

# Magnolia museum to tell story of McNabb woman who was part of French Resistance

Program set for Oct. 20

By **DEREK BARICHELLO**  
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How did a young woman who was part of the French Resistance come to live in McNabb, Illinois? The answer is love.

Like many couples, World War II brought Denise and Dean Swain together. Harold "Dean" Swain was born and raised in McNabb. Denise Mignot was born and raised in Dole, France. The two are buried next to each other in the Magnolia Cemetery. Dean's headstone indicates he served in the U.S. Army and was awarded a Purple Heart. Denise's headstone indicates a



Photo provided by Cyndy Bruch

World War II brought Denise and Dean Swain together. The two are buried next to each other in the Magnolia Cemetery.

fascinating and little told story; Denise was a member of the French Resistance.

Hear the love story of Denise and Dean Swain at the Magnolia Township Preservation Association's museum. Their story will be told by Connie Hal-

blieb, a member of Dean's family. The program will be presented at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, in the meeting room of MTPA museum, 110 N. Peoria St. Magnolia. MTPA also will host a brief annual meeting, followed by refreshments. The museum will be open before and after the program.

This is a piece of local history that few people have heard before. Historical fiction about the women of the French Resistance is popular, the museum said in a news release. Here is a chance to learn about a local woman who took part in this dangerous activity, the museum said. MTPA's mission is to research, collect, preserve, promote and communicate the history of Magnolia Township to educate future generations.

## Hennepin fire department to host fall chicken dinner

By **DEREK BARICHELLO**  
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The Hennepin Fire Department Fall Chicken Dinner is back.

The dinner is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Hennepin Fire Station, 201 E. High St. It will continue to 7 p.m. or until all the food is gone. Carryouts are available by calling in advance at 815-925-7225 or visiting during food service. The menu is deep-

fried chicken, french fries, homemade coleslaw, Italian bread and a dessert. Cost for adults is \$15 and children younger than 12 is \$8. Carryout orders cost \$15. Carryout orders will be an order of mixed chicken only.

The fire department also invites visitors to see the improvements to the truck bay area. The department has spent the summer making improvements to the truck bay with a red, white and black paint scheme that was executed by James

Kipp Painting. New trim has been installed throughout the truck bay by the firemen and HVAC updates were made as well by Brandstatter & Sons.

"We are proud to keep and maintain this building that belongs to all the residents with these much-needed improvements, so stop by Saturday, Oct. 26, and check it out and enjoy a great meal," the fire department said in a news release.

Plan to be there early as this event has sold out of food in the past.

### LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

#### Putnam County library to host virtual program on Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge

The Putnam County Public Library will virtually host Wildlife Refuge Specialist Elizabeth Navas at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, for a presentation on the history and importance of the Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge in Havana.

The refuge covers 2,631 acres of wetland habitats at the confluence of the Illinois and

Spoon rivers. The area has been designated as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance and has a rich history of sustaining human cultures for more than 12,000 years.

This program is free, open to the public and made possible through a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and SciStarter. To register, visit [shorturl.at/pzgoR](http://shorturl.at/pzgoR). For more information, call the Granville Library at 815-339-2038.

#### Sacred Heart in Granville to take orders for homemade sausage

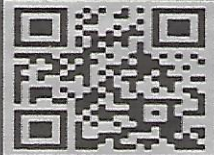
Sacred Heart Holy Name church is taking phone orders for its homemade sausage until Nov. 3.

Call Bob Ossola at 815-993-6118 or Doug Ossola at 815-339-2631. Pick up orders between 3 and 5 p.m. Nov. 21 at the church hall in Granville.

- Derek Barichello

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