

# NEWS

## 'Hinsdale School News' is no such thing

*District 86 officials working to let people know they had nothing to do with publication*



By Pamela Lannom  
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In the final days before the Tuesday, April 2, election, Hinsdale High School District 86 officials are working to make sure people know an eight-page publication printed on newsprint is not from the district.

"We're hearing two different things," Superintendent Bruce Law said Wednesday. "We're hearing people who are very upset because they recognize someone is trying to deceive the community and put our marks on a paper and trying to make it look like it comes from us. We also are hearing from people who think it comes from us."

The publication reads "Hinsdale School News" across the top of Page 1 and names

Hinsdale Township High School District 86 and Community Consolidated School District 181 underneath. A page one piece by Glenn Minnis, "special from the DuPage Policy Journal," contains comments from Noel Manley and Zach Mottl, who are highly critical of the \$140 million referendum the district has on the Tuesday, April 2, ballot. It includes the district's logo. Five other pieces with bylines all read "special from DuPage Policy Journal."

"If even one person looks at that and says, 'Oh, the district sent this out and now I think this,' we'd be concerned about that, that they had been deceived," Law said.

The district's primary concern is the use of its "marks" — identified in board policy as the

*Please turn to Page 10*

## Bill would pull sales tax from Hinsdale

By Pamela Lannom  
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Illinois House Majority Leader Jim Durkin planned to call a bill today, March 28, that would divert a portion of the sales tax revenue the village collects from the Hinsdale Oasis to Western Springs.

Hinsdale Village President Tom Cauley contacted The Hinsdalean last week to express his opposition to the bill.

"I think it sets a horrible precedent and that's clearly our commercial property," Cauley said. "Collectively, it's the largest tax generator for the village of Hinsdale. It would be very detrimental to Hinsdale if we had to give up some or a large portion of our sales tax revenue to Western Springs."

Durkin, who represents Western Springs, introduced House Bill 3172 Feb. 15. He told The Hinsdalean on Wednesday he would prefer to see an intergovernmental agreement that would provide for sales tax revenue from the oasis to be shared, and he pointed to one such agreement between Lake Forest and Mettawa.

"The village of Western Springs, who I represent, have told me they for years have tried to have some type of agreement or negotiation regarding the oasis, since the east side of the oasis abuts the village of Western Springs' property and homeowners," Durkin said. "Whenever there is any

type of request for first responders or picking up garbage or any problem on the east side of the tollway, it is the village of Western Springs who provides that service. I think that there is an equity issue that we have to think about."

Cauley said that in the 10 years he has been village president, no one has called him about this.

"It's kind of an unusual way to approach the issue," he said. "No one has ever suggested to me an IGA because they are using police and fire resources."

"If the real aim is to get an IGA, why not pick up the phone and call me?" he added.

Cauley said he told Durkin he is amenable to discussing ways to mitigate any incremental adverse impact when the bridge over Instate 294 is taken down and the oasis is rebuilt on both sides of the roadway.

Durkin also brought up the village of Hinsdale's annexation of the property, which his staff has indicated was illegally obtained under a mechanism called "strip annexation." The Illinois Supreme Court barred that type of annexation many years ago, he said.

Cauley dismissed the comment, noting the annexation took place 50 years.

"I'm always stunned when people don't talk to me about things and claim this has been in the works for a long time," he said.

## 'Into the Woods' comes out on stage



Members of Bam Theatre's Conservatory Ensemble performed Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods" at the Hinsdale United Methodist Church this month. The ensemble is an acting and musical theater training program for students in grades seven to 12. Mackenzie Werthman portrayed Little Red in the production, with Dean Zaverdas as Rapunzel's Prince and Clark Anderson as Cinderella's Prince. (Jim Slonoff photos)



# OBITUARIES

## Emily Tienken

Emily Tienken of Clarendon Hill passed away peacefully at home March 9, 2019, after battling pneumonia for several months.

Emily, 31, was born in Greenwich, Conn., to Lisa and William Tienken. Although she had multiple physical and developmental disabilities and needed medical intervention and constant family care, she lived a life full of joy. Beginning with Walker School, Emily loved attending school in Districts 181 and 86, where she enjoyed spending her days with friends, aides and teachers.

After graduating high school, Emily moved and lived with the loving community of Misericordia in Chicago. Misericordia became a home away from home where the staff and

residents loved Emily and she loved them.

Through it all, Emily's life was a story of triumph against the odds and laughter in spite of setbacks — with Disney music as the soundtrack. Music, according to Em, was best experienced loudly with dancing and clapping. And nothing in the world was more fun than hanging with her two beloved brothers, John and Nick.

Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 30, at Misericordia Heart of Mercy Chapel, 6300 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago. A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Misericordia, 6300 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago, IL 60660.

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*Continued from Page 3*

name of the district, the name of its schools and its logo, Law said. Policy 8:22 "prohibits their use by outside organizations or individuals without express authorization."

District attorneys sent a cease and desist letter to five organizations, including Chicago publisher Franklin Archer, the DuPage Policy Journal and its publisher, Local Government Information Services Inc. Dan Proft, a conservative Republican radio talk show host, is president of LGIS.

The letter demands an immediate end to the publication's distribution and a stop to the use of the district's name or logo in any publication.

"Such actions violated Illinois civil and criminal deceptive trade practice laws aimed at protecting consumers and infringe on the board's existing trademarks," the letter states.

District officials received a letter in response from an attorney representing Brian Timponi of Franklin Archer. The letter indicates Franklin Archer was contacted by another entity to produce the publication and refuses to reveal that entity. The letter also states that Local Government Information Services was not involved in the creation of the publication and accuses the district of attempting to censor free speech.

Law emphasized the district is neutral with respect to the publication's content.

"The content is not our issue. People have a First Amendment right to deceive the public in what they say," he said, adding that the district would have an issue if any group used the logo without authorization.

A separate issue is whether the publication — whose content is primarily critical of the school board and administration and seems designed to encourage a no vote on the \$140 million referendum next week — violates election law. Law believes it does.

"I know the election law well enough to know that if you are sending out political speech like this you have to identify who you are in sending this," he said.

The "Vote Yes" committee agrees.

"To make a long story short, we've engaged with a couple of attorneys and a PR firm to get the story out there," said Jeff Waters, chairman of outreach and fundraising for the committee. "We are filing an election complaint against them currently as we speak. One of the biggest violations is it doesn't have a 'paid for by'

(line) on there."

Waters also objected to the publication's listing of teacher salaries in District 86.

"Teachers' salaries have nothing to do with the referendum," he said. "Not one dollar of the referendum goes to teacher salaries."

Joan Brandeis, another member of the "Vote Yes" group, said she didn't bother to read the entire publication, which included pieces on two candidates — a negative one on incumbent Kathleen Hirsman and a positive piece on Fotini Bakopoulos.

"It has an attack on Kathleen in it. I didn't read all the articles," she said. "It's the same old stuff."

From what she has gleaned, Brandeis said, the piece was mailed to registered Republicans. Current members of the school board did not receive it.

Law said the district will continue its search for the party or parties responsible for the publication.

"There's one more line of inquiry that we're following up on," he said.



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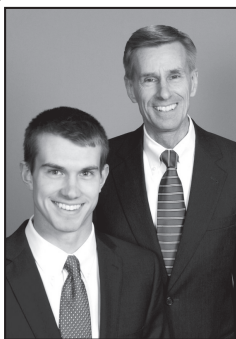
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