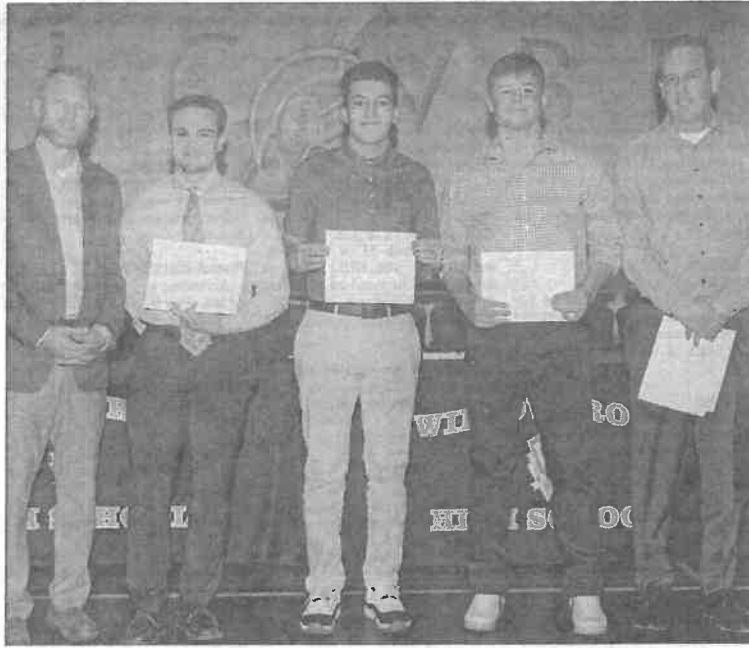




CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Warrior awarded Pizzotti Family Scholarship

Willowbrook High School's Athletic Booster Club presented its Senior Athletic Banquet near the end of the 2021-22 school year. The event featured the presentation of several awards and scholarships to student-athletes in the school's Class of 2022. The honored Warriors included Katie Linnig, who received the Pizzotti Family Scholarship. Jill Pizzotti, who graduated from Willowbrook in 1984, joined two of her nieces—fellow Willowbrook graduates Allie Pawlak (Class of 2015) and Olivia Domin (Class of 2014)—to present the scholarship to Linnig. Pictured left to right are Pawlak, Linnig, Domin and Pizzotti. Speaking at the banquet, Pizzotti noted that she has two older sisters and four nieces (including Pawlak and Domin) who graduated from Willowbrook. She said her family presents the annual scholarship to give thanks to the Willowbrook coaches and teachers for the positive impact they made in her family members' lives. Pizzotti added that her family wants to pass forward the love and support they received at Willowbrook to a senior student-athlete. Linnig was a key member of the Warriors' girls volleyball team that enjoyed a record-setting season in the fall of 2021. In addition to winning the West Suburban Gold Conference championship, the Warriors won the program's first IHSA regional and sectional titles. The team, which posted an overall record of 37-2, concluded its memorable season with a loss to Mother McAuley in an IHSA Class 4A super-sectional. Linnig will continue her academic and volleyball careers at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Senior achievers

The honorees at Willowbrook High School's Senior Athletic Banquet included the senior members of the school's boys soccer team. Pictured left to right are: assistant coach Ryan Bazon; Alexander Kuban, Adrian Gonzalez, Riley Johnson and head coach Dan Riskind. The team's highlights during the fall 2021 season included winning a championship in its level at the PepsiCo Showdown. Johnson and junior Ricardo Acosta were named to the West Suburban Gold Conference's All-Conference Team. Kuban and Johnson earned Academic All-Conference honors. The Willowbrook Senior Athletic Booster Club presented the Senior Athletic Banquet near the end of the 2021-22 school year.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Standout seniors

Willowbrook High School's Athletic Booster Club honored the student-athletes in the school's Class of 2022 at the Senior Athletic Banquet. The banquet took place at the school near the end of the 2021-22 school year. The honored Warriors included the senior members of Willowbrook's girls tennis team. Pictured left to right are: Mackenzie Parente, Brooke Vandergriff, Caitlyn Kulczynski, Gillian Enriquez, Rebecca Lopez

Egan, Penelope DelValle, Naba Khan, Anaelle Cavazos, Misbah Kaludi and head coach Eddie DeLaCruz. The Warriors finished third in the West Suburban Gold Conference standings during the 2021 fall season. Every player on Willowbrook's varsity team medaled at the conference tournament. The team posted an overall record of 29-13 during the season.



What a loss to our community! Pioneer Garden and Feed on Villa Avenue in Villa Park has been a staple for home gardeners for many years. We will all miss it very much.

Since declaring one's personal pronouns seems to be all the rage these days, should we ask our pet dog or cat if they want to declare their personal pronouns? One bark or meow if they want to use he/him pronouns. Two barks or two meows for she/her, and three barks or meows for they/them.

I think the Jan. 6 Committee is do-

World War II veteran turns 100 this Saturday

Well-wishers can send him birthday cards and letters; they can also take part in a drive-by parade in Villa Park

Villa Park's Edward Bye, who served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II, turns 100 years old this Saturday, Aug. 13.

His family is asking people to send him a birthday card or letter. Anyone who wants to wish Bye a happy birthday can send their cards or letters to: Edward Bye, 234 E. Harrison Street, Villa Park, IL 60181.

There will be a drive-by parade to celebrate Bye's birthday this Saturday. The parade will start at 1 p.m. Well-wishers can line up near Albright Middle School (at Harrison Street and Villa Avenue). The parade procession will head west on Harrison for a couple of blocks to the Bye residence.

The celebration will include signs, balloons, music and more. The Bye family will be handing out treats to parade participants.

ing a great job laying out the case to indict Trump. Nothing would make me happier than to see Trump go to prison.

In response to the person who stated in Speak Out on July 28 that batteries for electric cars cost thousands of dollars to replace when they no longer hold a charge, it is true that they will. However, you apparently overlook the fact that batteries in electric cars last for several hundreds of thousands of miles. When batteries can no longer be used to power a car, they are still viable for other uses. (Source for this information is in Consumer Reports, Feb. 23, 2022.) The majority of folks who own electric cars will not face having to replace the batteries. My advice to you is: Don't hold your breath waiting to laugh at people who are trying to help our environment. By the way, you also benefit in the form of cleaner air from other people's electric car ownership.

About 0.25 percent of the registered vehicles in Illinois are electric

vehicles. Why aren't more people buying electric vehicles? I mean, according to "climate change" zealots, we are facing an existential threat, and our planet could soon be unlivable if we drive vehicles that run on gas. Maybe electric vehicles aren't selling that well because they are expensive. On top of that, it takes several hours, if not days, to fully recharge them. Also, cold weather has a major effect on an electric vehicle's range. Additionally, electric vehicles are more prone to fires than cars that run on gasoline. And fires in electric vehicles aren't typical fires—they are very hard to put out.

I bet if Trump or another Republican was president, the regressive leftists and their lapdogs in the media wouldn't be trying to rewrite the definition of a recession.

If COVID-19 can't derail a feeble 79-year-old with multiple health problems, why should we be overly concerned about it? Why does Pritzker keep extending the so-called "emergency" in our state?

If you are voting off of what you see and hear in TV and radio ads, you should have your head examined. Do you realize Pritzker spent millions on ads against Irvin? That was not Republican against Republican. Look at what the Democrats did in Michigan to Rep. Pete Meijer. They ran ads against him so they could get the opponent they wanted. There is so much meddling in elections today; do some independent research before voting on some ad or commercial. This country is headed in wrong direction and we need better, or at very least, new politicians in November.

I noticed JB Pritzker and Lori Lightfoot are pulling out all the stops to have the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 2024. The Democrats would feel right at home if the convention was held in Chicago. Most of the cities they run are already used to high crime rates, paying high taxes on hotels and entertainment and seeing boarded up buildings.

Pritzker has declared monkeypox a public health emergency, and now so has Biden. Can we declare both of them public nuisances?

If you are getting your voting information from mainstream media, you are part of the problem. You are being lied to, people. There is an agenda and it's not yours.

For those of you who border on socialism and the radical left, I recently read a quote from an unknown source that makes sense, since you seem intent on taking and distributing my money however you want—what little I have of it left after taxes in this state. To paraphrase, it states that wealth must be created to be shared. In other words, capitalism has its place in our society, and should not be shot down.

I happened to save a gas station receipt from Biden's first day in office—Jan. 20, 2021. I paid \$2.55 per gallon at a station on Roosevelt Road. How ridiculous that Biden and his administration are patting themselves on the back now that gas prices have dropped in the last month. Hello! Yes, the prices have gone down, but it's still not exactly something to celebrate.

Seeing the kangaroo on Democrats have created in V ton, D.C., I have come to the conclusion that the modern Democratic Party is much closer to the Communist Party than any former political party in the States.

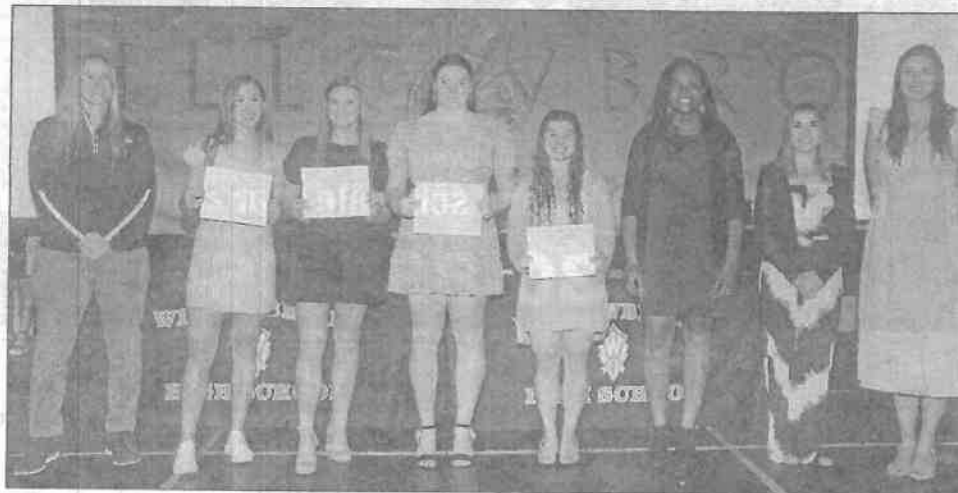
It is absolutely amazing how people are falling for this from the current administration. Things are just fine. Gas, prices, etc. The Senate voted \$40 billion to Ukraine yet the bill worth \$48 billion to help grants and small businesses: current administration cares about you or your hardship, it's the what's-in-it-for-me administration.

Our president and our who are "fully vaccinated" COVID-19, both tested positive for the virus. One is old. The other is obese. They are both fine. I believe the area's school districts don't have any senseless masking or "vaccines" policies for the upcoming school year.

Not long ago, we were the oil producer in the world. But now our oil is crushed.

A guy kept hitting himself head with a hammer. When why he's doing that he said, "so good when I stop." Sounds like a politician in Washington.

Ask yourself: Why is it that all Democrats want to push abortion on innocent babies? Yet they oppose the death penalty for criminals that have done brutal things to innocent people. It's not common sense.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Press

Senior leaders

The members of Willowbrook High School's Class of 2022 who were honored at the school's Senior Athletic Banquet included seniors on the Willowbrook girls volleyball team. The Warriors won the West Suburban Gold Conference title with a perfect 6-0 record during the fall 2021 season. Willowbrook went on to win IHSA Class 4A regional and sectional titles before losing to Mother McAuley super-sectional match. The Warriors' girls volleyball program had never won a regional or sectional championship before the 2021 season. Willowbrook finished the season with a 37-2 record. All of the school's senior student-athletes received certificates at the athletic banquet. Pictured left to right are: assistant coach Rachel Karos, Katie Linnig, Elizabeth Bruschk, Kyla Ostrowski, Madiynn Hoffman, head coach Irene Mason, assistant coach Hannah Walsh and assistant coach Katherine Milling. Later in the banquet, the Willowbrook girls volleyball team was recognized as the school's Team of the Year for the 2021-22 school year.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Pre-season practice

The Willowbrook football team is preparing for the upcoming 2022 season, which begins with a non-conference home game against Notre Dame College Prep School of Niles on Friday, Aug. 26. One photo (right) from one of last week's practices shows senior Joey Tumilty fielding a punt. The Warriors posted an overall record of 8-4 last season. Willowbrook won the West Suburban Gold Conference title with a perfect 6-0 record. The Warriors opened the IHSA Class 7A playoffs with a pair of wins. Willowbrook's season ended with a home loss to Wheaton North in the quarterfinal round of the playoffs. After opening their 2022 season with non-conference home games against Notre Dame and Downers Grove North (on Sept. 2), the Warriors will kick off their conference season with a battle at Proviso East on Sept. 9.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's Team of the Year

Several student-athletes in Willowbrook High School's Class of 2022 were honored during the school's Senior Athletic Banquet in May. The Warriors' girls volleyball team was recognized as the school's Team of the Year for the 2021-22 school year. The team enjoyed a historic season in the fall of 2021. Willowbrook won the West Suburban Gold Conference championship with a perfect 6-0 conference record. The Warriors proceeded to win the first regional and sectional championships in program history. Willowbrook won an IHSA Class 4A regional title on its home court. The Warriors then won a Class 4A sectional title at Bartlett High School; they beat Wheaton Warrenville South in a three-game thriller in the sectional final. Willowbrook's season ended with a loss to Mother McAuley in a super-sectional. The Warriors posted a 37-2 record during the 2021 season. Pictured left to right at the banquet are: Eliza Ramey, Kerl Ostrowski, Hannah Kenny, Katie Linnig, Grace Conley, head coach Irene Mason, Elizabeth Bruschk, Calli Kenny, Lily Lowe, Kyla Ostrowski and Madlynn Hoffman. Linnig, Bruschk, Kyla Ostrowski and Hoffman graduated from Willowbrook in May. Mason was honored as Willowbrook's Head Coach of the Year at the banquet, which was presented by the Willowbrook Athletic Booster Club. The Warriors' girls volleyball team will begin its 2022 season with a home match against Bartlett on Monday, Aug. 22.

Award-winning Warrior

Willowbrook High School's Athletic Booster Club held its Senior Athletic Banquet near the end of the 2021-22 school year. The booster club honored several student-athletes in Willowbrook's Class of 2022 during the banquet. The honored Warriors included Nick Mabutas, who received the John A. Fischer Most Valuable Male Athlete Award. Willowbrook athletic director Brandon Murphy noted during the banquet that the winner of the award was determined



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

through a vote of the school's athletic coaches. The award is named in honor of Willowbrook's first athletic director. Mabutas was a standout member of the Warriors' football and wrestling teams. A wide receiver and defensive back on the football team, Mabutas was named to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association (IHSFCA) Class 7A All-State Team for the 2021 season. He helped the Warriors to the West Suburban Gold Conference championship and a berth in the IHSA Class 7A playoffs. Willowbrook won a pair of post-season games to advance to the Class 7A quarterfinals. The Warriors finished the 2021 football season with an overall record of 8-4. Mabutas won an IHSA Class 3A individual regional championship in the 170-pound weight class during the 2021-22 wrestling season. He then secured a third-place finish in a sectional to qualify for the IHSA Class 3A individual state meet, which took place in Champaign in February. Mabutas won one match at the state meet and completed the season with an overall record of 33-7. Mabutas will continue his academic and athletic careers at the University of St. Francis in Joliet. He will play for the Fighting Saints' football team.



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Recognized for a superb season

Willowbrook High School's Athletic Booster Club recognized the senior members of each of the Warriors' 2021-22 athletic teams during this year's Senior Athletic Banquet. The honored seniors included the members of the girls gymnastics team. The Warriors enjoyed an excellent 2021-22 season. They went 4-1 in West Suburban Gold Conference dual meets and placed second in the conference meet. Willowbrook, which turned in an overall dual-meet record of 6-2 during the season, earned a season-high team score of 138.95 during its dual-meet victory over conference rival Addison Trail on Jan. 20. The Warriors claimed a second-place finish at the Glenbard West Regional and earned the program's first team berth in a sectional since 1993. Pictured left to right at the banquet are: head coach Andy Isaacson, assistant coach B.J. Macias, Irene Gonzalez Etayo, Tess Placek, Bella Naumovsky and assistant coach Caitlyn Owen. Naumovsky, Placek and Junior Sarah Ball were named to the West Suburban Gold Conference's All-Conference Team. Gonzalez Etayo, Naumovsky and Placek earned Academic All-Conference recognition. Naumovsky, who was named the team's MVP (Most Valuable Player), earned individual state-meet berths in three events—the uneven bars, the balance beam and the vault. She also qualified for the state meet's all-around competition.