

THE INDEPENDENT

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2020/01

County notes high voter turnout

More than 25% of registered voters have already cast ballots

More than one-quarter of DuPage County's voters have cast ballots for the 2020 General Election. The combination of 69,499 early voting location voters and 107,018 mail voters totaled 176,516 as of 7:24 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, surpassing 27 percent turnout.

"Nationwide, high voter turnout has been predicted for months," County Clerk Jean Kaczmarek said. "It appears that the numbers in DuPage are reflecting that prediction, despite the ongoing pandemic. In terms of ballots cast, we're already heading quickly toward the halfway point of 2016 final turnout - 434,050 - 12 days from Election Day."

DuPage County is entering the 2020 General Election with 644,796 registered voters. Nearly 45,000 voters have registered within the past year.

Historic General Election voter turnout in DuPage County

2016 Turnout - 70.6%
Ballots Cast - 434,050
Registered Voters - 614,752
2012 Turnout - 71.4%
Ballots Cast - 400,601
Registered Voters - 560,718
2008 Turnout - 76.3%
Ballots Cast - 420,397
Registered Voters - 551,280
2004 Turnout - 76.1%
Ballots Cast - 404,117
Registered Voters - 530,732
2000 Turnout - 76.5%
Ballots Cast - 369,300
Registered Voters - 482,789

On Monday, DuPage County shattered the record for the first day of expanded early voting by 58 percent with 12,380 ballots cast. Historic comparisons for the same day in

2018 - 6,218; 2016 - 7,809; 2012 - 5,138; and 2008 - 2,956.

"We're continuing to see daily records at expanded early voting compared with previous elections," Kaczmarek said.

"The average has been over 13,000 daily this week."

The busiest early voting site - the County Fairgrounds - is also the largest; lines have been short last week Kaczmarek said. The Fairgrounds site offers both paper ballots and touchscreen voting.

The County Clerk's office increased the number of Early Voting sites by 50 percent since the primary. Early Voting locations and times can be found on the Clerk's website: at dupageco.org/Election/Voting/Early-Voting/.

DuPage citizens who have not registered to vote may do so at Early

Voting locations and Election Day polling places, with the required two forms of identification.

"I recommend voters needing to register to vote do so at an Early Voting location as soon as possible to avoid long lines closer to Election Day," she said.

Kaczmarek urges voters who have received their mail ballots to complete and return them as soon as possible. Voters may return voted mail ballots via the following options: a USPS mailbox, no postage required; the DuPage County Clerk Election Division office; drop boxes located at the south parking lot and main entrance of the Jack T. Knuepfer Administration Building, 421 County Farm Road, Wheaton; or at drop boxes located at any DuPage County Early Voting location or Election Day polling place.

District 88 receives ISBE 'Those Who Excel' award Helton delivers message of congratulations for team's initiative

District 88 recently received two awards through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) 2020-21 Those Who Excel program.

The program honors individuals who have made significant contributions to public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in Illinois.

This year's Those Who Excel Awards Banquet was scheduled to take place on Saturday, Oct. 17, but the event has been postponed of the coronavirus pandemic.

Among those honored was the District 88 and Elmhurst University Asynchronous Math Team who earned an Award of Meritorious Service in the Team category. This partnership between District 88 and Elmhurst University provides two asynchronous math courses (an Asynchronous Calculus 3 Model and an Asynchronous College Algebra class) for students at Addison Trail and Willowbrook. Those courses give pupils the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school and are provided at no cost through the use of Title I funds.

Scott J. Helton, Ed.D., DuPage High School District 88 Superintendent of Schools issued a letter of congratulations, part of which follows:

Elmhurst University student hosting children's book drive

Now through Friday, Nov. 20, the Addison Park District is helping to collect donations of children's books to be delivered to Addison Children's Center families. It is part of an advocacy project to be completed by seasonal day camp staff member Alexandra Rodriguez, who is a student at Elmhurst University.

Books may be geared towards infants up to preschool age children, but all children's books will be accepted. Books can be used or new.

To donate, please locate donation box at Club Fitness/ Centennial Recreation Center front desk area. Please

"The mission of DuPage High School District 88 is to work for the continuous improvement of student achievement. As part of that mission, the district continuously implements programs and supports to help students prepare for post-secondary success.

"So when Addison Trail Math Department Head Jason Bugajsky and Willowbrook Math Department Head Brian Chelmecki noticed an increase in the number of students completing all math courses offered in District 88, they began working on a solution for students to further their math careers by offering an opportunity for them to take Calculus 3 for college credit.

"During the 2016-17 school year, they worked with District 88 administrators to form a plan. The group reached out to see whether or not a partnership was possible at Elmhurst University, where they were met with open arms. Not only did the college provide an option for Calculus 3 but also, during planning meetings and through collaboration, the teams began to discuss a second course to serve a greater population of District 88 students. As a result, two asynchronous math courses were formed.

"The District 88 team worked with professors and administrators at Elm-

hurst University to create an Asynchronous Calculus 3 Model and an Asynchronous College Algebra class, which are provided to students at no cost through the use of Title I funds. For the Asynchronous Calculus 3 class, pupils participate in live online lectures led by an Elmhurst University professor and complete modules and homework assigned by college. District 88 math teachers guide and support students through the course.

"After successfully completing the course, students receive credit for Elmhurst University's Calculus 3.

"Through the Asynchronous College Algebra course, participants are enrolled as Elmhurst University students. The staff at Addison Trail and Willowbrook collaborated with Elmhurst University faculty regarding assignments and grading, and students complete the class with the support of District 88 teachers. After successfully completing the course, participants receive college credit that can be trans-

ferred to other colleges and universities while serving as a placement mechanism, allowing students to directly enroll in subsequent college courses. So far, 108 students have taken these classes, and we look forward to increasing that number.

"We continuously research and implement programs to further the education of our students, and these asynchronous math classes are tremendous examples of this work. Developing college-level courses for our students to complete in high school also allows them to save money on college tuition.

"I would like to thank the District 88, Addison Trail, Willowbrook and Elmhurst University administrators and staff members who continue to make this project possible for their innovation, passion and commitment to ensure a high-quality educational experience for our students. This team is truly deserving of the Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel award."

Addison Trail publishes digital edition of student newspaper, 'Torch'

Despite dealing with the adverse impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Addison Trail recently published a digital edition of its student newspaper, "Torch."

This issue includes articles about how teachers and students are adapting to the new school environment/ Remote Learning, advice for high

school seniors, how volunteers provided 385,952 meals to Addison and Villa Park residents up to the age of 18 through the summer food service program, a look into Addison Trail's new student news channel, features on the Girls Tennis Team and the Girls Cross-Country Team and more. To view the newspaper, visit athstorch.com.

Orchesis Team hosting festive fundraiser

The holiday season is right around the corner, and the Addison Trail Orchesis Team is providing a way to get into the festive spirit.

Now through Friday, Oct. 30, the team is selling 18- to 21-inch decorated wreaths for \$25 each. Proceeds will benefit the annual Orchesis Show. Orders can be placed online at dupage88revtrak.net/aths-clubs-and-activities-orchesis-team.

Wreaths must be picked up between 3 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 24 at Addison Trail.

To ensure everyone's safety and well-being, pick-up will be conducted outdoors, and masks and social distancing will be required.

For questions or more information, contact Orchesis Team Co-sponsor Shannon Le at sle@dupage88.net or 630-458-4566.

Addison Trail names October recipient of 88's Best recognition

Israar Ahmed has been named as Addison Trail's October recipient of 88's Best recognition for his outstanding academic accomplishments.

When Ahmed graduates from Addison Trail, he will have taken eight honors courses and 14 Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level courses. He has been on the Distinction Honor Roll for seven consecutive semesters, has earned AT's Best recognition twice and is an AP Scholar with Distinction.

Ahmed credits his family for their support – his mom for the time and effort she provides; his dad, who works day and night to support his family; and, his siblings, who have paved the way for him to be so successful.

"Ahmed took AP Biology last year, and, in short, is one of the most brilliant students I have ever taught," said Carolyn Erwin, AT science teacher. "I was impressed not only by the overall quality of his work, but also with his ability to apply knowledge to new scenarios and concepts. His sophisticated sense of humor always made class discussions better, and he made it all look so easy. I think he might also hold the record for the number of college applications completed by an Addison Trail student. This young man bears



Israar Ahmed

watching, and I am sure we will be hearing his name long after he graduates, and it wouldn't surprise me if we see it on a ballot down the road!"

English teacher Stephen Bruns agreed.

"As his former AP Language and Composition teacher, I am most qualified to speak toward Ahmed's scholastic achievement in English," he said. "Ahmed proved to be an 'A' student, while handling the rigor of what is characterized as a college-level course during his junior year. Ahmed's presence in class always came with the additional benefit of drawing on his knowledge of

current events, which proved worthy in our many seminar discussions.

"Ahmed has a natural thirst for understanding how world events shape our national fabric, and he was a regular contributor not only during, but before and after class as well, chiming in on all the ongoing political conflict and unrest experienced in our nation's recent history. Ahmed demonstrated a keen understanding of such developments and provided nuanced insight as to their effects locally.

"It has been a pleasure watching Ahmed's progress as a senior ... as he continues to use his voice to advance causes and ideas he feels worthy of all of our attention."

AT Counselor Dana Marine said Ahmed's work ethic is what makes him stand out.

"I am impressed with Ahmed's intelligence, academic achievements and involvement," Marine said. "Ahmed is 110-percent committed to everything he does. He is not simply a member of each club or a student in each class, but rather an active contributor and an effective leader, respected by staff and students alike.

"Most notably, Ahmed is a fine, humble young man of exemplary character. He advocates for equity and social justice. As an engaged, first-generation, bilingual student

in a diverse community, Ahmed appreciates various cultures and has helped our school community learn about his background, while being a champion for those from different backgrounds.

"One day in the not-too-distant future, Ahmed will likely be an attorney, advocating for those who have been wronged. I won't be surprised if the world knows his name as a well-respected government official and community activist."

Ahmed is one of the leading anchors on Addison Trail's new "Blazer News" broadcast, which is coordinated by students with guidance from staff advisers, and he has been a fierce competitor in the Congressional Debate arena as well as on the wrestling mat. Ahmed is a member of Key Club, UNICEF, National Honor Society, the Muslim Student Association and Academic Team as well. He has been president of the Debate Team for two years and has had various leadership positions in other clubs. He also has been an integral part of the Youth Equity Stewardship (YES!) series, a program focused on preparing students to recognize and learn from the diversity around them.

Among of the personal mentors Ahmed looks up to is Shaun King, an activist for Black Lives Matter, and

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders. Ahmed believes they are making change in the world by showing compassion for others, not just talking about problems, but coming up with actionable solutions. Ahmed is committed to the bigger picture – he wants to help people and has clear ideas for how to accomplish that goal.

It is not surprising Ahmed's personal motto and motivation is "Ahmed 2060," as his ultimate dream is to serve his country in the political realm, and he plans to major in political science with a minor in economics. Ahmed is considering the path of prelaw, because he knows that is where he can make the most impact. He wants to enter into a field where he can make a positive change – for him, that means serving as an attorney who focuses on civil litigation, discriminatory cases and disputes with the government. Ahmed would like to enter politics, be part of the United States Congress and work for the people, hopefully one day as President of the United States.

Ahmed recently submitted his first college application to his top choice of post-secondary schools, Yale University.

He also plans to apply to The University of Chicago, Stanford University, University of Virginia and Harvard College.

State announces 2nd round of broadband expansion grants

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

State officials recently announced the opening of a second round of grant opportunities for businesses and organizations to expand access to broadband internet service in underserved communities.

Speaking at a news conference in Staunton, about 40 miles northeast of St. Louis, Gov. JB Pritzker said the

program will help close a digital divide that existed long before the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced many people to start working from home and students to attend classes remotely.

"While we didn't anticipate a pandemic, even as we passed this program into law in 2019, we knew that the inequities in our learning systems required urgent action," Pritzker said.

Funding for the grants comes from

the \$400 million Connect Illinois program, which was part of the bipartisan \$45 billion capital improvements program known as Rebuild Illinois that lawmakers approved in 2019.

In addition to that money, Pritzker said, lawmakers also dedicated \$20 million in state funds to the Illinois Century Network, which provides secure broadband connections to K-12

schools and higher education institutions. And the state is using a portion of its federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES Act funding to address inequities in digital access for students.

Pritzker said the goal of those initiatives is to have universal access to broadband service in Illinois by 2024.

Michael Negron, assistant director

of the state Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, said grants are available for four types of projects: expanding access to broadband services; projects that drive innovation in areas such as telehealth; improving connectivity in urban areas; and investments that improve equity in broadband access in disadvantaged communities.

Social studies teacher Mullins honored by Fenton football

Fenton football players agreed that social studies teacher Kelly Mullins goes the extra yard for her students. The American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) partnered with the College Football Playoff Foundation (CFP) to create the "Extra Yard for Teachers Week." Its purpose is to recognize teachers who are leading the way and working hard to keep kids learning during this unprecedented pandemic.

As a member of AFCA, Fenton Coach Matthew Lynch suggested his players nominate a Fenton teacher. After the team selected Mullins, quarterback Nick Benn and lineman Eric Moreno wrote the nominating letter. Mullins later received a package of celebratory goods, including a copy of the nominating letter.

"A teacher like Ms. Mullins is very rare to come upon, and for that reason the Fenton High School Football Program feels Ms. Mullins deserves to be recognized and appreciated for the amazing person she is by honoring her with the American Football Coaches Association Extra Yard For Teachers Award," the nominating letter read.

The football players praised Mullins for building connections and making her students feel welcome, which in turn makes learning easier and more enjoyable.

"Besides this, Ms. Mullins would also make sure students were doing okay on a social-emotional level," the letter continued.

The process was kept secret up until the AFCA package arrived at Mullins' home.

"I was stunned to receive this award from our football team," she said. "I'm thankful for such kind words to come from our incredible student-athletes. That kind of recognition is extra special and means the most to me."

More news from Fenton High School

Options Fair is Virtual this Year

The 2020 Options Fair for students with IEPs and 504 Plans is still a GO! It's just virtually this year. The Options Fair is put together by area schools and has links to college experiences, colleges with IEP 504 supports, tech schools, community events and much more. There are also sign-ups for speakers on specific colleges, accessing financial aid and the transition process. To sign up, visit OptionsFair.org/options-fair-2020/.

Fenton offers enrichment activities

To incorporate more fun, camaraderie, and balance into each week, Fenton is offering students a number of virtual enrichment opportunities between 1 and 2 p.m. during the next few Mondays. Some of the Monday activities through November 9 include:

- Dungeons & Dragons with Ms. Velez
- Creating a Framed Photo Gift with Mrs. Damascus
- Anxiety Busters
- Boys Club - Empowering Young Men
- College Applications with Mrs. Georgakis

- Study Skills with Ms. Davis
- Harry Potter Trivia (and possible costume contest) with Mrs. Wright

Anyone interested in joining a group should email Assistant Principal Eileen Roberts (roberts@fenton100.org).

It's getting cold outside: do you need a coat?

The Bensenville-Wood Dale Rotary Club is continuing with its tradition of organizing a coat drive for November and December. This year will involve only brand-new coats purchased through Operation Warm. Families in need should contact your school counselor or social worker for a referral. Fenton's Counseling Office can be reached at 630-860-4925.

If you want to make a tax-deductible donation to the coat drive, please visit operationwarm.org/bensenville-rotary.

Meals available 2Xweek free of charge

Fenton is distributing free meal bundles twice per week to anyone age 18 and younger (or their parents). The food is free-of-charge and can be picked up using Fenton's bus lane at any time between 8:30 and 10 a.m.

or 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on either day. Tuesdays will consist of three breakfasts and three lunches. Thursdays will consist of four breakfasts and four lunches. For those who cannot make it during the daytime hours, there will also be a 4 to 6 p.m. distribution on Tuesdays only.

Supervised Remote Learning

In an effort to transition more students to the building, on Monday, Oct. 19 Fenton High School began allowing a limited number of students into the building for Supervised Remote Learning. The days are Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Breakfast and lunch are served in designated areas. The Supervised Remote Learning Environment is non-instructional. Students will be placed in three locations where they can socially distance and still be able to complete their live connections with their classes.

Students/families will be able to sign up for one week at a time on Mondays. Space is limited so you will receive an email or phone call confirming a spot for the week. Availability will be on a first-come first-served basis.

Early voting continues to shatter records

By Peter Hancock
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS
Amid a new surge in COVID-19 cases, voters in Illinois and across the nation are shattering records for early voting.

As of Oct. 23, according to the Illinois State Board of Elections, more than 1.8 million voters had already cast their ballots for the Nov. 3 general election. Nationally, the U.S. Elections Project at the University of Florida estimates that 50 million Americans have already voted.

In a normal election year, a large number of early votes would be seen as an indicator of high interest in the races and a predictor of overall high voter turnout.

But because of the pandemic, 2020 is turning out to be a year like no other, and one local analyst cautions observers not to read too much into the numbers—at least not yet.

“I’m willing to say I don’t know what it means yet, and we’re going to be looking closely at the final returns,” Brian Gaines, a political science professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, said during an interview for a Capitol News Illinois podcast. “If I have to guess right now, I’d say, first of all, it was a success for—there was a deliberate effort to nudge people towards voting by mail, a little bit less to vote early, to reduce lines on Election Day.”

During the pandemic-shortened legislative session in May, Illinois lawmakers passed a bill requiring local election officials to send out mail ballot request forms to nearly every voter in Illinois. More than 2.3 million Illinois voters returned those forms, according to state election officials, and as of Friday, with 11 days remaining before the election, slight-

ly more than 1 million, or 45 percent, had returned those ballots.

The new law, which applies to only the 2020 election, also allowed voting jurisdictions to provide secure drop boxes so voters could turn in their ballots personally rather than relying on the U.S. Postal Service to deliver them.

“So, the state took an intermedi-

ate path,” Gaines said. “Some states shifted to an all-mail election, joining the handful that already did that. And more typical was just to make it a little bit easier to vote by mail. Illinois was kind of in that category. We can still vote early, by mail (or) on Election Day in person.”

See VOTING, Page 18

Governor announces new mitigations in Regions 7 and 8

Citing a resurgence of Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic cases and hospitalizations, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker on Wednesday, Oct. 21 announced new mitigations in Regions 7 and 8 (including DuPage County) that will again shut down indoor dining in restaurants and bars, effective Friday, Oct. 23, at 12:01 a.m.

The new restrictions are based on Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) data that shows both regions with a seven-day rolling average test positivity rate of eight percent or higher for three consecutive days, which exceeds the threshold set in the state’s Restore Illinois plan.

Following is more detail of the restrictions:

Bars

- No indoor service
- All outside bar service closes at 11:00 p.m.
- All bar patrons should be seated at tables outside
- No ordering, seating, or congregating at bar (bar stools should be removed)
- Tables should be 6 feet apart

- No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting
- No dancing or standing indoors
- Reservations required for each party
- No seating of multiple parties at one table

Restaurants

- No indoor dining or bar service
- All outdoor dining closes at 11:00 p.m.
- Outside dining tables should be 6 feet apart
- No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting
- Reservations required for each party
- No seating of multiple parties at one table

Meetings, Social Events, Gatherings

- Limit to lesser of 25 guests or 25 percent of overall room capacity
- No party buses
- Gaming and Casinos close at 11 p.m., are limited to 25 percent capacity, and follow mitigations for bars and restaurants, if applicable

District 88 invited to participate in Teen Writing Contest

Hosted by Villa Park Library, winners receive Amazon gift cards

District 88 students are invited to showcase their creativity through a Teen Writing Contest hosted by the Villa Park Public Library.

The library encourages DuPage County students in sixth through 12th grades to celebrate NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) by submitting short stories between Nov. 1 and 30.

The theme is “winter,” and partic-

ipants are welcome to express their ideas and interpret this in any way they wish.

Winners will be announced on Dec. 14. First place will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card and writer’s bundle, and second place will receive a \$15 Amazon gift card.

To view the contest rules, go to tinyurl.com/y6rpdzon. For more information, call 630-834-1164.

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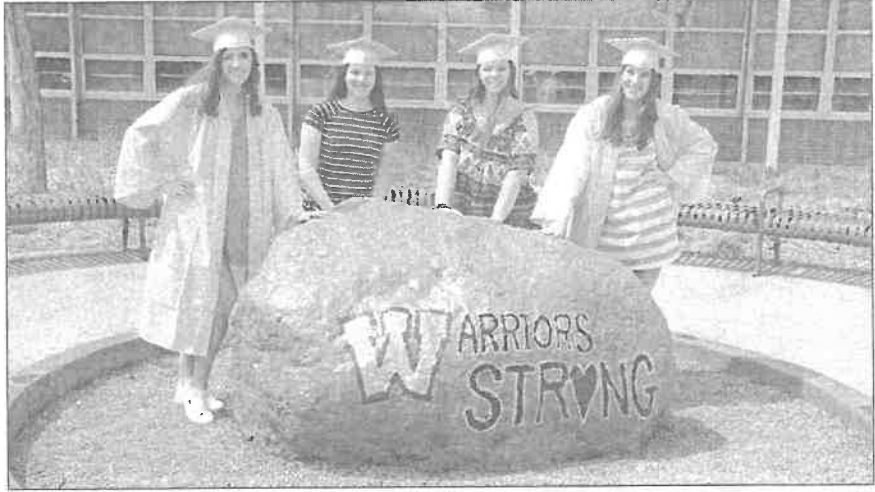
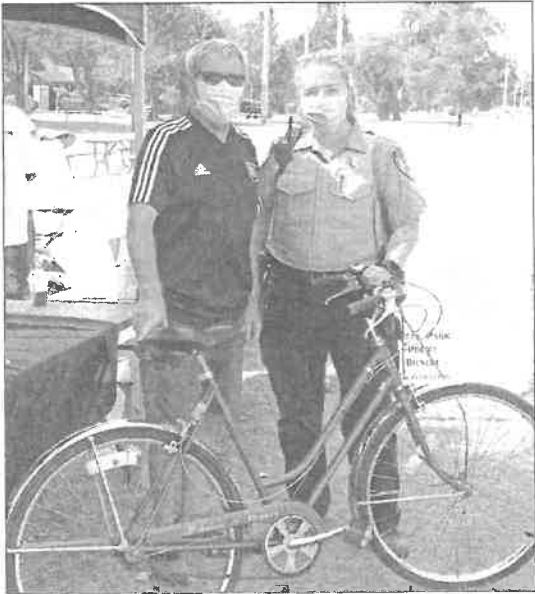
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Endorsed by DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin, State’s Attorney Bob Berlin and Sheriff Jim Mendrick

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* Good times in Villa Park

Here are some images taken in Villa Park throughout the year.



SPORTS

OCT. 29, 2020 • 17

Warriors wrap up their seasons the Proviso West Regional

Senior Tyler King finishes just short of an individual sectional berth

REPORT

Willowbrook girls and boys cross-country teams finished their seasons at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Proviso West Regional side. The Warriors needed to among the top five teams in competition to advance to this week's Lyons Township Sectional. Willowbrook placed 10th in both the girls and boys competitions.

The Warriors ran on the same Proviso West course one week earlier at the Suburban Gold Conference

An IHSA cross-country normally features just one race at both the girls and boys levels. Because of social-distancing restrictions, this year's regional at Proviso West included three flights of races at each level. The three girls races opened the regional. After a break to clear the area, the boys ran their three flights.

Senior Melissa Martinez posted the Warriors' best finish in the 11-team girls competition. She completed the 3.06-mile race in 22 minutes, 13.64 seconds, placing 49th in the individual standings. Freshman Sophia Gogol (22:54.98) placed 53rd for Willowbrook, while sophomore Amelia Barrington (23:15.72) landed in 56th

place among all individuals. Junior Lily Weder (23:21.46) and senior Daylee Braden (23:45.31) finished 60th and 62nd, respectively. Junior Madeline Barrington (23:49.59) and freshman Olivia Williams (23:51.94) claimed 63rd and 64th place, respectively.

Senior Tyler King led Willowbrook's boys team at the regional with his 33rd-place finish in the overall individual standings. King negotiated the 3.06-mile race in 17 minutes, 29.43 seconds. He narrowly missed earning an individual berth in the sectional. The top five runners who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams advanced to the sectional as individuals. King finished sixth among that group. Sophomore Kevin Diederich (18:19.70) placed 47th for the Warriors, while senior Nick Leo (18:45.79) finished 56th in the overall standings. Sophomore Charlie Hayes (19:00.34) provided Willowbrook with a 58th-place finish. Seniors Jake Murray (19:44.71) and Thomas Florey (19:56.81) wound up 64th and 65th, respectively. Sophomore Sean KJing (20:31.72) placed 69th for the Warriors.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook senior Tyler King (No. 703) and Addison Trail Junior Dylan Moran (No. 587) are pictured during Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Proviso West regional at Proviso West High School. King finished the 3.06-mile race in a 28th-place time of 17 minutes, 29.43 seconds. He earned an individual berth in this week's Lyons Township Sectional by placing among the regional's top five runners who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams. King, who the regional's sixth-fastest runner who wasn't a member of a sectional-qualifying team, completed the race in a 33rd-place time of 17:29.43. Addison Trail finished seventh in the regional's team standings, while Willowbrook placed 10th. The event's top five teams advanced to the Lyons Township Sectional.



Senior Melissa Martinez (No. 697) ran her final race as a member of Willowbrook's girls cross-country team at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Proviso West Regional. Martinez delivered the Warriors' fastest finishing time in the 3.06-mile race, which she completed in a 49th-place time of 22 minutes, 13.64 seconds. Willowbrook finished 10th in the regional's team standings.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Addison Trail's Sanfilippo heading to the sectional

Senior Viviana Sanfilippo (No. 581) of the Addison Trail girls cross-country team is pictured during Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Proviso West Regional in Hillside. Sanfilippo earned an individual berth in this week's Lyons Township Sectional by finishing among the regional's top five runners who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams. Sanfilippo completed the 3.06-mile regional race in a 15th-place time of 19 minutes, 32.77 seconds.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Fast Blazer

Senior Dylan Moran (No. 587) of the Addison Trail boys cross-country team ran to a 20th-place finish at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Proviso West Regional. Moran completed the 3.06-mile regional race in 16 minutes, 51.74 seconds. He earned a spot in this week's Lyons Township Sectional by finishing among the regional's top five runners who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams. The regional's top five teams (Lyons Township, York, Wheaton Warrenville South, Glenbard West and Batavia) advanced to the sectional. Addison Trail finished sixth in the regional's team standings.

Willowbrook/Addison Trail swimmers complete season at Hinsdale Central Sectional

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook/Addison Trail girls swim and dive team finished its 2020 season at Saturday's IHSA Hinsdale Central Sectional. The team tied for sixth place in the team standings of the 12-team event.

The Willowbrook/Addison Trail team and Hinsdale South both earned 37 points at the sectional. Hinsdale Central won the sectional title with its total of 246 points.

The season-ending event included only individual races and did not feature any of the three relay races (200-yard freestyle, 400-yard freestyle and 200-yard medley) that usually take place in an IHSA swim and dive

sectional.

Olivia Gzamouranis of the Willowbrook/Addison Trail team finished 13th in the regional's 1-meter diving competition. Suzzane Ramirez and Jessica Pocięcha finished 11th and 12th, respectively, in the 200-yard freestyle event. Ramirez completed the race in 2 minutes, 9.27 seconds. Pocięcha finished in 2:09.31.

Carly Zaprzal claimed ninth in the 200-yard individual medley, which she finished in 2:21.53. Kaitlyn Jaskier (2:33.39) placed 13th in the same event.

Nancy Obrzut (26.73) and Jaskier

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• REAL ESTATE •

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DUPAGE COUNTY - WHEATON, ILLINOIS RESIDENTIAL

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee of Home Preservation Partnership Trust PLAINTIFF

Vs. The Elvira F. Lindhorst Declaration of Trust, dated September 11, 2006; et. al. DEFENDANTS

2019CH001135

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 01/27/2020, James Mendrick, the Sheriff of DuPage County, Illinois will on December 8, 2020 at the hour of 10:00 AM at Dupage County Sheriff's Office 501 North County Farm Road Wheaton, IL 60187, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of DuPage and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

PIN 06-10-114-004 Improved with Single Family Home COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 131 S Euclid Ave Villa Park, IL 60181

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME-OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Coditis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-19-09060, 13158775

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Review Oct. 29, Nov. 5 & 12, 2020)

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• Voting (Continued from page 9)

One of the questions on many people's minds, Gaines said, is whether the people who are voting by mail or in person at early voting locations are people who otherwise wouldn't have voted at all. He said he believes that's unlikely and that the early votes will more likely result in fewer people voting in person on Election Day.

"But before I put all my chips in that hat and say it's definitely not going to be a surge in turnout, it's such a weird year that I think past precedent isn't going to help us in lots of ways," Gaines said. "So I think it's mostly people who would have been voting on Election Day, they're going early instead. But if it turns out in the end that the turnout really is up, then I'll have to go back and eat those words and say, OK, it was actually more than that, it was getting in people who otherwise might not have voted."

Gaines has published research on early voting—what some political scientists call "convenience voting"—and he said there are advantages and disadvantages to it.

The advantage, he said, is that it makes voting more accessible to many people, especially the elderly and disabled who would have a hard time getting to a polling place. But Illinois allows "no-excuse" early voting, meaning voters do not have to demonstrate they are unable to vote on Election Day or that they will be out of town. Any voter is allowed to ask for an advance ballot.

The big disadvantage, he said, is it makes someone's vote less secret.

"A ballot that you cast wherever you want to cast it—it's been mailed to you, you cast it at home, you cast it at work, sitting in Starbucks — can be secret if you choose to make it secret, but the inherent secrecy of the

privacy of a booth is gone. And that's led to a very noisy but not terribly factual debate about whether there's a huge amount of fraud, tiny amount of fraud, no fraud whatsoever."

Gaines said he is not one who believes that voting by mail is fraught with large amounts of fraud, and he said the chances of a mail-in ballot being rejected for technical reasons are slim.

According to information from the website Ballotpedia, the most common reason mail ballots get rejected is that they don't arrive on time. Other common reasons include the voter failing to sign the envelope or the voter's signature doesn't match the signature on file in their voter registration records.

In Illinois, the new law requires that the each election jurisdiction create panels of three election judges consisting of no more than two from

the same party to process vote-by-mail ballots. That's an increase from one election judge under previous laws.

A spokesperson for the Illinois State Board of Elections told Capitol News Illinois in an email earlier this month that election authorities keep track of party affiliation in their poll worker recruitment efforts in order to keep proper staffing at polling places and fulfill such requirements.

Per the new law, all three judges on the panel must reject a ballot for it not to be tabulated.

The judges handle every incoming mail ballot just as they hand out every ballot and check every signature at an early voting location or Election Day polling, the spokesperson said in the email.

In Illinois, according to the website, nearly 6,000 mail ballots, or 1.1 percent of the total, were rejected in the 2016 election. That rose to 2.2 percent in the 2018 election.

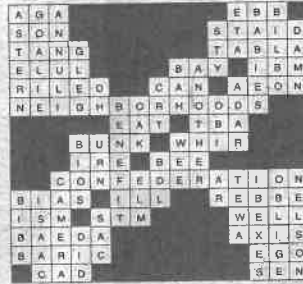
Answers

PUZZLE 1

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

PUZZLE 2

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



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“But if it turns out in the end that the turnout really is up, then I'll have to go back and eat those words and say, OK, it was actually more than that, it was getting in people who otherwise might not have voted.”

— Brian Gaines, a political science professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

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• Swimmers (Continued from page 17)
(28.01) placed 12th and 15th, respectively, in the 50-yard freestyle. Ariel Hoda (1:06.14) and Obrzut (1:08.88) finished ninth and 11th, respectively, in the 100-yard butterfly.
Cara Burns (1:00.97) earned 14th place in the 100-yard freestyle, while Deanna Tate (1:01.55) placed 16th in the event.
Delaney Gayon (5:38.06) and Pocięcha (5:45.10) finished eighth and ninth, respectively, in the 500-yard freestyle. Gayon (1:04.81) added a ninth-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke. Hoda delivered a 13th-place finish in the backstroke event.
Zaprzal provided a fifth-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke, which she completed in 1:09.48. Lillian Vish (1:20.57) contributed a 15th-place effort in the breaststroke.
Ellie Hassler earned three first-place finishes in the sectional. Hassler, who is a junior at Willowbrook, swam to victories in three AWD (Athletes with Disabilities) events. She won the 50-yard freestyle (42.80), the 100-yard freestyle (1:36.67) and the 100-yard breaststroke (2:15.56).

Villa Park REVIEW

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THURSDAY, OCT. 29, 2020



District 88 provides free food service each Wednesday

CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

District 88 is committed to making sure students continue to receive food service while they are not in school buildings because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The district recently extended the hours of service and the number of meals provided through its community food-service program. The district is partnering with its food-service provider—Chartwells—and Cottage Hill Operating Company to offer free meals to all residents up to the age of 18. Each Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days worth of meals (seven breakfasts, seven lunches and milk) per student are distributed outside of the district's two schools—Willowbrook High School and Addison Trail High School. The food distribution at Willowbrook takes place near Door 6—the entrance near the main gymnasium. The photo from last week's distribution shows (left to right) Sarah Warren—Chartwells' food-service director at District 88, Deborah Badger and Sue Raya. Badger and Raya both work in the Willowbrook kitchen for Chartwells.

For Nov. 3 General Election results,
visit: theindependentnewspapers.com
or Dupageco.org/election/

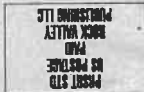
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One of a kind; Villa Park bids farewell to Sid Bergh

VFW Post No. 2801's last surviving World War II veteran passes away at age 94

STAFF REPORT

Charles "Sid" Bergh, a longtime Villa Park resident and a fixture at Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 events, died recently at the age of 94.

Bergh served in the United States Navy during World War II. He was a radio operator and gunner on an escort carrier—the USS Croatan—in the Atlantic Ocean.

According to Jim Blankshain, the commander of VFW Post No. 2801, Bergh was the post's last surviving World War II veteran.

Bergh served the post in a variety of capacities over the decades. For many years, he was the master of ceremonies for the post's Memorial Day and Veterans Day services. He also attended the post's annual Thanksgiving event for recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes. He welcomed the young recruits, who spent the holiday at the post to relax and enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Bergh served as a Villa Park Village Trustee in the 1980s. He also hosted his own television show on Villa Park's community access channel, and he provided commentary for the channel during Villa Park's annual Fourth of July parade.

In 2016, the Villa Park Senior Concerns Commission honored Bergh as its Villa Park Senior Citizen of the Year.

Obituary

Charles "Sid" Bergh, 94

Charles "Sid" Bergh, of Villa Park, IL. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran who served during World War II. Beloved husband of the late Mary "Billie" and Anne. Loving father of Lynn (Bob) Borge, Karen (Michael) Marnell, Sue (Bob) Joorfetz, the late James, John, Clifford, Douglas and Gregory. Cherished grandfather of Erika (Roman Cardoza) Lofgren, David (PimNara) Lofgren, Nathan (Carlyn Green) Bergh, Nicole (Tyler Gabel) Borge, Lisa (Michael) Schmid, Erica Borge, Michael (Liz) Marnell and Matthew Marnell. Great grandfather of Alex, Ayan-na, Lukas, Isabella, Amanda, Sean, Mikey and Gregory. Fond brother of the late John (Opal) Foster. Uncle and great uncle of many.

Visitation was Thursday, Oct. 22 at Steuerle Funeral Home, 350 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park. Additional visitation was Friday, Oct. 23, at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 547 N. Main Street, Lombard. Interment followed at Elm Lawn Cemetery in Elmhurst. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Villa Park V.F.W. Post 2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road, Villa Park, IL 60181 appreciated. (villaparkvfw.org) Due to COVID-19 and CDC restrictions, a 50-person limit in the funeral home is allowed at one time with face masks required and social distancing. Please pay your respects to the family and exit the funeral home allowing others the same opportunity.

For additional information 630-832-4161.



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Saluting a Villa Park legend

Charles "Sid" Bergh, a longtime Villa Park resident who served in the United States Navy during World War II, passed away recently at the age of 94. Bergh was a member of Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 for decades. He was the post's last surviving World War II veteran. Bergh served Villa Park and the VFW post in numerous capacities. For several years, he was the master of ceremonies during the post's annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day services. One photo (above) shows Bergh outside of the post moments before a balloon release that concluded the post's 2012 Veterans Day ceremony. In 2016, the Villa Park Senior Concerns Commission named Bergh its Villa Park Senior Citizen of the Year. Bergh is pictured above right during that year's Fourth of July parade in the village.



District 88 remains in remote learning after DuPage County's COVID-19 metrics move from moderate to substantial level

STAFF REPORT

During its Oct. 19 meeting, the District 88 Board of Education approved the extension of Stage 1 (Remote Learning) of its Return to School Plan.

The board approved the extension after DuPage County moved from the Moderate Community Transmission Level to the Substantial Community Transmission Level on the DuPage County Health Department's COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance.

The county health department's school metrics related to COVID-19 include three levels of community

transmission: Minimal, Moderate and Substantial. Each of those levels is determined by a variety of factors, including the number of weekly COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people.

The DuPage County Health Department recently reported the number of cases in the county moved to 115 per 100,000 people. The threshold for Substantial Community Transmission in the department's School Metrics Guidance is 100 cases per 100,000 people.

At its previous meeting, on Oct. 5, the District 88 Board approved the administration's advice to begin the transition from Stage 1 (Remote Learning) to Stage 2 (Remote Plus Learning), provided that conditions remained in the Moderate Community Transmission Level. The transition to Stage 2 was supposed to begin on Oct. 19.

On Oct. 16, however, the county health department informed District 88 that the county would move to the Substantial Community Transmission Level as of Oct. 19.

The move to the Substantial Community Transmission Level keeps the district in Stage 1 (Remote Learning) until all metrics in the county health department's guidance drop out of the Substantial Community Transmission Level.

In Stage 2 of its plan, most of the students at both District 88 schools (Willowbrook High School and Addison Trail High School) would have continued to receive remote instruction. Moving to Stage 3 (Blended

Village's recommend trick-or-treat hours are 3 to 7 p.m. on Halloween
Residents who want to hand out treats should turn on their outdoor lights; residents who don't want to give out treats can print out and place a village notice on their front door

The Village of Villa Park's recommended hours for trick-or-treating in the village are from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Noting that some residents might not want to hand out treats this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the village has designed a "No Trick-or-Treat" sign. The sign can be printed out and placed on the front door to alert trick-or-treaters.

The village advises that residents who will welcome trick-or-treaters should pass out candy instead of inviting children to take treats from a communal bowl. Residents who will offer treats can signal they are welcoming trick-or-treaters this year by turning on their porch lamps and outdoor lights.

To view a list of the village's 2020 Halloween tips, and to print out its "No Trick-or-Treat" sign, visit ow.ly/Kabis0BDDzH.



Trump's 2020 budget proposal includes \$25 billion in cuts to Social Security.

Hey, all you leftists, Trump haters and never Trumpers out there. You've been such a joy to be around these last four years. If Trump gets reelected, what are you going to do? Protest every day? Whine, cry, pout and be perpetually angry for another four years? I hope he gets reelected only because I'd love to see all of you flip out again.

The Democrats wanted Donald Trump impeached for a phone call to the leader of Ukraine. They wanted Trump impeached for wanting to investigate (foreign) dealings that the Bidens allegedly engaged in. How ironic. Democrats will ramble for hours about Trump's phone call to Ukraine, but they cover their ears to evidence of the Biden family's alleged dishonesty and shady dealings.

Hello, folks. I've been a resident of Villa Park since 1962 and have always liked living here. Having four children they always enjoyed and anticipated in the Big Day of dressing up in costumes and going "trick or treating". I, too, felt excited to see the kids coming to our door for their treats, and still do. What fun they had. One rule was my children had to come home for a light supper of a hot bowl of soup and take a break. Then it was "out the door" again. When they returned home for the evening, they sorted through all

of the candy they received and did some trading with each other on the living room floor where they had dumped out their own piles of candy. Now, it was time for them to take their baths and jump into bed for a good night's sleep. My whole point is if we keep taking important things out of our children's lives, they may not have any memories to hold onto. And to me, that is what life is also about. Good memories. The choice is yours, of course. Happy Halloween from an old timer.

It's false to claim that over 200,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. About 200,000 Americans who have died either tested positive for COVID-19, or were suspected of having COVID-19 at the time of their death. It's simply not true to state that more than 200,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. Deaths from self-inflicted gunshots, accidents, drug overdoses and more have been lumped into the COVID-19 tally because those people had COVID-19. They did not die from COVID-19.

So, the House passed a \$2.2 trillion COVID-19 relief bill. Could it be they have finally fine-tuned this bill to something the Republicans can support? Or, is it the same old bill that they know will go nowhere, passed with no intent except to make the Republicans look bad? Admittedly, a lot of people and businesses need help, but I don't get giving the unemployed another \$600 a week,

Remote learning

(Continued from page 4)

Remote, or Hybrid Learning) would require the county to be in the Minimal Community Transmission Level for two consecutive weeks.

"When considering a shift to more in-person learning, all metrics should be under the identified thresholds for a given level for at least two consecutive weeks," noted a statement in District 88's Oct. 23 newsletter. The newsletter related that all contact days for athletics, as well as all activities, would be canceled until that time.

"Based on guidance and data provided by Centers for Disease Control, Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, the Illinois and DuPage County health departments, the Illinois State Board of Education and the DuPage Regional Office of Education, we believe this is the best decision at this time to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our students, staff,

families and community members," noted the statement in the district's recent newsletter.

District 88's two schools—Wilowbrook High School and Addison Trail High School—joined all other K-12 schools in Illinois to close to in-person instruction at the end of classes on March 13. The schools remained closed to in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

District 88's current 2020-21 school year began, with fully remote online instruction, on Aug. 24.

During an Oct. 6 video presentation, District 88 Superintendent Scott Helton stated that the district's legal and insurance advisors have emphasized the importance of following guidelines from the DuPage County Health Department and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

letting many of them collect more than they earn. Heck, that extra (money) is almost half of my professional go to work every day and then some take home salary! Why do they come out of this smelling like a rose? Answer: Democrats buying votes! Why isn't it spread around to everybody and we all come out smelling like a petunia?

It's interesting that the riots stopped right after they started hurting Democrats in the polls.

If Pritzker's policies have worked so well, why are COVID-19 cases rising in Illinois? When Pritzker says the pandemic is far from over, he's admitting that his policies haven't worked and he wants to keep controlling the population.

Please wake up people. You are not voting for Joe Biden; you are voting for Kamala Harris and the far left agenda. Nancy Pelosi has already started process of a new bill to give Congress a role in determining whether a president is incapable of doing the job and must be removed from office. Please do research before voting. You may dislike Trump but you are not going to like your city being burnt to the ground and paying higher taxes to fund their agenda.

I would encourage everybody to vote "no" on allowing the state (of despair) to change the Constitution and the income tax structure. At least, until they do something to cut spending; not just collect more of your money to waste on God knows what. Notice I say "your" money. I'm well along in plans to leave this state next year. And when I do, I'll

be laughing all the way. As in driving west on I-80, I'll start laughing when I get to the east bank of the Mississippi. And stop when I get to the west bank (of the Mississippi). That's what I'm going to do. Okay, okay. I'll tell what should happen in this state. Force (whatever that means) a couple of changes. First; all tax increases have to be voted on in a general election as other states do. Maybe the same for fees and permits. Something else many states do: allow the recording of conversations as long as one party is aware of it. Of course, Springfield would be upset, it would hamper their unethical ways if people could prove how crooked things are.

"How sad it must be—believing that scientists, scholars, historians, economists and journalists have devoted their entire lives to deceiving you, while a reality TV star with decades of fraud and exhaustively documented lying is your only beacon of truth and honesty." Author unknown.

It is absolutely sickening the way the media is manipulating us. The perfect example is the protection of Joe Biden from the alleged corruption that occurred with his son Hunter. I may not like Trump, but at least it is not covering up years of alleged back-hand deals with foreign governments. The reason Trump is in office is because, in general, people are tired of these politicians enriching themselves on our dime.

Well, good people of DuPage County, here we are, heading backwards with regard to restaurants. I suspect the very same people who didn't want to be "sheeple" by wear-

ing masks—yet continued to gather in herds—are likely the very ones we can point to for helping keep this virus circulating. Whether or not I agree about the efficacy of wearing a mask, I will do my part to get this disease under control. The livelihoods of too many people depend on it, and if you can't at least suck it up and wear a mask and social distance based on that, then all of you non-virus-believers can go live on an island somewhere together.

I feel sorry for all the restaurant and bar owners around here who once again are getting jerked around by this billionaire governor and his health experts. Pritzker can always go to Florida where the restaurants are open and look in on his \$12 million equestrian estate, or go to Lake Geneva. He never has to worry about keeping a business afloat or filing for unemployment. Neither do his health experts; they'll still get their six-figure salaries no matter what. Make sure you all keep casting your votes for Democrats so we can have more shutdowns and see more businesses close for good.

President Trump has done some good things in office that he doesn't get credit for, but I think he's probably going to lose to the empty suit who hides in his basement and claims he's not a radical leftist. Trump injects himself into everything. He's never learned to pick his battles, or put a filter on his mouth or his Twitter account. Trump is often rude, arrogant and condescending, but so are a lot of politicians and media I've seen spew their venom on MSNBC and CNN. It's too bad this election isn't going to be about the issues.

Cullerton reminds students to take advantage of financial aid during College Changes Everything Month

State Sen. Tom Cullerton (D-Villa Park) is reminding DuPage County residents to take advantage of free college planning resources during College Changes Everything Month.

October is College Changes Everything Month—a time to encourage Illinoisans to take full advantage of the free financial aid and postsecondary planning resources available in their communities.

"Many families across DuPage County are facing financial hardship during this awful pandemic," Cullerton said. "This is a quick reminder to let parents, guardians and students know there is need-based financial assistance available to prevent students from placing their postsecondary plans on hold due to financial limitations."

The Illinois Student Assistance

Commission is offering free, virtual workshops to help parents, guardians and students complete the Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA) or the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid.

The next webinar is this Thursday, Oct. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information, Cullerton urges residents to visit <https://studentportal.isac.org> to learn more about resources, tools and programs to ensure qualified students take advantage of college savings programs.

The agency also offers individualized help by offering one-on-one assistance via phone, email, text or videoconference with ISACorps, ISAC's group of recent college graduates whose intensive training prepares them to assist students with planning, applying and paying for

college. Residents can search by ZIP code at <http://studentportal.isac.org/isacorps> to find your local Corps members.

For assistance via text and to receive important information about college planning events and deadlines, students can sign up for ISAC College Q&A by texting their first and last name to (630) 216-4910.

"Every student deserves the chance to pursue higher education," Cullerton said. "Our goal is to open doors for students and help ensure they are graduating college with mountains of opportunities, not burdensome college debt."

For more information, residents can visit www.isac.org or call Cullerton's office at (630) 903-6662 for assistance.

Villa Park VFW post to hand out Halloween treats in a drive-through event

Children will remain in vehicles; an adult will hand out wrapped candy that's been placed in bags

Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 2801 will distribute candy to children this Halloween in a drive-through event. The distribution will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on

Saturday, Oct. 31, outside of the post, which is located at 39 E. St. Charles Road.

The post is holding this new event to give children a chance to collect treats during this unique

Halloween season, which has been altered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Children will remain in their vehicles while an adult gives them wrapped candy that's been placed into bags.