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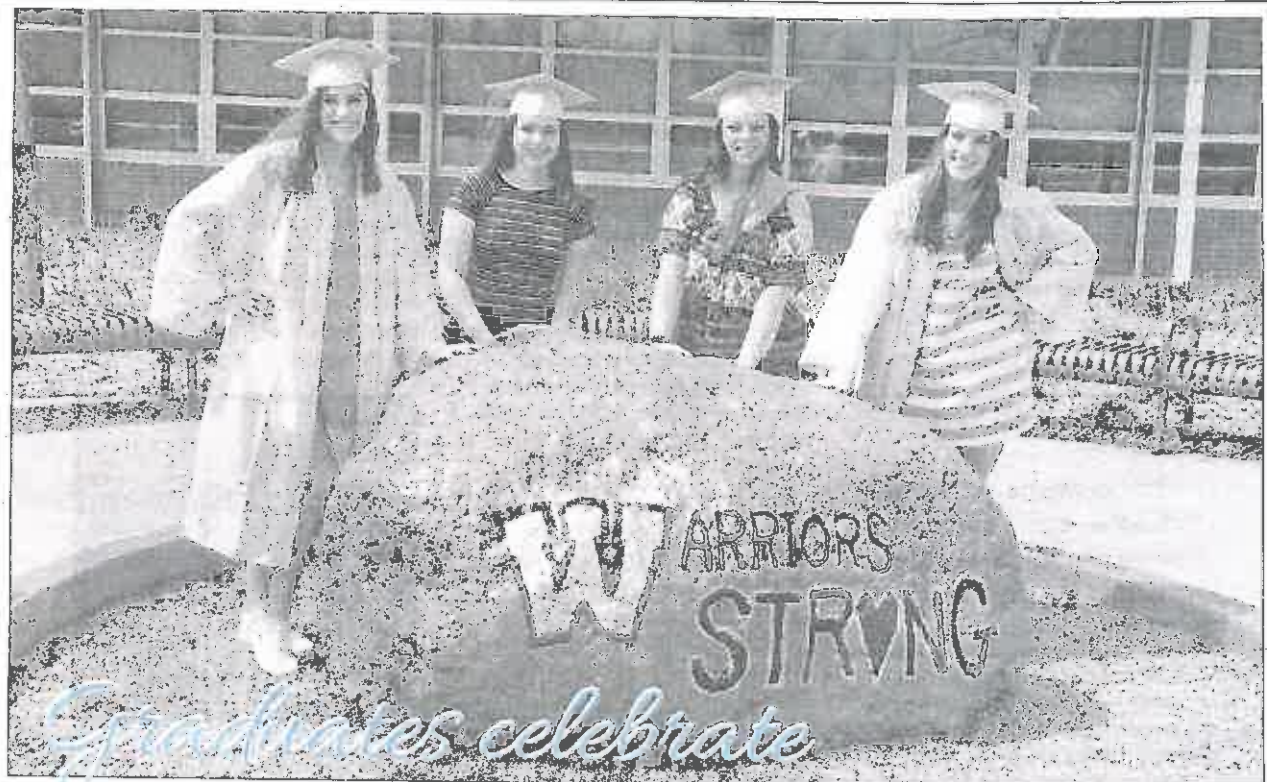
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VOL. 167 NO. 22

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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020



Four members of Willowbrook High School's Class of 2020 are pictured outside of the school on Saturday afternoon. Pictured left to right are Kate Gargano, Shannon Knudtson, Loren Perry and Emy Hayes. Willowbrook seniors were supposed to celebrate their graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 17, but that event was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Willowbrook released a virtual graduation ceremony on Sunday. The virtual service included the reading

of all of the names of the members of Willowbrook's Class of 2020. Willowbrook seniors picked up their caps, gowns, diplomas and senior awards during drive-through events on Friday and Saturday. Gargano will attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Knudtson will attend Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Perry will attend College of DuPage, while Hayes will attend Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

INSIDES:

Police Reports.....6 Sports..... 17-18
Viewpoint.....8 Classifieds.....16

988152-10/01/2020 C033
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REVIEW

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The Villa Park Review is published every Thursday by Rock Valley Publishing, LLC, 240 N. West Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60128.

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THE VILLA PARK REVIEW
240 N. West Avenue,
Elmhurst, IL 60128

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 11am-3pm



DuPage County reports nearly 5,900 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 296 deaths

May 17 update shows 155 confirmed cases among Villa Park residents

STAFF REPORT

The DuPage County Health Department has recorded almost 5,900 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the county. The health department's COVID-19 case map, also referred to as a dashboard, links data from the DuPage County Health Department into the GIS Data Systems from DuPage County to provide a greater level of understanding into how the COVID-19 pandemic is unfolding across the county. Updated daily, the dashboard includes the age range, gender and the community of residence of each identified case in DuPage County. To view the county's COVID-19

dashboard, visit the DuPage County Health Department's website at dupagehealth.org.

As of May 17, the health department indicated 5,892 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in DuPage County, including 296 deaths.

The May 17 data showed 155 confirmed cases of COVID-19 among Villa Park residents, along with 236 cases among Lombard residents, and 18 cases affecting residents of Oakbrook Terrace.

The county's report from one week earlier—May 10—indicated 248 deaths related to COVID-19. The report from two weeks earlier—May 3—indicated 192 deaths.

The DuPage County Health Department has stated that the number of positive COVID-19 cases is likely much

higher than listed because of unreported or untested cases in the community.

According to the county health department's May 17 update, 187 of the county's 296 deaths related to COVID-19 have involved residents age 80 and older. Another 65 deaths related to COVID-19 have been reported in residents in the 70-79 age group.

About 85 percent (252) of the county's 296 deaths related to COVID-19, therefore, have affected residents age 70 and older.

IDPH provides statewide COVID-19 statistics

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) report on May 17, there have been 4,177 deaths related to COVID-19 in the state. The IDPH's May 17 update also indicated more than 94,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the state, with more than 580,000 tests for the virus performed.

Of the 4,177 deaths related to COVID-19 in Illinois as of May 17, 1,849 deaths have been among residents age 80 and older. Another 1,020 deaths have been in the 70-79 age group, with 729 deaths among residents between the ages of 60-69. About 86 percent of the state's 4,177 deaths related to COVID-19, therefore, have involved residents 60 and older. Nearly 69 percent of the COVID-19 related deaths in Illinois have taken place in residents 76 and older.

According to the IDPH, 2,839 of the state's 4,177 deaths related to COVID-19 have taken place in Cook County. About 68 percent of all of the state's deaths related to COVID-19, therefore, have been in Cook County. IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike has stated that all deaths of Illinois residents who tested positive for COVID-19 have been counted as COVID-19 deaths, even if the decedents died of alternate causes.

Closed for the season; Jefferson Pool will not open in 2020

Facility was supposed to open on June 6

STAFF REPORT

The Village of Villa Park announced last week that Jefferson Pool would be closed for the entire 2020 season because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pool, located at 341 N. Harvard Ave., was supposed to open for the 2020 season on Saturday, June 6. The pool would have been open through Labor Day—Monday, Sept. 7.

"It's so sad; I feel heartbroken," said Suzanne Earl, the village's aquatic manager and athletic supervisor. "It's sad because I just can't imagine a summer without a pool, not just for our staff but for our whole community."

Earl said she had a staff of 32 part-time employees—mostly lifeguards—who worked at the pool last year and had responded that they wanted to return to work during the 2020 season.

Earl added that the village's parks and recreation department staff discussed strategies to try to open the pool. Unfortunately, there are no viable options.

"You can't have people in a pool wearing masks," said Earl, who also referred to Gov. JB Pritzker's current restrictions, which ban non-essential gatherings and limit essential gatherings—such as religious services—to 10 or fewer people.

Earl said the village did not sell any pool passes for the 2020 season, so it will not have to reimburse anyone. The

Villa Park Village Board recently set rates for the 2020 season, and passes were supposed to go on sale on May 1. Earl said the parks and recreation department decided to hold off on selling pool passes because of the uncertainty about this season.

A May 13 statement from the village noted that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend visiting water parks, water playgrounds and/or spas at this time. The village's statement added that surrounding organizations, including the Elmhurst Park District and the Lombard Park District, have decided to close their facilities for the season. Additionally, the statement noted that the DuPage Swim and Dive Conference, which includes the Villa Park Mariners swim team, has canceled its 2020 season. The Mariners were supposed to hold their first practice at Jefferson Pool before the pool was scheduled to open to the public. The Mariners were scheduled to open their season with a home meet against Bartlett on June 6.

"These are unprecedented times this decision was not made without extensive thought and analysis," the village added in its statement. "It is hard to imagine a summer without going to the pool; however, ensuring the safety and well-being of the community, visitors and staff must take priority. We thank all of our residents, staff and visitors for their understanding as we face these uncharted waters, united in hope for a healthier future."



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Seniors make drive-through pickups

Willowbrook High School seniors visited their school on Friday and Saturday to pick up their graduation caps and gowns, along with their diplomas, yearbooks and senior awards. Students remained in their vehicles during the pickups. Teachers and administrators greeted the students and handed them their special items. Willowbrook has been closed to on-site instruction since the end of regular classes on March 13. The school's Class of 2020 was supposed to hold its commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 17, but that event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The school released an online ceremony on Sunday. Willowbrook hopes to hold an in-person ceremony for the Class of 2020 this summer. Willowbrook seniors who stopped by their school on Friday included Clare Wangler (above) and Logan Zywicki (below). They are pictured while meeting with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause, who handed out diplomas and senior awards.



Obituaries

Angela R. Zlocchi, 89

Angela R. Zlocchi, nee Terkowitz, of Villa Park, passed away recently at the age of 89. Beloved wife of the late Mario J. Loving mother of Maureen Oakley, Marlene (Kevin) Crowley, Mary Kay (David) Napientek, Michael, Martin (Anne). Cherished grandmother of 12 and great grandmother of 15. Fond sister of John Terkowitz. Due to restriction from COVID-19, Service and Internment private. Arrangements by Steuere Funeral Home. Info: 630-832-4161

Anna M. Cap, 101

Anna M. Cap, nee Sklenar, of Oakbrook Terrace, passed away recently at the age of 101. Beloved wife of the late Frank. Loving Mother of Charles F. Fond sister of the late Hedy (Gerald) Bingenheimer, Marie (Bill) Doyle and Hermina (Joe) Clark. Aunt and great aunt of many. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Services and Internment are private. Arrangements by Steuerle Funeral Home. Info: 630-832-4161

SPORTS

MAY 21, 2020 • 17



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing



Returning to Willowbrook

Members of Willowbrook's Class of 2020 stopped by their school on Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16, for a drive-through celebration. Teachers and administrators greeted the Willowbrook seniors, who remained in their vehicles as they received their graduation caps and gowns, diplomas, yearbooks and senior awards. Willowbrook seniors were supposed to celebrate their commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 17, but that event was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Willowbrook released a virtual ceremony honoring its Class of 2020 on Sunday afternoon. The school hopes to hold an in-person graduation ceremony this summer. The Willowbrook athletes who stopped by the school on Friday included Deandre Holliday (top left), a standout on the Warriors' football, basketball and boys track and field teams. Another photo shows Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause greeting Aidan Nichols (top right), a member of the school's boys swimming team. Another photo shows Krause and Ashlei Mayweather (left), a member of the school's cheerleading team. One more photo shows Jenna Vittorio (above), who played for the Warriors' girls soccer team.

Warriors' badminton season winds up ending as it was about to begin

Shutdown arrived just before the season-opening meet

STAFF REPORT

Willowbrook's badminton team was just about to begin the 2020 season when the COVID-19 shutdown began at the end of regular classes on Friday, March 13.

The Warriors were supposed to open their competitive season with a March 16 match against Wheaton Warrenville South. The opening week of the season was also supposed to include a quad meet with three other teams at Downers Grove North on March 18.

The Warriors held their first practice of the season on March 2. The team held its last practice on March 12.

"I feel terrible for my team, as many had worked really hard in the off-season leading up to this spring," said Willowbrook coach Eastman Tiu. "It's just a shame that an entire season was canceled, but we all understand it had to be done. I feel terrible for our seniors for not having the closure of a final season, and also for our freshmen who had just made the team and were excited for their first competition."

Willowbrook's 2020 team included six senior athletes—Chloe Harr (captain), Makenzie Bay, Maddie Brown, Pearl Hosman, Lizzie Romero and Jessica Whiting—along with senior managers Sophia Rizzo and Marie Sabio.

"From a program standpoint, everyone loses a year of development, so this will have lasting effects on our program, but that's also true across the entire state and country," said Tiu, who added that all of the program's underclass players are already looking forward to the 2021 season.



The Willowbrook badminton team was supposed to open its 2020 competitive season with a March 16 meet against Wheaton Warrenville South. But Willowbrook and all K-12 schools in Illinois closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic at the end of regular classes on March 13. No athletic activities have been allowed at the state's schools in the last two months. Willowbrook's 2020 team featured six senior players, including captain Chloe Harr (above) and Maddie Brown (right). Harr and Brown are both pictured during the 2019 season. "I feel terrible for our seniors for not having the closure of a final season, and also for our freshmen who had just made the team and were excited for their first competition," said Willowbrook head coach Eastman Tiu.

CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Mariners' swim season canceled

DuPage Swim and Dive Conference won't conduct its 2020 season

STAFF REPORT

The Villa Park Mariners won't be swimming in 2020.

The Mariners, who compete in the DuPage Swim and Dive Conference (DSDC), recently learned that the 2020 season has been canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The conference sent a recent letter to its members announcing the cancellation. The conference made the announcement after a meeting that included its members' park district executive directors and village recreation directors.

"Collectively, our top concerns are the safety of our patrons and staff, and how to provide aquatic enjoyment this summer without compromising this safety," the letter stated.

The DSDC letter noted that neither the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) nor Gov. JB Pritzker had given direction on how pools will be impacted this summer. The IDPH and Pritzker have also not provided a timeline as to when to expect the lifting of current pool restrictions.

The May 5 letter also stated that two DSDC members—Carol Stream and Wood Dale—had already an-

"Unfortunately, as we all know, there is nothing socially distant at the swimming pool on a sunny, 80-degree summer day; nor at a swim meet with over 300 swimmers, plus spectators, volunteers and staff."

- Conference letter

nounced they would not have a 2020 pool season.

Last week, the Village of Villa Park announced that Jefferson Pool, the Mariners' home pool, would not open for the 2020 season because of the pandemic.

"Unfortunately, as we all know, there is nothing socially distant at the swimming pool on a sunny, 80-degree summer day; nor at a swim meet with over 300 swimmers, plus spec-

tators, volunteers and staff," stated the conference's letter.

The letter noted that the summer swim season is one of the top highlights for DSDC swimmers, especially those who are celebrating their "senior" seasons—their final seasons in the conference. Many of those senior swimmers—18-year-olds—have been involved with their programs for over a decade.

"After much discussion and deliberation, our agencies are in sad agreement to not host the 2020 DSDC season," stated the conference's letter. "This decision does not come lightly, and we hope the DSDC Board will understand our decision to not host the 2020 season."

The Mariners were scheduled to open the 2020 season with a home meet against Bartlett on June 6. The Mariners' regular season was supposed to include 10 regular-season meets, followed by a pair of post-season conference meets on July 18 and July 25.

Villa Park would have been a member of the conference's four-team Blue Division in 2020.

Sudoku Puzzle Answers

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

VILLA PARK REVIEW
 Your HomeTown Newspaper
 240 N. West Avenue
 Elmhurst, IL 60123

Main Phone 630 834-8244
 Fax 630 834-8906

The Villa Park Review is published every Thursday by Rock Valley Publishing, LLC, 240 N. West Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

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THE VILLA PARK REVIEW
 240 N. West Avenue,
 Elmhurst, IL 60126

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 11am-3pm



Village president sends message to Villa Park residents regarding pandemic

Bulthuis urges residents to follow governor's stay-at-home order

Villa Park Village President Albert Bulthuis sent a message to village residents last week regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

"By now, we have all learned the stay-at-home order originally issued on March 16 has been extended through April 30, 2020," began Bulthuis's April 7 message to Villa Park residents. "As we are all adjusting to our new norm, please continue to be ever mindful to keep abreast of what I will call the new 'We must' along with the 'We cannot.'"

The village president's message

continued with a list of guidelines:

We must each practice increased acts of individual responsibility.

We must follow the CDC [Centers for Disease Control] guidelines with even greater dedication in the serious days ahead.

We must follow the stay-at-home order to stop COVID-19 from spreading further into our community. Travel outside the home only for *essential* trips.

We must practice social distancing when going out for walks or on essential errands.

We must shop smarter: utilize special shopping hours, online ordering, delivery, or curbside services offered by stores and restaurants still serving our community.

We must utilize technology to stay in touch, especially with seniors and those in high-risk categories. Phone calls, text messages, social media, and video chats are great ways to keep in touch with each other while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

We must remain strong and committed to the health and safety of our families, friends, neighbors, state, and

our country.

We cannot forget to thank those essential workers that are sacrificing their own safety to keep us safe.

We cannot relent, become lax, or ignore our social responsibility to adhere to the stay-at-home order.

Near the end of his message, Bulthuis added one last guideline—"We must stay informed." He directed residents toward websites; including the DuPage County Health Department's website—dupagehealth.org—which contains a dashboard with statistics of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the county. Bulthuis also referred to the websites of the Illinois Department of Public Health (dph.illinois.gov) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov).

"I have faith that our community will stand together and do what is necessary to help each other during these difficult times," said Bulthuis at the conclusion of his message to village residents. "Because we are Villa Park and that's what we do."

DuPage County reports more than 1,100 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 48 deaths

April 12 update shows 47 confirmed cases among Villa Park residents

The DuPage County Health Department has recorded over 1,100 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the county.

The health department recently launched an interactive COVID-19 case map. Also referred to as a dashboard, the case map links data from the DuPage County Health Department into the GIS Data Systems from DuPage County to provide a greater level of understanding into how the COVID-19 pandemic is unfolding across the county.

The dashboard, which is updated daily, includes the age range, gender and the hometown of each identified case in DuPage County.

As of April 12, the data on the health department's dashboard indicated 1,165 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in DuPage County, including 48 deaths.

The April 12 data showed 47 confirmed cases of COVID-19 among Villa Park residents, along with 67 cases among Lombard residents and nine cases affecting residents of Oakbrook Terrace.

One week earlier, the dashboard's

April 5 update indicated a total of 647 confirmed COVID-19 cases in DuPage County, including 22 deaths. The information from April 5 showed 20 cases among Villa Park residents, 41 cases in Lombard residents and nine cases among residents of Oakbrook Terrace.

The April 12 update noted that 616 (nearly 53 percent) of the 1,165 confirmed cases affected women, while 546 cases (about 47 percent) affected men.

The dashboard reported that the gender in three of the 1,165 cases is unknown.

According to the dashboard, the first case of COVID-19 in DuPage County was confirmed on March 13. The dashboard indicates that the highest number of cases in a single day is April 4, when there were 95 confirmed cases. There were 52 cases one day earlier—April 3. Following the 95 cases on April 4, the number dropped to 41 on April 5, before rising to 72 cases on April 6. There were 47 cases on April 7, and 76 cases on April 8. The number of cases remained relatively steady in the fol-

lowing four days, with 66 on April 9, 64 on April 10, 66 on April 11 and 61 on April 12.

The age group breakdown in the county's April 12 update shows 215 of the 1,165 confirmed cases are in residents are between the ages of 50-59. There were 198 cases in the 60-69 age group, and 130 cases in the 80 and above age group. The data showed 118 cases in residents ages 70-79. There were 191 cases in the 40-49 age group, 161 cases among residents ages 30-39 and 136 cases in the 20-29 age group. The April 12 update indicated 11 cases in the county among the 10-19 group, and five confirmed cases in children 9 and under.

In a March 30 statement announcing the COVID-19 dashboard, the county health department related that the number of positive cases is likely much higher than listed because of unreported or untested cases in the community.

To view the county's COVID-19 dashboard, visit the DuPage County Health Department website at dupagehealth.org.

School districts continue to provide free meals to students while school buildings are closed

Five days worth of food to be provided each Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon; the next distribution is April 21

District 88 is partnering with District 45, Salt Creek School District 48, Addison School District 4, Arbor Management, Chartwells and Cottage Hill Operating Company to provide meals to students while school buildings are closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The food service program provides meals free of charge to all residents up to the age of 18.

Beginning on April 7, five days worth of food (five breakfasts and five lunches) were distributed. Five days worth of food will be provided each Tuesday while school buildings are closed to on-site learning.

The next distribution of five days worth of food will be provided from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, April 21.

The area distribution sites include four Villa Park schools and two Lombard schools. The Villa Park schools are:

- Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave.
- Albright Middle School, 1110 S. Villa Ave.
- Ardmore Elementary School, 225 S. Harvard Ave.,
- Jefferson Middle School, 255 W. Vermont St.

The Lombard schools are:

- Stevenson Elementary School, 18W331 15th St.
- Westmore Elementary School, 340 S. School St.



The Bunny makes deliveries

The Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department's Bites with the Bunny event was canceled this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The department held an alternate event—a mobile egg hunt—on Saturday. The Bunny joined volunteers to visit 37 homes to drop candy-stuffed eggs in front yards in a contact-free environment. In addition to receiving candy-stuffed eggs, homes with dogs received some eggs containing dog treats. Pictured with the Bunny during one of the stops are volunteer Sophia Smith (left) and Tina Janopoulos (top right, in the vehicle).

CHRIS FOX PHOTO: Rock Valley Publishing

SPORTS

APRIL 16, 2020 •

