

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, May 30, 2024

Hinsdale, Illinois

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Clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose

Burley Bokos was one of the 587 Hinsdale Central seniors to walk across the stage and receive her diploma Thursday night on Dickinson Field. The Class of 2024 entered Central as the community and world were finding a path through the COVID-19 crisis. "The students experienced a variety of learning environments over their four years of high school, but their greatest contribution was in their leadership to redefine what it means to be a Red Devil and test our traditions of excellence," Hinsdale Central Principal Bill Walsh wrote in an email. "The Class of 2024 brought their fire and I anticipate they will impact the Hinsdale and global community in the years to come." Please turn to Page 36 for more photos. (Jim Slonoff photo)



Pomp and circumstance

Central grads celebrate end of their high school careers.

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Art in the park

Fine Arts Festival returns to Hinsdale for its 51st year.

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State champs again

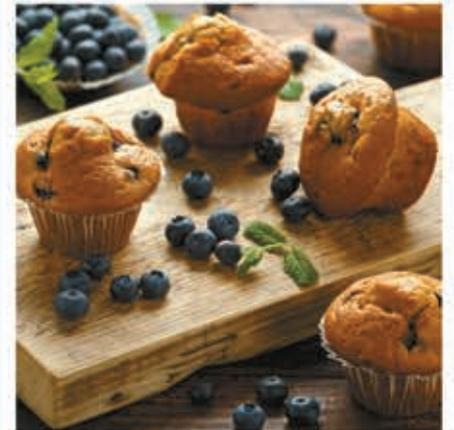
Central boys tennis team helps coach end career on high note.

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This rendering by Hitchcock Design Group shows what the Memorial Building plaza will look like after it has been expanded by 800 square feet and renovated. Work on the \$400,000 project is expected to begin after Labor Day. (art provided)

New plaza should be ready by the fall

Village, library to renovate Memorial Building patio in honor of 150th anniversary

By Pamela Lannom
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The annual Memorial Day ceremony that took place Monday will have a new setting next year — a renovated plaza on the south side of the Memorial Building.

“She is in need of some love and we are hoping to fix that,” Trustee Michelle Fisher said of the area at the May 19 Hinsdale Village Board meeting.

Improving the plaza first was discussed last year as part of the village’s 150th anniversary celebration. The \$400,000 project will be jointly funded by the village and the Hinsdale Public Library.

“The library is wonderful,” Fisher said. “It’s a community space and a shared space. We’re very happy that they wanted to come in and be a big part of this project.”

The village has collected about \$70,000 in donations and will make up the remaining \$130,000 with money it set aside for the 150th observance.

The patio area, which is now

about 3,000 square feet, will be expanded by 800 square feet and paved with a solid Unilock brick called Beacon Hill, Fisher said. Carved-out areas on the east and west sides will be paved with the same type of red bricks used in the downtown business district. Seat walls in those areas will be created using leftover bricks from First Street to “add a special touch and bring history into the space,” Fisher said.

Simple black metal tables and chairs will fill the center portion to preserve the view of the building. Patio umbrellas will provide shade for tables and chairs placed in the carve-outs.

“You can sit there, relax, have lunch,” Fisher said, noting electricity will be installed in the seat walls for those who need to charge a phone or laptop.

In addition to the Memorial Day ceremony, the area also is used during the village’s holiday tree-lighting ceremony, by participants of the Uniquely Thursdays concert series and for library programs. The opportunity to

improve that space fit well with the library’s recently completed strategic plan, library board President John Bloomfield said. One directive was to “explore partnership opportunities to create outdoor areas that incorporate shade and connect residents to nature.”

“The timing was perfect,” Bloomfield said. “We were finishing that (plan) up in December.”

“This is a great opportunity,” he added. “We can share the cost. The village will do a lot of the heavy lifting in terms of permitting and construction bidding. In return, we’ll get guaranteed access to run programs on the new patio.”

Those programs will include Lunch on the Lawn, storytimes, summer reading kickoff celebrations and after dark concerts. Other events, such as the Mid Autumn Festival, attracted 400 participants and would have benefited from access to outdoor space, Bloomfield said. Other programs could take place there as well.

“On a nice night, wouldn’t it be great to have some of our young adult programs outside instead of

downstairs?” he asked.

The library has enough money in its capital reserve to cover the cost, Bloomfield said, noting it is an appropriate expense.

“The library is funded by Hinsdale residents,” he said. “It’s a double win. They can use it for library programs and they can also use it for village programs. We thought it made sense.”

“It’s a beautiful space. It’s a beautiful building. I think it will just make it even more functional so more people can come and enjoy the building,” he added.

Fisher said she can’t wait to see the final project and thanked all who helped fund it, especially individual donors.

“I’m very excited with what the plans look like right now,” she said. “It is a very special and meaningful space, and the fact that we were able to come together for the 150th and renovate this to carry us on to the next years, that speaks to our village.”

Work is expected to begin after Labor Day and be completed this fall.

ONCE UPON A TIME



Places from the past — Hinsdale's building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, took this photo in 1979. Longley's of England, an antique store, used to be located at 53 S. Washington St. J. McLaughlin, which carries men's and women's clothing and accessories, is now there. 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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The Hinsdalean staff strives to provide an error-free newspaper each week. If a mistake is published, however, we are happy to correct it. Call or email Pamela Lannom to report errors requiring correction or clarification.

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

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

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■ “It’s very different but I love Zook. It’s so cozy and charming. I fell in love with it.” — Mimi Collins

‘Gingerbread house’ is heritage to savor

A historic home is subject of concerted effort to add a new chapter to its compelling story

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Having breathed new life into an historic R. Harold Zook-designed home several years earlier, Hinsdale’s Mimi Collins was well-versed on the celebrated local architect.

But Zook’s 1920s-built cottage-like dwelling at 4 E. Fifth St. was not on her project wish list when it hit the market last year. After all, Collins had just gone to market with the 7,000-square-foot-plus Roaring Twenties château on Park Avenue that she’d spent two years rehabbing.

“I had no intention of buying this house,” Collins remarked.

The daughter of a high school friend had always been captivated by the house, so Collins urged her to act fast, knowing interest in the property would be strong. The timing wasn’t right, however.

Or was it?

“I go, ‘I have to buy it, because this has to go to the right person,’” Collins said.

And just like that another spared-from-the-wrecking-ball undertaking was born. The footprint is smaller than that previous Zook at 46 S. County Line Road but has a similar vibe.

“It’s very different but I love Zook. It’s so cozy and charming. I fell in love with it,” Collins said.

The woman who sold it to her also had fallen in love with it long before. Dorothy Ernest was born and raised in Hinsdale, graduating from Hinsdale Township High School in 1959. She delighted in the Sunday drives her family would regularly take around the village to admire the various residential styles on display.

“I always called this ‘the gingerbread house,’” Ernest said of the Tudor Revival specimen.

In 1981 when Ernest and her then-husband moved back to Chicago for his aca-



This 1973 photo of 4 E. Fifth St offers a clear view at the elements architect R. Harold Zook incorporated to his cottage-like design before ivy overtook the exterior,

including decorative half-timbering and the oriel window near the front entrance. (photo courtesy of the Hinsdale Historical Society)

demic career, she reached out to a real estate agent in her hometown. Nothing met her curb-appeal standards. Finally Ernest asked her agent where she lived. In a pinch-me twist of fate, she answered 4 E. Fifth.

“I said, ‘I want to buy your house,’ “ Ernest recounted. “She said, ‘It’s not for sale.’ ”

Intent on the acquisition, Ernest applied her powers of persuasion to make her dream come true. Later she discovered her old curtains in the house, picked up by her predecessor at a yard sale, another detail of destiny.

“It’s a small town,” Collins remarked.

Preserving Hinsdale’s inventory of homes dating back a century or more has been a collective dream after scores were lost to redevelopment over the last few decades. Village pro-preservation measures are aiding that cause, extending incentives to people like Collins to help restore these one-of-a-kind treasures.

The home revels in its old-world trappings with an ivy-draped exterior, oriel window with quatrefoil panels and inviting front entry set off by an arched, rusticated stone surround. Inside a small foyer opens into a handsome living room with wooden beams and a large stone fireplace evoking an English countryside refuge.

“I love that fireplace. I love sitting in here with the fire going,” Ernest said.

Historical records suggest the home was built as a spec home during the post-World War I housing boom, although evidence conflicts as to whether it materialized in 1922 or 1928. First owner Frank Danielson was a civil engineer and one-time village staffer who is credited with establishing Hinsdale’s pioneering municipal ice plant in the days before home freezers. He and his wife, Dorothy, coincidentally, had two children and employed two live-in servants.

A quaint library sits off the

living room. The adjacent dining room features original corner built-ins and leaded windows. A door leads to an enclosed porch overlooking a small backyard. Ernest had her architect father replace its unsightly corrugated roof with a tempered glass one.

“It is a wonderful space. It’s my favorite room,” she said of the sun-lit haven.

The cozy kitchen retains its original wooden counter tops and cupboards and is decorated with Ernest’s own paintings. The still-functional pull-down window screens were a modern amenity at the time, and Ernest revealed a well-disguised laundry chute blending into the cabinetry.

“He used every little inch,” Ernest said of Zook’s approach.

Four bedrooms occupy the second floor, with a bonus space above the garage. Some rooms are in a state of transition as Ernest prepares to move to a nearby retirement home.

“I want to know what

■ FIFTH STREET FAIRYTALE

This series explores the process of turning a vintage home into a livable dwelling for today.

you’re going to sell because I want to buy a bunch of stuff,” Collins told Ernest.

Collins said her vision is updating, not upheaval.

“I’m going to keep everything pretty much the same, change some bathrooms and a different layout in the kitchen,” she said. “The beams and the wood all stays. I’ll just kind of give it a little refresh.”

Ernest will be keeping close tabs on Collins’ work, as will this series, chronicling the thought and work that goes into to such an endeavor. Ernest is heartened that she won’t be the last to experience this special home.

“I can’t wait to see what you do with it,” Ernest exclaimed to Collins. “I feel very lucky to have lived in this beautiful house. It loves you back.”

NEXT WEEK

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, May 30
Hinsdale Central High School
55th and Grant streets
www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings

On the agenda: authorize FY 2024 audit, board committee appointments, 2024-25 board meeting schedule, award RFP for remote transcription services

Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 5
Memorial Building
19 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org

On the draft agenda: sign permit reviews for 43 A S. Washington (Legendary Spa), 114 S. Washington (Calle Cantina), 42 E. Hinsdale Ave. (Hinsdale Prime Steak) and 21 E. First St. (BlueMercury)

New summer DMV program for teens

The Illinois Secretary of State's office is dedicating DMV services exclusively for teen drivers every Saturday during the summer at select facilities, Secretary Alexi Giannoulias announced earlier this month.

The Teen Summer DMV initiative, which includes opening 12 additional DMVs on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. June 1 to Aug. 31, will cater exclusively to helping teens get their drivers licenses or permits quickly and conveniently. The effort is part of Giannoulias' modernization plan to create efficiencies and reduce wait times.

"Getting your first driver's license is an exciting milestone, and we want to ensure the experience is as easy as possible for Illinois teens and their parents," Giannoulias said.

Teen service hours will be offered at the following locations: Addison, Aurora, Bethalto, Belvidere, Bridgeview, Chicago West; Des Plaines, Elgin, Joliet, Lake Zurich, Plano and St. Charles.

State law requires teen drivers and a parent or guardian to visit a DMV in person to complete testing and identity verification prior to receiving their first drivers license. Parents and teens can call (800) 252-8980 to schedule an appointment at any of the 12 DMV locations.

In addition to the Teen Summer DMVs, 15 other DMVs operate on Saturdays, including two of the largest facilities in the state located on

the North and South sides of Chicago. Teens are welcome to make appointments at those facilities on Saturdays as well.

Teen drivers interested in obtaining their first license will be scheduled for 10-minute appointments if they have already completed the required behind-the-wheel driving tests through their high school or commercial driving facility. If they need to complete a driving test at a DMV, they will be scheduled for a 30-minute appointment. Teens who need driving permits can also schedule an appointment to take a written test.

Any unfilled appointments during teen service hours will become available to the general public at 7 a.m.

New drivers will need to bring the following to the DMV:

- their logbook for their instructional permit
- their blue and white road test waiver form from their high school if they have one
- their birth certificate
- their physical Social Security card
- two proofs of address forms, such as school transcripts or a parent's drivers license or ID card

While teen drivers are not required to hold a REAL ID-compliant driver's license, they are encouraged to apply for one during these designated teen hours. A list of REAL ID requirements is available at www.realid.ilsos.gov.



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High-speed electric 'bikes' now illegal

Devices powered by more than 750-watt batteries are now prohibited in village limits

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

As of last week, electric bikes powered by batteries rated 750 watts and higher are no longer permitted in the village.

"Some of these ebikes are upwards of 2,500 watts," Trustee Luke Stifflear said in introducing proposed changes to village ordinance at the May 21 Hinsdale Village Board meeting.

One area of concern are high-performance dirt bikes that can travel more than 50 mph, Deputy Chief Tom Lillie wrote in a memo to trustees.

"Riders have been witnessed with inadequate supervision, no knowledge of the rules of the road and (they) operate these motorbikes like competitive motocross riders," he wrote.

The devices are being advertised as electric bicycles but are most closely related to a

motorcycle, and thus require registration and a motorcycle license endorsement, Lillie wrote.

"Parents or guardians are ill-informed to the laws governing this, indifferent or defiant when their child is stopped for an egregious action," he wrote.

In addition to prohibiting these and other high-speed electric bikes, changes to the ordinance define low-speed electric bikes and personal mobility devices. It also specifies where each type of device may be operated and specifies equipment requirements.

Low-speed bicycles must be ridden in the street and are prohibited on all sidewalks.

The opposite is true for electric-powered personal mobility devices such as one-wheelers, electric skateboards and stand up scooters powered by less than a 750-watt battery that travel up to 15 mph. They are

limited to sidewalk use only, except in the central business district, where they are prohibited. They also are prohibited in areas where there is no sidewalk.

"If there's no sidewalk, you're out of luck," Trustee Neale Byrnes said.

Traditional bikes, trustees noted, may be ridden on the sidewalk or in the street, except in the downtown, where they must be ridden on the street.

The ordinance prohibits the use of smart phones by riders and requires them to have both hands on the handlebars.

"A lot of these devices have throttles and the response to the throttle is jerky and quick and fast," Lillie said. "To have somebody holding a phone and operating a throttle on a scooter is just not safe."

All bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles and person-

Guide to the E-Bike and Electric Scooter Ordinance for the Village of Hinsdale

ELECTRIC BIKE CLASSES:

1 Motor stops assisting once the rider reaches 20mph.	2 Not required to use pedals up to 20mph. Motor stops assisting at 20mph.	3 Must be 16. Speedometer required. Motor stops assisting at 28mph.
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SCOOTERS ⚠️ WARNING !! ⚠️

- ✓ Must be under 750w and are only allowed on sidewalks in Hinsdale.
- ✗ Any device 750w and above is Prohibited. Examples may look like this. Check the watts!!

✗ Electric stand-up scooters are not allowed on the sidewalks in the business district nor allowed to be operated in the roadway

Please turn to Page 8



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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports May 28.

DUI arrests

• Disa Magee, 47, 280 West St., Naples, Fla., was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, no turn signal, illegal stopping/standing/parking where prohibited and making an improper turn at an intersection at 2:10 a.m. May 26 at Walnut and Monroe Streets. After she refused testing to determine her blood-alcohol level, she was charged and released to appear in court.

• Michael D. Signorelli, 59, 10137 S. Washtenaw Ave., Chicago, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and transportation or possession of open alcohol by a driver at 7:48 p.m. May 26 on the 900 block of South Garfield Avenue. Police said he was asleep behind the wheel. After he refused testing to determine his blood-alcohol level, he was charged and released to appear in court.

Hit and run arrest

Ronald D. Love, 49, 212 S. Ottawa St., Joliet, was arrested for operating an uninsured vehicle and failing to remain at the scene of an accident at 10:05 a.m. May 22 in the parking lot at 1 Salt Creek Lane. The victim reported a witness left a note saying someone hit her car and left the parking lot. Police identified the suspect via surveillance video. He was cited and released to appear in court.

Forgery reported

A resident of the 5600 block of South Washington Street reported that someone forged checks and made fraudulent transactions using his bank account information on May 17. The incident was reported May 23.

Identity theft reported

Someone used the identity of a resident of the 400 block of North Madison Street to open fraudulent credit card accounts between May 1 and 12. The incident was reported May 23.

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.

High-speed electric 'bikes' now illegal

Continued from Page 7

al mobility devices must be equipped with a lamp on the front and a red reflector on the back when operated at night. No more than one person may be on a device unless it is specifically designed for multiple riders.

The changes to the ordinance, which trustees approved 6-0, mirror state law, Lillie noted.

"I'm all in favor of this. I think Deputy Chief Lillie did a great job putting this all together," Byrnes said. He raised a question about requiring a license tag for new bikes, not realizing

that already is a requirement.

"It's so we can return the (stolen) bikes when they are recovered," Police Chief Brian King said.

Licenses should be obtained at Hinsdale Village Hall, 19 E. Chicago Ave, within 30 days of assuming ownership. There is no fee.

The ordinance states that it is unlawful for parents or guardian to permit a minor child to violate the ordinance, with fines ranging from \$20 to \$750. Because offenders will be cited under village ordinance, violations will not affect a 16-year-old's ability to get a drivers license.

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■ “Each group established their own funding priority. Our group’s priority was housing, homelessness prevention and basic needs for everyone.” — Molly McGarry

Teen gains insight on caring for one’s neighbor

Hinsdale’s Molly McGarry was not familiar with the concept of philanthropy when she began her studies at Nazareth Academy.

She is now, thanks to her participation in Community Memorial Foundation’s Young Community Changemakers program.

Upperclassmen from area schools are invited to apply for the program, known as YC2, designed to educate and empower local youth to become the next generation of philanthropists by sharing their time and treasure for the common good.

“We learned what philanthropy was and what it took to be a philanthropist,” said McGarry, a rising senior.

After that educational component, it was time to put that knowledge into practice. McGarry and her cohorts were split into two groups, with each given \$15,000 in grant funds to award to worthy causes.

“Each group established their own funding priority,” she explained. “Our group’s priority was housing, homelessness prevention and basic needs for everyone.”

Local nonprofits were notified of the grant opportunity,

and McGarry’s group received 10 applications.

“We started researching the organizations that had applied for grants,” she said. “Then we had to narrow it down to the five that we wanted to site visit.”

Rewinding a bit, McGarry first heard about the YC2 program through the Youth Initiative Club at Nazareth that she’s been active in since freshman year. The club sponsor suggested she look into it when she became eligible as a junior.

“Just the fact that she thought I would be a good fit for the program kind of drew me to it,” she said.

McGarry, one of 60 chosen for the 2024 class, quickly discovered that the scale of social needs in the western Cook and southeastern DuPage region in which she’d spent her entire life was greater than she’d realized.

Just trying to whittle the candidates down from 10 to five was challenging, as all had merit, she said. Her site visit was to Hope’s Front Door in Downers Grove, which provides immediate assistance and cultivates long-term solutions for those facing crisis.

McGarry was stirred by the



MOLLY MCGARRY

SISTER TO BROTHERS WILL & MACK • RUNS CROSS COUNTRY • SHARES HOME WITH DOG BARKLEY & CAT BUDDY • ENJOYS READING AND TIME AT THE POOL

experience.

“They work with Hinsdale, Downers Grove and all the surrounding towns,” she said. “I didn’t know how much was needed and how many people benefited from what the agency does.”

Perhaps the most constructive lesson during the process occurred when it came time to find consensus on distributing the funds.

“It took us like two hours to

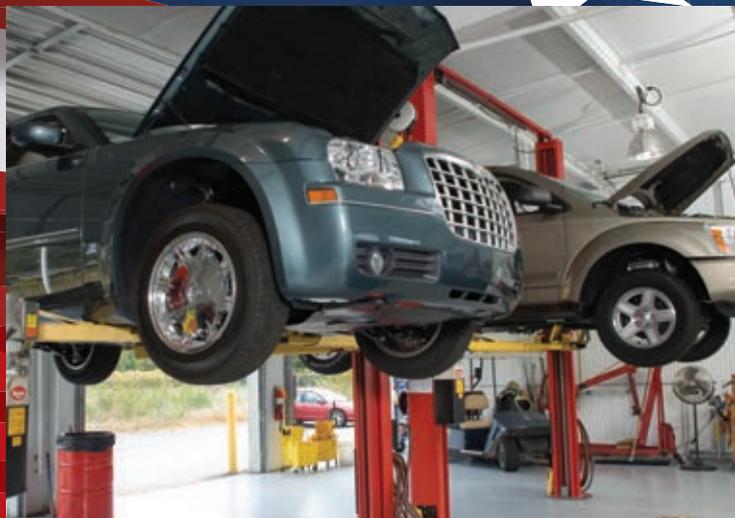
decide,” she said. “Some people wanted to give all \$15,000 to one, or do \$10,000 and \$5,000. Ultimately as a group we decided on three: \$6,000 each to two and \$3,000 to one. I’m really happy with what we decided.”

This summer McGarry will again volunteer at UChicago Medicine AdventHealth Hinsdale, supporting nurses by taking phone calls, making lab runs and other tasks. She’s

also will travel to London to take in a concert by an up-and-coming artist named Taylor Swift. Beyond that, she intends to keep practicing what she’s learned about “the differences between philanthropy and charity, and how philanthropy is more long-term,” she said.

“It helps the community in ways that aren’t fully seen.”

— story by Ken Knutson,
photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Hinsdale finds its happy place in the summer

May brought the Northern Lights and noisy cicadas to remind us of just what a fascinating planet we inhabit.

Now on the doorstep of summer with June's arrival Saturday, let's remind ourselves of how much fun the community rolls out this season.

The 51st annual Fine Arts Festival is in Burlington Park this weekend, featuring works by 85 participating artists (see story on Page 21).

Monday, June 3, sees the return of the Farmers Market, another chamber event, at its familiar home on Chicago Avenue along Burlington Park. The market, featuring the produce of Midwest farmers along with specialty items and unique finds, runs from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Monday through Oct. 14.

Head back to Burlington Park the evening of Thursday, June 13, to welcome back the Uniquely Thursdays concert series — another chamber-sponsored favorite — headlined by the band Kelly Daniels. Enjoy the live music, food and fun from 6 to 9 weekly (except July 4) through Aug. 22. Visit www.hinsdalechamber.com

for more information about all these events.

The Hinsdale Parks and Recreation Department invites all ages to enjoy a screening of "Trolls: Band Together" at 8 p.m. Friday, June 7 in Robbins Park, as the first of its Movies in the Park series. That will be followed by "Elf" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 19 (at the Hinsdale Community Pool as part of the pool's Christmas in July event) and close with "Migration" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at Robbins Park for back-to-school night.

The village and the Hinsdale Public Library are sponsoring three Wednesday Lunch on the Lawn events again this summer from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. at Burlington Park. Miss Jamie's Farm will entertain guests June 12, June 19 and the Jelly Beans come to town July 17, and Gary Kantor will perform magic Aug. 14.

Over at the pool, in addition to the movie night listed above, plunge into any of the special events starting July 4 and continuing through Aug. 10 with the Back to School Bash. Learn more about all parks and rec activities at www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr.

[villageofhinsdale.org/pr](http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr).

The library's summer reading kickoff party will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, June 3, to encourage all readers to log their reading through July 31 for a chance at prizes. Other programs this summer for adults, teens and kids range from ukulele lessons and seashell painting to tips for multigenerational vacation and the practice of Qigong. Find out about and register for these cool offerings at www.hinsdalelibrary.info.

As summer progresses, the chamber will sponsor the annual downtown sidewalk sale will be held from 9 to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 19-20.

Of course the multitude of summer camps hosted by the parks and recreation department, The Community House, Hinsdale Central High School's athletic department and other organizations begin in the weeks ahead, giving an engaging outlet to virtually all interests and pursuits. Stay abreast of all the summer happenings right here in these pages. Let's soak it in!

COMMENTARY

Cicadas — a rare writing opportunity — are back

I can't make up my mind most days whether I find cicadas fascinating or disgusting.

I can't deny, though, that they provide a great writing opportunity.

I wrote my first cicada story in 1990 for The Doings. My father-in-law, John Litster, was a letter carrier in town and had recorded interviews with homeowners on his route about the emergence of these rare insects. Their comments were hilarious.

Seventeen years later, in 2007, before this paper had even turned a year old, I wrote an "Ask an Expert" featuring bugologist Sid Cicada, a figment of my imagination. I made up what I thought were very amusing quotes to convey a lot of information about cicadas. I enjoyed myself enormously. We laughed even harder when a reader wrote in with a question for Mr. Cicada — and didn't seem to get the joke.

Cicadas are great fodder for humor, perhaps because no one is quite sure how to respond to millions of bugs that appear once every 17 years.

The DuPage County Forest Preserve District put together a 2 minute, 48 second video on the 17-year cicada. Staffers, dressed up like cicadas at various stages of their life cycle, act out the insects' various activities while Tom Velat, the forest district's ecology supervisor, narrates the various activities the cicada participates in during the few short weeks of its life.

My favorite part of the video was the male cicada's cheesy pickup line: "Say girl, if I was a fruit fly I'd land on you first because you're so sweet," he says.

If you want a few good laughs, and to learn more about cicadas, search TikTok for "DuPage Forest cicadas."

Scientists, of course, are giddy at this infestation. Carl Stang, a former forest district staffer who is now an independent researcher, spoke to forest commissioners May 7. (Thanks to Hinsdale's commissioner, Linda Painter, for sending out the link to his talk and the



Pamela Lannom

hilarious video.)

"Different people have different reactions," he said. "If you're kind of a geeky person, like, me, yay, this is going to be fun, it's going to be interesting. It's on the short list of distinctive features of North American biology known around the world."

Others will plan vacations to avoid it entirely,

he said.

He shared some facts about the bugs, which last appeared while he was working as a staff naturalist at Fullersburg Woods and had to wear earplugs.

"It would have been deafening to be under one of the chorusing trees," he said.

The two species of 17-year cicadas, *Magicicada septendecim* and *M. cassinii*, can be identified by their songs, he said, which they use to attract females to meet. The creepy albino cicadas (my words, not his) are the ones that have just emerged from their exoskeletons. They will change color usually

within a day. The females lay 400 to 600 eggs by cutting slits into the ends of twigs, which then die and turn brown.

"That's one way of measuring how much reproduction you've seen in a spot," he said.

(If you've heard about the two broods showing up for the first time since 1803 and are wondering where that second brood is, don't worry. It emerges only in the southern half of the state.)

The cicadas will reach their peak numbers in June, he said, tailing off at the end of June with only a few left in early July.

After the eggs hatch, according to the forest district video, the nymphs will feed on tree sap, fall to the ground and eventually burrow underground, where they will remain for the next 17 years, eating more sap.

Until that happens, I will share some advice from Sid Cicada.

"In 30 days we'll be gone. In the meantime, get over it."

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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Who's afraid of AI? Me!

I've been thinking a lot about AI, specifically Generative AI.

There are many discussions — some about AI replacing hundreds of thousands of jobs, some about the literal extinction that AI poses to homo sapiens. If AI does develop into super intelligence, what I call "The Entity," what will be the psychological effects on humans?

I'm not worried about my generation. We've lived full lives. I'm worried about my children's generation and especially about my grandchildren's generation and subsequent generations.

After being the smartest species on the planet, how will it feel to be the second smartest species on the planet? How will we, especially our children and grandchildren, feel about a world in which nothing they do in any respect can even begin to compete with the accomplishments of "The Entity?" What about their motivation? In a world "ruled" by super machine intelligence, is there any reason to even try?

I'm sorry to say I see significant depression, confusion, atrophy. If "The Entity" does keep us around (and that's a big if), what will there be for us to do? Without work to offset leisure, leisure becomes work. All of us wake up to nothing of any importance to do because "The Entity" has already done it — and far, far better than we ever could.

And that's if "The Entity" does keep us around. After all, logically, why would it? Could any attorney make



Bill Barre

a case for saving homo sapiens? We routinely kill one another, sometimes to a breathtaking degree. In addition to killing each other, we have killed thousands of other species, whether deliberate or not. And, finally, we are well on our way to killing

the very planet on which we live. Individually, of course, many of us are good people. But as a species, can any of us objectively say we deserve a future?

What's happening right now amazes me. I'm amazed we are heading toward the cliff, yet we are so complacent. The "geniuses" who brought us TikTok dance videos, Instagram selfies and virtual yelling on "X," could push us over the precipice. Some of them tell us not to worry. Extinction is all hype. Our elected representatives assure us they will put in "guardrails." Do any of us really trust these groups to do what's necessary for us to survive? And even if they meet the challenge, what about China, Iran, Russia, North Korea?

Yes, the AI race is on. Homo sapiens' inability to cooperate with each other, choosing instead to compete with each other, could be our undoing. Whether a company or a country, the AI race will be won. And then — perhaps without us even knowing — the "genie will be out of the bottle."

And our lives will never be the same again.

— *Bill Barre of Hinsdale is a contributing columnist. Readers can email him 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?

Call (630) 323-4422

OBITUARIES

Tom Berns

Thomas Francis Berns, 80, of Lake Mills, Wis., formerly of Hinsdale, passed away in Tucson on May 4, 2024, while under hospice care. He was surrounded by all his family, including grandchildren, who traveled from Mesa, Albuquerque, Madison and Portland to be with him. Tom fought a hard battle with Parkinson's Disease.



Berns

Tom was born in Blue Island in 1943 and grew up in La Grange, one of eight siblings. In 1986, he married Wendy Mae Butler. They lived in Hinsdale until they moved to Lake Mills in 2002. Their children, Greg (Christine) Berns,

Christopher (Andrea) Berns, Emily Berns (Cash) Davis and Jeff Reznikoff, along with seven grandchildren, now hail from all parts of the country.

Tom would have been 81 years old on June 2, and Wendy and Tom had been married for more than 38 years.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held in Wisconsin in early September.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to The Parkinson's and Movement Disorder Alliance at www.pmdalliance.org or The Clearing Folk School at www.theclearing.org.

Norman Victor Chimenti

Norman Victor Chimenti, 83, of Westmont, a former longtime Hinsdale resident, died peacefully on April 7, 2024, surrounded by family after being ambushed by a rare and fast-moving form of cancer.



Chimenti

He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, BJ.

He is survived by his sons, Derek and Chad; his daughters-in-law, Marybeth (Marszewski) and Katie (Lynch); and his grandchildren, Savanna, Dante, Madeline and Siena.

A memorial celebration will take place

at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 8, at The Community House, 415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale. Cocktails and a buffet lunch will follow.

Interment is private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Hinsdale Humane Society for the BJ Chimenti Angel Fund for Veterans and Pets Program, 21 Salt Creek Lane, Hinsdale, IL 60521 (online at www.tinyurl.com/HHS-Norm-Chimenti-Memorial).

His full obituary was published April 25 and can be viewed online at www.thehinsdalean.com.

Otto W. Vosahlik

Otto W. Vosahlik, a proud World War II Army veteran who reached the remarkable age of 100, passed away May 24, 2024.

Otto was born in Chicago 1923 and grew up on the West Side. He graduated from Lane Tech High School, where one of his great experiences was playing bass clarinet in the marching band that performed at the 1939 World's Fair in New York. Upon graduation, Otto joined the only company he would ever work for — The Electro Motive Division of General Motors in McCook, which produces diesel locomotives.

Shortly thereafter, Otto's spirit of patriotism led him take leave to enlist in the Army. While stationed near St. Louis, Otto met Nancy Vogler, whom he later married. He served on the USS Sherburne in the Philippines and then in Japan, where he was at his base on Sept. 2, 1945, when the Japanese surrendered.

Otto returned from overseas service in January of 1946 and was discharged in March. He rejoined EMD as a tool engineer and attended night school at the Illinois Institute of Technology, completing a degree in engineering. Otto married Nancy Vogler and together they built a home in Hinsdale.

Otto was engaged in the community, serving as a member of the Hinsdale American Legion Post 250, a Boy Scout leader and a Little League coach. Nancy completed her college in night school to become a teacher. The Vosahlik family built many memories living in Hinsdale and later Darien. During his 40 years at EMD, Otto progressed through multiple positions in engineering and then moved up to production management, at different times leading divisions making pistons and cylinders, engines and chassis.

Life took a turn leading to a divorce in 1983. Otto later remarried Eileen Economus and the couple moved to a condo in Farmingdale Terrace in Darien, where they lived for the rest of their lives. In retirement, Otto and Eileen were engaged and supportive grandparents. Both became active members of the Golden GM Retirees Association. Otto and Eileen enjoyed traveling and took weeks-long road trips to explore the country. Both were active in local Republican political organizations, and Otto served as a local Republican committee member. Otto served for many years as the president of the Farmingdale Terrace Homeowners Association and later as the president of the Farmingdale Recreation Association.

Otto was preceded in death by his wife, Eileen; his stepchildren, Steven (Lydia) Economus, Diane (Patrick) Kidd and Leonard Economus; his sister, Blanche (the late James) Holicky; and his nephew, Bruce Holicky.

He is survived by his children, Sandra (Clifford Bassett) Forzley and Garry (the late Iris) Vosahlik; his grandchildren, Cynthia (Jonatan) Julcarima and Laura Vosahlik; his great-grandchild, Jordan Julcarima; his step-grandchildren, Nicolas, Travis (Christine) and John Anthony Economus and Brian Kidd.

Visitation will be from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursday, May 30, at Modell Funeral Home, 7710 S. Cass Ave., Darien. A funeral service will begin at 11 a.m.

Following the funeral service, there will be a procession to Clarendon Hills Cemetery in Darien, where a military burial ceremony and interment will be completed.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a charity of choice.

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GOOD NEWS

CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES

Hinsdale Central celebrated commencement for the Class of 2024 May 23 at Dickinson Field.

William Kusak, student body president, and Evan Bots, student body vice president, offered the opening and closing and recognized those who have made commitments to the Armed Forces. William Gaffney was the honors orator, and Sheza Shafi and Brandon Walker were the senior speakers. The Hinsdale Central High School band performed and senior choir students sang the National Anthem.

The 587 graduates are Ashraaqat Abdelaziz, Ardit Abdulai, Leena Abu-Ghazalah, Sinan Abusalah, Temilade Adelakun, Yusuf Ahmed, Lily Airhart, Ameer Akhras, Maya Al-Ani, Sehan Alam, Abigail Alcala, Isabella Alexander, Trinity Alexander, Batoul Alhamwi, Ayesha Ali, Mir Ali, Bryan Aliaga, Olivia Allen, Nawras Almachnouk, Rianna Amin, Ashton Anderson, Chloe Anderson, Keegan Anderson, Nathaniel Anderson, Owen Anderson, Spencer Anderson, Heidi Angelopoulos, Sofia Antonelli, Sofia Arain, Demetrios

Argyris, Elliott Armstrong, Amal Arora, Berkay Arslan, Koray Arslan, Senna Asbahi, William Ashley, Lara Attassi, Tara Ayub, Sebastian Aziz

Gabriella Baca, Lola Baca, Avneesh Badiwale, Faris Badwan, Yusra Baig, Atman Balakrishnan, Tiana Ball, Aden Bandukwala, Shivum Banerjee, Dareen Barakat, Maya Barakat, Finley Baskel, Brynn Bauer, Anna Beargie, Griffin Bendera, Sophia Berends, William Berger, Finn Bergin, Nojus Bertulis, Natasha Bhatia, Priyansha Bhatia, Evan Bhatt, Luke Bilenko, Finley Bisch, Emily Block, Celine Blouin, Lillian Boansi, Eimantas Bockus, Charlotte Bodak, Christine Boggs, Burlingtyn Bokos, Chelsea Boruff, Evan Bots, Kennedy Boyd, Benjamin Bram, Eleanor Brelje, Hannah Brown, Zachary Brown, Charlotte Brzozowska, Maria Budrys, Umema Anabiya Bukhari, Analise Burns

Rachele Cameli, Fernando Camplone, Estelle Carr, Karla Carrillo, Samuel Carter, Jemima Cerezo, Olivia Chaidez, Brandon Chan, Iman Chan, Calista Chang, Chloe Chang, Fernando Chavez Meyemberg, Matthew Chemmachel, Amy Chen, Jace Chen, Kendall Chen, Scott Cherry, Sarah Cheung, Amrita

Chhangani, Wilbert Chu, John Chulos, Marc Cihlar, James Clark, Kevin Coan, Tyler Colleran, Aidan Conners, Calvin Llyod Consuelo, Carter Contreras, Naomi Cook, Elise Coury, Nathan Cowhey, James Cranmer, James Cubbin, Nathaniel Curran, Cecilia Cutinelli

Greta Dani, Zayd Daud, Luca Davies, Thomas DeBruin, Robert Deftos, Aubrey Degnan, Sofia De La Torre, Jordyn DeLeon, Aaditya Deshmukh, Jonathan DeToro, Hali Dib, Antonio DiCianni, John Dillenburg, Lana Dimitrijevic, Jocelyn Doderhoff, Jathan Donthamsetti, Magdalene Donzal, Lauren Doppke, Zari Dorris, Izel Doyle, Katarina Dragas, Godlyn D'Souza, Patrick Dugan, Bilal Dulli, Teagan Dunn, Pola Dygon, Benjamin Dynis, Jenna Edmonds, Dylan Elder, Austin Eldridge, Matthew Elliott, Elyse Empamano, Indre Espinoza

Zoe Fallah, Grace Fan, Olivia Farah, Aamena Farooqui, Safa Fathima, Narjis Fatima, JianPing Feng, Eduardo Fernandez Castro, Annabelle Fisher, Ella Folkmann, Makenzie Ford, Dominick Fordon, Tyler Frisoni, Dean Frizzell, Martin Fuentes Villaruel, Francesca Fuller, Luke Furey, Quinn Gabriel, William

Gaffney, Evie Galassi, Aiden Galdeckas, Andrew Gallagher, Paige Gallwas, Madeline Gamba, Claire Gannon, Connor Gannon, Cuauhtémoc García, Devin Garg, Emma-Sofia Gaytan, Aisha Gazi, Tanish Ghai, Mallory Giacchetti, Joseph Gianatasio, Sofia Giannini, Mihael Gil Useche, Charles Gilman, Kathleen Gilmartin, Kiran Gitzlaff, Olivia Giunta, Adjovi Golo, Taylor Gomez, Tiffany Gong, Ella Graeb, Camden Griffin, Ethan Gronlund, Adele Groom, Julian Guerrero, Jinyi Guo, Rohan Gupta, Samiksha Gupta, Zachary Gurland

Sophia Hai, Caitlin Haines, Yaseen Halabi, Hazel Hamelka, Tyler Hamman, Marwan Hamoui, Andy Han, Na'il Hanif, Maya Hannum, Nathaniel Harris, Oliver Harris, Oliver Harris, Sreen Hassaballa, Gabriella Hau, Kaya Hemmer, Aidan Hernandez, Alexander Hernandez, Lino Hernandez, Peter Hester, Angelica Margarita Hillas, Shanti Hilton, Adriana Hodneland, Sofia Hoenle, Damian Hogervorst, Nezhia Holden, Fredrick Horton, Jeffrey Hou, Zhili Hou, Gunnar Hoveke, Warren Howard, Elia Hsieh, Moira Hughes, Syed Husaini, Grady Hyland

Reana Ibrahimian, Sofia

Iqbal, Luke Issa, Marko Ivanisevic, Connor James, Izabela Jankicevic, Drew Jansen, Xavier Jashnani, Anjali Jejurikar, Isabella Jerich, Yanning Jiao, Ava Johnson, Clement Johnson, Fauzia Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Nicole Joneikis, Campbell Jones, Kelly Joseph, Aditi Joshi, Sachin Joshi, Deona Julary, Elisa Julian, Lukas Jurack, Gustas Jusaitis

Natalie Kalman, Sana Kamal, Uzma Kamal, Naina Kapur, Ibrahim Karim-Zada, Naeem Kassar, Jason Kavuliak, Victoria Kawa, Sallie Keiner, Edward Kentra, Samir Keswani, Faraz Khan, Iyden Khan, Talha Khan, Neil Khanna, Aditya Khedekar, Ritvi Khurana, Ibraheem Kidwai, Joshua Kingsfield, Grace Klobach, Ryann Knapp, Carter Knaul, Alexandra Knoch, Cody Knoll, Luke Knotts, Adam Konopka, Isabella Korbus, Brady Koschik, Alexander Kotarski, Elena Koulouris, Chris Kouria, Lathe Kousa, Liam Kowalkowski, Antonina Koziarska, Benjamin Kubesh, Alyx Kuhlman, Anjika Kumar, Sanjana Kumar, Magnus Kumskis, Evan Kurimay, Zoryana Kuropas, William Kusak, Yana Kuzmanova, Daria

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ASK AN EXPERT

ANNIE GUSTAFSON, DANCE STUDENT

What was it like to set a Guinness World Record?

Annie Gustafson will never struggle to find that “fun fact” to share at a party or office ice breaker. She will always be someone who set a world record.

Annie, a seventh-grader at Hinsdale Middle School, was one of 353 dancers to set a new world record for most ballet dancers en pointe simultaneously in New York earlier this year. The group set the new record by performing a bourree together for one minute. The previous Guinness World Record of 306 dancers was set in 2019.

Annie and her mother, Heather Gustafson, were in New York as part of the Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition. Annie, who studies ballet and contemporary dance at Hinsdale Dance Academy, performed solos during the competition.

Annie said she hadn't planned to be part of the record-setting event.

“We saw online that they needed a couple more people to meet the record,” said Annie, who was at a

nearby Starbucks when she viewed the Instagram post. She quickly threw on her tutu, arranged her hair into the required bun, and headed to the Plaza Hotel.

“I used to read the Eloise books every night with my dad,” Annie said, so being inside the famous hotel where Eloise lived was a thrill in itself. Being part of a record-setting event made it even better.

The plaza ballroom was filled with photographers and people counting the dancers as they arranged themselves in perfectly straight lines.

“It was almost like paparazzi, I guess,” said Annie, who was dancer No. 250.

Word of the new record spread quickly. Annie said she and her mother heard it reported on the radio while traveling in a taxi just hours later. It also was reported by the New York Times, BBC, Vogue and by ABC 7 Chicago, which mentioned Annie as a local participant.

“My mom got dozens of texts,” Annie said.

The record-breaking feat was performed in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the YAGP.

“It's a prestigious competition,” Annie said, with just a handful of dancers chosen to participate from

each regional competition held across the U.S., Asia and Europe. The youngest in her category, Annie was one of just 12 dancers invited to New York from the Chicago regional competition. Her New York performances resulted in the offer of a scholarship to an American Ballet Theater program.

A dancer since age 3, Annie dances about 12 hours each week. She's currently preparing for the dance school's end-of-year recital. This summer, she will return to Monaco to study ballet at the Princess Grace Academy for the second year in a row.

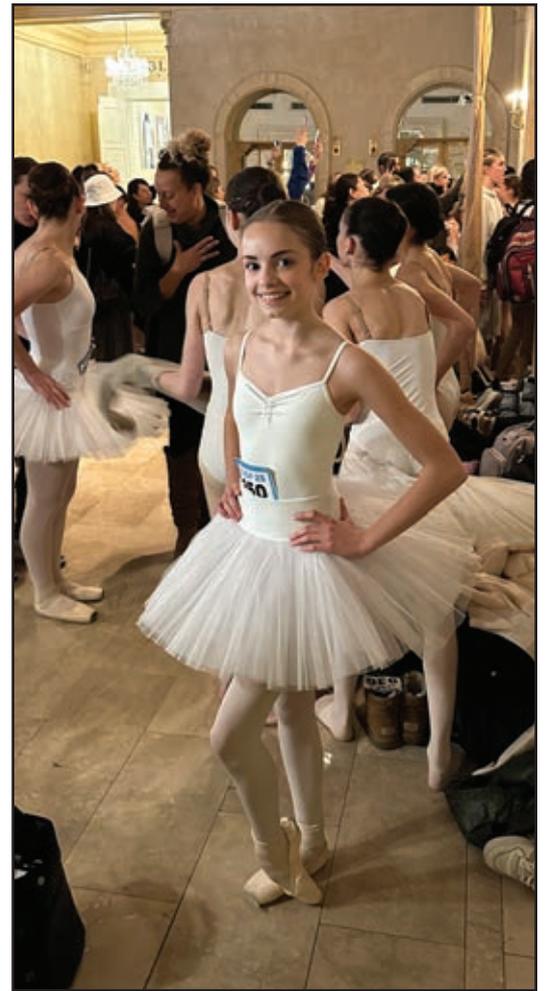
“I'm super grateful to have gotten in again,” said Annie, who last year was the only U.S. dancer to attend.

The academy's goal is to train professional dancers who will go on to join major international companies. While Annie loves to dance, she has yet to decide on her future career.

“It's so hard, and it's so challenging on your body,” she said. Still, the most difficult times are those when an injury takes her off the dance floor.

“The hardest part is not dancing,” she said.

— by Sandy Illian Bosch



At age 12, Annie Gustafson has been dancing for three-quarters of her life. Despite sore feet and time away from friends, the seventh-grader said there's nothing she enjoys more. (photo provided)

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Kevin Boyle	Nikos Gomopoulos	Caleb Ortiz	Lauren Smith
Francis Carbonara	Rocklan Hale	Brooke Oliverio	Jane Steinhagen
Campbell Cox	Josephine Johnson	Elizabeth Pack	Luke Stone
Kristof Dani	Mya Kois	Gavin Panveno	Bridget Stover
Alexander De La Garza	Maeve Kraye	Mitchell Parker	John Sutton
Seamus Devine	Justin Kurkowski	Christopher Pohlman III	Theresa Tortorello
Isabel DiCosola	Sophia Marzullo	Anthony Rendina	Alexander Upp
Grace Dietrich	Samuel Messeih	Nicholas Rossini	Ryan Williams
Samantha Domjan	Colleen Murphy	Thomas Salem	
Emily Drumm	Gabriella Navarro	James Salvino	

**We wish our Class of 2024
all the best in high school!**



AMERICAN LEGION

Mitchell Parker
Bridget Stover

PRINCIPAL'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

Mitchell Parker
Bridget Stover
Campbell Cox
Tess Tortortello

SEAN RICHARDS CHRISTIAN WITNESS AWARD

Luke Stone

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Religion: Ryan Williams
Math: Augie Goebel
Reading: Colleen Murphy
Writing: Lauren Smith
Social Studies: Campbell Cox
Science: Alexander De La Garza
World Language: Mya Kois
STEM: Abriana Schumerth
PE: Harrison Shepherd
Music: Luke Stone
Art: Stella Neumayer

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With extreme pride, the Clarendon Hills Middle School PTO would like to congratulate the Eighth Grade Class of 2024.



CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES

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David Altman
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Kaden Aucoin
Anya Ayub
Marin Backus
Audrey Bailey
Jay Baird
Jordan Baker
Francisco Baltazar-Cobos
Eva Balzekas
Caitlin Bannon
Cameron Barnes
Angel Bazan
Jayden Bhattacharyya
Caleb Brady
Ethan Brubaker
Grace Carmody
Luke Carmody
Everleigh Carter
Lucas Castro
Thomas Chase
Alina Chaudhary
Victor Chavez
Mila Chemmachel
Aslan Choi
James Clapacs
Thomas Clark
Tyler Collins
Abigail Cooper
Benjamin Cooper

Henry Crabb
Iris Crisan
Hannah Darin
Charles Davis
Liam Dawravoo
Manuel De Los Santos
Cole Dean
Gavin Dejuras
Tanvi Desai
Arik Devata
Samuel DiPasquale
John Doyle
Avery Draudt
Anne Earley
Grayson Elder
Emma Erwin
Isabella Feng
Theodore Fikri
Weston Flanagan
Kendall Forcash
Charles Foster
Arven Freve
Warner Freve
Amelia Gaffney
Jack Gerrard
Evangeline Gin
Gabriella Gjeldum
Alex Griebenow
Mihir Gupta
Surav Gupta
Cole Gurland
Nicholas Hadden
Taylor Haggerty
Jack Hamman

Emory Heaton
Stella Heintskill
Hannah Herrick
Grace Hill
Molly Hill
Nathan Horton
Lucy Hoyt
Alexy Idelfonso
Zhenyan Jiang
Jayna Johnson
Michael Jorski
Jackson Kastner
Hunter Kauffman
Arjun Kaushal-Goel
Joseph Kearney
Jessie Keiner
Clare Killeen
Matthew Kirchheimer
Claudia Kitley
Charlotte Knotts
Jason Koranda
Nolan Korn
Amelia LaCrosse
Henry Lauerman
Evelyn Letizia
Henry Letizia
Hannah Lindenmeyer
Capriana Lipari
Cameron Livingston
Yueran Luo
Matthew Lynch
Riley Lynch
Madeline Maggio
Zoe Manning
Reese Marcet
Ella Marchese
Abigail Matricaria

Kieran Matthews
Jackson Maurer
Benny Maxwell
Liam McFarland
Finnegan McInerney
Nellie McInerney
Augustine McLinn
Graham Moody
Veronica Mool
Zahra Musabji
Ella Myall
Jaelynn Okuyama
Jack Omiecinski
John Ordway
Elliott Pain
Joshua Park
Charles Parwani
Carl Pedersen
Luke Petersen
Aaron Philip
John Phillips
Connor Plunkett
Elizabeth Podboy
John Quirk
Christos Rackos
Trifon Reed
Emily Richardson
Nate Ruth
Evelyn Saxton
Fiona Duffy Schimpf
Grady Schroeder
Jack Scott
Charlotte Sefton
Anusha Sekhadia
Norah Seraphin
Aadivir Sharma
Michael Sharples

Evan Shayan
Madison Shum
Yash Singh
Lawson Stanner
Natalie Sullivan
Peyton Szurgot
Linus Szymanski
Naomi Tang
Joshua Tarnowski
Dylan Tekwani
Abigail Thies
Beatriz Thomeu Souza
Riyan Thukral
Charles Tomfohrde
Charles Tornabene
Larissa Toro
Gabriella Trejo
Kavin Tucke
Sophia Virmani
Elsa Voight
Brayden Ward
Molly Waters
Kylie Wheeler
Allison Whiteside
Colette Wilson
Henry Wiseman
Kylin Woods
Anjana Yalamanchi
Sophia Yarzagaray
Nicolette Zahn
Luke Zajicek



HMS Class of 2024

Ali Abdulrasool	Gabriella Chillo	Samuel Grundberg	Lucas Lapica	Emma Owens	Violet Sullivan
Farida Ads	Graham Choe	Benjamin Grunow	Noah Lawrence	Ivan Papazov	Mark Tang
Hassan Ads	Isla Chow	Eliana Guirguis	Alexander Leddy	Aryana Parekh	Izzah Tariq
Javier Aguilar	Fedor Chuprov	Marco Guisto	Rohan Levy	Rian Patadia	Nidas Tautvydas
Emma Aguirre	Nina Colbert	Hudson Haberkorn	Megan Lipman	Esha Patel	Nathan Terry
Senna Ahdab	Dominic Colmone	Ammar Hameeduddin	Catherine Liu	Jemma Patel	Scarlett Tonn
Danya Ahmed	Luke Cooper	Brady Hannigan	Hudson Lyons	Nicolas Peralta	Abisola Toukourou
Sahana Ahuja	William Cowhey	Andrew Hart	Jonah Lyons	Connor Perucki	Adewale Toukourou
Azmi Akhras	Frank Criggley	William Hart	Lia Malhes	John Perugini	Erynn Trompeter
Hadi Al-Khudari	Eva Crittenden	Brooke Hartenstein	Spencer Mangone	Madison Pieczkowski	Timur Turba
Zeina Alkadri	Madeline Curran	Lily Harting	Shaun Masood	Jacqueline Piolet	Tessa Turek
Noura Alsheik	Ava Dannhausen-Brun	Lucyna Hasek	Trevor McCarthy	William Pitts	Camila Valencia-Mendez
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Anika Amin	James Davis	Jadelynn Hau	Elena Medrano	Della Prior	Elena Vaughn
George An	Alexandra De Vita	Landen Haworth	Sarah Meltzer	Jibran Qazi	Joris Vegele
Alex Andrade	Anna DeBruin	Melanie Hayden	Asad Memon	Sarah Quevedo	Hunter Velco
Luke Antinossi	Joseph Deftos	Isabelle Head	Ava Menza	Annika Raina	Diego Vergara-Orvananos
Lucia Aschinberg	Peter Demetis	Elin Henry	Michael Menza	Natalia Ribeiro	Zander Vossoughi
Noor Atassi	Ana Djokic	Carter Hildreth	Gavin Merchant	Hanna Rifai	Andrew Wagner
Tuleen Attassi	Giselle Dodenhoff	Gavin Hoang	Jordan Meyers	Ryan Rogero	Caroline Wagner
William Ayala-Johnson	Palmer Donnan	Amarie Hsieh	Aaron Mikhail	Rutger Ronaldson	Bennett Walsh
Jacksen Baird	Arianna Duan	Marin Hughes	Michael Milutinovic	Parker Rowe	Heather Wang
Arjesa Bajraktari	Emily Eich	Ava Hulett	Ava Min	Mason Ruangsuknukul	Zetian Wang
Milan Bansal	John Eich	Jack Hulett	Hunter Minton	Sapna Saraf	Taylor Wanless
Kareem Barakat	Theodore Entsminger	Caroline Hurley	Alexis Mitchell	Eva Scharkey	Samantha Warman
Ella Barone	Elise Fenton	Aiden Idrees	Megan Monteleone	Addison Schreiber	Peter Warren
Savanna Barrios	Olivia Fiascone	Owen Issa	Rashida Moosabhoy	Jackson Schreiber	David Waterman
John Bartoli	Avani Foster	Samhitha Jaliparthi	Laine Morris	Maliah Schuler	Nathan Weichman
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Jack Berube	Alexander Franses	Niya Joseph	Drew Murante	Zayan Shaikh	Benjamin Wolowiec
Lillian Bier	Amelia Gambla	Victoria Jovanovic	Oliver Murphy	Sophia Sheth	Ethan Wong
Pierce Blanchard	Beau Gatewood	John Judge	Ayush Nair	Christina Shin	Finley Wood
Josephine Braden	Giuliana Gehlmann	Sebastian Kawa	Otis Naito	Amaya Shingala	Savannah Wood
Owen Brumley	William Geiersbach	Shirin Khairkiah	Nicholas Nawracaj	Olivia Short	Isabella Wu
John Burgstone	Sarina Ghouse	Amaan Khan	Mia Nehme	Uliana Shvydkoy	Kalyan Yadava
Jack Burke	Olivia Giannini	Ethan Kim	Lily Nelson	Rohan Singh	Colton Zeikus
Brian Byrne	Hailey Gicewicz	Lucas Kinzler	Alexander Nemeth	Aila Smajkic	Emily Zhou
Axel Carlbaum	Aaron Gilbert	Victor Kirchev	Ian Nguyen	Loren Smith	Alina Zhoushi
Honour Caruso	Everly Gill	Madelyn Kirchoff	Scott Nicholson	Lila Sodikoff	Caroline Zielke
Jack Cavanah	Isabella Giovingo	Audrey Klotnia	Anijah Noblin	Anthony Spatara	Eartha Ziemer
Yasmina Char	Robert Goeckel	Matthew Kluchenek	Marilyn O'Day	William Stamer	Alex Zloza
Katherine Chai	Alexander Golon	Richard Kluchenek	Dylan O'Neill	Rex Staver	
Dominique Charles	William Golon	Robert Knuepfer	Chukwuemeka Ojiako	Sean Stirlen	
Ivan Chen	Conner Gomez	Camden Konieczka	Riley Orozco	Elayna Stokes	
Michael Chen	Melina Gong	William Krogstie	Samuel Ouimette	John Storino	
Sophia Chess	Jonathan Grein	Meera Kumar	Aileen Oveis Gharan	Selene Sullivan	

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 Hayley Hunter
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 Madeleine Kane
 Jack Kessler
 Isabelle Kim
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Reya Chaudhary
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Samuel Coburn
Gavin Colbert
Lydia Cordogan
Hudson Davis
Isabella Du
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Amelia Fort
Reva Foster
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Luke Gray
Charlotte Hannigan
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Sophia Hunstad
Lina Hussain
Ameera Ibrahim
Lea Kipnis
Parker Kurcz
Elijah Lawrence
Colin Macrie
Mateo Makelarski
Millie McCabe
Rowan McCabe
Zaid McGuire
Jacob Meltzer
Meredith Mikhail
Henry Morris
Andrea Mugnolo
Ava Muller
Kohana Naito
Parker Otzen
Henry Owens
Alice Pan
Thomas Perkowski
William Perona
Jacob Perona
Anna Peters

Maria Polaneczky
Lucas Rooney
William Rooney
Ford Runyan
Shaan Shah
Ajay Singh
Mia Small
Hayden Sobieraj
Emma Stefanowicz
Monroe Stewart
Callum Warden
Alexandra Weil
Ruby Williams
Lillian Yeager
Ethan Yu
Jay Zang
Jasper Ziemer

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Melonie Jackson
Jennifer Pierson

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Camryn Fox
James Griffin
Alex Havera
Lexi Henry
Joey Hillegass
Ellison Holmes
Liv Hooper
Reid Jacobsen
Tommy Kienzler

Blake Knoch
Olivia Maciulis
Nayan Mathrani
Gabby McCauley
Keegan McCoskey
Alexander McLaughlin
Macy Merz
Dev Mungara
Ben Murphy
Mimi O'Toole
Ellie Panoff
Owen Parry
Aashvi Patel
Abby Qiu
Nataly Quevedo

Char Regnery
Sofia Sava
Skylar Schroeder
Rohan Sheth
Sahil Sheth
Micah Shin
Viren Singh
Avi Sinha
Shaan Soni
Nate Thangamani
Elijah Trombly
Henry Waterman
Mia Williams
Charlotte Zhong

Creative outlet

Hinsdale Fine Arts Festival features items for all genres and tastes

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Photographer Mike Baker started out by training his lens primarily on subjects he thought would have broad appeal.

As he matured as a visual artist, he refocused on images that most captured his own interest.

“After a while I felt like I wasn’t really growing that much, so I started shooting the things that I like to shoot,” Baker said, noting that the shift has given him a signature style. “Now people can say, ‘That looks like something Mike Baker would do.’”

Baker will be among the dozens of artists participating in the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce’s 51st annual Fine Arts Festival Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2, in Burlington Park.

A significant aspect of Baker’s distinctive approach is his preference to shoot in black and white.

“I’ve learned over time that once you remove color from a scene, the viewer has to pay attention to other elements in the composition,” Baker said. “It’s timeless. The images could

have been captured today or many years ago.”

Baker has become a regular participant in the Fine Arts Fest and has been gratified by the connections he’s forged over the years.

“A lot of the folks that come to the Hinsdale show, they’re art-savvy,” he said. “It’s one of my favorite shows to do. The folks that run the event are really good and make sure we have everything we need.”

Eva Field, president and CEO of the chamber, said the event benefits artists, art lovers and the local community.

“The Fine Arts Fest is celebrating 51 years of bringing world renowned art to the downtown business district,” she said. “It brings foot traffic to many of the unique shops and especially the great selection of restaurants.”

Field said 85 artists will be showcased this, both familiar and new to visitors (see sidebar for a full list).

Jewelry artist Jason McLeod was named best new artist after last year’s fest. He’s back in 2024 with his brand of fine creations in gold, silver, platinum and more.

“I kind of just do my



own thing,” McLeod said, describing his works as a fusion of futuristic and ancient. “I call it my Time Traveler collection. I like to make stuff that I want to see exist. What I do is more special and unique.”

McLeod admits that finding validation for his artistry is a primary driver of his output, which he’s been producing for 20 years.

“I find it a very satisfying kind of business,” said the Virginia-based McLeod.

He said enjoys coming to the Midwest during his seasonal tour, particularly Hinsdale.



Photographer Mike Baker discovered this staircase in an alley in Havana, Cuba, drawn in by its rich character in marble and wrought iron. Jewelry designer Jason McLeod created this futuristic bracelet as part of his Time Traveler collection. Both will be at this weekend’s Fine Arts Festival in Burlington Park to show and sell their art. (photos provided)

“It’s just a really nice well-run show by people who really care about the show. The area’s nice and the people come and have a good time — and spend money,” McLeod said. “All around it’s a nice little gem of a show.”

Field said the event attracts visitors from across the region, supporting local shops and restaurants.

“The mission of the chamber is to give opportunities for all businesses that weekend and beyond to welcome back patrons again and again,” she said. Baker said he endeavors

to “elevate the ordinary” in his work and is gratified when others see value in that.

“I pretty much take everyday things and capture them in a way that others don’t see it,” he said, naming architecture and landscape among his frequent subjects. “It’s very satisfying that people make it part of their personal collection.”

The Fine Arts Festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Burlington Park is located at 30 E. Chicago Ave. Visit www.hinsdale-chamber.com/fine-arts for more information.

Worth a look

The following artists are participating at this year’s Fine Arts Festival:

Ceramics

Nancy Gorman
Kate Keilty
Gary Jackson
Eileen McDaniel
Jill Tortorella
Julie Latayan
Paulina Lucyna
Patricia Magdziarz
Nyx Eckmayer
Kate Keilty
Kyle Pappalardo

Anthony Majewski

Fiber arts

Elizabeth King
Jennifer Verbic
Jennifer Akese-Burney
Sandra Holt

Jewelry

Regina To
Jason McLeod
Tobie Fitzpatrick
Candace Marsella
Elizabeth Kline
Dana Blossom
Nancy Krahn
Shamila Jiwa
Terry Cunningham

Amy Smetana
Allison Mooney
Danielle Schultz
Diane Shaffer
Lisa Kleppinger
Rhonda Gurgone
Claudia Darak
Peter Brenner
Damen Mroczek

Mixed media

Promila Kumar
Cindy Larimore
Annette Fiscelli
Christine VanSickle
Georgia Heatherington
Alex Diery

Lou Zale
Zavison Rolfes
Richard Sobkowiak
Igor Irbe
Ron Sieracki
Ron Clevenger
Brooke Minton

Painting

Charlotte Miller
David Schubert
Taman VanScoy
Channing Wilson
Glenn Payne
Sharon Jiskra
Brooks Lydia
Wylangowska

Matt Miller
Beata Lange
Rebecca Marfise
Christina Plichta
Jennifer Mallory-Welch
Stan Pipenburg
Arlaina Marie
Lori McLaughlin
Karyn Denten
Murray Henderson
Maria Jacek
Eddy Krystosek
Amine Badr

Photography

James Cole
Mike Baker
Scott Sternberg

Matthew Coglianese
Josh Merrill
Robert Copeland
Jeff Pfaller
Emily Pruyne
Brian Horan
John Scanlan

Sculpture

George Machart
Chas Gerding
Jamison Glisczinski
Gene Malin
Roberto Ferrer
Sean Corner
Cliff Matyszczyk
Daniel Fenn

PULSE



“Murder On The Orient Express,” an adaptation of the favorite Agatha Christie novel, opens tonight at the Theatre of Western Springs and runs through June 9. See Page 30 for details. (photo provided)

ARTFULLY DONE

■ DIY Framed Flowers

June 4
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Design an artistic masterpiece using pressed and dried flowers in a 5x7 floating frame. All supplies provided. The program is for adults only. Time: 3 to 4 p.m. RR

■ Watercolor Painting Level 1 or 2

Wednesdays, June 5-26
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Learn basic watercolor techniques and apply them to a variety of subject matter. Students will provide their own materials; a list will be available the first day of class. Level 1 and Level 2 classes overlap by one hour. Time: 6 to 8 p.m. Cost: \$120. RR, MD

■ InJung Oh exhibit reception

June 12
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Join this gathering in the library’s Quiet Reading Room to meet InJung Oh, view her Spirit of Life art exhibit and enjoy light refreshments. Oh’s pieces exist as spaces where symbols and abstractions are animated with meaning, creating psychological moments of reflection and balance in the face of a world filled with tensions and exploring the complexities of identity. Time: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

FAITH COMMUNITIES

■ Adult Inter-Faith Fellowship Luncheon

June 12
Union Church of Hinsdale
137 S. Garfield Ave.
ejung@uchinsdale.org
(630) 688-1706

Jim Jung, a 45-year vet-

Please turn to Page 26



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*MREDLLC Closed Lifetime Sales in The Hamptons on Hinsdale Townhome Complex through 5/1/24.

PULSE

Continued from Page 22

eran EMT/firefighter of the Clarendon Hills Fire Department, will discuss the basics of CPR, AED operation, choking and first aid. He will also explain the importance of having a safe home. A Q&A session will follow. Reservations are due June 6. Time: 11:45 a.m. doors open, noon lunch and program. Cost: \$15.

FAMILY FUN

■ Family Archery

Saturdays, June 8-Aug. 3
KLM Park
5901 S. County Line Road
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

The whole family will learn the parts of an arrow and recurve bow, the basics of using a recurve bow, a nationally recognized beginner's 9-step to the 10 ring progression method and fundamental shooting skills from an experienced instructor. Bows, arrows and targets are furnished. Time: 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Cost: \$103. RR

■ Summertime Second Saturday Family Program

June 8
Mayslake Peabody Estate
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 206-9566

Families are invited to explore state symbols and make crafts for home related to the state bird, tree and flower. The program is for ages 8 and up; those younger than 18 must be with an adult. Time: 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

■ Lunch on the Lawn

June 12
Burlington Park
30 E. Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Young kids and their families will go on an imaginative musical adventure with Miss Jamie from the Farm and learn values like hard work, healthy eating and being kind to animals and each other, with the help of farm animal puppets and songs. Time: 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.

FOR A CAUSE

■ Children's Book Drive

Through June 1
www.berniesbookbank.org
(847) 780-7323

The Love Like Sean Foundation is sponsoring this drive to collect new and gently used books for infants through sixth-graders to be distributed through Bernie's Book Bank. Books may be dropped off at Hinsdale Central, The Community House and St. Isaac Jogues School. No workbooks, textbooks or reference material, please.

GAME ON

■ Indoor Beginning Golf

Mondays, June 3-24
Madison School
611 S. Madison St.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 4-7 can learn the basics of the game using the SNAG method. Time: 4 to 4:50 p.m. Cost: \$42. RR

■ Jr. Basketball Camp

Mondays, June 3-24
Madison School

611 S. Madison St.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 5-7 will learn the game and expand their skills, including dribbling, passing and shooting, in a noncompetitive environment. Teamwork, participation and good sportsmanship are stressed, and a game will be played at the end of each class. Time: 5 to 5:50 p.m. Cost: \$42.

■ Youth Pickleball

Saturdays, June 8-Aug. 3
Brook Park
Third & Columbia streets
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Kids ages 6-17 will learn to play the fastest growing sport in America, including pickleball basics such as grip, forehand, backhand and dink shots, serving and court positioning. Players also will learn scoring and pickleball rules and have plenty of time for game play. Equipment will be provided. Time: 9 to 9:30 for ages 6-7, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. for ages 8-10, 10:15 to 11 a.m. for ages 11-14,

11 a.m. to noon for ages 14-17.
Cost: \$78-\$158. RR, MD

GREAT OUTDOORS

■ Nests: Birds Baskets of Life

June 2
Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
12545 W. 111th St., Lemont
(630) 257-2045
www.fpdcc.com

Search for nests and nesting activity. Bring binoculars or borrow ones on hand. Time: 1 p.m. RR

■ Adventure for All

June 6
Saganashkee Slough Boat Launch
107th Street west of South Willow Springs Road near Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(312) 533-5751

Enjoy climbing and kayaking in this program specially designed for individuals with a primary physical disability or visual impairment. Time: 10 a.m. to noon.

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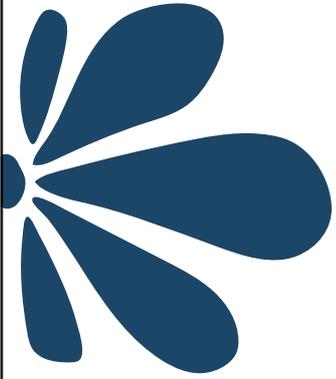
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HAPPY GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2024



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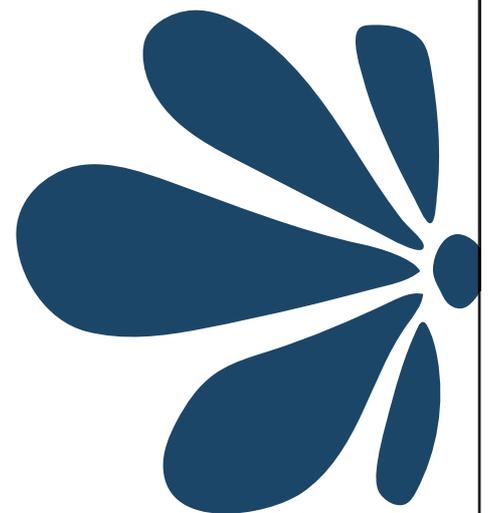
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PULSE

Continued from Page 26

GREEN THUMB

■ Community Garden Plot Program

June 1-Oct. 31
Peirce Park
700 E. Walnut St.
(630) 789-7090

Discover the joys of gardening by cultivating a 4-by-6-foot plot to grow fresh fruits

and veggies and bond with fellow gardeners. For rules and guidelines, check out the Garden Plot Manual at <https://cms4files.revize.com/hinsdaleil/Garden-Plot-Manual.pdf> and share garden progress on Facebook and Instagram @HinsdaleParks. Cost: \$25. RR

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Hope Social June 6

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

Celebrate the power of community with food, activities, music and time together and this outdoor event for those who have experienced the cancer journey. A special "Kids Corner" will be available for kids to join in the fun. Time: 5 to 7 p.m. RR

JUST FOR KIDS

■ Sweet Summertime Scavenger Hunt

June 1-30
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Drop by the library's Youth Services Department to complete a summer-themed scavenger hunt and earn a sticker.

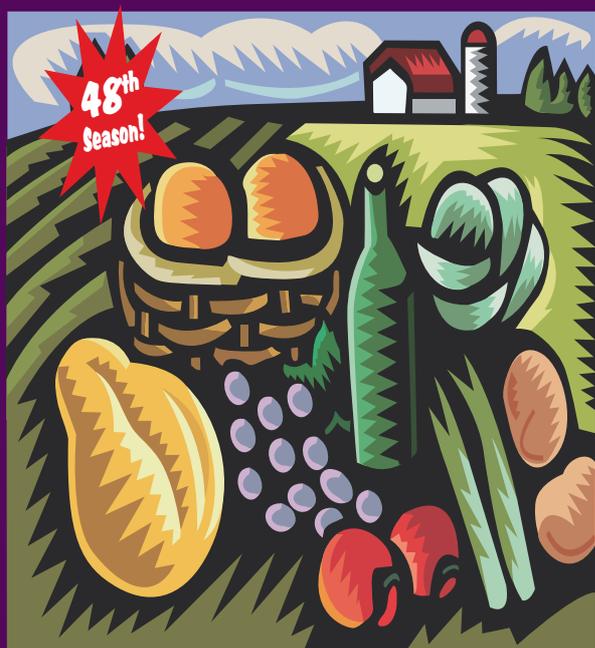
■ Just for Kids Fishing Derby

June 9
Blackwell Forest Preserve
Butterfield Road west of Winfield Road, Warrenville
www.dupageforest.org
(630) 933-7248

Youth age 15 and younger, with an adult, are invited to join this fishing competition with raffles and prizes for the biggest catches. Time: 8 to 11 a.m. RR

Please turn to Page 30

HINSDALE



FARMERS MARKET MONDAYS

June 3 - OCTOBER 14, 2024

7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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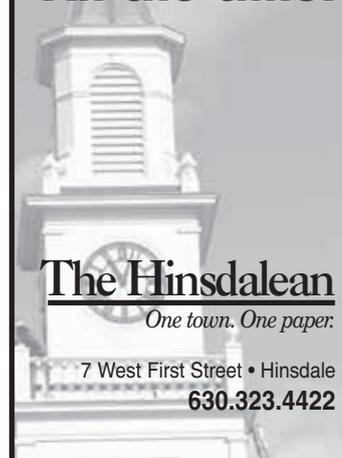
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**Thursday, June 20
3:00 - 5:30
Signature Homes Office
22 N Lincoln St**



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PULSE

Continued from Page 28

■ Campfire Fun!

June 12
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Kids in kindergarten through second grade can gather around for spooky stories, yummy snacks and fun songs. Time: 3 to 4 p.m. RR

LISTEN & LEARN

■ Dr. Temple Grandin

June 4
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Join this Hinsdale Public Library Zoom webinar for a discussion by one of the world's most accomplished and well-known adults with autism on her recent book, "Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns and Abstractions." This event is sponsored by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

■ Adventures in our National Parks

June 12
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Take an adventure in five popular national parks with award-winning author Theresa Goodrich, who will provide a brief history of the National Park System, followed by virtual tours of Badlands National Park, Glacier National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, Yellowstone National Park and Zion National Park. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

NOTEWORTHY

■ American Wind Band

June 1
American Legion Post 80
4000 Saratoga Ave., Downers Grove
www.americanwindband.org

The band will perform its final concert of the season, A Prelude to Summer, featuring an "A" Band alumni salute to Paul Tolosko. This free concert is outdoors, and lawn chairs or blankets are welcome. The concert will move indoors in the event of inclement weather. Time: 3 p.m.

ON STAGE

■ Murder On The Orient Express'

Thursdays to Sundays, May 30-June 9
Theatre of Western Springs
4384 Hampton Ave.
www.theatreofwesternsprings.com
(708) 246-4043

Hercule Poirot, Agatha Christie's greatest detective, must find the murderer of a

tycoon on the world's most luxurious train, as the passengers sit isolated with a killer in their midst. An American Sign Language-interpreted performance will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 8. Times: 8 p.m. Thursdays & Fridays, 2:30 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$28, \$15 for children/students.

■ 'Seussical the Musical'

May 31-June 8

The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.stagedoorfinearts.com

Stage Door Fine Arts presents this story of Horton, an elephant who discovers a speck of dust that contains the Whos, including the child Jojo, who is sent off to military school for thinking too many "thinks." Horton must protect the Whos from a world of naysayers and dangers while guarding an

abandoned egg, all in the face of ridicule, danger, kidnapping and a trial. Times: 7:30 p.m. May 31; 2 & 7 p.m. June 1, 2 and 6:30 p.m. June 2, 7 p.m. June 6 & 8, 2 & 7 p.m. June 8. Tickets: \$25-\$30.

RUNS & WALKS

■ La Grange Rocks 5K

June 7

Please turn to Page 32

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PULSE

Continued from Page 30

Lyons Township High School athletic field
1401 W. Elm St., La Grange
www.theleadershop.org

This run & family fun event features one-lap and 1-mile run in addition to the 5K along with games, crafts activities, special "celebrity" guests and live music. Proceeds support The LeaderShop's youth programming. Times: 5 p.m. opening, 6 p.m. one-lap run, 6:15 p.m. one-mile run, 7 p.m. 5K. Cost: \$35 for the 5K run, and \$20 for the 1-mile run and one-lap run. RR

SENIOR SCENE

■ S.E.N.I.O.R.S.

June 13
Little Red Schoolhouse
Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road,
Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897

Join this Seniors Enjoying Nature Inside/Outside Rain or Shine session for a nature-inspired adventure for those 55 and older. Time: 10 a.m. RR

SIGN UP NOW

■ Library Edition Book Club

June 5 & Aug. 7
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Meet the first Wednesday of the month to discuss books with others. June's selection is "The Great Divide" by Hinsdale's Cristina Henríquez. Copies of the book will be available on the library's Book Club Holds shelf. Time: 7 to 8 p.m. RR

■ Crafting Herbal Cocktails

June 12
Morton Arboretum
4100 Route 53, Lisle
www.mortonarb.org
(630) 719-2468

Learn how to make simple syrups and herb extractions to craft a variety of herb-flavored and scented cocktails. Make bitters, create flavors with herb simple syrup and blend martinis, fizzes and sours. Sip on samples while discussing the history of herbs in alcoholic beverages. Alcohol-free variations will be available. This

class is for ages 21 and older only. Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$49. RR, MD

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Coffee & Classics

June 9
Chicago Avenue between
Washington & Garfield
www.fueled.wordpress.com

The Fueled classic motors club invites classic European car enthusiasts, collectors and spectators to its Sunday morning gathering. The theme is Women Driver and Kids Sticker Day. General parking will be in the commuter lot between Washington and Lincoln streets. Hours: 9 to 11 a.m.

TEENS & TWEENS

■ Teen Game Time

May 31 & June 7
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Take some time to unwind by playing Mario Kart on the Nintendo Switch or enjoy a

Please turn to Page 34

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mackenzie Melvin and John Neal

Mackenzie Guest Melvin and John Michael Neal were married Saturday, March 9, 2024, in Arizona.

The bride is the daughter of David and Elizabeth (Whitsell) Melvin of Hinsdale. The groom is the son of Scott and Sara Neal of Tennessee.

The bride is a graduate of Hinsdale Central High School, Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt Owen Graduate School of Management. She works as a financial analyst.

The groom is a graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Engineering. He is employed as a chemical engineer.

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Pet pic of the week

Meet Pepper, a sweet girl who needs a home. This 4-year-old tuxedo cat was a stray who lived in a garage for several years until she found her way to Hinsdale Humane Society. She takes a little while to warm up, but once she does, she loves climbing all over her people and asking to be pet. She will even come when you call her name. Pepper is fully vaccinated, spayed and microchipped. Her adoption fee is \$75 and she is approved for all ages. If you're interested in meeting her, stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center or visit www.hinsdalehumane-society.org or call (630) 323-5630 for more information. (photo by Laura Dajoraite provided)



Continued from Page 32

classic board game. Hours: 3 to 5 p.m.

■ Puzzle Party

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

Make a custom puzzle to take home and browse some puzzling books. Time: 1 to 2 p.m. RR

WEE ONES

■ Kid Rock I & II

Tuesdays, June 4-25
Clarendon Hills Community Center
315 Chicago Ave.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 2-3 in Kid Rock I and ages 3-5 in Kid Rock II will engage in active, creative, music-based activities, while using rhythm instruments and movement props. Time: 10:15 to 10:55 a.m. for Kid Rock I, 11 to 11:40 for Kid Rock II. Cost: \$46. RR

■ Soccer/T-Ball Camp

Thursdays, June 6-27
Robbins Park
Seventh and Vine streets
www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr
(630) 789-7090

Kids ages 3-5 will be introduced to soccer and baseball, learning socialization, teamwork, following directions and key motor skills. The first two weeks will focus on soccer and the second two weeks on T-ball. Parent participation is welcomed. Time: 4 to 4:45 p.m. Cost: \$42. RR

■ Toddler Science: Building

June 7
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Toddlers can join this mini-storytime and science experiment all about construction and building. Time: 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Key
RR - registration required
MD - member discount

GOOD NEWS

Class 2024 graduates

Continued from Page 13

Kuznetsova, Juno Kwon
Elizabeth Lahmann, Guadalupe Lara, Amelia Laskowski, Keira Leech, Tyler Lehman, Janet Leon, Payton Levinthal, Lena Li, Levi Lillioja, Angela Lim, Finnian Linane, Michael Linn, Raffaella Lipari, Sutton Little, Xixi Liu, Ethan Lobraco, Emma LoDuca, Ariana Loera, Emily Loera, Julio Lopez, Sebastian Lopez, Maxwell Lowe, Andrew Lundgren, Richard Luo, Ava Lynch, Casey Lynch, Grace Lynch, Kaitlin Lynch, Andrew Lyne
Sarah Maghrabi, Ravi Mahajan, Rida Maheen, Samuel Malapati, Emily Malorny, Chloe Mannarino, Brody Marcet, Laima Marchertas, Oslo Marcotte-Park, Luke Margetich, Willem Marginean, Julia Marinaccio, Sonali Marion, Travis Marringa, Pedro Martinez Chavez, Mohga Massoud, Caroline Matricaria, Parker Matthews, Claire May, Anne Mayer, Ellie McClear, Ian McClenahan, Maisie McDaniel, Cathryn McDonnell, John McGeever, Grace McGowan, Christopher Melillo, James Melkus, Maya Menon, Charlotte Mers-

inger, William Merz, Laure Michel, Andrej Milicevic, Macey Miller, Madeline Miller, Ian Miller, Alexandra Mills, Abeeha Mirza, Sophia Mirzoeva, Aarav Mittal, Taha Mohammad, Haroon Mohammed, David Moiceanu, Kaitlyn Montanye, Jax Montiel, Martin Montoya, Joseph Moore, Lily Morel, Conor Morrell, Miette Morris, Joseph Morrissey, Malloory Moser, Shubhra Moudgil, Jack Mulligan, Luke Murante
Henrik Naess, Pharida Nakwatcharankool, Omer Naveed, Neven Nedic, Ramon Nepomuceno, Hank Newcomer, Henry Newlin, Sloan Newlin, Jeff Ni, Yazan Nofal, Manuela Nofodji, Alexander Novosad, Shiloh Novosad, Marin O'Bryon, Nora O'Byrne, Martin O'Hara, Kelechi Ojiako, Layomi Olaitan, Lindsay O'Malley, Daniel Orozco, Adam Ortiz, Mark Ortiz, Kevin Osei-Badu, Caroline Owens, Gonzalo Oyolo Chavez
Safaa Paika, Lauren Pang, Clara Pappas, Nathan Park, Jack Parkins, Lillian Parrillo, Anika Parvataneni, Kayla Pasciak, Esha Patel, Hemani Patel, Hency Patel, Theodore Patrinos, Finnian Peart-Peck, Sara Pelini, Ava Pena, Lau-

ren Pencyla, Caroline Petersen, Brooke Peterson, Angeline Philip, Vittoria Pigatti, Oliver Pohlenz, Brady Pollard, Sophia Ponakala, John Pope, Anika Potempa, Lucas Pragaspthy, Jager Prame, Michael Prieto, Matthew Provost, Evisia Ptak
Emma Quast, Elena Quiñonez, Natalia Radziszewski, Anya Raman, Camila Ramirez, Joshua Randell, Aditi Ranjan, Mustafa Rashid, Raza Rashid, Alexander Rasmussen, Hamza Rauf, Barsum Ravanasa, Kavya Ravi, Kamran Razi, William Read, Patrick Redding, Dilan Reddy, William Rediger, Alison Reinhardt, David Ren, Matthew Renehan, Jimmy Rivera, Mariam Rizvi, Robert Rocque, Jocelyn Rodriguez, Blake Rogers, Will Romberger, Ludwig Rugel, Matt Ruth
Azzan Saghier, Esha Sahu, Grace Sakalosky, Jarrar Salam, Zarina Saleem, Mohammad Saleh, Michael Sauer, Niamh Savchuk, Ian Schmitz, Grace Schubkegel, Ryan Schulz, Elizabeth Sciortino, Emma Sclabassi, Grace Scott, Sebrina Sebastian, Austin Segers, Polina Seidel, Makayla Sellers, Elizabeth Sessa, Sheza Shafi, Arjun Shah, Maryum Shaik, Mariam

Shakir, Marwan Shalaby, Areeba Shams, Shiven Sharma, Luella Sheehan, Joy Shen, Isabella Sheridan, Faris Siddiqui, Riahna Sidhu, Ella Simmons, Grace Simpson, Arjun Sinha, Vandana Sivakumar, Peter Skokna, Ella Smith, Nathan Smith, Claire Snodgrass, Laura Sommer, Audrey Song, Alexandra Soto, Amelia Sowers, Nolan Spence, Leonardo Sprovieri, Tapanutt Sripraram, Henry Stach, Nicholas Stanek, Zachary Starr, Siena Steines, Katelyn Stern, Quinten Stromberg, Qingyang Sun, Vivian Sweeney, Devin Swoyer, Ibrahim Syed, Emma Szczecin
Juliana Tabuena, Griffin Talbott-Swain, William Tallard, Fawwaz Tariq, Domantas Tarnauskas, Michael Temple, Nikolas Theotikos, Ryan Thomas, Griffin Tonn, Regan Torsberg, Helena Tragas, Kellen Tran, Christina Tresslar, Katherine Tschosik, Eric Tu, Sarah Usman, Lindsey Vaikutis, Aurelie Valls-Rodriguez, Isabella Valls-Rodriguez, Chloe Vande Lune, Alina Velasquez, Gabriela Veliz Hernandez, Medha Nitya Alekhya Vemparala, Daphne Venetsanopoulos, Rishab Venkataraman, John Vergara, Samantha Verven, Rajas

Visal, Jacqueline Vogel
Brandon Walker, Morgan Wallace, Cailley Walsh, Caroline Walsh, Jack Walsh, Eric Wang, Austin Ward, Guillermo Weaver Rivera, Anna Wentling, Jessamyn Westerberg, Samantha Wheeler, Emmet Widtfeldt, Benjamin Wittemann, Marco Woloszczuk, Mateo Woloszczuk, Noah Wong, Kaili Wu, Yi Wu, Lena Yerlioglu, Faustina Zabulionyte, Benedict Zajeski, Alex Zak, Balys Zamalaitis, Maya Zander, Paraskevi Zervas, Dee Zhang, Jacob Zhang, Kathy Zhang, Max Zhu and Elizabeth Zock.

Nazareth Academy

Members of Nazareth Academy's Class of 2024 celebrated their graduation with a Mass and commencement at Christ Church in Oak Brook May 19.
Hinsdale graduates are Claire Beresford, Ava Coghill, Matea Hewitt, Francesca De Fina Hillman, John Hughes, Nicholas Iwanski, Aleka Kuo, Faith Mouw, Emelia Sirchio and Brennan Wagner.



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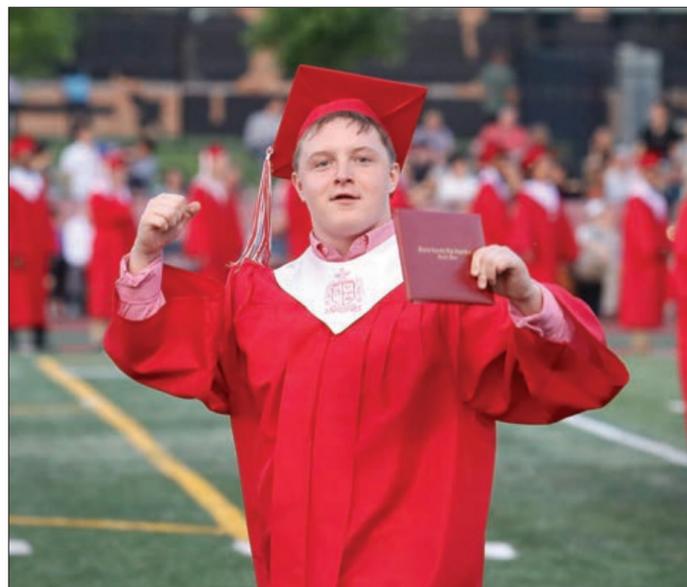
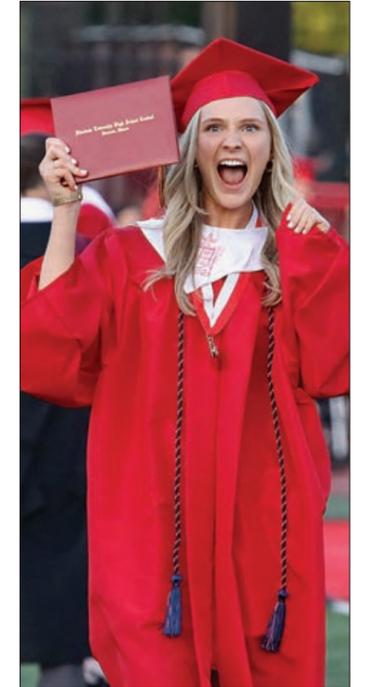
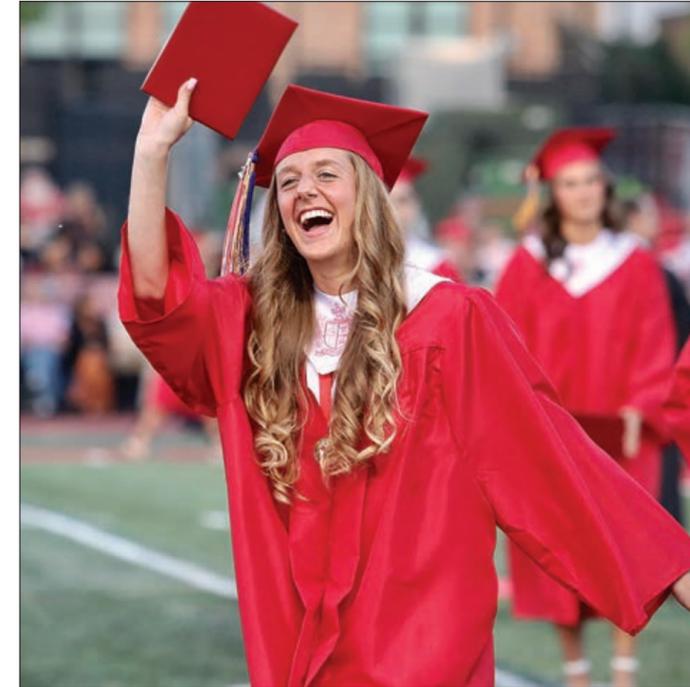
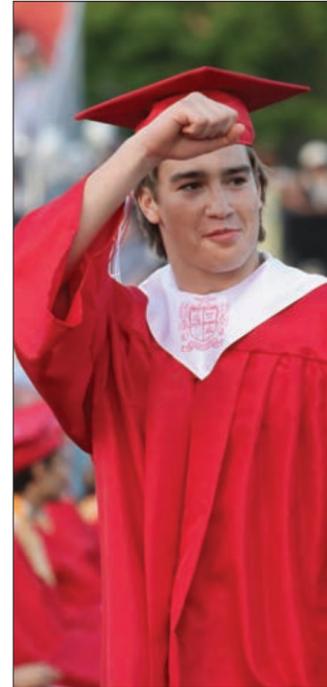
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Another great night for a Red Devil graduation



The stands were full, the skies were clear and the band was playing last Thursday night as the first of Hinsdale Central's Class of 2024 stepped onto Dickinson Field for the annual graduation ceremony. After receiving their diplomas, lucky graduates whose families were on the right side of the field were able to acknowledge them and hear a shout or two from their fans. Laima Marchertas, Carter Contreras, Z Kuropas, Annie Beargie, Drew Lundgren, Sophia Mirzoeva and Lilly Parrillo were among the graduates who heard the shouts from the stands. (Jim Slonoff photos)

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Case No: 24MR306

FOR CHANGE OF NAME (ADULT)

Public Notice is hereby given that on July 31, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Courtroom No. 2007 at Cook County Circuit Court, 10220 S. 76th Avenue, Bridgeview, Illinois, I will have my petition heard in the said Court for the change of my name from: Shantella Fouche Garrett to that of Shantella Fouche Shabazz, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: May 22, 2024 at Cook County, Illinois /s/ Shantella Garrett, Petitioner

Published in The Hinsdalean
May 30, June 6 & 13, 2024.

Education must not simply teach work - it must teach Life.
W. E. B. Du Bois

The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, to create men who are capable of doing new things.
Jean Piaget

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Don't let schooling interfere with your education. Mark Twain

The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values. William S. Burroughs

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 - 14 "... THE WALRUS"
 - 15 IDAHO'S CAPITAL
 - 16 MINOR COMPLAINT
 - 18 VEHICLE'S CAPACITY
 - 20 INTENDS
 - 21 GERMAN PRONOUN
 - 23 "... - QUIT!"
 - 24 UNRAVELS
 - 25 SECOND IN COMMAND
 - 27 FIGHTING
 - 29 "ALREADY?"
 - 31 UNPARALLELED
 - 35 TRACK HORSE
 - 37 CONTINENTAL CURRENCY
 - 38 NEPAL'S NEIGHBOR
 - 41 D-DAY VESSEL
 - 43 --DE-FRANCE
 - 44 SOLE
 - 45 LITTER CONTAINER
 - 47 WITHOUT A SOUND
 - 49 AROMAS
 - 52 ORNATE VASE
 - 53 BIT OF PHYSICS
 - 54 ILLUMINATED
 - 55 "A SPIDER!"
 - 56 SUMMER ON THE SEINE
 - 57 VERY SMALL

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- DOWN**
- 1 TAVERN
 - 2 JURIST LANCE
 - 3 SAVORY BRUNCH PIES
 - 4 CELESTIAL BEAR
 - 5 JANUARY, TO JUANA
 - 6 FIND NOT GUILTY
 - 7 PAINTER CEZANNE
 - 8 PREFIX WITH NIGHT OR LIGHT
 - 9 LEG BONE
 - 10 PLEASANTLY WARM
 - 11 MAKE -- OF (BUNGLE)
 - 17 "PETER PAN" AUTHOR
 - 19 SWISS MONEY
 - 21 HOSP. HOOKUPS
 - 22 CORP. BOSS
 - 24 SUMMER COOLER
 - 26 SPINACH-EATING SAILOR
 - 28 GERMAN SAUSAGE
 - 30 GRANOLA GRAIN
 - 32 MAN OF LA MANCHA
 - 33 WEB ADDRESS
 - 34 FAIR HIRER, IN ADS
 - 36 BOOSLER OF COMEDY
 - 38 CHEF'S HAT
 - 39 ACCUSTOM
 - 40 LOSE A STARING CONTEST
 - 42 LETTER-SHAPED HARDWARE
 - 45 COAGULATE
 - 46 "GARFIELD" DOG
 - 48 CRAVAT
 - 50 SKEDADDLE
 - 51 CIA OPERATIVE

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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3. Dirge; 4. Proud

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Image

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RIDGE

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TODAY'S WORD



"The bases are so it load!" and

S	5	2	4	9	1	7	8	3	6	A
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U	6	1	7	9	3	8	2	4	5	

HOROSCOPES

June 2024 Horoscopes • Week 1



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, as a finish line approaches, it can be tempting to get very excited. Hold off on that elation until everything is done. You never know what can crop up in between.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Family obligations are swimming through your mind, Aries. It is time to sit down and hammer out a resolution that will appeal to everyone and lighten your load.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if someone accuses you of being too emotional this week, do not take it personally. This person may be projecting his or her experiences on you. Continue what you're doing.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Recently people have been directing accolades in your direction, Libra. This is the boost you have needed to propel yourself to do more of the things that have been your goals.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
It doesn't need to be New Year's to make a resolution, Aquarius. You can aspire to change an aspect of your life anytime you want. Perhaps this is the week to embrace change?



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
A special person in your life is getting closer and closer to you every day, Taurus. This may be the companion that you have been hoping for. Continue to take things slowly.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, could you be holding yourself to unreasonably high standards? If you're getting frustrated by not meeting your goals, ease up on yourself for the time being.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, someone simply isn't bringing his or her A-game to a work project, and it shows. It's frustrating and you want to take over, but this is supposed to be a team effort.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Have you been putting all of your focus on only one part of your life, Pisces? Take a more balanced approach; otherwise, burnout may soon set in.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Gemini, sometimes you have a tendency to make things more difficult than they need to be. Stop obsessing over every little detail this week. Things have a way of working out.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, it is your mission to change the minds of some people at work this week, as it will bode well for you down the road. Just don't make too many extravagant requests.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Simple things used to bring you pleasure and now it seems a bit of a gray cloud has descended. Don't start to fret you're getting jaded, Sagittarius. This is just a little rough patch.

SPORTS

Boys tennis earns third title in a row

Continued from Page 48

ment. They played so well. It's just kind of part and parcel that we get into late May and play our best tennis," Naisbitt said.

Aidan Hernandez and Teuscher won their first two matches before losing in the third round.

"Their two wins were again part of the recipe," Naisbitt said. "They absolutely had to get to the third round unscathed and they did."

Aidan Hernandez, one of only two seniors in the state lineup, said the Highland Park team he and Teuscher lost to is the same team they lost to last year in their bid for the state title.

"We drew them earlier than we would have wanted to," he said. "We just didn't show up that day. The team showed up and it was a great team win."

He said what he'll remember most is that he and his coach closed out their high school careers at the same time.

"We kind of got sent off together," he said. "That was almost special in a way, sending him off on a win, and it was definitely something that I will remember."

Naisbitt ends his career having led his teams to the state final meet each of his 14 years as head coach. In addition to the nine championships, his teams have placed second three times, third once and fifth once.

"You could blow me over with a feather," he said, recalling the doubts he had about his own abilities after the 2010 team lost the state title by one point. "I am just tickled pink that I am part of this program. I am honored to be their coach. I am humbled to be in this position with a 14-year run."

"It's right up there with the 1970s when Jay Kramer won nine straight," he added. "We're in the same conversation about being a dominant era."

Naisbitt, whose decision to

retire is relatively recent, said he will miss the players and being part of a program of which he is extremely proud. He plans to spend his time enjoying his family and his pets, he said.

"I love it and it was my life, but I think I'm ready to try new challenges," he said.

Boys track and field

The Hinsdale Central boys track and field team placed 12th at the IHSA state finals Friday and Saturday at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. Senior Aden Bandukwala placed first in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:51.11 and second as part of the 4x400-meter relay (3:18.05).

"He finished his career on a high note as expected," head coach Jim Westphal said. "He had such a stellar career."

"He ran exceptionally well in both the 800 and the 4x4," he added. "He had a great state

meet as usual."

Bandukwala was joined on the relay by senior Jack Parkins, junior Smith Maxwell and sophomore Braden Tingler.

"Those guys did a great job of getting through to the finals and running really well on Saturday," Westphal said.

Bandukwala said the meet was a great way to end his career.

"It was a super fun race," he said of the relay. "All the guys did great. We shaved a second off our time at sectionals. We were all pretty happy with it."

Bandukwala ends his high school career with four state titles, two in cross country and two in track, having placed first in the 1,600 at state last year. He said his first cross country title his junior year, which he had no expectation of winning, was the most significant.

"Winning that changed a lot of things," Bandukwala said.

"I didn't feel like I was one of the top guys in the state at that point. Winning that all of the

sudden propelled me to that place."

Senior Mark Ortiz placed 15th in the preliminaries in shot put (16.61 meters) in his first state appearance.

"He threw a PR, a personal record, by over two feet," Westphal said. "It's not easy to go down there and PR, which he did. He had a great meet in his own right."

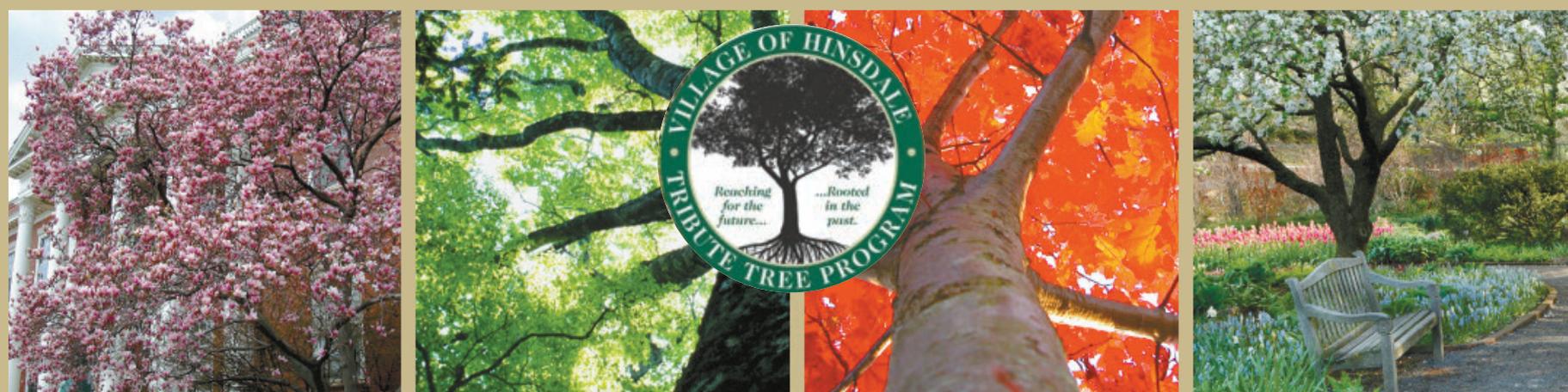
Senior Michael Prieto was sick the week before competing in the preliminaries in high jump, Westphal said.

"I don't think he fully recovered. He didn't have his energy or his legs. It was not the outcome he was hoping for," Westphal said.

The 4x800-meter relay also competed in the preliminaries.

"The guys that went down did a really nice job," Westphal said. "It was a nice end to the season."

• Junior Finn Richards of Hinsdale competed in the 3,200-meter run at state for Benet Academy, placing 21st.



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STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE



**Aidan Hernandez
Hinsdale**

How was finishing your Central tennis career with a state title?

It feels good. A team title is really great, and especially since it was (head coach John) Naisbitt's last year and a great way to send him off.

What do you remember about freshman season?

It was a very new experience for me. We had a shortened season because of COVID. I was playing football, too, and football was moved to spring so the two seasons overlapped and it was pretty chaotic.

What did you enjoy about serving as a team captain this year?

It was just a privilege to have that role on the team. Our responsibilities were to lead the warm-ups and, toward the end of the season, to motivate the team more because we were getting a little bit too relaxed.

How would your teammates describe you?

They'd probably describe me as passionate about the sport. I can be high-energy but emotionally relaxed and neutral.

How do you stay relaxed before a match?

I listen to some calmer, slower-paced music, like country.

Any special pre-match meal?

I like to have Jimmy Johns so I get a lot of protein and carbs to keep me energized.

Was it fun playing with your younger brother Nathan?

At times it's a little bit irritating having him on the team, but it's an experience that I may not have again later in life. It's definitely really cool having that experience. My older brother (Noah) was a senior when I was a sophomore, so all three of us played together that year.

Where to next year?

Davidson College to play tennis and likely study economics.

What does head coach John Naisbitt appreciate about Hernandez?

Aidan has brought determination, dedication and passion to the varsity team for four years. He has a huge serve and dominating forehand. His robust tournament schedule throughout the year provides him with competitive experience that gives him an advantage over high school opponents. He helped us win three straight state championships and is a true champion. He was our captain this year and he will be missed.

— profile by Ken Knutson,
photo by Jim Slonoff

HEADED TO STATE

The Hinsdale Central girls lacrosse team will represent Red Devil Nation at the IHSA state final tournament Friday and Saturday, May 31 & June 1, at Hinsdale Central.

The girls will face off against Loyola Academy in the first semifinal match at 5 p.m. Friday. If victorious, they will play in the championship game at noon on Saturday. If not they will vie for third place at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Good luck Devils!

Additionally, Hinsdale residents Shannon Earley and Molly Salvino, both senior members of Benet Academy's girls lacrosse team, will compete for the Redwings as they battle Lake Forest High School in the second IHSA state semifinal at 7 p.m. Friday at Hinsdale Central.

Good luck Shannon and Molly!

RESULTS

Baseball

May 22 & 25 @ IHSA regional vs. Waubonsie Valley (championship) V loses 4-5 vs. Oswego (semifinal) V wins 12-2 (5 inn.) Connors, 4 RBIs, 2 runs
Jurack, 3 RBIs,

home run Hernandez, 2 RBIs Connors, win, 6 strikeouts

Lacrosse, boys

May 22 @ IHSA sectional vs. Marist (semifinal) V loses 8-19

Lacrosse, girls

May 28 @ IHSA supersectional vs. York V wins 12-6
May 22 & 24 @ IHSA sectional vs. Sandburg (championship) V wins 6-4
Kearney, 4 goals, assist
Venetsanopolous, goal, assist

Matthews, goal
Schultz, 6 saves vs. St. Ignatius
V wins 11-7

Volleyball, boys

May 23 @ IHSA regional vs. OP-RF (championship) V loses 11-25, 20-25

Instant replay



Hinsdale Central's Ryan Schultz fires a pitch toward the plate during a home game against conference rival Proviso West May 11. The senior helped lead the Red Devils past the Panthers 2-0. The team wrapped up its season Saturday with a 4-5 loss to Waubonsie Valley in the IHSA regional championship. (Jim Slonoff photo)

SPORTS



The Hinsdale Central varsity boys tennis team earned its third straight state title and its 29th in program history. (photos John Naisbitt)

Boys tennis earns third title in a row

Players send Naisbitt into retirement with nine championships in his 14-year career

By Pamela Lannom
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John Naisbitt began his tenure as Hinsdale Central's varsity boys tennis coach in 2010, hoping to lead the team to its fourth straight championship. Instead the team came in second.

"I learned a great deal about details and making sure everything was in line and you can't take anything for granted," he said.

In 2011, the team came in fifth.

"Then 2012 came along. Martin Joyce, Eddie Grabill. We won four straight," he said. "We did five more in the next eight years."

Naisbitt ended his career with his ninth state title Saturday at the IHSA finals hosted by Palatine High School. The team came in first with 36 points, followed by Hersey with 28 points and New Trier with 25.

Leading the team was senior singles player Alex Kotarski, who finished as state runner-up for the second consecutive year.

"Alex Kotarski is our best player," Naisbitt said. "He got us 12 points — the absolute anchor for our team title."

Kotarski is the kind of player who is able to elevate

his game to match the talent of his opponent, his coach said.

"It's so wonderful that he's able to do that. It's a joy," Naisbitt said. "He never ceases to amaze me."

Kotarski said returning to the finals was a huge accomplishment.

"I think probably my biggest win was my semifinals win," he said. "I was able to revenge my loss in last year's state final to Andrew Spurck (Fremd), my good friend."

After getting off to a slow start against Spurck, Kotarski said he started to gain momentum and then the game was stopped due to weather.

"I was able to use the rain delay to my advantage and come back firing on all cylinders," he said.

He beat Spurck 7-5, 6-0.

Winning the state title was a relief, he said.

"Obviously we knew it was Coach Naisbitt's last state tournament, his last season," Kotarski said. "We all wanted to go out performing to the best of our abilities."

Junior Nathan Hernandez, the team's No. 2 singles player, came in fourth. He struggled in his first round, losing his first set.

"It was just nerves,"

Naisbitt said. "He ended

up winning in a third set tie break and then he rolled from there. He got his feet under him."

Hernandez's fourth and final win was his quarterfinal match, where he earned four points to bring his total to 10.

"That team trophy is so important to each and every one of us," Naisbitt said. "His win in the quarterfinals was an enormous part of our path to victory."

The doubles team of sophomores Barry Zhu and Nicholas Marringa also came in fourth. The two had played only two matches together heading into state, their coach said.

"Sectionals they had a great match with the No. 1 seed in the state, the LT team, and they beat (Central doubles team) Aidan (Hernandez) and Bodie (Teuscher). We knew they could play," Naisbitt said.

In the third round, the team took down the Edwardsville team that was the No. 2 seed.

"It was the spark on Thursday to get them through the third round and into the quarterfinals," he said. "They beat a very good doubles team to get into the semifinals."

"They had a great tourna-

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Senior Alex Kotarski holds up the championship trophy the Red Devils won Saturday, with Aidan Hernandez and Barry Zhu by his side.

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