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~ including McHenry County News

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Local program helps students learn about healthcare field, gain experience

Twenty-five local McHenry County students interested in nursing recently spent their Saturday at Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital, learning about the various roles that nurses play in each hospital unit. The participants applied and were selected to participate through the Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program, a healthcare mentoring program for local students. During the day, students had the opportunity to practice hands-on skills, including practicing cardiac CPR simulation.

The Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program aims to create a pathway for the next generation of healthcare leaders by drawing on the talents of the Northwestern Medicine team of healthcare professionals to provide STEM career exploration opportunities. The program is designed for students who otherwise may not have access these opportunities. Throughout the program, students are exposed to a broad range of healthcare careers through tours, guest speakers, group discussion, and hands-on projects. In addition, the program fosters character and professional development, cultivates life skills, provides community service and leadership experience, and offers mentorship and networking opportunities.

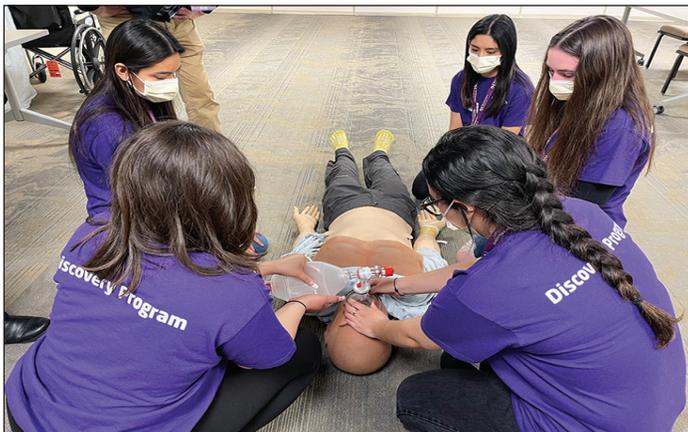
"I enjoyed going around the hospital, getting the feel of it, and seeing how people need to cooperate to help others and the tools they have at their disposal," said Maximo Soto Morales, a senior at Crystal Lake South High School. "I enjoyed doing the CPR because the mannequin we used has a different feel from the CPR dummies we used in mid-

dle school as a learning activity. It had heartbeats to mimic a real person and also had lungs moving up and down."

The Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program also provides the staff an opportunity to share what they do and why their role is so essential for optimal patient care. "The Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program provides an opportunity for students to really understand what the different roles in healthcare actually do," said Dave Chilik, RN, manager of clinical practice and development at Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital. "I think students don't always know what these roles are doing on a daily basis and only know what they see in movies or TV. This program really helps these students find a future path to a career in healthcare. As a staff member, the program also helps to share the why of your role and why you enjoy what you do. It's very rewarding to hear their questions and tell them things they never knew about being a nurse."

The Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program currently has six chapters. Program locations will vary based on chapter. The northwest chapter meetings are held once a month at Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital, Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital or Northwestern Medicine Woodstock Hospital. Applications for the next upcoming program will be available beginning in August and are due in September 2023.

For those interested in applying and for eligibility information, please go to Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program Northwest Chapter at nm.org.



The Northwestern Medicine Discovery Program allows local students interested in nursing to learn about the various roles nurses play in each hospital unit. Above: Dustin Diamond, staff nurse in the Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital emergency room, instructs the students during a Discovery Program session. Left: Students use a mannequin to learn CPR.

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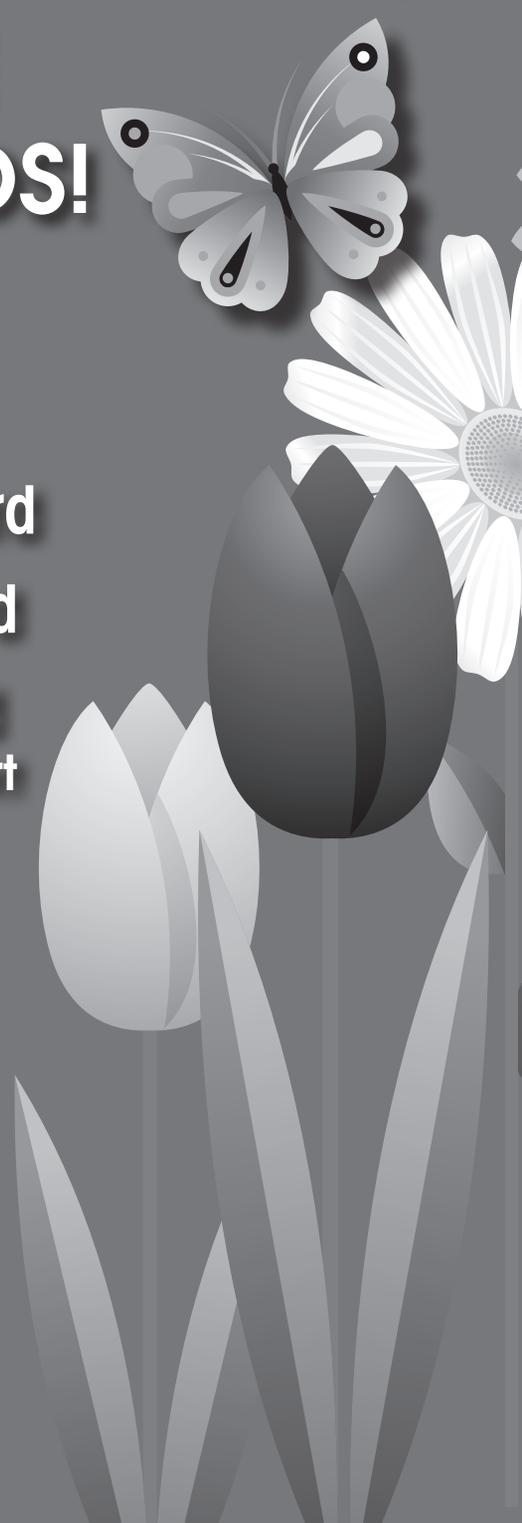
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State to provide \$175 million in grants to small businesses through B2B program

Small businesses including restaurants, hotels and creative arts businesses will be eligible to apply for \$175 million in grant funding through the state Back to Business (B2B) program. The program aims to help hard-hit industries recover after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Applications will open on April 5 and be accepted through May 10. The Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity (DCEO) encourages applicants to review the eligibility requirements and to reach out to community navigators with any questions.

More than 100 community navigators are available

across the state to support and help eligible businesses navigate the application process. In addition to webinars and outreach hosted by community navigators, DCEO also will host statewide information kick-off sessions.

B2B grants, which range from \$5,000 to \$250,000 can cover operational losses, staff and more. All applicants will receive a grant as long as they meet eligibility requirements, submit proper documentation and attestations required by the program.

The program follows the state recovery for businesses totaling nearly \$1.5 billion. This latest American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-funded opportunity will provide ad-

ditional support for restaurants, hotels, and businesses or organizations in the creative arts sector such as theaters, museums and cultural heritage organizations that were negatively affected by the pandemic.

“Our hospitality businesses are an integral part of the vitality of Lake County, providing enjoyment to those who live in and visit our county,” said County Board Chair Sandy Hart. “These state grants will provide much-needed assistance to our small businesses that are working hard to bounce back from the economic losses caused by the pandemic and will help further strengthen our county.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO HI-LITER/MCN

‘Scullery’ wins spelling bee

The McHenry County spelling bee was won by Vishrut Kinikar, at left, of Cary Junior High School. Vishrut won by properly spelling “scullery” – a small kitchen or room used for washing dishes and other dirty household work. He will now represent McHenry County at the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. at the end of May.

College news

MSOE Dean’s List honorees announced

Milwaukee School of Engineering announced its winter quarter 2023 Dean’s List. Local students included in the list were:

- Ian Golvach, Antioch. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.
- Nathan Blanck, Antioch. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in BioMolecular Engineering.
- Logan Knott, Richmond. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

Undergraduate students who have earned at least 30 credits and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher (out of 4.0) are on the Dean’s List.

Culloton named to MSOE Honors List

Milwaukee School of Engineering recently announced

the winter quarter 2023 Honors List.

Included in the list is Geovani Culloton, Antioch. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in User Experience and Communication Design.

Wagner wins at Wisconsin Broadcasters Association Awards

Heidi Wagner from Antioch, who is studying History Education at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, was among the honorees at the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association 2023 Student Awards for Excellence. The event was held Feb. 23 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton.

Wagner won Second Place in TV Photojournalism for the project “Fairhaven Gymnastics”.

Board supports Route 53 Land Expansion Alternative Use Task Force proposal

On Tuesday, March 14, the Lake County Board passed a resolution supporting the recommendation from the Illinois Route 53 Land Expansion Alternative Use Task Force to transfer the land from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and form a working group to determine how the land will be used and with potential funding options.

The Illinois Route 53 Expansion Land Alternative

Use Task Force was created in 2021 via House Joint Resolution 6 to study alternate uses for the properties that had been reserved for the proposed Illinois Route 53 extension in Lake County.

Then in December 2022, the Task Force recommended that (IDOT) transfer all the state-owned land originally reserved for the Illinois Route 53 extension to the IDNR and that the Illinois General Assembly form a working group to determine the method of conserving the land as a state park or

trail and to identify funding options for ongoing maintenance.

“We are thrilled to begin researching the exciting possibilities for the land. Our vision is to provide Lake County residents and visitors an interconnected system of open spaces, creating a corridor of parks, trails, recreational opportunities and natural havens that support our mission of environmental stewardship for generations to come,” said County Board Chair Sandy Hart.

According to Legislative Committee Chair John Wasik, “The Legislative Committee supported the formation of the Task Force 2021 and upon hearing the outcome, recommended that the full board support the results. The Lake County Board remains committed to combating climate change and loss of greenspace. We support ongoing efforts that conserve and protect the environment. This is just one more positive step in that direction and a triumph for all of Lake County.”

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As of Feb. 9, 2022 Hi-Liter is the successor publication to McHenry County News

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General Manager Sue Z. Lange
Advertising Director ... Vicki Vanderwerff
Distribution Director Lindy Sweet
Editor..... Heidi Schulz news@hi-liter.com
Advertising..... Becky Loizzo
Becky@SouthernLakesNewspapers.com

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Pet of the week

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Easter Vigil (4/8)

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Easter Sunday (4/9)

10am Holy Eucharist

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Lawmakers approve kindergarten reform, plan to address childhood literacy

Measures have each been approved by one legislative chamber

By Andrew Adams
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Lawmakers are looking at several ways to improve learning outcomes and access for young students in Illinois. On March 23, members of the House of Representatives approved a proposal that would require school boards in Illinois to provide full-day kindergarten starting with the 2027-2028 school year.

The measure, House Bill 2396, was met with bipartisan support, though not universal, passing out of the House March 23 on an 87-23 vote.

"I think we can all recognize that our children are our most important resource in the state of Illinois," Mary Beth Canty, D-Arlington Heights, said on the House floor. "As we look to move forward with our pre-K program and the governor's smart start program, I hope we can recog-

nize that kindergarten is a pivotal piece of a child's learning journey."

Some lawmakers were uneasy with the potential cost implications for local school districts, particularly stemming from potential increases in staffing needs and facility space requirements.

"When this goes into effect in 2027, are we going to be ramped up enough to be able to provide additional teachers throughout kindergartens across Illinois?" Rep. Dan Swanson, R-Alpha, said during debate over the bill.

The worry about funding is echoed by some in the education field, including the Illinois Association of School Administrators, or IASA. The association recorded its opposition to an earlier form of the bill when it went through committee earlier this month alongside the Illinois Association of School Boards and

the Illinois Principals Association.

IASA chief of staff Emily Warnecke said in an interview that her organization supports the movement toward full-day kindergarten around the state. But she said they are still concerned about a requirement that would force districts to raise their own capital funding to expand school facilities to accommodate full-day programs.

"The vast majority of districts who don't offer (full-day kindergarten), don't offer it because they don't have the space," Warnecke said.

Currently, about 80 percent of districts in Illinois offer full-day kindergarten, according to Canty.

The bill sets up a "Full-Day Kindergarten Task Force" to study the best way to implement the expansion of full-day kindergarten. The task force will also be responsible for determining the criteria for

districts' eligibility for a two-year extension to the deadline for rolling out full-day kindergarten.

Canty said in an interview that she is working on securing funding for the expansion.

"I have had some really great conversations with the budgeteers here in the House and with the governor's team," she said.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Literacy improvements

On March 24, the Senate unanimously approved Senate Bill 2243 from Sen. Kimberly Lightford, D-Westchester, that would require the Illinois State Board of Education to develop a "comprehensive literacy plan."

In 2022, nearly 38 percent of Illinois' 4th grade students did not meet grade level reading standards, according to the National Assessment of

Educational Progress. This is roughly average and is not significantly lower than the nation's overall reading scores.

"Today's students who struggle to read are tomorrow's adults—adults who desperately need literacy to sign a lease agreement, fill out a job application, manage their own health care, support their children's education and participate in democracy," Lightford said on the Senate floor.

Deborah MacPhee, a researcher and professor at Illinois State University, said early literacy education has become politicized with debates between competing systems of reading instruction.

MacPhee said she liked that the bill requires the plan to involve "education stakeholders." She said this will contribute to the ongoing conversation around what sorts of educational programs teach-

ers should use.

In a 2022 study published in the journal Reading Horizons, MacPhee and her team found that 97 percent of Illinois teachers use phonics in their classrooms to teach reading. Despite the near universal adoption of this method, there is diversity across the state as to what programs are being used. Of the 80 percent of teachers using published curriculum for their phonics instruction, at least 41 different programs are used.

"We have to be educating teachers to be using programs effectively," she said.

Lightford's plan is not the only bill at the Statehouse in recent weeks aimed at improving childhood literacy. Rep. Mary Flowers, D-Chicago, introduced a bill that would require schools to use phonics to teach reading, though it was met with push-back from teachers' unions.

County Board approves three Advance McHenry County grants

Three Advance McHenry County grants, totaling more than \$3.7 million, will fund initiatives to build affordable senior housing, increase mental health resources, and improve underprivileged families' access to child care.

The McHenry County Board at its March 21 meeting approved the funding through the groundbreaking Advance McHenry County program, which was created to invest tens of millions of dollars in federal COVID-19 recovery funding into projects that directly benefit the community.

"These new grants approved by the County Board continue Advance McHenry County's proud tradition of making thoughtful and impactful investments that improve people's lives," County

Board chairman Mike Buehler, R-Crystal Lake said. "We've seen so many wonderful results as Advance-funded initiatives have borne fruit, and I have no doubt that the projects funded by this latest round of grants will do the same."

Grants will be awarded to:

- **The Ales Foundation**, which requested \$1.9 million to help build a 70-unit affordable senior housing building in Woodstock. This investment will springboard the construction of an anticipated four-building senior living complex, totaling 373 units.
- **Options and Advocacy for McHenry County**, which requested just under \$1.3 million to establish a clinic for neurodiversity and mental health.

• **Sage YMCA**, which will receive \$442,000 to establish a financial assistance program for its summer camp and child care offerings.

The County Board since January 2022 has approved 23 grants through Advance McHenry County, totaling almost \$17.7 million of the nearly \$29.9 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding it designated to invest directly into infrastructure capital projects, workforce development and jobs programs, non-profit agencies, special districts, and local governments. You can learn more about the Advance McHenry County initiative, and review approved grants and expenditures, by visiting www.mchenrycountyil.gov/advance.

Easter egg hunts

Spring Grove egg hunt rescheduled to this Saturday

Due to predicted inclement weather the egg hunt at Thelen Park was rescheduled to April 8 at 2:00 p.m.

The bunny will arrive at 1:45 p.m. and will be ready to take photos with the little ones. There will be over 4,000 eggs with special eggs per age group with coupons for baskets filled with toys and special prizes. All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the event. To ensure safety, children will be grouped by age (0-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-10).

There is no charge for the hunt but attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to help support the local food pantry. Pre-registration is also recommended and can be done at www.springgrovevillage.com

Thelen Park is located at 8400 Winn Road, Spring Grove.

Village of Johnsburg egg hunt Saturday

The Village of Johnsburg along with the Community Affairs Committee and other volunteer organizations are

hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 at Sunnyside Memorial Park, 1515 Channel Beach Ave., beginning at 11:00 a.m. sharp.

Thanks to generous sponsors there will be 6,000 eggs. There will be 3 separate hunts broken down by age group and start times as follows:

11:00 a.m. is children 3 and under, 11:10 a.m. is children 4-7, and 11:20 is children 8-11.

Bring your own basket to collect your eggs, enjoy some hot chocolate from Johnsburg Area Business Association (JABA) and watch for a Hoppy Visitor!

Learn about early 'base ball'

When the 2023 Major League baseball season gets underway this spring, it will look a lot more like it did a century and a half ago.

In 1858, the fielders playing first, second and third base were required to play one step from the bag until the "hurler" released the ball toward the "striker" or batter. The new MLB rule cracks down on shifting, requiring all four infielders to have both feet on the dirt (or infield grass) when the pitch is released. Also, two infielders must be on each side second base.

"No one person invented baseball. It is a continuing process," said baseball historian Bruce Allardice, a 35-year member and past president of the Chicago Civil War Round Table. "The 1858 game is so different than what you see. The changes are so great. But in essence it is a team sport where everyone can play. You can play on a sandlot and with informal rules. You don't need to be really big or tall. It actually was sold as great way to exercise early on."

Allardice, who has written or co-authored seven books and numerous articles on the Civil War and on baseball history, presents "Before the Chicago Cubs: Baseball Comes to the Windy City" at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, in the Willow Room of the Huntley Park District REC Center, 12015 Mill St. in Huntley. Tickets to this PowerPoint lecture are \$10 each, \$8 for members of the McHenry County Historical Society, and are available at GotHistory.org.

Learn about the origins of the sport and



Bruce Allardice

early rules, including pre-1870 "base ball" in McHenry County. When it received the moniker "national pastime," the bat and ball game of cricket was its only serious competition in the United States. But that game was "too slow and too British," Allardice said. Another advantage of baseball is that it can be played in a quarter of the space. Cricket's field of play is 360 degrees, he said.

Allardice currently edits the Society of American Baseball Research (SABR) newsletter on the origins of baseball, and has twice won SABR's annual award for best baseball history article. For the last two decades Allardice has taught European and American history at South Suburban College in South Holland. He earned political science and history degrees at the University of Illinois before attending law school. But his real love remains teaching.

Allardice, of Darien, gives presentations around the country on history, political science and baseball history — 65 in the last five years — in such venues as the McHenry County Civil War Round Table and Illinois State Historical Society.

"As far as getting into serious baseball history, it was after I attended a Society for American Baseball Research convention," Allardice said. "They were discussing baseball in Knoxville in 1857 and the presenter asked, 'Do we have a Civil War historian in the audience?' I was foolish enough to raise my hand, and I got sucked into it."

The McHenry County "Independants," an 1858 base ball club, kicks off its season with a free, round-robin match starting at noon Saturday, July 22, in Lemont. For more information about upcoming games or how to join the team, visit GotHistory.org.

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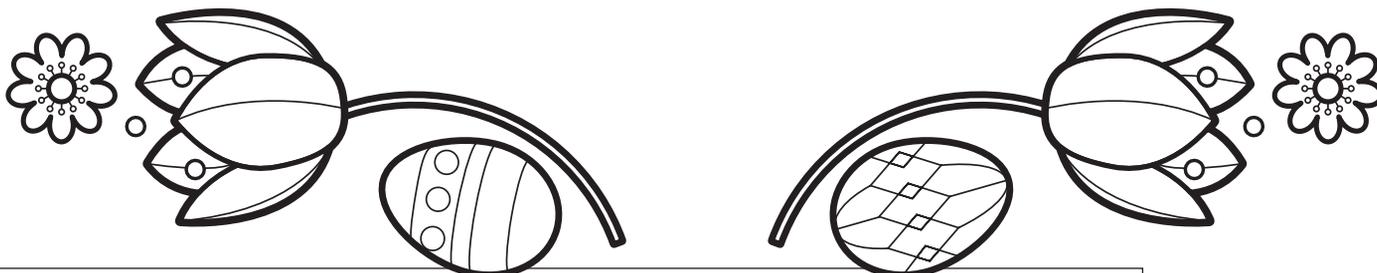
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Court & crime news

Driver charged with DUI in crash that ejected him from vehicle

Members of the Lake County Sheriff's Office Technical Crash Investigations Team conducted and concluded their investigation into this crash. Investigators determined excessive speed, cannabis, and alcohol were all factors in the crash.



D'Andre Moton

Crash investigators presented their findings to the Lake County State's Attorney's Office who reviewed the case and approved the following charges for the driver of the Chevrolet, D'Andre Moton, 35, of the 1300 block of Wright Avenue, North Chicago: two Counts of DUI – Alcohol (Class A Misdemeanors), DUI – Combined Influence Alcohol/Other Drug (Class A Misdemeanor), DUI – Cannabis (Class A Misdemeanor) and Driving

While License Suspended (Class A Misdemeanor). An arrest warrant was drafted and presented to a Lake County Judge who approved the warrant, setting bond at \$50,000.

Moton will be taken into custody following his release from a physical rehabilitation facility.

Man Ejected in Unincorporated Waukegan Traffic Crash (issued 12/17/22)

On December 17, 2022, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the 12700 block of West Crescent Avenue in unincorporated Waukegan for a traffic crash with injuries. Sheriff's deputies arrived and found the driver, a 35-year-old man of North Chicago, ejected from the vehicle.

Preliminary investigation shows the man was driving a Chevrolet Trailblazer at a high rate of speed eastbound on West Crescent Avenue. As the driver approached Adelphi Avenue, he, for an unknown reason, crossed into the oncoming lane of traffic and drove into a ditch on the north side of the roadway. The Chevrolet struck a utility pole, before coming to a rest on its side. The driver, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was ejected from the vehicle. He was located approximately 30 feet from the Chevrolet.

The man was transported to an area hospital in criti-

cal condition. Preliminary indications are the man will be paralyzed from the waist down.

Alcohol appears to be a factor in the crash.

The crash remains under investigation by the Lake County Sheriff's Office Technical Crash Investigations Unit.

Deputies locate, arrest man who committed burglary

On April 1, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a burglary in progress at a residence in the 37100 block of North Green Bay Road, Beach Park. Sheriff's Telecommunicators received a 911 call from the victim, who said an unknown person broke into his shed and stole a grill.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the scene and an alert deputy observed a Chevrolet Silverado in the area,

with a grill in the bed of the pickup truck. The deputy conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. Further investigation revealed the driver, Thomas Anderson, 63, of the 36900 block of North Green Bay Road, Beach Park, was responsible for committing the burglary and stealing the grill.

Anderson was arrested and transported to the Lake County Jail. After reviewing the circumstances of the incident, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the following charges: Burglary, Criminal Damage to Property and Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Anderson remains held in the Lake County Jail pending his first court appearance.



Thomas Anderson

Sheriff's deputies save life of suicidal man

On March 27, at approximately 12:30 p.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a residence in the 38700 block of North Sheridan Road, Beach Park, to assist paramedics with someone, a man in his 20's, having a bipolar episode, in a suicidal state. Initially, the man spoke with paramedics, but once he learned he might need to go to the hospital, he ran from the paramedics.

The man ran toward Sheridan Road, saying things such as "Just run me over and kill me." The man tried running directly in the path of moving vehicles, in an attempt to be struck by a vehicle. Sheriff's deputies quickly rushed in, risking themselves getting struck by a car, and successfully escorted the



Rob Nakanishi



Amanda Hurtado

man off the roadway.

Members of the Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COaST) responded to provide additional support. The man was unharmed and subsequently transported to an area hospital for a mental wellness evaluation. Sheriff John D.

Idleburg said, "Law enforcement from across the nation have seen a tremendous increase over the years in the amount of calls regarding individuals in mental distress. Our sheriff's deputies always approach these situations with a calm demeanor and utilize de-escalation techniques. I am very proud of Deputies Rob Nakanishi, Amanda Hurtado, and Leo Juarez for their quick thinking, which saved this man's life. Our innovative COaST team was also able to respond to provide additional support for this man in mental crisis."



Leo Juarez

McHenry County Sheriff's arrest bulletin

The following arrests in McHenry County were reported by the McHenry County Sheriff's Department. Suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

March 7

Michael S. Petrillo, 52, Delavan, was cited for driving while license to operate motor vehicle revoked;

Nicholas M. Ahrens, 38, was cited for receive/possess/sell stolen vehicle, identity theft <\$300 preconv, 2 counts of identity theft/knows is stolen, theft/control <\$500 prior, 2 counts of unlawful possession of credit/debit card, 2 counts of burglary – building, 3 counts of theft – obtains/exerts unauthorized control over property of the owner over \$500, and criminal trespass to building;

Sylvester S. McCullor, 37, Chicago, was cited for A-1 domestic battery/bodily harm and A-2 domestic battery/physical contact;

March 8

Kenneth O. Gaudio, 61, Huntley, was cited for bribery;

March 10

Holly A. Walker, 50, East Dundee, was cited for 2 counts of retail theft – taking merchandise from retail establishment with intent to deprive merchant without paying;

March 12

Oscar Balbuena-Mariano, 37, Crystal Lake, was cited for A-2 domestic battery/physical contact;

Brandon A. Osorio, 23,

Union, was cited for resisting or obstructing peace officer, firefighter or correctional institution employee, and criminal damage to property.

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