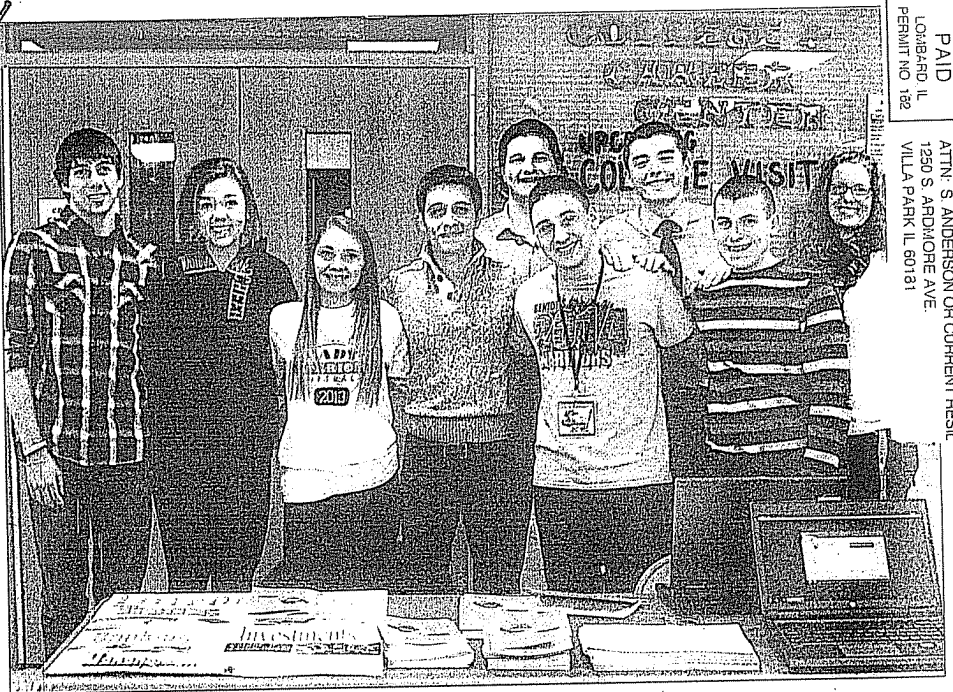


Curriculum event for future students...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL held its annual curriculum showcase on Thursday. The showcase provided future students and their parents with information about the academics, clubs, activities and athletics at the school. Members of the Willowbrook administration welcomed attendees and provided a tour of the school. The families of about 325 incoming students attended the showcase, which featured several information booths, including the career and technical education department's booth, which is pictured on the right. Pictured from left to right are (front row): senior Joe Tiberi, senior Sarah Dan, junior Cheyenne Brunig, senior Ricky Ayala, senior Robert Martinez and junior Matthew D'Alessandro; (back row) senior Michael Lev, senior Mike Schmidt and Mary Barney, the chair of Willowbrook's career and technical education department.



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VILLA PARK REVIEW

NEWS AND VIEWS OF OUR TOWN

Vol. 55 No. 5

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Price 60¢

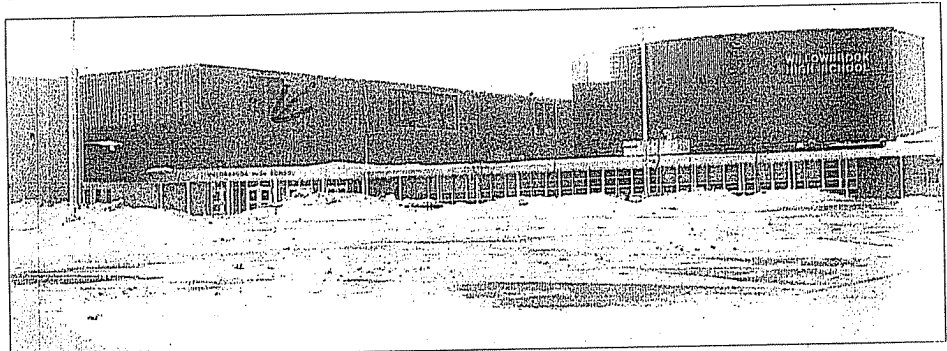
Another blast of cold weather cancels two days of school

For the second time this month, frigid temperatures descended upon Villa Park, canceling classes at schools throughout the Chicagoland area.

Extremely cold weather and high winds cancelled classes at all area schools, including Willowbrook High School and all District 45 grade schools, on both Monday and Tuesday. The decision to cancel Monday's classes was announced on Sunday afternoon. The news of Tuesday's cancellations was released early Monday afternoon. Classes at area schools are back in session today.

Brutally rough winter weather has now cancelled four days of classes this month. Heavy snow and subzero temperatures also closed schools on Jan. 6 and Jan. 7, the first two days back from winter vacation.

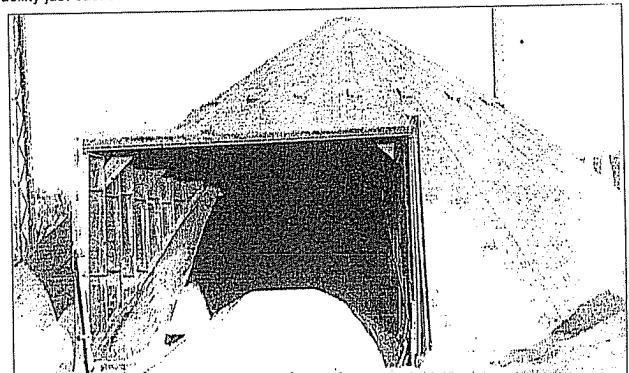
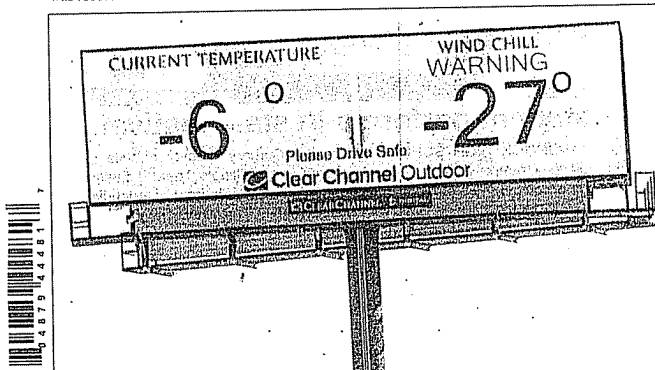
According to the National Weather Service (NWS), Monday's official low temperature at the service's recording site at O'Hare International Airport was 7 degrees below zero. That temperature was recorded late Monday evening. The mercury continued to drop early Tuesday morning, bottoming out at 11 degrees below zero before creeping up to zero shortly before noon. The lowest wind-chill of this week's cold blast—30 degrees below zero—was recorded at about 7 a.m. on Tuesday.



No school on Monday or Tuesday...

Photos by Chris Fox

THE PARKING LOT at Willowbrook High School (above), which is filled with vehicles each school day, was barren on Monday afternoon. Extremely cold temperatures and dangerous wind-chill levels closed schools throughout the area on both Monday and Tuesday. The official low temperature at O'Hare International Airport on Tuesday was 11 degrees below zero. The lowest wind-chill reading on Tuesday was 30 degrees below zero. A wind-chill advisory was in effect in the area until Wednesday morning. Interestingly, Monday's high temperature in Nome, Alaska, reached 50 degrees above zero, while the low temperature was 30 degrees. Inclement weather has now cancelled four days of classes this month at Willowbrook and other area schools. Students were supposed to return from winter vacation on Jan. 6, but snow and extreme cold cancelled classes on both Jan. 6 and Jan. 7. The photo on the left (below) from Tuesday morning shows a glimpse of the frigid weather displayed on the electronic billboard on Roosevelt Road near Ardmore Avenue. The photo on the right (below) shows the village's salt storage facility just east of Ardmore Avenue near Hill Street.



Career workshop at the Villa Park Library begins Saturday

The Villa Park Public Library will hold a Career Re-launcher Workshop (The CREW) on three upcoming Saturdays. The first session will take place this Saturday, Feb. 1. The next two meetings are scheduled for March 15 and April 5. Each workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the library, which is located at 305 S. Ardmore Ave.

Each morning-long workshop is designed to provide practical, actionable and relevant advice to people who are attempting to

revive an old career or begin a new one. The sessions are particularly helpful to those who have been laid-off, reorganized or fired.

Tom Somora, an employment services representative with the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), will provide participants with tools to re-enter the job market and find a rewarding and fulfilling career. Space is limited. For more information, or to register, call the library at 630-834-1164, Ext. 5.



Fire in Glen Ellyn...

Photo by Steve Spoden

VILLA PARK FIREFIGHTERS joined firefighters from several other municipalities to respond to Friday morning's fire at 1180 Brighton Place in Glen Ellyn. The above photo shows Lombard Fire Chief Paul DiRienzo (right) at the scene of the fire, which caused damage estimated at over \$100,000 to the building and its contents. The address of the two-story multi-family structure is within the Village of Glen Ellyn, but is protected by the Lombard Fire Department as a part of the Glenbard Fire Protection District. Lombard Fire Department Battalion Chief Art Peters said arriving fire crews encountered heavy smoke and fire coming out of the roof of the duplex structure. According to Glen Ellyn Police Deputy Chief William Holmer, a Glen Ellyn police sergeant, who was quick to arrive on scene, notified and assisted the evacuation of residents from the building. The response was upgraded to a box alarm, which brought in help from neighboring fire departments. One firefighter was injured at the scene and transported to Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove. No other injuries were reported.

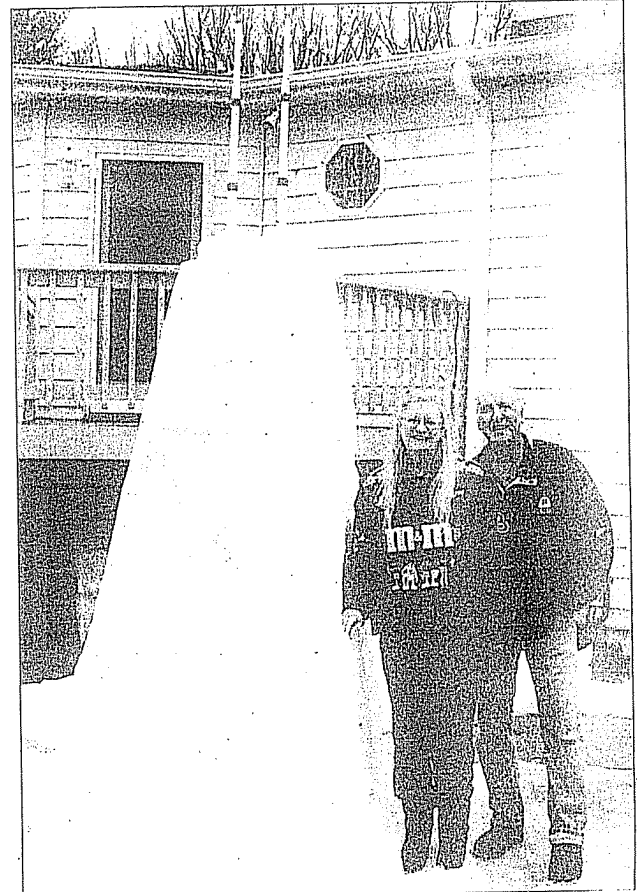
Questions? Comments?

E-MAIL THE VILLA PARK REVIEW AT
vpreview@lbvpr.com



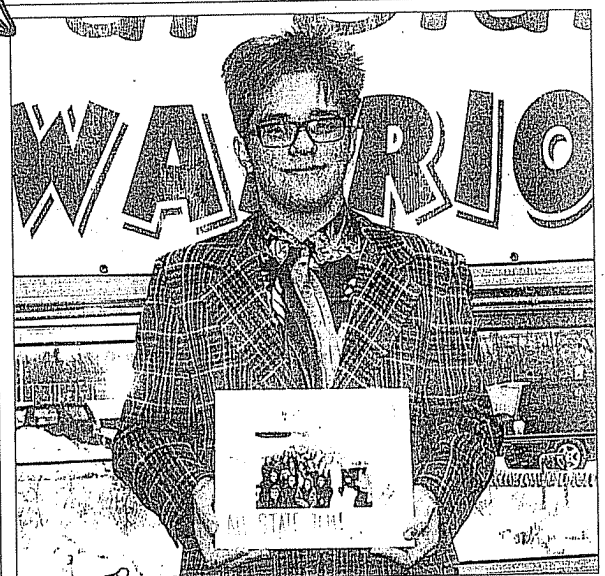
Seventh-grade Warriors win title...

THE SEVENTH-GRADE VILLA PARK WARRIORS boys basketball team (above) won the championship at the Wheaton North Shootout, which took place Jan. 19-20. The Warriors went 6-0 at the tournament, defeating the Hinsdale Inferno, St. Edward's Junior Wave, the Lemont Athletic Club, the Lincoln-Way Xplosion, the Wheaton Academy Warriors and the Naperville Spirit Black squad. Members of Villa Park's championship team (pictured left to right) are: (front row, kneeling) Josh Roucka, Sammy Tumilty, Drake Delvalle, Joey Byrne and Scotty Tumilty; (back row, standing) Matt Knudtson, Alex Medina, Aidan McNamara, Jack Burns and Jack Hines.



A temporary skyscraper in Villa Park...

CHARLIE WETTER of Villa Park (above, right) recently built a snow sculpture replica of Chicago's John Hancock Center. The above photo shows Wetter and his wife Patty outside of their home on the 300 block of South Monterey Avenue earlier this month. Wetter spent about three days working on the sculpture, which had a 4-foot square base. The actual Hancock Center, which stands 1,127 feet (over 1,500 feet with its antennas) has graced Chicago's skyline for about 45 years. Wetter's Villa Park model, which reached 8 feet tall and about 11 feet with its antennas, stood for a few days before it was washed away by a downpour of rain and warming temperatures.



VP student performs in state festival...

WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL junior Jack Corkery (above) of Villa Park performed as Grampa Joad earlier this month in the Illinois Theatre Festival's production of "The Grapes of Wrath." Corkery took the stage in front of an audience of about 2,000 people at Illinois State University on Jan. 9. The Illinois Theatre Festival is reportedly the largest and oldest non-competitive high school festival of its kind in the world. More than 4,000 students, teachers, university representatives, exhibitors and volunteers came together at the event to present over 25 high school productions and more than 150 workshops. Corkery, who has appeared in numerous performances presented by Willowbrook, joined about 120 other Illinois high school students last year to audition for the festival's production of "The Grapes of Wrath." For more information about the festival, visit www.illinoistheatrefestival.org. For more information about Corkery, visit his Web site at jackcorkery.com.

Sports

LOMBARDIAN
VILLA PARK REVIEW

Warriors close in on a conference championship

The Willowbrook girls basketball team maintained sole possession of first place in the West Suburban Gold Conference following Thursday night's 61-57 victory over Proviso East in Villa Park. The Warriors moved to 8-0 in conference play, while the Pirates dropped to 6-2. Proviso East's only two conference losses are against Willowbrook. The Warriors edged the Pirates 60-54 in the teams' first meeting of the season, which took place Dec. 7 in Maywood.

Willowbrook led the Pirates 31-19 at halftime, but Proviso East cut the Warriors' lead to 48-44 by the end of the third quarter. The Pirates took a 52-51 lead with about four minutes to play, but baskets from senior Molly Krawczykowski and sophomore Josie Zabran lifted the Warriors to a 55-52 advantage. Proviso East tied the game at 55-55 after sinking a 3-point shot with about 2:30 remaining. Zabran and senior Olivia Domin responded with baskets to give Willowbrook a 59-55 lead.

Proviso East made two free throws in the closing minute—one with 50.2 seconds to play and another with 10.3 seconds left. The Pirates missed their second free throw at the 10.3-second mark. Junior Alyssa Ressler grabbed

the rebound and passed the ball to senior Lauren Carroll, who was fouled with 3.5 seconds to play. Carroll, who had missed two free throws at the 22.1-second mark, made both attempts to close out the scoring for the game. Carroll's two free throws with 3.5 seconds to play eased the sting of the Warriors' rough night at the free-throw line. Willowbrook made 12 of 30 foul shots. Proviso East converted eight of 16 free-throw attempts.

Zabran, who moved up from the sophomore team to the varsity in December, provided 17 points and 12 rebounds in Thursday's game—which marked her first start for the varsity. Domin added 11 points, while Carroll and Krawczykowski supplied 10 and nine points, respectively. Ressler scored five points and grabbed eight rebounds. Sophomore Danielle Velasquez added five points.

"We played really hard as a team tonight," said Willowbrook coach Terry Harrell following Thursday's win. "Everyone who came into the game gave us a big effort."

The Warriors entered their conference showdown on the heels of a decisive loss to Glenbard South two nights earlier. The Raiders crushed Willowbrook 77-37 in Villa Park on

Jan. 21. Glenbard South outscored Willowbrook in every quarter, gaining a 17-12 lead after one period and a 42-21 advantage by halftime. Glenbard South's lead grew to 61-29 by the end of the third quarter.

"They [the Raiders] came in ready to play, and we didn't," said Harrell, whose team had played one day earlier, beating Providence Catholic 67-51 in a game at the McDonald's Shootout on Jan. 20 in Villa Park. "They were a good team, and we were not pumped up at all. That happens."

Willowbrook improved to 19-3 overall and 9-0 in the conference with Saturday's 71-32 home victory over Addison Trail. Zabran delivered a team-leading 16 points for the Warriors, who led the visiting Blazers 20-9 after one quarter and 32-16 at halftime. Willowbrook made six 3-point shots, four of which came during the opening quarter.

Three other Warriors turned in double-digit scoring efforts. Krawczykowski scored 13 points, while senior Carrie McCann tallied 11 points. Domin, who made a pair of 3-point shots in the first quarter, finished with 10 points. Junior Sam Schmidt added seven points, while senior Allison Torres drained a pair of 3-point shots to contribute six points.

The Warriors will complete the conference season with three more games in the coming week, starting with Friday's home game against Hinsdale South, Saturday's contest at Morton and a Feb. 4 battle at Downers Grove South.

Glenbard East

The Rams earned their third DuPage Valley Conference victory of the season with Saturday afternoon's 61-43 win over Naperville Central in Lombard. Glenbard East, which won both meetings with the Redhawks this season, improved to 5-13 overall and 3-6 in the conference.

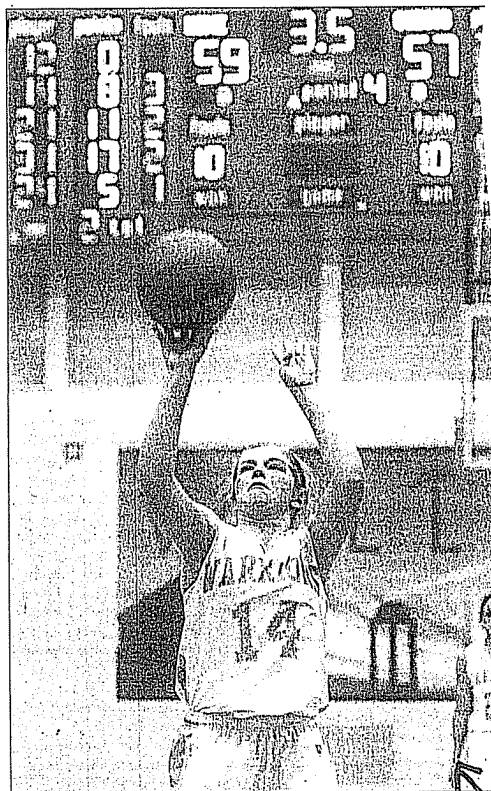
Glenbard East led Naperville Central 28-20 at halftime and 41-31 at the end of the third quarter. Junior Rachael Leifheit made two 3-point shots during the third period.

Junior Allison Hansen erupted for 11 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Rams to the runaway win. Hansen made three field goals and connected on five of six free-throw attempts in the game's final eight minutes.

Glenbard East locked up the win with a 14-2 run in the fourth quarter to increase its lead to 57-36. Senior Taj Key opened the run with a basket with about six minutes to play. Hansen then added two straight baskets. A free throw by sophomore Ashley Brown built the lead to 50-35 midway through the fourth quarter. Hansen made three free throws during the next two minutes. Leifheit and Hansen each added one basket to complete the 14-2 run.

Hansen finished the game with a team-leading 23 points. She made eight field goals and sank seven of 11 attempts from the foul line. Sophomore Braxis Solid, who hit three 3-point shots during the first half, added 17 points. Leifheit contributed 13 points, while Key scored seven points.

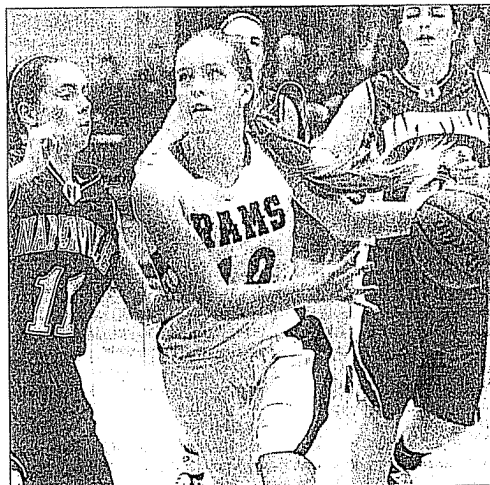
The Rams' victory followed a pair of conference losses earlier in the week to Wheaton Warrenville South and West Aurora. Prior to those games, Glenbard East played four contests (two on Jan. 18 and two on Jan. 20) at a Martin Luther King holiday tournament in DeKalb. The Rams won one of the four games. Hansen averaged 17 points per game in the event and was named to the all-tournament team.



Sealing a victory...

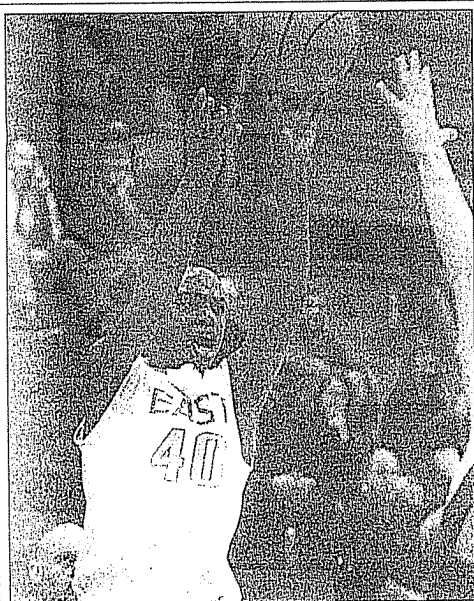
Photos by Chris Fox

WILLOWBROOK SENIOR Lauren Carroll (above) launches a free throw during the closing seconds of Thursday's West Suburban Gold Conference girls basketball game against Proviso East. Carroll made a pair of free throws with 3.5 seconds to play to close out the scoring in Willowbrook's 61-57 victory. The Warriors improved to 8-0 in conference play, while the Pirates slipped to 6-2. Willowbrook added another conference victory on Saturday, when it beat Addison Trail 71-32. The Warriors will complete the conference season with games against Hinsdale South, Morton and Downers Grove South. The Warriors will face Hinsdale South this Friday in Villa Park. They will play at Morton on Saturday and travel to Downers Grove South on Feb. 4.



Fantastic finish...

JUNIOR ALLISON HANSEN (above) of the Glenbard East girls basketball team drives to the hoop during the fourth quarter of Saturday's DuPage Valley Conference game against Naperville Central. Hansen scored 11 of her team-leading 23 points during the final period of the Rams' 61-43 victory in Lombard. "The kids are really starting to play as a team," said Glenbard East coach Don Finnie after the game. Finnie mentioned the Rams' performance at the recent Martin Luther King holiday tournament in DeKalb. The Rams won only one of four games, but the three losses were all by single-digit margins. "We really played fantastic basketball there," Finnie said.



Taking aim...

GLENBARD EAST SOPHOMORE Patrick Peterkin (above) launches an outside shot during the fourth quarter of Friday night's DuPage Valley Conference boys basketball game against Wheaton Warrenville South. The visiting Tigers defeated the Rams 53-48 in Lombard. Glenbard East, which won the conference title last season with a 13-1 record, fell to 0-7 in the conference. Wheaton Warrenville South, which held an 18-17 halftime lead, never surrendered the lead during the second half. The Tigers made a 3-point shot in the closing seconds of the third quarter to take a 33-26 lead with eight minutes remaining. Peterkin and senior JaRon Hall carried Glenbard East's scoring load in the fourth quarter, when they combined to score 20 of the team's 22 points. Hall's 12-point output in the final period included a pair of 3-point shots and a 2-point field goal. Hall also made all four of his free throws in the last quarter. Peterkin scored eight points in the period. The Rams cut a 39-28 deficit to 39-34 with six straight points, including a 3-pointer and a 2-pointer from Hall. Peterkin added a free throw at the 3:50 mark to pull the Rams to within five points. The Tigers maintained at least a five-point lead for the rest of the game. Hall finished the night with 23 points, while Peterkin scored 14 points. The Rams played another home game on Saturday at their own one-day event—the fourth annual When Sides Collide Shootout. The tournament featured three games, including Glenbard East's 55-46 loss to Palatine. Hall scored 19 points, including three 3-point shots in the opening quarter. Peterkin provided 11 points. Saturday's loss moved the Rams' overall season record to 4-15.



Pirtle takes lead in Once on This Island

Addison Trail senior Morgan Pirtle rehearses a scene from Addison Trail's upcoming winter musical, "Once on This Island." Pirtle plays the lead role of Ti Moune.

District 88 participates in Shape of Addison town hall meeting

ADDISON — On Jan. 22, District 88 participated in the 7th Annual Shape of Addison Town Hall Meeting, where board presidents and administrators from the Village of Addison, the Addison Public Library, the Addison Park District, the Addison Fire Protection District, Addison Elementary School District 4 and District 88 shared with residents an update with regard to what's going on in the community.

District 88 Board of Education Vice President Jay Irvin spoke on behalf of the district, and he and District 88 Superintendent Dr. Scott Helton answered questions from community members.

"The Shape of Addison is a great way for us to continue our focus on transparency and thank the community for their support of District 88," Helton said. "We know we're successful as a district because of the relationships we have with the groups represented at this event, as well as all of our stakeholders, and we look forward to next year's Shape of Addison."

To see the Shape of Addison meeting online, visit addisonadvantage.org/actv/past.shtml and click on "Town Hall Forums."



District 88 Board of Education Vice President Jay Irvin speaks during the 7th Annual Shape of Addison Town Hall Meeting. The meeting took place on Jan. 22 and was an opportunity for board presidents and administrators from the Village of Addison, the Addison Public Library, the Addison Park District, the Addison Fire Protection District, Addison Elementary School District 4 and District 88 to share with residents an update with regard to what's going on in the community.



photos provided

"Once on This Island..."

Cast members rehearse a scene from Addison Trail's upcoming winter musical, "Once on This Island." Performances will take place on Feb. 6, 7 and 8.

Addison Trail to present winter musical, 'Once on This Island'

ADDISON — A tale that shows the power of true love will take the stage at the Addison Trail High School auditorium with the winter musical, "Once on This Island," on Feb. 6, 7 and 8. Curtain times are 7 p.m. as well as a 2:30 p.m. performance on Feb. 8.

"Once on This Island" tells the story of Ti Moune, a peasant girl who rescues and falls in love with Daniel, a wealthy boy from the other side of her island. After Daniel is returned to his people, the four gods who rule the island guide Ti Moune on a quest to test the strength of her love against the powerful forces of prejudice, hatred and death.

Director Anna Jakubka Court said she wanted to present a story that's not as well known, and this will be the first time Addison Trail will perform "Once on This Island."

"It's a beautiful story, and the music is outstanding," she said. "It's almost non-stop singing and dancing, and the audience can look forward to seeing the talents of a variety of our students."

She added the musical is family-friendly and many people believe it's based on Hans Christian Andersen's original version of the classic fairy tale "The Little Mermaid."

Senior Morgan Pirtle plays Ti Moune, and while she is no stranger to taking center stage, Pirtle said it was a challenge to get into character.

"Ti Moune is someone who really believes in love and would go to the end of the world for love," she said. "It's difficult to relate to that level of passion, but I'm thrilled to play this role!"

Theatre looks ahead, remembers the past in 10th season

ELMHURST — GreenMan Theatre Troupe began its production history with a murder mystery dinner theatre show called "The Boardwalk Melody Hour Murders" in November of 2004. That production, directed by GreenMan Artistic Director David Soria, also served as a fundraiser to help get GreenMan up and running.

Ten years later, Soria reflected on that beginning and where GreenMan aims to go in the future. The murder mystery fundraisers have now become an annual event and the current show in this tradition is entitled,

"Doubtful Abbey: Murder and Mayhem at Fussworthy Manor" by Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff, who is a GreenMan board member and also the director of the production, which opens February 21 and runs for five performances through March 2. "Although we originally intended the dinner show to be a one-night-only fundraiser, we had so much interest from our audiences, we added a second performance," Soria said. "The murder mystery concept was popular so we decided to include a dinner show every season. The shows are always different

New to the stage is junior Jerold Macaya, who portrays Daniel.

"It's a great privilege to be in this position," he said. "I would encourage all students to get involved with theatre at some point while they're at Addison Trail. It's truly an amazing experience."

Jerold added the musical has a powerful message.

"I hope the audience understands our differences shouldn't divide us — especially differences that have been engrained in someone as part of their traditions," he said.

The four gods of the island are played by seniors Francesco Bondi, Kala Keller, Anthony Pham and Nicole Levonyak.

"The show is about class differences, and I hope those who come to watch the show put aside their differences to become one community," Keller said.

The Addison Trail Teacher-Parent Organization (TPO) Spaghetti Dinner will take place between the two performances on Feb. 8. The dinner will begin at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for students, \$3 with an Activity Pass and are free with a District 88 Senior Gold Card. To buy tickets, call 630-628-3365.

The Addison Trail Theatre Booster Club is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the Addison Trail Theatre Scholarship Fund. Parents, family members, friends and community businesses can place an ad in the "Once on This Island" program. To buy an ad, visit attheatreboosters.com/adplacement.html by Jan. 27

and are great fun for everyone involved. The audiences love the interactive nature of the performance and it is a wonderful challenge for the actors to perform in this way."

The first GreenMan season offered only two productions. The second one was "The Fantasticks," which is a musical production. GreenMan looked back to the future in its tenth season with its fall production of "Lucky Stiff," which is the first musical to hit the GreenMan stage since that first season. It played to full houses over the course of its four-week run.

IC Catholic Prep boys basketball team likes where it's headed

Knights unbeaten in conference play through first six games

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

IC Catholic Prep boys basketball coach TJ Tyrrell has plenty of reasons to smile.

His Knights were 14-3 overall through their first 17 games, which included a 6-0 mark in Suburban Christian Conference Gold Division play.

"We've been playing really well," said Tyrrell. "We've really come together as a team. There was a great atmosphere when we played York (recently). It was nice to see us able to compete against a team like that. It gave our guys confidence. We're ready to take on

the second half of the schedule."

Tyrrell said the team's offensive output has been on the upswing of late.

"We've been shooting better over the last four or five games," said Tyrrell earlier last week. "Our 3-point percentage has gone up and we're getting better shot opportunities. We're seeing solid play from several guys. Rhashaun (Epting) and Clark (Brinkman) have been

steady and it's been nice having Anthony Taylor back from injury. His return has been substantial for us. He brings a lot of offensive and defensive energy. We're also getting strong play from Ross Fleming and Sean Sutton. Both of them are doing a nice job of keeping up the pressure and handling the basketball."

Freshman Jordan Rowell also has made his presence felt.

"I've been impressed with Jordan," said Tyrrell. "He's coming into his own and is figuring out the varsity speed. He helped out guarding York's Frank Toohey, which is no easy task. He helped give Rhashaun a break during the game. He did a good job."

Tyrrell also was pleased with the team's recent free-throw shooting. IC was 19-for-24 from the line in a road win over Elgin St. Edward.

"Rhashaun was 16-for-19," said Tyrrell. "We're doing a nice job in clutch situations. It was important for us to pick up a win at St. Ed's. We have a two-game lead with four to play, so that was important in terms of the conference. There were seven lead changes in the game. I was happy to see our players stay composed, especially in that environment. That's a tough place to play with the old-school gym and the fans right on top of you. It's a great basketball atmosphere. We stayed with it and pulled out the victory down the stretch."

"We've played a lot of good teams lately. We're in a great place right now, especially getting that momentum with the win over St. Ed's. Hopefully it continues. Our spirits are high and our confidence is up."

Willowbrook to host Dennis Doyle 3-on-3 Classic

VILLA PARK — The District 88 Foundation is seeking players for The Dennis Doyle 3-on-3 Classic basketball tournament, to be held on March 8 at Willowbrook High School in Villa Park.

The event is a fitting tribute to Coach Doyle, who came to Willowbrook in 1994 with several years of coaching under his belt. He led the Warriors from 1994 through 2005, and was a Guidance Counselor at the school until his death in 2011.

For more information and to register, call 630-530-3426 or visit www.dupage88.net/foundation.

• GYMNASTICS

Continued from page 26

While gymnasts are improving in their events, Nocek said camaraderie has factored into the overall improvement of the team.

"The girls are very supportive of one another," said Nocek. "When a girl is doing a new skill for the first time, the entire gym stops what they are doing, watches and then wildly cheers. They are truly happy for each other's accomplishments."

Willowbrook will compete in the West Suburban Conference Gold Division meet Friday.

"Our goal is to continue to build and peak at conference," said Nocek. "After conference we'll be down to a handful of girls who will be training for regionals with our eye on individual qualifications for sectionals."



TWO HILARIOUS NIGHTS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 & SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8 at 7:30 pm
York's 7th Annual Winter Drama Festival
All Seats Reserved
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Jan 29th, 10:30-1:30 & 6:30-8:30

York Drama Presents Stephen Sondheim's A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum



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at Rock Island Auction Company in Rock Island, IL!
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SPORTS

JANUARY 30, 2014 • 26

Fenton girls cagers competing against tough teams

**Bison go 13-8
through first
20 games**

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

Fenton girls basketball coach Tim Anderson knew a tough portion of the schedule was forthcoming.

"We've hit that tough portion of the schedule," said Anderson.

The Bison recently dropped a 41-36 game to Chicago Taft.

"They are really good," said Anderson. "We had the game and lost in the last two games. It wasn't a bad game on our part. They are just a really good team."

Fenton had contests against St. Viator and Glenbard South postponed due to the recent bad weather.

"That would have been our toughest stretch having to play Taft, St. Viator and Glenbard South in four days," said Anderson.

Fenton then scored a 53-38 Metro

Suburban Conference victory over Illiana Christian.

"That was a nice win," said Anderson. "We didn't play well when we played them at their place. They had a freshman player who had 26 points against us last time. We put a stop on her this time and she only had seven points. It was a nice defensive effort."

Fenton then scored a 60-31 victory over Chicago Academy as part of the ongoing Fenton tournament.

Fenton then dropped a 67-33 road MSC contest to Riverside-Brookfield.

"We've never won over there," said Anderson. "We got off-kilter and out-of-sorts there. R-B shot 59 percent in the game. It was a 15-point game at one point. R-B is a really good team that played really well. We didn't play well and they beat us."

The Bison rebounded to score a MSC win over Elmwood Park.

"We played arguably our best game this year," said Anderson. "We played very well and had balanced scoring and our timing was good. The R-B game

showed us what we needed to work on and then we worked on that the next two days in practice and came out and beat Elmwood Park, 53-32."

Fenton then dropped a tournament game to Chicago Latin.

"They will end up winning the tournament," said Anderson. "They already beat St. Viator and Lake Forest Academy. This game was a tale of two halves. We were out of sorts the first half and got down by 13 points. We ended up losing by 12. I thought we played a good second half. Give our kids credit for playing better in the second half. We cut it to about eight points midway through the third and got it to seven at one point, but Latin is good and has a lot of weapons."

Tina Guarino continues to excel for Fenton in many facets of the game. She scored 18 points against Latin and had 10 points in about two-and-a-half quarters against Elmwood Park. Guarino scored 16 against Riverside-Brookfield, 19 against Chicago Academy and 16 against Illiana Christian. She also had

14 against Chicago Taft.

"Tina is putting up some big numbers," said Anderson. "Her best stat is her assists and steals to turnover ration is about 4-to-1. You want that to be 2 or 3 to 1. She's our primary ball-handler and is having such a great season. We always can count on Tina. She gets a lot of breakaways because of the steals she gets. She can do it all."

Anderson also cited strong recent play from Rachael Leschewski.

Fenton played the Glenbard South game on Saturday and the makeup against St. Viator was slated for Monday.

"Glenbard South will be the best team we've seen so far," said Anderson. "We have some tough games coming up, but if we want to go anywhere in the state playoffs we have to be able to compete and beat some of these teams. We're in. Class 4A this year and nobody is easy there."

Addison Trail girls gymnastics team defeats Downers Grove South

**Conference-
leading Blazers
record
season-high
136.9 score**

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Addison Trail girls gymnastics team is in the driver's seat of the West Suburban Conference Gold Division race.

The Blazers scored a recent 136.9-134.5 WSC Gold victory over Downers Grove South. Addison Trail's 136.9 score

was a season-high.

More importantly, the win kept the Blazers undefeated in WSC Gold action. Addison Trail will compete in the WSC Gold meet Friday at Leyden that will determine the overall conference champion.

"All the girls have done a great job so far this season and are working very hard in the gym," said Addison Trail coach Brandi Kisse.

Kisse said the team continues to receive strong all-around performances from Casey Boksha, Terra Garcia, Tamara Mendez and Kennedy O'Neill.

Jessica Rosal and Brianna

Chesney have been key contributors in their specialized events.

In the win over Downers Grove South, O'Neill scored a season-high 9.4 on beam, while Garcia also had a season-high on beam with a 9.0.

Mendez recorded a season-high 9.05 on bars, while Boksha earned a season-high 9.1 on floor exercise.

"The team is doing a great job of staying focused. We have been working a lot of pressure sets to help prepare for the big meets coming up," said Kisse. "At this point in the season it is not about learning new

skills, but being consistent in the skills they have and sticking their routines."

Kisse said the team has improved on the balance beam.

"Beam has been a struggle for us this season, but the girls are taking the pressure sets learned in practice and are using it to their advantage when they compete," said Kisse.

Addison Trail recorded a 34.9 team score against Downers Grove South.

"The team nailed beam," said Kisse.

Kisse lauded the contributions of Chesney, one of the team's senior captains.

"Brianna is the definition of the word captain," said Kisse. "She has gone through a lot during her gymnastics career with some serious injuries and has overcome any struggle that has hit her. She is dedicated, a great teammate, has an outstanding work ethic, is always accountable and is one of the best people I know."

Kisse is thrilled with the progress the team has made since the beginning of the season.

"Words cannot describe how proud of this team I am," she said. "They are unbelievable."

Willowbrook girls gymnastics team sees scores continue to climb

**Warriors recently
defeated Glenbard
South on
senior night**

By Mike Miazga
Correspondent

The Willowbrook girls gymnastics team's scores have continued to increase as the season has worn on.

The Warriors began the season scoring in the low 100s, but now have that mark in the upper 120s. Prior to the holiday

break, Willowbrook hit 131.05 and has settled in around the 127-129-point mark.

Willowbrook celebrated senior night recently by sweeping all three levels against Glenbard South.

"The girls have not stayed stagnant," said Willowbrook coach Annette Nocek. "They continue to learn and add new skills to their routines."

Nocek has been particularly pleased with the team's efforts on vault.

"The most improvement

has been on vault," she said. "Almost the entire team has a new vault vs. the one they began the season with. They are becoming very consistent in how they perform in meets."

On the individual front, Cassidy McFarlane continues to perform well on bars and beam.

"Cassidy continues to dominate on bars and beam," said Nocek. "She is consistently scoring in the 9.0s. She has a few new skills we have not debuted yet. She is a senior and we have had a plan since

November, which has been working out perfectly."

Nocek said Riley McFarlane's scores on beam and vault have been rising each meet.

"Riley has a new floor routine that is beautiful," said Nocek. "Riley also is working toward a new bar routine and continues to gain momentum as the season progresses."

Gloria Johnson and Stefania Enescu also are making strides.

"Gloria has been very focused and continues to add a skill to an event each week,"

said Nocek. "Gloria is able to obtain new skills quickly, mainly because she is easily coached and she listens to corrections, understands them and focuses on correcting them."

Nocek noted Enescu recently learned a high-level twisting vault.

"Her scores will soon reflect (the new vault)," said Nocek. "Stefania continues to grow as an athlete and should be settling down into her pace."

See GYMNASTICS, Page 28



High-fives for all...

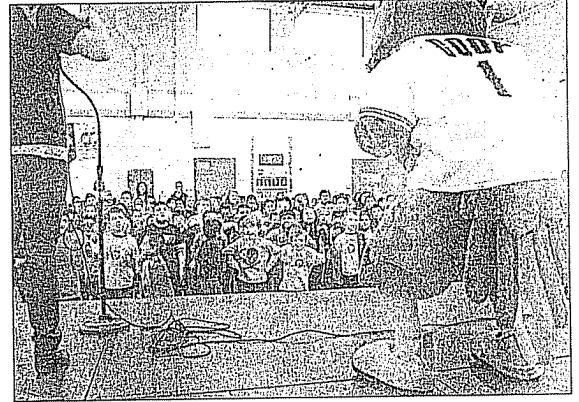
Students at Fullerton School swarm around Schaumburg Boomers mascot Coop during his recent visit to the school to kick-off the reading program.

Fullerton readers get incentive from Boomer mascot 'Coop'

ADDISON — Coop, a prairie chicken who is the mascot of the Schaumburg Boomers baseball team, came to Fullerton School on Friday, January 24, to kick-off the school's reading incentive program. Students have the opportunity to earn tickets for a baseball game in May or June by completing reading goals that they have set for the weeks ahead. Coop showed the students a dance that is done at every Boomers ball game, getting them to dance along with him. He then greeted stu-

dents individually with high-fives, fist bumps, and hugs.

District 4 students participate in a variety of reading incentive programs—which offer students free tickets or prizes from a variety of local businesses and entertainment venues, such as Great America, the Schaumburg Boomers and the Kane County Cougars. These programs, as well as literacy night events held in the schools, are all geared to support increased learning for students.



photos provided

Revving up the crowd...

Coop, the mascot of the Schaumburg Boomers baseball team, revs up the kids at Fullerton School on his recent visit to kick-off the reading incentive program. Students can win tickets to Boomers games over the summer if they meet their goals.

Addison Trail hosts annual Course Information Night

ADDISON — On January 23, Addison Trail hosted its annual Course Information Night to provide parents/guardians and students with information about the academics, clubs, activities and sports at the school.

Participants were welcomed by administration, given a tour of the building and were able to visit booths with information about Addison Trail.

Addison Trail Assistant Principal Courtney DeMent said nearly 300 families were represented throughout the event.

"Course Information Night is a great way for incoming students and parents to become familiar with the school and staff and to see everything we have to offer," DeMent said. "It's a wonderful event for us to welcome the next group of Blazers!"

Photos below: (Top left): Incoming Addison Trail freshman Katie Watson shows her Blazer Pride.

(Top right): Addison Trail Principal Adam Cibulka welcomes incoming freshman R.J. Nosal. (Bottom left): Pictured is the biology honors display at Course Information Night.

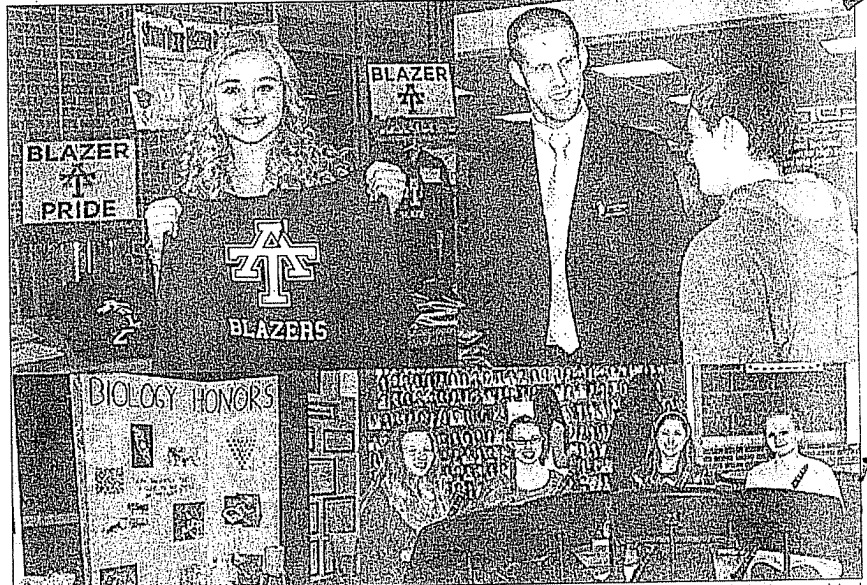
(Bottom right, from left): Addison Trail junior Ela Lodzinski, senior Emily Rosenquist, junior Allison Ricamato and junior Megan Levonyak provide musical entertainment during Course Information Night.



photo provided

Artist leads watercolor workshop

On Saturday, January 18, the Addison Art Guild held a watercolor workshop led by internationally-known artist David Becker, pictured here. The next workshop offered by the Guild will be an oil pastels demonstration led by Carol Zeck, which takes place on Saturday, March 22 from 9:30-2:30 p.m. at Addison Trail High School. Details elsewhere in this issue.



all photos provided

Elmhurst Memorial's First Step program leads to many, many, many more

ELMHURST— Elmhurst Memorial Hospital employee Titanya Curtis and about 500 of her co-workers walked around the world nearly 13 times last year.

Together, they logged the equivalent of 320,000 miles as part of First Step, an employee wellness program that was held from March 1-Dec. 31, 2013. The goal of the program was simple: stay active.

Employees could choose their own activities to earn miles—walking, running, biking, aerobics, housework. Those activities and the time spent doing them were entered into an online tracker which converted the steps into miles.

"It's an awesome program. It motivates you, you cheer each other on and you lose weight," says Curtis, who logged 4,000 miles through Pilates, running, spinning and cardio kick boxing. She was also the captain for Walking Tall, the first place team in the program, whose 20 members totaled 41,000 miles, an average of about 1,700 miles per person.

The original goal of First Step was to have 15 teams participate and walk 150,000 miles. When the program launched, 39 teams and 500 employees were on the move and covered 320,000 miles.

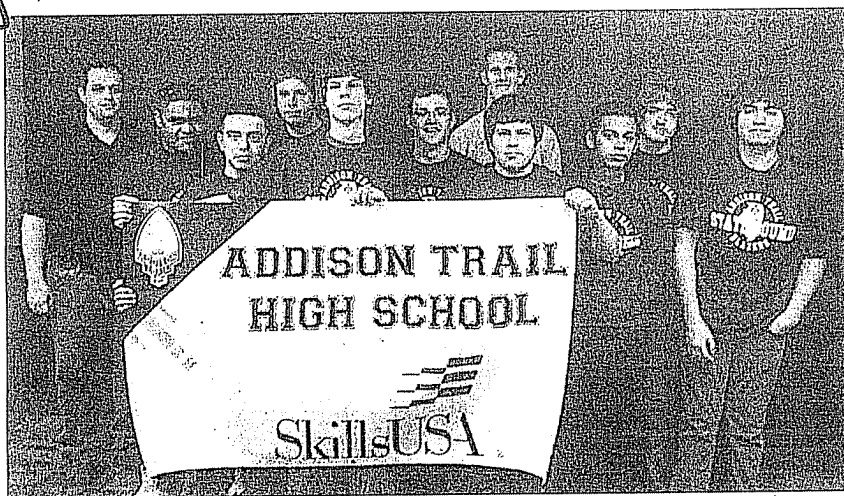
"I think it was so successful because everyone was able to do the type of exercise they enjoy within their own time frame," says Sue Earley, manager, Community Services at Elmhurst Memorial and First Step coordinator. "It promoted participation because employees could do First Step their own way, log in miles and see the numbers rise."

Elmhurst Memorial's employee wellness efforts also include Healthy Lunch Options, which features healthy, low calorie choices in the hospital's WILDFLOWER Café, and Rethink Your Drink, a program that stresses the importance of avoiding sugar and calories in everyday beverages.

"Hospitals should be role models," says Earley. "We need to do all we can to promote health and wellness to our employees and the communities we serve, so that other organizations might do the same thing."



Submitted photo
Mary Lou Mastro (second from left), President and CEO, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare, with captains of the top three teams in Elmhurst Memorial Hospital's 2013 "First Step" employee wellness program: Marilyn Matejka (far left), "Arch Enemies," second place; Titanya Curtis (far right), "Walking Tall," first place and Vera Ellen Comerford (second from right), "Mission Slimpossible," third place.



photos provided

SkillsUSA Team represents at CTE Week...

Pictured is the SkillsUSA Team at Addison Trail High School, which participates as part of the CTE Department. The Addison Trail Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department will host its annual CTE Week from Jan. 27 to 31.

Addison Trail gears up for annual CTE Week

ADDISON — The Addison Trail Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department is gearing up for its annual CTE Week.

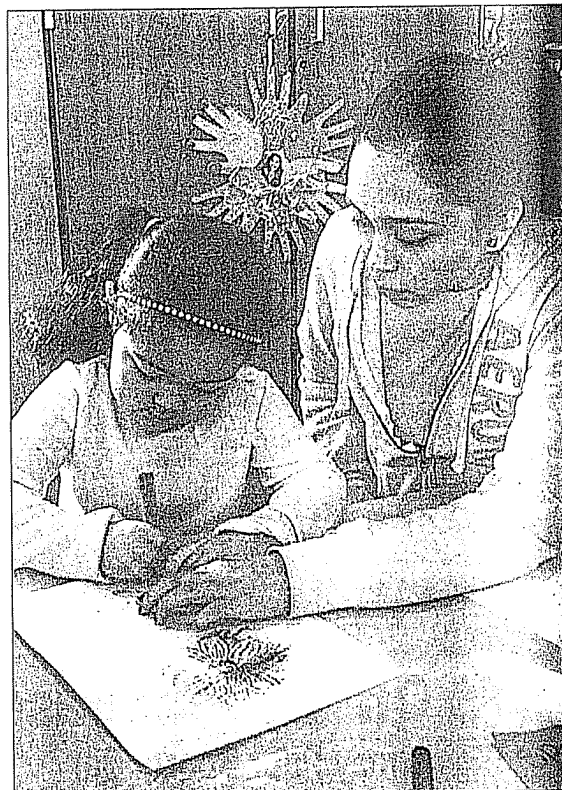
The event will take place from Jan. 27 to 31 and will help students learn about the various courses offered and how they relate to life.

"We hope this week helps students understand what they learn in our CTE classes will continue with them throughout their life," said Juliann Boudouris, CTE Department Chair. "We have a variety of activities scheduled where students can make connections from the real world to our

courses offered here at Addison Trail."

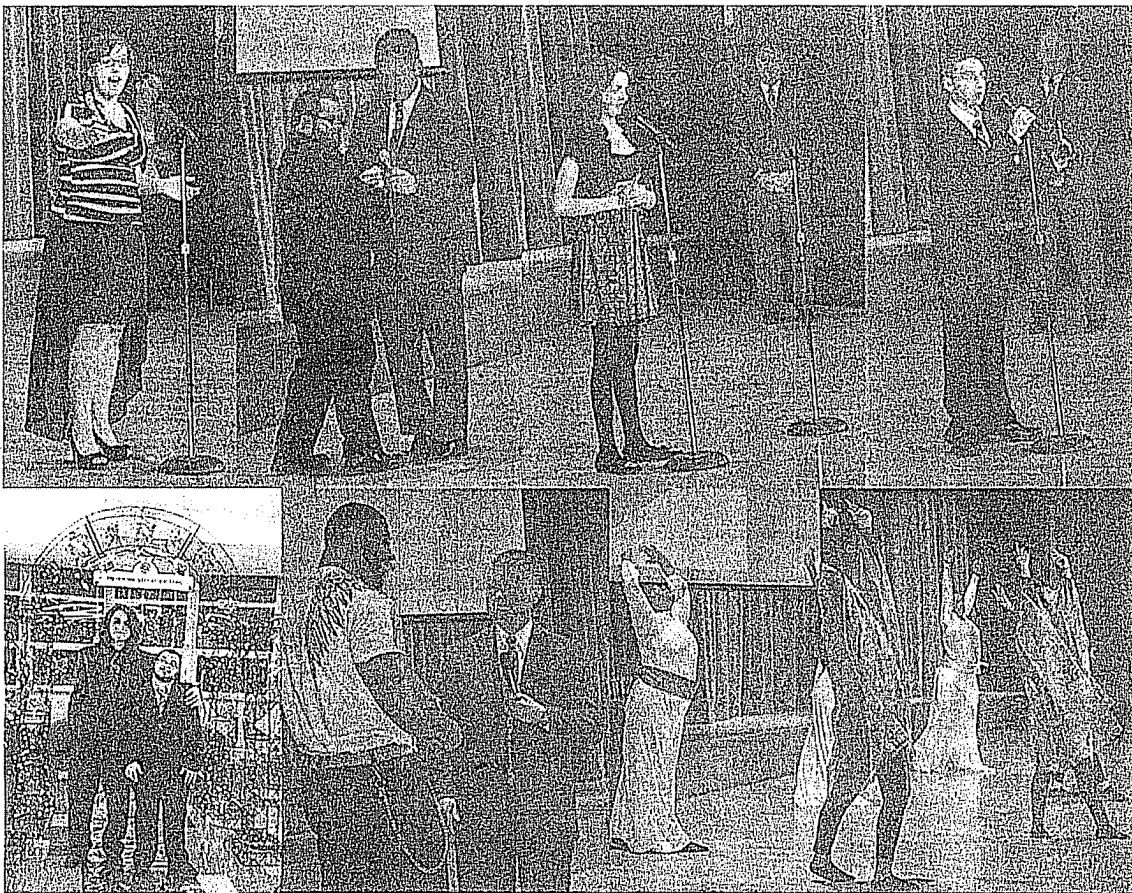
Along with activities, visual displays will be placed throughout the school, and student leaders from national organizations (including BPA, DECA, FCCLA and SkillsUSA) will lead the Pledge of Allegiance throughout the week. On Jan. 28, outstanding CTE students will be recognized during the AT's Best Breakfast.

For more information about CTE Week, contact Boudouris at jboudouris@dupage88.net or 630-458-4130.



Learning by helping others...

A youngster gets help from an AHS student during a Family and Consumer Education preschool class, part of Addison Trail's CTE Department. Addison Trail's annual CTE Week takes place Jan. 27-31.



Pictured receiving their awards are Willowbrook senior Addie Maggard (top row, left), District 88 Transition Program student Vinnie Nichols with Willowbrook Principal Dan Krause (top row, second from left), Willowbrook junior Courtney Lubbering (top row, third from left) and Addison Trail senior Anthony Corona (top row, right). In the bottom row, Willowbrook senior Alex Bardesi poses with Nichols on the "red carpet" (left), Principal Krause gives the Lifetime Achievement Award to the father of former Willowbrook student Darnell Holt in honor of Holt's inspiration and spirit of getting students involved (middle) and dancers perform in honor of Holt to provide entertainment during the event.

WBHS hosts red carpet event to honor students with special needs

VILLA PARK — On Jan. 17, the Willowbrook and Addison Trail students with special needs and their fellow classmates who performed in "High School Musical Jr." earlier this school year were recognized during the Willowbrook Academy Awards.

Back in August of 2013, students with special needs and their classmates brought the Disney classic to life on stage, and the Willowbrook Academy Awards was an opportunity to honor those students for their performance. During the awards show, the actors and actresses received Oscar-style mementos and posed for photos on the "red carpet." Students who were involved behind the scenes also were recognized.

The event was presented by Willowbrook and included an honor for former Willowbrook student Darnell Holt, who died tragically on Jan. 17, 2012. The show took place on that date to celebrate Holt's life, and he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his inspiration and spirit of getting students involved. The evening showcased entertainment and videos of students sharing fond memories of Holt.

"I'm so proud of these students for stepping on stage and performing in front of an audience, and I'm thrilled to be able to honor them for that accomplishment with this awards show," said Erik Engel, Willowbrook social worker and director of "High School Musical Jr."

Painter Max Sansing to show artworks at Elmhurst College 'Here We Go' exhibition part of annual Black History Month celebration

ELMHURST — Chicago native Max Sansing is a painter, muralist and graphic design artist whose bold, personal work has been displayed in art galleries and at special events in Chicago, New York and elsewhere.

Elmhurst College will host Sansing's "Here We Go" exhibition now through Saturday, March 1, as part of the College's celebration of Black History Month. A reception for Sansing will be held on Wednesday, February 19 from 4:30-6:30 in the Founder's Lounge of the Frick Center,

where the exhibition is on display.

Sansing was raised on Chicago's South Side, in the Avalon Park community. His parents were artists, and he came to love painting at an early age. Sansing taught himself oil painting and later completed his formal training at The American Academy of Art. He has expanded his talents into creating murals across Chicago and translating art into electronic media as a graphic design artist. He also is co-founder of RK Design, an art consulting group that specializes in mural and graphic design.

"Max Sansing is an exciting emerging artist who has a very interesting way of combining his graffiti art background and his training in academic painting," says Suellen Rocca, curator and director of

exhibits at Elmhurst College. "His portraits are bold, technically elegant and full of meaningful, personal content."

For more information, call (630) 617-3390.

The Black History Exhibition is one of about a dozen art shows that Elmhurst College hosts each academic year in two campus venues. In addition, the College's A.C. Buehler Library permanently houses the College's unparalleled collection of Chicago Imagist and Abstractionist Art, which explores the vibrant, often outrageous, yet precisely crafted works of Chicago artists between 1950 and the present. For more information, contact Rocca at (630) 617-6110 or srocca@elmhurst.edu.

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7 players have breakout basketball seasons

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

Several players from boys basketball teams in the area are making an impact on varsity for the first time.

From returning players seeing an increased role to varsity newcomers showing their skills, these seven boys basketball players are having breakout seasons for area teams.

Wes Ditchfield

School: Timothy Christian
Class: Senior

Position: Forward

Impact: Ditchfield isn't a big-time scorer for the Trojans, but is a solid all-around player. He leads in assists a game (2.2) despite playing as a forward and is second on the team in rebounds per game (4.5) and total blocks (five).

Ronald Duling

School: Addison Trail
Class: Senior

Position: Guard

Impact: Duling was the leading scorer on the Blazers' JV team a year ago and has made a smooth transition to a starting guard on varsity this year. He is averaging about 10 points, three rebounds and two assists per game. Duling has joined fellow senior James Pupillo to give AT one of the better guard pairings in the West Suburban Gold.

Rhashaun Epting

School: IC Catholic

Class: Sophomore

Position: Forward

Impact: Epting was an all-conference player last year, but the Knights were led by standout senior Demetrius Carr. This season Epting has taken over as the go-to player on the team and is averaging 20.1 points per game, more than double last season's average. Epting also leads the team with 8.4 rebounds per contest.

Mike Mooney

School: Montini

Class: Junior

Position: Forward

Impact: Matt Brachmann gets most of the attention and the stats for Montini, but fellow



Addison Trail's Ronald Duling gets control of a turnover in a Jan. 24 game against Morton. A JV team player last year, the senior is averaging nearly 10 points per game as a starter this season.

forward Mike Mooney has earned more and more playing time as the season has progressed and is becoming one of the more reliable players on the team.

Patrick Peterkin

School: Glenbard East

Class: Sophomore

Position: Forward

Impact: Jaron Hall is the Rams' big-time scorer, but Peterkin has shown excellent potential thanks to his size (6-foot-5) and his ability to shoot 3-pointers. Peterkin's scoring ability has been on display with some big games, including a 23-point outburst against Glenbard North on Dec. 20.

Chris Poole

School: Willowbrook

Class: Senior
Position: Guard

Impact: Poole wasn't much of a factor on the varsity team a year ago, but has stepped up to be second in the team in scoring this season at around 10 points per game. Poole is a quality outside shooter and shares ballhandling responsibilities for Willowbrook.

Stanley Roberts

School: York

Class: Senior

Position: Guard

Impact: Roberts was a bench player a year ago and has really stepped up as a senior. He is one of four players on the team to average more than eight points per game and is third on the team in assists, rebounds and steals.



Glenbard East's Patrick Peterkin gets control of a loose ball in a Jan. 18 game against Andrew at Downers Grove North's Winter Classic Shootout. The sophomore has become a solid contributor for the Rams this season.

Suburban Life ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**TAYLOR
WHITE**

Addison Trail
Junior | Basketball

Why White was selected:

White led Addison Trail in scoring in two West Suburban Gold wins over the weekend, including a game-winning layup against Morton.

Addison Trail junior forward Taylor White keyed a big weekend for the Blazers. His steal and layup in the final seconds against Morton gave AT an upset win against the Mustangs, the first in over 10 years, on Jan. 24. He led the Blazers with 14 points in that game and followed up with a team-high 18 points in a 77-57 win over District 88 rival Willowbrook on Saturday. White, the Oak Trust Credit Union Athlete of the Week, talked with Suburban Life sports reporter Dan Santaromita after the win against Morton.

What does the Morton win mean for your season?

This was one of the top

teams in the conference. It was really nice to get a win against them.

Was that game one of your better varsity games overall?

Yeah, it's probably one of my better games of the year. I made a couple mistakes, a couple turnovers I'd like to take back, but I like the result that we got.

Did the team's experience in close games this season help you down the stretch against the Mustangs?

It's happened so many times. We drill it all the time in practice situations like this. That definitely has a lot to do with it.

This Athlete of the Week is brought to you by



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PREP ROUNDUP

Addison Trail girls struggle versus Willowbrook

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

Meyers.

Addison Trail's girls basketball team lost 71-32 to District 88 rival Willowbrook on Saturday. Kelly Delawder scored 10 points in the loss.

BOYS BASKETBALL Glenbard East

The Rams dropped two games over the weekend, losing to Wheaton Warrenville South 53-48 on Jan. 24 and falling to Palatine 55-46 the next day. Jaron Hall led East with 23 points against the Tigers and scored a team-high 19 against Palatine. Patrick Peterkin added 11 points against the Pirates.

Montini

The Broncos fell to Downers Grove North 51-35 on Wednesday despite a game-high 14 points from Mike Mooney. They defeated Chicago Christian 51-42 on Jan. 24 with 14 points from Matt Brachmann and 12 each from Mike Delaplane and Mooney.

Willowbrook

After hanging tough with West Suburban Gold leader Proviso East in a 56-45 loss on Jan. 24, the Warriors struggled to compete against Addison Trail the next day. Willowbrook lost 77-57 to its District 88 rival despite 13 points each from Chris Poole and Carlos

GIRLS BASKETBALL Willowbrook

Willowbrook's girls basketball team is on the verge of clinching the West Suburban Gold title.

The Warriors defeated Proviso East 61-57 on Jan. 23. Sophomore Josie Zabran continues to make a big impact on the varsity team since being called up during the Wheaton North holiday tournament. She scored 17 points to lead Willowbrook. Olivia Domin (11 points) and Lauren Carroll (10 points) also scored in double figures. That win gave the Warriors a two-game lead in the Gold.

After defeating Addison Trail 71-32 on Saturday, the Warriors are one win away from clinching no worse than a share of the league. Zabran again led the team with 16 points. Molly Krawczykowski scored 13 points, Carrie McCann had 11 and Domin added 10.

Glenbard East

The Rams picked up a season sweep of Naperville Central by beating the Redhawks 61-43 on Saturday. Allison Hansen scored 23 points to lead East in the win. Brasia Solid added 17 points and Rachael Leifheit contributed 13.

WRESTLING Glenbard East

The Rams finished DuPage Valley Conference regular season duals with a 5-2 record after defeating Wheaton Warrenville South 42-28 on Jan. 24. East also went 2-1 in a quad at Crete-Monee on Saturday. The Rams defeated the hosts 49-24 and Joliet Catholic 54-24, but lost to Addison Trail 45-20. East will compete in the DVC tournament Saturday at Naperville Central.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS Addison Trail

The Blazers won at Riverside Brookfield 128.10-116.50 on Saturday.

BOYS BOWLING Glenbard East

Sophomore Andrew Stevens qualified for state with a 1,227 series at the St. Patrick sectional. State runs today through Saturday at St. Clair Bowl in O'Fallon.

BASEBALL Montini

Senior Austin Kline committed to play his college ball at Brunswick College in North Carolina. Last week he played with his MaxBat 18U travel team and they won the MLK Desert Classic tournament in Mesa, Ariz.

SPORTS

White scores winner

Taylor White's late bucket lifts Blazers to narrow win against Morton

By DAN SANTAROMITA
dsantaromita@shawmedia.com

ADDISON – Addison Trail's boys basketball team has had several close losses this season.

Taylor White played the role of hero for the Blazers in a narrow victory against Morton Jan. 24.

After James Pupillo missed a shot with about 12 seconds left and Morton grabbed the rebound, the junior picked off a pass and went the other way for a layup with 6.4 seconds left to give the Blazers a 61-59 lead that stuck for the win in a West Suburban Gold game.

"It feels really nice to be on the other side of a close game," White said.

Close games have had a tendency to go against AT so far, and it has lost four games at the buzzer this season. White's heroics helped the Blazers experience what life is like at the other end of the spectrum.

The decisive play was chaotic with the Blazers initially turned away on a shot moments before White came to the rescue with his steal.

"We wanted to hold the ball, but when I saw that they got it I figured who they would want to get the ball to [Weisner Perez]," White said of the crucial steal. "I saw him and I just went for it."

Morton's Greg Carter drove the length of the floor for a potential tying layup, but the ball rimmed out and the Mustangs couldn't get another shot off.

"We've had a lot of those go against us this year and to see that ball rim out at the end was as big of a relief as we've had," AT coach Brendan Lyons said.

Morton led by as many as 13 points in the first half and 11 in the third quarter, but every time the Mustangs extended the lead the Blazers fought back. AT took its first lead of the game with 3:09 left in the game on a Ronald Duling bas-



Addison Trail's Taylor White drives to the basket during a Jan. 24 game against Morton. White's basket with under 10 seconds left lifted the Blazers to victory after they trailed by double digits.

ket, and it was back and forth from there.

Riding high after the win over Morton, AT had an easier time the next day as it defeated District 88 rival Willowbrook 77-57. With the win over the Warriors, the Blazers improved to 9-11 overall and 4-2 in the Gold.

"We're definitely playing better," Lyons said. "We're believing and we're not getting rattled when things aren't going our way. Obviously guys have to make shots and guys have to make plays, but when you have six, seven seniors who have had a lot of experience, you expect that."

AT 61 Morton 59

AT LEADERS

- Taylor White: 14 points
- Joe Kurucar: 13 points
- James Pupillo: 12 points

AT 77 Willowbrook 57

AT LEADERS

- White: 18 points
- Ronald Duling: 14 points
- Pupillo: 10 points

Comment
Contact Sports Editor Jason Ros
jrossi@shawmedia.com or 630-427-62

Bill Ackerman - backerman@shawmedia.com

OPINIONS

■ LAST WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION: What is your most expensive bill each month?

73 PERCENT: Housing
15 PERCENT: Utilities
8 PERCENT: Food
4 PERCENT: Transportation

■ THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL QUESTION: Where will you watch the Super Bowl? Vote online at mysurbanlife.com.

Things you didn't know about DuPagePads

What's your New Year's resolution? At DuPagePads we are committed to our mission to end homelessness. Though, we have worked in the community for 28 years, many might not be aware of the seven facts listed below.

We have the comprehensive solution to end homelessness: The interim (overnight) housing sites are just one of the services we provide in our comprehensive solution to end homelessness. We also have a Client Service Center open weekdays, which provides basic needs, support groups and case management; an employment program which partners with 31 employers in the community; and a permanent supportive housing program with 76 apartments throughout the county.



COMMUNITY VOICE
Carol Simler

We serve our neighbors: Seventy one percent of the people we serve listed their last address in DuPage County.

We have seen a 44 percent increase in the number of children and 35 percent increase in families during the past two years: To accommodate these families, we provide a family outreach program for participants in temporary housing, staying with friends or in hotels. Case managers ensure these families stay linked to community resources and create a plan for permanent housing. Last year this program served 199 individuals; 64 percent are now in stable housing, including 44 adults and 84 children.

Our greatest need for volunteers is in the spring and summer: As the seasons change, our interim (overnight) housing sites change as well. With these shifts and volunteers' vacations, we always need additional volunteers.

We have a new respite program: This short-term residential program allows individuals who are homeless to have the opportunity to rest after being discharged from a hospital, while providing access to medical care, support services and options for housing. The respite program has served 44 individuals and 45 percent are now in stable housing.

Our new online volunteer training launched this month: This training was made possible by a grant from the Spirit of Volunteerism Fund of The DuPage Community Foundation. Volunteers are able to access a web-based training on topics such as crisis intervention, risk management and volunteer responsibilities.

On March 6, we will be hosting our Eighth annual Taste of Hope: The Taste of Hope offers guests the experience to dine at 25 restaurants in one evening. Leading area restaurants will serve their signature dish with wine pairings, auctions, raffles and more! Learn more at www.dupagepads.org/events.

We need your support and hope to partner with you.

Carol Simler is the executive director of DuPagePads.



Lorae Mundt for Shaw Media

Mike Santiemmo, of Addison, and his son, Mikey Jr., 5, hit a bump while sledding Jan. 19 during the Addison Park District's second annual WinterFEST at Community Park.



Kids and adults alike appeared to enjoy the thrills and chills at WinterFEST on Jan. 19 at Community Park in Addison. Families hit the slopes for sledding and warmed up next to a fire while roasting marshmallows. The fest also featured snow volleyball and a family snowman-building contest. Inside, residents decorated cookies and children got their faces painted. Sounds like fun.



Congratulations to the Addison Trail Special Olympics basketball team, which recently captured third-place honors in Division 4 at the 2014 Special Olympics District C Basketball Tournament.

Write to us

We want to hear from you. Letters must be no more than 300 words. They must include your first and last name, town and a phone number for verification. We may edit them for clarity, accuracy and style. Email letters to letters@mysurbanlife.com. The deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday for the following week's paper.

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
First Amendment, U.S. Bill of Rights

AT winter musical to open next week

SUBURBAN LIFE MEDIA

ADDISON – Students from Addison Trail High School will perform in the winter musical, "Once on This Island," next week.

"Once on This Island" tells the story of Ti Moune, a peasant girl who rescues and falls in love with Daniel, a wealthy boy from the other side of her island. After Daniel is returned to his people, the four gods who rule the island guide Ti Moune on a quest to test the strength of her love against the powerful forces of prejudice, hatred and death, according to a

District 88 news release.

This will be the first time Addison Trail will perform "Once on This Island." The musical is family friendly, and many people believe it's based on Hans Christian Andersen's original version of the classic fairy tale "The Little Mermaid," stated the release.

Under the direction of Anna Jakubka Court, senior Addison Trail plays Ti Moune and junior Jerold Macaya plays Daniel. The four gods of the island are played by seniors Francesco Bondi, Kala Keller, Anthony Pham and Nicole Levonyak.



Cast members rehearse a scene from Addison Trail High School's upcoming winter musical, "Once on This Island." Photo provided

If you go

What: "Once on This Island"

When: 7 p.m. Feb. 6, 7 and 8 (also a 2 p.m. performance Feb. 8)

Where: Addison Trail, 213 N. Lombard Road

Tickets: \$7 for adults, \$5 for students, \$3 with an activity pass and are free with a District 88 Senior Gold Card. To buy tickets, call 630-628-3365

Dinner: The Addison Trail Teacher-Parent Organization (TPO) Spaghetti Dinner will take place between the two performances Feb. 8. The dinner will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Mayslake Village

1801.35th Street, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 (630) 850-8232

ANNOUNCING

AN OPEN APPLICATION SESSION FOR ANNEX II, MANOR, VILLAS & WINGS II

Tuesday, February 11, 2014
at

THE OAK BROOK HILLS RESORT HOTEL
Midwest Road & Thirty Fifth St., Oak Brook, IL
(Marquis Tent at Golf Course Entrance)

THE SESSION WILL START AT 9:00AM AND CLOSE AT 12:00 NOON

APPLICANTS MUST APPLY IN-PERSON AT THE SESSION

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

- Age: 62 years old, or older (at least one spouse of a married couple)
- Income Limits:
 - Annex II, Manor, Wings II: 1 occupant \$25,350; 2 occupants \$29,000
 - Villas: 1 occupant \$40,550; 2 occupants \$46,350
- Acceptable non-criminal background

RENTS:

- Annex II & Wings II: 30% of Income; a \$41 electric allowance is provided
- Manor: 30% of Income, all utilities included
- Villas: \$656 to \$786, all utilities included

Location of Buildings: Mayslake Village campus on 35th St, one mile east of Midwest Road. Interested persons are encouraged to visit the campus before the application day (self tours only).

Independent Living Housing: Mayslake Village offers affordable housing for independent seniors. No assisted living or nursing services are provided by staff.



Mayslake Village was founded by the Franciscans. Mayslake Village is operated in accordance with U.S. Fair Housing policies and procedures, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, handicap, religion or national origin.



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Willowbrook junior performs in Illinois High School Theatre Festival

VILLA PARK — On Jan. 9, Willowbrook junior Jack Corkery added a new line to his résumé when he took the stage as Grampa Joad in the Illinois High School Theatre Festival production of "The Grapes of Wrath" at Illinois State University.

"It was a great experience," Corkery said. "I got to meet a lot of amazing people and perform in a fantastic show."

Theatre Director Terri Woebel said Corkery did a phenomenal job — and even stole the show at one point, when the crowd of about 2,000 people applauded as he left the stage.

"He made wonderful choices as an actor, and we are so proud of his accomplishments," said Woebel and Theatre Director Regina Wathier.

Produced by the Illinois Theatre Association, the theatre festival is the largest and oldest non-competitive high school theatre festival in the world. For more information, go to illinoistheatrefest.org. For more about Corkery, including a complete list of his performances, visit jackcorkery.com



photo provided
Pictured is Willowbrook junior Jack Corkery, who took the stage on January 9 as Grampa Joad in the Illinois High School Theatre Festival production of "The Grapes of Wrath."

'Tee Time' fundraisers coming to the Villa Park library

VILLA PARK — Creating an early literacy program for young children is no small task, but the Villa Park Public Library is rising to the challenge by planning a "mini" fundraiser.

Mini-golf, that is.

The third annual Tee Time @ the Library will be held Sunday, March 2, 2014, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. during which time the Library will be dramatically transformed into an 18-hole miniature golf course.

For the event to succeed, sponsors are needed. Various levels of sponsorship are available. In addition to having their business names showcased at the event, all sponsors will be named in future publicity as

well as the Library newsletter and website. For as little as \$100, a business can aid this worthy cause.

Funds raised will be used to create a lively and stimulating space for the Library's youngest. Research shows that when children are read to daily, their brains have a greater capacity for literacy skills. The fundraiser's goal is to make the children's area "the destination for parents and their children," said Library Director Sandra Hill. "The enhanced area will offer children a place to stimulate their brains while having fun with their parents."

For more information, call Sandra Hill at (630) 834-1164, ext. 111.

VILLA PARK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, January 30

St. Alexander School open house

St. Alexander School is hosting an Open House so potential students can come and see what the school has to offer. Info: 630-834-3787 or email at stasecretary@gmail.com.

Friday, January 31

Food Wars Challenge for Charity

In conjunction with National Catholic Schools Week, St. Pius X Parish School in Lombard will be hosting the Food Wars Challenge for Charity. The event will be held in the school's Social Center at 601 S. Westmore Ave. Info: (630) 627-2353.

Saturday, February 1

Villa Park Warriors Youth

Football and Cheer registration

From 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., early registration for Warriors Youth Football and Cheer will take place. New for 2014 will be flag football for 5- and 6-year-olds. Players must be present at registration. New registrants need two copies of their birth certificate. Fee: registration is \$200 (\$100 for flag football); \$25 secures a spot on the team with discounts for siblings. Info: visit vpwarriors.org or call Jim Taylor at (630) 542-8452.

Tuesday, February 4

Add, VP libraries present mystery novelist

At 7 p.m., Edgar-nominated mystery novelist Bryan Gruley will speak on "De-Mystifying Mysteries" at the Villa Park Public Library, co-sponsored by the Addison Public Library. The free program is one in a series of seminars featuring Chicago-area authors named Inside Writing & Publishing. Info: vppl.info or (630) 834-1164.

Thursday, February 6

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., the Villa Park Chamber of Commerce will hold its Installation and Member Recognition dinner at the Villa Park VFW Post #2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road. Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 6, program at 7 p.m. For tickets, which are \$35 each, RSVP to the Chamber office, 10 W.

Park in Villa Park by February 1 or call (630) 941-9133.

Saturday, February 8

From 7-9 p.m. at Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center, 3609 Spring Road, Oak Brook, The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County invites adults-only couples to experience an evening under the stars during the "Romantic Night Hike." Cost: \$10 per couple and advanced registration is required. Info: call (630) 850-8110.

Monday, February 10

At 7 p.m., Illinois State Rep. James Durkin, Republican leader of the Illinois House of Representatives, will speak as part of Elmhurst College's Fixing Illinois lecture series. The lecture will be held in the Founders Lounge of the Frick Center (elmhurst.edu/campusmap). Cost: Free and open to the public. Info: call (630) 617-3390.

Wednesday, February 12

At 4 p.m., Shaun Harper, who studies racial inequities in higher education, will give the MLK Intercultural Lecture at Elmhurst College's Founders Lounge of the Frick Center (elmhurst.edu/campusmap). Cost: Tickets are \$10 for the general public and free for Elmhurst College students, faculty, staff and alumni. Info: visit elmhurst.edu/tix, or call (630) 617-3390.

Saturday, February 15

Villa Park Warriors Youth Football and Cheer registration

From 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Willowbrook High School, 1250 S. Ardmore Ave., early registration for Warriors Youth Football and Cheer will take place. New for 2014 will be flag football for 5- and 6-year-olds. Players must be present at registration. New registrants need two copies of their birth certificate. Fee: registration is \$200 (\$100 for flag football); \$25 secures a spot on the team with discounts for siblings. Info: visit vpwarriors.org or call Jim Taylor at (630) 542-8452.

Saturday, February 22

St. Alexander's "Knight in Paradise" dinner dance

From 6 p.m.-midnight, St. Alexan-

der School will host its annual dinner dance and auction at the Diplomat West to honor former Attorney General Jim Ryan, a St. Alexander alumnus. Tickets are \$75 and include dinner, dancing and open bar. For tickets and information, contact 630-834-3787 or stasecretary@gmail.com

Thursday, February 27

Multi-chamber luncheon

Starting with registration and networking at 11 a.m., the multi-chamber luncheon meeting, sponsored by the Addison Chamber of Commerce & Industry in conjunction with Bensenville, Glendale Heights, Villa Park and other neighboring chambers, will be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 1685 W. Lake St. Lunch will be served at 11:30, followed by a presentation by Dan Gartlan, president of Lombard-based Stevens & Tate Marketing. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, Feb. 19. Cost: \$25 per person for chamber members, \$30 per person for non-members. Info: go online to addisonchamber.org or call (630) 543-4355.

Friday, February 28

Five Star Business and Health Expo

From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Medinah Shrine Center, 550 Shriners Drive, Addison, the chamber of commerce from Addison, Bartlett, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream and Glendale Heights invites the public to participate in the 2014 Five Star Business and Health Expo. To register as a sponsor or an exhibitor, go online to: carolstreamchamber.com where there are registration forms available. To register as a food vendor, call Sharon at the Glendale Heights Chamber of Commerce at (630) 539-8399. Info: call the Addison Chamber of Commerce at (630) 543-4300.

Ongoing events...

Early childhood classes

From mid-January into March, the Park District is offering a variety of classes for toddlers and preschoolers to keep them busy this winter at the Iowa Community Center, 228 N. Iowa Ave. Toddlers ages 18-36 months with

a parent can choose from these classes: Exploring Toddler, Color Wheel, Alphabet Art, Little Chefs and Little Scientists. Costs: Varies from class to class. Info: Call (630) 834-8525 or visit vprrd.org.

Your Place for Seniors

On Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Tuesday's hours are 1-2:30 p.m.) except for the second Thursday of the month at the Villa Park Parks and Recreation Department's Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood Ave., area seniors are invited to stop in at Your Place. Join in a game of Pinochle, bridge, canasta, a board game or whatever game is being played the day you stop in to socialize. Info: call (630) 834-8525.

VPRD's Reader's Theater Group

If you love to socialize and would like the chance to perform without having to memorize scripts or lyrics you will want to join the Readers' Theatre Group. The group meets for rehearsal each Monday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Community Recreation Building, 320 E. Wildwood. Free; no registration required. Info: Jenny Casale at 630-834-8525.

VFW Bingo

The Villa Park VFW hosts Bingo every Tuesday from 5:30-10 p.m.

St. James Farm Forest Preserve

Throughout the winter, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County invites visitors to explore St. James Farm Forest Preserve in Warrenville. Over three miles of trails lead visitors on foot, bicycle, snowshoe, cross-country ski and horseback through this 612-acre forest preserve, which also features a pond with largemouth bass, bluegills and catfish for catch-and-release fishing.

Clubs and organizations are welcome to send entries for this column to: Questioning@aol.com. Please include a phone number or e-mail address to contact for information.

VILLA PARK INDEPENDENT

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VOLUME 10, NUMBER 5

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TAKE ONE JAN 30, 2002

Free File Alliance offers free brand-name software for tax season

Local tax attorney confirms program, but warns 'Buyer Beware'

By Dee Longfellow
For The Independent

Last week, the Independent received a release from the media office of the Internal Revenue Service, claiming Illinois taxpayers who made \$58,000 or less could use brand-name tax software to prepare their federal tax return -- for free.

To double-check the program's claims, The Independent spoke with Patrick Sheehan, owner and managing attorney of Patrick Sheehan & Associates, a firm which has helped clients with IRS issues for more than 20 years.

According to Sheehan, the program is an alliance that was formed back in 2002 as a public-private partnership between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, a non-profit organization group of 14 tax software companies.

"It's really an interesting alliance between government and private industry," Sheehan told the Independent in an exclusive interview. "This coalition was formed because the IRS didn't want to get into the software business and software companies wanted to avoid regulation."

"The reason for the alliance was that free offerings were not consistently available. Some charged for preparation, some offered free services, but charged for transmittal to the

IRS. This alliance program makes it more streamlined or uniform for anyone who is eligible."

To be eligible, you have to have made less than \$58,000 AGI (adjusted gross income) and you have to meet the criteria set up by each of the 14

members of the Free File Alliance. Sheehan warned that taxpayers should be aware that each company sets up its own criteria.

"Some have state limitations, some have age limitations, some want active military or earned income credits," he

said. "Each of the 14 companies say, 'if you want to do it free through us, this is what you have to do.'"

At the web site, IRS.gov, there is a list of the tax return alliance companies and the criteria. If you need help, there is a "Help Me Find Free File

Software" tool at the site.

"[The program] goes back to 2002 when the first public private partnership agreement was formed between Free File Alliance and the IRS," Sheehan said. "It's been extended twice

See SOFTWARE, Page 32



courtesy photo

WBHS Battle of the Bands winner is "Game Changer"

Pictured is the band Game Changer, winner of the Willowbrook High School's Battle of the Bands competition on January 16. Pictured are (from left); WBHS alum Nick Collis on bass, WBHS alum Jake Newling on drums, Josh Payne on vocals and WBHS senior Logan Lundgren on guitar. Other competing bands were The Bird Watchers, PSK-13, Community Clay, Game Changer, On Sight, Seize the Day, The Slimz (aka RI), Main Street.Cruzers and Aiming for Average. The event raised \$300 to benefit Feed My Starving Children's Philippines relief effort.

INSIDER

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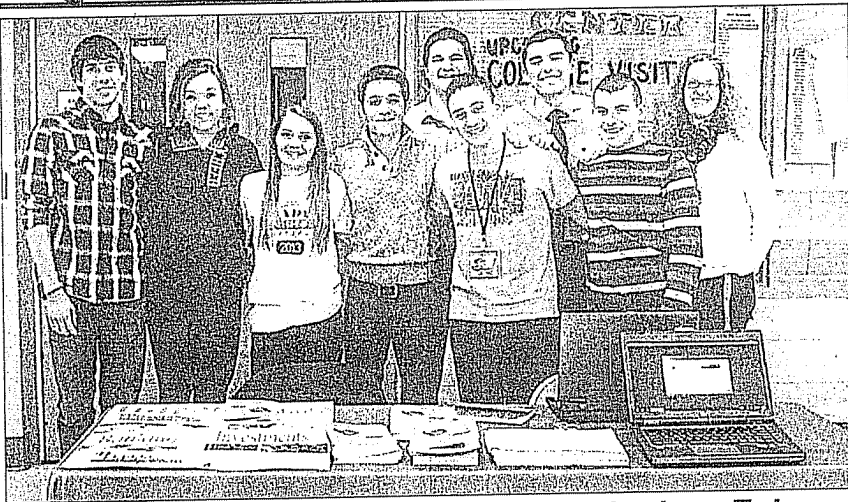
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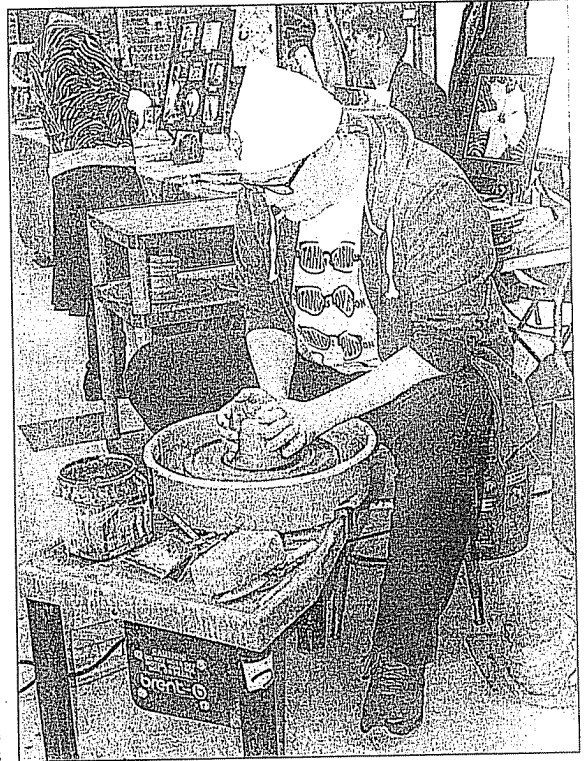
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Student volunteers take part in Curriculum Fair

Pictured are (front row, from left) Willowbrook senior Joe Tiberi, senior Sarah Dan, junior Cheyenne Brunig, senior Ricky Ayala, senior Robert Martinez, junior Matthew D'Alessandro, (back row, from left) senior Michael Lev, senior Mike Schmidt and CTE Department Chair Mary Barney as they staff the CTE Department's booth during Willowbrook's annual Curriculum Showcase on Jan. 23.



photos provided

Pottery just one medium at Curriculum Showcase

Willowbrook senior Jackson Holler works on a piece of art during Willowbrook's annual Curriculum Showcase on Jan. 23.

Willowbrook hosts annual Curriculum Showcase

VILLA PARK — On Jan. 23, Willowbrook hosted its annual Curriculum Showcase to provide parents/guardians and students with information about the academics, clubs, activities and sports at the school.

Participants were welcomed by administration, given a tour of the building and were able to visit booths with information about Willowbrook. About 325 families were represented throughout the event.

"Despite the extreme cold temperatures, the building was filled with warmth," said Willowbrook Assistant Principal Tom Cantlin. "It's very exciting to see our future students come out and start planning for their four years as a Willowbrook Warrior."

Learn languages from around the world with Mango Premiere

VILLA PARK — Now patrons may learn languages from around the world using feature films through the Villa Park Public Library.

Featuring 16 free movies in a variety of languages, Mango, a digital resource at Villa Park Public Library, allows library patrons to learn a new language at their own pace, in their own place.

For more information, visit the library's web site at www.vppl.info or call the Adult Services Department at (630) 834-1164.

The system is completely web-based and remotely accessible, so patrons can access it anywhere they get online—at home, in the library, from a café—wherever. All they need is their library card number. Mango also provides an app for on-the-go learning.

Mango uses common, everyday conversations as the basis of each lesson, so users are able to start using and appreciating what they learn right away. If the user creates a login, he or she may return to continue the lesson at his or her own pace. The program includes four key language components: vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar and culture. With a variety of interactive tools and a rich visual interface, Mango makes the learning process exciting.

Movies are available in the following languages: Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, English for Spanish Speakers, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish (Latin America).

Fifteen from WBHS BPA to compete at State

VILLA PARK — Fifteen members of the Willowbrook Business Professionals of America (BPA) team have qualified for the State competition, which will take place Feb. 27-through March 1 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Chicago in Oak Brook.

They are junior Michael Rogalski, junior Tyler Rusnak, junior Alex Aguilera, junior Kristian Johansen, junior Avery Kirchner, senior Ryan Barrie, senior Shaun Hurdelbrink, senior Shannon Strum, junior Abdulaziz Ahmed, freshman Mustafa Ali, junior Atif Siddiqui, junior Saad Ahmed, junior Sauban Farooqui, junior Ali Syed and senior Tom Waters.



photo provided

Three WB students participate in ILMEA state conference

Pictured are (from left) Willowbrook senior Jeremy Harris, junior Alex Lapinski and junior Matt Buhr who participated in the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) state conference in Peoria on Jan. 22-25. Lapinski was named to the All-State Honors Choir, Harris to the All-State Choir, and Buhr to the All-State Honors Orchestra.