

VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 58 No. 22

Thursday, June 1, 2017

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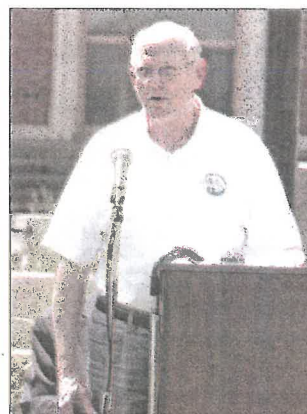


Solemn ceremony

CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Villa Park Review



Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 held its annual Memorial Day service on Monday morning at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park. Longtime post member and World War II veteran Sid Bergh served as the event's master of ceremonies. One photo (below right) shows Bergh speaking during the service. Another photo (below middle) shows Villa Park Village President Albert Bulthuis, who provided brief remarks. Bulthuis noted the sacrifice of the approximately 1.4 million Americans who have given their lives in service to their country. Another photo (above) shows members of the Willowbrook High School choir. The students performed at the beginning and end of the ceremony. Their selections included "America the Beautiful" and "The Star-Spangled Banner." The service concluded with a rifle salute, (left) followed by two buglers sounding taps from the north and south sides of the park.



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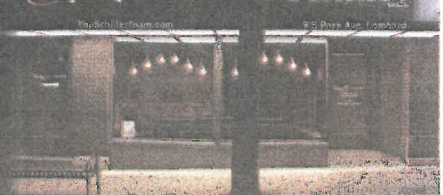
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Village board votes to cancel this year's Oktoberfest

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

Citing declining revenues, attendance and vendor participation, the Villa Park Village Board approved the cancellation of this year's Oktoberfest event.

Village board members voted unanimously during the May 22 board meeting to direct village staff to cancel this year's event. In recent years, Oktoberfest has taken place on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the middle of September at Lions Park, 320 E. Wildwood Ave. The 2016 event ran from Sept. 9-11.

According to the village's web site, the 2016 Oktoberfest marked the 37-year anniversary of the event, which began in 1979.

The announcement of a new fundraising event in Villa Park this fall also factored into the decision to cancel this year's Oktoberfest.

Villa Park Village Manager Rich Keehner told board members during last week's meeting that the School District 45 Foundation for Excellence is planning to hold its inaugural "45Fest" fundraising event in the village this fall, from Oct. 13-15. Keehner said that new event will resemble Oktoberfest by featuring carnival rides, a beer tent, live music and vendors.

He said the District 45 Foundation for Excellence is looking to raise at least \$50,000 during its inaugural three-day event.

Keehner stated that village staff was concerned that the close timing

of the two events could strain the community's participation in Oktoberfest.

In addition to Oktoberfest, the village supports other annual events, including the Fourth of July parade, Summerfest and Joyful Traditions.

Keehner said that the village staff's suggestion to cancel Oktoberfest was not taken lightly. He said that attendance at the event has declined over a number of years. Keehner also noted that poor weather has hurt attendance during some recent Oktoberfests.

He mentioned the village has to pay the costs to cover carnival attractions and live music regardless of the weather conditions. Keehner said the village annually spends about \$30,000 to pay for bands and

carnival activities at Oktoberfest. Village staff takes about one week to set up the event, which requires additional expenses for police services.

The cancellation of this year's Oktoberfest will eliminate a fundraising opportunity for the Villa Park Lions Club, which receives a portion of the revenue from the event's beer sales. Village staff proposed the Lions Club could work with Summerfest volunteers at the beer tent and share the proceeds from that festival. Keehner said Lions Club members could help check identification and sell beer at future Summerfest events. This year's Summerfest will take place June 16-17 in the area near Ardmore Avenue and Park Boulevard.

Trustee Chris Aiello initially stat-

ed during last week's discussion that he would like to continue Oktoberfest this year. Trustee Don Kase also said the village could try holding the event one more year, and that he wanted to carry over discussion of the issue to the next board meeting. Village President Albert Bulthuis said the board was at a point where it had to make a decision. Bulthuis said the event had run its course and wasn't attracting local vendors. Bulthuis also referred to another new village event planned for this fall—Villa Park Brewfest—scheduled for Sept. 23 at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park.

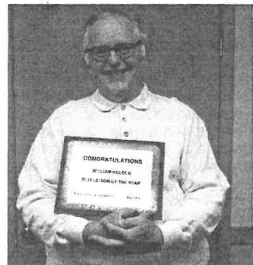
Villa Park Public Works Director Vydas Juskelis, who is a member of the Lions Club, stated club members were agreeable with plans to cancel Oktoberfest and have the club share the beer sales from Summerfest. Juskelis said that working the Summerfest event would require a lot less work for club members than setting up numerous tents for Oktoberfest.

After hearing the Lions Club wouldn't mind the cancellation of Oktoberfest, board members voted 6-0 to cancel this year's event. Trustees Nick Cuzzzone, Cheryl Tucker and Robert Wagner joined Aiello, Kase and Bulthuis in the vote.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Villa Park Historical Preservation Chair Carol Marcus (third from left) presented four historic plaque awards during the Villa Park Village Board meeting on May 22. Pictured with Marcus (left to right) are: Dan Kufner, Mario Barrales, Tammy and Raymond Hensley, Mike Styke and Kevin and Marlene Wolter, along with the Wolters' children—Hadyn (age 8) and Emily (age 10).



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Special senior

The Villa Park Senior Concerns Commission named William Nolden its Senior of the Year for 2017. Nolden, who is pictured at the May 22 Villa Park Village Board meeting, received the most nominations for this year's honor. A retired postal worker, Nolden has been a crossing guard for about nine years. He began his crossing-guard service at North Elementary School. He now works outside of Ardmore Elementary School. Nolden learned he'd received the award on May 12, shortly after he completed his duties outside of Ardmore School. Villa Park Village Clerk Hosanna Korynecy went to the school to inform Nolden of the award. Nolden was also recognized at last week's board meeting. In addition to working as a crossing guard, Nolden is a member of the Villa Park Police Department's Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT). He also takes part in the department's drug take-back program, which allows residents to safely dispose of drugs twice per year. Additionally, Nolden helps direct traffic during the village's annual Fourth of July parade, and has served on the village's fire pension commission for about 10 years. He also conducts a Sunday movie matinee at the Villa Park Library. The screenings and discussions of the films take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from September to May.

Villa Park briefs

Village accepting applications to fill vacant board seat; apply by June 16

The Villa Park Village Board is accepting applications from residents interested in serving the remaining two years of an open seat on the board. Villa Park Village President Albert Bulthuis recently began a four-year term. Before becoming president, he served as a trustee. His term as a trustee does not expire until 2019. Applications to serve the remaining two years of that term are available at invillapark.com. Go to "Document Center" and enter "Application to serve on the Village Board" in the search box on the upper right hand portion of the page. Bulthuis said the board will accept applications through June 16. He said the board will review the applications and reach a consensus on an appointment.

Lauren Kiefer 5K run/walk takes place June 17

The 11th annual Lauren M. Kiefer 5K Family Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, June 17. The run/walk begins and ends outside of Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave. The start time is 9 a.m. Registration and check-in will begin at 7 a.m. Online and mail-in registration are available. The entry fee is \$25 per person. Walk-up registration—\$25 cash on race day—will also be accepted. Children 12 and under can participate for free with a paid adult. A child waiver form must be completed. The event is named after 2000 Willowbrook graduate Lauren Kiefer. All proceeds from the run/walk will benefit the Lauren M. Kiefer Memorial Foundation, which supports several charitable causes, including annual scholarships to Willowbrook seniors.

For information, or to register online, visit www.remembela.com.

Pools are available for evening rental during the summer season

Villa Park Recreation has announced that Jefferson and Lufkin pools are available for private rentals for parties, fundraisers and other occasions. Both pools are available on evenings when special events aren't scheduled, from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or 8:15 to 9:45 p.m. on weeknights. To reserve a date, contact Jefferson Pool at 630-832-5632, or Lufkin Pool at 630-279-6286.

Pool passes are on sale now; early-bird rates run through June 10

Villa Park pool passes for the 2017 season went on sale at early-bird rates on May 1. Passes may be used to attend both Jefferson Pool (341 N. Harvard Ave.) and Lufkin Pool

(1000 S. Ardmore Ave.) throughout the 2017 season. The passes will be on sale at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave., and at the Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood Ave. The early-bird rates, which run through June 10, offer the same prices as last year; resident passes for ages 3 to 59 are \$53. The pass rate for senior residents 60 and older is \$48. For more information, call the Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department at 630-834-8970. Jefferson Pool opens for the season this Saturday, June 3. Lufkin Pool opens for the season on June 10.

Free fishing workshop on June 7; family fishing derby on June 10

Villa Park's Parks and Recreation Department and the Villa Park Sportsmen's Club are holding a free fishing workshop and family fishing derby this month at North Terrace Pond. The workshop will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7. The fishing derby will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 10. The derby will feature a casting contest, as well as prizes by age group for the largest, smallest and most fish caught. Call 630-834-8970 for more information.

VP Recreation accepting preschool registration

Villa Park Recreation is accepting registration for preschool for the 2017-18 school year. Preschool is held at the Iowa Community Center, 338 N. Iowa Ave. Class options include morning classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 3-year-olds (must be 3 by Sept. 1, 2017) and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for 4-year-olds (must be 4 by Sept. 1). The preschool classes will help children discover the fascinating world of learning and play as they gain the skills needed for kindergarten. Call 630-834-8970 for more information.

Police to conduct multiple roadside safety checks in June and July

The Villa Park Police Department announced it will conduct upcoming roadside safety checks in June and July. The checks will be performed between 8:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. on June 11, June 23, July 15, July 22 and July 28. According to the department, the checks are being conducted to promote the safety and well-being of the motoring public, and to provide a deterrent for those who might violate Illinois statutes and village ordinances. Police have planned to conduct the safety checks at 807 W. North Ave. The department stated the upcoming checks will be conducted to the guidelines set by the courts.

Village commission presents historic plaques

Owners of four properties recognized during board meeting

Villa Park and the nation marked National Preservation Month during May.

The National Trust of Historic Places sponsors the annual designation. The theme of this year's celebration was "This Place Matters."

Villa Park's annual historic plaque program includes Historic Preservation, Historic Landmark and Sears Catalog Home categories. Carol Marcus, the chair of the Villa Park Historical Preservation Commission, announced the four recipients of this year's historic plaque awards at the village board meeting on May 22.

Dan Kufner received a Historic Preservation plaque for his 100-year-old bungalow style home on the 200 block of South Summit Avenue. Kevin and Marlene Wolter received a Historic Preservation plaque for their 90-year-old English Tudor style home on the 600 block of South Cornell Avenue.

Raymond and Tammy Hensley received a Historic Landmark award for their two-story commercial building at 9 E. Park Blvd. The National Tea Grocery Store was the original business at the building, which is over 90 years old. Mike's Meat Market operated its business there for over 35 years. The building is now the home of the non-profit Park Art Center.

Michael and Tracy Styke received a Sears Catalog Home plaque for their home on the 300 block of South Princeton Avenue, which was built circa 1915.

"The present owners and caretakers are commended for their contributions to the community and for the preservation and maintenance of these important structures that link the past with the future of Villa Park," stated Marcus in announcing this year's recipients. "These buildings are significant to the history and development of the Village of Villa Park, and contribute to its character and heritage."

Former Lombard and Villa Park resident turns 100

By Jane Charnelo

LOMBARDIAN/VILLA PARK REVIEW STAFF REPORTER

Russell Lantz says he once came "thisclose" to meeting Charles Lindbergh, and remembers when Lombard was putting in sewer and water systems.

Lantz, who turned 100 on May 7, lived the first few years of his life in Lombard, on Main Street near what is dubbed the "Orphan Annie" house.

He grew up on the northwest corner of Wisconsin and Madison in Villa Park, the second of four sons of Matilda and Victor. He now lives in Durand, Ill., near Rockford.

Lantz said he recalled nearly meeting Lindbergh, who had roomed with a family friend in Villa Park. He happened to be flying in the area, and "landed an old biplane in Meyers cornfield."

"My brother and I ran over there," he continued, adding, "He was not there but my brother told me he was."

The centenarian also narrated how, in 1933, he saw a zeppelin one summer day while he was living in Villa Park. He said it was a scary site as it created a huge shadow that darkened a large area; it came close enough to the ground that it was very clear to see.

Attending York High School (Class of 1938), Lantz was in the school band and formed an 18-piece dance band during the "Big Band days," as he put it, and they played a number of venues.

He remembers working as an usher at the former Villard Theatre in Villa Park, near the old post office on Kenilworth, adding, "That used to be a big theater."

He also recounted how he would "shuttle" films between the Villard and the DuPage theaters during the Depression.

When he heard that the Lombard theater was torn down, "That broke my heart," Lantz said.

He also remembers the former Ovaltine factory in Villa Park, and

mentioned he knew the manager, Gottlieb Steiner, adding that the factory was "very busy."

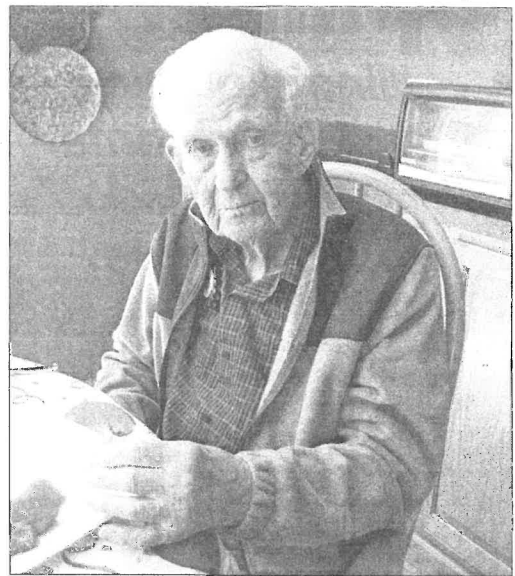
Lantz related how he made and tested aircraft propellers in Forest Park during World War II, and later worked for a pipeline company.

He and his wife, Evelyn, who attended confirmation class together at Trinity Lutheran Church in Villa Park, were childhood sweethearts. He said they lived in Congress Knolls for a time before moving to California.

He has two sons, Steve and Russell Jr. His wife and a son, Bryant, passed away. He said he is also the grandfather of nine.

When asked how things have changed since he grew up here, Lantz responded, "Oh, all the development ... very little vacant space anymore," because when he lived in the area, "There wasn't much there."

Lantz commented that about 30 years ago he recorded his personal story for the Villa Park Historical Society.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

Russell Lantz turned 100 years young on May 7. He grew up in Lombard and Villa Park, married his childhood sweetheart and later moved to California before coming back to Illinois. He now lives in Durand, near Rockford. He said the family threw a surprise party for him to celebrate his birthday.

Cullerton votes against 'premature' tax increase

In an effort to protect Illinois taxpayers, state Sen. Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) voted against a premature tax increase.

Senate Bill 9 increases the state

Motorcyclist airlifted to hospital after crash

Investigators were on the scene on Diehl Road east of Raymond Drive in unincorporated Naperville for a motorcycle crash with injuries that occurred Saturday night.

The rider was the only vehicle/motorcycle involved in the crash. He was airlifted to Good Samaritan Hospital with life threatening injuries.

Diehl Road was closed to all traffic between Raymond Drive and Winfield Road while DuCart investigators processed the crash scene.

At this time the identity of the rider is not being released pending results of the investigation.

income tax from 3.75 percent to 4.95 percent.

"I cannot support a tax increase until we cut more waste, fraud and abuse in state bureaucracy," Cullerton said. "The governor's administration entered into a \$2.4 million leasing deal on the taxpayers' dime; yet folks are asking DuPage residents to help balance the budget. This is unacceptable and something I cannot vote in favor of."

Cullerton and state Rep. David McSweeney (R-Barrington Hills) are urging a bipartisan investigation by the Illinois Audit Commission to examine the sweetheart deal Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration gave political insiders.

Last week, the Illinois Senate passed structural reforms, such as Cullerton's government consolidation plan, procurement reform and school funding reform.

The school funding plan does not cut funding to schools in DuPage County. All schools will receive the same amount of funding they received this school year. However, struggling districts such as School

"I cannot support a tax increase until we cut more waste, fraud and abuse in state bureaucracy."

— Sen. Tom Cullerton
(D-Villa Park)

District U-46 and Queen Bee School District 16 would receive an increase in funding to put them on an even playing field with neighboring schools.

"I would never support a plan that would pit children against each other," Cullerton said. "None of our schools will receive less funding than the year before. However, we will move toward a system that is fair and gives all children, regardless of their ZIP code, a chance to succeed."

Lilac Parade announces judging results

The following are the results of judging for the 2017 Lilac Parade:

Bands

- 2B - High School:
 - #1: Kelly High School Marching Trojans
 - #2: Glenbard East High School Marching Band
 - #3: Willowbrook High School Band

•2C - Grade School:

- #1: Marquardt Mustang Marching Band
- #1: Glen Westlake Wildcat Marching Band
- #2: Jackson and Jefferson Bands
- #3: North Elementary School Dist. 45

Novelty

•4D - Motorized:

- #1: Jeep Super Heroes
- #2: American Cancer Society
- #3: Lombard Masonic Lodge #1098

•4E - Non-Motorized:

- #1: Cooperative Nursery School - Super Heroes
- #2: Lombard Park District Tumbling Times Gymnastics
- #2: Lombard Waves Swim & Dive
- #3: Flat 43 BMX Team

Floats

•1A - Civic Amateur Made

- #1: Two Rivers Federation Princesses, Hopi & Mohawk
- #2: Girl Scout Troup 50764
- #3: Two Rivers Federation Princesses, Comanche & Huron

Antique vehicles

- #1: Medinah Antique Car Club
- #2: Chicago Vintage Mustang
- #3: Northern IL Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Assn.

The winning entries are based on the total number of points from two band judges, two auto judges and four float/novelty judges.



STEVE SPODEN PHOTO Lombardian/Villa Park Review

'Ale Fest' just around the corner

The fourth annual Lombard Ale Fest, hosted by the Glenbard East Booster Club and the Lombard Historical Society, will be held Saturday, June 10, from 1-5 p.m. The adults-only event will be staged along Parkside Ave., just west of the Metra Station, in downtown Lombard. The event will feature over 80 unique beers from more than 40 craft breweries. Live music will be provided by a variety of Chicago based performers and The Midlothian Pipe Band. Food from some of Lombard's favorite restaurants will also be featured. Tickets are available online at www.lombardalefest.com. Tickets may also be available at the gate if not sold out so advance ticket purchase is encouraged. Pictured in Lilacia Park are Ale Fest committee members (seated, left to right) Christine Yeoman, Sue Silber-nagel, Sarah Richard and (standing, left to right) Dan Belanger, Murad Erguven, Bob Difino, event coordinator Tim Glennon, John Chlebek and Greg Ludwig. Committee members not pictured are Chris O'Brien, Chris Leonard, Bob Biddle, Beth Symonds, Bill Irazek, Cory Henderson and Mike Fugiel. Proceeds from the event will benefit nonprofit organizations in the Lombard community, including the Glenbard East Booster Club and the Lombard Historical Society. For more information, visit www.LombardAleFest.com.

Suspect identified, charged in alleged crime spree

Investigators

have identified the suspect who the DuPage County Sheriff's Office has accused of committing vehicle burglaries and possibly a residential burglary incident in the 3700 block of Sterling Road in unincorporated Downers Grove on Saturday.

At approximately 11:20 a.m. Saturday, deputies responded to the area of Sterling Road and 37th Street in unincorporated Downers Grove for the report of a suspect allegedly committing vehicle burglaries and possibly a residential burglary.

The Sheriff's Office had the assistance of multiple police agencies in setting up a perimeter to contain the suspect. Deputies apprehended the male Hispanic suspect at approximately 12:30 p.m.



Aldo Parrado Vega

The suspect, Aldo Parrado Vega, 33, of Key West Fla., has been charged with one count of residential burglary, a class one felony; one count of attempted residential burglary, and possession of a controlled substance.

Parrado Vega is also charged with felony fugitive from justice relating to an active warrant for his arrest out of Florida.

Undersheriff Frank Bibbiano applauded the work of deputies who responded and apprehended the suspect. Bibbiano would also like to thank the following police agencies for their assistance in yesterday's investigation: Downers Grove Police, Westmont Police, Oak Brook Police and the Lombard Police Department.

Bibbiano said, "The teamwork exhibited by all agencies involved allowed for the quick capture of this suspect."

Parrado Vega is being held in the DuPage County Jail and was scheduled to appear in bond court at the DuPage County Courthouse.

Sports

**LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW**

Regional champions!

Warriors edge Lake Park to claim post-season title

By Chris Fox
LOMBARDIAN-VILLA PARK REVIEW
STAFF REPORTER

The Willowbrook baseball program captured its first regional championship in five years with Saturday's 6-5 victory over Lake Park in the title contest of the IHSA Class 4A Hoffman Estates Regional.

The win, which gave the Warriors an overall season record of 25-8, pushed the team into this week's Class 4A sectional at Boomers Stadium in Schaumburg.

Senior Mike Dembowski delivered the game-winning hit in Saturday's regional final. Dembowski's double with one out in the bottom of the seventh inning snapped a 5-5 tie and drove in senior Kyle Ferguson with the winning run.

Ferguson hit a solo home run in the bottom of the fifth inning to give the Warriors a 5-4 lead. The Lancers tied the game at 5-5 with one run in the top of the seventh inning.

Senior Alec Michaelson connected for a two-run single in the bottom of the first inning to give the Warriors an early 2-0 lead. Lake Park grabbed a 3-2 advantage with a three-run double in the top of the fourth inning.

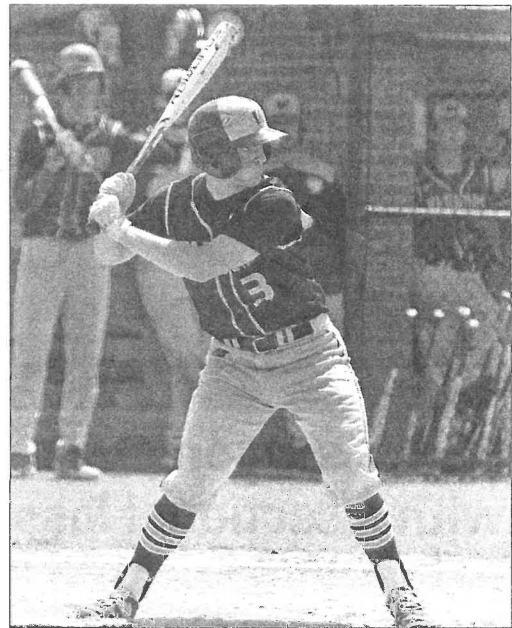
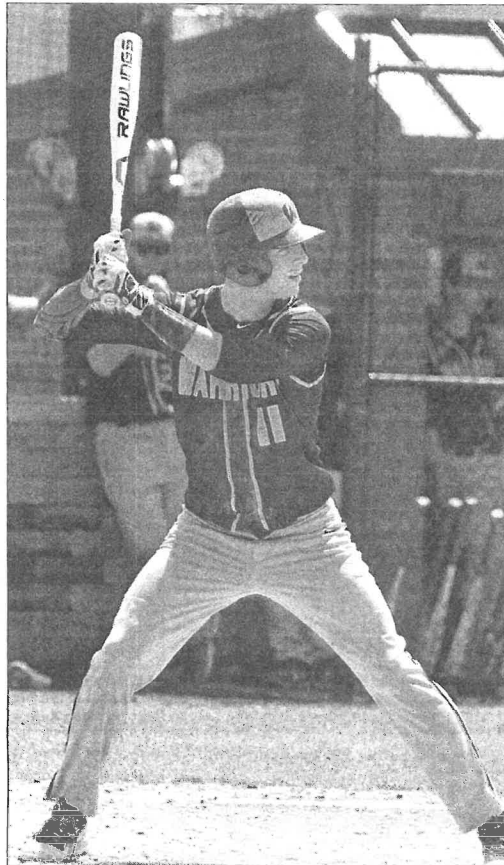
Junior Sam Pelsor bashed a pinch-hit, two-run single to left field to give the Warriors a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the fourth inning. Pelsor delivered the critical hit on an 0-2 pitch.

Sophomore Ryan Mintz pitched the first four innings for Willowbrook before he was relieved by sophomore Jack Nilles in the top of the fifth inning. Nilles pitched two innings, while senior Scott Kohrt pitched the seventh inning. The three Warrior righthanders allowed a total of five hits during Saturday's game.

Ferguson singled with one out in the bottom of the seventh inning and scored moments later on Dembowski's line-drive double to center field.

In addition to providing the game-winning hit, Dembowski made a pair of great defensive plays at first base. He leaped to snare a line drive to end the second inning. In the fifth inning, Dembowski made an over-the-shoulder catch of a pop fly. He spun and made a long throw to third base to nearly cut down a Lake Park baserunner who had tagged up from second base.

Ferguson went 2-for-3 at the plate



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Lombardian/Villa Park Review

The Willowbrook baseball team won the IHSA Class 4A Hoffman Estates Regional championship on Saturday. The Warriors, who last won a regional title in 2012, beat Lake Park 6-5 in the regional final. Senior Mike Dembowski (left-No. 11) provided the game-winning hit—a seventh-inning double that broke a 5-5 tie. Senior Kyle Ferguson (above-No. 3) scored the winning run. Ferguson homered in the fifth inning to break a 4-4 tie. Another photo shows junior Sam Pelsor (below left-No. 13), who drilled a two-run hit in the fourth inning. Also pictured is sophomore Jack Nilles (below right-No. 5), who pitched two innings in relief. Willowbrook, which improved its overall record to 25-8 with Saturday's win, advanced to this week's sectional at Boomers Stadium in Schaumburg.

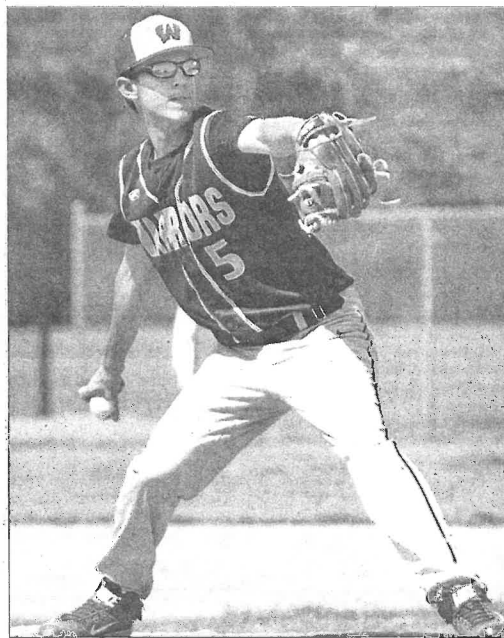
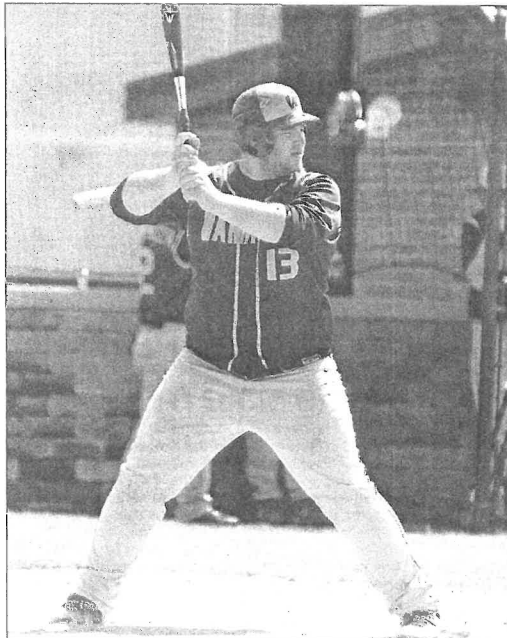
during the regional final. Sophomore Jack Hines also went 2-for-3; Hines cracked a double just before Pelsor's two-run, pinch-hit single. Sophomore Trevor Jalszynski's single preceded Hines's double.

The Warriors opened the post-season with a 6-0 win over Batavia in a regional semifinal game on May 25. Michaelson pitched six and two-thirds innings to lead Willowbrook to the victory. He allowed just one

hit. Michaelson recorded five strikeouts and walked five batters. Kohrt relieved Michaelson in the seventh inning.

Michaelson provided his own offensive support by bashing a two-run home run in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Dembowski, Jalszynski, Pelsor and senior M.J. Ranieri each drove in one run in the win over Batavia.



Sports briefs

Boys basketball camps take place at Glenbard East in June

Glenbard East boys varsity basketball coach Scott Miller will hold two camps at the school in June. One camp, for boys entering grades 9-12 in the fall, will begin on June 5 and run through June 21. Each session will take place from 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The other camp, for boys entering grades 3-8, will begin June 12 and end on June 21. Each session of that camp will run from 10 a.m. until noon. Both camps are for boys who are looking to improve their basketball skills. The camps will stress fundamentals, game play and having fun. Each camper will receive a T-shirt. The fee for each camp is \$100 per player. For more information, call the Lombard Park District at 630-620-7322, or visit www.lombardparks.com.

Lombard Park District tennis team seeks new players

The Lombard Park District tennis team invites new players entering grades 5 through 12 to join its team.

"This summer team is a great way for players to learn a lifetime sport and improve their skills on the tennis court," said Bill Burt, who spent several years as Glenbard East's boys and girls varsity tennis coach. Burt described the park district's summer team as a low-pressure, player-centered experience. Beginners and players of all ability levels are welcome.

Practices take place Monday through Thursday, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The team will play meets against other park district teams on Friday afternoons. The six-week summer session begins on June 12.

To register, visit the park district's website at lombardparks.com.