

**Celebrating Our Community** 

Spring 2023



# Dad Shares Story of Family's Journey to Liver Transplant

By Dan Janowick

In early 2022, we got the news we hoped would never come, our 12-year old son's liver disease had worsened and the only remaining option was a lifesaving liver transplant.

In Will's first few weeks of life, a rare disease called Biliary Atresia damaged the bile ducts, causing permanent damage to his liver. My wife Amanda and I suddenly became part of a pediatric liver disease community that we didn't even know existed. Like many parents of kids with rare or chronic health conditions, we scrambled to educate ourselves and find support from other families on the same path. The only treatment for our 6-week old son was an emergency operation to restore the flow of bile to his intestine and then hope it worked long enough for him to grow stronger. But while surgery bought time, it wasn't a cure, and we learned Biliary Atresia is the single leading cause of liver transplants in children. Doctors explained that you don't want to rush to transplant because it comes with so many risks but that you don't want to wait too long because a child who is sick might struggle to get through the transplant and it's recovery. You're trying to hit a moving target and find the sweet spot. As a parent, it is heartbreaking to see your child suffer and not be able to help. We were scared, overwhelmed, and didn't know where to turn. Will would need close medical monitoring as he went from baby to toddler to middle schooler, and Amanda quickly learned how to change PICC lines, clean surgical wounds, and administer tube feedings. Will got used to lots of doctor appointments, blood draws, and tests. He was growing, but at a pace well-behind medical growth charts because his liver wasn't functioning properly. Due to complications of his disease, Will spent a handful of occasions hospitalized over the years for a liver infection, failure to thrive and multiple instances of internal bleeding; but he always kept a smile on his face.

Early last year, Will's growth was continuing to slow and he was becoming jaundiced. His doctors told us the condition of his liver was declining and it was time to start the transplant evaluation. Finally in July, Will qualified to be placed on the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) transplant waiting list. It was simultaneously great news and heartbreaking. While we always knew it was likely he would need a transplant someday, there is no way to prepare for the day that happens. As part of many online liver disease groups, we have seen so much triumph, and so much devastation, but above all, we saw courageous families doing everything they could to help their child. We were excited to start to think about what the health a new organ could bring, but knew that post-transplant life comes with many challenges - not to mention the hurdle of a risky major surgery. We had to start preparing for "the call" that an organ from a deceased person was available, and also start planning for testing to see if anyone qualified to be a living donor. Because a healthy liver can regenerate, it meant we could try and find a match for Will to get a piece of liver transplanted from a living person. We were surprised to learn that of the almost 10,000

> **PRSRT STD** U.S. POSTAGE PAID EDDM RETAIL

liver transplants that took place last year, only 4% were from a living donor. The first liver transplant was performed 1967 and it was remarkable to learn that the first living donor transplant occurred at University of Chicago in 1989 - not that long ago. Before living donors became an option, more than

Doctors explained that you don't want to rush to transplant because it comes with so many risks but that you don't want to wait too long because a child who is sick might struggle to get through the transplant and it's recovery. You're trying to hit a moving target and find the sweet spot. says it all.

50% of people on the waitlist would die. According to UNOS, the national non-profit that administers the nations organ transplant waiting lists, only about 1% of liver transplants each year go to pediatric patients from a living donor.

I was first to be tested and ecstatic when we got the call that I was a match. On October 5th, after a combined 15 hours of surgery, 20% of my liver was removed and given to Will. I can't imagine the

> feelings Amanda experienced as she watched her son and husband get wheeled off to major surgeries in 2 different hospitals at the same time. Our families and the Winfield community rallied to help us through the most difficult

time in our lives with meals, rides, and encouragement. Remarkably, after only 10 days post-surgery, Will was discharged and our family spent 2-weeks continuing to heal at Ronald McDonald House near Lurie Children's so that he could be closely monitored by doctors. Living with a transplant requires a strict regimen of anti-rejection medications but now 5 months post-surgery, Will is back at school, playing basketball daily, gaining weight and able to cause trouble like any 12 year old.

continued on page 13

## **Karwoski Family Vision Celebrates** 10 Year Anniversary in Winfield

By Jennie Fleming

When Optometrist Dr. Carolyn Karwoski decided to open an independent vision center to offer quality eye care and a more personal approach for patients, she knew Winfield was the place to go. Her husband's family had been a part of Winfield for many years and Dr. Karwoski found there weren't many optical centers nearby.

Celebrating their 10th anniversary in Winfield this past December, Dr. Karwoski is joined by two fantastic staff members. Melissa is the front desk coordinator, the insurance overseer, and is learning to be an optician. Jacob is the other friendly face you'll see in the office. Jacob is a board-certified optician and performs repairs on all the glasses and

frames they offer, including sport, safety, and sunglasses.

Karwoski Family Vision offers complete exams for adults and children, as early as 6 months old. In addition to routine and contact lens exams, Dr. Karwoski, who is fluent in Spanish, treats dry eye, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and post-op management of cataract and Lasik surgeries. Recently, Dr. Karwoski helped a patient find and fit lenses for their gaming headset.

Dr. Karwoski explains that she spends a lot of time consulting families about myopia management for kids. Myopia means the patient can see near objects but cannot see far objects clearly. The condition can be a result of too much close screen time and of not being outdoors enough and high myopia can sometimes lead to serious eye diseases. Fortunately, there are FDAapproved contacts and eyedrops shown to slow down the progression of the disease. Dr. Karwoski's recommendation is to re-

Dr. Karwoski (back), Melissa and Jacob celebrate the 10th anniversary of Karwoski Vision and look forward to a bright future.

duce close screen time and go outdoors for at least two hours a day.

Visit www.karwoskivision.com or call 630-480-2646 to schedule your appointment. Call that same number and leave a message for an after-hours emergency, Dr. Karwoski will call you back. Melissa will help you use your medical and vision insurance.

Plan on visiting the office for their annual friends and family sunglasses sale in June. 30% off all sunglasses for the entire month!

For those still wondering, John's Buffet's bar was bought at auction by Neil and Carolyn Karwoski. It resides in their garage and continues to be the center of many parties.



# **Exciting Changes at the Winfield Park District**

The recent expansion and renovation of the Charles R. Beggs Activity brought some exciting changes to the WINFIT Family Fitness Center.

- 1400 square foot expansion which included a new Group X studio, expanded functional fitness area, and equipment storage.
- new flooring throughout the entire fitness area
- 50% of the equipment replaced with newer models or different machines.

Also, with the expansion of the facility, a whole

new wing was added with space available for party rentals and events. The 2200 square foot space is made up of a large program room that can accommodate up to 100 people, and can also be divided into 2 smaller rooms for more intimate gatherings. There is also an industrial demonstration kitchen, which is a perfect space for caterers to warm food and prep for serving, that can be added on to your rental. The Park Dis-

trict also has a newly acquired liquor license which adds to the many features making the Community and Recreation Rooms the perfect place to host bridal showers and small weddings, as well as parties for birthdays, graduations, and retirements.

For more information or questions regarding room rentals, contact Kristin Bykowski at 630.653.3811 or *Kristinb@winfieldpark district.com.* 





Photos, top to bottom:

The new party room is available for rental; the expanded fitness studio with new equipment is ready for workouts; a new liquor license makes the party room a perfect place for bridal showers and small parties.



Plenty to check out!

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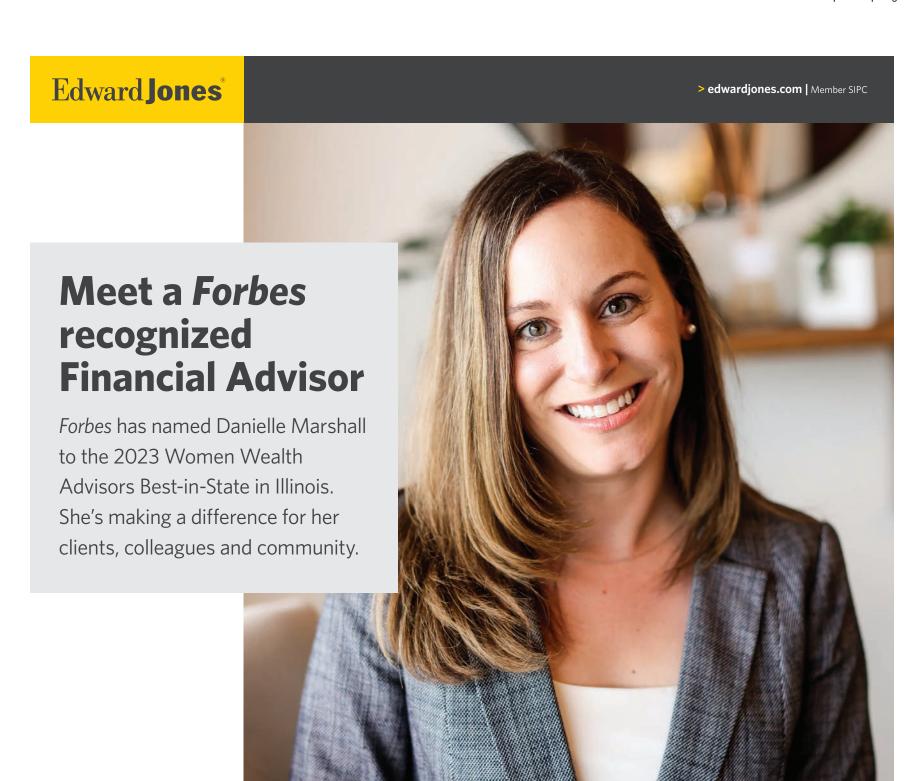


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Ranking Methodology: The Forbes ranking of America's Top Women Wealth Advisors and Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-In-State, developed by SHOOK Research, is based on an algorithm of qualitative data, learned through surveys and interviews conducted in person, by telephone and virtually to evaluate best practices, level of service, investing models and compliance records, as well as quantitative data, such as revenue trends and assets under management

All advisors have a minimum of seven years' experience. Portfolio performance is not a criterion due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Neither Forbes nor SHOOK receives a fee in exchange for rankings.

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# **Spring Flower Photo Contest**

Our holiday pet contest was a big hit so we know there are lots of talented photographers in Winfield. Here's your opportunity to show off your Spring flowers with a flower photo contest!

#### **Prize Info:**

One lucky winner will win prizes from Gracie's Petals and Shamrock Florist and your photo will be featured in our Summer issue.

#### **Official Rules:**

- 1. To enter, contestants may submit one photograph through our website www.thewinfield glimpses.com (detailed instructions follow). Include your name, phone number, email address, and name of/type of flower (if known). Entries will be accepted from now until May 22, 2023.
  - Photographs must be taken in Winfield.
  - 3. All eligible entries received will be posted at





Congratulations to Nellie and AJ, our Cute Pet Contest prize winners.

https://www.facebook.com/winfieldglimpses.

- 4. A winner will be chosen by the Winfield Glimpses Facebook visitors. The most "Likes" on a photo wins! In the event of a tie, Glimpses Staff will select the winner.
- 5. The winning photo will be announced on our Facebook page on May 26th and will also be pictured in the Summer issue of the Glimpses.
- 8. By entering, you consent to the Winfield Glimpses publishing your photo as well as information identifying you.

#### **Upload Directions:**

Go to our website https://thewinfieldglimpses. com/ and scroll down to SEND MESSAGE type in the information and click ATTACH to attach your photo. Please include your name, phone number, email address, and type of flower (if known).

Some picture taking tips to keep in mind:

On an iPhone:

Settings/Camera/Formats/

Choose "Most Compatible"

This will not compress the photo and will give the user a jpg format. Photos should be at least 2 MB. Anything below 1 MB will be small, low resolution and not reproduce well.



Capture and share Winfield spring blooms in our

Photo Contest

The photo should look pleasing to the eye good color, smooth images, crisp focus, good representation of light and shadows.

Photos that are out of focus can be slightly improved, but will not be sharp. Photos that are dark or deeply shadowed can be improved, but will not be as good as a well lit, focused photos.



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- A KIDZ Zone featuring an inflatable Obstacle Course
- Face Painter and Balloon Artist
- More activities will be named later

### Food Trucks and a **Beer Trailer**

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Contact Carl Sorgatz - (630) 534-0856



#### **SAVE THE DATE**

Winfield Foundation Annual Golf Outing & Dinner Friday, September 22, 2023 at Klein Creek Golf Course For More Information, Contact Carl Sorgatz, csorgatz52@gmail.com (630) 534-0856

### **Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce News**

Please join us for monthly networking meetings. Meetings start at 7:30am and will be held at these locations:

April 4th will be hosted by Kathy Agresti at The Barber Shoppe at 0S120 Church St, Winfield



May 2nd will be hosted by Peter Krumins at Winfield Village Hall at 27W465 Jewell Rd, Winfield

June 6th will be hosted by Andy Herrero at State Farm Insurance at 27W093 Geneva Road

Also, the Monday night car shows are back in June! Shows start at 5:30pm and go until 8:30pm. Come on out with the family and enjoy a nice summer evening checking out the cars and grabbing a bite to eat at the restaurants at Prairie Trail Center.

We also want to extend a big Thank You to the following businesses who acted as drop off locations collecting food stuffs for the St. John's food pantry: Berger Bros. Pub, Winfield Wealth, The Barber Shoppe, Lions Panzek Martial Arts, Admiral Builders, and Daniel and Associates Real Estate.



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# The GardenWorks Project Announces New Partnership With Ronald McDonald House and Tony Reyes Family Foundation

Volunteers helping at GardenWorks' new

DuPage County Fairgrounds community gardens

By Eileen Tibble

The GardenWorks Project, a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization improving food security and food access throughout western Chicagoland, announces a new partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities and the Tony Reyes Family Foundation. Beginning in spring 2023, GardenWorks and RMH will begin a 3-year long project to expand fresh food access and strengthen the health and wellness of the RMH community.

With funding generously granted by the Tony Reyes Family Foundation, The GardenWorks Project will install food growing gardens at the Winfield RMH campus for the purposes of improving food access for families residing on site, creating therapeutic activities for families and staff, and providing gardening education as a source of recreation.

Late 2022, Jeannie Iseman, Executive Director, and Eileen Tibble, Marketing and Development Manager, met with Samantha Schmidt, RMHC Manager of Family Services, about ways

to better utilize its campus greenspace for families under their care. During a tour of the facility, Samantha spoke about the needs of the families they serve. Families residing at RMHC often arrive in crisis, on short notice, and without basic supplies or transportation. Families come from across the country and the globe, and RMHC provides a home-like environment, with access to food, comfort, and recreation to better position them to face their child/ren's health challenges. RMHC aims to provide one well-balanced meal, and supply its kitchen with healthy ingredients that allow families to cook for themselves.

Samantha notes there is a high demand for fresh produce, and staff at RMHC would like fresh produce grown on-site in order to better meet the demand, provide culturally palatable choices, and

Winfield Community United Methodist Church

They say a church is not the building, but rather the people who worship. The last worship service in the Winfield Community United Methodist Church building at Jefferson and Sunnyside Streets was February 19th. The congregation has merged with the First UMC of West Chicago at 643 E. Washington St. They will continue to serve their community and the world from this new location.



provide healthy options for consumption. "RMH is thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Garden-Works to provide a safe outdoor space of respite and learning for our families" says Samantha. "We are so excited to try new recipes with our fresh veggies! Thank you to Garden-Works and Tony Reyes Family Foundation for this amazing opportunity!"

The GardenWorks Project has been in the work of improving food access since 2012, promoting health and wellness and providing households with

the resources and knowledge to grow food for themselves. The organization promotes organic food production and sustainable practices that reduce food waste and improve the health of people and our planet. Believing that everyone deserves fresh produce, Gardenworks works to create a more resilient and reliable local food system, accessible to all.

The missions of these three organizations are closely connected, serving the health and well-being of individuals in DuPage County, which makes this partnership unique and impactful. The project is set to be-

gin in April 2023, when GardenWorks kicks off the garden build season, preparing 134 garden beds for individuals throughout the western suburbs.

The GardenWorks Project is grateful to the Tony Reyes Family Foundation for their support in expanding fresh food access and wellness in Winfield. GardenWorks relies on volunteers, donors, and corporate sponsors to fulfill its mission to improve food security and well-being for our neighbors.

To learn more about how you can get involved, find us at:

Web: gardenworksproject.org • FB: @TheGarden-WorksProject • IG: gardenworksproject.



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#### KOC 8002 Easter Vigil Dinner Fundraiser Saturday April 8th

We are taking orders for Easter Vigil Dinner featuring Tony's wood-fired slow roasted Angus boneless prime rib from Wheaton Meat market. Dinners will include baked potatoes, rolls and chocolate brownies.

Please contact Sean Conley at 630-835-8225 or seanpconley1@comcast.net to place your order by Friday, March 31st, and pick-up Saturday, April 8th between 12pm-2pm at St. John's Sebahar Hall. Include your name, phone number, pick-up time, and which size dinner you'd like to order. (Please, no special requests). Make check payable to KOC 8002.

All food will be hot and wrapped and ready to go straight to your oven or right to the table.

#### Limited orders available - order today!

Proceeds go to the Monsignor Cloos Fund for St. John's Students.

Prime Rib - 10 oz./serving 10 oz. Dinner for 1 \$60 Dinner for 2 \$110 20 oz. Dinner for 3 \$160 30 oz. Dinner for 4 \$200 40 oz. Dinner for 5 \$235 50 oz. Dinner for 6 \$250 60 oz.

Each dinner includes:

10 oz. prime rib

1 side au jus

1 side horseradish sauce

1 baked potato

1 side sour cream

1 dinner roll with butter

1 chocolate brownie



# A Fun & Busy Winter for Winfield School Community

The Winfield School community has had a fun and busy winter. Winfield's PTO and Education Foundation have been thrilled to bring back and continue to grow many of our family favorite events including Tiger Auction, education grants, Project Hope Gift Giving Program, community blood drives, classroom holiday parties for students and the 7th Annual Tiger Run.

The Tiger Auction was a week-long fundraising event that gave families an opportunity to bid on items provided by the Winfield School staff, Winfield Fire and Winfield Police. The staff offered meals, games, baking, music lessons with teachers. Students also took on staff roles as P.E. teacher, librarian, and principal for the day. Some students were even able to dissect a cow eyeball! The Winfield Police and Fire Department drove groups of students to school in a police car and fire truck. The fundraising event ended with an intense bidding war, up until the last second of the bidding window, resulting in over \$2,000 raised for our future student programming!

The Winfield Education Foundation provided educational grants to enhance the learning experiences of the students in Winfield District 34. The eighthgrade students will see a production of Romeo and Juliet. During the second trimester, the students are reading the play and attending the production will provide them with a perfect culminating activity to deepen their understanding and have an experience of live theater. Our kindergarten learners will also benefit from the education grant when they explore Sphero indi learning robots. The academic learning opportunities are endless, with applications in language arts, math, science, as well the students' social-emotional learning. As students use these robots, they will be learning to take risks, try and fail, try and succeed, and take turns. These are all skills that they will need in all aspects of their lives.

Winfield's Annual Tiger Run will take place on Sunday, May 21 on the streets around the school.

Registration is officially open and we hope you will join us for this year's family friend event! The event will include a dash for the youngest runners, a one-mile race, as well as a 5K race. Proceeds from this event will be used to purchase new stage lighting.

Back

Above: Anthony was the lucky winner of this year's Ride to School with WPD! He and his buddy, Cooper, got to ride to school lights and all. Thank you to the WInfield Police Department for making this experience

possible in this year's Tiger Auction. Right: Logo for the Spring drama production, Back To The 80s, designed by middle school student, Trier.

**WINFIELD DRAMA 2023** 

This will enhance the annual Drama Club productions as well as other events held in the cafeteria. For sponsorship information, please contact: Deb

Moran at wef@winfield34.org.

Speaking of stage lighting, you won't want to miss this year's Drama Club production of Back to the 80's, on the evenings of March 16th, 17th, 18th. Winfield Central's Drama Club is made up of over 60 students in 5th through 8th grade. The students' roles are all encompassing of the performance; as actors, stage design, and behind the scenes production support! We are excited to see our students shine in their respective roles again this year!

Save the date for our next Winfield Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, May 17th from 3:45pm to 6:30pm. You can schedule your appointment today at: https://tinyurl.com/Winfield34May17. Did you know that 1 in 7 people entering the hospital will need blood? Help us, help local patients in need including those at Northwestern CDH, by joining us at the blood drive. First time donors are welcome, no need to know your blood type!

Are you looking for ways to support Winfield

schools from home? Box Tops for Education is a simple way to help raise money for the school. Simply download the Box Tops app and select Winfield Elementary School. Scan your receipts and any qualifying purchase gives money to the school. In addition, Winfield School benefits from purchases from Market Day. Visit https://www.marketdaylocal.com/ Select Winfield School District 34 PTO. Orders are delivered to your home and Winfield receives 10%!

We are thankful for our entire community of supporters and families that make this all possible. From lifesaving blood donations to education focused donations, none of our efforts would be possible without volunteers and community engagement. Thank you for making Winfield a place for our students to thrive.



# **Winfield Fire Protection District Updates**

By Luke Allen

Have you ever watched a horse race?
Months of work goes into preparing for a race:
training, planning, coordination, and discussions of
strategy take place over many cups of coffee and
notebook sketches. On race day, a calm settles
over everything as plans are checked.

Before you know it the horses are lined up, a bell rings, and a great symphony of energy begins.

That symphony is also occurring at the Winfield Fire Protection District right now. Since the passage of the referendum on June 28, 2022, there's been a flurry of planning, strategizing, and coordination.

The trustees and Chief explained to residents during the referendum marketing that they had three strategic needs that would be addressed with the passage of the referendum.

- Add a second ambulance crew to respond to growing calls for service.
- Replace aging and broken equipment and buy one additional ambulance.
- Provide enough space for additional crew and equipment.

"We are doing exactly what we promised we would do during the referendum," said Chief Steve Evans. "The fleet is being upgraded, we are planning the facility improvements, and we have new staff starting in March."

Below are some highlights of the status of those three initiatives discussed during the referendum:

#### Staff

- Two new paramedic/firefighters began their employment February 27th.
- Testing process for Lieutenant promotions has been completed.
- Federal FEMA grant funds have been awarded

# Village News

# Sales Tax Referendum on April Ballot

On the April 4 Consolidated Election ballot, Winfield voters will see a referendum question asking if the village should be authorized to increase its sales tax by 0.25%. To put things into perspective, the tax on a \$100 purchase would increase by 25 cents. This increase will be used to cover increasing Village operational costs and a loss of some traditional revenue sources. A sales tax increase was selected as the preferable source to ensure much of the revenue will be raised from nonresident purchases. Due to new development and businesses coming to Winfield in recent years, the sales tax can be used instead of raising property taxes. More information can be found in the January 2023 Winfield Word newsletter.

# New Community Events Commission Installed

With the Riverwalk Park up and running and a gorgeous new band shell, the Village has announced the formation of a new commission to bring entertainment to Winfield! The new Community Events Commission will review, develop, promote and coordinate a series of community events for the enjoyment of Winfield residents and visitors. Stay tuned for more details.

To help kick off a series of summer music concerts, The Tony Reyes Family Foundation has generously donated \$5,000 to The Winfield Foundation, an independent 501(c)3 Winfield community organization formed to facilitate and provide support for events and other initiatives benefiting the residents of Winfield.



to offset the additional staffing costs for the next 3 years, saving taxpayers over \$680,000.

#### Fleet

- New ambulance began daily use in December.
- A second new ambulance has been ordered and will be delivered in late 2024.
- New fire engine is currently in production and will be delivered in the late summer.
- Committee has begun designing the new water tender truck with an expected delivery of 2026.

#### **Facilities**

 Healy, Bender, Patton & Been Architects from Naperville has been selected to design the new



Winfield Fire Protection District Chief Steve Evans and Deputy Chief Eric Ermer pose with the new ambulance that was put into service in December.

- station.
- Surveying and soil engineering bids have been awarded and will be complete by the end of March.
- Architects have begun transportation and utility planning.



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### Winfield Resident 'Goes Viral'



After his Fantasy Football league lost, Winfield resident Cade McHenry had to do 30 days-worth of dancing on Tik Tok as punishment. Unexpectedly, his Tik Toks went viral and caught the attention

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of ESPN, the Chicago Bears, and national news outlets. In high school, dancing was not among his moves as he played baseball and football. His final dance step was an appearance on "Good Morning America" on February 8th. You can watch the segment here: Viral TikToker dances 30 days straight after losing fantasy football I GMA – YouTube.

As a result of the video, he and his entire Fantasy Football league received an invitation for a VIP trip to training camp from the Chicago Bears and a year's supply of Gatorade. "What was supposed to be a punishment turned into an experience my family, friends and myself will never forget", says McHenry. Currently he is a junior at North Central College, majoring in sports management. ABC7 filmed his homecoming from the filming in New York.

# Winfield Library Connects with Celebrities Via Zoom

By Katie Clark and Dawn Leardi
Winfield Library has joined over 200 libraries
across the state for the second season of Illinois
Libraries Present, a collaborative effort designed to
bring virtual events with bestselling, esteemed, and
diverse speakers to library patrons across the state.
Joining forces for such events allows us to bring
speakers to Winfield that might not be possible due
to budget constraints or production capabilities.

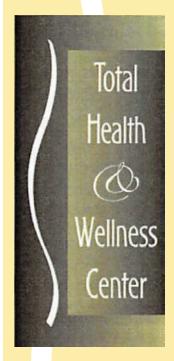
The Library's Adult Programming Assistant Dawn Leardi has coordinated our involvement in this project and says, "We're excited to feature such well-respected speakers and are thrilled to work with Illinois Libraries Present to bring more of these events to our community."

Illinois Libraries Present features one or two programs a month via Zoom. Past programs have included Silvia Moreno-Garcia, Jasmine Guillory, Nick Offerman and Marlee Matlin. The consortium recently featured a visit with children's author Kwame Alexander, and best-selling science writer Mary Roach aired on March 1. Each speaker is in conversation with a specially-selected moderator in a related field.

Registration via Zoom is required for each event. Visit the library calendar at "winfield.evanced.info/signup" to access the registration links. Upcoming speakers include actor and restaurateur Danny Trejo on April 4 and NY Times Puzzle Master Will Shortz on April 25.

This consortium is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).





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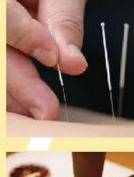
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# Two Christmas Presents Revive Final Attempt for 'It's a Wonderful Life' Commemorative Stamp

Winfield Farmers Market manager Rich Bysina tries to keep active with personal projects during the seven-month off season, and this past Christmas resurrected an idea that goes back to 1993.

That was the year Bysina and a number of other classic movie lovers requested the United States

#### It's a Wonderful Life Favorite Scenes

- 1. George & Mary's first embrace and kiss next to telephone
- 2 Young George telling Mr. Gower about poison in prescription
- 3. George & Mary doing Charleston at high school graduation dance
- 4. George & Mary embracing on wedding day, as their moms watch
- 5. George standing in Bailey Bros. office with concerned shareholders
- 6. George telling off "scurvy little spider" Mr. Potter in Potter's office
- 7. George praying for God's help on bridge, contemplating suicide
- 8. George, wishing he'd "never been born", & Clarence in bridge house
- 9. George & Mary on staircase with kids after he's returned to real life
- Mary standing in front of fireplace greeting a surprised George in their "new" home (320 Sycamore) on their wedding night
- 11. Mary & Violet as young girls with young George behind soda fountain
- 12. Young George saving his brother Harry from drowning in ice pond
- 13. George & Mary holding bread, salt & wine welcoming Martini family to their new home in attractive Bailey Park subdivision
- 14. George (in football jersey) & Mary (wearing robe) walking on sidewalk
- 15. George with his sick daughter Zuzu (with broken flowers) on her bed
- 16. George & Violet talking in town square with amused people looking on
- 17. George talking with Bert & Ernie in town square next to Ernie's cab
- 18. Mary holding up \$2,000 ("How much do you need?") in Bailey office
- George, Uncle Billy, cousins Tilly & Eustace toasting the two dollars ("Mama dollar and Papa dollar!") left at close of Bailey's business day
- 20. George & Mary in living room with "George Lassos the Moon" poster
- 21. Martini's bartender Nick at cash register "handing out wings"
- 22. George yelling at Uncle Billy trying to find out where he put the \$8,000
- 23. Janie at piano practicing "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" for family party
- 24. George on bridge with Bert the cop back in real life ("Zuzu's petals!")
- 25. George running through snow in Bedford Falls town square shouting "Merry Christmas!" to everyone & everything
- 26. Harry Bailey raising glass of wine in front of crowd at Bailey home: "A toast...to my big brother, George. The richest man in town."
- 27. George & Zuzu next to Christmas tree: "Look, Daddy! Teacher says, Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings."

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Postal Service (USPS) to issue a commemorative 50th anniversary stamp (or 10-stamp sheet) in 1996 for the 1946 movie "It's a Wonderful Life".

After all, three years earlier the USPS issued commemorative 50th anniversary stamps for four movies released in 1939: "Gone With the Wind", "The Wizard of Oz", "Stagecoach" and "Beau Geste".

Request denied.

The same request denials came in 2008 (Jimmy Stewart's posthumous 100th birthday), and yet another in 2021, the film's 75th anniversary.

Then Christmas 2022 happened. Bysina first received a piece of the film's memorabilia from the women who manage his Arbors of Brookdale apartment complex – a poster with a cartoon graphic and the words "George Lassos the Moon". He then received a commemorative 75th anniversary "It's a Wonderful Life" publication from his family.

Those two presents, coupled with the fact that in 2020 the USPS issued a commemorative stamp sheet celebrating the 80th birthday of (who would

have guessed?) Bugs Bunny, convinced Bysina that he had to try a fourth and final time to get the same recognition for "It's a Wonderful Life" on its 80th anniversary in 2026.

"2026 is America's Semiquincentennial", says Bysina, "and I think this would be a perfect ending to celebrate our country's 250th birthday. If we can celebrate an 80th birthday for a cartoon rabbit with a commemorative stamp sheet, why not for a movie classic that's on the American Film Registry."

Bysina has begun the process of getting people to select their 10 favorite scenes from the movie, which would ultimately be transferred to the images on the USPS's Forever stamps in 2026. These 27 scenes are listed in the box at left.

If anyone doesn't find his/her favorites in the above list, they can write it in.

Submissions of the 10 scenes, one per person – and there is no age limit – should be sent, by scene numbers only, to *sezwhorich@gmail.com*.

Paper ballots will also be available at this year's Winfield Farmers Market.





# Winfield Farmers Market Opens May 31st This Year

Ever since the Winfield Farmers Market opened 30 years ago, in 1993, in the Prairie Trail Center shopping plaza on the SW corner of Geneva and County Farm Roads, the market opened the first week of June, and closed the last Wednesday of October

Until this year.

According to market manager Rich Bysina: "This

year of 2023, the first week of June falls on June 7th. If we opened on this date, then closed on the last Wednesday of October, that would give us a total of 21 market days for the season, one day short of the usual 22.

So we decided to open one week earlier, Wednesday, May 31st, two days after Memorial Day, and

stay open one week later, Wednesday, November 1st, which gives us one extra shopping day, or a total of 23 market days."

This \$4 certificate is good to use at any vendor on the market's Opening Day, Wednesday, May 31st. If it's used on any other day during the 2023 season, it's worth one-half the face value, or \$2.

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Prairie Trail Center, SW Corner Geneva & County Farm Roads

NOTE: If certificate is used any other Market Day, it is worth \$2.00. One original certificate per shopper per purchase. Copies not accepted.



# Congratulations

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# **Park District Summer Camp**

The Winfield Park District "Mighty Munchkins" and "Camp Winfield" programs are the perfect option for a summer full of fun! Camp will provide daily activities including crafts, games, sports, pool days, and field trips for kids ages 5-13 years old. Camp is held Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm at Oakwood Park and Wynwood Park.

Any participant enrolled in Mighty Munchkins or Camp Winfield can sign up for Before and/or After Care. Before Care runs from 7am-9am. After Care runs from 4pm-6pm. Please remember to sign up for each week that you plan on attending camp.

Camp and Before/After Care registration is open at *winfieldparkdistrict.com* or at the park district front desk.

Hiring staff for camp staff has begun and applications are currently being accepted. It is preferred that camp counselors be 18+ years old, but 16+ will be considered with prior experience with children. Applications can be found at winfieldparkdistrict. com/employment.

# **Spotlight on the Winfield Library**

By Ellen Manyon

Winfield Library serves the whole community, from children to senior citizens. The library offers plenty of hands-on reading material, in-person programs and online services, such as the hoopla! app with which patrons can download eBooks, movies, and music from the comfort of their own homes.

The library is located at the northeast corner of Sunnyside Avenue and Winfield Road. The entrance to the driveway and parking lot is from Sunnyside Avenue.

The climb up the steep concrete stairs to the main lobby can be daunting. Yet those who do so are rewarded with an up-close view of the 2002 "Children Reading" statue.

Most patrons use the more accessible ground floor entrance on the north side. The slightly graded sidewalk from the parking lot leads to an accessible doorway. Once inside, the public Meeting Room, an elevator to the upper level and accessible bathrooms are straight ahead.

On March 16th, the Winfield Library presents a "Think Global, Act Local" program, according to Dawn Leardi, Adult Programming Librarian. This exciting "double header" includes a Voter Information Table from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., sponsored by the Wheaton League of Women Voters; and Cuisine Quest: Southeast Asia and India, a culinary tour and agricultural sustainability program presented by Brian Michalski at 7:00 p.m.

The Winfield Historical Society hosts their Historical Series programs at the library's public Meeting Room. For example, on March 21st at 7:00 p.m., Laurie Russell will discuss the history of women reporters, columnists, and editors at the *Chicago Tribune* newspaper.

New this year, the Winfield Library offers the Scholastic Teachables online database, which is an educational resource for teachers, parents, and homeschoolers. The database is filled with high quality materials that support the development of lesson plans, extra skills learning needs and classroom management. Please visit: www.winfield.lib. il.us or call 630-653-7599 for more information.

Delicions dining is steps away in Winfield!



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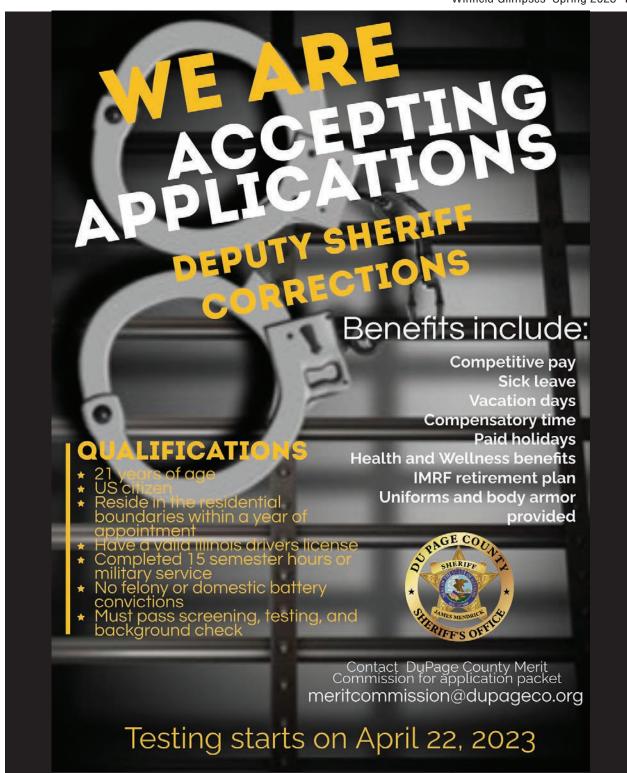
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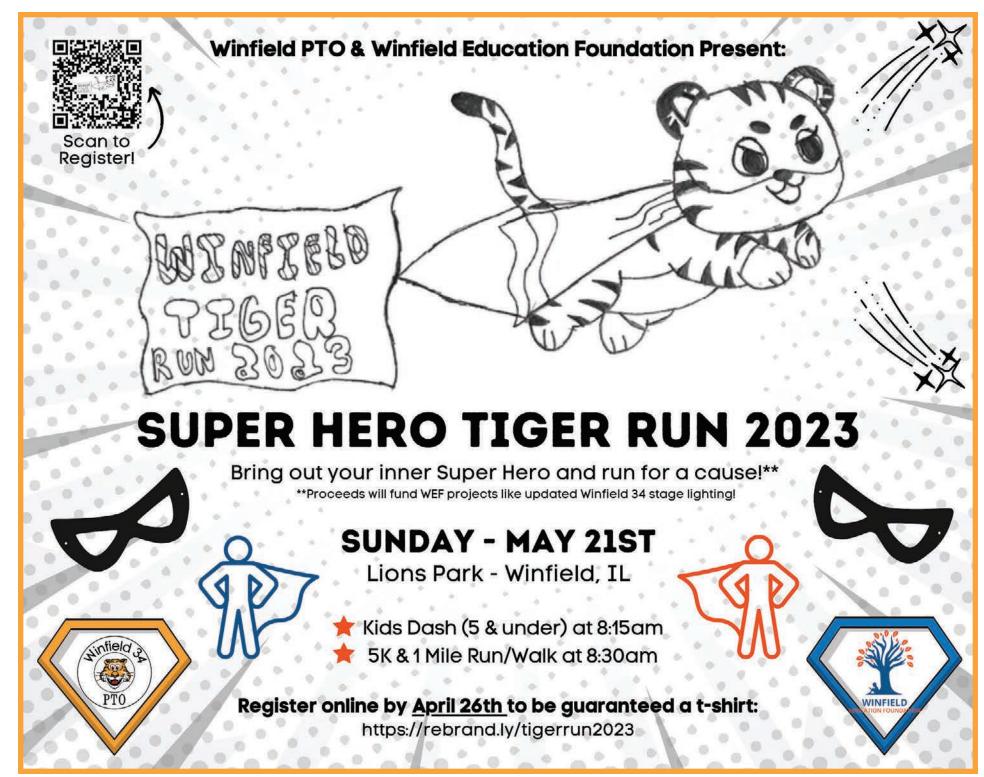
Over the years, we've had the privilege to connect with other families in the pediatric liver disease community and we hope by sharing our story it can encourage families battling long medical journeys that they are not alone. April is National Donate Life month and we wanted to highlight that organ donors really do save lives (you can too by registering as a donor at www.donatelife.net) and to share our gratitude to the very special Winfield community for their amazing support.



Father and son pose with t-shirts that elicit laughter and respect for their strength and the remarkable bond they share.

... we hope by sharing our story it can encourage families battling long medical journeys that they are not alone.





# Winfield in Action - Help Wanted

Winfield in Action (WIA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization that provides baseball, softball and soccer programs for children in grades K-11 in the Winfield area. It is a unique organization in that it is an all-volunteer, parent-run organization. WIA helps bring the village together, with Winfield children attending multiple different public and private schools, it's a great opportunity to meet other Winfield families.

WIA's Deb Moran has been at the helm for over 25 years! She's looking to pass the baton soon but needs help in the meantime to keep the program running. If you can spare some time, help is needed with the following, some of them can be done from home (those in bold especially need help):

- Be available for equipment turn-in
- Build equipment bags for baseball and soccer.
- Build teams.
- Help stripe soccer fields.
- Pick up trophies.
- Pick up/organize/deliver uniforms.
- Organize equipment.
- Pump up soccer balls.
- · Create social media posts/ads for registration
- Sponsorship (at home)

If you'd like to step up and keep this great tradition going in Winfield, please contact Deb at 630-344-9809 or info@winfieldinaction.org.





A non-profit 501(c)(3) established in 2020 as an independent Winfield organization to facilitate and provide support for initiatives that may include a variety of educational and entertainment events as directed by the Foundation Board to benefit Winfield residents.

Several events to add to your calendar:

Winfield Criterium & Summerfest
July 23, Sunday in Downtown Winfield

56th Annual Good Old Days Festival Sept 8-10 in Downtown Winfield

The Winfield Foundation
Annual Golf Outing

Sept 22, Friday at Klein Creek Golf Club

To <u>volunteer</u> at an event or to <u>make a</u> <u>donation</u> call 630-668-4259

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### Mammoths and Mastodons on BeHistoric

By Lisa Goodwin

YouTube and other forms of social media may seem saturated with celebrities and influencers whose entertainment value may seem questionable at times, but some local YouTube channels are covering a wide variety of topics in our community and sometimes in our own backyards.

In late 2020, Brian and Joyce Ostberg started their BeHistoric YouTube channel and have slowly

established themselves as talented and dedicated hobbyists of local history and prehistory in the area. I first noticed their BeHistoric channel when I saw a video about the Blackwell Mammoth that was unearthed in McKee Marsh in June 1977, which suddenly brought back a funny memory of my own.

That year, the news had quickly spread among the local children that a dinosaur had been found in the Blackwell forest preserve. Not surprisingly, none of our parents believed us until the local news and WGN carried the story. Times were different then, but someone's mother dropped a bunch of young children off at Blackwell and let us loose for a few hours.

At this point in the excavation, the professionals had arrived and we were quite disappointed that we weren't allowed to help with the digging, and after seeing how muddy we were by the end of the afternoon, our parents were not willing to bring us back. I think we also got in trouble for trying dig somewhere else to find our own fossils, to be honest.

However, for the Forest Preserve and local scientists, the discovery was much more exciting than one lone day digging in the mud. Watching the Be-Historic video titled "Ice Age DuPage - The Blackwell Mammoth" put the whole six-week excavation into a modern context. The Ostberg's video covers

the excavation in detail from the discovery until the woolly mammoth had been excavated, preserved and inventoried by Northern Illinois University, but the Ostbergs applied their respective careers' research skills and take their videos further than merely retelling the old news reports.

The BeHistoric videos contain a wealth of local history information, including county records, historical aerial maps and the Ostberg's own drone videos



Brian and Joyce Ostberg

Photo Credit: DuPage County Forest Preserve website

that put the sites into a modern context. Their research efforts have resulted in working relationships with the professionals at the Illinois Geological Survey, the Illinois State Museum and the Illinois State Archaeological Survey, as well as local academic institutions.

Using these professional resources, exhausting the local news archives and local government records, the Ostbergs can recreate the historical events of the discoveries almost to the day as they

unfolded. They explore the areas either on foot or on bicycle, taking current pictures and videos of the sites. The Ostbergs script their own voiceovers to narrate the story as it evolves, and conduct interviews with local experts, frequently interviewing them on site.

Their Ice Age DuPage series is a four-part series that includes the Blackwell Mammoth, the Perry Mastodon, the Wheaton Mastodon, and the Brew-

> ster Creek Mastodon. The less well known Wheaton Mastodon was discovered in modern-day Winfield just south of Jewell Rd in 1869 and was excavated by local farmers, yielding a well preserved mastodon in a time when the science of excavations was in its infancy. News reports at the time show that children were just as interested in seeing those fossils in 1869 as they are today.

The best known Perry Mastodon is still on display at Wheaton College. The Blackwell Mammoth is on display at the Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center in Oak Brook. The Brewster Creek Mastodon fossils are only some fragments, and stored in the DuPage County Forest

Preserve collections. The Wheaton Mastodon was acquired by the Chicago Academy of Sciences, but it was destroyed in the 1871 Great Chicago Fire.

The Winfield Glimpses will be covering different videos from BeHistoric throughout this year, but readers are encouraged to watch their videos at https://www.youtube.com/@BeHistoric.

The Ostbergs will be presenting their research on the Wheaton Mastodon at the Wheaton Public Library on May 9th at 7:00 pm.

What is a flower's favorite kind of pickle? A daffo-dill. Why is the lefter A like a flower? Because a B comes after it!

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