~ including McHenry County News

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# **Jurassīc-sīzed adventure awaits**

As 'Jurassic Park' marks 30th year, sprinting T. rex takes center of the corn maze at Richardson Farm

Cynthia Wolf CONTRIBUTOR

Get set for a Jurassic-sized adventure starting Sept. 9 at Richardson Adventure Farm.

With 2023 marking the 30th anniversary of "Jurassic Park," the Richardson family landed on an intricate dino design for this fall's corn maze. Just don't tarry too long in the T. rex; there's so much more to explore in this 28-acre maze! From a waterfall and Jeep to a braided adventurer and brachiosaurus, the fun meter is set for epic this year.

"We always look for the anniversary of something spectacular, and dinosaurs are forever popular," said George Richardson, who operates the farm along with his wife, Wendy, brother, Robert, Robert's wife, Carol, George's son, Ryan, and Ryan's wife, Kristen.

Shawn Stolworthy of MazePlay.com again designed the maze, which was planted in late June. The "World's Largest Corn opens Saturday, Sept. 9, and will be open Thursdays through Sundays through Oct. 29, plus Monday, Oct. 9, for Columbus Day. The farm is located at 909 English Prairie Road, Spring Grove.

The maze features five maze games and everything for parents with younger children to hour-and-a-half treks for intrepid corn crawl-

"There's a left-turns-only worrying about getting lost."

ing, it's far from the only reason to check out the adpedal karts, a recently upraces, large gift shop with

Add to that jumping pilon weekends, Zorbing, a zip

'We have people come in who have never been here before who tell us 'I thought I was coming to a little pumpkin patch, but holy cow!" said Ryan Richardson. "We love seeing the

Speaking of pumpkins,

from 10-minute trail options

route and a right-turns-only route," Wendy Richardson said. "There are bridges to climb to get a view of where you are. Parents with little kids can walk in without

While the maze is amazventure farm. Giant slides, graded train ride, a carousel, 50-foot viewing tower, pig a wine sampling bar, indoor restrooms, and, while in season, an additional sunflower maze all await. There are food trucks, a craft beer tent featuring 9th Hour Brewing varieties, and the farm's own freshly made, piping hot do-

lows, air cannons, live music line — it's an unparalleled day of fun in the fresh air.

smiles on families' faces."



Dinosaurs sprint, saunter and fly in Richardson's "World's Largest Corn Maze." The maze and adventure farm activities open Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Spring Grove farm that is located at 909 English Prairie Road.

few will find 20 varieties of pumpkins and about a dozen varieties of gourds from which to choose.

Sunflower lovers will find about 13 acres to explore, with 10 varieties of the popular fall flower in brilliant yellows, oranges and reds. The sunflower fields will be open

those wanting to pick up a until dusk while in season; admission to the sunflower fields is included with regular adventure farm tickets. Check richardsonadventurefarm.com for bloom dates.

Hours are 3 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and noon to 9 p.m. Sundays.

Midnight festivities will be available. Visit the website Fridays and Saturdays, Sept. for details. 29-30 and Oct. 27-28.

Admission is \$20 for ages 3-12, \$24 for ages 13 and up and free for those 2 and younger from Sept. 9 until lowed — but watch out for Sept. 30. Prices increase in that hungry velociraptor October. Group discounts Columbus Day hours will be may apply. Campfire and

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Maze until picnic site rentals also are

All admissions must be purchased two hours before closing. Dogs that are friendly and leashed are alnear the main corn maze en-



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The Tartan Terrors are among the upcoming performances at the College of Lake County's James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts.

### James Lumber Center's eclectic fall season includes Celtic, Mexican and cabaret music

Celtic rock, Mexican guitars and cabaret bring the stage to life this fall season at the James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts (JLC) at College of Lake County. "We're excited to roll out our 2023-24 season, which has a variety of fun, artistic and cultural events from which to choose," said JLC Executive Director Alisa Baum. "And there's more to come. Throughout the year, we'll be announcing additional shows to delight audiences throughout Lake County."

More events will be announced in the future. The events so far include:

• Tartan Terrors, Saturday, Sept. 16 at 8 p.m. With a distinctive sound that makes Celtic music fun and inviting, this energetic ensemble blends the coolness of a rock show with stepdance, humor and more. Tickets are \$22 regular, \$20 for seniors and military and \$10 for students. Artist website: https://www.tartanterrors.

• Hasta La Muerte, A Day of the Dead Show by Las Cafeteras, Friday, Oct. 27 at 10 a.m. (school show) and 8

p.m. Rooted in the indigenous Mexican practice of honoring ancestors, this multi-dimensional performance features gorgeous music, entrancing dance and a soul-welcoming altar. Tickets are \$5 for the school show, \$28 regular, \$25 for seniors and military and \$14 for students. Artist website: https://lascafeteras.com/

• Isaac Mizrahi, Sunday, Oct. 29 at 4 p.m. Renowned as an actor, writer, designer and producer, Isaac Mizrahi brings his panache and charming cabaret show in an evening of stories, anecdotes and nostalgic song. Tickets are \$42 regular, \$38 for seniors and military and \$20 for students. Artist website: https://helloisaac.

Tickets are now on sale at www.jlcenter. clcillinois.edu or call the JLC Box Office at (847) 543-2300. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the JLC Box Office, 19351 West Washington St. in Grayslake. Check the JLC website for the latest Box office hours. The JLC offers free parking and has a snack bar with soft drinks, beer, wine, chips and candy for sale.

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# State looks to curb vehicle theft with grants to police task forces Secretary of state's office allocated

\$21 million to six agencies this spring

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Six interagency law enforcement task forces received grant funding this spring to combat car thefts through an initiative of Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias' office.

Giannoulias was in Belleville last week to promote the initiative and highlight a \$2.5 million grant to the Metro East Auto Theft Task Force, which brings together law enforcement agencies from Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties.

"In 2022, a motor vehicle was stolen every single minute in the United States, Giannoulias said. "Unfortunately, in Illinois, we have not been immune to the effects of auto theft. In fact, right here in (the) Metro East, over 1,300 automobiles were stolen last year alone."

The Metro East task force was relaunched in 2019 after its state funding was cut in 2014 in the lead-up to a twoyear state budget impasse that led to drastic cuts across state government. The task force, based out of the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department, has since received annual funding from the secretary of state's office.

The grants were allocated by the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council. Lawmakers in Springfield created the group in 1991 under the authority of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. According to the council's website, between 1991 and 2014, the annual number of motor vehicle thefts in Illinois dropped 70 percent from 75,214 to 22,854.

In March 2015, ex-Gov. Bruce Rauner issued an executive order freezing state grants for that fiscal year, which meant the council had

no money to distribute.

Capt. Matt Jany of the Metro East task force said Tuesday when funding was cut, "everybody realized that there was actually a void and a need for this task force."

In 2018, lawmakers gave the secretary of state author-

ity over the council, and the full force of patrol, investi-General Assembly began gations, license plate readallocating funding again in ers, air operations, and other

In May 2022, lawmakers expanded the council's scope to emphasize vehicular hijacking prevention, and the General Assembly allocated another \$30 million to supplement the fund's \$21 million balance as part of a broader election-year budget presence, giving it statepackage aimed at addressing crime. Otherwise, the funding for the council's grants primarily comes from an annual \$1 assessment on car insurance policies.

The Metro East task force, Giannoulias said, recovered 547 stolen vehicles valued at crease from the previous over \$8 million between July 2022 and June 30.

"Grant funding provided by our office makes it possible for law enforcement officers to combine proven investigative techniques with specialized technology to solve and prevent future vehicular crimes," he said.

He said the Metro East task force has two vehicles equipped with license plate reader cameras to help locate stolen vehicles, and it unit was launched in the uses drones to locate suspects who have fled on foot or vehicles that have been dumped in remote locations. Officers also track stolen vehicles through electronic systems and GPS data within cation for the fiscal year cars, he said.

"There is no single solution," Giannoulias said. "But it is crucial to ensure that law enforcement officials in the Metro East have the funding and tools they need to combat these crimes."

Other departments have received funding as well, including the Expressway Safety Enforcement Group, which received \$10.2 million. It's the first fiscal year in which funds for the enforcement group were ap-A spokesperson for Giannoulias said the enforcement group was an initiative of the Illinois State Police.

In a March news release announcing the funding, ISP Director Brendan Kelly said the effort to patrol expressways "brings together the in 2022.

The Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force received \$3.4 million. That unit was established in 2019 and is based out of the south Chicago suburb of Thornton. The task force has a heavy Secretary of State Police wide authority, according to Giannoulias' spokesperson Henry Haupt.

That unit recovered 1,400 stolen vehicles valued at \$33 million over the 12-month period ending in July, which marked an 84 percent inyear, according to Haupt. The task force's work led to 426 auto theft-related criminal charges over the same

Another \$1.8 million was allocated to the Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force, which is based in Joliet and focused mainly in Will, Kankakee and Grundy counties. It also covers Kendall County and recently expanded into Iroquois County. The early 1990s but it also lost funding amid the budget im-

The Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Task Force received \$2.1 million, a new allooffice. It is run through the Peoria Police Department in partnership with the SOS Police, which gives the unit statewide jurisdiction.

An SOS spokesperson said Peoria previously had a unit called the State and Local Auto Theft Enforcement Task Force, but it lost funding amid the budget impasse.

The Chicago Major Auto Theft Investigations, run through the Chicago Police Department, received \$1.5 proved through the council. million. Crime statistics from CPD show motor vehicle thefts in that city from January through mid-August are up 104 percent from one year ago. CPD has logged 19,062 motor vehicle thefts through Aug. 14, up from 9,346 over the same period





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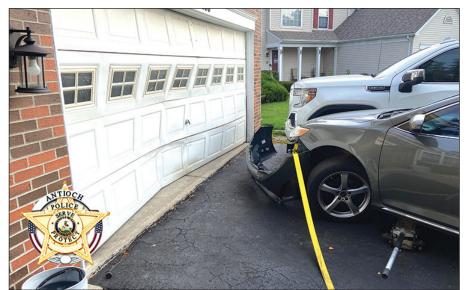
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ANTIOCH POLICE DEPARTMENT PHOTOS Hi-Liter/MCN

Pictures shown from the Antioch attempted car theft and the damage that

### Antioch police issue a community alert for residents after recent vehicle theft

Antioch Police Chief Geoffrey Guttschow is alerting residents following several instances of car thieves canvassing Antioch neighborhoods. At least one vehicle was reported to have been stolen from the driveway of a home, while a second vehicle was attempted to have been stolen, causing a considerable amount of damage. Antioch residents are asked to report any suspicious activity to the police and be proactive in making sure car keys/ fobs are removed from parked vehicles.

Antioch Police detectives are investigating instances of car theft crews coming to Antioch in search of unlocked vehicles. There have been at least three instances of car thieves canvassing neighborhoods in the past week.

Most recently, around 1 a.m. on August 24, three suspects stole a 2020 Kia Telluride SUV from a driveway in the Woods of Antioch neighborhood. Investigators have determined that a key fob was left in the vehicle while it was parked in a driveway. Another vehicle in this subdivision was entered, however, nothing was stolen. The stolen vehicle is connected to other possible vehicle entries across Lake County that also occurred early the same morning. The stolen Kia was later recovered in Waukegan. Antioch Police Evidence Technicians were processing the vehicle. Detectives have also recovered other items inside the vehicle that are believed to have been stolen during other burglaries. Antioch Police are working with other area law enforcement to identify

In the early morning hours of August 19, car thieves attempted to steal a 2012 Toyota Camry from a driveway in the Tiffany Farms neighborhood. The Camry was blocked by another vehicle in the driveway. The car thieves attempted to

flee with the Camry by ramming another parked vehicle and a garage door. After causing significant noise, the thieves left the area without the Camry. Detectives believe the attempted theft occurred between 4:00 and 4:30 a.m., however it was not reported to police until 6:30 a.m.

In the early morning hours of August 18, video surveillance footage captured from a home security camera shows two individuals canvassing the Windmill Creek neighborhood. A white SUV (unknown make and model) was seen circling the neighborhood. There were no reports of thefts or attempted thefts on August 18.

"We are alerting residents following a local spike in activity related to a county-wide car theft ring," said Chief Guttschow. "We ask that residents help our investigators by reporting any suspicious activity. Even if the activity might not seem like anything, it might be a significant lead for our investigators. Also, I want to remind everyone to call the police if they see a car theft in progress and to not intervene. In the past, we have had video footage of some car thieves carrying guns. It is not worth risking your life to stop a car theft."

There has been no evidence that the most recent car thieves have been armed.

Chief Guttschow says the police department is stepping up overnight patrols in residential neighborhoods. Guttschow is also asking residents to help collaborate with investigators and share suspicious activity caught on surveillance video with the police department. Anyone with any additional information related to these crimes, including security camera video, or anyone who may have been the victim of an unreported crime, should call the Antioch Police dispatch center at 847-270-9111 or email crime@antioch.il.gov.

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**DEADLINES:** 

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### **HUD awards McHenry County \$2** million for lead-safe home program

awarded more than \$2 million from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to remediate lead from homes and correct other health hazards.

The funding will allow McHenry County to assist at least 40 households with young children in removing lead paint. The county will receive \$1,862,320 in funding to identify and eliminate lead paint hazards in homes, plus another \$170,100 in supplemental funds to help with other housing-related health and safety hazards.

The program is offered at no cost, and includes homeowners, renters and caregiver

McHenry County has been households in which children spend at least 19 hours a week. Just under 40% of the 117,813 housing units in McHenry County were built prior to 1978, when the federal government banned the manufacture of lead-based house paint. Housing units built between 1940 and 1970 tend to pose the greatest lead health hazard.

In order to be eligible, a home must have been built prior to 1978, and must have a pregnant woman or child vounger than six living in it (or spending a significant amount of time in it). The program is limited to households at or below 80% of the area median income for McHen-

ry County; you can find the income limits at https://bit. ly/3QMAHmg.

Funding is expected to begin Oct. 1, but McHenry County can work to assist residents with application materials in advance. Eligible residents can contact Michelle Halvorsen at MLHalvorsen@ mchenrycountyil.gov, or call 815-334-4088. You can learn more about the program by visiting www.mchenrycountyil.gov/leadsafehomes.

McHenry County one of 36 governments in 19 states, and the only one in Illinois, to receive a portion of the \$140 million in lead and home health grants allocated



Dr. Ryan McTague, superintendent of McHenry Community High School District 156, announced the launch of a community-wide survey to start the strategic planning process for the district during the Aug. 14 welcome event for staff.

### District 156 launches strategic plan process with community-wide survey

School District 156 is taking a proactive approach in maintaining its status as a leader in education by embarking on a strategic planning process to map out a future direction for District 156 schools.

In an effort to gain as much insight as possible to guide plan development, the district is launching a community-wide survey that will be available until Sept. 22. The link for the online survey is available on the strategic planning page on the district's website, www. dist156.org.

The strategic planning process is designed to engage the entire District 156 community - families, teachers, administrators, staff, students, and community residents - in developing a shared vision for the future.

"Effective education of students requires a commitment from the entire community,"

McHenry Community High said Dr. Ryan McTague, District 156 superintendent. "We are excited to launch this incluthat will result in a plan to set us on a course for continued suc-

> The last few years have been busy and challenging as school staff worked to transform academic spaces and athletic facilities, develop innovative course pathways and programs, and successfully transition to a more equitable freshman and upper campus model. The district achieved this in a financially responsible and sustainable manner that will allow for continued investment in our students, staff, facilities and programs into the future.

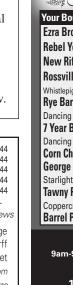
Now is a great time for the district to assess progress and plan for the future, McTague

In addition to a community-wide survey, district leaders

groups this fall to further elicit feedback from the community school staff, parents, busisive strategic planning process nesspeople and district residents who don't have children in schools – to guide planning.

All of the data collected through focus groups, interviews and the survey, along with the district's ensuing mission and vision statements and guiding principles, will be analyzed to determine findings. goals and objectives for the district. The strategic plan will be presented to the board of education and the public next year District 156 is partnering with Schaumburg-based Hazard Young, Attea and Associates to conduct the thorough strategic plan process.

This work will build on the recently completed Portrait of a Graduate, which sets out District 156's vision for the 21st century skills, character traits and more that students need to succeed in



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## Lake County to hold community meeting on broadband access and digital equity

Wednesday, Sept. 13 to learn about Lake County's initiative to improve equitable and affordable high-speed internet access and provide their thoughts and experiences with broadband in the county.

The County recently launched the Lake County Digital Growth Initiative in an effort to better understand the

The public is invited to at- current state of high-speed intend a community meeting on ternet service and digital equity in the county and implement solutions for improvement. More than 72,000 households are estimated to be eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program, a federal internet subscription discount plan for low-income families and more than 3,800 households and businesses in Lake County are located in areas with internet

underserved, which are below the FCC standards for highspeed internet.

"Our broadband plan will reflect the critical internet needs of Lake County residents with the goal of improving broadband access across the county and eliminating the digital divide that currently exists," said Lake County Board Chair Sandy Hart. "The public's input is

service considered unserved or incredibly important and the information that we gather from this community meeting will collectively serve as a valuable source to be included in the broadband planning process."

The Lake County Board began tackling high-speed internet access earlier this year with the creation of the Special Committee on Broadband. Lake County is committed to engaging with residents, busi-

nesses, educational institutions, non-profit and community-based organizations, and other County leaders to bring reliable, high-speed internet and advance support and resources to improve digital access and skills to all residents. Attending this meeting is a terrific opportunity for the public to learn more about the current state of broadband and in Lake County and share input directly

The meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 13 from 6-8 p.m. at University Center of Lake County, 1200 University Center Drive, Grayslake.

Pre-registration is requested but not required. RSVP for this free event at: https://www. lakecountyil.gov/FormCenter/ Communications-16/Community-Meeting-on-Broadband-Access-451





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#### Court & crime news

## Many charged for stealing vehicle, after vehicle

22, at approximately 10:30 Lake County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a theft in Ingleside, of a 1962 Porche.



valued over \$200,000. While on the scene of the theft, sheriff's deputies determined the suspect, Drew Nelson, 34, of the 25100 block of Monaville Road, Unincorporated Lake Villa, stole numerous vehicles, before stealing the Porche.

Preliminary investigation shows Nelson left his residence earlier in the day and stole a small minibike. He drove the minibike to a restaurant in the 500 block of Park Avenue, Fox Lake, where left the minibike and stole a golf cart. He drove the golf cart to a residence in the 28300 block of Brandenburg Road, Ingleside, where he left the golf cart and stole a four-wheeler. He rode around on the four-wheeler for a bit, before returning to the same address on Brandenburg Road, where he then left the four-wheeler and stole the Porche.

Nelson drove the Porche to a business in Wauconda. where he left the Porche behind the business and stole another vehicle. Sheriff's deputies issued a countywide regional alert, to inform area law enforcement of Nelson's actions. After stealing the vehicle in Wauconda, he was apprehended by Wauconda Police Department.

Nelson was arrested and transported to the Lake County Jail. After reviewing the case with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office, sheriff's deputies charged Nelson with: Theft Over \$100,000 and Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle.

Wauconda Police Department also obtained charges regarding the criminal acts in their village.

Nelson was being held in the Lake County Jail pending a his bond hearing.

Court rejects Crimo Jr.'s move to dismiss reckless conduct case

#### arising from Highland used for decades to address Park shooting

On August 28, the Honorable Judge George Strickland ruled that the Lake County State's Attorney's Office could continue to pursue felony Reckless Conduct charges against Robert Crimo, Jr. - the man whose son is accused of killing seven people and wounding dozens of others on July 4, 2022, in High-

Judge Strickland rejected three separate defense arguments attacking the prosecution of Mr. Crimo, Jr.

The defense unsuccessfully argued that the reckless conduct statute was unconstitutional, that the indictments in the case were not specific enough, that the defendant's sponsorship was protected under the First Amendment to the US Constitution, and that the three-year statute of limitations had expired by December 2022.

After the Court's ruling denied all motions to dismiss, Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart, commented:

"We brought this reckless conduct case against Robert Crimo, Jr., because of our obligation to secure justice for the victims of the Highland Park July 4, 2022, shooting. When Mr. Crimo signed the form that enabled his son to get an assault weapon, he also had intimate knowledge about his son's specific circumstances, a dangerous-mix that would have stopped any responsible parent from pro-

In addition to the direct consequences of Mr. Crimo's reckless conduct, my office also charged Mr. Crimo because of our moral and law-enforcement obligation to prevent future tragedy in Lake County. If a parent helps their child obtain a firearm, and they are aware of a risky situation, they should know that, as long as I am the Lake County State's Attorney, they will be prosecuted.

Therefore, we appreciate the judge's careful consideration of the legal arguments in this case and his decision. The overwhelming majority of states use some form of the reckless conduct statute, and in Illinois, it has been

a range of criminal activities from dangerous driving, to improper firearm use, to ignoring maintenance issues at a dilapidated apartment build-

Finally, I want to thank the Highland Park Police Department and Illinois State Police for gathering the evidence in this case and for supporting these charges from the start. Because of today's ruling, Mr. Crimo will now go to trial where we accept the burden to show what he knew, how his actions were dangerous, and how his decisions ultimately led to the death of seven people in Highland

Aside from denying the motions to dismiss, Judge Strickland also ruled that the media would be given access to the bench trial through a single media video camera.

Judge Strickland set the matter for trial November 6, 2023, with a status date of October 30, 2022, for the parties to report back to the Court on any agreements they had reached regarding the ev-

#### Sheriff's Office, **Antioch Fire Protection District** investigating suspicious fire

On August 23, Lake County Sheriff's Deputies and Antioch Fire Protection District responded to the 26200 block of West Forest Court, Unincorporated Antioch, for a fire. A 911 caller reported they heard an explosion and saw their neighbor's house on

Antioch Fire Protection District quickly extinguished the fire. There was significant damage to the home and two vehicles parked outside the home. The homeowner was not home at the time of the fire and nobody was inside.

Evidence was located in the home indicating the fire is suspicious in nature. Sheriff's Arson Investigators are working with the Antioch Fire Protection District and Office of the State Fire Marshall to further the investiga-

#### Sheriff's Special **Investigations Group** arrest drug trafficker

The Lake County Sher-

Eldridge B.

Ingram

Winter M.

iff's Office Special Investigations Group (SIG), a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HID-TA) funded force, concluded a long-term investigation which led to the arrest of Waukegan man who possessed a large amount of cocaine.



includes the Waukegan Police Department, began an investigation into Eldridge B. Ingram, 41, of the 500 block of May Street, Waukegan, after learning he was selling nar-

On August 22, following their investigation, members of SIG and Waukegan Police Department conducted a search warrant at Ingram's home. During the search warrant, detectives located: Over 180 grams of crack cocaine, over 100 grams of cannabis, four grams of powder cocaine, multiple illegally possessed prescription medications, MDMA, two stolen firearms, multiple rounds of ammunition and drug packaging equipment.

After reviewing the facts and circumstances of the case, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved the following charges for Ingram: Manufacturing/Delivering a Controlled Substance (Class X Felony), Armed Habitual Criminal (Class X Felony), Two Counts of Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon (Class 3 Felonies), Aggravated Unlawful Possession of Ammunition (Class 3 Felony), Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 1 Felony), Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4 Felony), Unlawful Possession of Cannabis with Intent to Deliver (Class 3 Felony) and Unlawful Possession of Cannabis (Class 4 Felony).

Winter M. Griffin, 36, of the same address, was at the home during the time of the search warrant and found to be in possession of cocaine. She was charged with one count of unlawful possession of a controlled substance (class 4 felonies).

Sheriff John D. Idleburg said, "The collaboration our Special Investigations Group has with our federal and local law enforcement partners is incredible. This collaboration frequently leads to the arrests of drug traffickers and violent individuals who attempt to operate in Lake

#### Fatal two car traffic crash under investigation

On August 24, at approximately 9:39 p.m., the Fox Lake Police Department responded to a traffic crash which occurred on U.S. Hwy. 12, north of Illinois Route 134 in Fox Lake, IL. The crash involved two vehicles which included a black Cadillac SUV and a blue Ford van.

A preliminary investigation revealed that the black Cadillac was traveling south on U.S. Hwy. 12 in the northbound lanes. The Cadillac struck the Ford van, which was traveling north on U.S. Hwy 12 at the time of the crash. The Fox Lake Fire Protection District responded to the scene and needed to cut the vehicles open in order to remove both of the drivers from their vehicles.

The driver of the Ford van was a 21-year-old male who was transported to Advocate Condell Medical Center in Libertyville in critical condition. He was later pronounced deceased by the hospital staff. The driver of the Cadillac was a 48-yearold male who was also transported to Advocate Condell Medical Center. He was in stable condition with various lacerations and possible fractures. The drivers were the only occupants of both vehicles.

The Major Crash Assistance Team of Lake County was called to the scene to assist with the investigation of the crash. U.S. Hwy. 12 was closed at the time of the crash and remained closed during the preliminary investigation. The Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lake Villa Police Department, Round Lake Beach Police Department and Round Lake Police Department responded to the area to assist with the road closures and traffic control.

investigation.

#### **Sheriff's Department** looking for information related to vehicular hijacking

Lake County Sheriff's Detectives are investigating an aggravated vehicular hijacking of a ride share driver, which occurred overnight.

On August 24, at approximately 12:10 a.m., Lake County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the 39800 block of Stoneywood Drive, Beach Park, for a report of a battered man.

Sheriff's deputies arrived and located the victim, a 56-year-old man of Tukwila, WA. Sheriff's deputies determined the man was driving for Uber when he was summoned to an address on Elizabeth Avenue, Zion, to pick up a fare. When he arrived on Elizabeth Avenue, four men entered his car (unknown physical description at this time). The Uber application instructed the victim to drive the four to the Stonewood Drive address.

As soon as arriving on Stonewood Drive, the four men began beating the driver and shoved him out of his car. They then drove away in his 2010 Mercedes-Benz. The man was able to call 911 from a local gas station, as his cellular phone was left in the ve-

Sheriff's deputies located an approximate location of the victim's phone near Green Bay Road and 33rd Street. Sheriff's K9 Axel searched the area and located the phone on the side of Green Bay Road, which had been discarded by the offenders.

The victim was transported via ambulance to a local hospital with numerous facial

The stolen vehicle is a grey 2010 Mercedes-Benz 350. It last had Illinois Registration DW27466 affixed to the vehicle when it was stolen.

It is not believed the residents who live at the Stonewood Drive address were involved in this incident. Sheriff's detectives continue to investigate.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Lake County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division at 847-377-4000.

• COURT & CRIME CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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#### State's Attornev's Office files hate crime charges against two

On Tuesday, August 22, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office filed felony hate crime charges against two men for spray painting swastikas and racist language on several Round Shields were charged with Lake Beach buildings.

David M. Dolan, 18, and

Anthony Shields, 19, were both charged with four counts of a Hate Crime, class 4 felony and one count of Hate Crime to a School. a class 3 felony.

David M. Dolan

In addition, Dolan and criminal defacement of property, and Dolan was



Lake Coun-

State's

Anthony P. **Shields** 

Attorney's Office will thoroughly investigate and aggressively prosecute acts of hate to the fullest extent of the law. I commend the Round Lake



Both Dolan and Shields appeared in bond court on August 24. A Lake County judge set a \$500,000 bond

on Dolan, and a \$350,000 bond on Shields.

On Tuesday, August 22, Round Lake Beach Police responded to a report claiming the Round Lake Beach Walmart had been defaced. Investigators determined several businesses in the 2000 block of Route 83 were spray painted with hate speech and swastikas.

While responding to the Walmart report, other officers saw Dolan and Shield riding their bicycles near Rollins Road and Hainseville Road. Officers recognized Dolan from previous

contacts and stopped both men. Officers found Dolan and Shields in possession of spray paint that matched the color of the graffiti painted onto the defaced businesses on Route 83.

During the investigation, officers were able to obtain additional evidence from Dolan and Shields and arrested them both.

Dolan and Shields remain in custody at the Lake County Jail. Dolan's next court date hearing is scheduled for August 31, and Shield's next court hearing is scheduled for September 21.

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## Rinehart releases statement against hate crimes

Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart issued the following statement after several incidents of hatred during the summer of 2023, including; threats to an area synagogue, an attack on LGBTQ allies at the College of Lake County in June, intimidation of an African American employee at a state office, and the painting of swastikas and racist language in Round Lake Beach

Lake County, IL has a rich tapestry of cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives that contribute to the strength and vitality of our community. We must celebrate and embrace this diversity, recognizing that it is our greatest asset. Every individual should feel safe, respected, and valued.

The Office of the Lake County State's Attorney stands united in our commitment to denounce hate in all its forms. We recognize that hate undermines the principles of equality, respect, trust, and dignity that form the foundation of our values, our work, and the communities we serve. We believe that fostering an inclusive and safe environment is essential for the well-being and progress of our society.

Hate has no place within our office, our courthouse, our schools, or our community. We are dedicated to upholding justice and protecting the rights of every individual, regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, place of birth, spoken language, or any other characteristic or belief. We reject and condemn any acts of hate, discrimination, or harassment that seek to dehumanize or marginalize others. We are committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within our office, our justice system, and with the public.

The Office of the Lake County State's Attorney will thoroughly investigate and aggressively prosecute any acts of hate to the fullest extent of the law. We will continue to collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies to bring such offenders to justice, sending a clear message that hate will not be tolerated. We will continue to work with community organizations and advocacy groups to provide resources, support, and a safe space for victims to heal and work toward

We cannot do this alone. We ask you to stand against hate and report hate crimes by calling your local police or dialing 911. Together we will build a future where hate has no place, and every individual can thrive.

For more information on how to report a crime visit https://www.lcsao. org/365/Report-a-Crime.

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#### Garage Sales

209 WASHINGTON ST./DARIEN Sept. 8 & 9th, 9am-5pm. Kitchen items, house decor, xmas deco-

303 E. DELLS RD, SILVER LAKE 53170 Sept. 9th & 10th, 9:00am-4:00pm both days. BIG SALE! Lots of tools!! Small appliances, office equipment & supplies, and much more!

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403 W. WASHINGTON ST. 9-1, 8-2 7 9-2, 8-1. Tools, DVD's, generators, Etc.

#### **East Troy Garage Sales**

2832 SCHOOL STREET East Troy Mini Storage. Bldg C. Sept. 8 & 9, 9am-3pm. Books, toys, games, kitchen items, hand/power tools + MUCH MORE!

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### **FOR SALE**

#### **Announcements**

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