

Villa Park REVIEW

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THURSDAY, OCT. 27, 2022

Villa Park's fire chief turns the page

Rakosnik retires after 10 years as village's fire chief; Willowbrook High School graduate's professional firefighting career spans 40 years

STAFF REPORT

Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakosnik is retiring today, Oct. 27, after 10 years of service to the Garden Village. The outgoing fire chief's family, friends and colleagues are celebrating his retirement this afternoon at Station 81, 1440 S. Ardmore Ave.

"I'll miss every minute of it," said Rakosnik while recently discussing his career. "I love this job. But it's time to turn the page and go to my next chapter."

Rakosnik said he expected to be emotional while delivering a speech at his retirement celebration.

"It's going to be difficult; I'm going to have a tough time," he said. "It's really hard for me to say goodbye."

Before becoming Villa Park's fire chief in 2012, Rakosnik spent over 27 years with the Lombard Fire Department. A Lombard resident, Rakosnik retired from the Lombard department a few days before beginning his 10-year stint in Villa Park.

Rakosnik, whose career as a firefighter spans more than 40 years, has deep roots in the area. He grew up in the Congress Knolls subdivision in unincorporated Lombard, and graduated from Willowbrook High School in 1975.

During his senior year at Willowbrook, Rakosnik, then 17 years old, began volunteering at the nearby York Center Fire District. He followed in the footsteps of his late father, Donald, who was a volunteer firefighter at the York Center district for several years.

"I watched my dad, and I would hang out there with my dad and some other kids," said Rakosnik, whose

brother Don also volunteered at the York Center Fire District.

Rakosnik continued his service at York Center until 1999. His full-time career as a firefighter began in 1982, when he joined the Wilmette Fire Department. After graduating from high school, Rakosnik worked at construction, plumbing and printing companies. While at the printing company in Northbrook, he noticed an ad about an opening at the Wilmette Fire Department. He applied for and was hired for the position.

While working in Wilmette, Rakosnik went to paramedic school. He also met his future wife—Leanne—who was going through nursing school. Leanne's father was a captain in the Wilmette Fire Department.

The Rakosniks have three children—Michael, Kailey and Lindsey—and one granddaughter Michael and Kailey graduated from Montini Catholic High School. Lindsey is a graduate of Glenbard East High School. Lindsey and her husband Kevin Steder have a 1-year-old daughter—Samantha.

Influences on his career

Speaking about the major influences in his career, Rakosnik frequently mentioned the late Jerry Tonne, who died in 2005. A longtime member of the Lombard Fire Department, Tonne served as a deputy fire chief in the Lilac Village before his untimely death from cancer at age 57.

At Tonne's request, Rakosnik served as a pallbearer at his funeral. Tonne's wife and daughter will attend today's retirement service for Rakosnik in Villa Park.

"He was a little guy with a big stick," Rakosnik said of Tonne. "He was a big influence on me with his values and ideas and the way he carried himself. I didn't always agree with him, but he was consistent. What more could you want? He was respected by a lot of people."

After a few years in Wilmette, Ra-

kosnik joined the Lombard Fire Department in 1985. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 1996, and became a battalion chief in 2005.

During almost all of his time with the Lombard Fire Department, Rakosnik worked on a shift—24 hours on and 48 hours off.

"I liked being on the shift with my

guys," said Rakosnik, who noted that others didn't care for that schedule.

As Villa Park's fire chief for the last decade, Rakosnik has responded to fires in the village and in other nearby communities.

"I've gone to bed with this thing for

See CHIEF, Page 7



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Villa Park Review

Villa Park Fire Chief Ron Rakosnik is retiring today, Oct. 27. His family, friends and colleagues are celebrating his retirement this afternoon at Fire Station 81, 1440 S. Ardmore Ave. Rakosnik has been the village's fire chief for the last 10 years. Before joining the Villa Park Fire Department, he spent over 27 years with the Lombard Fire Department. Rakosnik grew up in the Congress Knolls subdivision in unincorporated Lombard. He graduated from Willowbrook High School in 1975. Rakosnik started volunteering for the York Center Fire District during his senior year in high school. He began his professional firefighting career with the Wilmette Fire Department in 1982. "It's time; it's hard, but it's time," said Rakosnik, who is pictured recently outside of Station 81. "I'll miss the camaraderie. I've been doing this my whole adult life."

INSIDE:

Police Reports.....	6	Puzzles.....	8
Viewpoint.....	8	Classifieds.....	13

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In response to OPEC cutting oil production, Congressman Raja (Oct. 20 *Villa Park Review*) said he called on President Biden to press for a reversal, and also to "eliminate the oil refining bottlenecks that have been contributing to high gas prices." Just now he is calling for the president to do something? OPEC might as well have done this as a "ha-ha" move—sitting back and watching how the U.S. has been handcuffed from increasing our oil production. We need to tell this administration loud and clear that we will not allow other countries to put us in this kind of stranglehold.

If we are ever going to get back to Americans first, we need to blend together in Washington and stop being just left or right. It starts with rearranging the floor of the House and Senate, by sitting them and a checkerboard manner. By doing this it will discourage the members from being emboldened by their comrades as a group. Too simple?

Election Day is Nov. 8, but it really isn't an election "day" anymore. Under Illinois law, early voting can begin up to 40 days prior to an election. This year, early voting began in our area Sept. 29. What are Democrats going to come up with this year? We have 40 days of early voting, and polls should be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 8. Are we seriously supposed to think a huge chunk of people are still scared to leave their homes between Sept. 29 to Nov. 8, and need to vote by mail? If all McDonald's locations gave away free soft-serve cones to all citizens 18 and older from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 8, all of those locations would be packed. People would come out of the woodwork to get their free cones. People would be lining in all day. And if people could get their free cone anytime in the 40 days leading up to Nov. 8, they'd have no problem making it to McDonald's during that period. But we're supposed to believe that a large number of people need to vote by mail? What a joke.

On Oct. 12 of 2018, Texas was the largest oil producer in the world surpassing Saudi Arabia. The current administration has put so many obstacles and regulations on oil producers in the U.S. that is no longer the case. This administration does not work for the American people. We need change now.

Someone suggested 10 "fact-checking" outfits in the Oct. 6 edition of *Speak Out*. All of these so-called fact-checkers were left-wing outfits

like Politifact, the Washington Post and the Associated Press. Did any of these fact-checkers dive into Biden's recent statement that his son, Beau Biden "lost his life" in Iraq? Here's a fact check: Beau Biden died of cancer years after leaving Iraq, where he served as a lawyer. Did the fact-checking industry go into action to refute Joe Biden's false statement? No, because these "fact-checkers" exist to serve Democrats.

When I was a kid in the 1970s, there was plenty of media talk about a coming ice age. Then the media started yammering about "global warming" before transitioning to the current focus on "climate change." Every weather event is now a supposed result of "climate change." Are millions of people that ignorant of history? What do they think the weather was like in the last 100, 1,000 or million years? Do they think there were no severe weather events during that time? Unfortunately, it seems a lot of people are just clueless.

I've seen more ads recently for Terra Costa Howard, so I looked up her voting record and who her supporters are. She has been a very loyal supporter of the Democratic agenda. She voted to repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act in 2021, and she gets a lot of support from unions, which guarantees she won't support any reforms, especially pension reform. No thanks.

To the commenter who said *Speak Out* should be renamed "the right-wing corner of hate"—thanks for the laugh! I didn't think a right-wing corner of hate would have weekly comments suggesting Trump should be in jail.

Thanks for the amusing comment that recommended a bunch of left-wing "fact-checkers" like Politifact and Snopes. Jussie Smollett has more credibility than those organizations. Politifact, for example, just drew ridicule by trying to go after Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida. DeSantis said a certain county (Lee County) wasn't in the forecast cone of Hurricane Ian. Politifact said a small, mostly uninhabited island that is part of Lee County was in the forecast cone, and rated DeSantis' claim as "Mostly False." Many people pointed out that having that tiny island in the forecast cone would not warrant an evacuation of the entire county. But Politifact is a left-wing outfit that tries to discredit Republicans and defend Democrats.

I drive around the neighborhood and see all these signs for worker rights,

Terra Costa Howard and Sean Casten. I try to figure out what I am missing and how anyone can support them. Amendment One will raise your taxes and change part of the Constitution in Illinois. When has changing the Constitution ever worked out for citizens? My life in Illinois has not gotten better in last two years. On the federal level what has gotten better? Inflation, crime, gas prices, mortgage rates are all a direct result of Democratic policies that Sean Casten has voted in favor of. Let's touch on JB Pritzker. He's hoping people forget his complete

overreach and continued pushing of the COVID problem. Your kids suffered in school because of his policies. Trump is not on the ballot, so let's concentrate on what has happened in last two years because my life has gotten considerably worse. Vote them out and let's start anew.

I remember someone calling *Speak Out* regarding campaign commercials from Democratic candidates being almost all about abortion (referring to *Speak Out*, Oct. 13 issue). That caller is absolutely correct. I was watching a

college football game on Saturday (referring to Saturday, Oct. 22), and of the four campaign commercials I saw supporting Democratic candidates, three of them were about abortion rights and nothing else. Ronald Reagan once said, "I didn't leave the Democratic Party. The Democratic Party left me." I can certainly relate to that. The Democratic Party left me, too. This country, and certainly this state, has so many problems and issues that need to be dealt with, but apparently, abortion rights is the only issue Democrats care about these days.

•Chief (Continued from front page)

just about the last 40 years," said Rakosnik while holding his radio. "You're not really off. You're home, but you're still on. As a chief, it's a responsibility. That's part of the job, to be with your guys in battle."

Rakosnik said that when there's a fire in Villa Park or a neighboring municipality, including Lombard, Elmhurst and York Center, the response includes five fire chiefs, four fire engines, three ambulances, two ladder trucks and a squad unit.

"We're going to have 32 people coming," Rakosnik said. "It's organized chaos, it really is, especially at night. We're all getting there at the same time, trying to organize it quickly, so we can do what we have to do. It's a rush, no question. It brings a lot of togetherness."

Advances in fire prevention, firefighting

Rakosnik said there have been several advances in fire prevention and firefighting during his career.

"Fires are down, which is good," he said. "We're learning from past mistakes. Things are somewhat fireproof. Everything is lighter—hoses, ladders and the air packs on our back are all lighter. We also have better technology, like thermal imaging cameras that look through the wall for hot spots. All of that just helps you do your job more efficiently."

Rakosnik also referred to the benefits of smoke detectors and childhood education.

"Smoke detectors are interconnected, so if one beeps in the basement, the one in the bedroom also beeps," he said. "And people are better educated. In Lombard we would teach first-graders to stop, drop and roll [when clothing catches fire], and talk about the danger of matches. As time goes on, you reap the benefits."

One of the highlights of Rakosnik's career came after responding to and investigating a fire at a Lombard home

in the mid-1990s. A resident reported moving a halogen torchiere lamp shortly before the fire started in a bedroom. Rakosnik and other investigators took a similar lamp from another room in the home and conducted and recorded a re-enactment. The video they recorded showed the lamp starting a fire.

"Within five minutes, the drapes were fully involved," said Rakosnik while talking about the re-enactment. The video was played on Chicago television stations, as well as nationwide and in Canada. Rakosnik and his colleagues helped to change the design of the type of lamp that caused the Lombard fire. Additionally, the safety labels were made more prominent on the lamps, which were manufactured to shut off if they tilted.

"I've had a great career; I've been very fortunate," added Rakosnik. "I almost died one or two times. I was in a bad spot, but I got out of it. You revert back to how you trained."

Recalling one his most dangerous incidents, Rakosnik described a fire that took place on the fifth floor of a residential unit in Lombard in the late 1980s. He and his fellow firefighters were told a woman was inside one of the units. (It turned out the woman was not at home.) Rakosnik entered the unit and attacked the fire. At that time, a bell went off—the bell indicated that his air pack was running out of air.

"I worked so hard to get there; now I'm out of air," he said. "I started to panic. Here's what you learn when you're in training. You follow the hose out. You never let go of the hose. Never."

Rakosnik made it out of the unit and walked outside to an ambulance to put on an oxygen mask.

"So many things go through your mind; I thought I was going to die," he said. "When you find out there might be somebody in there, you do everything and then some."

Rakosnik said that incident highlighted the importance of having an

accurate count of who might be inside a building that's on fire.

While serving as Villa Park's fire chief during the last 10 years, Rakosnik has overseen a department that includes 24 shift personnel. The department's fleet includes three ambulances and three fire engines. Two of the ambulances are in frontline service, with one in reserve. The ambulances have a planned lifespan of nine years—six years frontline and three years in reserve. The fire engines (two frontline vehicles and one reserve) have a lifespan of 21 years—14 years frontline and seven in reserve. The department will acquire a new fire engine in about a year.

"Our equipment here is state-of-the-art; there's nothing better out there," Rakosnik said. "I think we've laid a good foundation."

Rakosnik, who turned 65 earlier this year, initially came to Villa Park thinking he'd spend five years as the fire chief. He stayed for 10 years, and it's time to move on. He said pension law requires him to retire before he turns 66 next May.

"It's time; it's hard, but it's time," he said. "I'll miss the camaraderie. I've been doing this my whole adult life."

While there's a lot he will miss, Rakosnik said he won't miss getting up in the middle of the night to respond to a fire during the middle of winter.

Discussing his future plans, Rakosnik said he could serve as a fire department's interim chief for two or three months. He also plans to work with the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association to help conduct assessments of candidates for positions in various departments. He also might do some consulting work, and he'd like to write an illustrated children's book about fire safety. While working in both Lombard and Villa Park, Rakosnik frequently visited schools to read to young students.

"I have a lot of things to share with people," he said. "We'll see what happens."

Warriors earn a trip to playoffs by beating Morton

Willowbrook will open the post-season with this Friday's game at Wheaton North; the Falcons won last year's Class 7A state title

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook football team locked up an IHSA playoff berth by beating Morton 45-33 in last week's regular-season finale in Villa Park.

The Warriors finished the regular season with an overall record of 5-4 and a West Suburban Gold Conference mark of 5-1. Downers Grove South won the conference title with a perfect 6-0 record. Downers Grove South and Willowbrook will both represent the conference in the play-

offs. The Mustangs will battle in the Class 8A division, while the Warriors will play in the Class 7A level.

"I give these guys credit for what they've done throughout the entire year," said Willowbrook coach Nick Hildreth in praising his team's players after last week's win. "They keep coming back and coming back. We were 1-3 this year. There were tons of opportunities when they could have taken the easy way out. I'm proud of the way these guys responded."

Willowbrook will open the post-season with this Friday's IHSA Class 7A battle at Wheaton North (8-1). The game will begin at 7 p.m.

The Warriors and the Falcons met in the quarterfinal round of last year's Class 7A playoffs. Wheaton North defeated Willowbrook 10-3 in Villa Park to advance to the semifinal round. Wheaton North went on to win last year's Class 7A state title.

See **WARRIORS** Page 14

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District 88 appoints new Director of Business Services

The District 88 Board of Education recently approved the administration's recommendation to appoint Olga Davis as the district's new Director of Business Services, effective Nov. 14.

Davis will succeed Ryan Domeracki, who has been named as District 88's Chief Financial Officer, effective July 1, 2023.

Since 2020, Davis has been the payroll and transportation coordinator at Oak Park Elementary School District 97. She was previously the payroll manager at Cicero School District 99.

"We are very pleased to have Davis join the District 88 team," said Dr. Jean Barbanente, District 88 Superintendent. "Her experience, knowledge and skills will be a tremendous asset to our school community. She also is bilingual in English and Spanish, which will be a benefit to our families."



Olga Davis

Davis earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from DePaul University and her master's degree in business administration, with a Chief School Business Official (CSBO) endorsement, from Concordia University Chicago.

Asked about her goals as District 88's new Director of Business Services, Davis said she plans to immediately dive into the district's five-year facility plan to understand where the district's finances are designated. She also hopes to integrate more technology to advance the Business Office.

"I look forward to enhancing communication with community members, students and staff to make sure everyone's expectations and needs are being met," Davis said. "District 88 has a diverse student and staff population, and I'm excited to work with a multifaceted stakeholder group."

Davis lives in La Grange Park with her husband and their two daughters.

District 88 hosts prospective board candidate workshop

On Tuesday, Oct. 18, District 88 hosted a Prospective Board Candidate Workshop for those who are interested in running for one of the four open seats on the District 88 Board of Education that will appear on the ballot at the Consolidated Election on April 4, 2023.

During the event, attorney John M. Izzo and District 88 Superintendent Dr. Jean Barbanente discussed the following topics:

- Time requirements of being a Board member

- Expectations of being a Board member
- How to complete the filing/petition process

- Participants also had an opportunity to ask questions about being a Board member and the election process

To view the presentation's slides, go to dupage88.net/site/page/15163. For more information, contact D88 Director of Community Relations Dani Brink at dbrink@dupage88.net or 630-530-3989.

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VOTE BLUE IN 2022 - DEMOCRATS DELIVER

District 88 Transition Program's coffee shop opens

**'Perks & Possibilities'
Café was closed
throughout COVID**

The District 88 Transition Program is thrilled to welcome community members back to its Perks & Possibilities Café, which is now open for the first time since 2020!

When visiting the café, which is located inside the Addison Public Library at 4 Friendship Plaza in Addi-

son, guests are greeted by the aroma of freshly brewed coffee, snacks and juices lining the counters and – of course – friendly smiles.

The café is run by students in the District 88 Transition Program (with the guidance of staff), which helps individuals ages 18 to 21 who have a variety of abilities learn life skills, obtain job training at local vocational sites in a community setting and transition to a life of independence after District 88.

Perks & Possibilities Café is open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The café has been closed since 2020 because of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, and the group is excited to be back in action.

"Having a café to work in is amazing, because it brings so many new possibilities to the Transition Program," said Michael Losianowycz, a student in the program.

Transition Program student Angeles "Angie" Reza agreed. "I love my job," she said with a grin.

Perks & Possibilities Café is the

result of support and generosity provided by local intergovernmental agencies, businesses and donors. For more information, go to dupage88.net/TransitionProgram.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

District 88 Transition Program student Michael Losianowycz works the cash register at the Perks & Possibilities Café. After being closed since 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, the café is finally up and running again. It is open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday inside the Addison Public Library.



District 88 Transition Program student Angeles "Angie" Reza serves coffee at the Perks & Possibilities Café located inside the Addison Public Library. The Café is finally open again, after being closed during the pandemic.

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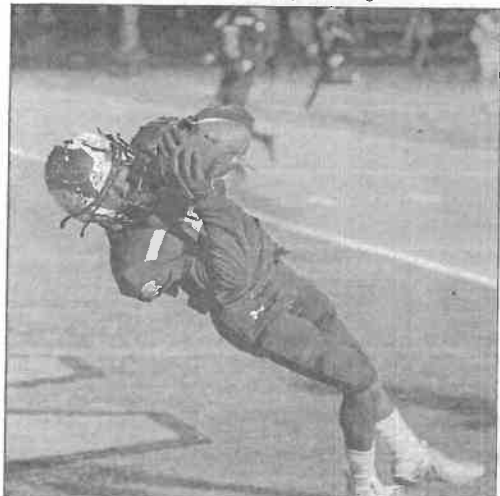
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Willowbrook's football team finished the regular season with last week's 45-33 West Suburban Gold Conference victory over Morton in Villa Park. Sophomore K.J. Rhodes of the Warriors is pictured while making a 23-yard touchdown reception during the second quarter. Rhodes scored a defensive touchdown in the first quarter when he intercepted a Morton pass and raced 33 yards into the end zone. Willowbrook held a 24-6 lead after Rhodes's second-quarter touchdown catch and the ensuing extra-point kick, but Morton rallied to take a 27-24 lead in the third quarter. The Warriors then scored three straight touchdowns to build a 45-27 lead. Willowbrook improved to 5-4 with the win, which secured a berth in the IHSA Class 7A playoffs. The Warriors will open post-season play with this Friday's game at Wheaton North (8-1). The same two teams met in the quarterfinal round of last year's Class 7A playoffs. The Falcons defeated the Warriors in Villa Park. Wheaton North went on to win the Class 7A state championship.

• Warriors (Continued from page 7)

The Falcons beat Brother Rice in the semifinals and crushed St. Rita 35-6 in the championship game.

The Warriors needed to win their Oct. 20 conference game against Morton to earn a spot in the playoffs. Willowbrook looked to be on its way to an easy victory against Morton, which finished the season at 3-6 overall and 3-3 in conference play. The Warriors led Morton 24-6 in the second quarter, but the visitors scored two touchdowns to cut Willowbrook's lead to 24-20 by half-time.

Morton took a 27-24 lead after scoring a touchdown in the middle of the third quarter. The Warriors regained the lead later in the third quarter and added two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter to push its lead to 45-27.

Morton closed out the scoring on a touchdown run with about 30 seconds left in the game.

Willowbrook scored the first touchdown of the night shortly after junior Carter Ferguson recovered a loose ball near midfield after a Morton lateral. Sophomore K.J. Rhodes delivered a 36-yard run on Willowbrook's first offensive play to push the ball to Morton's 15-yard line. One play later, Rhodes fumbled the ball near the 5-yard line, but sophomore lineman John Koterba scooped up the ball and carried it into the end zone for a touchdown. Senior Adrian Guerrero kicked the extra point to give the Warriors a 7-0 lead.

Rhodes scored the Warriors' next touchdown on a 33-yard interception return later in the first quarter. Morton then scored a touchdown to reduce Willowbrook's lead to 14-6. Guerrero kicked a 27-yard field goal with about three minutes left in the opening quarter to extend the Warriors' lead to 17-6.

Junior quarterback Arthur Palicki fired a 23-yard touchdown pass to Rhodes in the second quarter to help Willowbrook push its lead to 24-6. Morton broke a pair of touchdown runs in the final four minutes of the first half to trim the Warriors' lead to 24-20.

Morton completed its third-quarter scoring drive on a short touchdown run by the quarterback. The extra-point kick gave Morton a 27-24 lead.

Palicki helped the Warriors regain the lead when he delivered a 12-yard touchdown run with about four minutes remaining in the third quarter. Guerrero's extra-point kick raised Willowbrook's lead to 31-27.

The Warriors added to their lead when senior Damian Banaszewski carried the ball across the goal line on a 1-yard touchdown run on a fourth-down play. The extra-point kick gave Willowbrook a 38-27 lead with about eight minutes remaining in the game.

Palicki scored his team's sixth and final touchdown of the night on a 9-yard run with a little more than two minutes to play.

Warriors close out regular season with a decisive win

STAFF REPORT

The Willowbrook girls volleyball team completed its regular season with last week's 25-6, 25-14 West Suburban Gold Conference victory over Leyden in Villa Park.

The Warriors finished their regular season with an overall record of 33-2. The team won the conference championship with a perfect 6-0 record.

Junior Calli Kenny provided four kills, 12 assists, six digs and eight aces in the Oct. 19 win over the Eagles. Senior Natalie Cipriano supplied eight kills and four digs. Senior Grace Conley contributed five assists and six digs. Senior Hope Reckamp bashed six kills, while senior Hannah Mitrick had two kills and two digs. Sophomore Hannah Kenny handed out four assists and made two digs. Senior Caroline Radomski had two kills, two assists and two digs. Senior Kylie Brown delivered three digs. Senior Lily Lowe had one kill, one block and one dig.

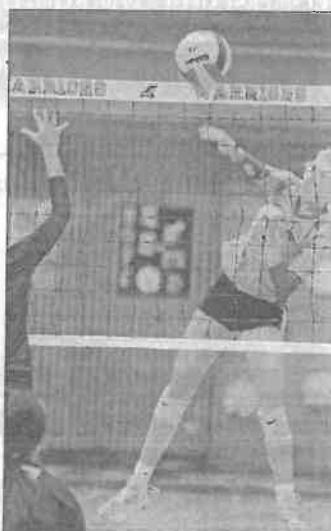
Willowbrook begins the 2022 post-season by competing in this week's IHSA Class 4A Downers Grove North Regional. If the Warriors win a pair of matches at Downers Grove North to claim the regional title, they will advance to next week's Proviso West Sectional. The Warriors are the sectional's No. 1 seed.

If Willowbrook earns a pair of victories at Proviso West to capture the sectional title, it would advance to a super-sectional at Hinsdale Central. The winner of that super-sectional would advance to the IHSA state semifinals at Redbird Arena in Normal.

"We're hoping to have a long stretch ahead of us," said Willowbrook coach Irene Mason after last week's victory over Leyden. "At this point in the season, the skills are there. We're locked in. We know what we're doing. We have to be prepared to give our best. If we're locked in and focused on executing and being efficient and consistent, it should be a fun run."

One year ago, the Warriors won regional and sectional titles before losing a super-sectional to Mother McAuley. Several of this year's Willowbrook players were key members of last year's team. Mason said the experience from last year's post-season run should be beneficial in this year's playoff push.

"It's the best time of the year right now," stated Mason. "It does feel like we know what to expect. We know how intense the games can be. It comes down to execution in those final points. The experience is helpful. It should be fun."



CHRIS FOX PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Willowbrook's girls volleyball team finished regular season with last week's 25-6, 25-14 West Suburban Gold Conference win over Leyden in Villa Park. The Warriors finished their regular season with an overall record of 33-2. Willowbrook won conference title with a perfect 6-0 record. Senior Natalie Cipriano, who bashed eight kills and made four digs against the Eagles, is pictured during last week's victory. Willowbrook is opening IHSA Class 4A post-season this week at the Downers Grove North Regional. If the Warriors win matches to capture the regional title, they will advance to the Proviso West Sectional. Willowbrook is the sectional's No. 1 seed.

Warriors run at the Lyons Township Regional; Diederich leads boys team, which advances to the Waubonsie Valley Sectional; Ojeda, Barrington and Meeker earn individual berths in girls sectional

STAFF REPORT

Willowbrook's boys and girls cross-country teams ran in Saturday morning's IHSA Class 3A Lyons Township Regional. The regional's two races took place on a 3-mile course at Lyons Township's south campus in Western Springs.

The Warriors' boys team earned a sixth-place finish. Willowbrook's girls team posted a seventh-place finish. Willowbrook's boys team earned a berth in this weekend's Waubonsie Valley Sectional. The top six teams at the Lyons Township Regional advanced to the sectional.

Senior Kevin Diederich led Willowbrook's boys team with his 10th-place finish in the regional's individual standings. Diederich completed the 3-mile race in 16 minutes, 21.2 seconds.

Sophomore Adriano Quintero (17:36.5) turned in a 37th-place finish for the Warriors. Sophomore

Jake Skibbie (17:46.4) landed in 40th place, while senior Charlie Hayes (17:59.9) placed 43rd. Senior Henry Sloan (18:10.7; 47th) completed Willowbrook's scoring lineup. The Warriors' boys squad posted a team total of 177 at the regional, which included nine teams. Oak Park/River Forest won the regional title with 43 points. The Huskies edged second-place Lyons Township (48 points) and third-place Downers Grove North (49 points) in the team standings.

Sophomores Patrick Haczos (18:18.1; 48th) and Kasen Blain (18:27.6; 51st) rounded out the Warriors' regional participants.

While Willowbrook's girls team did not earn a sectional berth, three Warriors—sophomore Amelie Ojeda, senior Amelia Barrington and sophomore Malin Meeker—qualified for the sectional as individuals. The regional's top five runners who weren't members of sectional-quali-

fying teams advanced to the sectional as individuals.

Ojeda finished Saturday's 3-j regional in a 25th-place time of minutes, 15.6 seconds.

Barrington (21:42.2) finished 42nd for the Warriors, while Meeker (21:58.4) wound up 45th. Sophomores Molly Brown (22:33.8; 4th) and Sophia Stasch (22:41.9; 4th) completed the team's scoring line. Freshman Allyson Stefani (23:55th) and sophomore Roser Kling (24:03; 57th) also represent the Warriors at the regional.

Willowbrook posted a 25th-place score of 211 at the regional, which featured 10 full girls teams. York, the reigning state champion, won the regional title with 24-point score.

Glenbard East (203 points) edged out the Warriors in the battle for sixth place and a team berth in the Waubonsie Valley Sectional.

Warriors run at the Lyons Township Regional

Senior Kevin Diederich (right - No. 2436) and sophomore Amelie Ojeda (far right - No. 2455) posted the fastest finishing times for Willowbrook's boys and girls cross-country teams at Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Lyons Township Regional. Diederich finished the 3-mile boys race in a 10th-place time of 16 minutes, 21.2 seconds. Ojeda completed the 3-mile girls race in a 25th-place time of 20 minutes, 15.6 seconds. Diederich helped the Warriors to a sixth-place finish in the regional's team standings. Willowbrook's boys team earned a berth in this week's Waubesa Valley Sectional. Willowbrook's girls team placed seventh in the regional and did not advance to the sectional, but Ojeda and two other Warriors—senior Amella Barrington and sophomore Malin Meeker—did secure individual berths in the sectional. The regional's top five runners who weren't members of sectional-qualifying teams qualified for the sectional as individuals.



CHRIS FOX PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Health department now offering bivalent COVID-19 booster for children ages 5-11

Appointments are now available for a free bivalent (updated) COVID-19 booster for children ages 5 through 11 years through DuPage County Health Department (DCHD). Boosters are now available by appointment only.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone ages 5 years and older get an updated booster if it has been at least two months since they completed their primary series or most recent booster vaccination.

These new boosters contain an updated bivalent formula that both boosts immunity against the original coronavirus strain and also protects against the newer Omicron variants that account for most of the current cases.

Everyone benefits from updated COVID-19 boosters, including people who have had COVID-19 infection already and those already boosted. Boosters not only protect us but help protect those around us.

"Having the updated bivalent boost-

er available for children ages 5 and older means we have another opportunity to protect this younger age group," said Karen Ayala, executive director of DuPage County Health Department.

The DCHD continues to offer COVID-19 vaccines to individuals 6 months and older. To register for a vaccination appointment please visit dph.health.org/covid19vaccine or call DCHD at (630) 682-7400.

COVID-19 vaccinations will be administered at the DCHD Central Public Health Center in Wheaton. Additional opportunities to get COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are available in and around DuPage County through pharmacies and other medical providers—visit vaccines.gov to find a location near you.

Bring your child's vaccination card so your provider can add the booster dose.

Children 17 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE DUPAGE COUNTY BENSENVILLE, ILLINOIS

2023 ANNUAL BUDGET

A Public Hearing will be conducted by the Village Board of the Village of Bensenville at the Village Hall, 12 S. Center Street, Bensenville, Illinois, commencing at 6:30 p.m. on November 15, 2022 to discuss the proposed Annual Budget for the Village of Bensenville.

The proposed budget is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Village Clerk, 12 S. Center Street, Bensenville, Illinois.

Any and all persons wishing to be heard on the Budget should appear at said meeting.

Dated this 27th day of October, 2022

/s/ Nancy Quinn

Village Clerk

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Review Oct. 27, 2022)

427343

NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 78848 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on OCTOBER 6, 2022 where in the business firm of CAPITOL LAWN & SNOW, 226 E. CREST AVENUE, BENSENVILLE, IL 60106 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows:

Edward Orozco, 226 E. Crest Avenue, Bensenville, IL 60106

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 6TH day of OCTOBER, A.D. 2022.

Jean Kaczmarek

DuPage County Clerk

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Review Oct. 20, 27 & Nov. 3, 2022)

426943

Answers

PUZZLE 1

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

PUZZLE 2

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

CROSSWORD

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Continued from previous page

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LLC 12150, HFOLO, ALEX 300, RUSH TRUCK NTER ILLINOIS INC 43228.93, RUS- RICK 850.05, RUSSO'S POWER UPMENT 2678.06, RYAN HERCO ODUCTS CORPORATION 1042.28, DIN DECAL 7425.22, SAF-T-GARD ERNATIONAL INC 133.38, SAMP- N, JOANNE 156.12, SAM'S CLUB DI- CT 18179.21, SANDY'S ARTISAN ODWORKING 0, SAUBER MFG MPANY 3506.53, SAUCIER, ZACHA- 125, SCAVONE, DONNA 161.85, HOENBECK, SANDRA 1621.44, HROEDER ASPHALT SERVICES INC 2489.63, SCHWARTZ NURSERY INC 17.5, SCP SCIENCE 894, SEILER IN- RUMENT & MANUFACTURING CO 7 6655.78, SELVIK, ROY 1146.72, NTRY SAFETY SUPPLY INC 434.51, RENITY LANDSCAPE GROUP 714.44, SERVICE SPRING COMPA- 3137.59, SHIAUGHNESSY, KEVIN W 0, SHAW MEDIA 2097.7, SHERILL 2 309.98, SHOELESS JOE'S 500, IVERT ELECTRIC SERVICE AND LES COMPANY 460, SIKICH LLP 47, SILVANO, EUGENIO 100, SINKU- , JOHN 312.06, SIRCHIE FINGER INT LABS 396.22, SITEONE LAND- APE SUPPLY 4598.19, SMARTIDE- PY 1316, SMITH LTD, HARRY C 80.78, SNAP ON TOOLS 3252.85, SO- NSKI, MALWINA 1044.14, SOLBERG

MANUFACTURING INC 1122.68, SOS TECHNOLOGIES 2452.97, SOTO, CRIS- TOBAL 982.69, SOUMAR MASONRY RESTORATION INC 7430, SOUND WORKS PRODUCTION 19900, SOUTH- ERN LABWARE 1652.61, SPECIAL EVENT RENTALS LTD 1680, SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS 186, SPECIAL T UNLIMITED 1175, SPEER FINANCIAL INC 2052.5, SPIRIT ART LLC 3500, ST. JAMES, ADAM 1200, STANARD & AS- SOCIATES INC 7017.8, STANDARD & ASSOCIATES, INC. 1800, STANDARD EQUIPMENT COMPANY 40294.62, STANDARD INDUSTRIAL & AUTOMO- TIVE EQUIPMENT INC 1586.2, STATE DISBURSEMENT UNIT 47773.41, STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS 0, STATE TREASURER 13437.25, STECH JUSTIN 250, STEINER ELECTRIC COMPANY 359.07, STEVEN SHAYKIN PC 200, STILES INC 26590, STRADA CON- STRUCTION COMPANY 247184.89, SUBURBAN DRIVE LINE INC 3195, SUBURBAN OHARE COMMISSION 5000, SUNRISE CHEVROLET 1011.59, SUNRISE ELECTRIC SUPPLY 7640.29, SWALLOW CONSTRUCTION CORP 1225871.1, SWALLOW CONSTRU- CTION CORPORATION 1200, SWENSON, DANE 125, SYNAGRO CENTRAL LLC 138409.85, TACOS PUEBLA 400, TALLKO, VANGEL 24, TEKLAB INC 12552.95, TELCOM INNOVATIONS GROUP LLC 35587.24, TERMINAL SUP-

PLY INC 2812.11, TERRACE SUPPLY COMPANY 3157.77, TESTING SERVICE CORPORATION 15618.5, THE BLUE LINE 1688, THE BLUEPRINT SHOPPE 1060.61, THE EMBLEM AUTHORITY 3240, THE FIELDS ON CATON FARM 18209, THE HOME DEPOT CRC/GECF 5807.71, THE SIVI GROUP 46846.56, THE ST FRANCIS GROUP 1000, THE VERDIN COMPANY 630, THERMFLO INC 5540.5, THERMOSCAN, INC. 1550, THIRD MILLENNIUM ASSOCIATES INC 18358.76, THOMPSON ELEVATOR INSPECTION SERVICE INC 10423, THURKOW, ALBERT CHARLES 446.87, TIM HAYDEN-PETTY CASH I 3027.39, TIM HAYDEN-PETTY CASH II 2584.96, TTH COMMUNICATION SERVICES INC 8510.8, TKB ASSOCIATES INC 14312, T-MOBILE USA INC 1230, TNESEC COMPANY INC 2152.67, TNT LAND- SCAPE CONSTRUCTION INC 14476, TOKARZ, TIM 1697.09, TOPCON SOLU- TIONS STORE 14523, TORZ, ALEXAN- DRA 1873, TOWN SQUARE PUBLICA- TIONS 1360, TRAFFIC CONTROL & PROTECTION INC 28242.85, TRAFFIC LOGIX CORPORATION 2719, TRANS UNION LLC 3696.42, TREASURER, STATE OF ILLINOIS 10, TREDROC TIRE SERVICES 1551.35, TREESTUFF 499.98, TRI-TECH FORENSICS INC 17.5, TRI- TECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS 13597.72, TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC 186067.04, TYNUS, MICHAEL 124.11, U S POSTAL

SERVICE 1250, ULINE INC 1616.36, UN- CHARTED SOFTWARE INC 999, UNIQUE TRUCK EQUIPMENT 2398, UNITED GRAPHICS & MAILING GROUP 863.77, UNITED PARCEL SER- VICE 157.38, UNIVERSITY OF ILLI- NOIS PRESS 75, URBANSKI, MAREK 2200, USA BLUEBOOK 29969.88, USME 19121.6, USPS-HASLER 21289.14, VAL- DEZ, MARIA 75, VANTAGEPOINT TRANSFER AGENT-457 1044818.23, VARITECH INDUSTRIES INC. 732.36, VCA ARBORETUM VIEW ANIMAL HOSPITAL 131.92, VEENSTRA, RICH- ARD 1511.28, VEGA, MARIA A 1059.66, VENDOR REGISTRY 900, VERMEER - ILLINOIS INC 124.68, VICTOR BEE- CHAM 1625, VIKING ELECTRIC 2937.48, VILLA PARK ELECTRICAL SUPPLY & LIGHTING CENTER 9200.99, VILLAGE OF ADDISON - CR 9350, VIR- TRA INC 2645.13, VISOGRAPHIC 16397.83, VISU SEWER INC 45760, VI- TELLO, MICHAEL 294.74, VOA-PETTY CASH-ROSEANNE BENSON 1428.45, VSP ILLINOIS 42312.59, W W GRAINGER INC 17748.17, WAD- SWORTH, MICHAEL 892.2, WAGNER, JOHN 275, WALSH, MICHAEL 0, WAR- REN OIL COMPANY 269131.78, WATER PRODUCTS COMPANY OF AURORA INC 1951.77, WATSON, SEAN 125, WEATHERGUARD ROOFING CO 16295.45, WEIMER BEARING & TRAN 50, WEISS, DONALD 337.6, WELLER,

MARK 377.68, WELSH, MATTHEW 436, WEST CENTRAL MUNICIPAL CON- FERENCE 6665.82, WEST SIDE TRAC- TOR SALES COMPANY 112904.4, WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 200, WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL 253.92, WEX HEALT INC 12.05, WEX HEALTH 33, WEX HEALTH INC 24.1, WILLIAM P RINCON 1800, WILLIX, RICHARD E & JOAN 24, WINCAN LLC 5494.5, WINDY CITY AMUSEMENTS 472.71, WINDY CITY CLEANING EQUIPMENT & SUP- PLIES 698, WINKLER'S TREE SERVICE INC 102151.14, WINTER EQUIPMENT COMPANY INC 5317.24, WOHLFEIL, DANIEL 507, WOLKIK, BARBARA 6070, WOLF ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY 2677.98, WRIGHT, MAUREEN 150, X-TREME GRAPHICS & LETTERING INC 1300, XYLEM DEWATERING SOLUTIONS 2734.42, YORK/ELECTRIC CONDUIT 8043, YORKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT 953.94, YU, ROBERT 2260, ZAIDEL, BRIAN 300, ZARNOTH BRUSH WORKS INC 3220.55, ZATOR, IANKE M 446.88, ZEP MANUFACTUR- ING COMPANY 380.51, ZIMMERMAN, MARK 221, ZORO TOOLS 2800.08, Z-ROSE PRODUCTIONS 8050.76, ZUC- CHERO, LUCILLE 150, ZUCCHERO, TONY 219.

(Published in the Addison Independent, Bensenville Independent & Villa Park Review Oct. 27, 2022)

427237



JOE PEARSON PHOTO Rock Valley Pub

Warriors keep on winning

Willowbrook High School's girls flag football team continued its undefeated inaugural season by winning the West Suburban Conference title at Saturday's conference tournament at Oak Park/River Forest High School. The Warriors posted two victories on Saturday. They defeated Morton East 30-6 in a semifinal contest. Willowbrook then beat Proviso East 32-0 in the conference tournament's championship game. The War-

riors, who improved their season record to 7-0 with Saturday's two wins, will play at this weekend's Bears State Championship Series at the Chicago Bears' facility, Halas Hall in Lake Forest. Willowbrook will join three other teams at Halas Hall. If Warriors win their first game in Lake Forest, they will play in the championship contest.

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26 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

SUBURBAN LIFE Willowbrook takes 26-match win streak into playoffs

By BILL STONE
Shaw Local News Network

Returning Willowbrook girls volleyball standouts and sisters Calli and Hannah Kenny now are playing the same positions this season, setter and right-side outside hitter.

"It's really helpful that I'm doing the same roles as she is," said Calli Kenny, a junior. "I think our court relationship has just gotten a lot stronger because of that."

It's among many reasons why the Class 4A Warriors enter the postseason in pretty much the same position as their groundbreaking 2021 run that earned the program's first sectional title and a 37-2 record.

These Warriors (33-2) continue gaining confidence after meshing quickly despite some inexperience and lineup changes even among returnees. They're the No. 1 seed in the Proviso West Sectional.

On Oct. 19, they completed a third straight 6-0 West Suburban Conference Gold title run by beating Leyden 25-6, 25-14. Team captains are Calli Kenny again, senior and four-year varsity player Natalie Cipriano and sophomore Hannah Kenny in her second varsity season.

"Now I can look for certain things that our team needs to succeed and be at the same level, and even do better," Hannah Kenny said. "[Calli and I] talk about stuff on the court in between sets all of the time. We're kind of each other's go-tos."

After a 7-2 start, the Warriors have won 26 straight – all in two sets. That's included victories over West Suburban Conference Silver champion Glenbard West and tournament titles at Elk Grove, Leyden and Lincoln-Way Central.

"Last year we came out right out of the gate so close to each other. We've jelled so much and it just feels the same as much as last season at this point," Cipriano said. "[Beating Glenbard East on Sept. 29], we really played probably our best. It really brought us together and showed what we really can do."

Entering the Oct. 19 match, Calli Kenny led the Warriors with 232 kills and 63 service aces and had 276 assists and 200 digs. Hannah Kenny had a team-best 337 assists and 215 kills, 181 digs and 53 aces. Other category leaders were senior libero Grace Conley (team-high 223 digs, 259 service receptions) and junior middle blocker Ellie Bruschuk (team-high 39 blocks). Cipriano had 201 serve receptions and 101 kills. Top contributors in the Oct. 19 match were Calli Kenny (8 aces, 4 kills, 12 assists, 6 digs), Cipriano (8 kills, 4 digs), Conley (5 assists, 6 digs), Hannah Kenny (4 assists, 2 digs), Caroline Radomski (2



Willowbrook's Hannah Kenny sets a shot during a match against Lyons.

Photos by Gary E. Duncan Sr. for Shaw Local News Network



Willowbrook's Natalie Cipriano spikes the ball against Lyons.

kills, 2 assists, 2 digs), Hanna Mitrick (2 kills, 2 digs), Hope Reckamp (6 kills) and Kylie Brown (3 digs).

"We're definitely a new team [this season] but no drop-off or anything," Willowbrook coach Irene Mason said. "We have some of the same kids back, even though we lost some in crucial spots, but a lot of them are in new roles

so that's cool to see them step into new spots."

Calli and Hannah Kenny are both 6-2 setters on their respective 1st Alliance 16 Gold and 15 Gold club teams. Moving from outside hitter to setter for Willowbrook, Calli Kenny has fewer kills than 2021 (team-high 321) but significantly more than 10 blocks thanks

to club season work.

"One of the big things with [setting] is building a connection with all of the hitters," Calli Kenny said.

As the lone returning captain, Calli Kenny has focused on increased leadership, particularly vocally.

"Especially outside of volleyball, I've made it clear to our team," Calli Kenny said. "One thing I've prided ourselves on is at the beginning of the year having those two losses. That was good for us, learning what we needed to work on."

Hannah Kenny has the same role and statistical averages as 2021 but being captain coincides with increasing her court presence.

"Definitely I have a lot more pressure in keeping the team together and stepping up for big points and stuff," Hannah Kenny said.

Cipriano is an outside hitter after three seasons as a right-side hitter.

"You have to pass and hit. I've always wanted to do both," Cipriano said. "It's really been fun to contribute so much because I was once the little freshman on varsity. I know what it's like to be the underdog."

VOTE BLUE IN 2022 - DEMOCRATS DELIVER