



# HINCKLEY UPDATE

A free monthly newsletter provided by the Hinckley First  
United Methodist Church May - Volume 5 - 2024



There was a brief moment last month where a large percentage of our nation's populace stopped what they were doing long enough to look into the sky with intrigue. For some it may have been only for a few minutes in the midst of an otherwise busy day, but others drove hours to be in the path of totality in order to take the whole solar eclipse in with wonder. One of Hinckley's residents, Molly Ferguson, was one of those who travelled to the path of totality and wrote in a reflection on Facebook that "it is a transcendent experience... the air changes, the colors around you get muted. That orange ball of sun you see during the partial eclipse changes to something otherworldly that takes your breath away and makes you feel so small and so big in the universe all at the same time."

This past week I was watching my nearly two year old son. We were outside in the backyard enjoying the beautiful weather when I saw him crouched down looking at something on the ground. Curious, I knelt down to see what caught his attention. It was a tiny ant going about it's day. I sat there and watched my son's face as he looked with intrigue and amazement. Not long later on that same day my older son picked a dandelion for me. Generally when one of my children hands me a dandelion I discard it as quickly and discreetly as possible. What do I want with a weed? But on this day, maybe because I was inspired by a child watching an ant, I saw that dandelion with renewed vision. I stopped and actually looked at it. I looked at the brilliant yellow petals for perhaps the first time since I was a child myself. I stood there and I stared and I was able to appreciate the beauty. I saw that weed for the token of love that my child saw it as, an object of beauty.

Each of these instances were a reminder to me of how often I cruise through life in a hurry. Our society has conditioned us to fast living, and a consequence of the rush of modern life is that we end up not truly seeing things as they really are. As Kirk Byron Jones writes in *Addicted to Hurry*, "Life has become a blurred procession of colorless images devoid of meaning and vitality."

But what if we actually slowed down long enough to actually see?

What if we took the time to be captivated by wonder or have our breath taken away or marvel at something truly beautiful?

What might our world become if we stopped long enough to recognize our place in this incredibly immense but also minuscule world?

What might our society become, or our community become, or our institutions and organizations become, if we slowed down and actually looked at people with generous eyes? If we saw them for who they really are rather than what we've been conditioned to see by all the talking heads of the world or led to believe by our hurried glances?

I think it would be, as Molly wrote about the eclipse, "a transcendent experience." And I for one, am going to try to slow down long enough to truly see.

Rev. Derek Rogers

Simplify  
Slow Down  
Enjoy 

# CHURCH AND VILLAGE DIRECTORY

## Hinckley Update Publication Guidelines

The Hinckley Update is published on the first of each month by the

**Hinckley First United Methodist Church** as a free service to the community.

The Update is a strictly informational publication which is published to disseminate information or to promote area events to the public for local churches, the library, local non-profit groups, and service organizations.

Following the guidelines stated above, no for-profit business information, advertising with a personal bias will be published.

Due to limited space, personal announcements for publication cannot be included.

Submit info to:

[hinckleyumcupdate60520@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleyumcupdate60520@gmail.com)

Deadline for submissions to the **June 2024** Update is due by

**Wednesday May 15, 2024.**

**For further info, contact HFUMC at 815/286-7102 Tues- Fri from 9am-1pm**

**Contributions are always welcome. Thank you.**

Village of Hinckley website:  
<http://hinckleyil.com>

### Village of Hinckley Board of Trustees

Meetings are held on the second & fourth Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Hinckley Village Hall, 720 James Street. If that Monday falls on a holiday, the Board meets the following Tuesday.

### Hinckley Public Library District

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Hinckley Public Library, 100 N. Maple Street.

### Squaw Grove Township Board

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Hinckley Community Building.

## Church Information

### Hinckley First United Methodist Church

801 N. Sycamore Street Phone: 815/286-7102

Services: Sunday - 9:30 am with Children's Church during Worship

Fellowship - 10:30 am

Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am

Office hours: Tues - Fri from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

AA Meets every Tues. at 6:00 pm. Website: [www.hinckleyfirstumc.org](http://www.hinckleyfirstumc.org)

### Covenant Restoration Church

181 N. Sycamore Street Phone: 815/286-7131

Services: Sunday - 9:30 am

Sunday Prayer & Praise Service - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 pm Friday Prayer Service - 8:00 pm

### Grace Fellowship Church

17081 Owens Road Phone: 630/318-6420

Service & Children's Church: Sunday - 9:45 am

2nd Sunday of the month is Family Sunday.

Community Groups begin quarterly. Website: [www.gracefc.com](http://www.gracefc.com)

### Immanuel Lutheran Church

12760 Lee Rd. Phone: 815/286-3885

Sunday Worship Times: Sept - May 10:15 am, June - Aug. 9:00 am

Men's Bible Study: Every Saturday except 1st Sat. of the month 7:00 am

Website: [www.immanuel-hinckley.org](http://www.immanuel-hinckley.org)

### St. Paul's United Church of Christ

324 West McKinley Street Phone: 815/286-3391

Sunday Service: Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 am

Coffee fellowship immediately following Sunday Service.

Website: [www.stpaulshinckley.org](http://www.stpaulshinckley.org)



HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY  
"NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS"

HAFP is located at 190 W. Lincoln Hwy Waterman, IL

HAFP serves the people in Hinckley, Big Rock, Maple Park, Shabbona, and Waterman. If you or someone you know can benefit from receiving food, please bring 2 forms of identification including one with a photo ID on the distribution day.

Financial donations can be mailed to:  
HAFP, PO Box 463, Hinckley 60520.

Every \$1.00 donated can provide approximately 20 meals for the hungry. Please call or text our number at 815-286-7275 for any questions or more information.

Need more information?

<http://www.hinckleyareafoodpantry.org/>

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/HinckleyAreaFoodPantry>

## Support Nonprofit Organizations During Give DeKalb County

Get ready for Give DeKalb County 2024! Now in its eleventh year, this annual fundraising event features multiple ways to support nonprofit organizations. Plus, the Bonus Pool boosts every donation made.

### Donation Options

**Online:** May 2 from midnight to midnight at [GiveDeKalbCounty.org](https://GiveDeKalbCounty.org) using credit/debit card, electronic bank transfer, or mobile pay.

**By Mail:** April 18 – May 2 include check for the total donation amount and Give DeKalb County mail-in donation form, mail to the DeKalb County Community Foundation – 475 DeKalb Avenue, Sycamore, IL 60178.

**In-Person:** May 2 donation drop-off event at the Community Foundation, 8am – 1pm.

Give DeKalb County is coordinated by the [DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership](https://DeKalbCountyNonprofitPartnership.org) (DCNP), a program of the [DeKalb County Community Foundation](https://DeKalbCountyCommunityFoundation.org). The previous ten giving days raised over \$8.7 million combined.

"Thousands of donors made a difference last year, donating more than \$1.8 million during Give DeKalb County," said Ben Bingle, DCNP Director. "This generosity is so impactful throughout local communities, and we look forward to another outpouring of community spirit in 2024."

DCNP raises funds for the Bonus Pool and every dollar donated during Give DeKalb County is boosted by a percentage of these funds. Community Partners have donated to the Bonus Pool and Media Sponsors help raise awareness about Give DeKalb County by donating promotional support.

Visit [GiveDeKalbCounty.org](https://GiveDeKalbCounty.org) for a list of Community Partners and Media Sponsors, to browse profiles of specific organizations, and to learn more. In mid-April, the mail-in donation form will be added to the website.



Mark your calendar for May 2, 2024 and plan to support local nonprofit organizations during Give DeKalb County!

## ***Hello from Hinckley Parks and Recreation!*** We have so many fun and exciting classes, programs, and camps that we are offering this summer! Some exciting things we have going on are:

- \*Art Classes/Camps
- \*Dance Classes
- \*Tumbling Clinics
- \*Sport Camps (Volleyball and Running)
- \*Fun Friday Camps
- \*Safety Village
- \*Pickleball Open Gym (Middle School and High School Students)
- \*Crafts in the Park
- \*Hot Dogs in the Park
- \*And much, much more!

A newsletter will be going home with elementary students in April. You can also access the newsletter on the Village of Hinckley website @ [hinckleyil.com](https://hinckleyil.com). Extra copies of the newsletters will be available at the Hinckley Community Library and Methodist Church.

To register please print off a copy of the registration form from the village website. Once completed, please take the form to the village office. You can pay through EPAY on the village website or pay with cash/check when you turn in your registration form.

Always please contact Stephanie Long @ [stephaniel@hinckleyil.com](mailto:stephaniel@hinckleyil.com) if you have any questions.

Thank you to all the instructors for giving our community so many choices to choose from this summer!

**New Class Fit & Fun for 55+** Where: Community Building When: Thursdays, 4/25 - 5/23 Time: 10 - 10:45AM  
Admission: \$50 (6 week session) Offers: Low-impact aerobics, light resistance training and flexibility work to help participants gain strength and endurance for daily activities. (Minimum 6 people/class)

**HAPPY SPRING!**  
Stephanie Long



# Hinckley Lions Club News

## Celebrating the School Year

The Lions Club is excited to participate with the PTO in preparing the “All American” meal for students, faculty, and staff at the end of the school year. A picnic lunch is planned for May 21 at Pioneer Park including hot dogs, chips, ice cream and a cookie. It’s the Lions way of saying “thank you” and “enjoy the summer.”

Hinckley is fortunate to have a growing school enrollment, outstanding faculty and staff, and improving learning results. The summer is an important time for students to be more active outdoors but also continue their learning in areas that need improvement. The Hinckley Public Library supports this effort with their summer reading program. This year’s theme is “Read-Renew-Repeat.” The Lions Club is following that theme by repeating their financial support for the program so the Library can provide events, prizes, and fun for everyone.

## We Hope You Enjoyed Celebrating the Lions’ Birthday

Thank you for the social media comments and well wishes as the Hinckley Lions celebrated their 54th birthday on April 2 and the declaration by the Village Board that April 4 was Lions Day. We hope you were among the 300 people who got a free cupcake, ice cream cone, or cookie.

Our oldest member—Jerry Bahl—recalls the club formed in 1970 to focus efforts on bettering the community and world instead of just promoting the members’ business. We find great satisfaction in our service projects, raising funding for scholarships and helping other groups, and getting to know people in our community. We invite you to join us in just one activity or more depending on your available time. Come to a meeting and get acquainted on the first Thursday of the month at J&K’s Half Moon.

## Lions Scholarships Presented May 8

Our biggest investment each year provides scholarships for HBR students to continue their education. Over \$65,000 has been awarded to HBR graduates over the years. We manage three scholarships for graduates--some to attend two years at a community college or trade school. The Larry Hoffman Scholarship was created in 2005 to remember this charter member. It provides \$3,000 per year for two years to a graduating senior. The Bill Frost Memorial Scholarship remembers this farmer who was a member of the first HBR FFA Chapter and supported the program during his life. The \$300 award goes to an outstanding graduate who was active in FFA. The third scholarship in memory of another HBR graduate, Jim Burnett, provides \$500 to recognize a student interested in agriculture and who has demonstrated their leadership abilities as Jim did. Celebrate the memories of these community members with Lions and offer best wishes for the graduating seniors.

## Remember the Queen of Hearts Drawing on Wednesdays

Join Lions for the Queen of Hearts card game at J&K’s Half Moon each Wednesday at 7 p.m. Come and watch the excitement as the prize is over \$21,000! The Lions Club card raffle has created a lot of interest as participants guess where the Queen of Hearts may be in the deck of cards. Lion Jerry Bahl is camped out by the Queen sign at J&K’s Half Moon to explain the rules and where to look for the Queen. Proceeds help fund club service projects. Thank you!

*If you want to join our efforts to serve the community, contact Lion Secretary Mark Bernhardt ([mark.bernhardy@gmail.com](mailto:mark.bernhardy@gmail.com)) for more information. Lions meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the backroom of J&K’s Half Moon.*



★ Please join us on **Memorial Day** with a ceremony on **Monday, May 27th** at the Hinckley Community Building beginning at **9:30 AM**.

★ We invite everyone of all ages, their families and friends to join us in honor and remembrance of all our American heroes.



# HBR CUSD #429 Highlights and Celebrations

**2023- 2024 has been an exciting, successful year for HBR students and staff!  
Some highlights from our year include:**

## **Staff:**

Two of our teachers were selected as Excellence in Education award winners: Mrs. Katie Claypool, 3rd grade teacher and Mrs. Susan Clark, multilingual learners teacher. Mrs. Tamara Reddington, one of our Early Childhood teachers, was a Golden Apple Finalist from over 600 nominations for Illinois. Mrs. Kristen Delisio is headed back to Washington, D.C. this summer as part of the Teacher Innovator Institute at the Air & Space Museum/ Smithsonian. Ms. Lee was a featured guest at an event through the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

## **Students:**

Two middle school students scored a division one ranking at solo and ensemble. 7th grade girls' basketball, 8th grade boys' basketball, and HBRMS soccer team were tournament champions. HBRMS Spelling Bee Team came in 3rd at the Conference Bee!

## **Other accomplishments that got our staff and students excited were:**

Sunny Brandonisio, one of our 6th graders, won the PTO's T-shirt design contest. We had 25 Career Day presenters at our Annual Career Day on February 2nd. We're excited to host this event again next year! Our FFA program hosted the annual FFA Safety Day at the high school on April 15th. This event brought together many community partners and first responders to host hands-on stations for our middle and elementary school students.

## **Athletic and Extracurricular Highlights:**

Our chess team had a great year and qualified for the state tournament in Peoria. Boys golf was Little 10 Conference Champions and girls golf had three sectional qualifiers. Volleyball had the most wins in a season in 10 years and the 3rd highest in HBR history. Boys soccer placed 3rd in the Little Ten Conference Tournament with two players named to the Little Ten All Conference and All Sectional Teams. Boys basketball placed 3rd in the Little Ten Conference with two players named to the Little Ten All Conference team. Girls basketball placed 3rd in the Little Ten Conference Tournament with three players named to the Little Ten All Conference Team. They were also an IBCA Academic All-State Team (3.5+ Team GPA).

We are thankful for all the ways that the community and our Royal families have partnered with us to attain these accomplishments!

~Jessica Sonntag, Superintendent



☆☆☆☆☆  
☆☆ Grab your morning coffee or water and come over to Hinckley First United Methodist Church where we have Fitness at First most mornings beginning at 8AM.  
☆☆ We invite you and your exercise partners to join us to work out at your own pace. You also may just walk around the building during this time if you prefer.  
☆☆ No reservations are needed. Come as you are!  
☆☆ We look forward to seeing you.



**Rise and Shine, It's Exercise Time!!**

# HAPPENINGS AT THE LIBRARY



Hinckley  
Public  
Library  
District

The full Summer Reading Program calendar will be available at the library in early May.

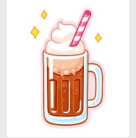
Stop by and grab a copy or find it on our website. We have an abundance of activities for all ages throughout June and July. Here are some highlights:

- Recycled crafts on Tuesdays at 2pm
- Chess club on Wednesdays at 6pm
- Illinois Storm Chasers
- The Frog Lady reptile show
- Northern Illinois Worm Farm
- Owl pellet dissection
- Teen after-hours
- Family scavenger hunt
- Tiny art
- Contests, coloring, drop-in crafts, and more!



Don't miss registration day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>!

This is our opening event that allows you to sign up for all of the events of the summer as well as the reading program. The day will kick off at 10am with a petting zoo (until noon). Next, enjoy a free root beer float sponsored by South Moon BBQ from 1-3pm.



## What is the Summer Reading Program?

There are two key parts: the educational and enriching events as described above, and opportunity to earn amazing prizes while reading books you love. Studies show that students lose reading ability over the summer if they're not given books and encouraged to read. We open the reading program to ALL ages and have prizes for everyone. Whether you're reading to a grandchild, enjoying your favorite novel, or listening to an audiobook on your commute, you are invited to join in. There are weekly prizes like Culver's custard tokens and grand prizes like Nutcracker ballet tickets.

**Everything is completely free, so include the library in your summer plans!**

Have questions???? Reach out! Call the library at 815-286-3220, message us on Facebook, or send an email through our website at [www.hinckleylibrary.org](http://www.hinckleylibrary.org).

## SUPPORT HINCKLEY FIREWORKS

**Save the date and mark your calendars.** Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup> will be the date for this year's Hinckley Fireworks. As a community to make this event a success we need your help both in man power and with financial aid. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> you can begin to help by financially supporting us with your donation to the DeKalb County Community Foundation. This foundation is working in conjunction with over 130 not for profit associations to help raise money for their separate goals; one of those nonprofit organizations is our local Hinckley Festival Association which organizes the Hinckley Fireworks. By giving through the DCCF your money will multiply thanks to the generosity of individuals and companies throughout the county that have given without earmarking funds to any one organization. With these unmarked funds the over 130 organizations benefit by getting a piece of this fund. Your dollar can multiply from \$1.15 to over \$1.25 by giving on this day. Your donation can be mailed in from April 18 to May 2 or you can go online on May 2. Please consider giving this year by this method. **To donate mail your money to DCCF 475 DeKalb Ave Sycamore, IL 60178 starting April 18 to May 2. You can also stop at the DCCF office on DeKalb Ave in Sycamore or donate online at [GiveDeKalbCounty.org](http://GiveDeKalbCounty.org) both stopping and online must be done on May 2.**

Community members are needed as volunteers to come forward and offer their time and assistance to grow the event and make it the festive event Hinckley has grown accustomed to.

**\* Become a part of making June 29<sup>th</sup> a festive day in Hinckley. \***

Please send an email of your interest to [hinckleyfireworks@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleyfireworks@gmail.com) or contact Dave Maroo at 630-335-0816.



## “Day to Give” is May 2

The county-wide financial drive to help non-profit organizations occurs during the 24 hours of May 2. The DeKalb County Community Foundation (DCCF) organizes the annual event to help large and small non-profits continue to provide their services to DeKalb County. Every donation is important and creates a good feeling to be helping others. A donation on this day also gives these groups a percentage of the undesignated bonus pool.

Among the 140 or so organizations participating this year are the **Hinckley Area Food Pantry, Hinckley Festival Association, and the Hinckley Historical Society**. Go to [www.givedekalbcounty.org](http://www.givedekalbcounty.org) for information. These groups need your support.

### Third Graders Learn About Local History

The three HBR third grade classes are taking a field trip this month to visit and learn about the mosaic mural and historical museum. Several of the artists who created the mural will be on hand to explain their project. HHS board members will open the museum to help students visualize the past that may assist them in making decisions for the future.

HBR STEAM teacher Kristen Delisio has impressed upon us at the museum that by studying objects, students begin to ask questions, think creatively, and often develop new solutions to a problem or situation. We have plenty of examples of inventions that came about just that way.

We at HHS are learning more about the value of having a museum, capturing local stories, and sharing artifacts for students to study. HHS needs more volunteers and welcomes your help in this effort.

### Take Time for Memorial Day on May 27

Hinckley will once again gather on Memorial Day to honor those who have given their lives in the service to our country. Come to the Community Building patio on Maple Street by 9:30 a.m. on May 27. Such remembrances have been held in many locations over the years including an area where the Dairy Joy sits today and at Greenwood Cemetery.

The Memorial Monument at the cemetery was erected in 1913 to honor those soldiers and sailors who served especially during the Civil War. When the granite monument was unveiled that year, a crowd of 3,000 people gathered. School children from every school in the township marched the mile from Hinckley to the cemetery led by the Aurora Drum Corp. A chorus of 100 children sang in tribute to the deceased and girls put flowers on the 20 military graves at that time. Annual Memorial Day services were held at the cemetery for many years.

Visit the military exhibit at the museum on May 27 too. An exhibit has the names of all local residents of which we know have served and those who gave their lives in defending our freedom.

### Students Want to Know About the School Bells

HHS is researching the history of the school bell outside of the current elementary building and the one on May and McKinley Street. If you know the history of the bell and shelter over it at the current elementary school, let us know at the museum.

*Our museum, located at 141 East Lincoln Avenue, Hinckley, IL 60520, is open Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon. You can call Bob (815-761-4058) for tours at other times.*

## Support HAFP on May 2, 2024!



On May 2nd, the Hinckley Area Food Pantry will again be participating in the Give Dekalb County 24-hour day of giving! Your donations on May 2nd will be multiplied to help the pantry provide those in need with groceries and other household items. Food insecurity affects every county in America. **With your support, we can continue to combat hunger in our own community!** For more information on how to make a donation, visit [GiveDeKalbCounty.org](http://GiveDeKalbCounty.org)



Gift Cards

# Win Free Gasoline for One Year\*

\*based on \$50 per week



(13 Lucky Winners will be drawn on June 29, 2024)  
(BP Gift Cards will be awarded to the winners)

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Free Gasoline for one year**

(or \$2,600 whichever comes first)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Free Gasoline for six months**

(or \$1,300 whichever comes first)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Free Gasoline for three months**

(or \$650 whichever comes first)

**10 additional prizes of \$100 of Free Gasoline**

## RAFFLE TICKETS

\$10 each

3 for \$20

10 for \$60

Or 100 for \$500



### TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

Jack and Jina's BP  
The Brown Pub  
Resource Bank  
Midwest Sportsplex  
South Moon BBQ  
Or Call 630-337-7720



Funds Raised will be used to support

## HINCKLEY FIREWORKS

**“What’s this for?”**

**Please include number of tickets, your address & email.**



**venmo**

Hinckley Festival Association, NFP  
PO Box 657  
Hinckley, IL 60520

### Program for 55 Plus Now Available in Hinckley

**Village News**

The Family Service Agency of DeKalb County is expanding its program called Club 55 for people age 55 plus in the Hinckley area.

The goal for the free program is to keep people independent, healthy, and active. **The group meets at the Sportsplex every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

The non-profit organization has been providing programs for older adults for many years in Malta, DeKalb and Sycamore. Their activities include crafts, games, book discussions, fitness, nutrition and meals, and outings. Their expanded services are now available at the Sportsplex located at 212 W. Woodlawn Ave., which is south of the railroad tracks and west of Sycamore Street in Hinckley.

The program began with a grand opening on April 30 from 10 to 1:30. Members from the DeKalb program bused-in to see the facilities, welcome Hinckley attendees and share their enthusiasm for the program. FSA also produces a newsletter for Club 55 members with news, tips, and a calendar of activities. It is distributed on the FSA website, by email and regular mail to nearly 1,000 people in the county.

Club 55 and FSA programs are sponsored by local units of government and businesses interested in the wellbeing of residents who are 55 and older. They welcome residents in the Hinckley area to come weekly or as often as they want from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Family Services Agency of DeKalb County can be contacted at (<https://FSAdokalbcounty.org>) or 815-758-8616.

The Community Grief Support Meetings at Hinckley First United Methodist Church on Wednesday evenings **begins at 7PM.**

**The meeting dates this summer are:**

**May 8 & May 22**

**June 12 & June 26**

**July 10 & July 24**



**Please feel free to reach out with questions or comments at 815-520-0026.**





**Hinckley First United Methodist Church**

**VBS**

**Tuesday, May 28th - Friday, May 31st**

**9-11:30am**

**SCAN ME!**

**REGISTER NOW**



**[www.hinckleyfirstumc.org/vbs-registration](http://www.hinckleyfirstumc.org/vbs-registration)**



Join us this summer and help us “**Start the Party**”  
and Celebrate the Good News with everyone.

Registration is open and we ask that you sign you child/children up by May 15th.  
All you need to do is fill out the form at the QR code above.

**Ages:** Pre-K (3 years old and potty trained) to entering 5th grade in the Fall of 2024.

**Cost:** \$20 per child or \$50 per family.

**Questions?** Email [hinckleyfirstvbs@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleyfirstvbs@gmail.com)  
or call the church office at (815) 286-7102.