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The 2020 Lilac Court

Lombard's 2020 Lilac Queen was revealed during Saturday's coronation ceremony in the village's Lilacia Park. Jamya Whitman, who will soon begin her senior year at Glenbard East High School, was named this year's Lilac Queen. The coronation ceremony was originally supposed to take place on May 2, but was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whitman (center) is pictured with the rest of the court shortly after her coronation. Pictured left to right are: Princess Abby Lynch, Princess Karli Wilson, Whitman, Princess Lizzy Florey and Princess Stacy Caeiro. Wilson, Florey and Caeiro are members of Willowbrook High School's Class of 2020. Lynch is about to begin her senior year at Glenbard East. Wilson will attend Augustana College. Florey will attend the University of Minnesota, while Caeiro will attend Northwestern University. One more photo from Saturday shows (above right, left to right) Wilson and Florey after they removed their masks following the conclusion of the coronation ceremony.

DuPage County reports more than 500 deaths related to COVID-19

Rate of deaths related to the virus continues to decline;
IDPH reports 37 deaths in the county during the first 26 days of July

The DuPage County Health Department has recorded over 500 deaths related to the COVID-19 coronavirus. The health department's July 26 report indicated 506 confirmed deaths related to COVID-19 in the county. The July 26 report also indicated 380 confirmed cases of the coronavirus among county residents. According to the county health department's July 26 report, there were 37 confirmed COVID-19 cases in DuPage County residents, including five deaths. The rate of deaths in the county related to the coronavirus continues to decline. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), deaths related to COVID-19 were

Both the DuPage County Health Department and the IDPH note that their figures, including their totals from past months, are provisional and subject to change. The two organizations provide different totals for the number of DuPage County deaths related to the virus through the first 26 days of July. According to a compilation of the IDPH's daily updates, there were 37 COVID-19 related deaths among DuPage County residents in the first 26 days of the month. The DuPage County Health Department's July 26 update, however, indicates 26 deaths related to the virus in the county during July.

announced one additional COVID-19 death in the state—a male in his 90s from Bond County. The IDPH report from July 25 indicated 12 additional statewide deaths related to COVID-19. One of those deaths involved a resident of DuPage County—a female in her 80s. The July 24 report from the IDPH announced 19 additional COVID-19 related deaths in Illinois. Four of those deaths involved residents of DuPage County. Three of those deaths were females in their 90s, while the other death involved a female in her 100s. Of the IDPH's 37 COVID-19 related deaths reported in residents of DuPage County through the first

26 days of July, 28 have involved residents 70 and older. Another six of the deaths involved residents in their 60s. About 92 percent of the 37 COVID-19 related deaths reported in DuPage County during the first 26 days of July, therefore, involved residents 60 and older. Two of the 37 COVID-19 related deaths reported in the county in the first 26 days of July involved residents in their 40s, while one death involved a resident in the 50-59 age group. According to the IDPH, none of the DuPage County deaths related to the coronavirus during the first 26 days of July involved a resident under the age of 40.

 I would just like to know why the hypocrites over at Willowbrook were protesting for Black Lives Matter. Why don't they go to Chicago where there really is a problem with black lives? Why don't you go there and protest? Bye.

 If you look up the definition of hypocrisy, it states Democrat socialists.

 I find it interesting how Lord Lightfoot and Governor Moneybags were worried that federal agents will overstep their bounds in Chicago. They don't seem too worried about the shootings and killings of innocent people.

 Hello, Villa Park residents. Please don't forget, you can brighten someone's day by giving a wave or saying hello as they pass you. Have a wonderful day; stay healthy, stay happy.

 I see on Facebook Villa Park and Lombard are close together around 75 percent in filling out the census. People, please realize there is big money at stake here, if there is not an accurate residency county. And it doesn't ask for citizenship status, so that shouldn't be an issue. Please do your part to help our communities not lose out on financial opportunities because you were too lazy to take the time to fill out the census.

District 88 announces full online registration process for 2020-21

District 88 is excited to provide a full online registration process for its families for the 2020-21 school year. As the district prepares to implement this new service, please see important details below.

What will the new registration process be like?

1. Parents/guardians will be able to register their student(s) using an online portal to provide required information and documents. Families will need to create an account with the PowerSchool Enrollment Portal (details will be mailed home soon).
2. Fees will be paid electronically through a secure online payment service. Families will need to create an account with RevTrak (details will be mailed home soon).

How will the new registration process impact student fees?

Student fees will be consolidated as follows to simplify the process:

1. Textbook/instructional materials
- District 88 will transition from selling and buying back textbooks to implementing a set fee of \$140 for textbook/workbook rental.
- Families still have the option to buy from vendors outside of District 88, as long as students have all required materials for their classes.
2. Registration fee
- A Registration fee of \$214 will include:
 - Academic course fee
 - Digital learning fee (Chromebook)
 - Technology fee
 - Participation fee

What are the benefits of the new registration process?

1. It allows for online payments, including debit card, credit card and eCheck
2. It allows for registration forms to be automated
3. It allows for a more convenient experience for families

When will the new registration process begin?

Details about when registration will open and how to complete the process will be shared soon.

For questions or more information, contact:

- Willowbrook Assistant Principal Bob Daly at rdaly@dupage88.net or 630-530-3441.

Local high schools receive ISBOE grants

To encourage more qualified people to enter the education field, state Sen. Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) is announcing that seven DuPage County schools will receive Education Career Pathways Grants from the Illinois State Board of Education.

"Our teachers train the future leaders of our great state," Cullerton said. "This grant will help DuPage County schools recruit qualified and passionate teachers to guide and educate our children."

The DuPage Area Occupational Education System #090 has been awarded \$248,997, which will be distributed to seven high schools in DuPage County to assist these schools in developing Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to prepare students for careers in education. Among this group Addison Trail High School, Willowbrook High School and Lake Park High School are set to receive this assistance.

CTE programs help students develop technical and employability skills while strengthening their core academic abilities to enable them to

DuPage County offering energy assistance Applications for annual LIHEAP program now open

DuPage County Community Services is accepting applications for the annual Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) until June 30, 2021, or until funds are depleted.

Households in need of energy assistance, especially those with disconnection notices, high past due balances, and the general population who have been impacted by wage fluctuations due to COVID-19 are encouraged to apply. Propane customers are strongly encouraged to apply in August when fuel prices are lowest.

If your household's combined gross income for the prior 30 days beginning with the date of the application is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, you may be eligible to receive assistance. A single-person household can qualify for the PIPP Program with a monthly gross income of up to \$1,595; a two-person household up to \$2,155; and a family of four can earn up to \$3,275.

Customers must be able to provide the following documentation when applying for assistance:

- Social Security cards for all household members;
- Proof of gross income from all household members for the 30-day period beginning with the date of application;
- Current heat and electric bills issued within the last 30 days (if they pay for the energy directly); and
- If you rent, your lease.

For more information, including where you can apply, or to schedule an appointment, DuPage County residents may call (630) 407-6500, (800) 942-9412 (toll-free) or visit www.dupageco.org.

sizes and corridor traffic to allow for social distancing, the plan will have half the students in the building on alternating days. Each student has been assigned to a "Maroon or Gold cohort group," and will be on campus every other day, learning virtually when not in the building.

The "Maroon and Gold rotation" has been plotted out on the calendar for the first four weeks of the school year, allowing students the ability to see those dates on the school's online school calendar.

created by the administration to none in on the different aspects of opening safely and efficiently: Academic Program, School Building, Communications and Community Health and Safety. The final plan represents their collective decisions on how best to begin the 2020-21 school year.

"Changes to this plan will be necessitated as circumstances and guidance shift," said Beirne. "Our smaller school size gives us an edge over larger schools in that we are able to better handle the state's guidelines.

Hindus seek Diwali holiday in Butler School District schools starting in 2021

Hindus want all public schools in Oak Brook to stay closed on Diwali—the most popular of their festivals; starting in 2021.

Thus, they are urging Christopher Edmonds and Dr. Paul O'Malley, board president and superintendent, respectively, of Butler School District (BSD) 53 in Oak Brook (which includes Oakbrook Terrace), to adopt Diwali as an official holiday on its 2021-2022 school year calendars and beyond.

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, in a recent statement, pointed out that it would be a step in the positive direction in view of presence of a substantial number of Hindu students in Oak Brook; as it was important to meet the religious and spiritual needs of these pupils. Some school districts in various U.S. states have reportedly already declared Diwali as a holiday.

Zed, president of Universal Society of Hinduism, indicated that schools should make efforts to accommodate the religious requirements of Hindu students and show respect to their faith by not conducting regular business and scheduling classes on Diwali. It does not want students to be put at an unnecessary disadvantage for missing tests/examinations/papers, assignments, class

work, etc.; by taking a day-off to observe Diwali.

Zed suggested BSD to seriously look into declaring Diwali as an official holiday, thus recognizing the intersection of spirituality and education. Zed noted that awareness about other religions thus created by such holidays like Diwali would make Oak Brook students well-nurtured, well-balanced, and enlightened citizens.

Zed further states that Hinduism is rich in festivals and religious festivals that are very dear and sacred to Hindus. Diwali, the festival of lights, aims at dispelling the darkness and lighting up the lives and symbolizes the victory of good over evil. In 2021, Diwali falls on Thursday, Nov. 4.

Hinduism is oldest and third largest world religion world with about 1.1 billion adherents. There are about three million Hindus in the United States.

Awards-winning BSD, whose history goes back to early 1900s, claims to be "known for its high achievement and top test scores."

"Our students consistently rank among the highest in the state on tests and earn top ranking on academic teams," it adds.



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Volunteers help to distribute over 385,000 free meals

District 88 staff members joined other volunteers to distribute 385,952 free meals to community members from March 17 to Aug. 18. During that five-month period, District 88 teamed with District 45, Salt Creek District 48, Addison School District 4, Arbor Management, Chartwells and Cottage Hill Operating Company to offer free meals to all residents up to the age of 18. The meals were distributed at various locations in Villa Park and Addison. Hundreds of volunteers contributed to the effort to distribute the meals. The volunteers included (front, middle) Isela Aquino—assistant to Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause—and (back row, left to right) Cottage Hill's Barbara Huff, Marcia Ivancevic—assistant to Willowbrook assistant principal Bob Daly—and Donna O'Neill—assistant to Willowbrook athletic director Brandon Murphy. They are pictured outside of Jefferson Middle School during March. This week, District 88 began its transition to offering food to students enrolled in the district. The distribution of five days' worth of meals (five breakfasts and five lunches) will take place each Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Willowbrook High School (Door 6) and Addison Trail High School (Door 5). For more information about the distributions at Willowbrook, call Krause at 630-530-3438, or District 88 Chief Financial Officer Ed Hoster at 630-530-3970.



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Warriors swing away

The Willowbrook girls golf team is opening its West Suburban Conference season with this week's conference meets against Hinsdale South and Glenbard West. The Warriors' 2020 schedule has been altered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The conference's teams will reportedly compete only against each other during the regular season, and will not take part in any non-conference events. The Warriors' top players this season include junior Emma Rattana (above), who qualified for the IHSA Class 2A individual state meet as a freshman. Rattana advanced to the IHSA sectional round last season. The other key Warriors on the 2020 team include senior Peyton Mitrick (top right), senior Kayla Raue-Lease (right), senior A.J. Schramak and senior Maddie Hayes.

