

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, Oct. 24, 2024

Hinsdale, Illinois

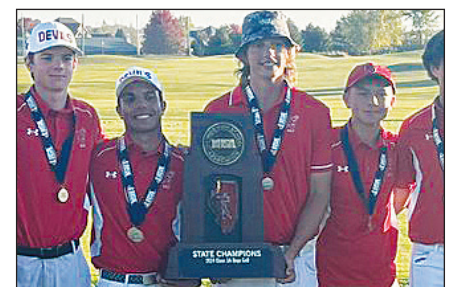
Volume XIX, Issue 5

\$1 on Newsstands - 44 Pages



‘I never miss a beat’

Gianna Sabatino didn't miss a beat — or a lyric for that matter — to Taylor Swift's "Shake it Off" at the school's "Dancing on The Lane" annual student fundraiser and block party Oct. 4. The music was blasting, the food trucks were serving and the kids and some parents were dancing at the event held in the school's back yard. For more pictures, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/thehinsdalean. (Jim Slonoff photo)



Taxing taxes

New series continues with look at D181.

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Decision 2024

Learn more about Illinois House candidates.

Page 7

Tee-mendous!

Boys golf triumphs in unusual way, girls come in third.

Page 42

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NEWS

Work on new D181 office to start Oct. 28

By Pamela Lannom

plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 administrators expect to be working out of their new \$4.7 million headquarters at 133 E. Ogden Ave. next summer.

The school board Monday approved a \$3.75 million bid from Construction Inc. of Lombard.

"We had 19 different contractors pick up packets, which is great interest in our project," said Mindy Bradford, assistant superintendent of business and operations.

Thirteen of those companies submitted bids, ranging from Construction Inc.'s low bid to a high of almost \$5.4 million.

Work includes complete dem-

olition and reconstruction of the lower level, first floor and second floor, tuckpointing, asphalt shingle roofing, new exterior windows, aluminum doors and frames, flooring, acoustical ceilings, painting and more. The district had estimated the work to cost \$3.9 million.

The board rejected the four alternate bids for staining the exterior masonry instead of painting, replacing the roof, adding security glazing to windows and roughing in an area for a generator that might be installed at a later date. Officials determined the roof has another 10 years of life, and the other bids came in too high, Bradford said.

Two bids on the project are outstanding — one for site work (repaving, lighting, fencing, landscaping, etc.) and one for modern-

izing the elevator. Both should be before the board in December.

Other costs of the project, such as architect fees and furniture, fixtures and equipment, will bring the total project cost to almost \$4.7 million, she said.

Work is expected to begin Oct. 28 and be substantially completed by June 2, with a move-in date by mid-June. The district now rents 12,000 square feet at 115 W. 55th St. in Clarendon Hills for \$17,000 a month.

Board member Mike Martin said administrators should make sure the attorney is reviewing the contract carefully to ensure the space will be ready before the current lease ends June 30.

Bradford said supply chain issues and other delays that have

affected construction in previous years seem to be resolved.

"We've had really good luck with our full-day kindergarten bids," she said. "We really haven't experienced any of those supply chain issues."

The district could lease the current space month-to-month in a worst-case scenario, she added.

The district bought the Ogden Avenue building for \$3.1 million a year ago after spending seven years searching for a new district office. Officials looked at 21 possible sites to lease and 18 to purchase.

The building is within district boundaries, has adequate parking, needs relatively little remodeling and had the lowest purchase price of other properties officials investigated.

Fall fest family fun

Burlington Park came alive with the sounds, smells and sights of the season Oct. 12. Clare Butler and her children, Robert and Elizabeth, pose for a photo at the pumpkin cut out. Gianna Manzella was more interested in her friend Lincoln Nicklaus' firefighter helmet. The Vlahos family took their turn at The Hinsdalean's photo booth and brought our favorite newspaper for the picture. (Jim Slonoff photos)



ONCE UPON A TIME



From the archives — Two Hinsdale boys proudly display their catch of the day along the banks of Salt Creek, with fishing poles in hand and two large fish. This photograph was taken by Dr. John Hench around 1905. This image comes from many of the glass slide negatives the Hinsdale Historical Society has in its collections.



Happy Birthday!
Brock Bradley
turns 13 Oct. 28

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The Hinsdalean

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Hinsdale, Illinois 60521-4103
(630) 323-4422, fax (630) 323-4220
thehinsdalean.com
Office hours 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
The Hinsdalean is published once a week by Hinsdale Publishing Co. Inc. and delivered to every home in Hinsdale. The Hinsdalean also is sold on newsstands throughout the village and in nearby communities.
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Delivery
The Hinsdalean is available by mail to those living outside of Hinsdale for \$99 for six months or \$179 for one year. Email version is \$49 per year. To subscribe or if you have questions about delivery, call Tina Wisniowicz.
Corrections
The Hinsdalean staff strives to provide an error-free newspaper each week. If a mistake is published, however, we are happy to correct it. Call or email Pamela Lannom to report errors requiring correction or clarification.

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

Obituaries
Obituaries are published free each week in The Hinsdalean. Information may be mailed, faxed or emailed to news@thehinsdalean.com. Obituaries may be edited for style and space.
Photo reprint policy
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What do your property taxes pay for?

District 181 takes the largest share to support development of the youngest residents

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

Just a cursory survey of a Hinsdale tax bill reveals where the largest chunk of those proceeds go: Community Consolidated Elementary District 181.

Mindy Bradford, assistant superintendent of business and operations, said that's because they are by far the district's single largest source of funding.

"If I look at our overall revenue stream, about 95 percent comes from local revenue sources. Of that, 90 percent is from property taxes," Bradford said. "It's vitally important."

The district is projected to take in \$77.7 million in property tax revenue this budget year. Bradford said the single largest deployment of those monies are for paying salaries and benefits for the district's employees.

"Seventy-nine percent of our operating expenditures are spent on salaries and benefits," she reported, noting that includes both teaching and support staff.

Crafting fiscally responsible contracts with the district's two employee unions, Bradford asserted, helps keep that figure from growing too large.

"In the last round of teachers unions negotiations, one of the agreements

reached was for the out years of that contract to be tied to the (consumer price index)," she related, noting the CPI is used to calculate the annual property tax levy. "That's such a significant provision to have those two linked together for us from a planning perspective."

In addition, the district pays roughly \$3 million annually for transportation, a number that has increased post-Covid as bus companies raised their costs.

"That's about 4 percent of our budget," she said, adding that the district does get some state reimbursement.

Capital projects comprise another \$2.4 million each year.

"We want to make sure that we are keeping up those property investments over time," Bradford remarked.

The district also tries to schedule bids on summer projects and other work early to get favorable pricing before contractors' schedules have filled up.

"And are there project we can manage in house (without hiring an architect)? No stone goes unturned looking for ways to either find some additional revenue or minimize cost where possible," she said.

Debt associated with two current major undertakings — implementing

full-day kindergarten across the district and building out a district administration center — is able to be serviced with operating dollars and not a tax-raising referendum, she said. Having that financial wherewithal is a credit to the stewardship of the district's board and finance committee.

"They are extremely fiscally responsible," she said. "This school board has a long-term fund balance strategy that guides our decisions. It really permeates throughout the entire organization."

Technology replacement costs a little more than \$1 million a year, and curriculum procurement is typically just under \$1 million.

"We want to invest and make sure that everyone's got the best curriculum that's fully vetted and tested," she said.

Close tabs are kept on internal spending.

"We're having meetings with all our department heads and principals looking at where they are with their budgets through the first quarter," Bradford said, pointing out that such concerted oversight is not typical based on experience at other school districts.

Staff also is keen to identify potential alternative revenue sources for

TAXING TAXES

This is another story in a series examining the taxing districts on Hinsdale property tax bills.

qualifying items.

"We're always looking for other opportunities for funding, like grants," she said, citing a recent maintenance project grant that will cover half of a \$100,000 outlay. "Every little bit helps."

Bradford touted the national awards the district regularly receives for budgeting and financial reporting excellence.

"We continue to get better and better every year," she said.

Bradford unpacked the district's fund balance policy, which confines the operating fund balance to 30 percent to 50 percent of annual expenditures. That has resulted in taxpayers getting back \$2 million a year in the form of tax abatement when that 50 percent threshold is crossed.

"It's the only district I've been in that has that kind of abatement policy," she said. "The board really has a relentless focus on being good stewards of taxpayer money. This district has a real commitment to that process."

■ District 181

■ Tax rate: \$2.55

■ Tax bill %: 48

Total annual budget:
\$39.5 million

No. employees: 556

Debt: \$5.2 million

Governed by: seven elected board members (all unpaid)

Chief executive:
Superintendent Hector Garcia (earns \$273,763)

Land Value	73,340
+ Building Value	100,210
= Assessed Value	173,550
x State Multiplier	1.0000
= Equalized Value	173,550
- Residential Exemption	8,000
- Senior Freeze	
- Disabled Veteran	
- Disability Exemption	
- Returning Veteran	
- Housing Abatement	165,550
x Tax Rate	5.3701
= Total Tax Due	8,891.34
- Less Advance Payment	
- Commercial Abatement	
+ PACE Reimbursement	
= Net Due	8,891.34

NEXT WEEK

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24
Hinsdale South High School
7401 Clarendon Hills Road, Darien

www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings

On the agenda: RFQ for board attorney, five-year financial forecast, 2025-26 program of studies, tax levy estimate resolution

MEETING ROUNDUP

Community Consolidated Elementary District 181

Among other business Monday, board members:

- selected BWP & Associates to conduct the search for a new superintendent after Hector Garcia retires at the end of the 2025-26 school year. The board heard presentations from three firms two weeks ago and selected BWP in large part because of its familiarity with the district. A contract, including the cost of the search, has yet to be finalized.

- reviewed the preliminary tax levy memo, which estimates the December levy, or annual request for property tax revenue, will be \$79.6 million, up \$3.2 million from last year. Board members will adopt a tentative levy resolution in November and then hold a public hearing on and adopt the final levy in December.

- voted unanimously to approve \$2.4 million in capital projects to be completed in the summer of 2025. Work will include a new playground at Oak School, floor replacement at Elm and Walker schools, door hardware and window upgrades at Madison School and 12 other projects.

Board member Margie Kleber praised facilities director Mike Duggan for his work on the master facilities plan.

"I'm really pleased at how well it's been implemented and rolled out," she said. "It helps to keep our facilities in good shape and keep our finances even, so I appreciate all of your efforts."

- listened as Hinsdale resident Joe Craig discussed his concerns about Hinsdale Middle School students riding e-bikes through the downtown. He asked district officials to prohibit the use and parking of e-bikes on school property as a complement to the village's new ordinance, which prohibits bikes and scooters with a power output of greater than 750 watts in the village and does not allow e-bikes on the sidewalk in the central business district, among other things.

Craig said he's seen a couple of bikes that were over 750 watts.

"Thirty miles per hour on the sidewalk is not a safe situation," he said.

Hart announces run for village president

Greg Hart, a former DuPage County Board member and longtime Hinsdale resident, will seek election for village president in the April 1 election.

"After much consideration and encouragement from the community, I am formally announcing my candidacy for president of the village of Hinsdale," he stated in a press release. "My primary mission as your village president will be to improve public safety, champion our local businesses and expand shopping and dining options in the central business district, improve our infrastructure (including

bringing ComEd to the negotiating table to finally bury our power lines) and expand intergovernmental cooperation with our federal, state and county representatives and surrounding municipalities."

Hart said he wants to bring a fresh perspective to village government that looks to the future while maintaining the village's character.

"I look forward to earning your support and working with all residents to move Hinsdale forward," he said.

Candidates have until Monday, Nov. 18, to file their petitions to be on the April 1 ballot.

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ILLUSIONS


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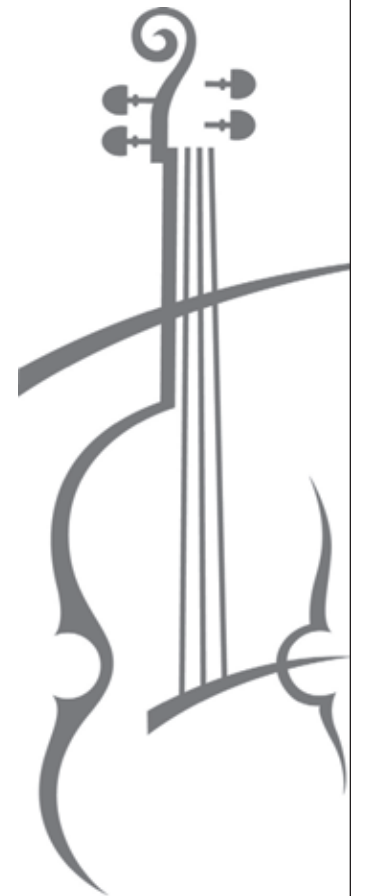
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Two Illinois House races are contested

Illinois House 45th District



Who is Marti Deuter?

A Democrat, Deuter has served on the Elmhurst City Council for 11 years and has been in a council leadership position since 2015. She is associate director of program partnerships at Bridge Communities, a nonprofit that supports

families experiencing homelessness. She previously worked for the city of Chicago on housing policy for eight years. She has a masters' degree in social service administration from the University of Chicago and a bachelor's in social work from Ohio University.

Why is she running?

As a policymaker with extensive local government experience and a passion for public service, she wants to use her diverse skill set to serve the people of the district. She plans to gather input from as many stakeholders as possible and bring people together to help create meaningful change and improve constituents' lives.

Most important issue

Addressing the high cost of living — for taxes, health care, child care, housing, higher education

Steps to address it

State needs to expand economic opportunities and grow its economy to ease the burden on residents. Illinois has opportunities for growth in many fields and access to well-funded public schools and training programs will help individuals.

Other top priorities

- access to reproductive health care and protecting women's right to choose
- gun violence prevention, including recent legislation to ban military-style assault rifles, magazines and rapid-fire modifications and new laws for safe gun storage



Who is Dennis Reboletti?

The Republican is a practicing attorney at his own firm. He is the Addison Township supervisor, a former state representative, former township trustee and former Elmhurst alderman. He also is president

of the Addison Township 501(C)(3). He has a bachelor's in political science from Eastern Illinois University and a JD from Valparaiso University.

Why is he running?

To provide the hope of prosperity and promise of opportunity for his children and grandchildren that he did growing up. His experience as an attorney, small business owner and elected official will allow him to hit the ground running and immediately change lives of constituents for the better. He promises to be an independent and mainstream voice and offer real representation, not another rubber stamp.

Most important issue

The high cost of living and the economy

Steps to address it

Make the state live within its means with zero-based budgeting. Stop wasteful spending and prioritize investments in education, public safety and infrastructure. Cut red tape for job creators so businesses thrive and stay in the state. Oppose the progressive income tax.

Other top priorities

- have government work for residents
- make college more affordable
- restore the Local Government Distributive Fund
- eliminate unfunded mandates

Illinois House 82nd District



Who is Suzanne Akhras?

The Democrat is the founder and co-executive director of the nonprofit Syrian Community Network. She is board chair for the Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants and serves on the Council of Leaders of DuPage

Federation on Human Services Reform. She has established a food pantry and neighborhood watch program in her community. She has a master's degree in organizational leadership from Lewis University and completed the nonprofit management and executive education program at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management.

Why is she running?

As a district resident for almost 20 years, she wants to give back and focus on her experience of bringing people together to develop solutions to make the world a better place. Her next step is to move from advocacy to policy, using her experience and abilities to build coalitions, access funding, manage budgets and find solutions to complicated issues.

Most important issue

The Illinois transit fiscal cliff and Tier 2 pensions

Steps to address it

Fair governance and transparency on part of state and federal government will be needed to find a solution to the transit fiscal cliff, which is a complex financial issue. A better solution needs to be found to Tier 2 pensions, which require more years of work and have fewer benefits than Tier 1.

Other top priorities

- improving the state's economic status
- ensuring women's access to reproductive health care
- securing and expanding mental health resources
- advocating for community safety initiatives
- reducing gun violence



Who is Nicole La Ha?

The Republican has been serving as a state representative since December 2023. She is a former Homer Glen village trustee and former press secretary for then-Senate Minority Leader Dan McConchie. As Mrs. America in 2022,

she worked closely with Victoria's Voice Foundation to raise drug addiction awareness, prevention and education nationwide and advocate for inclusive and accessible communities. In 2021 she co-founded the village of Homer Glen's Ability Awareness Committee. She attended Eastern Illinois University, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and UIC College of Dentistry/Kennedy King College.

Why is she running?

As the mom of a daughter with cerebral palsy who wants to change public policy to ensure every child can thrive, she believes a mom's voice is important in Springfield. She understands the power of honest leadership, relentless advocacy and bipartisan cooperation.

Most important issue

Rising prices that are cutting into families' incomes, driving opportunities out of the state and making the American dream harder to realize

Steps to address it

Eliminate the grocery tax, remove regulations that hinder business growth and expand economic opportunities to increase supply of services and goods and bring down costs. She also supports lower property taxes so families can afford to stay in their home or buy a first home.

Other top priorities

- lowering taxes to encourage work and investment
- eliminating government overreach and unnecessary mandates
- fighting human trafficking
- improving public safety
- creating jobs

Complete election coverage is posted online at thehinsdalean.com



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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports Oct. 23.

Motorist arrested on warrant

James W. Buchholz, 71, 1689 Elm St., Des Plaines, was arrested on a warrant out of Calhoun County at 10:10 a.m. Oct. 17 at 55th and Grant streets after his vehicle became disabled. He posted bond and was released to appear in court.

Park bathroom vandalized

Graffiti was discovered Oct. 21 spray painted on the bathroom wall at Robbins Park, 303 W. Seventh St.

Identity theft incidents

- A credit card account was opened and fraudulent charges made between Aug. 1 and Sept. 23, 2023, using the identity of a resident of the 800 block of South Bodin Street. The incident was reported Oct. 18.
- Someone filed a fraudulent tax return between May 1 and Oct. 18 using the identity of a resident of the 200 block of East Fourth Street.

Credit cards stolen

Credit cards were stolen from the 500 block of North Grant Street and used to make fraudulent purchases on Oct. 16.

Email fraud reported

A resident of the 400 block of North County Line Road received a fraudulent email from an unknown suspect on Oct. 7. The incident was reported Oct. 17.

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

Hinsdale police cracking down on impaired driving

Hinsdale police are urging motorists to commit to sober driving, buckling up and following traffic laws this Halloween, as children and families walk through neighborhoods after dark for candy and spooky fun. Remember: "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket." "Alcohol and cannabis impair your ability to drive safely," Deputy Chief Thomas Lillie said. "That's why it's crucial to plan how you'll get home before you head out - whether you'll be drinking or using any other substance. And don't forget to wear your seat belt every trip, every time. Planning ahead, driving sober and buckling up can help keep you and others safe."

Police encourage everyone to follow these simple tips:

- Plan a safe way to get home before attending any

party. Designate a sober driver, take public transportation, use a ride-sharing service, or call a sober friend or family member for a ride.

- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as driving. Have a sober friend walk you home if needed.
- Always wear your seat belt — it's your best defense against impaired drivers and accidents.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact local law enforcement as soon as it's safe to do so.
- If you see someone who is impaired and about to drive, take their keys and help them find a safe way home.

This campaign is funded by federal highway safety dollars administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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November 11th, 2024
11:45am - 1:15 pm

About Our Event

Join us for a thank you tribute to our Veteran's! Celebrate those who served, share stories of loved ones, enjoy a buffet lunch by Altamura in Hinsdale, desserts, coffee, tea and a special performance by the Jolly Boys & Cantate!

Event Highlights

Altamura Buffet Lunch
Please let us know if you have any allergies or dietary restrictions when you register.

Jolly Boys & Canate Performance
Relax and be entertained by a Veterans Day tribute performance put on by both the Jolly Boys and Canate acapella groups!

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Non-Members: \$12

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■ “It reminded me of Hawkins’ lab in ‘Stranger Things,’ it was intriguing to be surrounded by such cutting-edge technology.”
— Kaan Turkyilmaz

Internship with U of C doc keeps Central teen busy

Summer break can be a time to relax, to travel or even to catch up on things that didn’t get done the semester before. Or, it can be a time to immerse yourself in something completely new. In summer 2024, Hinsdale Central High School senior Kaan Turkyilmaz chose the latter.

Inspired by his mother’s stories of the research she performed during her medical residency, Turkyilmaz set out to find a laboratory in which to spend his summer.

“I basically cold emailed them,” Turkyilmaz said of the doctors to whom he reached out in pursuit of a summer research internship. His efforts paid off when he was invited to join Dr. Chris Weber for a three-month research internship at the University of Chicago.

Much of Turkyilmaz’s time was spent working with a huge microscope housed four levels below ground. The size of a classroom, the gigantic machine provides researchers with extremely close views of cell cultures, allowing them to spot specific proteins and to diagnose specific diseases, including certain types of cancer, Turkyilmaz said.

“It reminded me of

Hawkins’ lab in ‘Stranger Things,’” he said. “It was intriguing to be surrounded by such cutting-edge technology.”

Turkyilmaz said his job entailed using AI to analyze and compare lab results from different patients.

“For doctors and researchers it’s really valuable as a tool,” said Turkyilmaz, who witnessed firsthand how the technology can be used to track commonalities between cases. Turkyilmaz said his Hinsdale Central education, and particularly his study of cell membranes in AP Biology, was vital to his.

Turkyilmaz worked from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday, but his days began long before arriving at the laboratory. His commute was a multi-legged journey of 1.5 hours or more. Turkyilmaz said that among the knowledge he gained during his internship was that he does not want a job that requires a lengthy commute.

“It made me realize that I want to live in an urban environment,” he said.

What he will do while living in that environment remains to be decided.

“I’m not sure yet if I want to be a doctor,” said Turkyilmaz,



KAAN TURKYILMAZ

EDITOR IN CHIEF, DEVIL’S ADVOCATE STUDENT NEWSPAPER • SPEAKS TURKISH AND SPANISH • LIFELONG HINSDALEAN • SON OF TURKISH IMMIGRANTS • HCHS SPEECH TEAM MEMBER • ENJOYS TAKING PHOTOS IN FULLERSBURG WOODS

who along with biology and medicine has a keen interest in psychology and philosophy. He hasn’t ruled out bioethics as a future focus.

And while it’s unlikely to become a career, Turkyilmaz recently took up nature photography as a new hobby. It’s just the latest in a long list of activities that includes playing classical piano and volunteering at the Hinsdale Historical

Society, where he worked on last summer’s “Hinsdale in Lights” exhibit at Immanuel Hall.

Like many high school seniors, much of Turkyilmaz’s current focus is on college applications. Along with getting into a top school, his goals for senior year include a return to the state speech competition, where he hopes to again compete in impromptu and

extemporaneous speaking. While making it to state last year was a huge accomplishment, Turkyilmaz said he’s gained more from the activity than trophies and titles.

“It gave me the confidence to reach out to people,” he said, including the doctor with whom he secured last summer’s internship.

— story by Sandy Illian Bosch, photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Superintendent's first 90 days: So far, so good

A little more than 90 days ago, Mike Lach officially took the helm as superintendent of Hinsdale High School District 86.

His arrival was a long time coming. After former Superintendent Tammy Prentiss was put on paid administrative leave in 2023, the district was left without a full-time leader. Other members of the administrative team did their best until interim superintendents could be found. None of these situations was ideal.

When Lach was first hired and in his early appearances as superintendent, he said the right things. More importantly — based on what we've seen over the past three months — he's following through.

One of the most noticeable changes is that the superintendent's report at the board meetings is an actual report. At the end of her active duty, Prentiss hardly spoke at board meetings. The interim superintendents discussed only the most

mundane topics. Lach — in addition to sharing good news — also talks about actual issues.

At the last two meetings, he's addressed, among other topics, instruction, repairs to the Hinsdale Central pool, social media threats and his desire for all district stakeholders to work as a team.

"People are working hard to do the right thing," he said at the meeting. "They're good at what they do. We're going to keep getting better."

He most likely will offer a similarly substantial report at tonight's meeting. We believe the leadership and voice of the superintendent are an important part of board meetings, and we're pleased to see Lach does, too.

Is everything perfect in District 86? Of course not. Staunch critics regularly attend meetings to decry board governance, curriculum decisions, legal fees, course offerings, Freedom of Information Act practices and more. We're not

suggesting that these topics are not important or that the board doesn't make mistakes.

But sometimes, listening to public comment, you can get the impression that this is a district plagued with problems, instead of a high-performing district whose achievements are constantly being recognized in multiple ways.

While 90 days is the standard point at which most new employees are evaluated, it seems like an insufficient time to really determine the potential — and the shortcomings — of a new hire. Even with Lach's experience as an assistant superintendent, his handling of the complicated role he now inhabits might require a full year to evaluate as Lach himself discerns opportunities for growth. That means it might be the 2025-26 school year before we really see what he's capable of.

We're looking forward to watching him — and the district — get better and better.

COMMENTARY

When did we forget how to agree to disagree?

"The social scientists have concluded that the country is more polarized than at any time since the Civil War."

Sounds like a pretty good description of the world today, right? But it's actually a quote from the first episode of "The Newsroom," which aired in 2012.

I hear lots of folks talk about how much worse things have gotten recently, and they possibly have, but this episode reminded me this is not a new phenomenon. And it makes me wonder what to do about it.

Braver Angels might have the answer. I first heard of the non-profit on Ten Percent Happier (now Happier) — my favorite source of information and insights — and I was immediately impressed with the group's mission.

Braver Angels is made up of a group of volunteers who work to bring Red and Blue citizens together to find "a hopeful alternative to toxic politics," the group's website reads.

"As we separate into groups that increasingly do not even know, or interact with, people of differing opinions, we lose trust in our insti-

tutions, eroding the ability to govern ourselves and lowering the caliber of citizenship," it goes on to state. "This growing trend coarsens public debate, produces policy gridlock, shrinks our capacity for goodwill and harms our family and personal relationships. Effective self-government depends precisely on what this type of polarization destroys."

The group operates according to a list of principles that includes stating views freely and fully, treating those who disagree with honesty and respect, avoiding exaggeration and stereotypes and believing that disagreements can lead to sharing and learning on both sides.

Most of us can point to reasons things have become so divisive in this country — at least those of us who aren't stuck in a "The other side are idiots!" mindset. Perhaps the primary factor is social media, where people can say whatever they want to say without having to look another person in the eye. I used to think people would say



Pamela Lannom

things on social media that they wouldn't say face-to-face. How things have changed.

Social media algorithms also allow us to keep believing what we believe by feeding us information we like and with which we agree. Because of this confirmation bias, our opinions are rarely challenged, which means we don't

have to think about why we hold them.

I've hoped that one day this country would have a leader or a group of leaders who would set the example for us, reinstating the practice of productive disagreement and the value of compromise. I've been waiting for that for quite some time and in all honesty have lost hope.

I think Braver Angels has it right. Citizens need to set the example for respectful discourse and cooperation, and then demand that same type of behavior from those we elect to office. But we don't need to get involved with Braver Angels (visit www.braverangels.org if you want to) in order to start

this process. As individuals we can follow the group's principles, taking advantage of opportunities to talk to those with different political views.

Instead of trying to convince them why they are wrong, we can try to learn why they think what they think. If we're lucky, maybe they'll be interested in learning more about why we support our own positions as well.

Some would like to just wait it out, hoping that after Nov. 5, the rhetoric will calm down. I doubt that will happen. And I firmly believe that if we're not careful, this divisiveness will become even more pronounced in local elections for village and school boards in the spring.

And the danger, unfortunately, isn't limited to politics. If we can't learn how to hold different opinions and still be civil with one another, soon we won't be able to talk about literature or music or art or any other topic.

How does that look? Watch the film "Idiocracy" to find out.

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

■ Perhaps the primary factor is social media, where people can say whatever they want to say without having to look another person in the eye.

OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY

Embrace the college applications journey

As fall arrives, high school seniors face the daunting task of college applications. Terms like “early action” and “early decision” can feel overwhelming, making this process seem like a pivotal life moment.

But take a deep breath — you’re not alone.

Just a few years ago, I was in your shoes, juggling ACT/SAT prep, personal statements and schoolwork. It’s exhausting, but trust me, it’s worth it.

Here are a few things to remember.

• Every journey is unique

Everyone’s college admissions journey is different. Some are focused on a “dream school” — with the perfect campus, exciting programs or an ideal location. But remember, your journey won’t look like anyone else’s, and that’s OK.

• Get organized early

Managing the college application process is all about staying organized. Gather all essential documents — transcripts, recommendations, essays and test scores — into clearly labeled folders. Use a calendar or spreadsheet to track deadlines and requirements for each school. Version your documents as you revise, and keep a catalog of your high school activities to help fill out applications. By staying organized, you’ll avoid last-minute stress and present a polished application.

• Make campus visits (if you can)

If possible, visit the campuses you’re interested in. Seeing a campus in person and talking to current students can greatly impact your decision. For those of us who didn’t have that luxury during the COVID years, campus visits can make all the difference when available.



Bhavana Dronamraju

• Focus on the essay

Your essay is a big piece of the puzzle, so take your time. Read the prompts carefully, choose one you can engage with fully and don’t rush. Get feedback from multiple people — fresh perspectives are invaluable, especially after you’ve been staring at it for weeks.

• Early action vs. early decision

Understanding early action and early decision is crucial. Early action is non-binding, meaning you can apply to multiple schools. Early decision is binding — if accepted, you must attend. Apply early decision only if you’re 100 percent sure.

• Be selective

Don’t feel pressured to apply to 20 schools. Make a finite list of the schools you’re truly interested in, and focus on presenting the best version of yourself. Quality over quantity.

• Take a deep breath.

The college application process can feel overwhelming, but it’s just the first step in a much larger journey. Embrace the process, trust that you’ll end up where you’re meant to be, and don’t forget to enjoy your final months of high school.

After I committed to Indiana University, I’ve been thriving in ways I couldn’t have imagined. I’ve joined multiple organizations, made amazing friends and connected with so many new people. I’m happier than ever with my decision, and I promise you have so much to look forward to — this is just the beginning of an exciting chapter in your life.

— *Bhavana Dronamraju of Hinsdale, a junior at Indiana University, is a contributing columnist. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support Leacock for county board on Nov. 5

I write to voice my support for fellow Hinsdalean Baron Leacock. Baron is running for DuPage County Board, District 3, in the Tuesday, Nov. 5, election.

Baron lives in Hinsdale with his wife and three seriously adorable kids. You may have seen them out for walks around town.

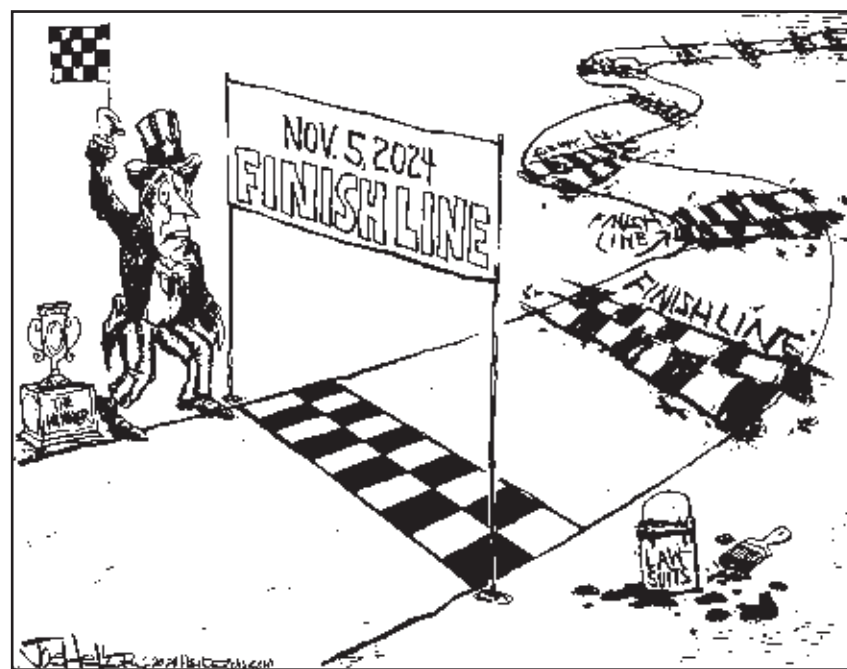
Baron grew up in Darien and, after leaving to attend Harvard University for undergrad and Columbia University for law school, returned to DuPage County to

raise his family and give back to the community.

Baron is committed to ensuring we have safe communities and schools, holding the line on taxes and protecting the vulnerable.

He will watch out for DuPage County, for his family and for all of ours, and I urge you to vote for him.

Expanded early voting started Oct. 21, and you can cast your vote at Hinsdale Village Hall or any other early voting location in DuPage. — **Beth Burt, Hinsdale**



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

ASK AN EXPERT

KELLY LAWRENCE & MEGAN MIKHAIL, SERIES ORGANIZERS

How do you plan the Community Speaker Series?

Several years ago Hinsdale's Megan Mikhail attended a local presentation by Jessica Lahey, author of the bestselling book "The Gift of Failure." It was part of the annual Community Speaker Series, and Mikhail left illuminated.

"It taught me as a parent that it's very good for my children to have what she called 'soft fails' so that they can learn and grow and (I will) not be scared of them failing," Mikhail recalled.

Mikhail and fellow Hinsdale mom Kelly Lawrence now coordinate the three-part series as co-chairs of the planning committee to bring in leading experts to help neighbors trying to decipher the parenting puzzle.

The 2024-25 edition will kick off with Dr. Aliza Pressman discussing the 5 Principles of Parenting at both 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, and 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, at The Community House (see Page 24 for details).

Lawrence said many in town are familiar with Pressman through her

books and media platforms.

"A lot of community members, they know (her) podcast," she said.

The speaker series is the fruit of collaboration, jointly sponsored by Hinsdale High School District 86 and Community Consolidated Elementary District 181, with additional support from the D181 Foundation. The committee, comprised of about 15 members, begins identifying candidate speakers in the spring, Mikhail explained, and solicits ideas from school leaders.

"We meet with both school districts to get a pulse on the issues that are relevant," Lawrence said. "They give us ideas of issues relevant to their students and schools."

Once a list of candidates is compiled, the committee views video clips to, in consultation with the school districts, narrow down and prioritize whom they'd like to invite. A process of pricing and scheduling ensues to ultimately lock in speakers for fall, winter and spring programs. Dr. Michele Borba will talk about Empathy & the Unselfie Revolution in February, while Harlan Cohen in April will present The Naked Truth about Turning Every Rejection into Your Ultimate Success.

Mikhail said the committee

endeavored to build on the energy generated by Jeff Selingo's well-received presentation on college admissions last spring.

"We are really hopeful that all three of the choices for this season will just continue to grow the interest and attendance," Mikhail said.

Good friends, Lawrence and Mikhail said partnering in the effort has been rewarding.

"We enjoy doing it together," Lawrence said.

"We keep each other organized," Mikhail added. "We kind of divide the responsibilities sometimes, and at other times work together."

Lawrence said there's a spirit of fellowship that organically happens at the talks.

"It's really a great opportunity to meet in person," she said.

That's the idea, Mikhail said.

"One of our goals this year is to foster this sense of community among the parents, providing a place to meet and discuss similar parenting challenges," she related.

"We are so fortunate to be funded by the school districts so that we are able to provide this resource to the community and get these big names here," Lawrence said.

— by Ken Knutson



Hinsdale residents Megan Mikhail and Kelly Lawrence are co-chairs of the Community Speaker Series committee, which arranges for leading experts on parenting and student issues — like Dr. Aliza Pressman next week — to share their wisdom with local families throughout the school year. (Jim Slonoff photo)

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GOOD NEWS

ILMEA HONORS STUDENT MUSICIANS

Several students from Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale middle schools were recognized by the Illinois Music Education Association and will be part of the association's ensembles this year.

CHMS

Concert Band
James Koziel, bassoon
Evan Woods, trumpet
Jazz Band
Smith Barnum, trumpet
Sachin Bhattacharyya, alto sax
Ayden Chaudhry, trombone
Radha Kaushal-Goel, guitar
James Koziel, piano
Tyler Shuster, trombone
Josh Tenjiku, piano
Evan Woods, trumpet
Chorus
Joshua Castro, baritone
Isabella Chiedragchaa, alto
Veronica Gartner, soprano
Grace Hanna, alto
Carina Shah, alto
Mila Yaremych, soprano
Orchestra
Naomi Feng, cello
Audrey Ho, violin

Alex Liao, violin
Nayan Rao, viola
Henry Xu, violin
Sophie Xu, cello

HMS

Concert Band
Tommy Fenton, bassoon
Samuel Han, trumpet
Sara Held, trombone
Zachary Kozlowski, trombone
Albert Li, clarinet
Thora Stipanuk, horn
Danny Wang, clarinet
Orchestra
William Chai, violin
Annabelle Lan, violin
Hunter Olguin, violin
Alice Yan, violin
Amy Yan, violin
Two students from CHMS — Koziel and Woods — made both the concert band and the jazz band for the first time in school history. HMS had the most students from their band program ever selected for this festival.
Band, choir and orchestra students will rehearse and perform a concert at the ILMEA Junior Festival Saturday, Nov. 23, at Unity Junior High School in Cicero.

Jazz Band students will perform at the ILMEA Jazz Festival Saturday, Nov. 16, at Hinsdale Central High School. "We are so proud to have so many hard-working musicians represent CCSD 181 at the state level," said Eric Morong, CHMS band teacher.

HOUSE HONORS LITTLE LEAGUERS

State Rep. Nicole La Ha (R-82, Lemont) has filed House Resolution 0909, celebrating the achievements of the Hinsdale Little League 12U baseball team.

The resolution acknowledges the team's extraordinary season and congratulates the young athletes, coaches and their families for their commitment to excellence.

"This group of talented young athletes has brought pride to Hinsdale and inspired their peers," La Ha said. "They've shown what is possible through determination and teamwork. Their achievements this season are a true testament to the strength of

character and commitment these players have shown both on and off the field."

The Hinsdale Little League team became Illinois District 11 Champions (ages 10-12) July 24. The team earned its first trip to the 2024 Little League World Series with a victory in the five-team Great Lakes Tournament Aug. 7.

Though the team did not reach the championship, players, coaches and the Hinsdale community have much to be proud of after this season and their first World Series trip.

FOOTBALL PROGRAM COLLECTS BIKES

The Hinsdale Central High School Football Program charity bike drive Oct. 12 collected 63 bikes to donate to Building Brighter Futures, a nonprofit in Chicago that serves underprivileged youths.

Drive volunteers plan to help present the bikes to kids in December as holiday gifts. *Photos appear online at www.facebook.com/thehinsdalean.*

STUDENTS EARN DEGREE, HONORS

• Haley Arnold of Hinsdale earned a bachelor's degree in nursing Aug. 17 from Mercy College of Health Sciences.

• William Bush of Hinsdale was named to the spring 2024 dean's list and earned gold star recognition at The Citadel.

• Adam Small of Hinsdale was named to the summer 2024 president's list at Southern New Hampshire University.

CONCERT INCLUDES LOCAL STUDENT

Hinsdale Mack Ashbaugh will be among more than 600 student musicians and vocalists to perform in the annual "Christmas at Belmont Live from Nashville."

This annual concert will be livestreamed for the first time. Beginning Wednesday, Dec. 11, this popular holiday spectacular will stream to a global audience on Prime Video and the Amazon Music channel on Twitch.

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OBITUARIES

Erik T. Carlson

Erik T. Carlson, formerly of Hinsdale, passed away Oct. 19, 2024.

Erik, 48, was born in 1976 and graduated from Hinsdale Central High School in 1994.

He was a multi-talented but shy man whose professional roles included Comcast producer/editor, DJ at Chicago clubs and Google product lead. His production team held a screening of their short comedy at Chicago's Music Box Theater.

He was a fan of all genres of film and video, especially artistic films and animation. His love of all things creative included an extensive collection of current and vintage videos, graphic novels



Carlson

and comic books.

Erik was a big man with an even bigger heart that loved animals. He volunteered at an animal shelter, walked dogs, adopted two strays, Link and Bear, and co-fostered rescued kittens with his sister, Lisa. His sudden passing leaves a big hole in all in his family members' hearts, which will take a long time to heal.

Erik is survived by his mother, Marta Carlson of Hinsdale; his sister, Lisa Carlson; and his father, Ken Carlson.

A celebration of Erik's life will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27, at Drake and Son Funeral Home, 5303 N. Western Ave., Chicago.

Gerry Fink

Gerry Fink, 78, a longtime Hinsdale resident, died Oct. 15, 2024, in Fredericksburg, Va., where he had moved following retirement to be closer to his family on the East Coast.

He was born in Chicago and was a graduate of Morton West High School and The University of Illinois in Champagne-Urbana, where he met his best friend and future wife of 54 years, Kathy, nee Cox.

Gerry and Kathy resided for 39 years in Hinsdale, where he served as village treasurer and president of the Hinsdale Library Board. He was a CPA based in Chicago, spending 33 years with Arthur Andersen and five years with Deloitte.

All of his family and friends will remember his



Fink

pro prowess at trivia, his famous Christmas eggnog, his love of sports, his dry wit and Midwestern sarcasm but most of all his giving, kind-hearted soul.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy; his children, Jonathan and Danielle; his granddaughter, Kendra; and his brother, Kenneth.

A celebration of Gerry's life will be held at a future date. Interment will be private at Woodlawn Cemetery in Forest Park.

Memorials may be made online to Chicago White Sox Charities at www.mlb.com/whitesox/charities.

Adolf & Powell Funeral Homes in Willowbrook handled the arrangements.

Philomena Falzone Messina

Philomena Falzone Messina, 94, died peacefully Oct. 21, 2024.

Philomena was born in Chicago in 1930 to Giovanni Falzone and Josephine Ippolito Falzone. She married Emilio Messina in 1950.

She is survived by her husband, Emilio Messina; her four children, Antoinette LaPonte, Josephine Crnjak, Frank (Tina) Messina of Hinsdale and Tina (Rick) Welch; her grandchildren, Alycia (Jonathon) LaPonte Frosolone, Emilia and Stephen Crnjak, Maxum (Constance), Mitchel (Kiya) and Maley



Messina

Messina and Bridget and Erica Welch; her sister, Mary Natalie; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation is at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, at Sullivan Funeral Home, 60 S. Grant St., Hinsdale.

A funeral service will follow at 12:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Entombment is at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

Memorials may be made online to the Dementia Society at www.dementiasociety.org.

Robert Rea

Robert Rea, 81, passed away Oct. 19, 2024.

Rea grew up on the south side of Chicago in the St. John Fisher neighborhood, where he formed lifelong friendships.

At the age of 60, he suffered his first set of strokes. Despite the challenges, he fought back time and time again with remarkable strength and determination. Through it all, he always had a smile on his face and never complained, showing the same kindness and positivity that endeared him to so many.

There wasn't anyone who met Rea that didn't like him. His kindness, humor and warmth touched everyone he encountered. He was a parent, grandparent, brother, uncle, cousin and a friend to so many, leaving a lasting impact on all who knew him. His children always said they hit the jackpot when it came to parents, and Rea was truly one of a kind.

His spent many years working in sales, where his dedication and integrity were evident in everything he did. Later, alongside his wife, he proudly



Rea

took over ownership of Gilhooley's Grande Saloon, a beloved neighborhood spot where his welcoming nature made everyone feel at home. While living in Beverly, he also volunteered his time as a Christ the King Football coach, where his mentorship shaped the lives of young athletes.

He is survived by his daughters, Kerry (Mike) Turgeon of Hinsdale and Kelly Yensel; his siblings, Eileen (John) and Jim (Carole); and his six grandchildren, Ryan, Katie, Meghan, Jack, Will and Joseph.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ginny; his brother, Tom; and his parents, Tom and Ruth.

A funeral Mass will be said at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, at St. Isaac Jogues Church, 306 W. Fourth St., Hinsdale.

Inurnment will follow at Bronswood Cemetery in Oak Brook. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to the West Suburban Humane Society at www.wshs-dg.org.

Sullivan Funeral Home in Hinsdale handled the arrangements.



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Boosters benefits all Central students

Football concession stand just one way group raises funds to support clubs, teams

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Upgraded light fixtures in the school auditorium.

A buzzer system for Scholastic Bowl quiz competitions.

A Red Devil mascot costume to boost school spirit.

An underwater speaker for enhanced training for the boys and girls swim and dive teams.

All were paid for by the Hinsdale Central Boosters Club. And those items represent just a fraction of the \$300,000 the club has invested in the school over the past five years.

"My favorite grant to give is a grant where it's a newer club, that doesn't have as many kids, that is trying to get started," said Julie Boruff, treasurer of the Boosters board and a five-year board member. "It's exciting to see a group of kids take the initiative to start a new club and get a sponsor. I love that we can help them do that."

Boruff's children are both in college now. She's not alone as a board member with kids already graduated from Central.

"Really the people that I work with in the Boosters are just people that want to give back," she said. "A lot of them do other things in the community as well. Even though we don't have kids there any more, we want to do something."

One such board member is Sam LoPresti. He was at a football game when a friend asked if he would be willing to help out at the Huddle House concession stand. That was 22 years ago.

"That's how it all started," said LoPresti, dad to five Hinsdale Central graduates, the youngest of which was a member of the Class of 2020.

"I love just giving back to



Working the grill at the Oct. 11 Hinsdale Central football game are Rich Tuck and Ned Hoyt. The volunteers cook up hamburgers and hot dogs each week to sell in the concession stand. Football games generate \$30,000 in concession sales, part of the \$101,000 in annual concession revenue. Working in the Huddle Hut are Beth Bielarz and Mike Jakubek, with Sam LoPresti (from left), Bruce Carlson and Julie Boruff facilitating in the background. (Jim Slonoff photos)



the community and giving back to Hinsdale Central for the education my kids have received," he said. "The school is great. The people are great. I love the tradition of Friday night lights."

He and board member Bruce Carlson have headed up concessions for years. Carlson said he made a commitment to support local schools after he watched his alma mater, Arlington High School, close in 1984.

"I said whatever community I move to, I would do my very best to make sure we had the best educational product possible,"

he said, noting that concessions is a significant fundraiser for the Boosters.

During the 2023-24 school year, the club raised \$101,364 from concessions. Spirit wear was the other largest source of revenue, bringing in \$105,260. Membership dues totaled \$48,975 and fundraisers generated \$24,324.

Of those funds, the Boosters paid \$23,500 to groups and teams that help work the concession stands. The club gave a total of \$64,637 to 11 sports and 15 activities in grants, plus a special grant of almost \$12,000 for wall murals. Another \$5,000 was

presented to 20 students in the form of Red Devil Excellence Awards.

Teams and clubs are invited to apply for grants in the fall and spring. A Boosters committee meets with the activities and athletic directors to review submissions, and 90 percent are approved, Boruff estimated.

"We're so happy to get applicants," she said. "We want groups to know that we're there to support them."

Boruff stressed that the Boosters do not only support athletic teams, which also have their own parent Booster groups.

"That's one of our goals as an organization, is to try to really communicate to parents what the Boosters do," Boruff said. "It gets a little confusing. Some people don't understand that there are these individual Boosters and we are the big Boosters. We cover everybody."

The club was first created in 1949 to support Hinsdale Township High School's football program, she noted.

"It evolved into covering everything many years ago," she said.

Because the Boosters

Please turn to Page 16

Boosters benefits all Central students

Continued from Page 15

are so active, they always need volunteers — especially people willing to serve on the board.

“We need bodies,” Boosters President Rob Tonn said. “We need people to step up and volunteer. We are only as successful as the people who volunteer their time, and we are a working board. As people age out and rotate off, we need new people with energy to get involved.

Boruff agreed.

“We are a very small board that does a lot of work,” she said. “We actually have a lot of open positions right now. Our VP position has been open for two years. Ever since COVID, it just feels like we’re struggling to get people involved.”

Potential board members should contact Tonn or Boruff using the link on the club’s website at www.theboosters.com. A form for

event volunteers is also on the site.

Families also can support the Boosters by purchasing memberships, which range from basic at \$75 to director at \$300. Membership has hovered at just under 400 for several years.

“We would love to break 400,” she said.

Volunteering also has its own rewards.

“Becoming a member of the Boosters or being involved in this would open a lot of doors for people for friendships and relationships and business opportunities that otherwise they normally would not have,” Carlson said.

And it’s enjoyable, LoPresti said

“It’s a Friday night out, you’re having fun with your friends, your neighbors,” he said. “I love volunteering.

We’re doing it for the kids. It’s all for kids in the school.”



Charity Richardson (from left), Jody Collins and Amia Ahmed sell spirit wear at the game. Between four football games, 24 school sales and online sales, the Boosters generate more than \$105,000 from spirit wear. (Jim Slonoff photo)

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Celebrating great American stories

If you're feeling a stressed or fatigued by our upcoming election — maybe, like me, you have candidates texting you round the clock — it's almost over! Whatever your politics may be, the Hinsdale Public Library offers a variety of ways we can all celebrate our country's storied past.

Two events this November offer the perfect opportunity to do just that. Local author (and library trustee) Richard Munson will be at the library on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. to celebrate the launch of his latest book, "Ingenious: A Biography of Benjamin Franklin, Scientist." Hear from Munson and reflect with us on the scientific brilliance of this great American.

Then, on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m., the library will host a former president: Abraham Lincoln! Noted portrayer Kevin Wood will be in the house reciting and discussing the Gettysburg Address on the anniversary of the famous speech.

If you can't make these events, our librarians have put together a list of great, recent books about these figures and others who've made significant contributions to our nation.

- "Ingenious: A Biography of

Benjamin Franklin, Scientist" by Richard Munson

We often think of Ben Franklin as a statesman and political figure. Munson examines his life and accomplishments through the lens of his scientific genius. The book, available Nov. 12, was named a Fall 2024 Top Ten pick by Publisher's Weekly and a LibraryReads Notable Nonfiction Pick — and was written by a Hinsdale resident!

- "And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle" by Jon Meacham

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Meacham examines Lincoln's moral evolution on the issue of slavery and why that evolution matters in today's political and cultural landscape.

- "Alexander Hamilton" by Ron Chernow

"Hamilton" the musical may be so 2016, but the book that inspired it never goes out of style! Give your brain (and your wrists — it's a long book!) a workout with this gripping biography of one of our most intense



John Kokoris
Check this out

founding fathers.

- "Ida: A Sword Among Lions" by Paula Giddings

Chicago's own Ida B. Wells lived a life unlike any other, and she changed the world. This biography documents her birth into slavery, her career as a journalist and as a pioneer for civil rights and suffrage, and her fight against the scourge of lynching.

- "The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt" by Edward F. O'Keefe

Behind every great man is a great woman. In Teddy Roosevelt's case, there were five: his mother, his sisters who helped shape his policies, his first wife who steered him to politics and his second wife who secured his legacy.

- "Not Your China Doll: The Wild and Shimmering Life of Anna May Wong" by Katie Gee Salisbury

Salisbury chronicles the life and times of the first Chinese American film star, Anna May Wong. Stymied by racism in Hollywood, she found success in Europe. Eventually she returned to work in the U.S., becoming the first Asian American to

lead a TV show.

Younger readers cannot get enough of the "Who Was?" nonfiction biography series. Standing out with their bobblehead-like, cartoonish covers, these books capture the impact and relevance of each person featured

With eye-catching illustrations, diagrams, maps and factual storytelling, the "Who Was?" books are an ideal choice for elementary aged children, ranging from the curious kind to the reluctant reader. Check out the companion graphic novel "Who HQ" series for even more visual historical education.

Kids ready for a challenge should consider "Chasing Lincoln's Killer" by James L. Swanson to experience true history told like an immersive, heart-pounding adventure. For something relatable and light-hearted, in "Bee Fearless," author Mikaila Ulmer offers entrepreneurial guidance while telling her lemonade business success story, teaching young and old readers alike that they, too, can achieve their wildest dreams.

— John Kokoris is the marketing and outreach manager at the Hinsdale Public Library.



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The Elm
23 W. Harris Ave.
La Grange, Illinois 60525

Sunday
October 27, 2024
11am - 2pm

Tickets & Information



PillarsCommunityHealth.org/Events

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PULSE

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Oil Painting

Sundays, Oct. 27-Dec. 8
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Create an oil painting from start to finish while learning about color mixing, color theory, preparing the ground and composition along with basic tools and materials, storage and clean up. All experience levels are welcome. Some supplies are included; additional ones will be recommended by the instructor. Time: 3 to 5 p.m. Cost: \$216. RR, MD

CENTRAL TIME

Girls Basketball Clinic Fundraiser

Oct. 27
Hinsdale Central gym & fieldhouse
5500 S. Grant St.
https://manage.snap.app/register/hinsdalecentral/dashboard/catalog

Hinsdale Central girls basketball will host a skills clinic for girls in first through sixth grades led by Central head coach Brett Moore, his staff and players. All of the proceeds will go directly to the girls basketball program Time: 2 to 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$25. RR

FOR A CAUSE

Sip, Shop and Think Pink

Oct. 26
J. McLaughlin
53 S. Washington St.
(630) 468-2597

All are invited for sips and fall shopping, with 15 percent of sales benefiting Wellness House and its free programs for individuals facing a cancer diagnosis and their loved ones. Time: noon to 4 p.m.

Italian Heritage Month Fall Celebration

Oct. 27
Altamura Pizza
9 W. First St.
(630) 755-5252

Celebrate Italian Heritage

Please turn to Page 22



Christmas will be here before we know it, and the Hinsdale Dance Academy will help everyone get in the spirit with its program on "The Nutcracker" Nov. 2 at the Hinsdale Public Library. See Page 28 for details. (file photo)



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Craig Zoberis
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PULSE

Continued from Page 20

Month with pizza specials, individual charcuterie boards, wine and drink specials, desserts, wine tasting and entertainment by Daniela Crocco, a member of Jersey Girls at this outdoor event. A raffle will raise funds for Simply From the Heart, a cancer care organization, and a portion of proceeds from the celebration will be donated as well. Call the number listed above by Oct. 25 to make a reservation. Time: 3 to 7 p.m. RR

■ Bags & Bubbles

Oct. 27
The Elm
23 W. Harris Ave., La Grange
www.pillarscommunity-health.org/events

Pillars Community Health invites people to support domestic violence survivors by filling a new handbag, tote or backpack with everyday essential items to assist in their healing journey, then dropping it off and enjoying bubbly beverages and brunchy bites while learning more about

Pillars services. Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. RR

■ Love Like Sean Family Run

Nov. 3
Robbins Park
Seventh & Vine streets
www.raceroster.com/events/2024/94768/love-like-sean-family-run

St. Isaac Jogues Parish is hosting this 5K and kids dash event to benefit the Love Like Sean Foundation & St. Isaac Jogues community outreach programs. Times: 9 a.m. 5K, 10 a.m. kids dash. Cost: \$40 for 5K, \$10 for kids dash, \$100 for family 5K

■ Community House Wine Donation Party

Nov. 14
Pour Destino
back of Calle Cantina
114 S. Washington St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org

Join this night of wine, live music and lite bites in honor of The Community House Holiday Ball wine sale. Guests are asked to bring a bottle (or two) of a favorite wine to

donate to the sale, the proceeds of which will support The Community House's programs for children and families in unincorporated areas of Willowbrook through the SPARK youth development initiative. Time: 7 to 9 p.m. RR

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Tai Chi

Fridays, Nov. 1-Dec. 13
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

This beginner to intermediate program is designed to improve balance, coordination and overall health. Tai Chi involves a series of slow gentle movements and physical postures, a meditative state of mind and controlled breathing. There is no class on Nov. 29. Time: 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$117. RR. MD

■ Staying Safe from Environmental Toxins

Please turn to Page 24

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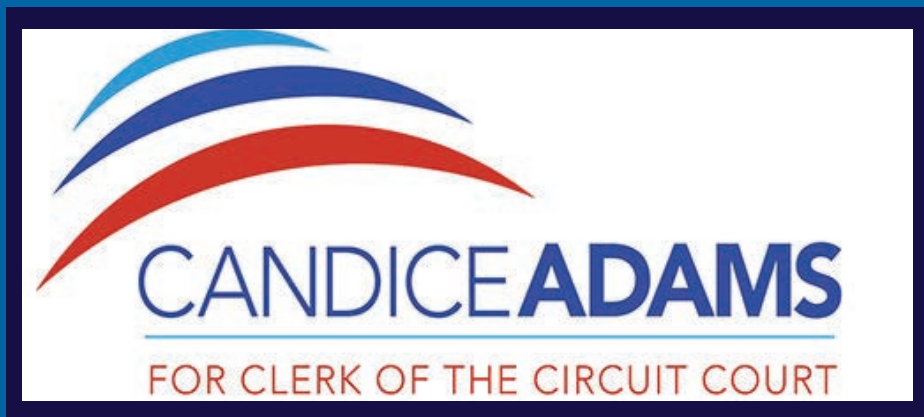


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PULSE

Continued from Page 22

Nov. 5
Wellness House
131 N. County Line Road
www.wellnesshouse.org
(630) 323-5150

Dr. Jean-Marie Kauth of Benedictine University will discuss the tie that certain toxins have to cancer, ways to guard against harmful environmental exposures and practical steps to keep a home healthier. Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m.

JUST FOR KIDS

■ **School's Out trip to Lego Land**
Nov. 4
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Kids in kindergarten through eighth grade can enjoy a fun-packed day off from school with a trip to Legoland. Time: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$90. RR, MD

LISTEN & LEARN

■ **Get the Most Out of Your Savings**
Oct. 28
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Learn how to create a life income plan with Nora Hernandez from Equitable Advisors to get the most out of retirement savings. Time: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. RR

■ **Bats and Other Misunderstood Creatures**
Oct. 29
Hinsdale Public Library
20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
(630) 986-1976

Learn about bats, spiders, snakes and more "misunderstood" animals in this interactive animal event presented by Incredible Bats. Time: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. RR

■ **The 5 Principles of Parenting**
Oct. 29 & 30
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
https://d181foundation.org
Dr. Aliza Pressman, well-

known to listeners as host of the hit podcast, "Raising Good Humans," will impart a handful of strategies every parent can use to get things right often enough: relationship, reflection, regulation, rule and repair. The event is part of the Community Speaker Series presented by Districts 86 and 181. Times: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 29, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Oct. 30. RR

NOTEWORTHY

■ **John McCutcheon**
Nov. 9
Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
11 W. Maple St.
www.acousticren.com
(630) 941-7797

John McCutcheon is a respected and loved folksinger, with his mastery of a dozen different traditional instruments and celebrated songwriting. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$25.

■ **American English**
Nov. 9

Please turn to Page 26



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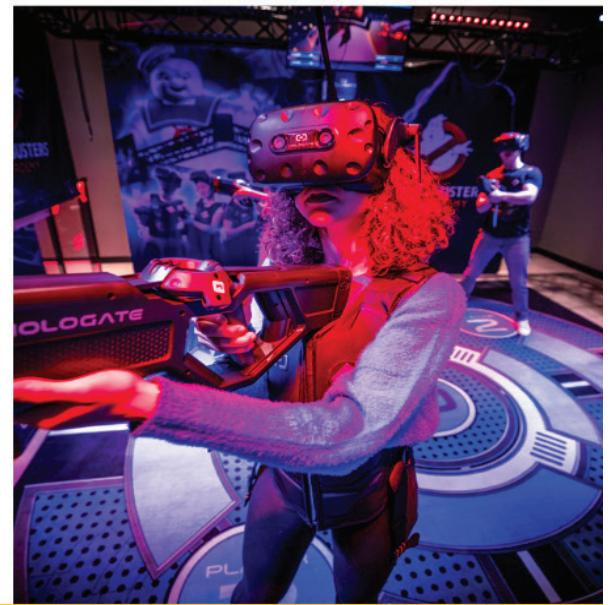
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November 5th

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WWW.WONDERVERSECHICAGO.COM

Continued from Page 24

Theatre of Western Springs
4384 Hampton Ave.
www.theatreofwest-
ernsprings.com
(708) 246-4043

The popular Beatles tribute band will entertain as part of the TWS Performance Series of Fundraisers. Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$40, \$35 for subscribers and CTWS families with discount code.

www.drurylanetheatre.com/
the-little-mermaid
(630) 530-0111

Dive beneath the waves with Ariel, a young mermaid with a captivating voice and an insatiable curiosity, as she defies her father and makes a daring deal for the chance to create the world of her dreams on land. Times: 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1:30 and 7 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays, 3

and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 6 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: start at \$52.95.

SENIOR SCENE

■ **Getting Started on Medicare**
Nov. 1
Westmont Community Center
75 E Richmond St.
www.villageofhinsdale.org/
pr

(630) 789-7090

This free Medicare education program will provide knowledge and peace of mind in choosing the right health plan. The program is intended for those who will soon be eligible for Medicare, are already on Medicare but losing group retiree benefits, who care for a Medicare beneficiary or who would like to learn more. Time: 1 to 2 p.m.

■ **Identity Theft & Medical Identity Theft**

Nov. 4
The Community House
415 W. Eighth Ave.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

This Money Smart for Older Adults program, part of the monthly Golden Brunch series, will focus on preventing

Please turn to Page 28

ON STAGE

■ **'The Play That Goes Wrong'**

Nov. 1-3
Nazareth Academy
1209 W. Ogden Ave.,
LaGrange Park
www.nazarethacademy.com

As a local theater troupe debuts its performance of a 1920s whodunit, things quickly go from bad to utterly disastrous, with everything from falling props, collapsing scenery, an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead and actors who trip over everything — including their lines. Times: 7 p.m. Nov. 1 & 2, 2 p.m. Nov. 3. Tickets: \$15, \$10 for students.

■ **'Calendar Girls'**

Nov. 1-10
Westview Hills Middle School
630 65th St., Willowbrook
www.westmontparks.org/
wpa

This charming comedy depicts a group of Yorkshire women who pose for a calendar to raise money for leukemia research. After Annie loses her husband, she and best friend Chris resolve to raise money for a settee in the hospital waiting room. The two women persuade their friends to join them in creating an "alternative" calendar, in which the subject-matter is tasteful nudes of middle-aged women. (Any nudity in the show is implied, not actual.) The unexpected success of their efforts brings chaos and change to their small community. Cast members include Susan O'Byrne of Hinsdale. Time: 7:30 p.m. Nov. 1, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Nov. 2, 2 p.m. Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 9, 2 p.m. Nov. 10. Tickets: \$15.

■ **'Disney's The Little Mermaid'**

Nov. 6-Jan. 12
Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace



BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT!

Get your child's birthday in the paper!

Simply email your child's name and birthday (day, month and year) to news@thehinsdalean.com for a chance for his or her name to appear on Page 4 under a birthday greeting.

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Dr. Aliza Pressman
Oct. 29 & 30





The 5 Principles of Parenting: Your Essential Guide to Raising Good Humans

Tuesday, October 29, 7-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 30, 9-10:30 a.m.
In-person at The Community House
Free; registration required

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Presented by District 86 and District 181 with support from the District 181 Foundation. Thanks also to community partners The Community House, Café La Fortuna, Gone Crazy, and Hinsdale Public Library.

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Continued from Page 26

fraud, scams, medical identity theft and other elder financial exploitation, including practical strategies to safeguard personal and medical information as well as resources available to those who fall victim. Please register at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting date. Time: 10 to 11 a.m. RR

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Nazareth Open House

Oct. 27 & 28
Nazareth Academy
1209 W. Ogden Ave.,
LaGrange Park
www.nazarethacademy.com

Prospective students and families are encouraged to visit Nazareth Academy to learn about the school and meet current students, faculty, staff and coaches. Guided tours will be provided. Register at the website above under the "Admissions" tab. Hours: 9:30 a.m. doors open Oct. 27, 6 p.m. doors open Oct. 28. RR

■ 'The Nutcracker'

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

Watch Clara come alive with a story and brief performance of this holiday classic presented by the Hinsdale Dance Academy. Then take pictures with the dancers after. Time: 10 to 10:30 a.m.

■ Veterans Day Luncheon

Nov. 11
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Enjoy a buffet lunch and be entertained by a Veterans Day tribute performance by the Jolly Boys and Cantate a capella groups. Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Cost: \$12, \$10 for vets & members. RR

■ Books & Brunch

Nov. 12
The Abbington
Route 53 & Butterfield Rd.,

Please turn to Page 30



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**Please fill out this form
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digital if possible.**

FRIDAY, NOV. 1, 2024 - 2 p.m.

*If you have previously submitted information,
you do not need to do so again.*

Vet's name: _____

Branch of military: _____

Rank: _____

Years of service (e.g. 1941-45): _____

Location of service: _____

Hinsdale resident: YES NO

Name of person submitting info: _____

Phone number: _____

Relationship to vet: _____

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**COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY**

Pet pic of the week

Snowball has been with Hinsdale Humane Society since the summertime. Now that her puppies have been adopted, it's time that she finds a home of her own, too. Snowball is a very intelligent lady who loves to play with herding balls and learn new things. She gets along well with other dogs but doesn't like cats. Snowball is almost 2 years old, with a winter birthday that perfectly matches her looks. Give her an early birthday present and adopt her today. Snowball is spayed, vaccinated and microchipped. She is housebroken and approved for children 10 and older. Her adoption fee is \$300. For more information, stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center, visit www.hinsdalehumane.org or call (630) 323-5630. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 28

Glen Ellyn
www.alcw.org
 Join Assistance League's annual fundraiser for lunch and conversations with authors Jonathan Eig, Luis Urrea and Libby Fischer Hellmann, moderated by Andrea Thome. The event includes a silent auction, raffle and boutique shopping. Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: \$125.

STEPPING BACK

■ **Salvation Army in the Great War**
 Nov. 1-27
 Mayslake Peabody Estate
 1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook
www.dupageforest.org
 (630) 206-9566
 This exhibit chronicles the Salvation Army's efforts during the lifetime of F.S. Peabody, who was a great supporter of the group. The second floor location is accessible only by stairs. Hours: noon to 3 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturdays.

■ **Waycar Wednesday**
 Nov. 6
 St. James Farm
 2S541 Winfield Road,
 Warrenville
www.dupageforest.org
 (630) 580-7025

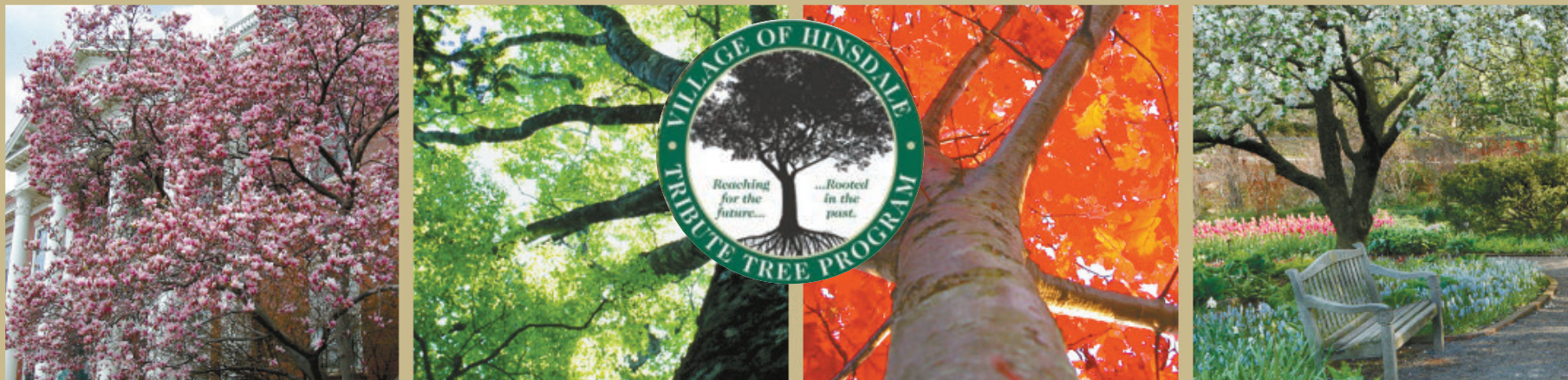
Walk through a 1906 waycar (or caboose) and hear how it was first used on the rails and then by Brooks McCormick after its retirement. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

TEENS & TWEENS

■ **Teen Photo Contest**
 Through Oct. 31
 Hinsdale Public Library
 20 E. Maple St.
www.hinsdalelibrary.info
 (630) 986-1976

Capture an image of autumn and submit it for a chance to win a gift card. Entries will be displayed in the Teen Lounge for the month of November.

Key
 RR - registration required
 MD - member discount



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347 Canterbury Court
www.massacremanor.org

Take a walk through the creepy surroundings of Massacre Manor to see how it ended up as a haunted estate. Park at the Salt Creek Club, 830 N. Madison St. Admission: Free, \$10 donation per person recommended to buy costumes for children in foster care. Send via PayPal or

Venmo to @theloveyproject.org. Hours: 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 24-27 & 31, 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 28.

■ Toddler Franken-Science

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

Join this special Frankenstein edition of Toddler Science in honor of Halloween. Time: 10:45 to

11:30 a.m. RR

■ Hinsdale Covenant Preschool Fall Fest

Oct. 27
Hinsdale Covenant Church
412 S. Garfield Ave.

The preschool is hosting this free community event, with a petting zoo, food truck, bounce house, caramel apple station and more, to celebrate new spaces and its 50th anniversary. Time: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

■ Boo Bash

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

Toddlers through fifth-graders are invited to dress up in costume and stop by the youth department to enjoy Halloween-themed games and crafts. Time: 4 to 6 p.m.

■ Haunted Hinsdale

Nov. 1
114 S. Washington St.
(630) 570-0217

Pour Destino and Calle Cantina present this event, with proceeds benefiting Wellness House. An open beer and wine bar, one cocktail and passed hors d'oeuvres are included. A silent auction and raffle also are part of the fun. Time: 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Cost: \$120, \$250 for VIP ticket with full open bar.

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Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79534
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on October 8, 2024
wherein the business firm of
AWAKEN THE JOURNEY
Located at 2424 Concord
Drive, Woodridge, IL. 60517
was registered; that the true
or real name or names of the
person or persons owning the
business, with their respec-
tive post office address(es),
is/are as follows: Liborina
Lopez, 2424 Concord Drive,
Woodridge, IL. 60517.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office
in Wheaton, Illinois, this 8th
day of October A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
October 17, 24 & 31, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79533
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on October 7, 2024
wherein the business firm of
GEEK GUARDS
Located at 211 E. Lake St.,
Suite 6, Addison, IL. 60101
was registered; that the true
or real name or names of the
person or persons owning the
business, with their respective
post office address(es), is/are
as follows: David Acosta, 105
S. Wisconsin Ave., Addison,
IL. 60101.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office
in Wheaton, Illinois, this 7th
day of October A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
October 17, 24 & 31, 2024.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79535
was filed in the office of the
County Clerk of DuPage
County on October 15, 2024
wherein the business firm of
**BonVoyage
Cruise Outlet**
Located at 854 Marston Ct.,
Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137 was reg-
istered; that the true or real
name or names of the per-
son or persons owning the
business, with their respective
post office address(es), is/are
as follows: Randy Piscopo,
854 Marston Ct., Glen Ellyn,
IL. 60137.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
and Official Seal at my office
in Wheaton, Illinois, this 15th
day of October A.D. 2024.
Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
October 24, 31 &
November 7, 2024.

Autumn arrives in early morn-
ing, but spring at the close of
a winter day. Elizabeth Bowen

Equal Housing



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

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Scoops
Delivered free
All Hinsdale
Local
Each Thursday
At your door
News
**READ
IT
AND
REAP!**

**Happy
Halloween**
Hope it's a real treat!



MIND GAMES

- ACROSS**
- 1 POP SINGER CELINE
 - 5 "IT'S C-C-COLD!"
 - 8 CICATRIX
 - 12 VICINITY
 - 13 FIB
 - 14 SHARPEN
 - 15 HUGE KUDOS
 - 17 ASSESS
 - 18 BLUE
 - 19 SHADOWED
 - 21 PRETENDED
 - 24 DECORATE
 - 25 RAPSCALLIONS
 - 26 CAMPUS CAFETERIA OFFERING
 - 30 CARNIVAL CITY
 - 31 LONG SKIRTS
 - 32 OKLAHOMA TRIBE
 - 33 '80S ARCADE GAME
 - 35 CASTLE DEFENSE
 - 36 EYEGLASS FRAMES
 - 37 SMOOTHS, AS WOOD
 - 38 SOURCE OF GUM ARABIC
 - 41 NUMERICAL PREFIX
 - 42 COMPOSER BARTOK
 - 43 PERFORMANCE BONUS
 - 48 JAPANESE NOODLE
 - 49 "ROCKS"
 - 50 RIGHTS ORG.
 - 51 HEAD, TO HENRI
 - 52 FINE, AT NASA
 - 53 DETAIL

- DOWN**
- 1 RIVER BLOCKER
 - 2 A GERSHWIN BROTHER
 - 3 BRITISH REF. WORK
 - 4 ITALIAN PORT
 - 5 HUFF AND PUFF
 - 6 WARDROBE MALFUNCTION CHECK
 - 7 TEMPURA CHOICE
 - 8 FURNACE FUEL
 - 9 PAY TO PLAY
 - 10 CLARINET INSERT
 - 11 SCEPTER
 - 16 FEELS UNWELL
 - 20 MATTRESS OPTION
 - 22 WRITER KINGSLEY
 - 23 MUSIC GENRE FOR BTS
 - 24 PLANO'S STATE
 - 26 ABBA-INSPIRED MUSICAL
 - 27 LAKE BIRD
 - 28 SLIGHTLY
 - 29 FORGET-ME- -- (FLOWERS)
 - 31 1102, TO NERO
 - 34 ESOTERIC
 - 35 RUM COCKTAIL
 - 37 HINDU HONORIFIC
 - 38 BORDER ON
 - 39 GIVE UP
 - 40 OODLES
 - 41 ARDUOUS JOURNEY
 - 44 AUTHOR UMBERTO
 - 45 AGT.'S CUT
 - 46 HEARTY BREW
 - 47 "TASTY!"

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

... 2019 King Features Syndicate

SCRAMBLERS

solution

- 1. Gander; 2. Prose;
- 3. Control; 4. Yearn

Today's Word
APOLOGY

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters to form the words. Use the example to help you.



"I looms, over there, and I feel we owe you some sort of"

Example: **DANGER** → **ANGER**

Scrambled: **DANGER** → **ANGER**

Scrambled: **SPORE** → **ROSE**

Scrambled: **CORNLOT** → **LOT**

Scrambled: **NEARY** → **AREY**

_____ TODAY'S WORD _____

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

HOROSCOPES

October 2024 Horoscopes • Week 5



CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, your dedication and hard work are likely to be recognized, leading to potential advancement or new opportunities. Just wait for all of the exciting things to come your way.



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Your energy levels are soaring this week, Aries. Channel this vitality into a new project or personal goal. Be cautious of being too impulsive, and think things through before acting.



CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, focus on behind-the-scenes work around the office – it's not always about being in the spotlight that gets you ahead. All of your contributions are valuable.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, focus on finding harmony in your relationships this week. You might need to mediate conflicts or offer support to loved ones. Use your diplomatic skills to create balance.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Use creative energy to explore new ideas or tackle creative projects, Aquarius. When you interact with others, you also may gain some fresh ideas to use to your advantage.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Embrace flexibility in your personal life, Taurus. Being open to change will lead to unexpected opportunities and strengthen your relationships. There are a few surprises ahead.



LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, embrace your natural charisma and confidence, but also remember to show appreciation for the people who support you. Balance is key in all social situations this week.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Trust your instincts when making decisions, especially those related to work or personal projects, Scorpio. Your intuition is pretty sharp this week, so use it to your advantage.



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, this week calls for reflection and healing. Take time to address any emotional needs and seek support if you want to talk to someone or simply need another be close to you.



GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Communication is key for you this week, Gemini. You may find that your words carry extra weight and influence. Use this to your advantage at work and in your personal life.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
It is time to get organized, Virgo. Tackle any lingering tasks or projects that need your attention. Your meticulous attention to detail will serve you well as you bring order to things.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, adventure is calling out to you. Whether it's a spontaneous trip or exploring a new hobby, embrace opportunities to expand your horizons.

SPORTS

State ti(e)tle goes to Central boys

Continued from Page 42

five finish in the last 13 years. Senior Elyssa Abdullah captured sixth place with a 1-over 145 over the two days, earning all-state honors for the fourth time in her sparkling Central career. Fellow senior Toral Bhatt shot 149 for 11th place and all-state recognition.

Sophomore Sara Han was 39th at 161, sophomore Anika Danda was 55th at 166, junior Olivia Zhang was 68th at 171 and freshman Amelia Gambla was 79th at 181.

Glenbrook North took the title with 585 followed by Stevenson at 608. Abdullah, a self-admitted perfectionist, gave a mixed assessment of her play.

"I was overall pretty happy, but it wasn't the best finish that I wanted to have," said the University of Wisconsin-Madison commit. "I just wanted to play my best, and that's what I did. I had good focus and good course management. I had a good attitude.

"Each year I've been more

relaxed at state, and I've definitely applied things I've learned from past years," she added.

Abdullah praised head coach Nick Latorre for his stewardship of the team, which won the state title two years ago during her sophomore season.

"Everyone on the team I've become really close to. We kind of uplift each other and try to motivate each other," said Abdullah, admitting to being overcome with emotion Saturday after her final round as a Red Devil. "I'm just excited to move on, but I've had such a good time playing high school golf."

Latorre said he was proud of his team's performance.

"I was really proud of my girls. They prepared well and they played well," Latorre said, noting the poise of the underclassmen in a high-stress contest. "They get a lot of good experience playing in that environment."

He is thankful to have been able to coach Abdullah and Bhatt the last four years.

"They're both just tremen-



Hinsdale Central girls golf team members pose with the third place trophy they earned at the IHSA state final Friday and Saturday at Hickory Point Golf Course in Decatur. Pictured are Finley Korn, Amelia Gambla, Anika Danda, Elyssa Abdullah, Toral Bhatt, Olivia Zhang and Sara Han. (photo provided)

dous individuals as well as players," Latorre remarked

Bhatt, who registered her best state final result, was satisfied with her effort.

"I definitely feel a lot more

confident with the course," she said. "I just wanted to put up a good score for my team and stay focused while I was out playing."

The bittersweet feeling of

closing out her Central career set in on the second day, she related.

"I'm really proud of being able to compete for Hinsdale Central," Bhatt said.

SPORTS SHORTS

HINSDALE RUNNERS IN MARATHON

The following Hinsdale residents finished the Chicago Marathon Sunday.

Brian Bower, 4:27.42
 Jerrod Bush, 3:55.13
 Will Bush, 3:58.38
 Sara Donovan, 6:46.27
 Tom Dunphy, 3:22.07
 Nicholas Finnegan, 4:37.05
 Beth Folkmann, 4:14.46
 Wenlong Gong, 4:58.20
 Xiadong Han, 4:03.58

Sean Hayden, 3:25.40
 Joseph Hayes, 4:34.59
 Benjamin Hergenroether, 4:28.41
 Christy Hernandez, 4:56.37
 Wenyang Hu, 3:14.02
 Jodi Hummer, 3:19.35
 Rachel Keele, 2:56.51
 Kelly Konstant, 5:28.51
 Greta Kumskis, 3:25.22
 Anne Langguth, 4:22.52
 Thibault Lasserre, 4:42.09
 Kristin McCoskey, 4:18.34
 Janelle Meyer, 4:56.04
 Michelle Meyer, 4:42.00

Lisa Murphy, 3:50.55
 Jessica Nawracaj, 4:43.15
 Seamus O'Kane, 4:19.11
 Christopher Panio, 4:12.18
 Alma Rogers, 3:36.57
 Madeleine Roglich, 3:35.32
 Angelique Sanabria, 4:40.41
 Claudia Stangle, 5:32.54
 Karen Sweiss, 5:22.18
 Kelly Thayer, 5:30.40
 Jonathan Urbanek, 3:13.37
 Stephanie Urbanek, 3:29.37
 Lora Wright, 4:35.41
 Lynn Yu, 5:12.23
 Perry Zhao, 3:27.01

SENIOR BREAKS SCHOOL RECORD

Benet Academy senior Finn Richards of Hinsdale won the Peoria High School cross country invitational by running 3 miles in 14:22.50 and breaking Benet's 53-year-old record by 19 seconds. Richards' time at Detweiller Park in Peoria is the fastest in the state this year.

TEAM WINS SILVER BRICK

The Hinsdale Central boys varsity soccer team won the Silver Brick Oct. 1 by beating LT by a score of 3-2 in overtime, bringing its total wins over the past five years to 4-1. The first Silver Brick game was played in 2008 at Centennial Field. Central's overall record vs. LT for regular season games stands at 24-28-4.

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9U SILVER FALLS BY ONE TOUCHDOWN

Hinsdale Falcons 9U Silver got off to a hot start in the first quarter when Gasteviski broke up a long run for a touchdown. The defense showed up — led by Broderick Slavik, Charlie Hillegass, Aydin Memon, SJ Groetsema, Max Petersen and Robbie Knight — to keep the Chargers out of the end zone in the first quarter. The defensive line, anchored by Theo Sieper, Chris Ponikis, Dylan Boche, Liam Warden, Auggie Habberkorn, Raj Chandranda and Colin Fisher, kept pressure on the Chargers' offense. The Chargers' defense found its rhythm in the second quarter and put pressure on the offensive line, led by Duke and Rocco Maggio, Ben Vula and Lino Hernandez. At half-time, the game was tied 6-6 and Hinsdale's battle for the last playoff spot would come down to the second half.

Hinsdale received the ball and was able to move the ball, highlighted by a nice 20-yard pass from Memon to Grant Woertz; however, the Chargers keep the Falcons out of the end zone. The Chargers were able to punch one in to make the score 13-6 heading into the fourth quarter. The Falcons had one last chance to score with seconds remaining, but the Chargers held firm.

9U GOLD PERFECT IN REGULAR SEASON

The Falcons head into the postseason after completing a perfect regular season with a 27-0 win over a reputable Palatine team.

Heading into the game the Falcons knew the game would be won or lost in the trenches, as Palatine's offensive and defensive lines were widely considered among the best in the league. Teddy O'Toole, Bennett Wilson, Keats Caruso, Michael Cannizzaro, Michael Dombroski, Wyland Holmes and RT Kouba proved to be up for the challenge, with physical performance in front of Hinsdale's backfield on offense while serving as the foundation for the fourth shutout of the season on defense.

Contributing to the scoring effort, Bryce Lee scored three touchdowns on the day (two rushing, one receiving) while Noah Jones scored the final touchdown on a 30-yard reception from quarterback, Connor Pauley. Meanwhile, Cole Sherwood had a notable afternoon on both sides of the ball, with several breathtaking runs from his tailback position as well as a fumble recovery and interception on defense. Luke Schroeder, Dan Campbell, Brooks Jaqua, Parker Brey and Cade Phelan were additional standout performers on the afternoon.

The Falcons face Lyons in the first round of playoffs.

10U SILVER PLAYED TOUGH ALL SEASON

The 10u Silver Falcons finished their season with a 26-13 loss in Wheaton on Sunday. Despite the young Falcons' efforts, they had trouble containing the speedy Wheaton Rams. They got behind early, giving up a few long touchdowns and were not able to recover.

Clay Parker would ignite the Falcon offense with exciting touchdown runs of 50 yards and 90 yards to get Hinsdale on the board. Those would be the only points they would muster on the day, as the offense struggled to move the ball consistently.

After the game the coaches were heard thanking the Falcon players for their tough play and dedication all season long.

In no particular order the 5-3-1 10U Silver Falcons are Massimo Buttitta, Kanas Zitkevicius, Grant Garber, Paul Voight, Clay Parker, Brody Sobieraj, Caden Mitchell, Mike Sandberg, Mark Sandberg, Arya Vafa, Miles Wos, Miles Post, Dean Windfelder, Jack Slavik, Bennett Brumley, Henry McMahon and Max Breton.

11U SILVER FALCONS MAKE PLAYOFFS

You always want to see where your team is at before the playoffs and the Falcons had a good test on Sunday against the Tri City Chargers. The Falcons passed the test by prevailing 27-14 against the No. 2 ranked team in the

league.

The game started off in the favor of the Falcons as Nico Will covered the opening kickoff as the Chargers struggled to corral it.

The good field position led to an early score to get the Falcons on the board. The defense that has been rock solid all season forced a punt on the next Charger possession, which led to another touchdown.

The defensive line — led by Carter Cox, Blake Bazan, Pierson Eno, Luke Hanson, Noah Vargas and Luke Gray — really set the tone with constant penetration into the Tri City backfield. Parker Otzen finished the great performance with a sack of the Charger quarterback.

The offense continued to rack up yards and score points. The final score came on a bootleg around the right end by Sawyer Myhra, which sealed the victory for the Falcons.

The team faces Downers Grove in the first round of playoffs.

11U GOLD D2 LOSE HEARTBREAKER

11U Gold suffered a tough 15-13 loss to Oswego in a game that came down to the wire. Christian Gernot recovered an early fumble, but both teams struggled to move the ball. Oswego scored as time expired to take a 7-0 lead into halftime. They followed it up with another score to open the second half, extending their lead to 15-0.

The Falcons, however, showed their resilience and began to gain momentum. The offensive line, led by Matthew Kalish, Mikey Adamo, Joshua Castro and Grant Omiecinski, opened holes for Teddy Ouimette and Nate Thangamani to move the chains. Kellen Brown was able to pound his way into the end-zone to cut the deficit to 15-7.

The defense held strong the remainder of the game, with key tackles by Luke Schremser, Owen Parry, Ivan Burt, Christian Kirchev, Rohn Ramani and Keerthan Tucke, giving the offense another chance. The tight ends went to work this time, with Soren Carlson and Bo Cuculich springing Marcello Salamone

for a 20-yard touchdown run to make it 15-13.

The Falcons had one last opportunity to tie it, but Ben Murphy's pass was knocked down, sealing the narrow loss.

Next up: Palatine in the first round playoffs.

JV GOLD D1 HEADS TO PLAYOFFS

Another week brought another thrilling victory for the JV Gold Falcons, who bested Naperville 18-16.

Hinsdale got on the board early with a physical drive that saw the big boys upfront led by Brock Bradley, Grant Wanless and Oliver Johnson pave the way for a Dillon Phelan score. After a Saints score, the Hinsdale defense, led by linebacker Sullivan Camp, settled in with gap discipline and solid tackling. The teams went into half 8-6, Naperville leading.

The third quarter saw the Falcons' offense run at will, leading to a 15-yard touchdown run by Michael Kipnis. Hard-nosed play by Logan Sullivan, Grant Kirchheimer and Dominic Cresap kept the Saints offensive in check until they were able to break another long one, leading to a 16-12 Saints lead. Hinsdale struck back with a magical Kipnis run that apparently ended on the 1-yard line; Phelan punched it in on the next play giving Hinsdale the 18-16 lead with 3 minutes to play.

On the game-deciding drive, Naperville was able to get down deep in Falcon territory, but the defense collectively stood strong and kept the Saints out of the endzone as time expired.

The team will take on Bloomingdale in the first round of playoffs.

JV D2 DROP FINAL GAME

The JV Gold D2 Falcons' loss to the Bartlett Raiders was a tough way to end the season. The absence of Finn Caruso, Rayan Sheikh and Dom Angeletti was felt, especially on the line, but the Falcons played tough despite being outsized by an angry Raiders squad. Massimo Burdi had a brilliant game

coming off illness, and Alex Vivanco played a critical role for the offense to the final whistle. Will Doyle and Colin Boots offered up fearless effort, playing through injury to help the Falcons finish their season with honor despite the loss.

While coaches and players all put extraordinary effort into winning football games, the boys seemed to know that there are many ways to measure success.

In their three months together, players showed toughness, resilience and an inspiring attitude and laid the foundation for a breakout varsity year in 2025.

VARSITY GOLD BATTLES LYONS

Varsity Gold Falcons traveled to the LFC Lyons for the final regular season game.

The Hinsdale defense, led by linebackers Hank Scary Scheri, Jack Gray, Blake Schnur and Max Milburn, quickly stuffed LFC's star runner Zachary Moss. Liam Cranmer, Brock Willits, Wolf Pohlenz and Will Smith kept the gaps in check and disrupted the Lyon passing game. In a pregame interview from manager RJ Hull, Smith stated "They can't block me, I'm crazy!". Numerous tackles and a sack proved he was more than just talk.

The Falcon offense produced good rushing success behind blocks from Scheri, Willits and Landon Ronaldson. Gray, Charlie Koridek, and Matthew Stone had the bulk of carries, and Quarterback Keaton Cassell scrambled for multiple ground yards as well.

The Falcons pushed into Lyon territory early, but were stopped short at the 1. An errant snap and pressure from Scheri produced an LFC safety.

A second quarter field goal from kicker Colin Parry was good, giving Hinsdale a rare 5-0 halftime lead. The remainder of the game was well fought, but the Lyons reached the endzone, ultimately defeating the Falcons 8-5.

Despite the loss, the team made it to the first round of playoffs against Downers Grove.

SPORTS — END ZONE

BY THE QUARTER

1
Hinsdale 14
OP-RF 7

2
Hinsdale 17
OP-RF 7

3
Hinsdale 0
OP-RF 0

4
Hinsdale 7
OP-RF 7

HINSDALE CENTRAL 45 — OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST 21



Dominic Tresslar broke through several OP-RF defenders to make it to the 5-yard line before he was taken down. He rushed for 154 yards and scored one touchdown. (Jim Slonoff photos)

STATS

	Central	OP-RF
Passing yards	155	64
Rushing yards	196	291
Total yards	351	355
Touchdowns	6	3
PATs	6	3
Field goals	1	0
Turnovers	0	2

OFFENSE



Riley Contreras
7 passes, 155 yards
7 carries, 18 yards
3 passing TDs, 2 rushing



Jack Lesniewicz
2 carries, 66 yards
1 touchdown

DEFENSE



Noah McCurry
8 tackles
1 TFL



Zach Kruse
6 tackles, 2 assists
1 TFL

Hinsdale Central's Alex Rivera and Noah McCurry take down Oak Park's quarterback Johnny Nelson Friday night at Dickinson Field.



UP NEXT

Downers North
7:30 p.m. Friday
Dickinson Field
Senior night — cheer,
poms, band
Last year
Central lost 12-34

STANDINGS

West Suburban Silver
LT.....6-08-0
Downers North.....4-17-1
York.....3-26-2
Hinsdale Central..2-3....4-4
Glenbard West.....2-33-5
OP-RF.....1-41-7
Proviso West.....0-52-6
conference/overall

SPORTS — ROUNDUP

STUDENT ATHLETE PROFILE



Vija Barber
Oak Brook

What is your earliest memory of a swim meet?

I started swimming when I was 5 years old. My earliest memories were of meets at Oak Brook Bath and Tennis with my friends from Oak Brook.

What do you love most about the sport?

My favorite part about the sport has to be the people and getting to do something that I love next to some of my best friends and having each other to race and having my teammates to push and motivate me every day.

Do you have any pre-meet rituals or routines?

I have a certain play list that I like to listen to, especially at big meets before I go behind the blocks. I like listening to the song "Narco" by Timmy Trumpet.

How is it to have your dad as your coach?

I really like having my dad as a coach just because I had an easy time transitioning into the team. He treats me like every other girl on the team. I don't feel like he's my dad at practice, he's my coach — and he's a really good coach.

How has it been having your sisters on the team?

I had two years with my

older sister, Tessa, and two years with my younger sister, Lilia. I really like swimming with them. They push me, because I always want to be the one to beat them. I love spending time with my sisters in that way.

What are your hopes for your senior season?

I hope that I can qualify and maybe final at state again, since I did last year, and that we can finish the season strong in our relays at state. I also just hope that we have a fun last month, because it's my last month swimming on the team.

Why does coach Bob Barber like having Vija on the team?

I am so lucky to have the opportunity to coach Vija for all four years here at Central. As our team captain this year, she has led us through the challenges and heartaches of not having a home pool. She can do it all! Sprint, distance, stroke it doesn't matter, if we need her she is ready. I am excited and sad for the upcoming championship meets but I know she's ready for the next stage.

— profile by Pamela Lannom, photo by Jim Slonoff

HEADED TO STATE

Members of the Hinsdale Central girls tennis team and two Nazareth Academy seniors will compete at the IHSA 2A state final Thursday to Saturday, Oct. 24-26, at Hersey High School.

Representing Red Devil Nation will be senior Kotryna Tomas and junior Asha Sarai in singles, and the duos of senior Abigail Gambla/junior Sydney Shuster and junior Lauren Panveno/freshman Sophia Virmani in doubles.

Nazareth Academy senior doubles players Margaret and Elisabeth Anos of Hinsdale finished third and fourth, respectively, at the sectional meet to help the Roadrunners finish second at sectionals and qualify for the IHSA 1A state meet this weekend.

Good luck Devils and Roadrunners!

RESULTS

Cross country, boys

Oct. 19 @ WSC Silver Championship
V places 6th with 130 points
Gamboa, 15th, 15:26.5
Tarasi, 24th, 15:56.6
Rogers, 26th, 16:06.2
Revord, 27th, 16:08.4
Ferrer, 38th, 16:56.6

Oct. 19 @ WSC Silver Championship
V places 4th with 109 points
Satre, 12th, 18:28.6
Hodneland, 17th, 18:49
Kohn, 23rd, 19:16.3
Krogstie, 28th, 19:42.5
Skay, 29th, 19:43.3
Gruber, 32nd, 20:01.6

Soccer, boys

Oct. 17 @ Glenbrook North
V loses 0-2

Cross country, girls

Tennis, girls

Oct. 18-19 @ IHSA Sectional
V places 1st with 29 points
Singles
Tomas, 2nd
Asha Sarai, 3rd
Doubles
Shuster/Gambla, 2nd
Panveno/Virmani, 4th

Volleyball, girls

Oct. 21 vs. Timothy Christian
V loses 19-25, 25-22, 19-25
Oct. 18-19 @

AutumnFest vs. Belvidere North
V wins 25-10, 22-25, 25-21
Barakat, 9 kills, ace, 3 digs, assist
Bergin, 8 kills, ace, 6 digs, assist
Kozlowski, 7 kills, block, assist
Leddy, 6 kills, 3 aces, block, 4 digs, 18 assists
Brooks, 3 kills, 2 digs
Jorgenreud, 2 kills, block
Quast, kill
Young, 3 aces, 25 digs, 3 assists

Garchar, 2 aces, 5 digs, 11 assists
Neiman, ace, block vs. Waubonsie Valley
V loses 25-20, 20-25, 23-25 vs. Mother McAuley
V loses 22-25, 18-25 vs. Glenbard South
V wins 25-23, 25-6 vs. St. Charles East
V loses 20-25, 25-19, 15-25
Oct. 17 @ Wheaton North
V wins 25-17, 25-14

Instant replay



Hinsdale Central junior Maddie Brooks rises for a spike Monday night as the Red Devils hosted Timothy Christian for the team's senior night celebration. Unfortunately they couldn't celebrate a victory, as the Devils fell to the top-ranked Trojans in a hard-fought three-set match. (Jim Slonoff photo)

SPORTS

Boys state ti(e)tle goes to Red Devils

Girls golfers capture third place at state in strong showing for Central programs

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

After back-to-back heartbreaking runner-up finishes at the IHSA state final the last two years, the Hinsdale Central boys golfers thought they'd come up just short again.

Tied with Evanston for top honors at 12-over par 588 after the final hole Saturday of the two-day state tournament in Bloomington, the Red Devils knew their opponents' fifth-best score of the round — the typical tiebreaking protocol — was better than theirs. But state final rules call for a combination of day one and day two scores. The result was a two-stroke Central triumph.

"I was convinced we lost, but then there were rumblings in the crowd," said head coach Serge Pensik of the unfolding realization. "We were pretty ecstatic to get that done."

New Trier, the two-time defending champion, finished just one stroke behind for third.

Central had bagged the program's first state championship since 2018 and its eighth in the last 12 years. Senior stalwart Dru Devata led the way with a 3-under 141, for third place individually, followed by freshman Michael Jorski's 1-over 145 for seventh and senior Isaac Schloegel's 6-over 150 to notch 19th. Senior Kevin Wesolowski was 38th at 155, sophomore Mitchell Ghaben was 59th at 162, and sophomore Constantine Verros was 70th at 164.

Devata, playing in his third state final, said the blend of perfect weather conditions and his previous experience navigating The Den at Fox Creek were key factors.

"I had a game plan for

each hole. I'm pretty familiar with that course now," he said. "I think I played very well, and I stayed patient. You've got to stay patient out there."

Pensik said he was delighted for Devata and praised his strong leadership on a team with four state final newcomers.

"He's such a tenacious competitor," Pensik remarked. "He knew that he had to put up a really good score for us and he did. I was so happy to see him win one. He's a remarkable golfer and a kid."

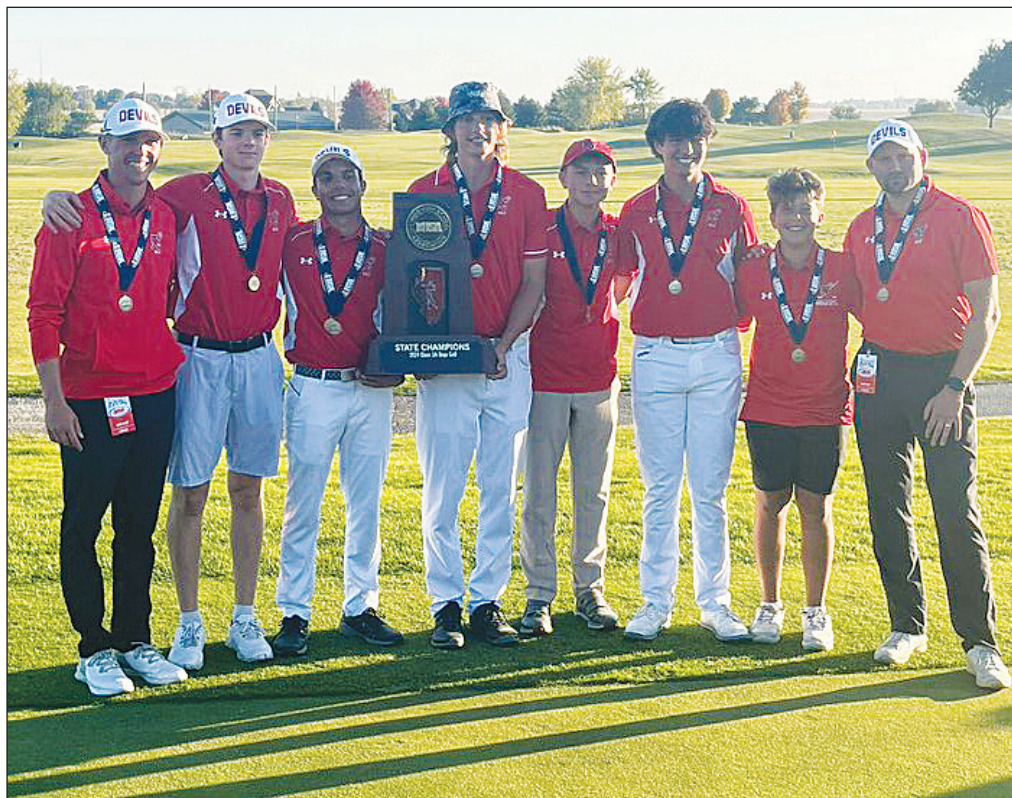
Central had taken a six-stroke lead on day one, but the talented Evanston and New Trier squads came out firing on Saturday. With just a few holes to play, the three teams found themselves all square. Jorski, who had eagled the first hole of the second round, stumbled on 17. But the first-year player exhibited the mettle of a veteran with a birdie on 18.

"He's a very clutch player," Pensik remarked.

Devata saved his best for last with a leaderboard-topping 68 in Saturday's round, his last as a Red Devil. Then attention turned to Schloegel, another state final rookie. His 1-under score on Friday had paced the team, but Saturday had not started out as promising. Grouped with the premier players for Evanston and New Trier, Schloegel said he knew the contest was tight but tried to focus on his game, not everyone else's scores.

"I had no clue that the last couple of holes were really going to matter that much," he said, recounting the growing gallery down the stretch. "Playing with that many people watching was pretty high pressure."

Despite the tension,



The Hinsdale Central boys golf team shows off the latest hardware to add to its collection after winning the IHSA state tournament Saturday in Bloomington. Pictured are assistant coach Evan Haase, Isaac Schloegel, Dru Devata, Kevin Wesolowski, Michael Jorski, Mitch Ghaben, Constantine Verros and head coach Serge Pensik. (photo provided)

Schloegel parred each of his last four holes, including a tough chip and putt on 16 and a nery 10-foot putt on 17 that proved crucial to the outcome.

"I tried to keep reminding myself that we worked so hard to get here, why not take advantage of it? Just focus on the next shot and not think about what's happened in the past," he related.

"That was probably one of the most clutch performances I've seen," Pensik said of Schloegel's effort.

Jorski said waiting for the final result prolonged the emotional strain, before giving way to celebration.

"It was a very nerve-wracking experience waiting to see (the result). When we realized we'd won the scorecard playoff, it was a great feeling," he said.

Usually four of a team's

six competitors' scores are used for the final tally. For Central, all six players contributed the championship over the course of the two days.

"We try to preach to our kids that you never know when your score is going to count in the state tournament. You always have to stay present and continue going forward," Pensik said. "Our freshman and two sophomores came up huge, and our three seniors did what they were supposed to do."

"It's very hard to close out a tournament," he added. "The pressure mounts and there's a lot of emotion happening on every green at that point."

Pensik lauded the work of assistant coach Evan Haase and expressed gratitude for the mentorship of his predecessor, Jess Krueger.

Schloegel was elated with the group victory.

"It's pretty cool. I've always wanted to be part of a state-winning team," he said. "I'm just really proud of the team overall because everybody contributed in their own way."

Devata echoed that sentiment and acknowledged he's still adjusting to post-high school golf life.

"It's more a weird feeling. It's odd thinking I'm not going to play for Central again," he said. "It's great to go out on a high note."

Girls place third

Hinsdale Central girls golf placed third at the IHSA state final in beautiful conditions Friday and Saturday in Decatur.

The girls 44-over par score of 620 earned them the program's 11th top-

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Success is in the closings!



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Getting ready for 2025 Spring market, too!**

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