

Villa Park Chamber of Commerce holds Joyful Traditions on Dec. 5

The Villa Park Chamber of Commerce will present its 18th annual Joyful Traditions holiday celebration from 6-8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5. The free community event will take place near the Rugaard Gazebo by Ardmore Avenue and Park Boulevard near the Illinois Prairie Path.

Some of the highlights of Joyful Traditions include: a tasting tent featuring free food provided by local restaurants, hot chocolate, a s'more station, a SnoMan Cave, a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, horse-drawn sleigh

rides and trolley rides to the Villa Park Historical Museum. Members of the Willowbrook High School choir will sing Christmas carols, and children will be able to have a picture taken with Santa Claus.

Residents who attend are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots and a non-perishable item to contribute to a local food pantry.

For more information about Joyful Traditions, contact the Villa Park Chamber of Commerce at 630-941-9133.



Pride Commission award winners...

THE VILLA PARK COMMUNITY PRIDE COMMISSION presented its annual Halloween front yard decoration awards at the Villa Park Village Board meeting on Nov. 16. The commission presented four awards to recognize the outdoor decorations of four homes in the village. The above photo shows Thad and Kelly Porter (far left and center), who received an award for the Halloween decoration of their home on the 400 block of North Second Avenue. The award was given to the Porters, their son, his friend and the neighborhood children who helped with the decoration. The other award recipients included Kevin Latner and Larry Hebert of the 800 block of South Villa Avenue, Debra and Roberto Gonzalez of the 600 block of North Third Avenue and Roy Stafford of the 400 block of North Harvard Avenue.

WILLOWBROOK HOLIDAY MUSIC CONCERTS

Willowbrook High School's music department will present three upcoming holiday concerts. All three concerts will begin at 7 p.m. in the school's Doris E. White Auditorium.

Thursday, Dec. 3

FEATURING: Jazz Band and CenterStage Show Choir

Tuesday, Dec. 8

FEATURING: Chamber Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra,

Treble Choir, Beginning Choir, Concert Choir,

Beginning Guitars and Guitar Ensemble

Thursday, Dec. 10

FEATURING: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band,

Freshman Band and Percussion Ensemble

Ticket prices for all three events are: \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors (senior citizen gold cards and student passes are welcome). Admission is free to children 12 years old and younger who are accompanied by an adult.

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 8-inch by 8-inch brick is \$50. Up to three lines of text are allowed, with a

maximum of 18 characters per line. Each brick allows for a veteran's name, rank, branch and theater.

"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. Visit the Village of Villa Park's Web site at www.inwillapark.com to download an order form.

ComEd warns its customers to watch out for scam artists

ComEd issued a recent news release reminding the public to beware of people who pose as utility workers and target the utility's customers through door-to-door visits and phone calls.

"With the door-to-door scams, someone impersonating a utility worker will visit customers' homes looking to get personal and/or account information, and in some cases enter into the customer's home," stated the release. "Variations of the phone scam include stories that the customer's billing cycle has changed and payment is needed immediately; the account is past due and immediate payment is required to avoid disconnection of service; or the customer's previous payments were not accepted or processed. In those cases, the scammers instruct customers to buy a prepaid credit card and direct them to call back with the personal identification number (PIN)."

ComEd senior vice president of external affairs Fidel Marquez stated in the release that ComEd wants to raise awareness of scam artists who target customers:

"If customers are ever unsure about the authenticity of a utility worker at their door or over the phone, they should contact ComEd or the police immediately," stated Marquez.

The release reminded ComEd customers

that representatives from the company always carry proper identification and never ask customers for cash or personal financial information.

Anyone who believes he or she has been a target of a door-to-door or phone scam is advised to call the Illinois Attorney General's office toll free at 800-386-5438 or visit the attorney general's Web site www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov and click on the link "Protecting Consumers."

The release from ComEd offered some precautions to customers regarding scams. The tips include:

- Never provide personal information to anyone initiating contact with you who claims to be a utility representative or asks you to send money to another person or entity other than your local utility providers.

- Always ask to see a company photo ID before allowing any utility worker into your home or business.

- When in doubt, check it out. Be skeptical of people wearing clothing with old or defaced company logos. If you have any doubts, ask to see a company photo ID.

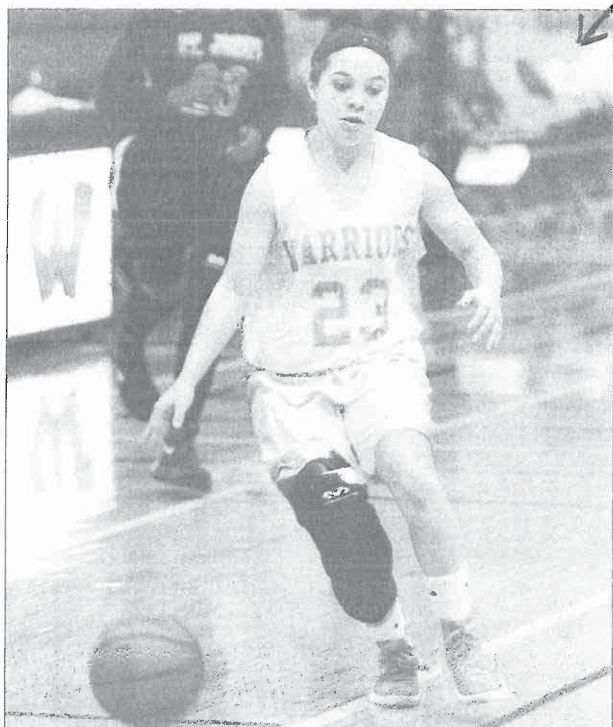
- Never make payment for services to anyone coming to the door.

Customers who have concerns about the status of their account can contact ComEd at 800-EDISON1.

Police department holds SALT quarterly meeting on Dec. 9

The Villa Park Police Department will hold the next quarterly meeting for Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT) on Wednesday, Dec. 9. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. at the Wildwood Community Center, which is located at 320 E. Wildwood Ave. Residents are invited to arrive at 10:30 a.m. to enjoy coffee and pastries before the presentation.

Villa Park Village President Deborah Bullwinkel will speak at the meeting. The Villa Park Senior Concerns Commission will hold a holiday luncheon at the conclusion of the meeting. Residents are invited to stay for the luncheon, which will be followed by games and prizes. Residents are welcome to bring a guest to the meeting and luncheon.



Back on the court...

Photo by Chris Fox

SENIOR DANIELLE VELASQUEZ (above) of the Willowbrook girls basketball team brings the ball down the court during the fourth quarter of Saturday afternoon's game against St. Joseph. The visiting Chargers beat the Warriors 67-61 in Villa Park in the second day of Willowbrook's 22nd annual Thanksgiving tournament. The Warriors opened the six-team, round-robin event with Friday's 53-36 win over Walther Christian. Willowbrook will complete the tournament with this week's games against East Aurora, St. Francis and Plainfield East. Velasquez suffered a knee injury during her sophomore season. She missed the remainder of the 2013-14 season and all of her junior year. The Warriors opened the 2015-16 season with a 55-51 loss to Glenbard North on Nov. 17 in Villa Park. Velasquez scored nine points against the Panthers in her first game with the Warriors in almost two years. She scored 13 points in Friday's win over Walther Christian and tallied five points in Saturday's game against St. Joseph.

Sports

**LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW**

Instant classic! Broncos rally to win a snowy semi

The Montini football program has piled up 32 playoff victories in the last seven seasons. Those post-season wins have included several fourth-quarter comebacks and memorable finishes. The bizarre weather conditions and stunning comeback in the Broncos' latest playoff victory—Saturday afternoon's 35-27 triumph over Prairie Ridge—added another chapter to the recent history of the program's post-season success.

"The greatest comeback in Montini football history," said Broncos head coach Chris Andriano in describing the contest during his post-game comments. "That was an unbelievable finish to a great game."



Igniting a comeback...

MONTINI JUNIOR Mitch West (above) makes a diving reception for a long gain on the final play of the third quarter of Saturday's Class 6A playoff game against Prairie Ridge. The Broncos trailed Prairie Ridge 27-13 at the end of the period, but they scored a touchdown on the first play of the fourth quarter to cut the lead to 27-19. Senior quarterback Justin Blake connected with senior Tyler Millikin on a 40-yard touchdown pass on the opening play of the fourth quarter. A two-point conversion run after the touchdown reduced the Wolves' lead to 27-21. Montini added two more fourth-quarter touchdowns on its way to a 35-27 semifinal victory. "We were bottled up the whole third quarter," said Montini coach Chris Andriano in commenting on West's 40-yard catch. "All of those things took a turn on that one play."



State qualifiers...

Photo by Chris Fox

FIVE MEMBERS OF THE ADDISON TRAIL/WILLOWBROOK girls swim team are pictured one day before they traveled to New Trier High School in Winnetka for the IHSA state meet. The girls competed in Friday's preliminary heats at New Trier. Pictured above (left to right) are: Addison Trail sophomore Michelle Ramirez, Willowbrook freshman Elissa Haake, Addison Trail junior Annalise Morrone, Willowbrook senior Melissa Johnston and Willowbrook senior Meghan Koterba. Haake competed in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle events. She completed the 50-yard race in 24.46 seconds and finished the 100-yard event in 53.16 seconds. The top 12 finishers in each event advanced to Saturday's finals. Haake did not place among the top 12 in either race. Haake joined Morrone, Johnston and Koterba to compete in the 200-yard freestyle relay. The foursome finished that race in a 23rd-place time of 1 minute, 38.77 seconds during Friday's preliminaries. The team needed a top-12 finish to advance to Saturday's finals. Ramirez served as an alternate for the state-qualifying relay team. The Addison Trail/Willowbrook girls earned their berths in the state meet by meeting qualifying standard times at the Downers Grove North Sectional on Nov. 14.

Playing in the midst of a snowstorm that covered the field during the first half, Montini battled a formidable Prairie Ridge team in Saturday's IHSA Class 6A semifinal game in Lombard. The snow that arrived during the morning had been cleared from the field about an hour before the 1 p.m. kickoff. But another blast of snow soon arrived, causing the first half to be played in near whiteout conditions. An army of shovelers, as well as a snow plow, worked to try to make the field playable, not to mention visible.

The snow let up in the second half, upgrading conditions from miserable to terrible. Aside from the weather,

Montini had another problem—stopping Prairie Ridge and its potent running attack. The Wolves produced a long touchdown drive late in the second quarter and added a two-point conversion run to take a 14-13 halftime lead. Prairie Ridge scored two more touchdowns in the third quarter to build a 27-13 lead with 12 minutes to play.

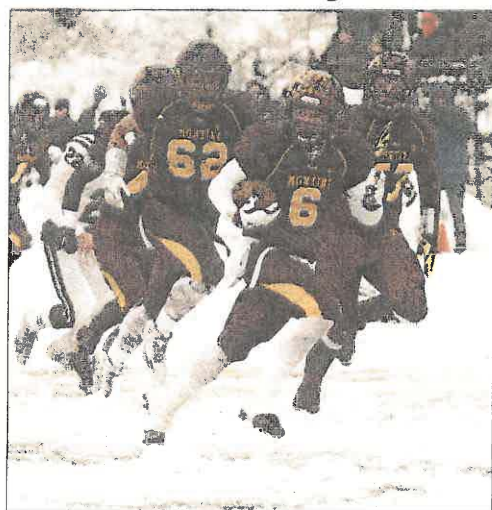
Facing its first loss of the season and the end of its string of trips to a state championship game, Montini outscored the Wolves 22-0 in the final quarter. Prairie Ridge drove inside the Broncos' 10-yard line during the final minute, but the Montini defense stopped the Wolves on a fourth-down play to lock up its 35-27 win.

The victory launched the unbeaten Broncos (13-0) into this Saturday's IHSA Class 6A championship game. Montini will tangle with Crete-Monee (11-2) in the title tilt at Northern Illinois University's Huskie Stadium. The two teams have one common opponent this season—Prairie Ridge. The Wolves defeated Crete-Monee 52-33 on Oct. 23.

The Broncos are making their seventh straight trip to an IHSA state title game. Montini won four consecutive Class 5A championships from 2009-12. The Broncos lost the 2013 and 2014 Class 5A title games to Springfield's Sacred Heart-Griffin. Crete-Monee knocked Sacred Heart-Griffin out of this year's Class 6A playoffs, beating the previously unbeaten Cyclones 38-35 in the quarterfinal round on Nov. 14.

Montini has steamrolled most of its competition during the 2015 season, winning its last 10 games by an average of 34.5 points. The Broncos aren't just unaccustomed to trailing by 14 points. They're not even used to allowing 14 points in a single game. Montini entered the semifinal with four shutout victories this season. The team allowed eight or fewer points in five other wins. Despite the string of blowouts, Andriano insisted each week that the Broncos would be tested during their quest for a state title.

"That's the best team we've played all



Play of the year?

Football photos by Chris Fox

MONTINI SENIOR LINEBACKER Jake Kapp (No. 6, above) heads toward the end zone for a fourth-quarter touchdown that tied Saturday's IHSA Class 6A playoff football game against Prairie Ridge. Kapp caused a turnover on the play by deflecting a pitchout to a Prairie Ridge running back. He then scooped the ball off the ground at midfield and ran for a touchdown to tie the score at 27-27. Sophomore Michael Cooney then kicked the extra point to give the Broncos a 28-27 lead with about nine minutes to play. Montini defeated Prairie Ridge 35-27 to earn a berth in this weekend's Class 6A state championship game in DeKalb. Juniors Joseph Spivak (No. 62, left) and Nicolas Malik (right) accompanied Kapp on his run down the field.

year," Andriano said of the Wolves after Saturday's battle. "Both teams really stepped up today."

Senior quarterback Justin Blake gave the Broncos an early lead when he ran about 50 yards for a touchdown on the team's first offensive play of the game. Sophomore Michael Cooney made the extra-point kick as the snow fell to give Montini an early 7-0 lead.

Prairie Ridge (11-2) responded by returning the ensuing kickoff about 80 yards for a touchdown. The Wolves' conversion kick failed, leaving Montini with a 7-6 lead.

Junior Prince Walker scored

Montini's second touchdown of the day on a short run with under two minutes left in the first quarter. Walker dropped the ball to the ground on his scoring run, which took place in some of the most miserable conditions of the game. He picked the ball up off the snow and dove across the goal line. Cooney's extra-point kick sailed wide of the left upright.

Prairie Ridge scored the only points of the second quarter on a long drive that ended with a short touchdown run with 38.2 seconds left in the opening half. A successful run on the two-point conversion attempt

(Continued on the next page)



Firebirds' Barcelona team wins division title...

THE FIREBIRDS SOCCER CLUB'S U-10 BARCELONA boys team (above) won the championship in its Northern Illinois Soccer League (NISL) Bronze Division during the fall season. The team finished the fall season with a 7-2-1 record. Members of the Firebirds (pictured left to right) are: (front row) Tomas M., Julian B., Caleb B., Theo B. and Alex F.; (back row) Coach Vejlovic, Dini S., Jonny W., Jack S., Wyatt L., Aidan W. and Coach Flores.



Broncos win Class 6A semifinal in wild weather...

Photos by Chris Fox

THE MONTINI FOOTBALL TEAM advanced to the IHSA Class 6A state championship game with Saturday's 35-27 semifinal victory over Prairie Ridge in Lombard. The undefeated Broncos outscored the Wolves 22-0 during the fourth period to advance to a state title contest for the seventh straight season. The first half of Saturday's game took place in blizzard conditions that covered the field in snow. The above left photo shows Montini senior Justin Blake during the second quarter. The above right photo shows junior Prince Walker running with the ball during the third quarter, when the worst conditions of the snowstorm had passed. Blake ran for two touchdowns during Saturday's victory. Walker ran for one touchdown and scored on a two-point conversion run. "It was a different experience," said Blake of playing in the snow. "We just had to go through the elements. We can't make it stop snowing."

Montini...

(Continued from the previous page)
gave the Wolves a 14-13 lead.

A very short Montini punt that took place after the ball was snapped over the punter's head gave Prairie Ridge the ball at the Broncos' 12-yard line with about five minutes left in the third quarter. A touchdown run moments later pushed the Wolves' lead to 20-13. Montini then stopped Prairie Ridge's try for a two-point run.

The Wolves stopped the Broncos on downs at the Montini 30-yard line on the next series. Prairie Ridge took possession of the ball and scored on a short run with about seven seconds left in the third quarter. The extra-

point kick pushed the visiting team's lead to 27-13.

The snowstorm made passing the football nearly impossible in the first half. Montini's passing game finally came to life on the last play of the third quarter—a gain of about 40 yards on a long pass from Blake to junior Mitch West, who made a diving catch while falling into the snow.

The teams switched directions for the fourth quarter, which began with Blake's 40-yard touchdown pass to senior Tyler Millikan, who caught a short pass in the middle of the field and raced into the end zone. Walker added a two-point conversion run to cut Prairie Ridge's lead to 27-21 with 11:53 to play.

Montini senior linebacker Jake Kapp provided a huge play on the Wolves' next offensive series. Kapp reached with his right hand to tip a pitchout from the quarterback to a running back. Kapp then picked up the loose ball and rumbled about 50 yards for a touchdown that tied the score at 27-27. Cooney's extra-point kick completed a 15-0 Montini burst in under three minutes and gave the Broncos a 28-27 lead with 9:05 left in the game.

"I saw him [the quarterback] about to pitch the ball; I just stuck out my hand," said Kapp of the play. "It dropped right in front of me. I just turned and scooped and scored."

"Scoop and score; we work on it

every week in practice," said Andriano in referring to Kapp's game-changing play.

The Montini defense rose to the occasion on the Wolves' next drive. The Broncos stopped Prairie Ridge short of a first down on a fourth-and-three running play. Montini took possession around its own 40-yard line with under seven minutes to play.

Walker broke free for a run of about 35 yards on the Broncos' first play of the ensuing drive. Blake ran about 10 yards for a touchdown a short time later to extend the Montini lead to 34-27 with 4:42 remaining. Cooney's extra-point kick closed out the scoring.

Prairie Ridge could have tied the

game with a late touchdown drive and a successful two-point conversion.

The Wolves started their last drive of the day at their own 27-yard line and pushed the ball deep into Montini territory. A completed pass moved the ball to around the 12-yard line. Moments later, Kapp rushed the quarterback on a passing play and knocked the ball loose. The Wolves recovered the ball near the 19-yard line with about 30 seconds to play. Following a run of about 10 yards, the Wolves faced a fourth-and-seven play from the 9-yard line. Prairie Ridge completed a short pass, but junior Brendan Rauer tackled the receiver about five yards short of the first down to end the drive.



Warriors in action...

Photos by Chris Fox

SENIORS JOSIE ZABRAN (above, left) and Alyssa Spada (right) scored consecutive baskets to give the Willowbrook girls basketball team a lead in Saturday's game against St. Joseph. The above left photo shows Zabran moments before she scored an inside basket to tie the score at 59-59 in the game at Willowbrook's 22nd annual Thanksgiving tournament. The photo on the right shows Spada driving for a layup that gave the Warriors a 61-59 lead with less than three minutes to play. Spada's basket turned out to account for the Warriors' final points of the day. St. Joseph closed the game with eight straight points to defeat Willowbrook 67-61 in Villa Park. Senior Kalyn Konrath scored a team-leading 17 points for the Warriors. Spada provided 16 points, while Zabran scored 12 points. Willowbrook opened the six-team, round-robin tournament with Friday's 53-36 victory over Walther Christian. The Warriors trailed Walther Christian 27-24 at halftime but outscored the Broncos 22-2 in the third quarter to take a 46-29 lead with eight minutes to play. Zabran scored a team-high 19 points. Konrath and senior Danielle Velasquez added 13 and nine points, respectively. Willowbrook will complete its Thanksgiving tournament with this week's games against East Aurora, St. Francis and Plainfield East. The Warriors opened their season with a 55-51 loss to Glenbard North on Nov. 17. Zabran poured in 23 points. Velasquez scored nine points, while Konrath contributed seven points.

NO
Ad Tax

STOP THE
AD TAX

www.NoAdTaxIllinois.com

Four arrested in Elmhurst following Chicago shooting

Charges include gun possession by gang member

By Dee Longfellow
For The Independent

ELMHURST — A shooting on the west side of Chicago resulted in four arrests taking place near Berens Park by the Elmhurst Police Department.

The Independent learned on Sunday, Nov. 15, that Chicago police reported shots fired between two vehicles on the 3800 block of West Madison in the East Garfield Park neighborhood of Chicago. Apparently, the suspects in an attempt to escape, led officers on a chase down the I-290 Eisenhower Expressway until they lost sight of the car.

By then, Illinois State Police spotted the vehicle exiting near Elmhurst, where it stopped at Berens Park. Four suspects left the car and attempted to flee on foot, but were captured and arrested by Elmhurst police. Officers recovered two weapons at the scene and discovered the vehicle had been stolen.



photos provided

Pictured are Andrew Heard, 24 (left), and Devonte Walton, 22, both of Chicago, who have been charged with two felony counts of unlawful possession of a firearm by a street game member, along with two felony counts of unlawful use of a weapon by a felon. Two others were arrested, but their names are withheld because they are juveniles.

Arrested were Antonio Heard, 24, and Devonte Walton, 22, both of Chicago. They were charged with two counts of unlawful possession of a firearm by a street gang member in a vehicle and two counts of unlawful use of a weapon in connection with the Friday night shooting on the west side of Chicago.

The two other boys, both from Chicago, are juveniles ages 16 and 17, and therefore their names are not released. Their crimes will be handled in juvenile court.

AT choirs to host Madrigal dinner

ADDISON — The Addison Trail Concert and Treble choirs invite you to step back in time and enjoy a Renaissance-style Madrigal Dinner on Dec. 11 from 7-9 p.m. at Alta Villa Banquets in Addison. Choir Director Jeff Nellessen said the performance will feature about 50 students singing more than 15 songs, many of which will be festive for the holiday season.

"I hope Addison Trail can come together as a family with their families and celebrate the holidays together through this event," Nellessen said.

Tickets are \$25 each, which includes entrance to the performance and a dinner of soup, salad, chicken and dessert. To buy tickets, contact Nellessen at 630-628-3360 or jnellessen@dupage88.net.

Political leaders partner to host Senior Fair

ADDISON — Senator Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) and Addison Township Supervisor Kathryn Cermak-Durante will host a Community Senior Fair on Wednesday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Addison Township Building, 401 N. Addison Rd., Addison. State and local programs will be on hand to give out information and answer questions. The event is open to the public and the press.

Some services available:

- Representatives from the Illinois State Treasurer's I-Chash

Program will be on hand to connect residents with unclaimed assets.

- Receive information on RTA free ride and reduced fare cards, as well as other programs from the RTA.

- Renew your driver's license and vehicle stickers at the Secretary of State's Mobile Unit.

- The Veterans Assistance Commission will be available to explain valuable resources for Illinois veterans.

For more information, call 630-903-6662 or visit Senator-TomCullerton.com.



courtesy.hphoto

Everyone is en pointe

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, these Stone School students practice ballet moves as part of a special presentation given by Salt Creek Ballet. The young people tried their hand (or feet!) with Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, accompanied by Salt Creek performers Sara Sitzer and Kelly Langenberg. Full story and more photos inside this issue.

Ron Onesti named Man of the Year by IAET

By Dee Longfellow
For The Independent

Last week, the Independent learned that Ron Onesti was to be honored by the Italian American Executives of Transportation (IAET) as their Man of the Year for 2015. Also recognized was Sonny Nicotera, who was named Humanitarian of the Year. The awards were presented on Saturday, Nov. 21 at Alta Villa Banquets.

IAET President Vito D'Ambrosio offered comments about the two gentlemen.

"Ron and Sonny are cut from the same cloth," he said. "They bring passion, skill and intelligence to bear on preserving our heritage and they are extremely generous with their time, talent and resources. They represent the best that our community has to offer."

A local TV and radio personality, newspaper columnist and president of Onesti Entertainment Corp., he is responsible for bringing the Little Italy Fest-West to Addison every year in the late part of August. Onesti is well known for having transformed the Arcadia Theater in St. Charles into one of the top music venues in the Midwest.

Police reminds Thanksgiving travelers: Buckle up! Every trip, every time - day or night

ADDISON — With Thanksgiving right around the corner, people will soon flock to Illinois roads to visit and celebrate with family and friends. The Addison Police Department reminds all travelers, whether they are heading across the state or just across town, to ensure a safe arrival and a happy holiday by buckling up.

"The risk of being involved in a serious or deadly car crash increases when the number of cars on the road increases, and the long Thanksgiving weekend is one of the busiest travel times of the year," said Sergeant Saran from the Addison Police Department. "I urge everyone traveling on our state's roadways this holiday season to drive carefully, do not drive impaired and, most importantly, buckle up, every trip, every time - day or night."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), when a front-seat occupant of a passenger car wears a seat belt properly, the risk of fatal injury goes down by 45 percent.

"Seat belts are the single most important safety

device in your vehicle," Saran said. "They have saved countless lives and prevented countless numbers of injuries over the years."

Illinois motorists should be reminded that a new law took effect Jan. 1, 2012 requiring everyone, no matter the age or seating position, to wear a seat belt. Children are required to ride in a car seat or booster seat until at least age 8.

"For those people who already buckle up every time, thank you," said Saran. "For them, this campaign serves as a reminder. But for those people who still don't buckle up for whatever reason, I want to say this: buckling your seat belt is one of the simplest, safest things you'll ever do."

Remember — Nov. 16-29 is the Illinois Click It or Ticket campaign. Buckle up and encourage your loved ones to do the same. Wearing your seat belt is your best defense against an impaired driver.

For more information about the Click It or Ticket campaign, please visit buckleupillinois.org.

District 88 recognizes Parents Alliance Employment Project

During its Nov. 16 meeting, the District 88 Board of Education recognized Parents Alliance Employment Project and McDonald's Corporation as Business Partners.

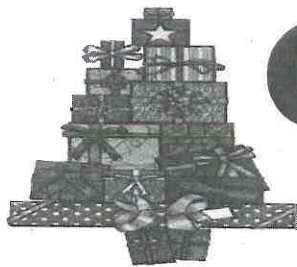
Parents Alliance has been working with the District 88 Transition Program for more than six years. The coordinated effort has led to more students exiting with competitive employment and a greater ability to be independent adults. While several local businesses employ Transition Program students, McDonald's has been very supportive by allowing students to use its Oak Brook facility to learn and grow as employees.

Kristen Sheffield, Executive Director of Parents Alliance, and Roger Cave, Associate Director of Parents Alliance, thanked the Board for supporting their partnership with the Transition Program and shared highlights of the project. District 88 Board of Education President Donna Craft Cain and District 88 Superintendent Dr. Scott Helton presented certificates to the Business Partners for their support.

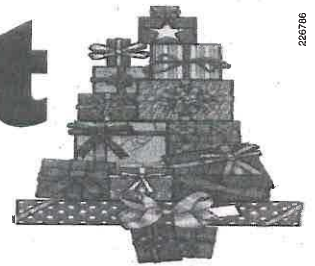
Ahmad Sarfraz, a former Transition Program student, also spoke to the Board and discussed the successes he has had since completing the program. He has been employed with McDonald's at the corporate location in Oak Brook for more than a year and has been awarded numerous recognitions for his excellent work.



Pictured are (from left) District 88 Superintendent Dr. Scott Helton, District 88 Board of Education President Donna Craft Cain, former District 88 Transition Program student and current McDonald's employee Ahmad Sarfraz, District 88 Vocational Coordinator Christine DiRienzo, Parents Alliance Employment Project Executive Director Kristen Sheffield and Parents Alliance Employment Project Associate Director Roger Cave. photo provided



Great Gift Ideas



**Come See Us For
ALL YOUR
Christmas Decorating Needs**



SKU 758254
**Fresh Fraser Fir
Wreaths**
Decorated 22"
SALE
\$19.99



**Fresh Floral-Grade
Poinsettia**
SKU 913132 6" \$8.95
SKU 913133 8" \$14.95

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST - STYLES MAY VARY

**Ebel's
Ace Hardware**
1028 South York Rd., Elmhurst
(630) 279-1117

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8AM-8PM, Sat. 8AM-6PM, Sun. 9AM-5PM

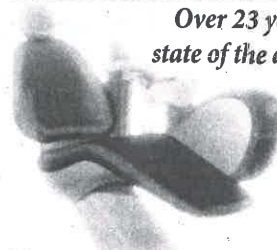
**McKenna
Dental**

501 S. York Road, Suite B
Elmhurst, IL 60126



Corner of South St. and York Rd., Elmhurst

*Over 23 years of experience with a brand new
state of the art facility designed with you in mind.*



**Family friendly
Serving ages 3 to 103**

All Dental Services Available:

- Exams & Treatment
- Oral Surgery
- Implants
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Invisalign

**Save \$100
Family Special**

Complimentary consultation and \$100 savings on
any elective dental treatments. Restrictions apply.
One coupon per family.

**Phone:
630-359-3502**

**Call Cindy to schedule your appointment.
We look forward to seeing you!**



photo provided
Pictured are Addison Trail sophomore Michelle Ramirez (left) and junior Annalise Morrone. Morrone was to compete in the 200-yard freestyle relay in the Illinois High School Association Girls Swimming and Diving State Meet, scheduled on Nov. 20 and 21. Ramirez was the alternate for the relay.

Addison Trail sends two swimmers off to state

ADDISON — On Nov. 19, Addison Trail hosted a State send-off celebration for junior Annalise Morrone and sophomore Michelle Ramirez, members of the Addison Trail-Willowbrook Girls Swim Team.

Morrone qualified in the 200-yard freestyle relay with Willowbrook swimmers senior Meghan Koterba, senior Melissa Johnston and freshman Elissa Haake. Ramirez is the alternate for the relay.

The Illinois High School Association Girls Swimming and Diving State Meet was scheduled to take place on Nov. 20 and 21 at New Trier High School.

• SLICES OF LIFE

Continued from page 8

me.”

It is Friday night and I have the ability to go to bed when I am tired. I appreciate this freedom. I went years without sleep and know the realities of deprivation. Still, I look forward to next weekend when they will all be home and we will share a meal at the kitchen table, watch some football and stay up too late talking and laughing. I am glad they want to come home at all. I'm sure there are people and places and parties much more interesting than good old mom and dad.

But at least for now, they return home. Maybe because they know we want them to. Maybe because they

want to themselves. Maybe because they need groceries and gas and a hot meal in their bellies. Probably a little of each, but for sure the latter.

And that's okay. They still need a few things from mom and dad. Thank goodness. And we still want them to come home. Thank goodness.

In the simplest of terms, it's what being a family is all about — along with tucking each other in at night. Thank goodness.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

Do you have an overweight child?

ProActive Kids can help!

8 Week FREE program starts January 11

SESSIONS

Winter 2016 January 11 - March 4

Spring 2016 April 4 - May 27

WHERE

Club Fitness — Addison Park District
1776 W. Centennial Place
Addison, IL 60101

For more information or to enroll
www.proactivekids.org or call
630-681-1558





The
Villa Park
Independent is
proud to publish

Joyful Traditions

Be a part of this holiday event by advertising your
Christmas specials on these high profile pages

Publishes Thursday, Dec. 3rd
Deadlines Wednesday, Nov. 25th

To reserve your advertising space, call your sales representative
Brenda Garcia ~ 630-834-4450
ads2@rvpublishing.com

Rock Valley Publishing
The Elmhurst Independent, Villa Park Independent,
Addison Independent and Bensenville Independent
240 N. West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126
Fax: 630.834.0900





(top left): AT senior Yekaly Moctezuma Sanchez serves coffee to a table of ladies at the luncheon. (top middle): Local residents Betty Scarimbolo (left) and Lori Proctor lift a glass in celebration. (top right): Happy faces enjoy

a Thanksgiving meal, served by the Key Club. (bottom left): Kiwanis Club President Tom Willis greets the crowd. (bottom right): The Addison Trail Jazz Band provides musical entertainment before lunch.

all photos provided



ATHS hosts Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon

ADDISON — On Nov. 18, Addison Trail hosted its annual Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon, in partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Addison and the Addison Park District. About 75 seniors from throughout the community and from the Park District's Active Senior Club enjoyed musical entertainment provided by the AT Jazz Band followed by a Thanksgiving lunch served by members of the Key Club. The centerpieces, mini pumpkins decorated as turkeys, were created by the Art Club.

Army Trail student serves as Principal for a Day

ADDISON — Adriano Padua recently served as Principal for the Day at Army Trail School, having earned that opportunity by being the top salesman in the school's PTA fundraiser. Students who raised more than a specified level were entered into a raffle and winners were selected to serve as Principal for the Day and PE Teacher for the Day.

Padua began his administrative assignment

by helping Army Trail Principal Ms. Martello sort mail and make morning announcements. Throughout the day, he participated a variety of activities as he read to classes, helped read words for quizzes, helped make calming jars for classrooms for mindful breathing exercises, helped with monitoring the building and walked around with his Walkie-Talkie.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 2

Officials host senior fair

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., State Senator Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) and Addison Township Supervisor Kathryn Cermak-Durante will host a Community Senior Fair at the Addison Township Building, 401 N. Addison Rd., Addison. State and local programs will be on hand to give out information and answer questions. The event is open to the public and the press. For more information, call 630-903-6662 or visit SenatorTomCullerton.com.

Tuesday, Dec. 8

AT's Orchestris 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 Orchestris Team. Dancers will participate in technique class, play games, learn a routine and perform with the

Orchestris 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.

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



courtesy photos

In the above photo, Army Trail Principal Martello talks with a few students about mail and morning announcements. To the immediate left of her is Adriano Padua, who was selected to be Principal for a Day at the school.



Left: Having been named Principal for the Day at Army Trail School, Adriano Padua began his administrative assignment by helping Army Trail Principal Ms. Martello sort mail.

AT Link 2 students recycled bag program successful

ADDISON — When students in the Link 2 program at Addison Trail learned about the negative impact of pollution and climate change on the environment, they wanted to make a positive difference.

The students asked staff members to donate Addison Trail T-shirts they no longer use, and they've turned those items into reusable shopping bags. Those bags are available for staff and students to buy for \$2 each, and proceeds will benefit the Link 1 and Link 2 programs. So far, the class has made about 75 bags, and there are plans to continue making more. Students also made signs to market and advertise the bags.

Freshman Brandace Gill said it's important to protect the environment to ensure our food supply is healthy and we don't destroy areas that might be home to endangered species or might have potential materials to help cure diseases.

Addison Trail special education teacher Jessica Sokolowski said students also learned about careers they could pursue to help the environment. Through the reusable shopping bag project, students are learning how to handle money, interact with customers and improve their social skills.

Sokolowski also e-mailed Discovery about the project and requested the students' efforts be shared on Twitter at #StartWith1Thing. To recognize the work of the Link 2 students, Discovery sent the class materials about other professionals and projects who are working to positively impact the environment, as well as an advanced copy of the film "Racing Extinction," which will air on Dec. 2 on Discovery. For details about the film, visit racingextinction.com.

"It all starts with changing one small thing," Sokolowski said. "We can all make a difference. It's our responsibility to speak for those who cannot."



Students in the Link 2 program at Addison Trail hold up reusable shopping bags they made to help the environment. Pictured are (back row, from left) junior Alexander Mora Rodriguez, sophomore Kevin Montero, freshman Lesly Gomez, sophomore Blanca Gonzalez, freshman Brandace Gill, sophomore Edgar Sandoval and (front row) freshman Bri Flores.

Stone students learn music, movement through ballet

ADDISON — Stone School 2nd-5th graders had the opportunity to learn about music and movement when representatives from Salt Creek Ballet visited the school on Wednesday, November 18. Sara Sitzer and Kelly Langenberg played selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, spoke to the students about musical composition, and answered audience questions. The musicians shared information about their instruments, including the fact that a French horn's tubes, if straightened out, would be 19 feet long!

Kelly Stokes, SCB's Community Engagement Coordinator, taught the students some basic dance moves and then created a dance that the students and staff performed with Sitzer's and Langenberg's musical accompaniment.

Stokes has also worked with Stone School music teacher, Kristine Brokos, to provide a 7-week ballet literature program for the school's 2nd grade students for the past 3 years. The program involves reading fairy tales and folk tales, visualizing and acting out parts of the story, while learning ballet movements and listening to musical masterworks. Additionally, Salt Creek Ballet presented two performances of the ballet Sleeping Beauty: Aurora's Wedding for all of Addison School District 4's 2nd through 5th grade students in September.



all are courtesy photos
Sara Sitzer of Salt Creek Ballet, introduces Stone students to the cello.



Kelly Langenberg offers a brief lesson about how a French horn makes its sound. She told the students that if the instrument was straightened out, it would be 19 feet long.



Students at Stone School try out their skills at ballet, after learning steps from the professionals at Salt Creek Ballet.



These Stone School students eagerly raise their hands to ask questions of the visitors from Salt Creek Ballet who visited the school recently.

SPORTS

NOVEMBER 26, 2015 • 14

Addison Trail boys basketball team looking to build off success

Blazers deep with talent on heels of 15-win season

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Winning has been part of the fabric of the Addison Trail boys basketball team in recent times.

The Blazers are coming off a 2014-2015 season where they won 15 games. And numerous players on this year's roster were on a sophomore team that won 19 games.

"Our seniors have had success throughout their careers here," said ninth-year Addison Trail coach Brendan Lyons, who noted last year's team also won two tournament titles. "Their winning approach they have brought throughout the offseason has permeated the

entire program. A lot of our success this year will depend on how quickly many juniors can make the adjustment to the varsity level. As a whole, they are a skilled and hard-working group but will need to adjust quickly to the speed of the varsity game in our conference."

While the Blazers did graduate key players Jaavion Bradley (all-conference), Matt Gontarek (all-tournament in two events) and current Aquinas College player Taylor White (all-conference and a tournament MVP honor), they do return seniors Eric Grygo (6-5, power forward) and Nick Conrad (5-10, point guard). Both Grygo and Conrad started last year.

Other key contributors include seniors Ryan Zygo-

icz (6-2, shooting guard), Zach Novak (6-5, small forward) and Mike Tkaczyk (6-3, power forward) along with juniors Jack Kalbas (6-0, shooting guard), Colton Noel (6-5, power forward), Michael Williams (6-4, small forward) and Stevan Jones (6-2, small forward).

"We're very similar to last year's group, but we're a little bit bigger," said Lyons. "We have a bunch of hard-working kids. This senior group has had success for four years and they bring that mentality into everything they do."

Lyons said last year's success will have the Blazers squarely on their opponents' radar this season. "The difference is where we may have snuck up on people last season, this time they are going to be ready for

us," he said.

Lyons added one key thing being stressed in early-season practices is consistency. "If we are consistent night in and night out we will be in good shape because we have the energy and the effort," he said. "I'm also impressed with the intelligence of this team. We will be able to execute well. The key is going to be consistency. I'm confident with this group that we're not going to have any real high-highs and then have low-lows. I really like the approach these guys take. Now that we are starting to play games we will see if that becomes a reality."

Grygo, Conrad, Zygowicz, Novak and Kalbas all started games at various times last year. Grygo led the team in rebounding, while Kalbas was tops in 3-point shooting. "Nick and Eric saw a lot of time and those other three guys saw plenty of action as well," said Lyons. "They all started at different points in time. I like what those five bring to the table. Mike Tkaczyk is another senior who will help us. We will have more size than many of the Addison Trail teams of recent past and I anticipate depth being a strength for us throughout the season. For the group, I'm looking for that consistency on

both ends of the floor. Jack and Ryan can shoot the ball and I feel Eric and Zach (Novak) give us a nice inside-out presence. We're going to lean on these experienced guys early and we expect the juniors will be able to contribute as well."

Lyons feels the West Suburban Conference Gold Division will be competitive once again this season. "We feel we can be competitive at the top end of the conference," he said. "If we play the way we are capable of playing and things fall the way like I think they will we have a chance to find ourselves at the top. That's a long way away. We know we have a long road ahead of us, but the expectations have been raised the last few years."

Addison Trail opened the season in the Elmwood Park tournament earlier this week. The Blazers won that tournament last year.

"We would like to repeat there as champions," he said.

The Blazers are then off until Dec. 6 when they open WSC Gold play against District 88 neighbor Willowbrook.

"We have a nice break between the tournament and that game," said Lyons. "We'll use that time to fine-tune some things and see where we are at."

Perimeter play a strength for Willowbrook boys basketball team

Warriors coming off conference-championship season

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Shooting the basketball won't be a problem for the Willowbrook boys team this season.

"This is probably one of the better shooting teams I've had here," said Warriors coach Chris Perkins. "They can really shoot the basketball well. We have multiple shooters who can really stretch the floor out. We're not as quick as we were last year, but we still will be very effective."

The Warriors return the likes of seniors Kevin Miller (6-2, forward), Billy Degnan (6-1, forward), Brandon Jones (6-1, forward) and Brandon Endicott (6-0, forward) along with junior Freddie Clay (5-11, point guard).

Key newcomers include senior Cameron Zunkel (6-1, shooting guard), sophomore Ethan Schuemer (6-4, forward) and freshman Matas Masys (5-11, shooting guard).

While the Warriors are well-versed in shooting the ball, Perkins said the team must concentrate on taking its defensive game to the next stage.

"Defense is what we need to work at," he said. "We are still putting together rotations and things of that nature. Defense is my biggest concern right now. Our offense is strong because of our ability to get out and knock down 3-pointers and stretch the floor out. We should be fine there. But we have

to get stops on the other end. We definitely have a smart group here that picks things up fairly quickly. They are developing a good chemistry. It's a great group to be around."

Perkins, whose team shared the West Suburban Conference Gold Division title last year with Morton with a 9-3 record, sees a competitive balance in the division this season.

"There is going to be a lot of parity in the league," said Perkins, whose squad went 21-8 overall last year. "Every game will be a challenge. It's too early to tell who is going to come out on top. Hinsdale South has some talented kids. Proviso East is always strong. There will be a lot of parity and I don't know if there is anybody that will be head and shoulders above the rest."

Perkins expects to see a different Willowbrook team as the season wears on. "We have five underclassmen up on varsity," he said. "It's definitely a team that three or four months from now should be night and day from where we are at now. When these younger guys get some varsity experience under their belts that should make us a stronger unit."

Willowbrook opened the season earlier this week at the Stagg tournament. The Warriors have games scheduled there against Nazareth Academy, Chicago Lindblom, Stagg and Argo.

"We'll have some nice early tests," said Perkins. "We will see where we are at and where our glaring weaknesses are and build off that."

IC Catholic Prep football team loses in state semifinals

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The IC Catholic Prep football team's tremendous run came to a close recently in the Class 3A state semifinals.

The Knights dropped a 42-14 decision to Bishop McNamara in the semifinals held at snow-blanketed Lewis Stadium at Plunkett Athletic Complex in Elmhurst.

IC Catholic Prep closed the season with an 11-2 record. The Knights, who won the Metro Suburban Conference West Division title with an unbeaten 5-0 mark, had an 11-game winning streak snapped.

Bishop McNamara (12-1) is the only team to beat IC Catholic Prep this season. McNamara

came to Elmhurst in Week 1 and scored a 49-32 win and then returned 12 weeks later and scored another victory.

McNamara, the No. 5 seed on the top half of the Class 3A bracket, advances to this weekend's Class 3A state-championship game in DeKalb at Huskie Stadium on the campus of Northern Illinois University against Tolono Unity (9-3), which scored a 30-8 upset win over St. Joseph-Ogden in the other Class 3A state semifinal. Unity was the No. 10 seed on the lower part of the Class 3A bracket. St. Joseph-Ogden (12-1) was the No. 1 seed and came into the game unbeaten. IC Catholic Prep was the No.

See IC, Page 17

Quick study

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Based on Willowbrook freshman girls swimmer Elissa Haake's credentials this season one would think she's been competing in the sport for a long time.

Wrong.

Haake has been swimming for only two years, yet burst onto the high-school scene this season by qualifying for the state meet in three events (50, 100 and 200 relay) as part of the Addison Trail-Willowbrook co-op team.

"I went to a very small school (St. John's Lutheran in Lombard, graduating class of 23 students) and wanted to find a way to make new friends and joined the summer swim team," she said. "I made some new friends and ended up loving swimming. I've kept doing it."

And she's handled herself quite well in the pool this season. "I'm focused and I really wanted to get better as swimming," she said of her improvement. "I practiced a lot and always set time standards for myself and always wanted to exceed my goals. I kept making larger goals for myself."

Earlier in her childhood, Haake tried a bevy of sports including soccer, tennis, ice skating, volleyball, basketball and cheerleading. But nothing compared to swimming.

"I tried so many different things," she said. "Swimming was the one I loved and I went with that."

In terms of the short 50 freestyle, Haake said it's all about the start off the blocks. "My starts have improved," she said. "I feel so much better about them. In my two years of swimming I usually was the last one off the blocks. My reaction time was so slow. I also

learned a lot about turns and underwaters. I've learned so much about this race the last few months."

In the 100, Haake also has concentrated on the beginning of her race. "I'm going out faster," she said. "I tend to be more of a passive swimmer where my second 50 was a little faster. It's a little slower now which means I have to take it out faster. I've learned how to, and I quote, 'swim like an animal.'"

Haake throws plenty of credit toward AT-Willowbrook coach Paul Anderson for her improvement.

"He is, by far, the best coach I've ever had," she said. "I've learned so much on this team already. I've learned about the little things, which I wasn't good at. He's taught me about the little things. Mr. Anderson is awesome."

Haake also is thankful for the support she's received from the older AT-Willowbrook swimmers. She qualified for

state on the 200 relay team with seniors Melissa Johnston and Meghan Koterba and junior Annalise Morrone.

"They have been on AT-WB for awhile," she said. "I love them. They are my best friends and all are amazing. They've been very welcoming to me on the team. They welcomed me with open arms. They are all kind and funny. To see the looks on their faces after we qualified in the relay was amazing."

Haake, who would like to eventually swim in college, admits she's somewhat surprised she qualified for state in her first high-school season. "I wanted to get state times, but I never thought I would get them this fast," she said. "I owe it all to coach Anderson and coach Murphy and all the girls pushing me at practice. It's still so surreal. It's like, 'Wow, this actually happened.' This season has been so amazing."

Smart  Savings

To find out how your business can be included, call Debbie at 630-834-8355 or Brenda at 630-834-4450

Your In Print and Online source for discounts, special offers and coupons from your hometown merchants

OUR KITCHEN
RESTAURANT & PANCAKE HOUSE

Early Bird Specials
\$6.25 Monday-Friday 7am-Monday ONLY

- 3 Potato Pancakes & Sour Cream or Applesauce
- 2 Slices of French Toast & 2 Sausage Links
- 2 Eggs, 2 Slices Bacon, Hash Browns & Toast

DAILY HOMEMADE SOUPS & LUNCHEON SPECIALS

363 W. Lake Street
Elmhurst
630-279-3738

Hours:
Monday - Saturday 7am to 3pm;
Sunday 7am to 2pm

Katrinbets is Christmas Winter Wonderland

Mama Maria's Pizza
Established in 1982

130 W Vallette, Elmhurst
630-832-0555
MamaMariasElmhurst.com

\$1 OFF
any \$10 pizza purchase
Pick up or delivery. With this coupon only. Not valid with other offers. Coupon not valid in dining room. Expires 12/3/15

FREE 6 Pack of RC
with any \$10 pizza purchase
Pick up or delivery. With this coupon only. Not valid with other offers. Coupon not valid in dining room. Expires 12/3/15

ROSALIAS DELI

241 N YORK RD.
ELMHURST
(630) 516-DELI(3354)
FAX (630) 516-3355
ROSALIASDELI.COM

PARTY TRAY 15 4" SUBS ONLY \$40
MADE WITH THE FRESHEST INGREDIENTS!
Not valid with any other offer or specials. Expires 12/10/15

FREE 12" CHEESE PIZZA
WHEN YOU BUY ANY 16" WOOD FIRED PIZZA
Not valid with any other offer or specials. Expires 12/10/15

Mr. G's Restaurant and Catering

929 S. York, Elmhurst 630-279-8887
Like us on 

Hours: Mon - Sat 6:00am-8pm • Sun - 7:00am-2pm
For a limited time • Dine in only • Not to be used with other discounts

Tuesday (11am - close)
\$5.95 1/2 lb. Burger
w/French Fries & Homemade Soup

Friday (11am - close)
15 Hour Slow Cooked Pot Roast

Monday-Friday (6am - 10am)
\$5.00 Breakfast Special

Homemade Desserts by Diana

2 Day Gun Auction - 1,000 Guns
 Sat/Sun, November 28th/29th 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Lakeland Blvd., Maitland, FL
 "Partial Listing"
 Sat. Nov. 28th - 10 wagon loads, Ammo, Reloading Parts, Hunting & Shooting Supplies, Gun Cases, Military, Scopes, Knives, Gunsmithing Books & More.
 Sun. Nov. 29th - 1,000 Firearms incl. Win 21's, 12ga. & 16ga. Trap, Ithaca/BK, Rem 760 barrel set; Browning Superposed P Grade .410; Win. Deluxe Hi Wall .32, 10 U.S. 1911 & A1 incl. UMC Rem. Colt Snake Guns, Colt 1st Gen S&W's S&W Pre 27 & 29; Win. 12, 28ga. German Drilling; Win 75's, 78, 86, 92's & 94's, AR's, M1A's, Garands; Carbines; Antiques to NIB Guns.
 See complete sale bill and photos at www.bauerauction.com
 Ron Baker, PPL (217) 273-5056 • Bauer Auction Service LLC (217) 259-5376

Addison Trail-Willowbrook girls swimmers compete at state

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail-Willowbrook co-op girls swimming team competed in three events at the recent state finals meet at New Trier High School in Winnetka.

Freshman Elissa Haake took 37th place in the 50 freestyle with a time of 24.67. Haake also took 39th in the 100 freestyle with a time of 53.96.

Haake was part of an AT-Willowbrook 200 freestyle relay team that placed 23rd with a time of 1:38.77. In addition

to Haake, that team included junior Annalise Morrone, senior Melissa Johnston and senior Meghan Koterba.

Willowbrook girls basketball team opens season; Zabran scored 23 points

The Willowbrook girls basketball team dropped a recent 55-51 game to Glenbard North at home.

Willowbrook led 21-16 after the first quarter, but Glenbard North came back to tie the game at 31-31 heading into halftime. Willowbrook out-scored Glenbard North 12-10 in the third quarter, but Glenbard North held a 14-8 advantage in the final quarter to pull out the win.

Jose Zabran led all scorers with 23 points and 13 rebounds. She shot 11-for-16 from the field. Danielle Velasquez added nine points. Kalyn Konrath had seven points, six rebounds and two steals. Alyssa Spada added six points.

Willowbrook shot 45.7 percent from the field, but shot 43.8 percent from the free-throw line (7-for-16).

The game featured four lead changes and seven ties.

IC Continued from page 14

3 seed on the top half of the bracket.

The Knights finished the season scoring 520 points in 13 games, while allowing opponents to score 224 points. In eight games this season, the Knights scored 40 or more points in a game and in seven games held the opponent to 10 points or less.

IC Catholic Prep faced four teams in the playoffs that have a combined 37-9 record and went 3-1 against them.

The Knights made their 17th playoff appearance in program history this season. IC Catholic Prep has been to the playoffs six times since 2008 and three times under current coach Bill Krefft. The 2002 and 2008 teams won state championships. This was IC Catholic Prep's third appearance in a state semifinal game. The 1974 and 2005 teams made it to the state quarterfinals.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Continued from previous page

Midwest Educational Furnishings Inc	60,219.08
Midwest Transit Equipment	55,412.65
Mitchell, L W	16,286.34
Monoprice.com	7,505.68
Mulcahy Pauritsch Salvador & Co LTD	17,900.00
Mullen, Kristi	5,702.44
NAPA Auto Parts	5,164.82
National Geographic Explorer	5,613.30
National Lift Truck	7,520.00
National Louis University	19,670.75
National School Boards Association	2,675.00
Natl. Conf. on Public Employee Retirement Systems	3,024.00
NCS Pearson Inc	8,924.88
Nelson Fire Protection	9,233.60
NexTel Communications	13,974.23
Nicor Gas	88,226.09
North DuPage Special Education Cooperative	955,256.40
Northwest Evaluation Assoc.	11,677.50
Novack, Paul J	3,440.62
Oak Brook Mechanical Services Inc	330,559.26
Office Depot	100,816.70
Optima Plumbing Supply LLC	7,645.10
Orkin Pest Control	4,272.83
Oryk, Douglas J.	4,049.58
Peak Carpentry Inc	45,465.08
Peters & Associates	29,205.00
Piney Bows/Purchase Power	14,146.93
Popeco, Cora Elena	5,272.67
Premier Agenda Inc	10,561.60
Provantage Corp	18,520.74
QuaverMusic.com LLC	9,360.00
Quinlan & Fabish Music	13,748.49
Ramcorp Inc	146,008.82
Ramrod Distributors	11,262.88
Raptor Technologies LLC	3,742.00
Really Good Stuff	9,276.74
Reliance Communications Inc	5,610.00
Reliance Standard Life Insurance	12,281.79
Riddiford Roofing Co	8,524.25
Rieger, Lauren	2,657.59
Robert Crown Health Center	4,510.00
Robinette Demolition Inc	170,846.05
Robinson, Nicole M	5,183.31
Roesch Ford	4,556.27
Sams Club Direct	21,870.93
Santander Leasing LLC	7,996.00
SavATree	3,906.30
Scholastic Book Fairs	5,083.37
Scholastic Classroom Magazines	23,040.82
Scholastic Library Publishing	3,767.12
Scholastic, Inc. (3720)	4,834.81
School Assoc. for Special Educ. in DuPage County	81,508.57
School Health Corp	7,986.33
School Mart	10,718.18
School Specialty Inc	6,857.09
Searcy Medical Solutions Inc	6,500.00
Senate Electric Construction Co	186,014.71
Sepran Inc	172,505.83
Service Building Maintenance Inc	7,800.00
Servpro of Elmhurst (9467)	21,598.25
Shemin The Landscape Supply Co	23,435.00
Sherman Mechanical Inc	3,753.50
Shiffler Equipment Sales	2,982.90
Simplex Grinnell	53,277.76
SMG Security Systems Inc	15,171.95
Sodexo Operations LLC	698,082.59
Softmart	5,177.94
Soltero, Dr. Sonia W.	10,000.00
Spanish Quest	20,394.00
Specialized Data Systems	12,404.00

State Disbursement Unit	12,592.00
Stelter, James E	6,420.86
STR Partners LLC	192,812.24
Sullivan, Katherine	2,764.09
Sunbelt Staffing LLC	110,332.00
Teachers Health Ins Security Fund	244,944.28
Teachers Retirement System	119,688.54
Teachers Retirement System (TRS)	1,329,625.90
Teaching Strategies LLC	5,523.49
Telesolutions Consultants	6,900.00
The Center/IRC	9,740.00
Therapy Shoppe Inc.	4,286.88
Thompson Rental Station	4,454.31
ThyssenKrupp Elevator	4,314.56
Time For Kids	4,867.33
Troop Contracting	29,752.40
TSI Commercial Floor Covering	19,780.49
United States Postal Service	11,297.84
United Dispatch/303 Taxi	5,025.51
Universal Asbestos Removal Inc.	136,000.00
Universal Taxi Dispatch, Inc.	21,380.00
US Department of Education	3,461.68
USIC Locating Services Inc	4,447.53
Valley Fire Protection Systems LLC	6,050.00
Vanguard Energy Services LLC	24,823.15
Vian Construction Inc	12,925.75
Village of Bensenville	139,908.93
W. W. Grainger, Inc.	23,328.29
Wakoh Wear Inc.	4,776.00
Waukegan Steel Sales Inc	128,629.77
Weber Associates Inc	4,960.26
Wentworth Tire - Bensenville	2,630.36
WEX Bank	61,145.34
Wight	35,145.24
World Dale District #7	152,441.78
World Point ECC Inc.	2,760.00
Worthington Direct	25,881.60
Xerox Corporation	115,415.07
X-Treme Graphics	2,803.00
Yetter, Mary	4,092.69
YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago	10,000.00
Zulauf, Benjamin Aaron	6,303.65

ADDISON TOWNSHIP ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2015

TOWN FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$1,133,057
TOTAL REVENUES	1,810,680
LESS - EXPENDITURES	1,658,121
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$1,285,616
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX	
1,655,375: REPLACEMENT TAX	
134,116: INTEREST INCOME 3,277:	
RENTAL INCOME 1,450: VEHICLE	
STICKERS 507: TRANSPORTATION/	
SHARED RIDE 2,901: PASSPORT FEE	
13,054:	
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$0
TOTAL REVENUES	280,111
LESS - EXPENDITURES	255,935
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$24,176
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX 279,899:	
INTEREST INCOME 212:	
TOWN IMRF FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$18,725
TOTAL REVENUES	165,147
LESS - EXPENDITURES	150,704
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$14,443

REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX 164,979:	
INTEREST INCOME 168:	
GENERAL ROAD FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$372,550
TOTAL REVENUES	1,616,486
LESS - EXPENDITURES	1,636,570
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$352,466
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX	
1,430,390: REPLACEMENT TAX	
173,098: INTEREST INCOME 1,335:	
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME 9,724:	
TRANSPORTATION INCOME 1,938:	
ROAD IMRF	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$4,967
TOTAL REVENUES	115,065
LESS - EXPENDITURES	98,803
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$16,262
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX 114,959:	
INTEREST INCOME 105:	
SOCIAL SECURITY FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$42,420
TOTAL REVENUES	64,957
LESS - EXPENDITURES	55,454
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$9,503
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX - ROAD	
FICA 64,820: INTEREST INCOME 137:	
BUILDING & EQUIPMENT FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$63,315
TOTAL REVENUES	147,590
LESS - EXPENDITURES	140,132
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$7,458
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX 147,292:	
INTEREST INCOME 298:	
INSURANCE FUND	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$237,586
TOTAL REVENUES	94,828
LESS - EXPENDITURES	65,618
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$29,210
REVENUE: PROPERTY TAX 94,256:	
INTEREST INCOME 572:	

VENDOR SUMMARY: ADDISON TOWNSHIP FOUNDATION 10,000: AIR-MAKER, INC 5,445: ALLIED BENEFIT SYSTEMS, INC 3,175: ALLIED WASTE SERVICES #551 8,223: ARROW ROAD CONSTRUCTION CO 488,328: AT & T 30,225: BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD 282,228: BOB RIDINGS FLEET SALES 15,989: BONNELL INDUSTRIES, INC. 27,441: CITY OF ELMHURST 13,477: CITY OF WOOD DALE 4,802: CLARKE ENVIRONMENTAL MOSQUITO 61,455: COM ED 31,339: COMPETITIVE CONCRETE 6,600: CONTECH ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS 11,914: CRUSH-CRETE INC 3,215: CLIENT #1 3,752: DAWSON'S TREE SERVICE 26,628: DUPAGE COUNTY TREASURER 2,500: DUPAGE TOPSOIL, INC. 7,160: ELK GROVE VILLAGE 16,029: ELMHURST-CHICAGO STONE CO 15,516: F&J PAVING INC 34,550: FECEC OIL COMPANY 25,639: FIRST BANKCARD 24,085: FLOOD BROS DISPOSAL CO 3,166: GARVEY'S OFFICE PRODUCTS 3,301: GFC LEASING W 10,466: CLIENT #2 3,336: GORDON FLESH CO, INC 4,199: HEALY ASPHALT 2,907: HERRINGTON CARPET SERVICE 4,711: I.D.E.S 4,655: ILLINOIS CNTIES RISK MGMT TRST 99,523: J.R.M. CONSULTING INC 76,892: CLIENT #3 3,202: CHRISTOPHER KAIN 8,118: CLIENT #4 3,300: KIEFT BROTHERS, INC. 6,192: LEN'S ACE HARDWARE 4,410: LINDCO EQUIPMENT 4,064: MARTIN IMPLEMENT 2,645: MENARDS 4,771: MET LIFE SBC 15,424: MID AMERI-

CAN ENERGY CO 27,792: MILTON TOWNSHIP 2,940: MORRIS ENGINEERING, INC. 39,548: MORTON SALT 61,484: NATL INTL ROOFING CORP 4,200: CLIENT #5 3,385: NICOR 17,451: PACE SUBURBAN BUS 5,589: PATTEN INDUSTRIES, INC. 70,303: PITNEY BOWES 7,587: RAINBOW MAINTENANCE SERVICES 9,396: REGIONAL TRUCK EQUIPMENT CO 3,252: RIZZO CONSTRUCTION 50,862: LAW OFCS OF RBT KARTHOLL 6,845: HEINRICH CONST CO 2,548: SAM'S CLUB DIRECT 10,060: SCHIROTT, LUETKEHANS & GARNER 6,660: T MOBILE 3,228: THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR CORP 7,403: TOM'S CONSTRUCTION CO 9,800: THCADC 3,050: ULINE 2,568: VILLA PARK OFFICE EQUIPMENT 2,865: VILLAGE OF ADDISON 21,511: VILLAGE OF BENSENVILLE 17,933: VILLAGE OF ITASCA 3,800: VID, INC 14,657: WILLIAM T LEAGANS 22,640: WOLF & COMPANY LLP 12,875: TOTAL OVER \$2,500 LISTED ABOVE: 1,877,229: TOTAL OTHERS LESS THAN \$2,500: 155,571: PLUS PAYROLL ITEMS NOT INCLUDED ABOVE: 961,097: TOTAL VENDORS 2,993,897
--

PAYROLL: UNDER \$15,000: BONNIE L. CONTESSA: LAURIE J. CUADRADO: MICHAEL A. D'SOUZA: DARIO A. FULLER: JOHN J. GIANFORTE: DONALD R. HOLOD: ALEXANDER KACHIROUBAS: ROBERT W. KULEVICH: KONSTANTINOS E. LEVENTIS: MATTHEW J. LOZICH: MARK D. MONTI: MARK J. NOWAK: MARY ROMANAZZI: THOMAS TOVELLO: OLIVIA A. USTAS: FROM \$15,000 TO \$29,999: DIANE J. DENNEY: PAMELA J. MORETTI: PEGGY A. SYSLIO: \$30,000 AND OVER: DAWN L. ADERHOLT: MARY BAUER: SANDRA BAYS: DON S. BUTLER: MICHAEL J. CAPIZZANO: TERESA M. CARROLL: DONNA M. CASTIGLIA: KATHIE J. CERMAK-DURANTE: JOHN M. CONTI: AARON J. CROKER: CRAIG A. DONNELLY: JOSEPH EDUCATE: JOSEPH M. HAUSHER: CHRISTOPHER KAIN: RICHARD S. KASKE: FRANK A. MARACK JR.: MARY C. MATTIA: DIMITRIOS K. MIHALOPOULOS: TIMOTHY J. MRAZEK: CHRISTINE M. POPE: DANIEL M. PRETE: ROCCO D. RASCHILLO: ROCKY N. SAINATO: BRANDY SHUEY: ANTHONY TOMASELLO: JANET M. WAGNER: LAUREN A. WISNIEWSKI: TOTAL PAYROLL 1,871,325

CERTIFICATION
 Signed and sworn before me this 10th day of November, 2015.

Kathleen Cermak-Durante
 KATHLEEN CERMAK-DURANTE, SUPERVISOR/TREASURER

I, PAMELA JOY MORETTI, TOWN CLERK OF ADDISON TOWNSHIP, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MAY 31, 2015.

Pamela Joy Moretti
 PAMELA JOY MORETTI, TOWN CLERK

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Independent Nov. 26, 2015)

226724

ADDISON Suburban Life

Addison Suburban Life is the successor publication to the Addison Press.

Also serving Bensenville and Wood Dale.

Suburban Life Media
mysurbanlife.com/addison

Call: 630-368-1100

Newsroom fax: 630-969-0228

1101 W. 31st St., Suite 100, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Missed delivery & customer service: 630-368-1144

We want your community news



We want to know what is going on in your community. Submit your photos and community news items to:

Reader Engagement

Coordinator Renee Tomell at 630-427-6258 or SLMpress@shawmedia.com.

Administration

Laura Burke, general manager
630-427-6213, lburke@shawmedia.com

Bill Korbel, local sales manager
630-427-6230, bkorbel@shawmedia.com

Dave Lemery, editor
630-427-6250, dlemery@shawmedia.com

Alex Soutier, web editor
630-427-6247, asoutier@shawmedia.com

To place an ad:

Display: 630-427-6230

Legal notice: 630-427-6275

publicnotice@mysurbanlife.com

Classified:

Service Directory: 630-427-6238

Recruitment & General Classified: 877-264-2527

General information

Addison Suburban Life (USPS #739-390) is published weekly and delivered to homes by Shaw Media, 1101 W. 31st St., Suite 100, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Periodical postage paid at Downers Grove, IL, and at additional mailing offices. Refund policy: Subscribers may cancel subscriptions within 45 days of first delivery. Refunds will be prorated. No refunds after 45 days. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Shaw Media, 1101 W. 31st St., Suite 100, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

Subscription rates

Single copy	\$1.50
Delivery (annual)	\$40/\$79 out of area

NEWS TIP?

Do you have a news tip or story idea? Call 630-368-1100 or email editorial@mysurbanlife.com.

SHAW
media

"Serving our communities to make them better places to live."



MADE IN THE U.S.A.

D-88 celebrates educator appreciation

On Nov. 15, DuPage High School District 88 joined school districts throughout Illinois in celebrating School Board Members Day. As you drove through Addison, Lombard and Villa Park, you might have noticed signs thanking our board members for their service. We appreciate the support of those businesses and agencies in recognizing School Board Members Day.

School board members serve their communities without monetary compensation to make public education the best it can be for every child. Their policies and oversight guide the district as tough decisions are made on complex educational and social issues that affect the entire community and the lives of individual students. The District 88 Board of Education is comprised of President Donna Craft Cain, Vice President Jay Irvin, Secretary Sharon Kucik and members Thomas Edmier, Tim Gillen, Blanca Jessen and Lisa Lullo. I would like to thank our board members for stepping up and making a positive difference for the students of District 88.

Our board members spend countless hours attending meetings, events and workshops to ensure our students



COMMUNITY VOICE

Scott Helton

receive a high-quality education. The late Mark Johnson, who served on the board from 1999 until he passed away in December 2014, is a prime example of the passion and commitment our board members have for our schools.

Johnson was recently honored with an Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel award for his years of dedication to District 88. He received a Meritorious Service award in the school board member/community volunteer category. Johnson's impact on District 88 will live on through the achievements of our students and the bright futures they pursue. He was dedicated to this district, to this community and to these students. He was an outstanding board member and a wonderful human being. He will forever be part of the District 88 family and will be greatly missed.

Following School Board Members Day was American Education Week from Nov. 16 to 20. The week presented Americans with the opportunity to

celebrate public education and to honor the individuals who are building futures for our students. We have more than 500 staff members at District 88 – from administrators, to teachers, to support staff, clerical staff and maintenance staff. Each and every day, they go above and beyond to make sure we're meeting our mission of working for the continuous improvement of student achievement.

Because of the support from our stakeholders, including our teachers, staff and Board of Education members, Addison Trail and Willowbrook continue to receive recognitions such as Top High Schools by Newsweek, America's Most Challenging High Schools by The Washington Post and Best High Schools by U.S. News & World Report. Our graduation rate continues to be at nearly 90 percent – above the state level – and more than 90 percent of the class of 2015 at Addison Trail and at Willowbrook was accepted to a two- or four-year college or university.

Thank you for your continued support of District 88.

Dr. Scott Helton is the superintendent of DuPage High School District 88.

Salt Creek Ballet to perform family friendly 'Nutcracker'

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

HINSDALE – Salt Creek Ballet brings its festive family-friendly "Nutcracker" ballet to the Hinsdale Central Auditorium at 1 and 5 p.m. Nov. 28 and 1 p.m. Nov. 29. Sunday's performance includes a special benefit performance and Sugar Plum Party.

Adventure awaits as Clara and her Nutcracker Prince battle the Mouse King and embark on a journey through the Land of Sweets with the Sugar Plum Fairy. This year's 30th anniversary production features elaborate sets, vibrant costumes, a 42-piece ensemble and internationally recognized guest dancers. Salt Creek Ballet's "The Nutcracker" is designed to introduce young children to the power and beauty of classical dance, according to the news release.

The holiday tradition this year features a cast of 100 dancers, including local children and young adults ages 8 to 17 from the school of the Salt Creek Ballet, as well as the Chicago West Chamber Orchestra.

Among the cast members is Gabrielle Torres of Bensenville.

Sunday's performance includes special admission to the Sugar Plum Par-

If you go

- **WHAT:** Salt Creek Ballet's "The Nutcracker"
- **WHERE:** Hinsdale Central Auditorium, 5500 S. Grant St., Hinsdale
- **WHEN:** 1 and 5 p.m. Nov. 28; 1 p.m. Nov. 29
- **COST:** Tickets start at \$15
- **INFO:** 800-514-ETIX(3849); www.saltcreekballet.org

ty, where audience members can meet characters from "The Nutcracker," step onto the stage and enjoy refreshments in an enchanted, winter wonderland. Tickets for the Sugar Plum Party benefit performance cost \$27 to \$43 for adults, and \$27 to \$37 for seniors and children. A limited number of second balcony tickets are available for \$21.

Additional performances of Salt Creek Ballet's "The Nutcracker" will be offered Dec. 5 at the Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University, University Park, and Dec. 12 and 13 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie.

NEWS BRIEF

Addison Park District to offer swim lessons for all age groups

ADDISON – Swim lessons will be offered by the Addison Park District in cooperation with Parks and Recreation in Villa Park.

The next session starts Dec. 3, and classes are available Saturdays, plus Tuesday and Thursday evenings, for swimmers with all levels of experience. They include parent/tot classes.

Lessons will take place at the Club Fitness indoor pool, 1776 W. Centennial Place, Addison.

For details on this session and future classes, call Club Fitness at 630-233-7275, option 3. Classes fill quickly.

– Suburban Life Media

Write to us

We want to hear from you. Letters must be no more than 300 words. They must include your first and last name, town and a phone number for verification. We may edit them for clarity, accuracy and style. Email letters to letters@mysurbanlife.com. The deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday for the following week's paper.

Suburban Life Scholars

Willowbrook High School

Galen Bergsten



Academic Achievements: As a student, Galen has enrolled in and will complete some of the most rigorous courses available at Willowbrook High School, including 17 Advanced Placement courses and a multitude of honors courses before he concludes his high school career. Galen has maintained a class ranking within the ninety-ninth percentile, is an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction, a National Advanced Placement Scholar, a National Merit Scholarship Commended student, and has earned Honor Roll status each semester. He is also the Treasurer of the Tri-M Music Honor Society as well as Thespian Society Troupe #94, serves as Sergeant at Arms for the National Honor Society, and is an inductee of Civitas (our Social Studies Honor Society) as well as the National English, Math, and World Language Honor Societies.

School Activities: Beyond the classroom, Galen participates and leads by example in a variety of co-curricular activities at Willowbrook High School. He has participated in 10 theater productions as a cast or crew member thus far during his high school career. He is a member of our Wind Ensemble, Show Choir, Pep Band, Jazz Band, and is the Drum Major for our Willowbrook High School Marching Band.

Community Service: Galen's commitment to Willowbrook is further demonstrated by his serving as the Vice President for Student Council, serving as a Team Captain for Relay for Life, and participating in Blue Crew, Best Buddies, Key Club, and Improv Club. In addition, he has competed for and represented Willowbrook on the Math Team, Speech Team, Scholastic Bowl, Model United Nations, IHSA Contest Theater, Tennis, and Science Olympiad.

Nominated by Daniel Krause, Principal: Willowbrook High School senior Galen Bergsten is a "Renaissance Man" amongst the Class of 2016. Through his academic and co-curricular accomplishments, he is a role model for his peers and future Warriors. He attributes his success to the example his sister provided during her academic career and the support provided by his family and teachers. Because of his dedication and commitment, Galen is certainly deserving of recognition as one of DuPage High School District 88's Best.

SPONSORED BY



Hinsdale South

Roman Drabchuk



Academic Achievements: 2014 Silver Award in National Spanish Exam, 2015 Silver Award in National Spanish Exam, Dean's List, National Honors Society, Spanish Honors Society

School Activities: Three-time All-State in Cross-Country/Track, 3rd Place IHSA State Cross country 2015, 6th Place IHSA State Track 1600 meter run 2015, School Record Holder in 1600 meter run (4:15.26), Leader on 4th Place Cross Country Team at IHSA State Cross Country Team 2015, Conference Champion Track 3200 indoors and 1600 outdoors 2015, Regional Cross country Champion 2015

Community Service: Key Club, Spanish Tutor

Nominated by Lara Jarman & Jim Dickerson, School Counselor/Coach: Roman came to the United States from the Ukraine in the 6th grade. He learned English very quickly and adapted very well academically, socially and athletically. Even though he is a star athlete he is very humble, hard working and driven to succeed. He is a great leader by example in both athletics and the classroom. Hinsdale South is lucky to have such a dynamic young person representing our school.

Addison Trail

Jessica Mell



Academic Achievements: By the end of her senior year, Jessica will have taken 10 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses and 10 Honors courses. "Jessica has always been my 'right-hand girl' in the classroom," said Addison Trail 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." Addison Trail AP Biology teacher Carolyn Erwin agreed. "In the short time I have known Jessica, 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."

School Activities: During her freshman and sophomore years, she participated in basketball, and she has played volleyball all four years of her high school career. A rewarding accomplishment so far was winning the West Suburban Conference Gold Division Conference Championship in volleyball – the Girls Volleyball Team hadn't won that title since 2006, and Jessica 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. Jessica also has participated in Lettermen Club, Student Council, Pay It Forward and National Honor Society.

Community Service: 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.

Boys basketball: Court is in session

By JASON ROSSI
jrossi@shawmedia.com

As the high school boys basketball season gets underway, teams from across the state begin a journey that they hope will culminate in a state

finals berth. Glenbard East and IC Catholic return lots of talent while York, Timothy Christian, Willowbrook and Addison Trail will look a little different. Here's the outlook as teams hit the hardwood.



ABOVE: IC Catholic's Will Lyles saves a loose ball last season in a game against Timothy Christian. Lyles was a key player for the Knights last winter and is expected to be a top performer this season.

RIGHT: Addison Trail's Eric Grygo goes up for a shot in a playoff game last season. Grygo was the Blazers' leading rebounder last season and is back in the mix again this year.

Shaw Media file photos



Addison Trail Blazers

COACH: Brendan Lyons
2014-15 RECORD: 15-12

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Nick Conrad	sr.	PG
Eric Grygo	sr.	F

OUTLOOK: West Suburban Gold all-conference performers Jaavion Bradley and Taylor White graduated, as did key contributor Matt Gontarek. Replacing that trio's production will be tough, but Nick Conrad (22 starts) and Eric Grygo (23 starts) will help ease the burden. In addition to Conrad and Grygo, junior Jack Kalbas and seniors Zach Novak and Ryan Zygowicz saw extensive varsity action last winter. Grygo was the Blazers' leading rebounder last season and Kalbas was the top 3-point shooter.

Timothy Christian

COACH: Jack LeGrand
2014-15 RECORD: 15-12

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Joey Davidson	jr.	G/F
Mitch Evenhouse	sr.	G
Ben Lodewyk	sr.	G

OUTLOOK: Graduation hit the Trojans hard as leading scorer Robert McGivney and key contributors Joe Bishop, Riley Chapman, Kollin Kaczynski, Brett Kwasigroch and Devin May all moved on. Despite the losses, Timothy should once again be a contender in the Metro Suburban East. Ben Lodewyk, the No. 2 scorer last season at nine points per game, returns along with fellow starter Joey Davidson. Sixth man Mitch Evenhouse also is back. That trio will be relied on heavily with seniors Joe Bootsma, Josh Caver, Tyler LeGrand, Bryan Leide and Jared Rhiner expected to take on larger roles. Juniors Jonny Strube and Trayvon Williams will see plenty of playing time.

Glenbard East Rams

COACH: Scott Miller
2014-15 RECORD: 13-15

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Mike Finley	jr.	F
Jack Grigat	sr.	G
Terrence Lakes	sr.	G
Patrick Peterkin	sr.	F

OUTLOOK: Three-year starters Mike Finley, Jack Grigat, Terrence Lakes and Patrick Peterkin lead the way for the Rams, but they are just the tip of the iceberg as nine of the top 10 players from a year ago return. Seniors Anthony Ahmed, Davonte Smith and Darrell Wilson should see plenty of action, sophomore Kenny Adams will see time at point guard, and senior Willowbrook transfer Carlos Meyers is likely to see playing time as head coach Scott Miller plans to use the bench extensively. "We are a very deep group. We should be able to play 10 guys," Miller said.

Willowbrook

COACH: Chris Perkins
2014-15 RECORD: 21-8

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Freddie Clay	jr.	G
Billy Degnan	sr.	G
Brandon Jones	sr.	F
Kevin Miller	sr.	G

OUTLOOK: Alonzo Verge Jr., last year's leading scorer and one of the top players in the state last season, has transferred away. Returners Freddie Clay, Billy Degnan, Brandon Jones and Kevin Miller will look to pick up the slack collectively. Sophomore forward Ethan Schuemer could have a breakout season.

IC Catholic

COACH: TJ Tyrrell
2014-15 RECORD: 15-13

TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Troy Burrows	sr.	G
Will Lyles	sr.	F
Angel Ramirez	sr.	G
Austin Reed	jr.	F

OUTLOOK: The deep playoff run for the football team kept some key basketball players (junior Matt Sutton among them) occupied during the basketball preseason, but the Knights should still be competitive in the meantime. Troy Burrows and Will Lyles, the two leading scorers last winter at 13.6 and 9.5 points per game, respectively, are back, as is two-year varsity starter Austin Reed and his 8.9 points per game. Junior Tony Gaudio also should figure prominently as the Knights are aiming for a Class 2A regional title and the program's first sectional title.

York Dukes

COACH: Vince Doran
2014-15 RECORD: 18-13

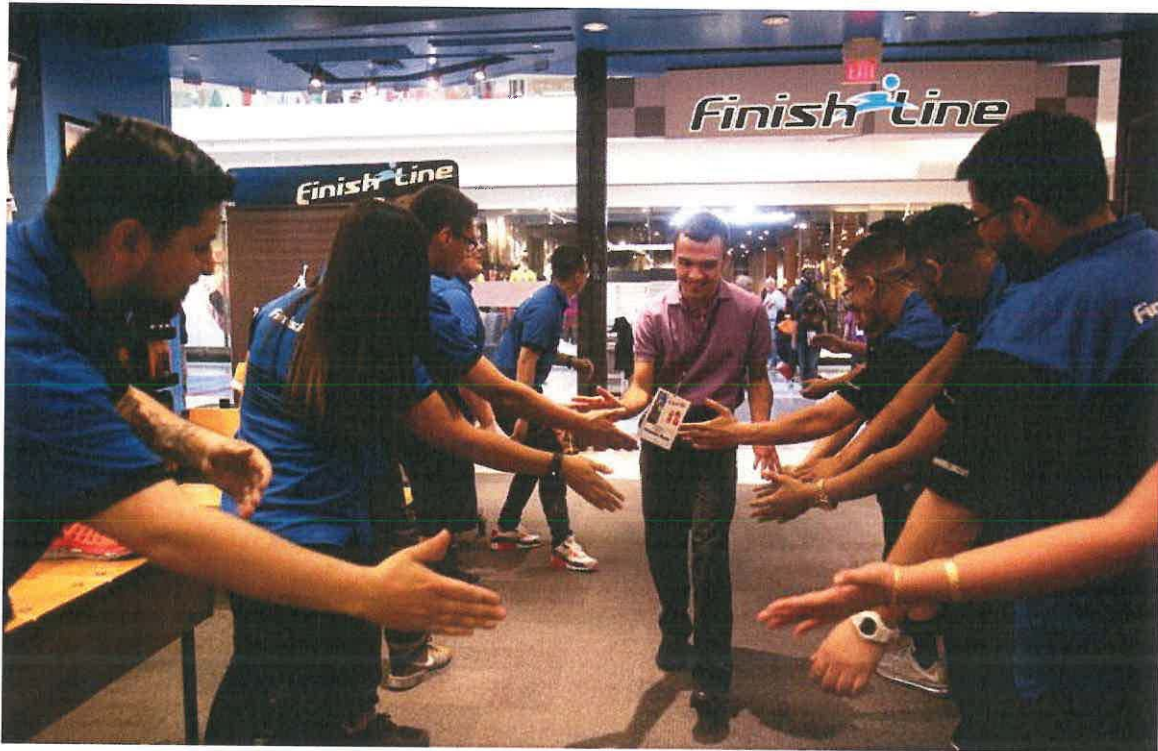
TOP PLAYERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.
Ryan Camp	sr.	G
Rich George	sr.	G
Patrick Grabowski	sr.	F
Jack Julian	sr.	G
Jack Morrissey	sr.	G

OUTLOOK: The loss of leading scorer and Suburban Life Player of the Year Jayvon Thomas will be a hurdle for the Dukes to overcome, but a balanced roster with plenty of senior experience will help soften the blow. Ryan Camp, Rich George, Patrick Grabowski, Jack Julian and Jack Morrissey all saw action last year and all averaged about five points per game. Grabowski and fellow senior Sean Juneman account for most of the size at 6-foot-5, but one of the strengths will be 3-point shooting. Sophomore Angelo Martucci, and freshmen Erik Cohn and Nick Kosich could contribute right away.

Business | updated: 12/3/2015 11:21 AM

Special Olympics athletes get a shopping spree at Yorktown



Alejandro Bueno gets high-fives from Finish Line staff at Yorktown Center in Lombard. The senior at Addison Trail High School was one of six Special Olympics athletes invited to take part in a shopping spree at the store.

Daniel White | Staff Photographer



Jessica Cilella

Alejandro Bueno is a great runner, a hardworking basketball player and a silent leader.

Those are just a few of the reasons why his coaches nominated him to be the recipient of a \$100 Finish Line (<http://www.finishline.com/>) shopping spree.

The Addison Trail High School senior was one of six Special Olympics athletes invited Tuesday to pick out whatever they wanted in the Yorktown Center store in Lombard.

"We were really excited because he's one of those students who never asks for anything, he never wants for anything," said Melissa Morales, a special-education teacher and coach who accompanied Bueno.

"I think the fact that he has this opportunity to be treated like a celebrity is good for him, it boosts his confidence," she said

Bueno and the other athletes were greeted with cheers, high-fives, ringing cowbells and a barrage of photographs before being paired with store employees who served as their personal shoppers.

He walked out of the store with a new pair of Air Jordans, a blue sweatshirt, some socks and a Bulls winter hat.

"They're extremely excited," said store manager Osvaldo Martir. "They're just like any other athlete: they win, they get excited. They have the same type of feelings we have. It's great to see the expression on their face, just like you would with anyone else who wins something"

Shelley Chenoweth, director of corporate partnerships for [Special Olympics Illinois](#), said Finish Line has sponsored shopping sprees for the past three years.

Special Olympics employees sort through the nominations to select recipients.

"The athletes have an amazing time picking out shoes," she said.

"Many of them don't have a pair of shoes, or only have one pair of shoes, that they can participate in Special Olympics with and getting a new pair of shoes is something they've never had before, so it means a lot to them," she said.

On the other side of the store, Michelle Coleman showed off her new purple shoes.

She said she will use them to play bocce and floor hockey with Special Olympics.

Like Bueno, Coleman was described as a quiet person who does a lot for her team without being asked.

"We have an athlete who is very difficult, and she will partner up with him in bocce. It keeps him in line, helps him stay focused and I really appreciate that," said Kathryn Thomas, a special recreation coordinator who works with Coleman at Veterans Park District in Northlake.

Other athletes who participated in the shopping spree were Dennis Fones from the Downers Grove District 99 transitional program; Tori Miller from Lyons Township High School; Davis Russ, also of Veterans Park District; and Ailyn Olas Coaga from Hester Junior High in Franklin Park.

"Our athletes don't always get recognition ... so it's nice when a group like this recognizes them and is kind to them," Thomas said.

[Jump to Article Comments](#)

You May Like

Sponsored Links by Taboola

"Brightest Flashlight Ever" is Selling Like Crazy

G700 Tactical Flashlight

Cast of 'National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation' Then and Now

Answers