

## **Press Clippings for 1/9/2023**

### **– Daily Herald –**

## **Elgin's annual MLK prayer breakfast back in person on Jan. 14**

**Jan. 8, 2023**

**By Rick West**

After two years of being held online because of the pandemic, Elgin's annual the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. prayer breakfast is returning as an in-person event.

Co-chair Janice Hare is happy the 38th edition of the city's celebration of the civil rights leader will be back next week at Elgin Community College.

"It's exciting to be able to see people again," she said. "A lot of people have been through a lot of things in the past 2 1/2 years."

The event starts 8:30 a.m. on Jan. 14 in Building E at ECC, 1700 Spartan Drive. A limited number of tickets are available at city hall for \$25. To check availability, email Hare at [harekimberlyjanice@gmail.com](mailto:harekimberlyjanice@gmail.com).

Each year, the breakfast is themed after a King quote. Hare said this year's theme, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?,'" made her reflect on her upbringing.

"My parents, my siblings, we helped each other," Hare said. "We educated each other. We supported each other. As an adult, I pass those values on to my children by being a positive leader in the community and a positive role model."

The Rev. Felicia LaBoy of First United Methodist Church in Elgin will be the keynote speaker. In addition to presentations from speakers, annual award winners will be announced during the breakfast.

Four people are up for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award, which recognizes individuals from Elgin whose work reflects the teachings and life of King. Nominees are Marcus E. Banner, Shirley Bassett, Mansi Patel and Dan Rouse.

Twelve seniors from three high schools -- Larkin in Elgin, South Elgin and Elgin Academy -- will be awarded scholarships. The awards are given annually to students who have demonstrated an active interest and meaningful involvement in the areas of human rights, civil rights, social justice and/or world peace.

Hare said they usually give out two or three scholarships per year. The amount of the scholarships ranges from \$500 to \$1,000.

"This year, our contributors and sponsors really came through," Hare said.

The prayer breakfast is part of the Elgin Human Relations Commission's weekend of activities celebrating King.

The annual food drive, now in its 10th year, aims to collect 100,000 pounds of food for six area pantries. Canned goods and household items can be dropped off at the Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin police and fire stations, city hall, the Elgin YWCA and most local churches. While food donations are appreciated, cash donations are preferred.

Every dollar collected can purchase about eight pounds of food. Donations can be made at [lf-forms.cityofelgin.net/Forms/MLK-Food-Drive](http://lf-forms.cityofelgin.net/Forms/MLK-Food-Drive).

The weekend celebration includes the Illinois premiere of the documentary "Invented Before You Were Born" from 4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 15 at the Larkin High School auditorium. The film follows the story of white siblings Jonathan and Rachel Knight. They discover they are the

descendants of a Kentucky slave owner who freed 65 enslaved people and gave them land, homes, tools and money to establish themselves as free Blacks in America.

Traci Ellis -- an author, Larkin High School graduate and former Elgin Area School District U-46 school board member -- is among the descendants of the freed people.

The free screening will be followed by a Q&A featuring filmmakers Jonathan Knight and Le Datta Grimes, as well as Ellis.

## – Daily Herald –

### **Hanover Township earns 5 awards at state conference**

**Jan. 4, 2023**

**By Hanover Township**

Hanover Township received five awards at the annual Township Officials of Illinois conference in Springfield on Nov. 15.

The Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth presented Hanover Township Supervisor Brian McGuire with the Friend to Youth Award. The honor is bestowed to a township elected official who has shown an outstanding commitment to youth.

The Hanover Township Department of Youth & Family Services received the association's Organization of the Year Award for their contributions to the township's youth community through their family therapy services, in-school drug prevention and youth leadership programs and their dynamic special events.

Streamwood resident Tee Wiley received the Volunteer of the Year Award at the conference. A sophomore at Streamwood High School, Wiley began volunteering with the township in 2021, and quickly took on additional leadership opportunities to recruit other volunteers and lead efforts in the township's youth outreach activities such as Hanover Haunts and Hoppin' for Hanover.

"The high quality and breadth of township services is reflected by the outstanding effort of our officials, staff and volunteers," said Brian McGuire, Hanover Township supervisor.

"Individual awards are always representative of the larger group, and this year was no different."

The Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees presented Hanover with the Innovative Program of the Year Award for the Home Care Services Program.

Launched in November 2021, the program assists older adults who need additional services and support to remain in their homes and prevent unnecessary nursing facility placement.

Funded in part by the Hanover Township Foundation and Mental Health Board, township staff offer assistance with bathing and dressing, light housekeeping, meal preparation and companionship. Coordination and connection with transportation and medical services is also offered. Over the last 12 months, 970 visits have been conducted with township seniors.

McGuire was also presented with the Supervisor of the Year Award from the Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Caseworkers for his leadership in adapting the township's service delivery to the most vulnerable residents during, and following the pandemic.

The Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth is a statewide resource for community-based human service agencies with the purpose to promote improved services for youth and families.

The Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees is a division of the Township Officials of Illinois that promotes cooperation, resource and programming sharing information among township senior service providers.

The Illinois Township Association of General Assistance Case Workers is comprised of General Assistance staff as authorized by each township supervisor. Its mission is to educate General Assistance staff and to ensure consistent implementation of General Assistance programs throughout the state of Illinois.

The Township Officials of Illinois Educational Conference occurs annually in Springfield, where more than 1,000 township officials and staff gather to attend educational seminars and trainings.

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## – Daily Herald –

### **Blakley gets hot, helps Larkin hand Bartlett 1st UEC loss**

**Jan. 6, 2023**

**By Allen Oshinski**

In a game of runs, **Larkin** made the last one.

Tied with **Bartlett** at 55, the **Royals** reeled off 9 straight points to go up 64-55, and went on to win by that margin, 69-60, Friday night.

Jakob Blakley exploded in the second quarter, scoring 17 of his game-high 25 points and leading **Larkin** to a 29-point quarter in an Upstate Eight matchup in **Bartlett**.

Javion Stewart scored 12 points, Darnell Wilder 11 and Adrian York 10 for **Larkin** (6-9, 4-3).

**Larkin** dominated the even-numbered quarters, scoring 50 points combined in the second and fourth, while **Bartlett** had the advantage in the odd-numbered periods.

Blakley also won the battle of highly touted junior guards, outscoring the Hawks' Kelton McEwen, who had 18 points.

McEwen scored 9 in the first quarter as the **Hawks** built a 22-11 lead. But Blakley and the **Royals** came storming back in the second. Blakley's 3-pointer tied it at 30 and an old-fashioned 3-point play by Stewart put the visitors ahead.

"We've seen it in practice, but when he gets going, it's next level," Larkin coach Deryn Carter said of Blakley. "We've had next level guys, but he might be even more next level than anybody we've had in the past. And he got it going in that second quarter."

Carter felt Blakley was pressing a bit early on and sat him down for a couple minutes. He returned with a vengeance, knocking down three 3-pointers to lead the Larkin comeback.

"I was talking to coach D and he said to just relax," said Blakley, who was in just his fourth game back from injury. "So I just relaxed and tried to find my stroke."

Bartlett's defense clamped down again in the third period, holding the Royals to 8 points although Larkin still led 48-46 at the end.

A layup by Nathan Searce (12 points) tied it at 55 before Blakley, York and Stewart combined for the next 9 points.

A layup by Stewart off a feed from Adrian Jones put the Royals ahead to stay. Blakley made a jumper, York made a steal and a transition layup, and Stewart added another 3-point play to make it 64-55.

Keegan Kunzer added 10 points and Rabi Banipal contributed 9 points and 10 rebounds for Bartlett (13-4, 6-1).

Larkin's defense eventually clamped down, holding Bartlett to 38 points after the first-quarter explosion.

"Our defense was phenomenal," said Carter. "[Jasavion] Rogers Sowers did a great job on [Searce], he's a great player. And then switching Adrian onto [McEwen], he gave him fits. He still got his points, but he worked his butt off."

# – Elgin Courier-News –

## LOCAL SCOREBOARD

**Jan. 8, 2023**

### From Staff Reports

#### FRIDAY'S RESULTS

#### HIGH SCHOOLS

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

Beecher 77, Gardner-South Wilmington 54

Beecher (16-1, 6-0 River Valley): Aidyn McGinley 27 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists. Rio Llamas 17 points, 10 rebounds. Jack Hayhurst 13 points.

Benet 67, St. Patrick 36

Bloom 67, Crete-Monee 55

Bloom (10-3, 3-0 Southland): Jordan Brown 12 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists. Elijah Lovemore 11 points, 5 assists.

Bolingbrook 67, Andrew 46

Andrew (8-9): Grantas Sakenis 19 points, 10 rebounds.

Burlington Central 58, Cary-Grove 42

DeKalb 54, Naperville Central 46

Dundee-Crown 57, Wauconda 45

Dundee-Crown (6-8): Kuba Senczyszyn 24 points. Tyler DiSilvio 14 points.

Wauconda (7-7): Braeden Carlsen 12 points, 4 rebounds.

Geneva 58, Wheaton North 45

Geneva (13-3, 4-1 DuKane): MickLawrence 21 points.

Hinckley-Big Rock 77, Somonauk 59

Hinckley-Big Rock (13-5, 4-0 Little Ten): Martin Ledbetter 29 points, 10 rebounds.

Somonauk (5-12, 2-2): Coleton Eade 20 points.

Homewood-Flossmoor 67, Bradley-Bourbonnais 39

H-F (9-7): Jayden Tyler 22 points, 4 assists. Caleb Chavers 12 points, 4 assists.

Joliet Catholic 60, Carmel 48

JCA (8-7, 2-5 ESCC): Owen Wiers 15 points. Anthony Birsa 11 points. Drew Willis, Jake Troyner 10 points each.

Kaneland 72, Sycamore 52

Kaneland (15-3, 7-0 Interstate Eight): Troyer Carlson 20 points. Freddy Hassan, Johnny Spallasso 14 points each.

Kankakee 57, Thornwood 54

Lake Forest 58, Lake Zurich 49

Lake Forest (7-7, 1-3 North Suburban): Asa Thomas 15 points, 7 rebounds. Tommie Aberle 15 points, 10 rebounds.

Larkin 69, Bartlett 60

Lincoln-Way Central 60, Sandburg 48

Lincoln-Way Central (6-10): Jack Novak 18 points.

Sandburg (6-11): Walter Davis 18 points. David Vargas 16 points.

Lockport 43, Stagg 31

Lockport (11-5): Jalen Falcon 24 points. Adam Labuda 13 points, 6 rebounds.

Loyola 44, Leo 27

Marist 58, Nazareth 48

Marist (15-3, 5-1 ESCC): Kaden White 15 points. Justin Lang 12 points.

Marmion 65, St. Charles East 53

Marmion (12-4): Henry Dalmann 18 points. Collin Wainscott 17 points, 10 rebounds, 4 steals. Trevon Roots 16 points, 3 blocks.

Metea Valley 50, Naperville North 47

Metea (9-5, 2-2 DuPage Valley): Jahki Gray 20 points. Will Ashford 14 points.



Naperville North (9-8, 2-2): Luke Williams 23 points. Bryce Welch 15 points.

Morris 63, Plano 52

Plano (4-14, 1-6 Interstate Eight): Davione Stamps 14 points. A.J. Johnson 13 points.

Newark 72, Indian Creek 54

Newark (7-8, 3-2 Little Ten): Zach Carlson 19 points, 9 rebounds. Blake Wallin 12 points, 7 rebounds. Joe Martin 10 points.

Niles North 51, Vernon Hills 46

Vernon Hills (7-10, 2-2 Central Suburban North): Milan Raval 20 points.

Oak Lawn 64, Eisenhower 40

Oak Lawn (10-6, 2-2 SSC Red): Ayham Salah 21 points.

Oswego 85, Plainfield Central 63

Oswego East 47, Romeoville 39

Oswego East(15-3): Mekhi Lowery, Jehvion Starwood 11 points each.

Rich Township 81, Thornridge 64

Richards 78, Reavis 49

Richards (7-10, 2-3 SSC Red): Marcus Jennings, Cameron King 17 points each.

St. Anne 65, Illinois Lutheran 41

St. Edward 50, Elmwood Park 35

South Elgin 57, East Aurora 56

Stevenson 61, Zion-Benton 38

Stevenson (12-2, 4-0 North Suburban): David Sulnius 14 points, 5 rebounds. Aidan Bardic 13 points.

Zion-Benton: Rmoni Beals 11 points.

Warren 59, Waukegan 42

Waubonsie Valley 49, Neuqua Valley 27

Yorkville 57, Joliet Central 52

Yorkville (14-3): Jason Jakstys 23 points. Dayvion Johnson 14 points.

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Burlington Central 56, Cary-Grove 38

Burlington Central (12-5, 5-2 Fox Valley): Page Erickson 23 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals. Samantha Origel 16 points, 6 rebounds.

Downers Grove North 42, St. Charles East 37

Geneva 54, Wheaton North 40

Grant 37, Round Lake 25

Grayslake Central 58, North Chicago 19

Grayslake North 42, Lakes 30

Grayslake North (12-6, 4-2 Northern Lake County): Makayla Campbell 21 points. Peyton Gerdes 16 points.

Lakes (8-9, 2-4): Jessica Oman 12 points.

Hinckley-Big Rock 42, Morris 39

Hinckley-Big Rock (12-7): Kylee Hellebrand 16 points. Devin Werner 11 points.

**Larkin** 36, Prairie Ridge 33

Romeoville 34, Oswego East 30

Thornwood 51, Hyde Park 46

Vernon Hills 70, Niles North 36

Vernon Hills (11-7, 5-1 Central Suburban North): Grace Koepke 20 points. Ava Barszcz 16 points. Alexa Cieslinski 12 points.

Warren 51, Waukegan 37

Warren: Mariah Phelps 17 points. Nari Powers 14 points. Shay Love 10 points.

Yorkville Christian 62, South Beloit 36

## **THURSDAY'S RESULTS**

### **HIGH SCHOOLS**

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Aurora Central Catholic 58, IC Catholic 43

Beecher 55, Tri-Point 52

Bolingbrook 57, Homewood-Flossmoor 33

Carmel 49, St. Viator 20

DePaul Prep 52, Rosary 33

Evergreen Park 49, Bremen 25

Evergreen Park (5-9, 2-1 SSC Red): Dora Cihocki 14 points.

Glenbard East 62, Elgin 34

**Elgin** (4-13): Izzie Castro 16 points.

Hinckley-Big Rock 61, DePue 23

Hinckley-Big Rock (11-7): Kylee Hellebrand 12 points. Anna Herrmann 11 points. Alyssa Swanson 10 points.

Kankakee 67, Rich Township 25

**Larkin** 55, **Bartlett** 46

Lemont 37, Argo 34

Lemont (8-7, 3-1 SSC Blue): Bella Kendryna 30 points.

Argo (8-6, 4-1 SSC Red): Apple Guerrero 19 points, 10 rebounds. Jada Madgett 10 points, 9 rebounds.

Lincoln-Way Central 65, Andrew 34

Lincoln-Way Central (11-7, 1-0 SWSC Red): Azyah Newson-Cole 20 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists. Gracen Gehrke 11 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists.

Lincoln-Way West 54, Stagg 38

Lincoln-Way West (13-4, 1-0 SWSC Red): Chyne Lewis, Peyton Madl 12 points each.

Lockport 54, Bradley-Bourbonnais 34

Lockport (13-8): Patricija Tamauskas 17 points. Alaina Peetz 12 points.

Marian Catholic 52, St. Francis 38

Marian (14-3): Madison Davis 20 points.

Naperville Central 59, DeKalb 25

Neuqua Valley 59, Waubonsie Valley 50

Newark 59, Indian Creek 11

Plainfield Central 50, Oswego 43

Prospect 52, Mundelein 27

Resurrection 56, St. Laurence 41

St. Laurence (11-7, 1-1 GCAC White): Reagan Gavin 15 points. Ryann Houbolt 11 points.

Richards 41, Reavis 34

Richards (6-11, 2-2 SSC Red): Iyanah Crosby 18 points. Julia Niemeyer 12 points.

Reavis (9-8, 2-2): Isabel Lopez, Aubree Halloran, Lily Hernandez 9 points apiece.

Rochelle 54, Plano 38

Plano (8-11): Mikayla Walls 10 points.

Sandburg 55, Lincoln-Way East 52

Sandburg (12-6, 1-0 SWSC Blue): Juliana Paddock 18 points. Josie Canellis 13 points. Claire Callaghan 10 points.

Lincoln-Way East (14-4, 0-1): Hayven Smith 14 points.

Somonauk 60, Earlville 36

Stevenson 53, Hampshire 42

Stevenson (12-6): Kate Arne 23 points. Emory Klatt 13 points.

Hampshire (11-7): Ashley Herzing 13 points.

Westmont 47, St. Edward 36

St. Edward (4-14): Elizabeth Leadley 15 points. Jordin Sauls 13 points.

Yorkville 52, Joliet Central 41

Yorkville (12-6): Brooke Spychalski 12 points. Madi Spychalski 11 points. Alex Stewart 10 points.

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

## – Daily Herald –

### Boys basketball: Top 20

**Jan. 9, 2023**

#### Boys basketball

Team Comment

1. Benet (18-1) 7-0 in ESCC
2. Rolling Meadows (16-2) Last-second loss to Joliet West
3. Libertyville (13-3) Plays Stevenson for NSC lead Saturday
4. Hinsdale Central (14-3) Six straight wins including DGN, Oswego E.
5. Stevenson (13-2) Will be a fun one Saturday
6. WW South (13-2) Moore keys OT win over Lake Park
7. Downers North (13-3) Ouch: Lost by 1 to Lyons, 2 to Hinsdale C.
8. Barrington (12-1) Nichols 22 in 2nd win over Hoffman
9. Geneva (14-3) Ten straight victories

10. Fremd (9-6) Kuhl pair of clutch 3s in win over Palatine
11. Palatine (11-5) Eight-point lead slips away vs. Fremd
12. Lake Park (10-6) OT loss in March-like atmosphere
13. Neuqua Valley (13-4) Offense goes cold vs. Waubonsie Valley
14. Huntley (13-3) FVC lead on line Wednesday
15. Burlington Central (13-3) Big week coming up vs. No. 14, No. 13
16. Grayslake Central (15-1) Fifteen straight wins since Hampshire loss
17. Metea Valley (10-5) Gray 20 points in win over Naperville North
18. Naperville North (10-8) Plays WV Weds in matchup of streaky teams
19. Crystal Lake South (13-4) Getting players more involved offensively
- o. Glenbard West (9-5) Injuries taking their toll

Others to watch: Waubonsie Valley 9-8, Prospect 8-8, Hersey 11-8, Conant 9-5, West Aurora 11-7, **Bartlett** 13-4, Marmion 12-5, Glenbard North 10-6, Kaneland 15-3, Wheaton North 9-8

**– Daily Herald –**

**Larkin's fast start breaks school records**



**Larkin's Fernando Perez** defends Johnsburg's Dylan Schmidt during the Hinkle Holiday Classic at Jacobs, a tournament the **Royals** won as part of their 16-1 start to the season.  
*Paul Valade | Staff Photographer*

**Jan. 10, 2023**

**By Mike Miazga**

**Larkin** was ranked ninth in the most recent Associated Press Class 4A poll and eighth by one of the Chicago daily newspapers.

Deryn Carter's group was 16-1 overall and 7-0 in Upstate Eight play after wins against **Elgin** and East Aurora.

Of note in those two conference games, **Larkin** broke the all-time record for largest margin of victory in the **Larkin-Elgin** crosstown series. Carter also believes the **Royals** are off to the best start in school history, as well as the owners of the most consecutive wins in a single season in school history.

The win over East Aurora was key, Carter noted, because both the **Royals** and Tomcats are embroiled in a race to the finish for the UEC title with **Bartlett**.

Damari Wheeler-Thomas had 23 points and 13 rebounds in the East Aurora game, while Fernando Perez had 17 points, as did Jakob Blakely.

"Damari Wheeler-Thomas has played at an all-state level all season," said Carter, whose team won the Jacobs holiday tournament. "Fernando has established himself as one of the best players in the area, and Jakob is playing like one of the best sophomores in the state. Dontrell Maxie has been awesome for us in the paint. His rebounding and physicality helps make us special."

Carter certainly likes the direction the **Royals** are headed. "We have been playing very well lately and have some really big games coming up in the next two weeks," he said. "I am very excited to see how we respond to the upcoming challenges."

### **Kaneland update:**

In a season so far where many area boys basketball teams are enjoying riches, Kaneland has added itself to that category.

The Knights were riding a five-game winning streak heading into the week, sitting at 7-3 overall and 3-2 in Interstate Eight action.

Sophomore Troyer Carlson poured in 27 points in a recent win over Morris, and "continues to show he is one of the top guards in the area," coach Ernie Colombe said.

Senior Johnny Spallasso had 17 points in a win over Sycamore, "and is really developing offensively," Colombe added.

Sophomore Parker Violet has hit double figures in points and rebounds in several games and Colombe said he has a ton of potential. "He could become one of the top players in the area if he continues to put in the work," he said. "He doesn't know how good he can be yet."

Seniors Sam Gagne and Jacob Harrison also have been important contributors. "Sam and Jacob have helped stabilize us at both ends of the floor," Colombe noted. "They are both versatile guards who can defend. Jacob is a player who can score from beyond the arc and can also get to the rim."



Kaneland has had to stop twice due to COVID health and safety regulations. "Without any real chances to practice, all we can ask is the guys play hard and they have been," Colombe said. "We hope to see improvements as we put together some consistent days of practice. Right now, we are impressed by our squad's ability to overcome adversity."

### **Dundee-Crown update:**

The Chargers continue to motor along, sitting at 10-4 overall and 5-2 in a competitive Fox Valley Conference after wins against Prairie Ridge (53-45) and Jacobs (56-26).

"We are playing together and continuing to grow as a team, which has been nice," D-C coach Lance Huber said. "We had a COVID episode during our Christmas tournament, which slowed us a bit, so every day we are together is a plus."

Huber noted Gabe Rivera, Jason Huber and Kennon Cook, in particular, have turned things up of late.

"Gabe has played really well the last few games," he said. "He made some big shots against Prairie Ridge when we needed them and his defense has been solid all season. Jason had two nice games against Prairie Ridge and Jacobs. His leadership has been fantastic all season, and he seems to give us whatever we need, whether it be scoring, rebounding, passing or defense. Kennon leads us in rebounds, his defense is improving and his presence elevates our team. He draws several double teams, and his unselfishness allows others to excel."

### **St. Charles North update:**

Justin Hughes and Jude Love have been bright spots for coach Tom Poulin's squad of late.

"Justin and Jude have been producing on the court, but more importantly, leading on a daily basis," he said. "They have been consistent in their approach to practices and games."

Love had 22 points and 11 rebounds in a recent win against Glenbard North.

North was 8-6 overall and 4-2 in DuKane action to start the week.

"Our biggest improvement has been attention to details on both ends," said Poulin, whose team scored a big 70-47 win over Danville at the Pontiac tournament.

**Elgin update:**

The **Maroons** were 3-11 overall and 0-7 in Upstate Eight Conference play to start the week.

"We are a young, experienced team working on getting better," coach Todd Allen said.

To read the full article, click [here](#):