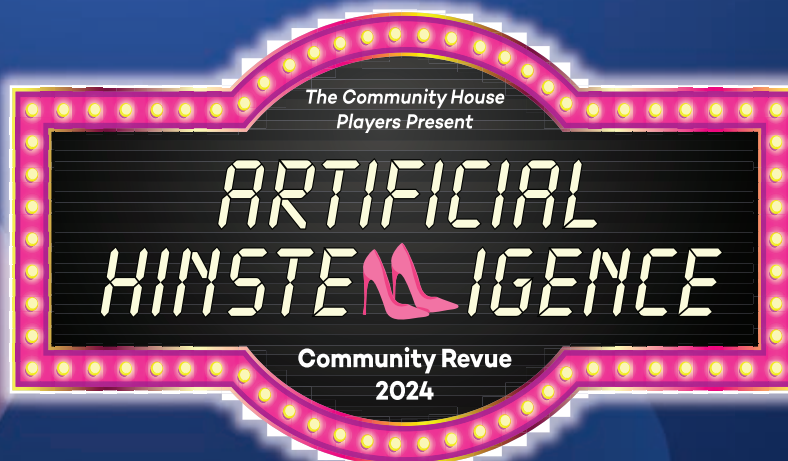
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SCAN ME



THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

December



A group of migrants took the train into Chicago Friday night after arriving in Hinsdale, reportedly from Texas. After the busload of travelers was unloaded at First Street and Garfield Avenue, they walked to the Hinsdale train station. Buses have been dropping off migrants near train stations in several suburbs. After press time Wednesday night, the Clarendon Hills Village Board considered adopting an ordinance regarding charter buses and unscheduled stops. (Jim Slonoff photo)

■ “Just being a parent when my kids were little and my husband was traveling and we moved away from grandparents and friends. If you don’t have a support system, it makes life’s challenges really difficult.” — Hinsdale’s Julie Smith on being a host family for the Safe Families for Children organization

■ “Receiving a card from my grandma meant two things: the card itself would not be signed (just in case we wanted to reuse it), and she would always include a handwritten bonus message from the second choice greeting card (the one she didn’t buy, but who’s sentiment she still wanted to share).” — contributing columnist Carissa Capcar sharing her Christmas memories

■ “They had candles lit up and down the aisle and all over. It just seemed like the whole place was alive with candles. They would time (the final hymn) so they would ring the church bell as part of the song right at midnight as we were finishing up the service.” — Doug Peckenpaugh, Hinsdale Covenant Church lay leader, on attending Christmas Eve service at the church as child with his family

■ “We got stuff out of our attics and our basements and off our walls. Gail Elmore was a huge (help). She lived at Fourth and Oak, She was moving to the Burr Ridge Club. Whatever she didn’t take she said we could have, which was a bonanza.” — Nancy Keenan, co-founder of The Courtyard, on how she and her cohorts got their initial merchandise

to open the resale shop 32 years ago to benefit Wellness House

■ “The average human has 30,000 to 50,000 thoughts in a day. The reason why we don’t experience the inner light is because of the rain of thoughts that are coming into our minds.” — meditation practitioner Umesh Bhatia previewing a program he was preparing to give at the Hinsdale Public Library

■ “I signed a lot of hats, phone cases — even arms. When some kids asked me to sign body parts, I had to look at their parents to make sure it was OK.” — professional tennis player Caroline Dolehide on her momentous WTA tournament

semifinal victory that propelled the Hinsdale native into the top 50 in the world rankings

■ “To stop worrying. They always tell me to just take a breath and take one step at a time.” — Hinsdale Central senior gymnast Hazel Hamelka on the best advice she’s gotten from a coach

■ “Over the years, you can totally see the different clerks — their handwriting, how flowery the language was.” — Hinsdale assistant village manager Andrianna Peterson on archival village board minutes from the town’s early days that are kept in a vault in the Memorial Building



The Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce’s 57th annual Christmas Walk was held Friday night. Village President Tom Cauley greeted Santa after he arrived on the Hinsdale Fire Department’s ladder truck. Hinsdale firefighter/paramedic Chris Swon, Santa and Cauley then lit Hinsdale’s new Christmas tree in front of the Memorial Building. (Jim Slonoff photos)



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