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Supporting District 129 Athletes for 45 years

#### SPORTS BOOSTERS **Board Members**

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#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Blackhawk Families, Friends, and Fans,

As we conclude another school year we say goodbye to our Senior Athletes and wish them well in their future. We also wish to congratulate the Boys Lacrosse team on their inaugural season at West Aurora

Supporting our student athletes and sharing their accomplishments is what makes the West Aurora Blackhawks program so successful. The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters have been supporting our athletes and teams since 1970, and we have contributed well over a million dollars to date.

As of the June Board meeting we have introduced the new Blackhawk Sports Boosters Board for the 2015-16 school year, who are listed in this newsletter. The Blackhawk Sports Boosters look forward to your continued support in helping out all the athletic programs.

In addition to your financial help by becoming a Sports Booster Member, why not join the fun and volunteer your time through a variety of positions. We will continue producing and publishing our own programs for the fall, winter, and spring seasons which we are hopeful will become an annual revenue stream in supporting our student athletes.

The Athletic Department and the Sports Boosters have done the "Wish List" developed by coaches for all sports at the high school. further information regarding the capital items will be in in the fall newsletter.

Again, thank you for your continued support for the West Aurora Blackhawks. Your generosity means a great deal to our athletes and community.

Roll on, you Blackhawks Roll... Greg Jackman, WABSB President



/ISHES

FOUNDED IN 1970.

The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is the official athletics fundraising organization of West Aurora High School. Since its inception, the Boosters have raised more than one million dollars toward support of athletic scholarships, equipment and supplies. This year, thanks to your contribution, the Boosters have proudly provided more than \$65,000 to suport our coaches' 'Wish List' requests!





Save These Dates

June 19-21

Hoop Mountain

(over 40 BB teams competing)



August 10



Football Practice (First Day)

August 12

All Fall Sports-First Day of Practice



August 19

First Day of School

August 22

Fall Sports Picture Day



-Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.

**Helen Keller** 

Check out the athletic website at http://il.8to18.com/WestAurora/





# We want your support!

You can be a part of the West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters!

Visit our webpage at: www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

To print a membership application or to join online, click on the Boosters Info section

We have our meetings on the second Monday of the month from August to June. Come "be a part of it" and meet our board and other members!

Questions? Contact us at Info@BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

We have opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to support West Aurora athletics.

You can give a couple of hours, or as many hours as you would like. The student-athletes and coaches appreciate your support by donating your time, talent and financial gifts.



www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

#### The Final Buzzer??

By Donna Olson

The first time I met Coach Gordie Kerkman was at one of his last school events, the Excellence in Athletics Banquet. As a 5'2" woman who continues to shrink as time goes on and who is married to a 5'10" man, our 3 average-height West Aurora students were not involved whatsoever with the basketball program. Due to health concerns, I am not able to hike our bleachers to watch basketball games, but I would follow a good number of them online and saw Coach Kerkman and his teams.

When Coach Kerkman was in action, he was truly in action! Rarely sitting on the sidelines, he very actively coached his players with great enthusiasm. He didn't seem to be an "in-your-face" coach in the style of Bobby Knight and he always seemed pretty cool and smooth BUT got his message across to his players.

I understand that he is a humble man who does not like a lot of fanfare and that was evident with his resignation after the basketball season was fully completed. When he announced his retirement, I reflected on his long, successful career with the Blackhawks. Many of us know about his 53 years of coaching, 39 of those years as head coach, his career record of 805-313, 24 regional titles, 13 sectional titles and 1 state title. What I cannot wrap my head around is the number of lives this great man has touched! Athletes, coaches, students, parents, fans, fellow staff, and so on to the 10th degree or so. This might be a good question for the BC Calculus students to work on, although I bet they would come up short.

With all the distressing news in the media today about people disrespecting others, often leading to injuries and sometimes leading to killings, we are so blessed to have a man in our community who has spent his life teaching young men the values of teamwork, respect for others, setting goals and working hard to reach those goals. We thank you Coach Kerkman, and know that the final buzzer has sounded for your official career but the results of your coaching will go on for a long, long time. Thank you Coach Kerkman for all you have done for our community!

#### **Chalk Talk**

#### Link in with Lincoln

Meet Jefferson's Adams

By Tom Herget

Lincoln Adams started teaching at Jefferson Middle School 11 years ago. The McHenry native's first exposure to Aurora was at AU (otherwise known as Aurora University). Lincoln graduated from there in 2002 and was a Physical Education major. He played on the basketball squad where teamed with West's current AD Jason Buckley and roomed with fellow middle school coach Jeff Beatham. It's a small world.

At Jefferson, Lincoln teaches five PE classes a day but also wears the mantle of Athletic Director. While Lincoln has now mastered the ropes of being AD, he still breathes a sigh of relief when the officials and the opposing team arrive. This is for 25 different sports programs. He also is the coach of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball teams.

One of Lincoln's most positive experiences at Jefferson was some years ago when he met colleague Courtney. These PE and Spanish teachers soon became a couple and are now the proud parents of four children. This Sugar Grove family enjoys their summer cabin in Wisconsin. If there is any free time left over, Lincoln can be found on the golf course or a marathon trail.

Lincoln finds that helping the kids is the most fulfilling aspect of teaching. Lincoln knows he has reached his students when they respond with questions. It's obvious to Lincoln that many of his students are in need of help and support. It's rare he sees a child with two parents with steady traditional employment. He sees these children dropped off with nary a word of encouragement from whoever is driving the car. It's these kids that inspire Lincoln to take the extra step to embrace the child and hone in all areas, not just athletics, of needed life skills.

Since he sports the name of two presidents, it's not surprising to find Lincoln at the top of his game of moving our community forward.



## Spring Scholar Athletes

# Congrats to athletes with a 3.5 GPA or higher

#### **BASEBALL**

Adam, Joshua Paul Alexandrou, George Peder Arsenault, Jacob W Branom, Reed Robert Denovellis, Kevin Thomas Griswold, Charles William Hartigan, Blake Edward Kauffmann, Brett Michael Liebelt, Jared Timothy Love, Logan Thomas Martinez, Alberto Palmby, Connor Ross Palmby, Seth William Ruiz, Osvaldo Rundle, Cole Patrick Tomas, Dustin Kekoa Tunney, James Martin Walden, Kyle J Wyeth, Cody Ryan Zimmerman, Cameron R Zimmerman, Sean Clayton

#### **GIRLS SOCCER**

Aguilar, Daniella	
Burciaga, Evelyn	
Cielo, Brenda	
Hix, Carli Lyn	
Jamieson, Jadae Mo	ne
Johnson, Hannah R	uth
Kalejaye, Abosede I la	Mojiso-
Lopez, Kayla Nicole	
Malczyk, Brianna Ma	arie
Martinez, Kate	
Millan, Mayra Alejar	ndra
O'Brien, Riley Miche	lle
Ortiz Porcayo, Jessi	са
Padilla, Diana	
Palacios Ferrer, Myl Nikiya	ene
Papoutsis, Sofia Ary	gro
Pealstrom, Hannah Victoria	Clara
Pedraza, Damaris	
Raffanti, Kristen Nic	ole
Rangel, Daniela Oliv	⁄ia
Stephens, Katharine	e Ann
Zeitz, Mariyah Jisell	е
Ziman, Bailey Miche	elle



#### **SOFTBALL**

Baltierra, Oriana Michele Beatus, Hannah Grace Boland, Emma Lauren Deliman, Lauren Elizabeth Fidler, Melissa Renee Frauenhoff, Carley Marie Gallagher, Caiti Mae Garcia, Melanie Marie Getz, Alyssa Nicole Hansen, Sarah Julainn Hunger, Victoria Marie Jimenez, Cara Anne Love, Sarah Marie McArdle, Julie Rose McCreedy, Corey Ann McCreedy, Jamie Lynn Ortlieb, Bridgette Nicole Oswald, Melanie Mika Podschweit, Kendall Nicole Podschweit, Taylor Mac-Pokryfke, Faith Rodgers Puga, Jami Lee Rojas, Anna Alicia Rundle, Kallie Alizabeth Spooner, William Michael Swayze, Savannah Leigh

#### **BOYS TENNIS**

Barbel, Elliot Benjamin Barbel, Noah William Butler, Michael Thomas Castillo, Evan Alexander Chaidez, Meliton Farrell, Jack Alexander Isiminger III, William Kropp, Charles Edward Lafond, Caden Jefferson Lannefeld, William Nicho-McCarney, Shawn E Quach, Ariq Mychael Reimers, Luke J H Sodetz, Kenneth Christo-Von Arx, Lorenz Wood, Austin J





## **Spring Scholar Athletes**

# Congrats to athletes with a 3.5 GPA or higher

#### BOYS TRACK & FIELD GIRLS TRACK & FIELD BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Albright, Austin Lee Barbush, Jacob Andrew Behrens, Chandler Michael Bradford, John Ross Ben-Brown, Corey Anthony Carter, Cionte Castaneda, Jose Ignacio Castillo, David Steven Catalano, Nicholas Jeffrey Cavender, Luke Isaac Cavender, Noah Timothy Churchill, Andrew Mark Coble, Gideon Kendel DeBolt, Alex Christopher Fowler, Edward William Gebremichael, Nahom Hunger, Michael Jeffrey Kline, Andrew James Lee, Jacob Daniel Locke, Spencer Andrew Martinez, Francisco Javier Melles, Kyle John Puga, Jessica Lynn Ramos, Joel Luis Reilly, Patrick John Resko, Joseph Marc Strnad, Christopher James Thorell, Zachary Ray Zak, Jason M

Aguilar, Gabriela Aguilar, Jennifer Vanessa Bishop, Courtney Elizabeth Connelly, Julia Ann Garcia, Daniela Garcia, Estefania Garcia, Graciela Gollwitzer, Miranda Jane Green, Brittney Ellen Herbert, Elizabeth Marie Hunt, Samya Dezaray Krasinski, Katherine Anne McCabe, Riley Aleyce McCleary, Kara Hope McClendon, Jemya Dan-Moreno, Candelaria Es-Munos, Marin Alii Muth, Lindsay T Nichols, Brooke M Quiroga, Jennifer Dailyn Rachow, Leah Corinne Rucka, Sienna Nichole Schultz, Anne M Shropshire, Ashley Breann Torres, Evelyn Rosario Vongphakdy, Lasdavahn

Azem, Noah Aidan Barton, Alexander James Carder, Kevin Michael Catania, Nicholas Reilly Chaurize, Jacob Wilhelm Coakley, Carrick Joseph Corbin, Garrett Allen Erickson, Tyler David Fitzgerald, Adam David Garcia, Tommy Dean Golembeck, Ryan Austin Kilmer, Chase Cameron Kovanic, Thomas Joseph Long, Tyler Alan Reynolds, Justin Allen Riggs, Jacob Daniel Roggeman, James Joseph Thwaits, William Burchell Townsend, Kelly Carol Walker, Michael Thor



#### **BADMINTON**

Aguirre, Anahi Loana Antunez, Karina Barriball, Isabelle Rose Butler, Sydney Kathleen Casey, Shannon Lynn Cutlip, Corinne Renee Dumba, Christin Araba Gerodias, Athina Alexandra Mejia Gruninger, Lara Hinckley, Sarah Katherine Jeske, Abigail Mikaila Johnsen, Alissa Esther Leifheit, Kendyll Marie Liebelt, Jordyn Elizabeth Melendez, Angelise Denise Meza, Ashley Moenkemier, Amber Marie Poppen, Jordyn Lynn Pratomo, Devinta Quade, Rachel Irene Ramirez, Alondra Ramirez, Elena Rhodes, Samantha Beth Runyan, Madison Mae Saucedo, Cynthia Sutarik, Mary C Tovar, Rosa Marie Vongphakdy, Khaunsavan



Zamudio Flores, Juan

#### Chalk Talk

#### Gamble with Goebel

#### That's what Jaguars are doing with Jewel AD Steve

By Tom Herget

Not really; there's no roll of the dice here as Steve Goebel has been turning in years of solid performance at his first and only school.

The Newton, Illinois native has been teaching physical education at Jewel for 14 years. His role as Athletic Director reflects Steve's own affinity for and ability in sports, as he won nine letters in high school for football, basketball and track.

Steve touted his athleticism at Olney Central College where he played basketball. After two years there, he completed his education at Eastern Illinois University, gaining his BS in secondary education. The Panther continued his quest for learning by earning a MS in Educational Administration at Aurora University.

What does Steve like most about teaching PE? It's the chance to see every student in the school. He gets to know faces and the names.

At home, Steve's family comprises wife Heather and three youngsters ages 10, 8 and 5. All the kids are at the same grade school (Smith) this year. Heather and Steve can talk shop over dinner, as she teaches PE and health at West Chicago HS.

The couple enjoys dining at Foxfire in Geneva and are sushi fans too. If the kids are along, any fast food restaurant, such as Culver's, will do.

Have you ever heard of Goebel beer? Steve enjoys collecting cans from his namesake brewery whose last malt appeared in 1964.

During the summer, you can find Steve on the links. His trusty ten-year-old Nissan drives him well.

Steve is a great asset to the district. Go with Goebel is a sure thing for our students.

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

July-no meeting (enjoy your summer!)

Monday August 10 7:00 PM (WAHS Room B140)

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) are held at 7:00 PM in WAHS Room B140 on the second Monday of each month.

# KEEP UP TO DATE ON WEST AURORA ATHLETICS!

Visit our website at:

www.BlackhawkSportBoosters.org

- -Check for updated news
- -Photos of athletes and special events
- -Calendar of upcoming events

## FALL SPORTS JAMBOREE:

#### Friday August 21st West Aurora High School

For more information:

www.il.8to18.com/westaurora

Meet your athletes' fall coaches and see demos of each sport

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#### SPRING 2015 **SPORTS IN REVIEW**

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www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

West Aurora

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#### 2015 Boys Track & Field



Boys Track enjoyed a very successful year. We placed 2nd at Kane County 3rd at Conference, and 3rd at Sectionals. We had 6 athletes qualify for the State Meet...

Connor McCue – Connor broke his own school record in the 800m (1:54.42) and broke the 1600m school record by 6 seconds (4:13.15). He was all conference in the 800m and sectional champion in the 1600. State qualifier in the 1600.

Chris Walker – Chris was the indoor conference champion in the LJ and TJ, setting a new indoor conference record of 47' 1.25" in the TJ. Chris was all conference and sectional champion in the TJ. State qualifier and state champion in the TJ.

Hunter Siler – Hunter was all conference in the shot put. He place 2nd at the indoor and outdoor conference meet and was 2nd at sectionals. State qualifier in the shot put, and 12th place at state.

Rashaud Jeffries – Rashaud was all conference and conference champion in the discus. He placed 2nd at sectionals in the discus. State qualifier discus.

DaVion Cross – DaVion was conference champion in both LJ and TJ. He was all conference and placed 2nd at sectionals in the TJ. State qualifier in TJ and runner-up at the state meet.

DaQuan Cross - DaQuan was all conference in HJ and LJ. He placed 2nd in LJ and HJ at the conference meet and was 2nd in HJ at sectionals. State qualifier HJ.



#### 2015 Girls Soccer

Girls Soccer finished with a record of 9-11-3. We won the Blackhawk Tournament and competed in the PepsiCo Showdown, which is the largest high school soccer tournament in the country. We tied for 5th in the UEC Valley with a record of 2-4-1. Yulissa Espino and Katharine Stephens were both named to the All Sectional Honorable Mention team as well as All Conference. Riley O'Brien, Mariyah Zeitz, Sofia Papoutsis, and Jessica Ortiz were named to the All Conference Honorable Mention Team.



#### 2015 Boys Tennis

The Boys Varsity tennis team went 4-12. Six of those losses went 3-4, so we are extremely close to being above .500. Varsity finished tied for 6<sup>th</sup> place in conference and 6 players competed in Sectionals. William Isiminger (10<sup>th</sup> grade) finished the regular season with a 17-9 record at #1 Singles. He was one win away from being a state qualifier. This is truly an up and coming team and the future is bright for Blackhawk tennis.

The JV team also went 4-12 and finished 8<sup>th</sup> in conference. This year, the JV had the most participants in 15+ years, so we are very excited to see the program grow and on the right track.

Jason Kaiser, JV coach completed his first season as a coach and did a fantastic job. Our players are continuing to play over the summer (plus are helping with a summer tennis camp) and look forward to a winning season next vear.



#### SPRING 2015 SPORTS IN REVIEW

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**W**est Aurora

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#### 2015 Softball

The softball team had its best season in quite some time. The varsity team went 28-9 and won a regional title for the first time since 2007. The team

went 18-4 in conference play to finish as co-champions. along with Waubonsie Valley for first place in the Upstate 8 Valley Division! The team also won the Regional championship!!

Leading the team were first team all conference players Hannah Beatus, Taylor Podschweit, Kendall Podschweit, and Cara Jimenez. Hannah Beatus went 18-6 on the mound with 199 strikeouts while Taylor Podschweit was voted the most outstanding player in the Upstate 8 Valley Division. Taylor hit .436 with 7 HRs (a new school record!) and 33 RBI's. Taylor also has the career record with 10 HRs and was recognized as Female Athlete of the year at West Aurora. Taylor and Hannah were also recognized as First Team All Area players by the Daily Herald. Cara Jimenez was named 2nd team all area by the Daily Herald.

Kallie Rundle, Corey McCreedy, Carley Frauenhoff, and Jessica Vargas were named honorable mention in the Upstate 8 Valley Division.

It was truly a team effort this year as all the players worked very hard and were unselfish and dedicated the whole season. The rest of the Varsity roster was Tori Hunger, Grace Hunger, Jamie McCreedy, Jessie Wayzer, Lexy Faxon, Libby Zoppa, McKenzie Copher, and Kim Shliff.

#### 2015 Baseball

Jared Liebelt was named 1st Team All-Conference



Eduardo Terrazas, Phil Mallory, Win Kipp and Jimmy Tunney were named Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Jared Liebelt was the MVP Seth Palmby and Jared Liebelt were named Captains



#### 2015 Boys Lacrosse

This was our inaugural year and it was a great one! We had a team of 20 boys that most had never played the sport. They grew together as players and as a team and ended up with a record of 9 wins and 10 losses, and 3 of those losses were in OT. They also played in their first tournament at Marmion – 4 games in one day and came out with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy! It was a great season and we can't wait for the next one...

Most Improved: Kobe Nguyen Most Improved: Austin Chione Best Defense: Dominic DeGaetano

MVP: Dylan Hannon



#### 2015 Boys Volleyball

West Aurora Boys Volleyball had a great turn-around season, finishing with a record of 15-17, highlighted with our winning record at home and 2nd place tournament finish at the Blackhawk Varsity Invite. We are returning nearly our entire team, minus Will Shoemaker (attending Trinity Christian on a volleyball scholarship) and Nick Catania (Western Michigan - academics). We will miss both as they were loyal hard-working contributors to the program. Next year's team features a lot of potential, tied-together with a schedule that works in our favor. Could be a wonderful 2016 season!





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Supporting District 129 Athletes

## 2015 Janis Lapsa Scholarships



JANIS LAPSA Science Aurora College, B.S.

The Janis ("Yan-iss") Lapsa ("Lop-sa") scholarship is given in honor and memory of Janis Lapsa, a past and notable Assistant Athletic Director at West Aurora High School. Janis recognized the link between achievement in athletics and achievement in the classroom. The Blackhawk Sports Boosters give four \$500 non-renewable scholarships yearly to recognize these academic and athletic achievements, based on a points-based evaluation of both academic and athletic accomplishments.

Miranda Golwitzer (Cross Country, Track) Luke Cavender (Football, Track) Mary Sutarik (Badminton) Victoria Hunger (Softball)

#### **Spring Sports State Competitors**

Rajiah Andrews (GT&F)

Lauren Harris-Williams (GT&F)

Joslyn Noel (GT&F) Samya Hunt (GT&F)

Tamia Rayford (GT&F) Keira Lofthouse (BAD)

Jordyn Poppen (BAD) DaVion Cross (BT&F)

DaQuan Cross (BT&F)

Tatyanna Skokan (GT&F)

Hunter Siler (BT&F) Kayla Battle (GT&F)

Kiyanna Rodgers (GT&F)

Rashaud Jeffries (BT&F)

JeMya McClendon (GT&F) Chris Walker (BT&F)

#### SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR CONCESSIONS AND MEMBERSHIP NO VOLUNTEER WILL BE TURNED AWAY! ANY TIME YOU CAN GIVE WILL BE APPRECIATED



WEST AURORA BLACKHAWK SPORTS BOOSTERS

#### BE A PART OF IT!!

SUPPORTING WEST AURORA ATHLETICS SINCE 1970

#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

(select at least one)

- Concessions Sales
- Fund Raising Events (Golf Outing, Special Projects, etc.)
- Raffle Sales (50/50, etc.)
- Program Sales At Events
- Program Ad Sales
- Membership Committee
- Athletic Event Ushers/Admissions
- Merchandise Sales
- Social Events (Banquets, etc.)
- Website/Newsletters
- Help wherever needed
- List any special talents/skills you can contribute: (ex: legal, financial, trades)

(c)	

Return completed form to: West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters

2112 W. Galena Blvd.

Suite 8-187 Aurora, IL 60506

Or contact us at: info@BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

#### Platinum Level

- A+ Foundation
- Aurora Dental Group Dr. Anthony Glorioso

#### Gold Level

- Dreyer, Foote, Streit, Furgason, & Slocum, P.A. (info@dreyerfoote.com)
- Kirhofer's Sports
- Northwest Pool Service, Inc.
- Old Second Bank
- Sure Smile Dental Dr. Scott Sommers (suresmiledental@hotmail.com)

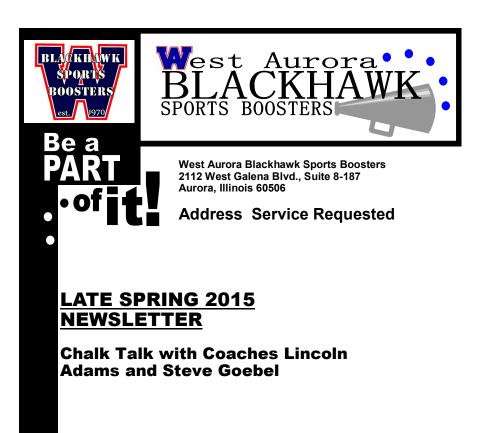
#### Silver Level

- Ace Hardware
- Alarm Detection Services
- American Family Insurance Joe Kosner
- Bancroft Family Dental
- Black Line Consulting
- Cordogan Clark & Associates
- Country Financial Stan Butler
- Cyclones Volleyball Club
- Jimmy John's
- <u>Lindstrom Chiropractic Clinic</u>

#### Bronze Level

- A Touch of Glass and Mirror
- Dave Deisher Plumbing
- Firestone
- HAWK'EM
- Healy Chapel
- Konen Insurance
- OneFinancial (armando.ramirez@onemainfinancial.com)
- Sikich, LLP
- State Farm Insurance Rodrigo Menendez





#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

September 4
First Home Football vs. Plainfield
East

September 25
East-West Football @ WAHS

October 2 Homecoming Football vs. West Chicago

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is a designated 501(c)3 charitable organization and all gifts through donation or membership are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. This does not apply to purchased items or purchased advertising.