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Addison Trail students named as All-District Musicians

Five Addison Trail students have been named as All-District Musicians for District 9 of the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA). They are (from left): Senior Band: junior John Pinns (baritone saxophone); Senior Orchestra: Junior Madelyn Ford (cello); Senior Chorus: senior Elizabeth Bernar (Alto 1), Junior Adam Sakfeh (Tenor II) and senior Emily Stevenson (Soprano 1); and, Senior Jazz Band II.

Montini Catholic conjures up good time at Drive-In Movie Night

Montini Catholic alumni families were invited to dress-up in their favorite costumes and enjoy a special Halloween Drive-In Movie night on Friday, Oct. 23. Armed with gifts of candy and popcorn, Alumni Coordinator Jenny Long Kavanagh ('97) and her crew of decked-out student witches and goblins, greeted movie-goers as they filed into the makeshift drive-in movie to enjoy the show.

Students from Montini's Theatre Department, preparing for their upcoming production of George Orwell's '1984' lent their time to help make the evening run smoothly. On the big screen, was Disney's "Hocus Pocus" and, despite the chilly temperatures, a bewitching time was

had by all.

"Each year we like to invite our alumni and their children back on campus for a fun, casual get-together," said President Jim Segredo. "This year we realized that a drive-in movie was the way to go!"

The school typically holds a Winter Family Fest event in January, hosted by the Alumni Committee, however, with Illinois regulations stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is still unknown whether or not the event will take place.

"We look forward to these events every year," said Segredo. "It's great to have an opportunity to reconnect with our alumni and their children and create these special memories!"



Montini Catholic alumna Jenny Long Kavanagh ('97) and her son great movie-goers with treats before the show on Friday, Oct. 23, when Montini hosted a Drive-In Movie night. Attendees were invited to enjoy Disney's "Hocus Pocus," along with movie snacks and goodies.



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With broom in hand, Montini senior Maddie McDowell, who came dressed as Winifred Sanderson, conjures up excitement over the cauldron on Friday, Oct. 23, when Montini Catholic held a Halloween Drive-In Movie Night. Students enjoyed Disney's "Hocus Pocus," along with movie snacks and treats. The event was held in lieu of the school's annual Winter Family Fest, which had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

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Montini Catholic students remember loved ones during 'Dia De Los Muertos'

Spanish students at Montini Catholic celebrated the traditions and customs of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) during the week of Oct. 26 through Nov. 2. The Mexican holiday is recognized from Oct. 31 through Nov. 2.

Though related, Halloween and Día de los Muertos differ greatly in traditions and tone. Day of the Dead festivities demonstrate love and respect for deceased family members. In towns and cities throughout Mexico, families welcome back the souls of their deceased relatives for a brief reunion. They don makeup and costumes, hold parades and parties, sing and dance, and make offerings to these lost loved ones.

"One important aspect of celebrat-

ing Día de los Muertos is the making of the Ofrenda," said Foreign Language Department Chair Roberta Raika. "This is a special altar to remember and pay homage to the family members who have passed."

Spanish classes were tasked with choosing a famous, deceased Hispanic person to honor with an Ofrenda.

"They did research on the person's life and the important role they played regarding their heritage," said Raika. "The students then built their Ofrendas (altars) and placed them in various areas around the school. Altars included traditional items - water, candles, marigolds, incense, but-terflies, favorite foods and items that relate to the person.

"These all symbolize the soul of the person finding their way home to their families for the day of remem-berance."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Seniors Nora Sypkens (left), Nicolas Fisch and Alexis Ream show the display honoring Mexican comedian Chespirito (Roberto Mario Gómez y Bolaños), when Spanish students at Montini Catholic High School celebrated the traditions and customs of Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, during the week of Oct. 26 through Nov. 2. (Not pictured is team member Kathryn Peters.)

Obituary

Donald Andrew Kuhl, 79

Donald Andrew Kuhl, Captain USA (retired), a resident of Addison for 36 years, passed away peacefully on Oct. 15, 2020, at the age of 79.

Donald was born in Chicago, on Aug. 3, 1941. Donald leaves behind a long list of achievements with his greatest being the family he built with his loving wife Arlene S. (Cisar) of 54 years.

Donald is survived by his wife Arlene and his three daughters, Audra A. (R. Martin) Matiscik, D.C. of McKinney, Tex., Courtney L. (Jeffery R.) Maslinski of Hampshire, Ill., Brooke M. (Mark J.) Zahara of Park Ridge, and his surrogate son Adam M. Gurtz of Buffalo Grove, as well as 10 grandchildren, R. Paine, Ross M. (NFL), Brent T. Matiscik, Alyssa M., Andrew M., Hannah L. Maslinski, Briana A., Olivia M., and Troy R. Zahara.

Upon retirement in 1996 from a decorated career that included the Naval Ordnance Plant, U.S. Customs, Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration, Donald enjoyed hanging out on the boat, fishing, reading, watching TV, working in the yard, listening to music, dinners with his family, and telling stories about the old days. He was preceded in death by his parents and by one grandson Chase M. Matiscik. He will be missed dearly for his strong leadership, advice, and insight. As a husband, Dad, and Papa you can rest now. You have led us well and can be at peace. Services will be private. No interment.

Important information for prospective D88 Board of Education candidates

Below are links to important information for those who are interested in running for the District 88 Board of Education during the Consolidated General Election on April 6, 2021.

Petitions are due between Dec. 14 and 21, 2020, and should be filed with the DuPage County Clerk, Election Division at 421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton.

Three full (four-year) terms will be open on the District 88 Board during the upcoming election. Through the links below, you'll learn:

1. Time requirements of being a Board member
2. Expectations of being a Board member

3. How to complete the filing/petition process

• To view important information for prospective Board members, visit dupage88.net/site/public/files/?item=5496

• To view a packet for prospective Board members, visit dupage88.net/site/public/files/?item=5497.

• Tax (Continued from front page)

may not be able to obtain it.

The #3 Proposition to Fund Law Enforcement in DuPage County received 90% of the vote.

This was a Proposition to continue to fund and support training methods for local law enforcement agencies.

The Village of Lombard's Proposition to permit video gaming was approved 11,957 to 10,857, a difference of about 1100 votes.

In York Township, a Proposition about Senior Tax passed with 82%. The Proposition for Climate Change in York Township was also approved, garnering just over 67%

of the vote.

A Proposition to increase the extension limitation of Bensenville Fire District #2 was approved 3115 to 2300.

A similar Proposition for the Wood Dale Fire District was denied, with 3547 voters saying 'No,' to the 2778 voting 'Yes.'

(Editor's note: Mail-in ballots will be counted up until Nov. 17, as long as they were postmarked by Tuesday, Nov. 3. Until that time, all results are unofficial. These results were taken from the DuPage County Board of Elections.)

District 88 urges residents to support virtual Mayor's Ball

As has been the case with many events over the past several months, the Addison Mayor's Community Charity Ball, which benefits 17 Addison charities and service organizations, has been canceled because of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. However, there is still an opportunity to make a donation to help these groups during this difficult and unprecedented time.

One of those groups is the District 88 Foundation, which raises funds to assist Addison Trail and Willowbrook students through providing computers and Internet access, subsidizing Advanced Placement (AP)/college-level tests, offering mini-grants for staff to develop instructional opportunities for students and more.

The District 88 Foundation is a

member of the Partnership for Inspired Education (PIE) Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that serves public school students in District 88, Addison School District 4, District 45 and Salt Creek School District 48. Founded in 2009, PIE is designed to be the foundation that supports a long-term partnership with the community, businesses, schools and, most importantly, the children served.

For more information, go to dupage88.net/foundation.

To make a donation to the District 88 Foundation, visit dupage88.net/foundation.

*Be sure to select "District 88 Foundation" as your charity of choice. Pay online at addisonmccb.org.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Sport Clips offers veterans free haircuts for Nov. 11

Portion of each service given to Help A Hero' scholarships

More than 1,800 locally-owned Sport Clips Haircuts franchise locations will recognize Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11, when the company will donate an additional \$1 per haircut service to support "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarships" for service members and veterans. The program is in partnership with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and has raised nearly \$8 million for military scholarships, helping more than 1,750 veterans with education expenses needed for civilian careers.

Some locations are also offering free haircuts to service members and veterans with valid military identification. According to the Sports Clips web site, those locations include: 692 W. North Ave. in Elmhurst and 1072 N. Rohlwing Rd in Addison.

This year's goal this year is to raise \$1M, which will afford scholarships of up to \$5,000 for service members and veterans who are pursuing an education at post-secondary institutions and trade schools.

Background

Sport Clips was founded by Air Force Veteran Gordon Logan. Since 2007, Sport Clips locations across the country have worked to support U.S. service members and veterans through Help A Hero. As the company's chairman, Logan has a special place in his heart for active duty military and veterans. He serves on the VFW Foundation Board and is an International Franchise Association Veteran committee member. Sport Clips is the official haircutter of the VFW.

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District 88 continues to offer fully remote instruction

DuPage County's metrics of COVID-19 community transmission are in the Substantial level in five of six categories

District 88, which includes Willowbrook High School, provided an update regarding COVID-19 metrics in its Nov. 6 newsletter.

The district's 2020-21 school year began in August, with fully remote instruction. In early October, the district's board of education approved a plan to begin the transition to offer some in-person instruction, provided that COVID-19 metrics in DuPage County remained in the Moderate Community Transmission Level. (The DuPage County Health Department's COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance includes three levels of community transmission: Minimal, Moderate and Substantial.)

On Oct. 16, however, the health department informed the district that DuPage County would move

from the Moderate to the Substantial Community Transmission level as of Oct. 19.

"DuPage County remains in the Substantial Community Transmission level for the third consecutive week," noted the district in its newsletter of Nov. 6. The notice added that the county was in the Substantial level in five of the six factors on its COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance.

"These numbers and trends are concerning, which is why maintaining remote learning is the best course of action at this time," the statement continued. "We will continue to connect with and care for students and will provide a robust curriculum. We also are prepared to

move to a hybrid/in-person environment when the data and guidance support that decision. We want our students back in our buildings—but more importantly, we want them safe and healthy."

Seven days worth of meals distributed each Wednesday; no distribution on Nov. 25, but 14 days of meals will be available on Nov. 18

The district recently extended the hours of service and the number of meals provided through its community food-service program. Free meals are available 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) are distributed outside of Willowbrook High School and Addison Trail High School. The food distribution at Willowbrook takes place near Door 6—the entrance near the main gymnasium.

Meals will not be provided on Wednesday, Nov. 25, because of the Thanksgiving holiday. As a result, families will have the option to request 14 days' worth of breakfasts and lunches during the Nov. 18 distribution.

For more information about the food distribution at Willowbrook, contact Principal Dan Krause at 630-530-3438, or District 88 Chief Financial Officer Ed Hoster at 630-530-3970.

Addison Road crossing closed for repairs

Union Pacific is performing repairs to the railroad crossing at Addison Road in Villa Park this month. The closure began on Monday, Nov. 2, and is expected to last for approximately 15 days.

Ardmore Avenue is the designated detour route while the Addison Road crossing is closed. The crossing was closed for temporary emergency repairs for a few days in mid-September.

Union Pacific is funding and completing the entire repair project. For more information, call the Villa Park Public Works Department at 630-834-8505.

VFW Post 2801 to host blood drive on Nov. 18

Villa Park Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2801 will host a community fall blood drive on Wednesday, Nov. 18. The blood drive will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. in a Versiti Blood Center of Illinois mobile coach outside of the post, which is located at 39 E. St. Charles Road.

Photo identification is required for all donors.

To schedule a donation time, visit versiti.org/IL, or call/text Camille from Versiti at 847-305-9998.

While appointments are encouraged, walk-ins are welcome. All safety precautions will be followed to ensure the well-being of each donor.

The SARS-COV-2 antibody test, also known as the COVID-19 Antibody Test (CAT), will be performed on all blood donations as part of Versiti's standard testing.

Blood donors are advised to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS, Rock Valley Publishing

Holiday spirit

The Villa Park Community Pride Commission announced the winners of its annual Halloween Decoration Awards earlier this week. The commission named the award winners at Monday's Villa Park Village Board meeting. The winners included John DiBella of the 400 block of North Harvard Avenue.

His crowd-drawing home is pictured (top) on Halloween. DiBella has made exceptional Halloween decorations outside of the home since 2009. He set up detailed Halloween displays at his previous Villa Park home on the 500 block of North Harvard. His set-up helpers this year included his two sons—Anthony and Vinny—along with stepson Vincent Peshel. The commission's 2020 Halloween Decoration Awards honorees also included Mike and Jennifer Travnick of the 100 block of East Sunset Drive, as well as Rozeta All and Brisekda Allite of the 100 block of South Myrtle Avenue. The commission presented its award for the best scarecrow display to David Swan of the 300 block of North Villa Avenue. His home is also pictured (above) on Halloween.



SPORTS

Nov. 12, 2020

Local high schools remain in limbo regarding status of fast-approaching basketball season

Movement throughout the state to cancel/postpone

By Mike Miazga
CORRESPONDENT

As of press time, high schools in the *Independent's* coverage area remained in a holding pattern on the topic of whether or not to pull the trigger and start the boys and girls basketball seasons on time.

Practices for boys and girls basketball, according to the Illinois High School Association's COVID-19-adjusted calendar, are scheduled to start Nov. 16.

However, schools throughout the state have been left to decide whether or not to proceed with the season with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the IHSA at logheads on whether or not to play basketball at this current stage of the pandemic.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recently elevated basketball to its high-risk sport category, meaning only non-contact practices and trainings can occur (with parental permission) and no contests can be staged. The IHSA followed with

its ruling that, based on guidance from its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the season is OK to start on time, but with the caveat that each school is responsible for making the call on whether or not to proceed.

York High School athletic director Rob Wagner provided the *Independent* with Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205's position on the topic, which included reference to further communication being disseminated earlier this week.

"Concerning athletics, District 205 has received guidance from its insurer to follow the governor's and Illinois Department of Health's direction categorizing basketball as a high-risk sport and prohibiting basketball competition this winter," the statement read. "The Illinois High School Association has decided to move ahead with basketball as a winter sport, in conflict with the Governor's and IDPH's direction. The district is awaiting guidance from its attorneys and information on this issue."

York Principal Dr. Shahe Bagdasarian confirmed that York anticipates having a decision on winter athletics, including basketball, sometime this week. Girls bowling, boys swimming, cheerleading, dance and girls gymnastics also are slated to kick off practices Nov. 16 as low-risk sports (ending on Feb. 13). Wrestling, also categorized as a high-risk sport by IDPH, has been shifted back to a summer sport (starting April 19, 2021).

No status change was reported at either IC Catholic Prep of Timothy Christian. IC Catholic Prep athletic director Michael Fahey told the *Independent* the school continues to wait on a ruling from the Joliet Diocese on whether or not basketball can proceed.

Of note, as it relates to IC Catholic Prep, the Rockford Diocese, which encompasses Elgin St. Edward, Woodstock Marian Central Catholic, Rockford Boylan, Freeport Aquin, Sterling Newman Catholic and Aurora Central Catholic, said last week

the boys and girls basketball season for those schools have been vetoed for the proposed winter season.

"The recent decision by the Illinois High School Association move forward with the 2020-21 school girls and boys basketball seasons beginning Nov. 16 without support and endorsement of the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education, and which would be in violation of the governor's order prohibiting basketball practice and games leaves our Diocesan high schools in a difficult and vulnerable position," Rockford Diocese Superintendent Michael M. Kagan wrote in a letter to the schools. "There are informing you our six diocesan Catholic high schools will be participating in the IHSA season 2020-21."

Fahey told the *Independent* he anticipated a hearing from the Diocese either late last week of

See BASKETBALL, Page



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Bronco from Villa Park earns academic all-conference status

Montini Catholic High School in Lombard recently announced that 24 of its student-athletes achieved Girls Catholic Athletic Conference (GCAC) Academic All-Conference honors during the 2020 fall season. Competing in three sports (cross-country, golf and tennis), the 24 Broncos earned the all-conference distinction by holding a grade-point average of at least 3.0 for a complete academic quarter during the fall season. The members of Montini's girls cross-country team to earn GCAC Academic All-Conference accolades include Junior Audrey Kekstad (No. 236-above) of Villa Park. "We are quite proud of these exceptional athletes," noted Montini athletic director Tom Lentine in a statement honoring the school's recent GCAC Academic All-Conference recipients. "They truly set an example for our entire student body with their ability to manage their academic and athletic schedules while securing excellent grades."



CHRIS FOX FILE PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Warriors earn academic all-conference status

Willowbrook High School recently announced its student-athletes who achieved West Suburban Gold Conference Academic All-Conference honors during the 2020 fall season. The honorees included four seniors on the boys cross-country team—Tyler King (No. 703), Leo (No. 705), Thomas Florey (701) and Mike Stout (No. 9131). King and Leo were the team's co-captains. Additionally, King earned All-Conference honors by placing among the top 16 finishers at the West Suburban Gold Conference Meet on Oct. 17. King ran to a 13th-place finish in the 3,06-mile race at the conference meet, which took place on the course at Proviso West High School. Stout is pictured during the conference meet. King, Leo and Florey are pictured during the Warriors' final meet of the season, which was also at Proviso West. Willowbrook finished its season by competing in the IHSA Class 3A Proviso West Regional on Oct. 24.