

Third graders hold 'Pumpkin Investigation'

Learn ins and outs of fall vegetable

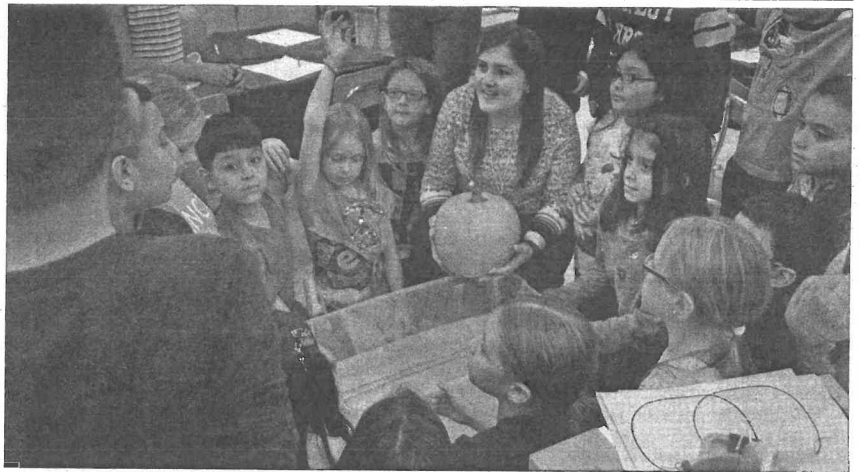
ADDISON — Third grade students in Mrs. Pereda's class at Stone School conducted a pumpkin investigation this week in science.

Students worked in teams to measure their pumpkin's height, width, and circumference using their choice of two different tools—rulers, paper clips, tape measures, linker cubes. They had to predict how many seeds they could pull out in one handful, as well as how many seeds there were in the

whole pumpkin. After predicting, they had to scoop out and count the seeds to see how close their predictions were.

Another popular activity had students predicting whether a pumpkin would sink or float. Students had to make a prediction and then explain why they made that choice before Ms. Anderson put the classroom pumpkin in a tub of water to find the result. She then explained that the pumpkin floats because it is less dense than the water it was placed into.

Other activities incorporated math skills such as grouping and rounding.



While the students look on, Ms. Anderson gets ready to drop a pumpkin into a tub of water to see if it will float. Each person offered an hypothesis first, whether or not the pumpkin would be buoyant in the water.

all photos provided



Above: Using a chain of paperclips they made, these young ladies measure the circumference of a pumpkin.



Right: The third graders in Mrs. Pereda's class found all kind of things to measure on a pumpkin, including counting the number of lines it has, as seen here.

• SISTER CITY

Continued from page 1

Tropea, Taormina and Palermo. Tour details and pricing will be available.

Addison's relationship with Triggiano was made official on Sept. 23, 2003, when the Sister City Agreement was signed by then mayors Larry Hartwig and Francesco DeNicolò. This was during the first trip Addison officials made to Italy. Since that time, officials have visited each other every few years, including a visit last October by Triggiano Mayor Vincenzo Denicolò.

In addition, thanks to fundraising efforts by the non-profit organization Village of Addison Sister Cities, Inc., students from Addison and Triggiano

have participated in a student exchange program, allowing groups to visit one another, attend classes and learn about each other's customs and culture.

The planned trip in 2016 is an opportunity for residents to experience this same type of exchange, said Mayor Veenstra.

"Learning about a city, or country, just isn't the same thing as experiencing it," he said. "Our relationship with Triggiano has yielded business and cultural opportunities, as well as personal friendships. I hope many of our residents take advantage of this upcoming trip."

Jessica Mell named October 88's Best by AHS

ADDISON — Jessica Mell has been named as Addison Trail's October recipient of 88's Best recognition for her academic accomplishments. A senior, Jessica was recognized during the Oct. 26 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

By the end of her senior year, Jessica will have taken 10 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses and 10 Honors courses.

"Mell has always been my 'right-hand girl' in the classroom," said AP English Literature and Composition teacher Jim Perusich. "She is an astute listener, whose ability to organize classroom lectures into strategic ways of thinking about reading and writing makes her one of the most aware and self-disciplined students I've ever taught. What is most notable about her, however, is her uncanny ability to correct me when I'm wrong and always, always tell me what we did last, what we should be doing next and why what we just covered could be explained better if I just gave her the chance to explain it to the class in her way with her own brilliant examples. She knows exactly what I'm talking about. And she's always delightfully right."

AP Biology teacher Carolyn Erwin agreed.

"In the short time I have known Mell, I have been most impressed with her overall performance in AP Biology," Erwin said. "Her attention to detail has contributed to her incredible success in this class and is indicative of her overall work ethic. She consistently demonstrates the traits of an excellent scholar, and it is truly a pleasure to have her in my class."



photo provided

Pictured here with Addison Trail Principal Michael Bolden is Addison Trail senior Jessica Mell, who has been named as Addison Trail's October recipient of 88's Best recognition.

Jessica also is very involved in extracurricular activities at Addison Trail. During her freshman and sophomore years, she participated in basketball, and she has played volleyball all four years of her high school career. Her most rewarding accomplishment so far was winning the West Suburban Conference Gold Division Conference Championship in volleyball — the Girls Volleyball Team hasn't won that title since 2006, and Mell was proud to be part of the winning team. Jessica competes on a club volleyball team as well and was named Captain of that team last year.

"Mell took on the role of a silent leader immediately," said Katie Prast, Varsity Girls Volleyball Team Assistant Coach. "When she earned a role on the varsity team, she made the transition flawlessly, consistently working hard every day to improve her own skills and the chemistry of her team. She

regularly leads by example, being a selfless role model and a mentor for those around her. Mell is a very bright and intelligent young woman, who will positively impact those around her with poise, leadership and humor."

Jessica also has participated in Lettermen Club, Student Council, Pay It Forward and National Honor Society. She has worked with various community service organizations as well such as Feed My Starving Children, Kiwanis Peanut Day and Relay For Life. Jessica was the Boy's Volleyball Team Manager her sophomore year and plans to continue in that role this spring.

Jessica is looking to attend University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she plans to major in mechanical engineering. Her parents own a foundry and machine shop in Chicago, and she would like to continue the legacy of her family's business.

Indoor golf starts at Links & Tees Nov. 6

ADDISON — The Indoor Golf Dome at Links & Tees in Addison provides winter refuge for area golfers. The Golf Dome, located at 880 W. Lake Street, will open for the season Friday, Nov. 6. Links & Tees Golf Dome is open 7 days per week and features discounted evening bay rental rates after 7:00 p.m.

Links & Tees Golf Dome is a climate controlled golfers' haven featuring indoor chipping and putting areas, a 2-tiered driving range with target banners, new range balls, flat-screen TVs and world-class golf instructors and staff. Daily golf specials are featured every day of the week.

The Addison Park District's 2015-16 "Winter Fun Guide" will be delivered to the homes of residents Friday, Nov. 20. If you did not receive your copy, please call (630) 233-7275 and provide your home address. The brochure will also be available in each facility and online at addisonparks.org.

ATHS hosts Padres Latinos en Acción Connects with Spanish-speaking parents

ADDISON — On Oct. 20, Addison Trail hosted its monthly Padres Latinos en Acción meeting for Spanish-speaking parents.

The focus of the meeting was to inform participants about community and school resources that are available to Addison Trail students and parents/guardians. The featured speakers were Isabel Huerta, a Community Engagement Associate with the Addison Public Library, and Kelly Von

Zee, Community Engagement Head with the Addison Public Library.

Through Padres Latinos en Acción, Spanish-speaking parents/guardians are afforded the opportunity to increase their knowledge of the school system to help their students achieve at the highest level. Meeting topics are driven by parent interest and include information on accessing college, financial aid, rigorous academic programming offered at Addison Trail, social-emotional concerns and community issues. For more information, contact Addison Trail Assistant Principal Iridia Niewinski at iniewinski@dupage88.net or 630-628-3307.

'Opera in Neighborhood' returns to Addison schools

ADDISON — Now in its 19th year, the Addison Center for the Arts presented The Lyric Opera in the Neighborhoods to grades 4-8 at Addison public and parochial schools on Nov. 3.

Students and teachers were given study guides prepared by the Lyric Educational Outreach Program to prepare them for the event.

The two performances take place at Addison Trail High School and busing for students in the public schools was provided by Addison School District #4. This program is partially funded by the Addison Center for the Arts and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Senator Harmon to host Community Health Fair in Addison

ADDISON — The public is invited to a Community Health Fair sponsored by Senator Don Harmon and State Representative Kathy Willis on Friday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

This free event will take place at Community Rec Center, 120 E. Oak Street in Addison.

Representatives at the event will provide free health screen-

ing and information about disease prevention. Additional vendors include:

- Secretary of State with onsite DMV services including driver's license renewal
- Attorney General Lisa Madigan's anti-fraud unit
- Treasurer Michael Frerichs' I-Cash program
- Elmhurst Hospital
- Walgreens will provide flu

shots to anyone with Medicare, insurance or cash payment

Additionally, the Addison Fire District will be on site collecting medical equipment such as crutches, canes, walkers and wheelchairs in any condition during the health fair.

The Fire District refurbishes gently-used medical equipment so that it is available at no cost to Addison residents in need.

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Addison Trail, District 88 enjoy dinner for a cause

ADDISON — On Oct. 29, Addison Trail and District 88 staff and administrators enjoyed a tasty treat for a cause.

Students in Addison Trail's Hotel/Restaurant/Travel Management class prepared Roasted Butternut Squash, Cream of Chicken with Wild Rice and Hearty Beef Vegetable soups for diners who donated \$5 or more to benefit Feed My Starving Children.

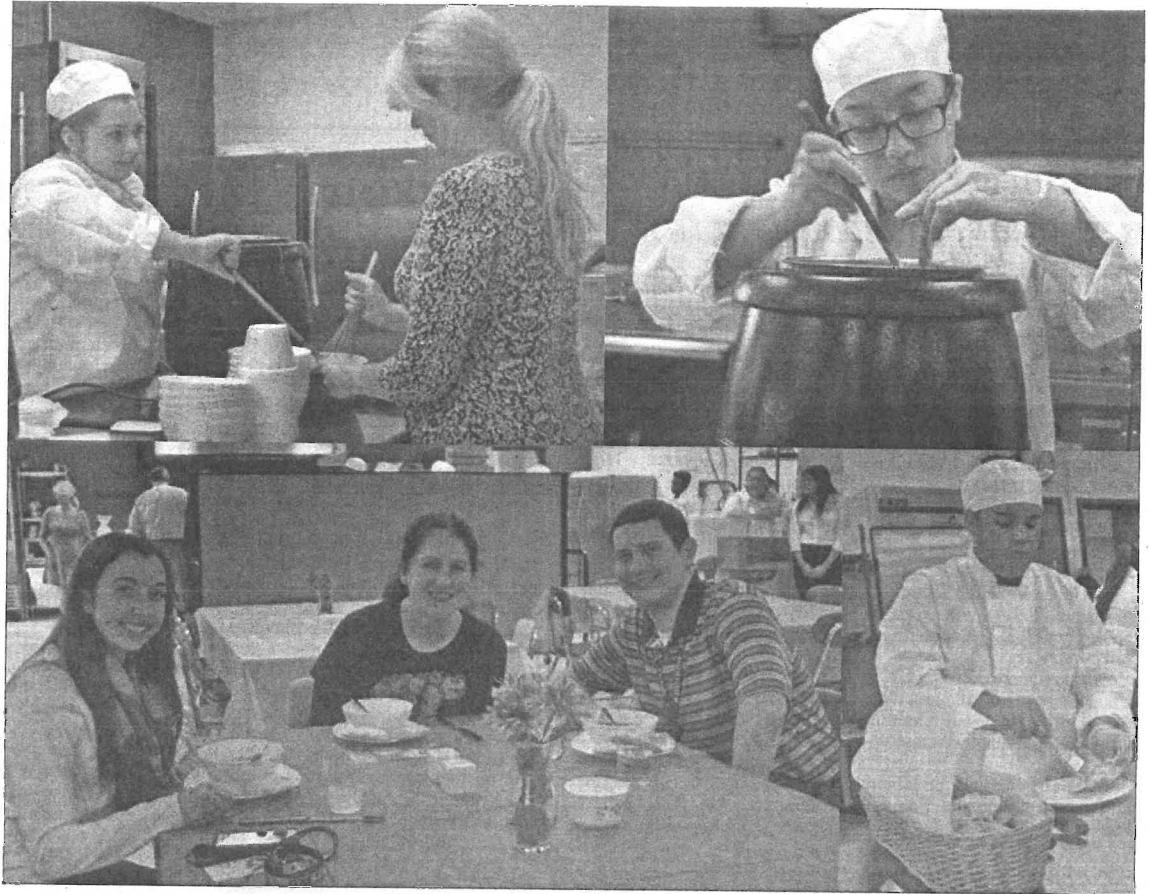
Those who participated in the "Fall in a Bowl" lunch event received a bowl of soup, bread, dessert and a drink.

Artist Guild member show now on display
Reception, critique, awards take place Nov. 12

ADDISON — Now through Nov. 12, the Addison Art Guild is holding its annual Fall Members' Show in the Rotunda of the Addison Village Hall, One Friendship Plaza.

Sixty pieces of original art work will be on display and for sale in many art mediums.

On Thursday, Nov. 12 from 7-9 p.m., a reception will be held where the awards will be presented by Judge Robert Pennor, who will provide a critique on winning entries. Free and open to the public. For more information, please call 630-458-4500.



photos provided

On Oct. 29, students in Addison Trail's Hotel/Restaurant/Travel Management class prepared a meal for Addison Trail and District 88 staff and administrators as part of the school's "Fall in a Bowl" event. Proceeds from the lunch will benefit Feed My Starving Children. (top left): Addison Trail CTE Teacher Amy Murphy (right) helps Addison Trail junior

Sydney Ludwig prepare the soup. (top right): Addison Trail senior Kathya Elizondo helps cook one of the soups. (bottom left): (From left) Addison Trail math teachers Ashley Lupo, Colleen Kane and Matt Bauers enjoy the "Fall in a Bowl" event. (bottom right): Addison Trail senior Kyle Sabzali butters bread for the lunch.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, Nov. 5

Women's Club to meet

At 7 p.m., the Women's Club of Addison will meet at Addison Village Hall - Room 1301-A. Program: ATHS graduate Carole Lago will describe her glass creations she has named "Flo-SaicTM Glass Art." Refreshments served, guests welcome. Info: 630-878-6305.

Saturday, Nov. 7

St Pius X Women's craft/vendor fair

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Pius X Council of Catholic Women will hold its Christmas Kaleidoscope Craft/Vendor Fair at the St. Pius X Social Center, 601 S. Westmore in Lombard. Food available for purchase; bake sale, raffle prizes. Free admission.

Saturday, Nov. 14

25th Annual Mayor's Charity Ball

The 25th Annual Mayor's Community Charity Ball will be held at Alta Villa Banquets, 430 N. Addison Road and the community is encouraged to attend. Tickets are \$85 per person, a portion of which supports the 20 organizations that are a part of the event. Those who

purchase tickets by Oct. 30 pay just \$80. For tickets and information, please call (630) 693-7550 or visit ItHappensInAddison.com

Tuesday, Dec. 8

AT's Orchestis offers dance clinic

From 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., dancers in grades K-8 are invited to the 3rd annual Winter Dance Clinic at Addison Trail, hosted by the Orchestis Team. Dancers will participate in technique class, play games, learn a routine and perform with the Orchestis Team during the home basketball game at 7 p.m. on that same day. Fee: \$25 per camper in advance (by Dec. 1), or \$30 per camper on-site. Includes a T-shirt and pizza. Info: dupage88.net/site/public/files/?item=2539.

Wednesday, Dec. 9

AT performs Hallelujah Chorus

At 7:30 p.m. at the high school, the Addison Trail Music Department will perform Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" as this year's Benefit Concert and music alumni are invited to join the performance. Info: 630-628-3361 or doconnell@dupage88.net.

Ongoing events ...

• Collage artist's works at ACA gallery

Now through Nov. 7, guests can enjoy the artworks of DuPage County abstract mixed media collage artist Laura Lein-Svencner in an exhibition entitled "Collage Composed" at the Addison Center for the Arts gallery located inside Addison Trail High School. Info: addisoncenterforthearts.com

• Annette Leiber exhibition at Elmhurst Art Museum

Now through Dec. 4, "Intrinsic," an exhibition by Annette Perone Leiber, will be on display at the Elmhurst Artists' Guild Gallery located inside the Elmhurst Art Museum. More than 75 works of art in mixed media, watercolor and sculpture will be on display. Info: elmhurstartistsguild.org or call 630-279-1009.

• Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) meet each month

Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) of the Western Suburbs will meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Knights

of Columbus Hall, 537 S. York Road, Elmhurst, starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$5. Info: (630) 620-4060 or wow.cfsites.org.

• Active Adults Senior Club

Adults, ages 55 or better, are invited to Park District's Active Adults Senior Club on Tuesdays from noon-2 p.m. at Community Rec Center, 120 E. Oak Street. For more information, contact Teresa Grodsky at (630) 233-7275, option #2.

• ACA presents Laura Lein-Svencner

Now through Saturday, Nov. 7, the Addison Center for the Arts is featuring the works of artist Laura Lein-Svencner in its gallery at 213 N. Lombard Road, annexed to ATHS at door #4. Gallery hours are from 12 noon-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. For more information or to schedule a private tour, call 630-458-4500.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: Quest-Publishing@aol.com. Please include a phone number or e-mail address to contact for information.

SPORTS

NOVEMBER 5, 2015 • 18

Fenton's Vazquez-Perez wins sectional cross-country title

Bison cross-country teams qualify five for state

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Fenton junior Jose Vazquez-Perez hit the trifecta.

Vazquez-Perez won his third cross-country individual title in as many weeks, this time finishing first at the Class 2A Chicago University High sectional.

Vazquez-Perez will run in Saturday's Class 2A state finals in Peoria.

Vazquez-Perez also won a Class 2A regional title and won the Metro Suburban Conference West Division championship.

Vazquez-Perez will be joined at state by teammates Samuel Hernandez and Cristian Sanchez. Hernandez, a senior, took 23rd with a time of 16:30. Sanchez, a sophomore, placed 28th with a time of 16:40. All three earned individual state-qualifying berths by being among the top seven runners not on state-qualifying teams.

Fenton missed qualifying for state as a team by three points. The Bison took sixth with 146 points. St. Viator snared the fifth and final state spot with 143 points.

Junior Harry Contreras finished 46th with a time of 17:07.02. Senior Antonio Aguilera was 48th with a time of 17:09.09. Sophomore Alex Whyte was 55th with a time of 17:30.42 and senior Felipe Ruiz was 56th with a time of

17:32.02.

Fenton girls cross country

The Fenton girls cross-country team qualified a pair of runners for Saturday's Class 2A state finals in Peoria.

Sophomore Jessica McCauley and senior Marisol Garcia both advanced out of the Class 2A Chicago University High sectional.

McCauley finished 15th in the field with a time of 19:52. Garcia was 18th with a time of 20:04. Both were among the top seven finishers not on state qualifying teams.

Fenton took eighth as a team with 202 points. Sophomore Charity Bullis was 44th with a time of 21:21.54. Senior Rebecca Garcia took 62nd with a time of 22:15.02. Freshman Alyssa Silva was 79th with a time of 23:34.76. Junior Katherine Dominguez was 83rd with a time of 23:59.87, while sophomore Catherine Tillesen was 85th with a time of 24:00.91.

Fenton boys soccer

The Fenton boys soccer team saw its season come to a conclusion after a 5-1 loss to Rockford Boylan in the semifinals of the Class 2A Hampshire sectional. Fenton had won the Class 2A Hampshire regional title the week before.

Fenton girls volleyball

The Fenton girls volleyball team opened postseason play with a 25-15, 25-7 win over Proviso East at the Class 4A Chicago Whitney Young regional.

Fenton then lost 25-18, 25-20 to Riverside-Brookfield in the regional semifinals.

Addison Trail boys soccer team enjoys prosperous season Blazers win 12 games; Luna leads team with 12 goals

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Addison Trail boys soccer coach Ryan Dini wasn't kidding when he said his team accomplished a lot this season.

The Blazers finished the season 12-7-2 overall, finished 3-3 in the tough West Suburban Conference Gold Division and advanced to a Class 3A regional championship game.

Addison Trail opened the playoffs with a 2-1 victory in two overtimes against Wheaton-Warrenville South. "It was a very well-played game by both teams," said Dini. "The highlight for us was to stay with the game plan and find a way to score before the end of the second overtime. We showed how well in shape we were with continuing to make runs from the win position. Our players kept up the pace. That was the difference in the game and we found a way to score."

Sophomore forward Jonathan Hernandez finished a cross from senior Fernando Alvarado to win the game.

The Blazers then dropped a 2-0 decision to Glenbard North in the regional championship game.

"I think it was the overall experience for our team to play in a game of that magnitude," said Dini. "We have 14 out of 21 varsity players returning next season and seven are starters. In the end, we were beat by a better team. Our players learned a lot from this game. After the match I talked with a lot of our juniors about taking the next step next season and focusing on what we need to improve on as individuals and as a team. I look for a really motivated team coming back next year."

Junior forward Enrique Luna led Addison Trail with 12 goals and seven assists. He

earned all-conference and honorable mention all-sectional accolades. Hernandez finished with eight goals and 11 assists.

"Jonathan scored double the goals this year than he did during his freshman season on varsity," said Dini. "He has great size, speed and strength and is one of the best sophomores in the area. Enrique had 12 goals and is very fast and can dribble in tight spaces."

Junior midfielder Tom Kania had eight goals and six assists, while senior midfielder Damian Zielinski had seven goals and six assists and earned all-conference honors.

Junior defender Uriel Martinez had two goals and earned all-conference and all-sectional honors. Senior goalie Cosme Garcia had seven shutouts, a 1.26 goals-against average and an 82% save percentage.

Dini also was impressed with how his team fared playing a tough schedule. "The team had a winning record against excellent competition," said Dini, who noted Addison Trail also placed eight players on the academic all-conference team. "Our team defense was very good with seven shutouts and only allowing two or more goals in a game five times out of 21 games. We also were able to take second in our eight-team tournament and make it to the regional final."

Addison Trail moved up from sixth to fourth in the WSC Gold this season.

"We were able to execute our scouting reports on teams we played and we saw some good plays on points of emphasis during game play," said Dini.

Dini is looking forward to the 2016 season.

"We accomplished a lot this year and are bringing a lot of talent back next season," he said. "Our goal is to finish in the top three in the conference and win a regional championship next season. I'm excited to see these players grow on the field and off the field and compete at a high level next year. The future is bright for Addison Trail soccer."

Willowbrook cross-country teams compete at sectional meets

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Willowbrook boys cross-country team finished 12th at the recent Class 3A Hinsdale Central sectional.

Senior Marco Martinez finished 49th with a time of 16:32.79 to lead the Warriors. Freshman Matt Caron was 74th with a time of 17:02.95. Senior Chris Turek finished 77th with a time of 17:11.55. Senior Henry Dahl placed 83rd with a time of 17:28.19. Sophomore Michael Isaacson was 88th with a time

of 17:38.89. Junior Jacob Christiansen was 94th with a time of 17:46.10, while junior Casey King took 113th with a time of 18:11.79.

Willowbrook girls cross country

The Willowbrook girls cross-country team took 16th place at the recent Class 3A Hinsdale Central sectional.

Freshman Victoria Palma was Willowbrook's first finisher. She placed 85th with a time of 21:15.47. Junior Grace

Guthrie was 96th with a time of 21:39.07. Sophomore Catherine Pegler was 97th with a time of 21:42.85. Sophomore Angela Klingelhoff took 102nd with a time of 22:00.12. Sophomore Evelyn Yao was 107th with a time of 22:12.70. Senior Kimberly Leon-Cervantes took 109th with a time of 22:16.80. Sophomore Briana Jones was 118th with a time of 23:04.12.

Addison Trail boys cross country

Addison Trail junior Demetrio

Cervantes took 87th at the recent Class 3A Lake Park boys cross-country sectional. Cervantes finished the course in 16:50.2.

Willowbrook girls volleyball

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team split a pair of postseason matches at the Class 3A St. Ignatius regional in Chicago.

In a 25-1, 25-5 win over Chicago Prosser, Danielle McNamara had seven kills and one dig. Celia Dewyer had one dig. Grace Chantos had one ace, one assist and one dig. Olivia Pennebaker

had six kills and 10 aces. Madeline Weinhold had two assists and one dig. Emily Ligocki had one kill, one ace, 17 assists and one dig. Jamie Chiappetta had eight kills and one assist. Kalyn Konrath had one kill and one solo block. Milena Sogura had one kill and Kelly Conley had one kill, three aces, one assist and two digs.

Willowbrook then lost 21-25, 25-20, 25-18 to Oak Park-River Forest in the regional semifinals.

The Warriors finished the season with a 16-21 record.

Addison Trail girls volleyball team reaches regional final

Blazers improved win total by 13 in 2015

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail girls volleyball team's season-long turnaround reached the regional championship round. The Blazers lost 25-13, 25-13 to York in the finals of the Class 4A Addison Trail regional.

Addison Trail finished the season with a 22-14 record and shared the West Suburban Conference Gold Division title with Downers Grove South. The Blazers were 9-27 a year ago.

Addison Trail reached the regional final by defeating Leyden 25-10, 25-22 in the semifinals.

"We got into a groove early in the first set against Leyden and pulled away," said Blazers coach Dan Styler. "At the end we were serving well and we broke down their serve-receive. We had a 10-point run at the end of the first set

and we had a ton of momentum going. In the second set we didn't play our best but we executed down the stretch and made some great hustle plays that sealed the win for us."

Styler said his team ran into a strong York squad in the title match. "York is a tough matchup," he said. "I was very impressed by their play. They were one of the best ball-control teams we played all year. On the season we averaged just shy of 10 aces per match. We had none against York. They are a fantastic ball-control team and that definitely helped the point differential on their end. We had some kills against them, but they played well and gashed us with several scoring runs. They deserved to win. They are a fantastic team."

Styler cited strong play in the two regional games from Keara Schmitt and Sarah Petrbok. "Both Keara and Sarah played fantastic in both matches," he said.

Styler said the loss to York was tough, but it doesn't diminish what the Blazers accomplished in 2015.

"It was tough for the girls to process the loss to York, but we reiterated to them how great of a season we had," said Styler. "We went from 9-27 last year to 22-14 this year. That's a tremendous turnaround playing a tough schedule. We played in the Lake Park tournament that has 12 teams. We finished last—12th place last year. This year we won it and that's a testament to the hard work of these kids. It's great for them to see the improvement not only subjectively but we got better just by looking at the raw numbers. Going from last to first in a tournament is tremendous."

Addison Trail graduates seniors Jessica Mell, Nicole Pudlo and defensive specialist Carla Muell. Mell and Pudlo are the Blazers' starting middle blockers.

"We return 10 varsity players next year," said Styler. "We're absolutely ecstatic about the progress we made this year but we think we can still get better with the group we have coming back."

In the win against Leyden, Anastasia Labadessa had three

kills, three total blocks, 18 assists and three digs. Ciara Williams had one assist and 12 digs. Danielle Tulke had six digs. Mell had three kills (hit .333), two total blocks and one dig. Schmitt had five

kills, one total block and three digs. Pudlo had one kill and two total blocks. Nina Muell had four aces, three kills, one total block and seven digs. Petrbok had one ace, six kills, one total block and five digs.

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Homemade Desserts by Diana

Park progress...

THE RENOVATION PROJECT at Villa Park's Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park is scheduled to be completed in 2016. The photo on the right, taken Monday, shows a northward view toward the park, which is located at 320 E. Kenilworth Ave. Members of the Villa Park Village Board voted unanimously on Aug. 24 to authorize a proposed renovation plan for the park that will cost approximately \$200,000. Grayslake-based 3D Design Studio developed the plan to renovate the park. The upgrades include the installation of concrete paths for bicycle and pedestrian traffic on the east and west sides of the park. Additionally, the renovation calls for the construction of a new memorial on the south side of the park. That memorial, visible in the foreground of the photo, will include a free-standing seat wall with memorial columns and service plaques dedicated to the branches of the U.S. military. A 25-foot flagpole for the American flag will be located in the center of the memorial. The Nike Ajax missile that had been located at the north side of the park has been removed. The missile will soon be on display outside of Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2801 at 39 E. St. Charles Road.

Photo by Chris Fox



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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 56 No. 44

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Price 60¢

VFW post expects to serve 200 recruits on Thanksgiving

Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 is preparing to host its annual Thanksgiving dinner for recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes. The post, which is located at 39 E. St. Charles Road, is expecting about 200 recruits for this year's dinner, which is just about three weeks away.

Past post commander Dennis Geiseman spearheads the Villa Park post's holiday welcome for the recruits, who will arrive on the morning of Nov. 26. The recruits, who will be nearing the completion of boot camp on Thanksgiving Day, will spend their time at the post eating, watching football, playing video games and communicating with family and

friends via telephone and the Internet. The young men and women from Naval Station Great Lakes who come to Villa Park on Thanksgiving have not had contact with family and friends for several weeks, so they are extremely excited to contact their loved ones.

Volunteers will serve a traditional holiday feast to the recruits around noon. Organizing the dinner for 200 requires planning and attention to detail. In past years, about 100 people have volunteered their time to contribute to the Thanksgiving celebration.

Geiseman works with several local businesses and organizations that supply some of the food and resources for the event. All of

the turkeys donated for the Thanksgiving dinner will be cooked and carved at Maggiano's in Oak Brook.

Geiseman and the post welcome and appreciate contributions to this year's event. In addition to enjoying the traditional Thanksgiving meal, recruits are provided with food and drinks on the morning of their arrival and in the late afternoon.

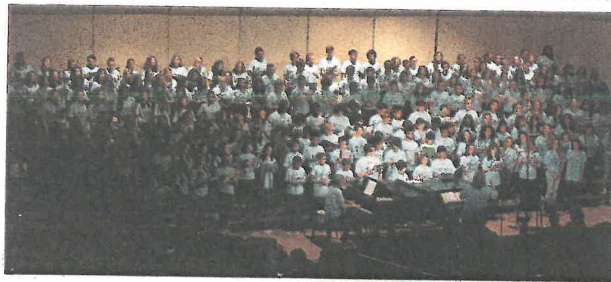
"We're looking for pies, desserts, cookies and cakes," said Geiseman on Monday afternoon. He noted that homemade items are welcome. "We're always looking for turkeys and spiral hams."

Geiseman said the turkeys and hams need to

be provided no later than Nov. 14.

The post would also welcome donations of crackers, chips, pretzels and other snacks. Geiseman said the post is also in need of soft drinks for this year's event. Those items may be dropped off at the post. For more information about contributing items for the holiday gathering, contact Geiseman at 630-935-0809.

"I'm asking the whole community to rally to help these recruits," said Geiseman, who invites residents to stop by the post on Thanksgiving Day. "We're giving them a home-cooked meal before they're sent to their duty stations, where they may never get a home-cooked meal. We're making a huge impression on them."



Choral concert...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL'S music department presented a free choral concert last week in the school auditorium. In addition to including Willowbrook's concert choir, treble choir and beginning mixed chorus, the Oct. 27 event included performances by the choruses from Jackson Middle School, Jefferson Middle School and the Saint Genesius Singers. Students from all of the choirs spent time together on the day of the concert to learn their pieces and rehearse. The evening event included a total of 230 singers. The photo on the right shows Willowbrook's concert choir performing under the direction of Karyn Wolcott, the school's choral director and music department chair. The above photo shows the combined choruses singing together at the end of the concert.

Photos by Buddy Martens



Contact VFW post for information about memorial bricks at Cortesi Park

Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 recently issued a news release regarding the availability of memorial bricks at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park, located at 320 E. Kenilworth Ave. The park is currently undergoing renovation. The project to renovate the site should be completed by Memorial Day 2016.

The improvements will include the

addition of memorial bricks. The cost of each brick is \$50.

"If you have a family member you wish to be remembered, this is an excellent opportunity," stated the release.

All proceeds from the sale of memorial bricks will be used to assist in maintaining Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park.

For more information, call the VFW post at 630-834-8191.

Kiwanis Club of Villa Park holds annual spaghetti dinner on Nov. 20

The Kiwanis Club of Villa Park will hold its annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 20, at Willowbrook High School.

Dinner will be served from 5-6:45 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, drinks and dessert. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for teenagers and \$4 for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and under eat for free.

All proceeds from the Kiwanis Club of Villa Park's spaghetti dinner will benefit special projects to help families and children of the community. To order advance tickets for the dinner, send an e-mail to Sandra Hill at shill@vppl.info. To learn more about the

Kiwanis Club of Villa Park, visit its Web site at www.kiwanisclubofvillapark.com.

Guests are invited to stay at the school after the dinner to attend Willowbrook's musical presentation of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," which will begin at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. Based on an unfinished novel by Charles Dickens, the musical ends differently each night, depending on what the audience decides.

Tickets for the musical are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Admission is free to residents with a Gold Card. Family passes will not be accepted for the musical.

Holiday food drive at Villa Park Office Equipment through Nov. 12

Villa Park Office Equipment (VPOE), located at 1120 N. Villa Ave., is holding its fourth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. The business is partnering with DuPagePads to hold the food drive, which began Nov. 2 and will continue through Nov. 12.

Donations may be dropped off at VPOE from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays during the drive and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 7.

Suggested items to be donated include: Jewel gift cards, green bean casserole ingredients, canned candied yams, boxes of instant potatoes, canned vegetables, boxes or bags of stuffing mixes, boxes of bread/muffin mixes, gravy mixes, boxed desserts, drink mixes (lemonade/fruit punch), disposable turkey pans, decorative table cloths and napkins and reusable cloth grocery bags.

Drop off pumpkins for composting outside of Village Hall on Saturday

The Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission is partnering with Glen Ellyn-based School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education (SCARCE) to offer pumpkin composting. Compost your Halloween pumpkins from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 7, in the parking lot behind Villa Park Village Hall at 20 S. Ardmore Ave.

According to a news release from the environmental concerns commission, the pumpkins to be dropped off should be void of decorations to avoid contaminating the compost.

"This means no candles, yarn, stickers, googly eyes, plastic ears, foam, etc.," stated the release. "Painted pumpkins, however, are allowed. This includes the blue ones, too, which indicates it's a peanut-free home. Acrylic paint is permitted since it, too, is compostable."

The release stated that pumpkins are made of 90 percent water, and that most of the pumpkins processed in the United States are

grown in Illinois.

"Composting helps return nutrients back into the soil," the release added.

Villa Park's trash and recycling company—Roy Strom—will provide a bin for hauling away the dropped-off pumpkins from Saturday's composting event.

For more information about composting, visit SCARCE's Web site at scarce.org. According to that site, SCARCE teamed with Wheaton and Elmhurst last year to host the first pumpkin recycling events ever in DuPage County. The 2014 collection reportedly composted 9.31 tons of pumpkins.

The commission advises the Villa Park Village Board on matters relating to the preservation, protection and improvement of the environment.

For additional information about the Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission, or to inquire about how to join the commission, contact Chairman Mike Spencer at mrspencer2@juno.com, or visit the village's Web site at invillapark.com.

Villa Park Public Library holds cheese-tasting event on Nov. 18

The Villa Park Public Library will hold a special program featuring a tasting of several different cheeses from 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

"Gear up for your holiday entertaining as we taste several different cheeses and find the ideal accompaniments to make a memorable and tasty cheeseboard," stated a news release

provided by the library, which is located at 305 S. Ardmore Ave.

The program will be led by American Cheese Society (ACS) Certified Cheese Professional Meredith Meder Registration is required. There is a tasting fee of \$7 per person.

Call 630-834-1164 for more information.

Questions? Comments?

E-MAIL THE VILLA PARK REVIEW AT vpreview@lbvpr.com

Villa Park's unlimited fall leaf disposal continues through the end of November

Yard waste stickers will not be required through Dec. 4

The Village of Villa Park's fall leaf collection program will allow residents to dispose of an unlimited number of Kraft paper bags of leaves without affixing yard waste disposal stickers.

The program will be in effect during a seven-week period that began last week (the week of Monday, Oct. 19) and ends the week of Nov. 30 to Dec. 4.

Brush must be tied in bundles no longer than 4 feet and not larger than 18 inches in diameter. No limbs over 4 inches in diameter

will be accepted.

Yard waste stickers are not required for the disposal of brush bundles. Since all brush and yard waste are transported to a composting facility for processing, plastic bags may not be used. Residents should use only biodegradable twine or string for binding brush.

It is unlawful to deposit yard waste of any kind into public streets.

For more information, call the village's public works department at 630-834-8505.



Helping others...

TEN STUDENTS FROM Willowbrook High School recently served meals at the DuPagePads homeless shelter at First Presbyterian Church of Itasca. The students are members of the Willowbrook Interact Club. Willowbrook social worker and Interact Club sponsor Erik Engel accompanied the students to the shelter on Oct. 20. The students decorated the shelter, baked desserts for the guests and served them dinner donated by Sweet Baby Ray's Barbecue restaurant. Engel and the students returned on Oct. 21 to prepare and serve breakfast and to help clean up the shelter. The above photo shows four Willowbrook students preparing to serve some of the dessert items they made for their Oct. 20 visit. Pictured left to right are freshman Danielle Harbison, junior Maria Khan, senior Monica Chadez and senior Alexis Hernandez. The photo on the right shows junior Emily King as she gets ready to serve guests at the shelter.



District 88's Best...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL senior Gaalen Bergsten (above, left) is his school's recipient of the District 88's Best award for the month of October. Bergsten, who is pictured with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause, was recognized at the District 88 Board of Education meeting on Oct. 26. Each month of the school year, the board of education presents the District 88's Best award to students from each of the district's two schools—Willowbrook and Addison Trail high schools. The award recognizes students for their achievements both inside and outside the classroom. Bergsten, who has taken several of the most rigorous courses available at Willowbrook, has maintained an academic rank within the top 1 percent of the school's Class of 2016. By the time he graduates, Bergsten will have completed 16 Advanced Placement (AP) courses. He is an AP Scholar with Distinction, a National AP Scholar and a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student. Bergsten also serves as sergeant at arms for the National Honor Society and is an inductee of the National English, Math and World Language honor societies, as well as Willowbrook's social studies honor society—Civitas. Bergsten has participated in several Willowbrook theater productions as a cast or crew member. He also contributes to the school's music department as a member of the show choir, wind ensemble, pep band and jazz band. He's also the drum major for Willowbrook's marching band. Additionally, Bergsten has been a part of the school's math and speech teams, as well as the Scholastic Bowl and Science Olympiad teams. As he continues his education, Bergsten plans to apply to several schools, including Stanford University and the University of Maine. He intends to pursue a degree in marine science with a minor in astrophysics.

Award-winning former teacher offers presentation

VILLA PARK — On Oct. 21, award-winning educator and local parent Andy Isaacson, who also was a former Willowbrook teacher, presented a program at Willowbrook entitled "Enhancing the Family-School Connection for Student Success" for parents/guardians.

Isaacson used video clips to show the partnership parents/guardians can develop with their son or daughter's school and how that relationship can benefit their child. He also discussed potential obstacles that can affect students and offered solutions to help parents/guardians guide their child to greater achievement.



courtesy photo by Jean Hockensmith

Award-winning educator and local parent Andy Isaacson, who also was a former Willowbrook teacher, presents a program entitled "Enhancing the Family-School Connection for Student Success" on Oct. 21 at Willowbrook. The event was focused on helping parents/guardians to assist their child in reaching his or her goals inside the classroom and beyond.

Honors and distinctions bestowed on Isaacson include:

Claes Nobel International Educator of Distinction 2012

Chicago Bears/Symetra Heroes in the Classroom Award 2011-2012

District 88 Star's Educator Award 2009 & 2010

Golden Apple Teacher Award finalist 1992 & 2005

Disney Teacher of the Year semifinalist 2003

District 88 Employee of the Year Achievement Award 1991 & 2002

Three-time NCAA All-American Athlete

Illinois State University Athletic Hall of Fame

"Enhancing the Family-School Connection for Student Success" was offered by School District 45, Salt Creek School District 48 and District 88.



photo provided

Tasty treats for dessert

Willowbrook students serve dessert items they made at a visit to DuPage P.A.D.S. homeless shelter in Itasca on Oct. 20. Pictured are (from left) freshman Danielle Harbison,

junior Maria Khan, senior Monica Chaidez and senior Alex Hernandez. Full story and another photo can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Go green this Halloween and compost your pumpkin

VILLA PARK — This Halloween, Villa Park Environmental Concerns Commission partners with SCARCE to offer pumpkin composting.

Compost your jack-o-lanterns on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the parking lot behind Villa Park Village Hall, 20 S. Ardmore Ave., next to Public Works.

Pumpkins should be void of decorations to avoid contaminating the compost. This means no candles, yarn, stickers, googly eyes, plastic ears, foam, etc. Painted pumpkins are allowed, this includes the

blue ones, too, which indicates it's a peanut-free home. Acrylic paint is permitted since it, too, is compostable.

Villa Park's local trash and recycling company Roy Strom will be providing a bin for the pumpkins to be hauled away for composting. Visit scarce.org for other locations and more information.

Effort supported by state government

Did you know pumpkins are made of 90 percent of water? Most of the pumpkins processed in the United States are grown in Illinois. Composting

helps return nutrients back into the soil.

Illinois House Bill 437, which was signed into law by Gov. Bruce Rauner on July 10, allows temporary and permanent sites to collect organic compost. So this event is supported by the state government.

The Environmental Concerns Commission advises the presi-

dent and board of trustees on matters relating to the preservation, protection and improvement of the environment, including the quality of land, air and water. To learn more about the commission including how to become a member, contact Chairman Mike Spencer at mrs Spencer2@juno.com or visit invillapark.com.

• BOARD

Continued from page 1

gan and Senate President John Cullerton. State services and municipalities have been caught in the middle.

The MFT is collected by the State and then redistributed to the municipalities based on their fuel sales. In Villa Park, this amounts to about \$540,000 annually.

"The budget impasse at the state level has resulted in a reduction in the local share of the motor fuel tax," according to Village staff, "[which] would have a significant impact on road construction and road maintenance within the Village."

The MFT funds can only be used for road-related construction and maintenance. This funding is built into the Village of Villa Park budget.

The Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) is income tax revenue that the

state collects and then redistributes to municipal governments to help them provide services to taxpayers. Governor Rauner has proposed a 50% reduction in the amount of LGDF redistributed to municipalities as a way to help alleviate the state's budget crisis. According to Village staff, a 50% reduction would amount to \$1.1 million less annually for Villa Park.

Asked if the resolutions will be made known in Springfield, Village Manager Keehner said: "I will transmit them to Brad Cole, executive director of IML [Illinois Municipal League], and Brad Cole will distribute those with the other resolutions from across the state."

Both resolutions were passed unanimously 6-0 by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda portion of the Formal Meeting. Trustee Chris Aiello was absent from the meeting.

Kiwanis plans annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

VILLA PARK — The Kiwanis Club of Villa Park's annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Friday, Nov. 20 from 5-6:45 p.m. in the cafeteria of Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, bread, drinks, and dessert. Tickets are \$7 for adults; \$6 for teens; \$4 for children ages 6 to 12; children 5 and younger eat free.

After dinner you are invited to stay for Willowbrook High School's musical performance of The Mystery of Edwin Drood at 7 p.m. Based on an unfinished novel by Charles Dickens, this musical ends differently each night, depending on what the audience decides. Tickets for the play are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for children under 12/Willowbrook Activity Pass, and Free with a Gold Card. (Family passes are not accepted for the musical).

The Kiwanis Club of Villa Park is sponsoring the dinner. All proceeds from the spaghetti dinner go to benefit special projects to help families and children right in our own community.

Advance tickets, send an email to shill@vppl.info. To learn more about the Kiwanis Club of Villa Park visit kiwanisclubofvillapark.com or visit us on facebook.

OBITUARIES

Rita C. Sbarra, 88

Rita C. Sbarra, nee Rizzo, formerly of Villa Park, passed away recently at the age of 88. Beloved wife of the late Anthony P. Sbarra, Sr. Loving mother of Catherine Sbarra and Anthony P. Jr. (Dina) Sbarra. Dear grandmother of Marissa Anne, Anthony David, Joseph Anthony and Krista Marie.

Fond sister AnneTherese (Paul) Manganaro, Joseph (Joyce) Rizzo and the late Marie (late Thomas) Rizzo. Aunt to many. Funeral Mass was held Friday, October 30, 2015 at St. John the Apostle Church. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more information.

Dennis L. Doll, 74

Dennis L. Doll, of Clarendon Hills, formerly of Villa Park, passed away recently at the age of 74. Beloved husband of Barbara. Loving father of Larry (Kerri), Danielle (Kurt) Zwolfer, Matthew (Diane) and Mimi (Aaron) Modica. Cherished grandfather of 13, fond brother of Jim (Sylvia) and Nancy Doll. Dear uncle of many nieces and nephews. Funeral service was held

on Saturday October 17, 2015, at St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church, 1500 Brookdale Rd. in Naperville. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations are appreciated to the Northern Illinois Food Bank (solvehungertoday.com) or Catholic Charities Joliet (catholiccharitiesjoliet.org). Arrangements provided by Steuerle Funeral Home. Call (630) 832-4161 or visit steuerlefh.com for more information.



photo provided

York Township Supervisor John W. Valle stands between AAA member representatives LaVerne Mitchell-Cutts (left) and Diana Stephen, who brought a carload of food to donate to the food pantry last week.

WB students volunteer at homeless shelter

VILLA PARK — On Oct. 20 and 21, 10 Willowbrook students, along with Willowbrook Social Worker and Interact Club Sponsor Erik Engel, went to First Presbyterian Church of Itasca to serve a meal at the DuPage P.A.D.S. homeless shelter.

The students, who are members of the Interact Club, decorated the shelter, baked desserts for the guests and served them dinner (which was donated by Sweet Baby Ray's Barbecue Restaurant) on Tuesday. Students then returned on Wednesday, Oct. 21 to prepare and serve breakfast and clean up the shelter. Engel said students joined the guests for conversation and had a wonderful experience giving back to the community.

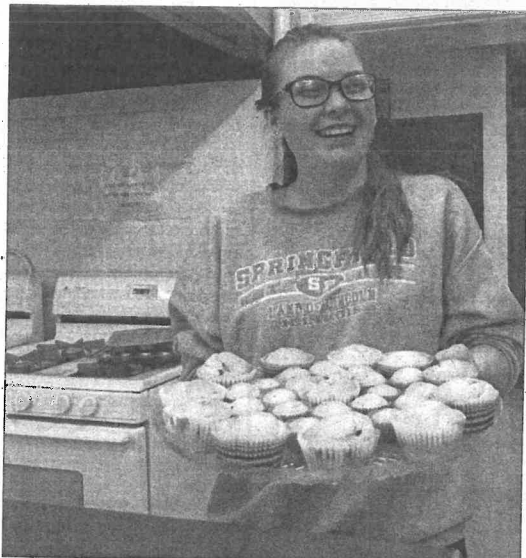


photo provided

Willowbrook junior Emily King helps prepare a meal for guests on Oct. 20 at DuPage P.A.D.S. homeless shelter in Itasca. Students who are members of the Willowbrook Interact Club volunteered on Oct. 20 and 21 at the shelter.

Villa Park branch of AAA gives to York food pantry

VILLA PARK — AAA Chicago is a full service travel and insurance agency with a branch office in Villa Park. As part of its culture and mission to support and give back to the local community, AAA Chicago did a volunteer week from October 18-24, kicking off volunteer week with the Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk that was

held at Cantigny in Wheaton on Sunday, October 18.

AAA Chicago dedicates a week of volunteering every year and each branch picks a charity of choice. On Tuesday October 27 LaVerne Mitchell-Cutts and Diana Stephen of the AAA Villa Park Branch delivered a car load of much needed non-perishable food items

to York Township Hall, 1502 South Meyers Road to help stock food pantry shelves.

"Our Branch Manager Eleni Tzavaras asked us if we would like to do a food drive and we said yes," LaVerne said. "This is when AAA in Villa Park selected the York Township Food Pantry as our charity of choice."

PARKS AND REC COMING EVENTS

Holiday Train Ride scheduled for Dec. 5

VILLA PARK — All Aboard! Villa Park Recreation is offering a Holiday Train Ride on Saturday, December 5. All ages can register to ride the train from Villa Park to the "North Pole" (Elburn train station). On-board activities will be highlighted by a visit from Santa. The Holiday Train Ride will depart from Villa Park's Metra Station at 1:15 p.m. Pre-registration is required. The fee is \$15 per person resident/\$18 non-resident. Call 630-834-8970 with any questions.

Easy Pass punch cards offer flexibility

Parks & Recreation offers a unique fitness class schedule that gives participants the flexibility to drop in to classes without prior registration. Easy Pass punch cards are available in 10, 18 or 24 visits. Exercise at your own convenience; just present the card to the instructor as you attend classes.

Classes are available Monday-Thursday and Saturday mornings and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Choose from Zumba, Mixed Exercise, Kettle Bell, Weighted Hula Hoop, Mini Trampoline and a Cardio Strength Interval class. Call 630-834-8970 or visit vprd.org for a complete list of class times and days.

Birthday Bunch seniors to enjoy Thanksgiving feast

Parks and Recreation holds a monthly Birthday Bunch & Lunch program for seniors at the Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood. The next gathering is Thursday, November 12 from 12 noon-2 p.m.. This month's event will feature a pre-Thanksgiving feast. Whether or not you are celebrating your birthday the month you attend, you are invited to join in the fun. After lunch you will enjoy playing Bingo for gift prizes and singing to those celebrating their birthday in January. The fee is \$5 per person, payable at the door. Please RSVP to 630-834-8525 one week in advance. Birthday Bunch & Lunch is sponsored in-part by G.M. Smith and Son Realtors in Villa Park.

Fall camp fill kids' holiday break

A Fall Camp for kids age 5-12 is scheduled to give them fun activities to do while on their November break from school. It will be held November 23-25 at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa. Camp is available 9 am - 4 pm daily with a \$28 fee; if your camper needs to extend their camp day Sunrise and Sunset

See EVENTS, Page 17

Galen Bergsten named 88's Best for October

VILLA PARK — Galen Bergsten has been named as Willowbrook's October recipient of 88's Best recognition for his academic accomplishments. Bergsten, a senior, was recognized during the Oct. 26 District 88 Board of Education meeting.

As a student, Galen has taken some of the most rigorous courses available at Willowbrook. When he graduates, Galen will have taken 16 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses and a multitude of Honors courses. He has maintained a class ranking within the 99th percentile and is an AP Scholar with Distinction, a National AP Scholar, a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student and also has earned Honor Roll status each semester of his high school career. Bergsten also is Treasurer of the Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) Honor Society and the Thespian Society Troupe No. 94 and serves as Sergeant at Arms for the National Honor Society. He is an inductee of Civitas (Willowbrook's Social Studies Honor Society), as well as the National English,

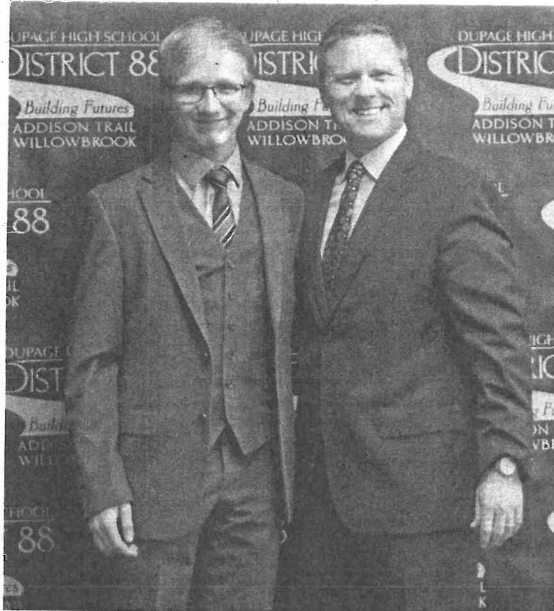


photo provided
Pictured here with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause is senior Galen Bergsten (left), who has been named as Willowbrook's October recipient of 88's Best recognition.

Math and World Language honor societies.

Beyond the classroom,

Galen participates and leads by example in a variety of extracurricular activities at

Willowbrook. He has participated in 10 theatre productions so far as a cast or crew member, and he is a member of Show Choir, Wind Ensemble, Pep Band, Jazz Band and also is the Drum Major for the Marching Band. Galen's commitment to Willowbrook is further demonstrated by serving as Vice President of Student Council, Team Captain of Relay For Life and a member of Blue Crew, Best Buddies, Key Club and Improv Club. He has been a part of Math Team, Speech Team, Scholastic Bowl, Model United Nations, IHSA Contest Theatre, Tennis and Science Olympiad as well.

"I have known Bergsten from Math Team and AP Statistics," said math teacher Chris Carr. "He is witty and intelligent, with all of the makings to be a strong leader. His peers look up to him, and he is not afraid to have that responsibility on his shoulders. I have no doubt he will go on to do great things."

English Department Chair and Speech Team Head Coach Brett Blair agreed.

"Bergsten is a wonderfully

intelligent, creative young man," Blair said. "Though he has a math/science mind, his command and use of both written and oral communication is already at the college level. A distinct honor and pleasure was to have him in class last year when he was a junior. His ability to delve into the literature and present witty, creative and profound analysis never ceased. I have also had the utmost pleasure in coaching and working with Bergsten these last four years on Speech Team. The awkward, nearly impossible-to-hear freshman who first stepped in front of me to the confident, jovial young man with a command in his oratorical skills has easily shown why he has been a successful Co-captain for two years and a phenomenal performer in Radio and Informative Speaking."

Galen plans to continue his education by pursuing a degree in marine science with a minor in astrophysics. He plans to apply to Stanford University, The University of Maine and various other institutions.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday, Nov. 6-Sunday, Nov. 8 Take part in the Friends' annual Murder Mystery

Mystery, suspense, laughter! All of these await you at this year's murder mystery play presented by The Friends of the Villa Park Library. Those savvy enough to figure out whodunit will have the chance to win fabulous prizes from local businesses! Refreshments will be served. The show will be held at the library's Annex (317 S. Ardmore) at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 6-7 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 8. Tickets, now on sale, are \$12 in

advance and \$15 at the door. Info: 630-834-1164.

Saturday, Nov. 7 St. Pius X Women's craft/vendor fair

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Pius X Council of Catholic Women will hold its Christmas Kaleidoscope Craft/Vendor Fair at the St. Pius X Social Center, 601 S. Westmore in Lombard. Food available for purchase, bake sale, raffle prizes. Free admission.

Monday, Nov. 9 Magician at Villa Park Public Library

Join the Villa Park Public

Library for magic and illusion! Popular magician William Pack will astonish the audience by recreating some of Houdini's favorite tricks. This program of fun and magic will be held at the library starting at 7 p.m. Registration is required. Info: visit the library's website at vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Thursday, Nov. 12

State Rep. Conroy holding get-together

From 9-10 a.m., State Representative Deb Conroy will hold a gathering at the Funky Java, 40 S. Villa Ave. in Villa Park to discuss current issues in Springfield and across the state. Residents are invited to stop in for a few minutes or stay for the entire hour. All of Conroy's events are open to the public.

Saturday, Nov. 14

State Rep hosting community meeting

From 10-11 a.m., State Rep. Deb Conroy (D-Villa Park) will host her monthly community meeting to discuss state issues with area residents at the Villa Park Library. She will be joined by SCARCE, an environmental education group. To RSVP, call 630-415-3520 or e-mail RepDebConroy@gmail.com.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

Library program on building "perfect cheeseboard"

At 7 p.m., the final of three special programs led by ACS Certified Cheese Professional Meredith Meder, Build the Perfect Cheeseboard, will be held. Registration required. Tasting fee of \$7 per person. To register, visit vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Career workshop at VP Library

From 9:30-11:30 a.m., job seekers are invited to a Career Re-Launcher Workshop (The CREW™) at the Villa Park Public Library,

featuring Tom Somora, an employment services representative with Illinois Department of Employment Services (IDES). Bring pen, paper and an open mind. Registration required as space is limited. To register, visit vppl.info or call 630-834-1164.

Ongoing events ...

• Free poetry workshops at the Library

Are you a poet looking for a supportive community to share your work? The Villa Park Public Library is pleased to offer free poetry workshops, led by Friends member Ida Kotyuk. These workshops will be held on the following Mondays at the library: Nov. 9 and 23; Dec. 7 and 21. Registration is required for each session. Info: visit the library's website (vppl.info) or call 630-834-1164.

• VFW Friday Night Fish Fry

From 5:30-8 p.m. every Friday evening, the Villa Park VFW Post #2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road, holds its Fish Fry. Menu available for purchase includes fried shrimp, fish/shrimp combos, beef/sausage sandwiches, combos and hot dogs.

• Widows or Widowers meeting

Widows or Widowers (W.O.W.) of the Western Suburbs meets on the third Thursday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. Held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 537 S. York Road, Elmhurst. Admission: \$5. Info: (630) 620-4060 or wow.cfsites.org.

• Electronics disposal for recycling

From 9 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday of every month, the Village of Villa Park has coordinated with Roy Strom, the village's waste hauler, to offer E-Waste "the right way"—a convenient, cost free drop-off electronic disposal solution. The drop-off site has been relocated to the Village Hall parking lot, located at 20 S. Ardmore Ave. Info: (630) 592-6052.

• EVENTS

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Camps are available for additional fees.

Campers will enjoy theme days with many games and activities to keep them busy. Please send a non-perishable lunch each day except Wednesday when campers will have a special Thanksgiving lunch. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Sign up for the full week or camp or just the days you like. Visit vppl.info or call 630-834-8970.

Swimming lessons start Dec. 3

Parks and Recreation offers indoor swim lessons in cooperation with the Addison Park

District. The next session starts Dec. 3. Classes are available on Saturdays and Tuesday and Thursday evenings for swimmers with all levels of swim experience and include parent/tot classes. Register with the Recreation Department; lessons are held at the Club Fitness Indoor Pool, 1776 W. Centennial Place in Addison. To see the full schedule of lessons and for fees visit vppl.info or call 630-834-8970.