



THE WINFIELD GLIMPSSES

Celebrating Our Community

September-October 2020

Happy Autumn!
See inside – shop and dine locally!

Caliendo's – A Community Treasure

By Patti Weber

Winfield's longest serving sit-down restaurant, Caliendo's, is a community treasure! Caliendo's started out as the Winfield House on Chicago Avenue, where it served Italian fare in its dining room and offered delivery and carry-out, for 21 years. It moved to its current home at the corner of Winfield and Highlake roads 14 years ago. It still serves up delicious Italian and American fare and has a bustling sports-bar with many large screen TV's so patrons can watch multiple sporting events.

But did you know that Caliendo's is very generous when it comes to local Winfield charities, especially those helping children? Most recently they have been partnering with The Tony Reyes Family Foundation and have provided over 500 meals to the Ronald McDonald House in Winfield and to CDH hospital workers.

For the past 7 years, Caliendo's has partnered with Chris Mackowiak, owner of Klein Creek golf course, to sponsor various fundraisers. In 2019, they raised more than \$11,000 in support of pediatric programs at Central DuPage and Delnor Hospitals; provided hundreds of toys to both hospitals; and helped to support their efforts to make the hospital experience less intimidating and more

comfortable for pediatric patients and their families.

A long-time supporter of local clubs the Knights of Columbus Council 8002 and the Winfield Lions Club, Caliendo's provides sponsorship of their events such as golf outings, scholarship fundraising

dinners, etc. And Caliendo's supports local schools as well with donations of gift certificates, pizzas, and pans of pasta and salad for teacher's luncheons. Caliendo's always comes though for the Winfield community and beyond!



Rob Ricarelli, Caliendo's owner (center) with Knights of Columbus Council 8002 members (L-R) Dave MacDonald, Don Brach, Tony Reyes and John Andreotti.

Creative Programming in Our Community

By Kathe Doremus

The year 2020 began, as all New Years do, with high hopes and optimism for personal and world changes but it is highly unlikely that any one of us anticipated the challenges this year would bring or the grim realities we would face come mid-March. As the champagne bottles were popped open and our "Resolutions" were made, I highly doubt learning to wear a mask, becoming an expert at functioning remotely, and learning to adapt in bizarre circumstances were the top three items on the list.

The changes wrought by the Covid-19 pandemic have called us all out to be innovative and flexible – and there are some organizations in our local community that were bright spots in accomplishing this mission and providing public service in some very unique ways, quickly and with amazing flexibility. With that, while not by any means an all-inclusive list, the following are some groups/organizations that really stood out in these untoward times.

The local school districts that quickly went to on-line classes – the teachers and support staff were amazing in how, with little training and no time for preparation, they continued to reach out to the students and provide education and support. In addition, many of the schools immediately looked for ways to make sure students were not going hungry while schools were closed and provided lunches for pick-up for their students – or in the case of West Chicago Community High School District 94, utilized their bus service to deliver lunches to homebound students. The schools as a whole proved their value within the community is more than just a place for kids to learn – it is a nurturing environment and a safety net – and the staff of the local schools all strived to provide resources, support, and care when the students were unable to attend.

For many of faith, the unprecedented closing of churches was a huge challenge, and despite being ordered to shut their doors with no warning, many of these found ways to reach out and provide sol-

The Pastor of St. John's ... walked the streets of the community ... doing his Eucharistic walk – delivering his message to people that God was still alive and with us through this all.

ace and support to their members through on-line services and ongoing outreach, though remotely and with little or no contact to those who needed to be close to their faith. Recorded services were held on websites or posted on YouTube, messages

of support and faith were seen on Facebook, virtual prayer groups were formed – to remind us all that we were not alone and faith would get us through this time. St. John the Baptist Church in Winfield and their Knights of Columbus modified their Lenten Fish Fry very quickly to a "pick-up" service and each Friday through Lent, the cars lined up saw their fellow Parishioners delivering food and reminding us of the power of community service. The Pastor of St. John's also walked the streets of the community on many Sunday mornings doing his Eucharistic walk – delivering his message to people that God was still alive and well and with us through this all.

Local park districts sought ways to continue serving the community and as they closed their doors, many looked for ways to modify their programming to provide on-line classes for members – often without a fee for these programs – knowing that with their facilities closed, people still needed support and exercise to sustain both physical and mental health. Western DuPage Special Recreation Association, which serves a very specific population of children and adults with disabilities, almost immediately adapted to provide Zoom programming for their participants. Both physical exercise and social

groups were available to help this population that was impacted so critically. From Zoom Tai Kwon Do to Social Dinner groups to Bingo Nights – this group reacted quickly with options to rescue those with special needs from isolation.

Cantigny, the beautiful gem within our community, offered a wide variety of on-line programming to meet the wide range of needs of people. They offered lectures on a wide variety of topics – history, public events, politics including programs like arts and crafts to entertain and engage younger children. While their gardens and museums were closed, they used Facebook and other social media to reach out and engage and stimulate anyone interested in their programs.

The Winfield Library also was innovative. While they already had on-line services available, they created programs for seniors, children, and other groups to tackle the boredom of being homebound and continue to make their services accessible. They also provided curbside pickup and drop off and even home delivery for those who were unable to obtain books through any other method.

Once again, this is not all-inclusive and I apologize to any groups or organizations that have been missed. There were many bright spots provided throughout the dark days of Spring and early Summer, and we are all fortunate to live in a community where public and private entities showed their spirit and commitment to us through creative innovation and adaptability in unprecedented circumstances. For these many gifts from these many groups and organizations, we are thankful.

August 25, 2020

Dear Fellow Residents,

Thank you for your support of Good Old Days in years past! This year has posed several hurdles preventing the Knights of Columbus and Lions Club from bringing you Winfield's favorite festival, a tradition which began 53 years ago.

As an alternative, we considered an event to support our downtown restaurants to attract some additional customers to help during this difficult time. Although this event was approved by the Winfield Village Board, we had several logistical challenges that involved equipment rental availability; volunteers; DuPage County vending permits; state-imposed limits; health certifications and public health concerns.

We look forward to planning next year's (post COVID-19) Good Old Days and celebrating our Village's Centennial year. Thank you for your understanding and supporting the Knights of Columbus and Lions Club.

Sincerely,
Tony Reyes
Grand Knight, KOC 8002



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A School Year Like No Other

By Annie Dragosh

The 2020-2021 school year is not what anyone anticipated, or wanted, for students. It has been a time of frustration, aggravation, challenge, and sadness for students, families, teachers, and administrators alike.

Unlike Spring, when schools were ordered closed – the State has allowed each district to create their own reopening decisions this Fall within a set of specific guidelines from the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health. In early July, most schools were planning for in-person learning, however, evolving state and health department guidelines have put school districts at a greater disadvantage for in-person learning each week. This has left administrators scrambling to review and digest guidance, and revise learning plans almost daily. As August rolled around, we saw district after district move from in-person, to hybrid, and now many, fully remote.

While there are many factors that have gone into these decisions, there are two main issues schools are contending with when moving to more remote options: social distancing and medical exclusions. Under the most recent guidelines released on



August 13, 2020, all students and staff must be sent home for any COVID-like symptoms (runny nose, headache, fever, diarrhea, etc.), should be diagnostically tested and should remain at home until they receive a negative test result. Confirmed and “probable” cases must complete 10 days of isolation and be fever free for 24 hours before their return. If one family member is being evaluated for COVID-19, all other household members must also be quarantined until an alternative diagnosis is made or a negative result is received.

With seasonal allergy, cold and flu season upon us – schools will struggle to provide a continuous educational program as they deal with these issues alone. In-person learning is further complicated by updated guidelines on what defines

an “outbreak” in a school, the intense contact tracing that accompanies positive or probable cases in schools, guidelines for eating and drinking, mask wearing, and rigorous social distancing rules.

As difficult as this has been for schools, it has caused many challenges for students and families who grapple with childcare issues while they work, in addition to educational, and social emotional concerns as many students face going back to school remotely. While some parents have chosen to home school or register for private schools still running in-person programs (as of today’s writing), other families are working together to create “bubbles” in which a small group of families will share in childcare duties, academic support, and social enrichment. Parents are also connecting via Facebook groups to stay connected to one another as we navigate uncharted territory in education together.

Each school district has a different plan – and even these district plans are varied by grade and program, making an exhaustive list impossible for this article. Students and families are encouraged to check their email daily and keep up with schools’ web pages and social media for updates for current plans, and to monitor programmatic updates and developments as the year continues and – hopefully – returns to normal.

Top: Students are “masked up” and ready for the new school year.

Left: The Zibera siblings are all set for remote learning.





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Fire Chief Pulls Alarm: Please Help

By Luke Allen

“Due to the age and condition of our fleet, I worry about the safety of our staff and residents. Our fleet and buildings are aging and need significant investment to continue operating safely.”

What image does this statement bring to your mind? Does it give you a sense of security, a sense of confidence, and a sense of pride in your community? It is a quote by the Winfield Fire Protection District (WFPD) Chief, Steve Evans, who was promoted to Chief in January but has served the citizens of the Winfield Fire Protection District since 1993.

In his time with Winfield Fire Protection District, Chief Evans has seen a lot. He has seen call volume increase 162%. He has seen 10 failed referendums. He has observed budgets cut so drastically that four out of five major trucks in the fleet are now past the end of their expected lives. Equipment breaks down monthly. In May, residents were left unprotected for two hours while all three fire trucks were broken down awaiting repair.

Winfield Fire Protection District trustees are asking residents one more time to approve a referendum to raise the limiting rate from 0.3637 to 0.6722. To simplify: A home worth \$300,000, will go from paying \$363.70 to \$672.20. The increase is needed to address very severe deficiencies in funding levels that, if left unfunded, will result in decreased emergency medical and fire services to residents and eventual closure of the Winfield Fire Protection District. If that happens, the State Fire Marshall will divide the region and reassign residents to the closest Fire District: Warrenville, West Chicago, or Carol Stream. If you were to be reassigned to one of those, how much longer would the response time be when you have a heart attack, your home is on fire, or when your child falls from a chair? Not only will response times be significantly longer, but your tax rate will automatically be aligned with those districts - and they are significantly higher than the proposed 0.6722. If this referendum does not pass, district residents will pay more money for potentially slower service.

The new funds will be used for four purposes: re-open the South station (at Roosevelt and Winfield Roads) with a full-time crew of three (3), purchase of reliable fire and ambulance equipment, facility repairs, and purchase of new life-saving technology for our ambulances and fire trucks.

Absentee ballots will be sent to residents on September 24, and the election will be held on November 3. An open house at the main fire station

has been scheduled for September 19, October 10, and October 27.

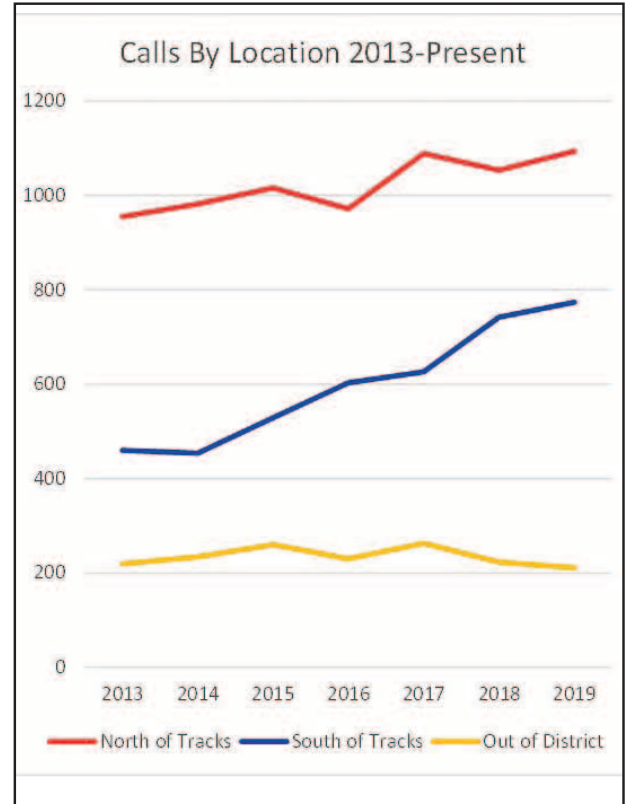
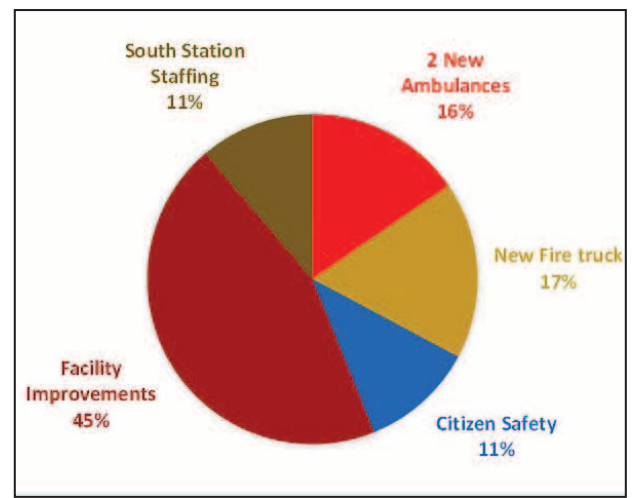
A local group of citizens has formed Save The Winfield Fire Department, a ballot initiative committee, to inform their neighbors about the truly startling need to pass a referendum by the citizens of the Winfield Fire Protection District. To learn more, volunteer, request a yard sign, or donate find them on social media or online at bit.ly/SaveWinfieldFPD.

Due to the age and condition of our fleet, I worry about the safety of our staff and residents.



Above: Winfield Fire Protection District Chief, Steve Evans;

Top right: A pie chart of how the funds will be used; Bottom right: How service calls are distributed throughout the fire protection district.



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www.winfieldfarmersmarket.com or www.facebook.com/winfieldfarmmarket

Winfield Education Foundation and District 34 PTO Supporting the Community

By Debbie Krygowski

While many of our back-to-school routines have changed this year, others remain the same. This school year, the Winfield Education Foundation (WEF) and District 34 Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) continue to focus on supporting families, local businesses, and organizations. We are working with District 34 leadership to identify ways in which we can assist our community, addressing

A Message from the Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight

Brother Knights:

We are all aware of the troubling events that are occurring today, including attacks on statues of historical figures such as Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and our Order's namesake, Christopher Columbus. Statues of saints have also been vandalized, including those honoring St. Junipero Serra, St. Louis and even the Blessed Virgin Mary, and houses of worship and other religious symbols have been attacked. These are not merely attacks on statues and history. They are increasingly attacks on Catholics and people of faith.

In the late 19th century, the Knights of Columbus took its name at a time of intense anti-Catholicism. Our founding members wanted to show that Catholics played an essential role in the exploration and development of America since its earliest days, and that a Catholic could be both a good citizen and a good Catholic.

However, anti-Catholicism persisted. In the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan tried to stop Columbus Day celebrations and opposed Columbus statues simply because Columbus was a Catholic. We opposed the KKK then and have continued to stand up against bigotry directed at Catholics and others.

We stood up against the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s, spoke out for the Jews of Germany in the 1930s and worked for religious freedom behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War. Today, we are rebuilding Christian communities in the Middle East that were targeted for genocide. Each of us can be proud of our history of standing up for the most vulnerable among us.

While our faith calls us to be respectful of different perspectives, acts of vandalism are crimes against all who cherish democracy and mutual respect. The Knights of Columbus remains firm in its condemnation of all forms of racism and violence, including political violence. With churches, statues, and religious symbols subject to vandalism and attack, we call upon elected officials and leaders at every level to defend the religious freedom of all.

Vivat Jesus!

Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight



So long, summer!

needs that arise with creativity and flexibility.

This summer, we have acted upon suggestions from our community, including a blood drive, recognition of eighth grade and preschool graduates and of essential workers, and delivery of safety supplies. We have participated in outreach towards staff and residents at NW-CDH and our local assisted living facilities. To help keep students engaged during the pandemic summer, we funded several initiatives, including a middle school book club, virtual band lessons, virtual basketball camp, and unique "Summer Wednesday" learning opportunities with D34 teachers. We welcome your collaboration and ideas of ways to support the Winfield community this year. Please visit wef.winfield34.org for information about our initiatives, how to donate, or to contact us.

To show our support for local businesses and organizations throughout our community, we have

been promoting and sharing information via parent communications, social media, and our website. We continue to extend an offer to share information through these communications about any business or organization free of charge, regardless of their prior involvement with WEF. Please contact us at wef@winfield34.org to let us know how we can help spread the word about your business or organization.

As always, WEF and PTO are extremely grateful to our community partners. Thanks to your generosity, WEF and PTO raised over \$20,000 last year, which has funded numerous initiatives, including educational teacher grants to enhance students' learning experiences, new uniforms for our athletic department, enrichment programs and school assemblies, and Winfield Studios podcast studio and green screen room. Our students, staff and families thank you!

See you out and around Winfield this autumn!

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Winfield's Centennial Planning Underway

By Phil Hardy

The year 2021 marks Winfield's Centennial and the Village is putting together several events to celebrate Winfield's 100th year as an incorporated community. In August 2019, the Village Board approved a Centennial declaration that included a call for resident participation on a Centennial Task Force. It is noted in the official declaration that "... Winfield has a rich history before and after its founding ... the Centennial is an excellent way to recognize Winfield's history, accomplishments, and bright future." In support of the celebration, the Village approved a \$10,000 budget for Centennial events and activities in 2021.

The Centennial Task Force is proceeding with its work despite the challenges of planning for large public gatherings due to Covid-19, and the uncertainty that surrounds 2021 events. The featured programs at this point are a "100 Reasons to Love Winfield" write-in campaign, a Torch Relay and champagne toast scheduled for New Year's Eve, 2020, a Centennial Logo Sidewalk Chalking event, and a fashion show later in 2021.

The biggest event is probably the Torch Relay. According to Torch Relay coordinator, Rich Bysina, "Sometime after 10 p.m., Thursday, December 31st of this year, several Winfield residents will take turns, carrying and passing along to one another a solar flame torch, walking a section of Winfield. It will start at Village Hall, escorted by a Winfield Police Department vehicle, move north to Geneva Road, turn back south along County Farm Road,

(continued on page 10)



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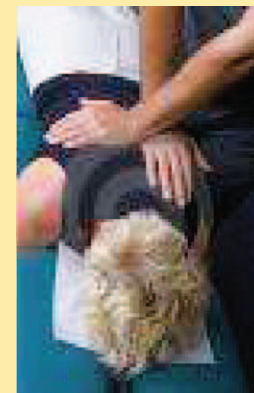
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Melissa LaCroix – College of DuPage (not pictured)

Daniel Weber – Florida State University

Madison Wilkins – University of Iowa

Michelle Lyngaas – Grand Valley State

Clare Weber – DePaul University

Olivia Lyngaas – Carroll University

Patrick Enger – Iowa State

Dominick Pellicane – University of Saint Thomas

James Milder – Iowa State (not pictured)

Emily Clare – University of Dayton (not pictured)

As with many other events during the current pandemic, our annual College Scholarship Fundraising BBQ had to be cancelled this year. If you'd like to make a donation to support our college scholarship fundraising efforts, please send to:

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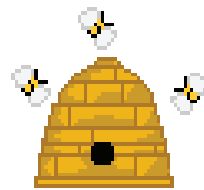
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To TIF or not to TIF 2

By Kathe Doremus

What is TIF-2 and why has the Village of Winfield been talking about creating another TIF in Town Center? Despite a plan being written, committees being formed that involved affected taxing bodies, and initial questions and concerns being raised, there was still a substantial amount of information on this topic that had not yet become readily available. The plan had not moved far along through the appropriate governmental channels, and at the Village Board Meeting on August 20, the TIF 2 plan and discussion sputtered and stalled out.

The TIF 2 plan that was (and at some point, may again be) discussed by the Village of Winfield is to create a second TIF district in Town Center that will supersede the existing TIF created in 2004. TIF 2 would allow the Village to extend (and expand) the TIF for many more years. Per the Town Center 2 TIF District Redevelopment Plan prepared by the Village of Winfield and Kane, McKenna and Associates, Inc. in May, 2020, "Tax Increment Financing is an economic tool which uses future tax revenues to finance redevelopment activity" and in "the State of Illinois, an area can be designated as a TIF district if it faces certain impediments to redevelopment." The TIF 2 Plan encompasses several very admirable goals that conform to the Winfield Comprehensive Plan of 2014 with Town Center being the focal point for redevelopment. The TIF 2 plan, in a nutshell, is to encourage commercial growth, increase collaboration with the hospital, and relocate Village Hall. If this sounds vaguely familiar to you, you are correct. Expansion and development of Town Center has

been a topic of discussion and a goal for the Village government for years, through the terms of a myriad of elected members and boards. It continues to be an on-going challenge for several reasons, and every Board has strived to address it somehow, though to date, an effective long-range plan has not been achieved. Town Center growth and development continues to elude the Village.

Some residents are of the opinion that the Village has not utilized the existing TIF created in 2004 to the benefit of the community or to bring any significant growth to our Town Center. Throughout the years, there have been a few unsuccessful attempts by varying businesses to establish themselves in Town Center, along with some well-established businesses that have given up and moved on for a myriad of reasons. We do have a few thriving businesses in our "Antique District" which have been created through creativity and dedication on the part of the business owners, and there seems to be potential to maximize or expand on what

those businesses bring to Winfield, should someone choose to develop a vision and implement an effective plan. An empty lot now exists where one of the most popular and historical businesses formerly stood. Hopefully that property will, (sooner, rather than later) become something a bit more vital; however, development must proceed in collaboration with the hospital as plans continue to evolve. Our Village Hall sits on prime Town Center real estate, and while many feel it serves our tiny little Village adequately, one of the more controversial parts of the of TIF 2 Plan was the utilization of this prime location to revitalize Town Center. The plan included the relocation and rebuilding of the Village Hall in a less central area in the Village and accomplishing this using TIF 2 funding.

A concern of some involved in initial discussion of TIF 2 is that the financial impact would fall primarily on the backs of the West side of the Village and the taxing bodies (as in School District *(continued on page 9)*)



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Winfield Farmers Market Adds Centennial Touch Next 2 Months

By Rich Bysina

The latter half of the popular Wednesday Winfield Farmers Market (September 2nd through October 28th) will have an "extra added attraction", according to market manager Rich Bysina.

"Despite the coronavirus we have all been forced to deal with, the Village of Winfield will still be celebrating its Winfield Centennial (1921-2021)

next year. At this point, no one knows for sure how originally planned events will be affected, but one community-wide project is going on as planned:

"100 Reasons to Love Winfield!" This will be next

year's Good Old Days theme to go along with the Centennial Celebration taking place in our village. We want to know what you love about Winfield. These reasons will be collected throughout the year and displayed at Good Old Days 2021.

Entry forms are available in the market's shopper's aisle for anyone to take and complete.

There will be two additional forms for shoppers to take in which to participate in the Winfield Centennial:

- 1) The Centennial Torch Relay, beginning late Thursday night, December 31st, and ending at the stroke of midnight, Friday, January 1st, 2021, on the Village Hall grounds; and 2) The Centennial Logo Art Exhibit, inviting Winfield students to draw the Centennial logo with sidewalk chalk at next year's Winfield Farmers Market.

According to Bysina, "This has been an unprecedented year for all farmers markets. Due to the cancellation of so many shows,

fairs and festivals, businesses who do not normally utilize farmers markets to advertise their products and services, are doing so this year.

"We've tried to accommodate as many of them as possible, while maintaining the integrity of the farmers market shopping experience. I have never considered our market as an 'in-&-out, hit-&-run or grab-&-go' place to shop, as some have suggested. We have close to 40 vendors here every Wednesday who count on shoppers to take some time to see, up 'socially-distanced' close, what they have to offer. And I personally want to thank both our vendors and shoppers alike for their cooperation during this challenging year to make shopping here not only as normal as possible, but as safe and healthy as well".

The Winfield Farmers Market is open every Wednesday, 7am-1pm, June through October, in the parking lot of the Prairie Trail Center shopping plaza, SW corner of Geneva and County Farm Roads. Visit www.winfieldfarmersmarket.com or www.facebook.com/winfieldfarmmarket for vendor information, photos, and customer comments.

For the safety and health of all shoppers and vendors, please continue to wear an appropriate face covering, and practice social distancing guidelines. Everyone's cooperation is not only appreciated, but also needed as well.

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To TIF or not

(continued from page 7)

34 and District 94). To them, this plan seemed less than equitable. Another issue to be considered and discussed was a little less visible as the funds to build a new Village Hall would come at the expense of the districts including those that served non-Winfield residents – District 94 and Districts 33 and 25 – which serve students from West Chicago, Warrenville, Carol Stream, and Wheaton along with Winfield. There are some non-deliberate but not less unsavory consequences from such a plan that should be explored in depth should this proposal ever become a viable consideration in the future.

Economic development and growth in Winfield's Town Center would be a boon for all residents and should remain a priority for our governing board. While the logic behind the proposed TIF 2 plan was sound, working with the hospital, moving Village Hall to a less "prime" location, and encouraging new business to relocate to Winfield, the timing is probably not ideal for a number of reasons. In today's economic environment, while all taxing bodies are facing challenges as a result of Covid-19, the State of Illinois careens on the verge of bankruptcy. In the midst of another recession when so many residents are struggling to deal with some of the highest real estate taxes in the State, the question must be asked whether this is an appropriate time, and if the potential future value outweighs the immediate impact? While the TIF 2 proposal anticipates growth and financial payback at the expiration of the TIF, it does not address the unique and challenging budgeting issues being faced right now in 2020. The Fire Department, the Park District, the Library, and the School Districts are all fighting to make budgets work amidst many unknowns while continuing to meet the skyrocketing need for services. We have seen throughout the long history of the Village that economic development in Town Center is without a quick or readily available solution. While continuing dialogue on the topic is always good, it probably is not the right time to take property off the tax rolls. Village leaders fortunately seem to have decided that for whatever reason, to allow this plan to wither on the vine for at least the immediate future.

If and when this topic is brought forward again, all residents will want to listen very carefully to the facts, gain an understanding of the nuances as to what the impacts are and to whom, and make certain that we, the voters in this Village, demand transparency and hold our elected officials accountable.

Winfield Knights of Columbus 7th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner

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Centennial Plans

(continued from page 5)

through neighborhood streets, crossing the tracks, moving as far south as Manchester Road, then back north along Winfield Road until it ends where it began, [at] Village Hall. The Relay Torch itself will then be mounted, exactly at the stroke of midnight, Friday, January 1st, 2021, on one of the columns on the Village grounds."

In addition to the Centennial Task Force's important work, an outside organization, The Winfield Foundation (501c3), was recently established by Foundation Board members Carl Sorgatz and Don Longacre. (Disclosure: I currently serve as Trustee on the Foundation's Board) The Winfield Foundation is focusing on outside fundraising, including a golf outing and dinner which was held in late August, to raise resources to support Centennial community events, as well as other longer-term planning for ongoing community events and activities. The featured event for the 2021 celebration is the Intelligentsia Cup cycling race, scheduled for late July 2021 in Winfield. The Intelligentsia Cup is a premier cycling competition in the United States, and as part of

this competition the Foundation is planning a range of activities for the day of the race, including live music and dining during a summer festival.

For more information about the Winfield Centennial Task Force, including meeting times, agendas and minutes, visit <https://www.villageofwinfield.com/372/Winfield-Centennial-Task-Force>. For more information about The Winfield Foundation and the Intelligentsia Cup, visit <https://www.the-winfieldfoundation.org>.



Enjoying The Winfield Foundation golf outing which was held August 28th.

District 34 Referendum Comes with Lower Taxes

By Dan Janowick

Improved security and capital projects will be on the ballot for residents of School District 34 this November.

Planned projects at the Winfield Primary School

include replacing windows that date from the 1960's and upgrades to the fire alarm system. The Winfield Central School will see a portion of the roof replaced and the installation of a new gymnasium floor. Both schools will see added security features

such as pull stations that directly contact the police department in halls, updated entrance designs and the installation of escape windows. The schools, located in Winfield's Town Center, will also see improvements to their HVAC systems.

District Superintendent Matt Rich said "The timing is right for these important projects and sound fiscal management allows the district to take on long overdue facility improvements and increase the safety of our kids and staff without having to raise taxes." By timing the start of these new bonds after the final payment of bonds from their 2002 referendum, the school district is able to complete the \$4.7 million package of projects without raising property taxes, in fact, the school district portion of your tax bill will be decreased. To compare this to a household budget, this is like making your last car payment and then buying a new, but less expensive car; your payment would be decreased. Projections indicate that for every \$100,000 in a homes' value, their school district payment would be decreased by \$42.

Details on the proposed projects and analysis of the lowered tax rate can be found on the school district's website www.winfield34.org.

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www.winfieldhistory.org and www.facebook.com/hedgesstation

Any questions? Email hedgesmuseum@winfieldparkdistrict.com

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Learn more at wef.winfield34.org

Meals For Older Adults

In response to the need for older adults to receive meals during the COVID-19 pandemic, DuPage Senior Citizens Council and DuPage County Sheriff's Office have partnered to introduce a new and temporary meal distribution service.

Older Adults who are 60 and older are eligible to receive 5 frozen meals. All you need to do is fill out a simple form.

This service is being provided at The DuPage County Sheriff's Office.

DuPage County Sheriff's Office Sign Up/Pickup Details

Date: Saturday September 12th

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Address: 501 N. County Farm Rd

Wheaton, IL 60187

Call To Sign Up: Crystal Mendez 630-407-2367

On the day of the pickup/delivery, you must maintain a 6 foot distance. This temporary service may conclude at any time, with notification. DuPage Senior Citizens Council 630-620-0804 or info@dupageseniorcouncil.org

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