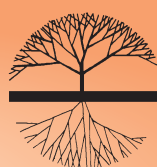


The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 25
Number 42

"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

50 cents
February 26, 2020



Public Works to
receive new vehicle
See Page 2

Sabres boys hoops
cruise past Elgin
See Page 4

School fees for 2020-21 ratified by District U-46

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved fees for the 2020-2021 school year fees at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 10.

Registration and payment of fees, which include Chromebook repair insurance, are expected between June 1 and Aug. 31, but there is an early discount if paid before May 31 and a late fee if paid after Aug. 31. A full refund is given if a student is withdrawn before the first day of school but no refund is available if withdrawn after, and new students will have to pay the full fee if entering before Dec. 31 and half-price if after Jan. 1.

The fee sheet states that the Chromebook repair insurance equates to \$25 of the instructional fee and covers accidental damage, but if "lost, stolen or intentionally damaged the guardian/student may be responsible for the full replacement cost of the device."

Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations and finance, said "all the changes are incorporated in the high school fee sheet" and there is "no

change for elementary, no change for middle, no change for programs."

The regular high school fee will remain the same at \$265 or \$245 if paid early, \$285 if paid late. The district has removed the academy fee because of the progression towards career pathways.

The district has reduced the driver's education behind-the-wheel training from \$300 to \$250, but the textbook will remain the same at \$13. There are two new optional fees, \$34 for the lifeguard course and \$15 for the independent physical education course.

Athletic fees will remain the same price, \$150 per sport (\$200 for football), but a new cap has been added reducing the number of fees a singular student or a family would have to pay for sports. The fee sheet states: "Student maximum of two sports fees per school year/family maximum of four sports fees per year at the high school level."

Other high school optional fees will remain the same: \$100 for parking permit, \$40 for activity fee and \$45 for a basic yearbook.

Middle school (seventh and eighth grade) fees are \$187 or \$167 for early payment, \$207 if late. The athletic fee is \$80.

The fee for first through fourth grade is \$116 or \$96 early, \$136 late, and grades fifth and sixth is \$141 or \$121 early, \$161 late. The Ignite Program is \$291 (\$271 early, \$311 late).

The kindergarten fee is \$48 for half-day, \$58 if late, and \$96 for full-day, or \$116 if late. There is no early discount available for kindergarten registration.

Central program fees include \$140 for Moving On, \$105 for Center House and \$50 for the Secondary Work Experience Program.

Six new police vehicles approved for purchase

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Feb. 20 trustees voted unanimously to approve the purchase of six front-line police vehicles at a cost of \$180,018. The purchase includes three 2020 Ford utility Interceptor police vehicles at a cost of \$32,873 each from Currie Motors, Frankfort, and three 2020 Ford Police Responder hybrid sedans at a cost of \$27,133 each from Roesch Ford, Bensenville.

According to Police Chief Daryl Syre, one of the interceptor vehicles is intended to replace a 2017 Ford Explorer that was totaled in a crash earlier this year. The other two will replace the

last remaining front-line Chevy Impalas in the police department fleet. The three hybrids are intended to replace three 2013 Chevy Impalas from the special operations unit.

"The hybrid sedans will be used in administrative and investigative roles," Syre said.

The Suburban Purchasing Cooperative, that solicits bids for municipal police vehicles, was used according to Syre.

"This provides a substantial cost savings for the village when purchased through them," Syre said.

Syre stated the vehicles have been budgeted for and funded in the equipment replacement fund.

District U-46 to develop facility master plan

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 will be undergoing a facility review to create an Educational Facility Master Plan (EFMP).

The Board of Education unanimously approved, via a 7-0 vote, a \$1.9 million expenditure, from the operations and maintenance fund, with the DLR Group to help create the EFMP.

The proposal stated that it's been more than 15 years since the district has updated its facility plan, and "significant changes have occurred to our organization since the last study."

The work will begin in the next few months according to the proposal and it is estimated to take 18 months to complete.

A letter from Dennis Bane, with the DLR Group, outlined the process.

The work is expected to include nine phases: deeper understanding, discovering and exploring, programming, conceptualizing, game planning, adoption and implementation, plan longevity and scheduling, assumptions and exclusion.

Bane wrote that historically EFMP's address enrollment trends and capital improvement needs while there are also broader focus areas.

"U-46's vision, pedagogy, student experience, facilities educational readiness and environmental goals will also be integral to this Educational Facility Master Plan," Bane wrote. "In short, the relative ability of your learning environments to sup-

port the evolution of teaching and learning already ongoing within the District must, in our opinion, be considered for an optimal plan to be developed."

The basis of the plan will focus on two parameters, "must have" and "cannot do," according to Bane.

Bane wrote: "These parameters will help define what a successful plan must address. You may say that 'the final EFMP cannot redraw District boundaries' or that 'we must have a solution that supports staggered start times' or 'affords us energy reductions of 50 {percent} in ten years.' While very important to define, the parameters can also be too onerous and restrict options for innovation. We will work together to ensure the right quantity and quality are itemized at the outset."

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Converting an open look

Mandy Mien elevating for an open jump shot for the Sabres in front of McHenry's Ava Interrante on Tuesday, Feb. 18 during the Streamwood Regional semifinal. For story and more photos see page 8.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)



U-46 to vote on expenses totalling \$10.9 million

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on \$10.9 million in expenditure proposals at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 24. The items were presented at the Feb. 10 meeting.

The largest proposal is a \$6.8 million item, which will be paid for from the operations and maintenance fund if approved, with Troop Contracting, Inc. for an interior buildout at an Elgin building, 1019 East Chicago St., which was recently purchased as a satellite office for the transportation department. This is the second phase of the project.

Board member Melissa Owens said originally there were plans to move the district's welcome center to the building and Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations, said that's "still the plan, but that will be in the third phase." Sheila Downs, director of plant operations, said that should happen in the next fiscal year.

King added that buses will move to the facility likely in July when asked by Sue Kerr, the board's president.

A three-year contract with Trane Chicago costs \$1.8 million (operations and maintenance fund), which is up from \$1.4 million from the previous three-year contract. It is for preventative maintenance of the district's heating and cooling equipment.

The contract includes additional items accounting for the increase, according to the district. It includes new performance software for five schools costing \$71,000 a year as well as an end of the year chiller shutdown costing \$20,000 a year while the district added an additional 26 days of on-site automatic support annually. Additional service calls cost the district \$203,900 last year.

"We went above and beyond our service contract quite frequently, and so we actually imbedded things that we know will come up into the contract which should result in an overall savings," Downs said.

"This sounds like a good deal," Kerr said.

The winning low bids on three proposals, all operations and maintenance funds, came significantly lower than the highest bidders according to Owens.

Those include an asbestos abatement project at Elgin's Larsen Middle School with EHC Industries, Inc. costing \$78,880 compared to the high bid of \$204,000, the third phase of a domestic water piping replacement project at Elgin High School with Holian Asbestos Removal costing \$74,000 compared to the high bid of \$341,755

and a pathways asbestos abatement project at Larkin High School in Elgin with NES Environmental costing \$45,400 compared to the high bid of \$141,000.

Downs said all three winning companies were properly vetted and noted that both EHC and Holian have "done a lot of work" with the district.

With Veterans Floors, Inc., the district is proposing classroom wood floor sanding and refinishing costing \$32,820 at Elgin's Washington Elementary School, floors originally installed in 1893, and \$28,400 at Elgin's Lowrie Elementary School, originally installed in 1887, for a total cost of \$61,220. A lower bid, \$58,086, came in, but the district stated the lower bid was due to the company recommended not refinishing two rooms.

Owens said the wood floors are good esthetically, but asked if it would be cheaper to replace them with floors that would cost less to maintain.

"We've discussed it," Downs said. "Eventually we will have to replace them. Right now, they can be saved. There is an esthetic quality. Obviously, they're part of the culture of those buildings. They also have fire places. We are trying to salvage them as long as possible, but the day will come. This is probably the last time that we do a full refinishing of those spaces."

A paint removal project, with the use of chemical stripper, for common spaces on the second floor of Streamwood High School has a price tag of \$235,000 (operations and maintenance fund). The third floor was done last year.

Kerr said "we're moving down" and Downs said that was correct, and the first floor is planned for next year. Downs said the project will take the whole summer when asked by board member Kate Thommes.

With Sentinel Information Services, the district is proposing to spend \$324,539 (education fund) to purchase program network switches. Laura Macias, director of information services, said when asked by board member John Devereux, that the nation's taxpayers will pay for 80 percent of the purchase through e-rate. Macias said: "We pay for it, and they give us back 80 percent... the government."

Similarly, the district expects the nation's taxpayers to fund 80 percent of \$368,183 (education fund) for a wireless access point purchase proposal with Sentinel, also through e-rate. The same is for the purchase of uninterruptible power supply with Applied Communications Group costing \$262,354 (education fund).

From the operations and maintenance fund, the district is proposing to spend \$246,000 with Happ Builders, Inc. for a gym floor and bleacher replacement project at Streamwood High School and \$406,000 with Northwest Contractors, Inc. for the first phase of a gym renovation at Larsen Middle School.

Costing \$56,695 from the education fund, U-46 is proposing a storage area network maintenance renewal with Storcom.

The district is asking for \$106,500 from the nation's taxpayers through grant funds to purchase 30 interactive boards from Dell EMC and 30 board stands from PACE Systems.

Insurance proposal discussed by committee

By Frank Muisenga Jr.

The Village Board at its committee of the whole meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 18, discussed a \$8,500 workplace orthopedic injury program proposal for village employees.

Municipal Insurance Cooperative Agency (MICA), which the village uses for workmens compensation insurance, claims and risk management, offers a Tactical Athlete Heath & Performance Institute's (TAHPI) program that provides services to injured employees, according to Director of Administrative Services Megan Golden.

According to the contract, the first-year payment is \$8,500 with two one-year extensions that increase 10 percent each year at a compounded rate. Services would start on or near March 1 with a one-month build-out, training and development.

The "streamlined provider network" of TAHPI would allow injured employees to receive a comprehensive assessment and faster in order to get back to working condition sooner, according to Golden.

"Basically, it's a network of physical therapists and doctors," said Golden. "Essentially it's a hotline number that an employee was injured can call immediately and basically get seen very

quickly; get a diagnosis much quicker and hopefully into surgery quickly instead of the delays we currently see."

Workers' compensation claims are the number-one factor increasing liability insurance costs and rising overtime costs since employees are out of work, according to Golden.

"Since basically workers comp claims are the biggest claim driver in our insurance costs, we thought it would be worth a try," Golden said.

Trustee Scott Richmond asked, is placement into the program voluntary?

Golden said, yes, it has to be voluntary.

Trustee Mike Kolodziej asked, will most employees look into this?

Golden said it is anticipated that some employees will and even if one employee can come back one month sooner it pays for the program.

Village Administrator Steve Super said several hundred thousand dollars have been spent on workers' compensation claims in the past year and the hope is the program cuts down costs.

Village President Steve Ward said the program should be moved forward for a village board vote at an upcoming meeting.

District U-46 recognizes Storm tear down team

By Seth Hancock

The engine teardown team from South Elgin High School, competing in the Hot Rodders of Tomorrow, was recognized by the Board of Education in School District U-46 at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 10.

As reported last month, the team took 10th in the nation at the Performance Racing Industry trade show in Indianapolis in December with an average teardown time of 23 minutes, 37 seconds. The team dropped its time from an average of 26 minutes at the National Speed Equipment Manufacturing tradeshow in Las Vegas to advance to nationals.

The finish was the best in the program's history with its previous best being 16th (25:37) in 2017.

This year's team, sponsored by Jegs Performance Auto Parts, was led by teacher Steve Schertz and coached by 2016 South Elgin graduate LeeAnne

Driscoll with team members being seniors Andrew Clark, Casey Gebala, Dan Godinez and Jared Pena as well as juniors Omar Quiroz and Hayden Shaw. The students will receive \$5,000 scholarships for technical colleges.

"It started in May of the last school year where they competed in one of 13 regional events," Schertz said. "Theirs was the 13th fastest qualifying out of 120 teams and 3,000 separate runs. That qualified them for the top 40, they went to a dual championship and took fifth in Las Vegas and ultimately placed 10th in the country."

Schertz added: "We're very proud of their accomplishments. They made great sacrifices of not being able to go out with friends and some of them even skipped prom for our regional competition. They worked for this position, and I'm very proud. This is one of our most successful teams in U-46 and South Elgin High School."

CARRIER NEWS

Happy St. Patrick's Day South Elgin!

Celebrating her anniversary with the Examiner is: Kalesha Simon - 3 Years

AWESOME collections were turned in last month by the following carrier. Keep up the good work! Thomas Vargas

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District U-46 focusing to maximize census benefits

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 is putting efforts towards the 2020 U.S. census in order to have the greatest amount of federal taxpayer dollars redistributed to it over the next decade.

The census was discussed during a family and community engagement update given to the Board of Education at a January meeting.

Karla Jimenez, coordinator of family and community engagement, called the census “big this year for us.” She said over \$38 million was redistributed to U-46 based on the last census, taken in 2010, which goes to various welfare and social programs.

Jimenez claimed that children under five are often undercounted nationally.

“If that were to happen again this time, U-46 risks in losing \$5 million per year for 10 years,” Jimenez said. “So, it’s really important and critical for us to make sure that we empower our staff and our school leadership and what census means and to encourage that participation of our family and students.”

The district is providing “tool kits” to offer talking points to staff, Jimenez said, as well as holding staff meetings and school events.

The census is taken every 10 years, this year’s census date being April 1, which the U.S. Constitution states is a count of the “whole number of persons in each State.”

A variety of topics were updated including the platforms the district uses for communicating to families like social media, the district website and traditional media according to Mary Fergus, director of school and community relations.

Fergus also said the district started U46 Engage about three years ago which is “a bilingual e-newsletter that goes out to about 30,000 subscribers.”

U-46 created a new website about two years ago, Fergus said, which has had 1.3 million unique visitors since its creation. The district’s homepage (1.8 million views), staff resources (623,149 views), department directory (303,337 views), school calendar (259,869 views) and Infinite Campus (246,425 views) are the top five most viewed pages.

The district had over 13,000 direct notification messages sent out last year according to Fergus, which includes phone calls as well as emails and text messages.

Social media campaigns from the district have included first day of school,

letters of intent signings and alumni Sunday.

The recently implemented Let’s Talk program, which Fergus said “offers great metrics,” has had 3,700 dialogues since implementation in December 2017. Fergus said the average response time from the district to dialogues is two or fewer days while users have scored U-46 an 8.6 of 10 on quality of response.

The district receives between 175 to 200 requests for Spanish translation each year to communications. The district has created booklets and videos for magnet academies and educational pathways, a style book was created and distributed to schools for consistency in communication and a new intranet platform for staff has been created.

The state requires school districts to have 20 percent participation from parents in the 5 Essentials Survey, Jimenez said. She added the U-46’s goal this year is to have at least 35 percent participation from every school, and the district provides a “communication school kit” with talking points.

The district has seen growth each year in positive responses from the survey from the 2015-16 school year to the 2018-19 year in both community engagement and parent connectedness questions, but Jimenez admitted the district tweaked the results for the community engagement.

U-46 saw the positive response rate for community engagement increase from 41 percent in 2017-18 to 57 percent in 2018-19, a 16 percent increase, but it would have actually dropped 3 percent without the tweak.

“This year, we took into consideration an additional response,” Jimenez said. “The original goal only included the always and usually responses, but you know there are those that can’t always participate so we thought we should consider and we should value the time that they volunteer and participate in schools.”

Jimenez added: “So, this year’s results took into consideration all three answers: always, usually and occasionally. So, that’s why we see that increase. Otherwise, it would have been a slight decrease at 38 percent.”

The parent connectedness question asks parent “how welcomed and respected they feel within the district,” Jimenez said, and the positive responses have increased from 40 percent to 43 percent to 49 percent to 59 percent over the four years of data.

To encourage more participation, the district sends bureaucrats to visit homes and neighborhoods with literature to hang on doors according to Jimenez.

The district held to engagement sessions last year for incoming and current kindergartners while it has seen the number of parents signing a full-day kindergarten promise to pledge engagement in their child’s education from between 38 and 43 percent in 2016-17 through 2018-19 to 96 percent in 2019-20.

“That was due because we included the promise as part of the online registration this year,” Jimenez said. “Before, it was only available in paper format.”

Jimenez said the district holds annual career expos, the principal for a day

event and a volunteer reception.

For 10 years now, U-46 has held segregated parent leadership institutes which has had 135 graduates which “exceeded our expectations,” Jimenez said. The institutes include an African-American and a Hispanic parent leadership institute.

The district has held an annual real estate professionals’ breakfast since 2015 to offer propaganda to realtors “to help them sell homes within our district,” said Jimenez. Attendance dropped from 45 to 39 from 2018 to 2019 but is up from 15 since 2015.

Fergus said the district has ongoing campaigns to thank teachers and to promote the education foundation. This school year, the Windy City Bulls held a fundraiser which raised over \$4,000 for the education foundation.

Cahokia Mounds Historic Site awarded \$250,000 NEH grant

According to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has announced that \$30.9 million in grants to support 188 humanities projects have been awarded to expand access to the country’s wealth of historical resources. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site is among the recipients of NEH grant funding for the second consecutive year.


Cahokia Mounds has been awarded a Digital Projects for the Public grant from the NEH in the amount of \$250,000 to develop an Augmented Reality (AR) Application and bring pre-Columbian history to life for visitors.

The grant application was submitted by the Cahokia Mounds Museum Society (CMMS), the on-site support group at Cahokia Mounds. In 2019, the CMMS was awarded a \$100,000 Prototype grant to develop a prototype of an Augmented Reality Application. The prototype was developed by Schwartz & Associates Creative, St. Louis. In June 2019, CMMS submitted the prototype and application for the development phase of the project. Both grants are administered by Alie Morgan, executive director of the Society, in conjunction with Cahokia

Mounds State Historic Site.

“This has been a five-year project, working closely with the Schwartz team, to develop cutting-edge interpretive pieces at Cahokia Mounds,” said Lori Belknap, site superintendent, Cahokia Mounds. “It is difficult for visitors to visualize what was on the landscape 1,000 years ago, a challenge for any archaeological site. This grant will enable us to provide a unique interpretive experience using the newest technologies. Available in 2021, visitors will utilize the camera on any smart device to read a code placed on the landscape. Their device screen will then populate with houses, temples, fires, people, and other features of the Mississippian landscape at around AD 1050, as if it were on the physical landscape before you.”

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, is located in Collinsville, off Interstates 55/70 (Exit 6) and Interstate 255 (Exit 24) on Collinsville Road. There is no admission fee, but there is a suggested donation of \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$2 for students, and \$15 for families. For more information, call 618-346-5160 or go to www.cahokiamounds.org.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following carriers who celebrated their birthday in February.

Dylan Dankel, Veronica Greco, James Pusilo, Joshua Zolecki
Hope you had a great day!!

Celebrating their Anniversary with the Examiner are:
1 Year: Benjamin Lehndorfer
2 Years: Luke Pahlke, Elizabeth Gregg
4 Years: Anthony Crea
5 Years: Amanda Natali

AWESOME collections were turned in last month by the following carriers. Keep up the good work!

Nicholas Dodge	Mya Langfelder
Karlita Garza	Rebekah Lehndorfer
Elizabeth Gregg	James Micelli
Brooke Kalish	Anthony Mortensen
Penny Kapadoukakis	James Pusilo
Aidan Kaplan	Mia Rago
Maggie Kinsella	William Stitt

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A View from the Cheap Seats



Bloom goes Boom

By Rich Trzupek

Did not see that coming! Like a lot of folks, I could not see the DNC letting Bernie win their nomination, no matter how much support he got in the primaries. Biden was supposed to bail out the party by appealing to moderates, but that was doomed to fail. The pair of aviators has not been made that would make Uncle Joe seem even remotely cool to millennial voters. The fact that the DNC would put their eggs in the Biden basket is just further proof of how out of touch the DC establishment of both parties truly are.

So, like a lot of people, I figured the Dems would ultimately end up with Bloomberg. He's legitimately moderate and he's obviously a lot more on the ball than Biden, albeit that is setting a pretty low bar. And, from a Dem perspective, you could do a lot worse than a candidate who requires no funding.

There are a lot of things about Bloomie that I don't care for, but I also think he's often right on the big things and many of the little annoying things – like his Big Gulp war – would never get traction on a national level. Though not my personal preference, I'm sure the country would do fine under a President Bloomberg. In a brokered convention, which is likely where Dems are heading, he is the obvious choice.

Or was, anyway. Like a whole lot of people who watched the last debate, I was stunned by just how badly Bloomberg comes across. He's terrible to the point that it's almost kind of sad. Elizabeth Warren pounced on Bloomie, beating him like a rented mule and prompting Mark Steyn, the incomparable conservative scribe, to dub her the "Cherokee Dominatrix." Geez, I hope that sticks.

It's hard to believe that anyone would go into a debate in this day and age without having some snappy,

ready-made comebacks ready to go when opponents starting poking at the obvious open sores in Bloomberg's record. Instead the man seemed truly stunned to learn there was a target on his back and absolutely baffled about how to respond.

Love him or hate him, President Trump has never been accused of being boring on stage. He either enrages or inspires and there is very little in between. Bloomberg does neither. He's dry toast – tepid tea – flat beer. Can that be fixed somehow? Because if it can't the hundreds of millions, approaching billions, of money that Bloomie is willing to spend on the slickest advertising money can by won't make a damned bit of difference. A candidate for president has to do a lot of talking on the campaign trail, and it's much easier to hide stupid than it is to disguise dull.

One can't help but wonder if Mike suffers from the patrician complex that infects a great many smart and successful people. Rules are made for commoners, not their betters. This is surely the mindset that allowed Mayor Bloomberg to indulge in a rather unique travel arrangement whilst he was head honcho of New York City.

Bloomie has a beautiful home on Bermuda. While mayor, unless city business demanded his presence over a weekend, he typically spent the weekend at his Bermuda estate. How did he make that commute? C'mon, you know the answer: private jet!

Thus the green champion who would have all of us in the proletariat reducing our carbon footprints to microscopic levels sees nothing wrong with routinely engaging in the kind of travel that expands his carbon footprint well beyond King Kong territory. It's that sort of arrogance that eventually leads to Bloomie hitting stage unprepared, unloved and unlikely to do better in either case.

Email: richtrzupek@gmail.com

Dist. U-46 to develop facility master plan

By Seth Hancock

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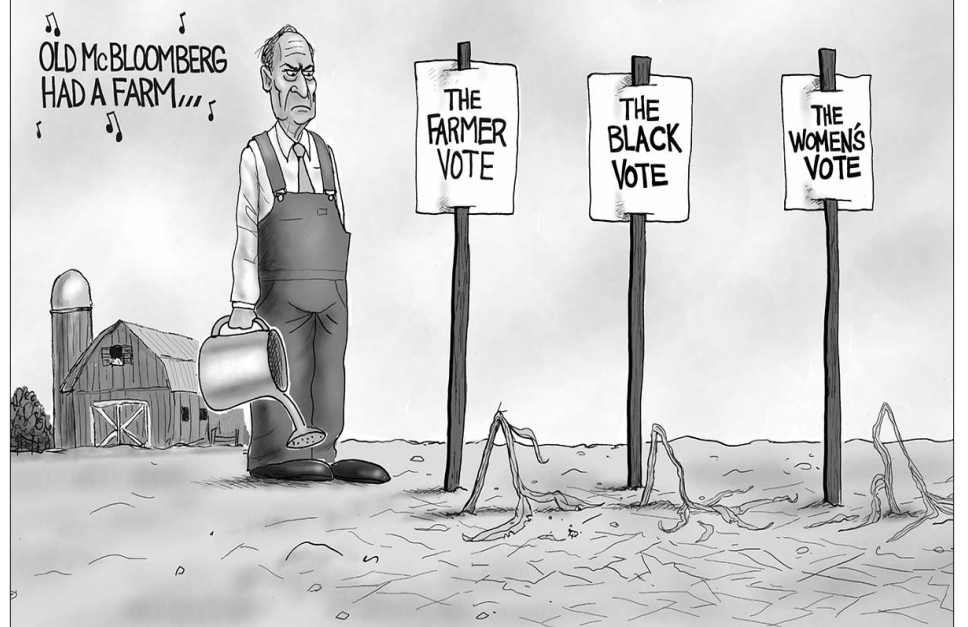
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Pet of the Week



Looking to take flower in new home

Rose is a 7-month-old calico, domestic shorthair that's been at KCAC since Jan. 27. Brought in along with her sibling Truffle, from an eviction, Rose is very kittenish. She enjoys climbing onto counters or hiding under anything that will allow her to jump out at her sister. Because she is so young, keeping her entertained with lots of cat toys and scratching posts will be the only hurdle her new owners might face. Since Rose and Truffle are so bonded, it would be nice to adopt the two of them together to the same home. However, if that isn't a possibility, then Rose will surely be more than happy to settle down in her new home by herself.

All Kane County Animal Control adoptable cats and dogs are spayed/neutered, microchipped, up-to-date on all vaccines including rabies. They are tested for feline leukemia/FIV and heartworm. The adoption fee for dogs is \$200 and \$100 for cats. Adoption of two dogs is \$300 and it is \$150 to adopt two cats. For more information regarding Kane County Animal Control's adoptable animals and for an adoption application, please go to www.kanecountypets.org.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

Village Board honors SEHS cheerleading title

By Frank Muisenga Jr.

At the beginning of the Village Board meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 18, the board recognized the South Elgin High School varsity cheer team for winning the 2020 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) coed state title.

The team, coaches and parents were on hand at Village Hall as Village President Steve Ward acknowledged that state championship trophy and said the team did a "phenomenal job."

"This is a very high honor for the school; it's the first one ever," said Ward. "Congratulations to the coach, every one of you, and I can't leave out the parents because I know how important parents are."

Ward held a plaque and added: The village wanted to congratulate the team.

"The Village of South Elgin proudly presents this Certificate of Achievement to the 2019-20 varsity cheer team, the IHSA state champions," Ward said. "It's an honor to have you here."

Village Administrator Steve Super asked if this was the first state championship for the high school?

According to head coach Savannah Bennett, it is.

After the meeting, Bennett said it is nice to be rewarded for the team's effort and having the village extend the invitation.

"It feels really great to be recognized finally for all the hard work and how far cheerleading has come," said Bennett. "It's an honor really, to be recognized by the board of South Elgin for everything that we've accomplished this season."

Press Clippings 02/25/20 to 02/26/20

Press Clippings 02/26/2020

There are no U-46 related news stories.

---Daily Herald---02/25/2020

U-46 wants to create a method to audit its early learner programs

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy

Elgin Area School District U-46 officials are planning to evaluate the district's early learner programs for the 2020-21 school year.

A lot of school districts are looking to evaluate their early learning strategies, policies and initiatives, but there aren't any auditing mechanisms out there, said Josh Carpenter, U-46 assistant superintendent of teaching and learning.

"There is an industry gap," Carpenter told the U-46 school board Monday night.

Officials plan to partner with the University of Colorado's National P-3 Center in Denver to create an auditing tool to evaluate U-46's early learning programs.

The center has worked with school districts nationwide to evaluate their preschool programming, he added.

The designing and auditing process begins in March and runs through May 2021. The \$50,000 cost for the audit will be shared by U-46 and the center.

Peggy Ondera, U-46 director of Early Learner Initiatives, said the state has ambitious goals for early learning. Its draft strategic plan calls for 80% of children having at least one year of high-quality early learning experience by 2023 and 70% having two years of experience.

U-46's existing early learner initiatives include the Parents as Teachers program, involving home-visiting services for families with children starting from birth to three years old. It is funded by a Prevention Initiative Early Childhood Block Grant of \$855,000 yearly serving 150 children and families at the district's early education station near Larkin High School in Elgin.

Last fall, the program was awarded a Blue Ribbon Affiliate status, Ondera said.

The district has half-day preschool programs serving 3- and 4-year-olds at eight sites funded by separate grants totaling roughly \$4.2 million yearly. A roughly \$2.4 million yearly state Preschool Expansion Grant supports a full-day program serving 200 4-year-olds at two sites. U-46 also provides play-based full-day kindergarten at all elementary schools.

Ondera said a unique U-46 initiative is the Give Me Five community liaison who does outreach to families at back-to-school events, baby fests, preschool fairs at libraries, mobile food pantries, and to area child care facilities, sharing what it means to be kindergarten ready.

"That really helps families understand how they can be integral in their child's education before they ever get to kindergarten," Ondera said.

Among the tools used for outreach is the district's yearly "Getting Ready for Kindergarten" calendar given to all preschoolers, and offered at child care centers, public libraries and the district's Welcome Center.

U-46 works closely with the Alignment Collaborative for Education, Elgin Partnership for Early Learning and Gail Borden Public Library.

Officials also are engaging families where they might spend a lot of time -- Laundromats, parks, department of motor vehicles, restaurants, car dealership, Elgin Community College, pediatricians' offices -- providing reading materials, book baskets, and flip charts with learning activities.

"Places where children are waiting and might be considered unconventional, we are reaching out into those spaces to provide materials that support young children," Ondera said.

---The Courier-News---02/23/2020

U-46 may spend \$1.4M on iPads, Chromebooks

By: Rafael Guerrero



A proposal to buy 1,700 iPad tablets, 1,100 Chromebook laptop computers and a digital learning management system was presented Monday to the U-46 School Board.

A proposal to purchase 1,700 iPad tablets and 1,100 Chromebook laptops would mean nearly every U-46 student in preschool through fourth grade would have access to a computer, district officials told the school board Monday.

The nearly \$1.4 million expenditure would also include the purchase of a new Instructure digital learning management system, which would allow content and resources used by teachers and students throughout the district to be consolidated, officials said.

Computer access is becoming a real need at the lower grade levels, U-46 CEO Tony Sanders told the board.

“Right now, sites do not have enough hardware in their hands at the elementary schools to do the work they need to do,” Sanders said.

The iPads would be used by preschool, kindergarten and first-grade classes, strategic initiatives coordinator Brian Lindholm. If approved, there would be at least one iPad for every four students.

“Students will use devices within centers in the classroom to provide enrichment and intervention,” Lindholm said. “The iPads are suggested for these grade levels as they are more developmentally appropriate for our earliest learners.”

The Chromebooks would allow every student in second- through fourth-grade to have a device of their own, he said. Unlike older students, however, they will not be allowed to take their computers home, he said.

“This really would just provide (preschool-4 classrooms) regular, consistent access” to computers, Lindholm said.

“Teachers have told us is that because they can’t count on always having those devices in the classrooms, it’s held them back from fully embracing some of the things we’re looking to do. They don’t know for sure if they’re going to have (access to notebook computer carts) tomorrow or next Wednesday or whenever it is.”

The iPads and Chromebooks would cost \$968,484 and the learning management system an additional \$426,915. If approved, the latter could be in use as soon as fall and would give students and staff access to a variety of digital content from one source, including textbooks, grades and professional development training.

Lindholm, who lives outside the district, said his children have benefitted from the online portals at the schools they attend. They can access digital content from one source rather than having to log into multiple sources.

“When my son will log into their learning management system, it will have a dashboard of all of his classes he’s assigned to and all of the online resources that are attached to those courses,” he said.

“Once he’s signed in, he has access not only to check his grades or check assignments, if he needs to pull up his online social studies or math or English textbooks, they’re all available right there.”

Board member Kate Thommes said she's had access to learning management systems like Moodle and Blackboard, both as a teacher and a student, and can speak directly to their effectiveness.

"(Learning management systems) are so robust, there's so much you can do within those. I'm excited to see this," she said.

District officials selected Instructure over other learning management systems after gathering input from community members, teachers, administrators and other district staff, officials said.

This purchase cost the system and computers would be split over three years, starting with this year's budget, the proposal said.

The school board will vote on the request at a future meeting.

Lance to become U-46 assistant superintendent

By: Rafael Guerrero



Thornton Fractional High School District Superintendent Teresa Lance will become an assistant superintendent in School District U-46. (School District U-46)

Thornton Fractional High School District Superintendent Teresa Lance will become School District U-46's assistant superintendent of equity and innovation next school year, the district announced Friday.

Lance will start her new position in July, the Elgin-area district said in a news release. Lance took over as Thornton Fractional High School District 215 superintendent in July 2018.

"We look forward to welcoming Dr. Lance and are excited to tap her experience and expertise," said U-46 CEO Tony Sanders. "We have set a foundation for our equity and innovation work but Dr. Lance will help us move this important work forward so that we better meet the needs of each and every student."

Her position's role includes leading U-46's work on improving equity districtwide. In the first half of the school year, district officials presented a five-year equity plan intended to shrink the student achievement gap between different demographics,

diversify the district's workforce, and promote different cultures that make up the student body.

Additional responsibilities of the position include oversight of innovative strategies and programs implemented across U-46 schools, the release said.

During her time at Lansing-based Thornton Fractional, Lance helped decrease out-of-school suspensions and racially-disproportionate expulsions, the news release said. Advanced Placement (AP) courses at the school increased from seven to 14, and freshman students could now take AP courses as well.

Lance also helped the district invest in building teacher capacity through internal and external professional development, the release said. She increased communication with families through social media, email, and outreach events.

Lance began her education career as a teacher in Baltimore City Public Schools in 1995, the U-46 news release said. She became an assistant principal in Baltimore in 2001 and a school principal in 2005. She moved to Houston in 2008 to become an educational specialist for MD Anderson Cancer Center. She was also the principal of a grades 6-12 alternative school program in Houston.

Lance was a senior turnaround consultant for the American Institute for Research from 2011 to 2013. She moved to Colorado in 2013 to take over as school leadership officer for the Colorado Springs-based Harrison School District Two, where she oversaw elementary and secondary principals, instructional coordinators, and managed the district's gifted, college and career, special education, and English language learners departments.

The hire was included in Monday's school board meeting agenda for U-46 school board members to vote on.

---Chalkbeat---02/23/2020

The hard choice of what to cut: Illinois school districts weigh competing needs after governor suggests freeze

By: Marie Fazio



Some school districts will cut back on student programs. Some may delay purchasing supplies. Others will put off hiring staff their schools desperately need.

Illinois school districts are rethinking next school year's budget, after Gov. J.B. Pritzker surprised them in announcing last week that [the state will increase education spending](#)

[but hold back some of the funds](#) they expected pending the outcome of a November tax vote.

If the legislature approves Pritzker's \$350 million school spending increase, the governor would place in reserve \$150 million for schools, and deliver it only if voters pass his progressive income tax plan in November. Pritzker has argued that would bring in additional revenues in future years to shore up schools and other critical areas.

In the interim, districts are paring back their expectations and budgets for next year.

"You can't do a mid-course correction and hire more staff, that's just not possible," said Tony Sanders, superintendent of school district U-46 in Chicago's northwest suburbs, the second largest district in the state.

He said the freeze, as Pritzker calls it, will affect district hiring.

The district will have to put off adding staff. "If we know what we're going to get" — later on — "we can invest in lowering class sizes, provide additional support to at-risk students. That requires people."

How much each school district would receive would vary, since the funding formula sends money first to districts that have the largest gaps between local revenue and state spending targets.

While the \$200 million increase that Pritzker has so far guaranteed is still a boost over the current year, the freeze matters because three years ago a bipartisan coalition of state leaders pledged to gradually increase K-12 funding to correct years of underfunding. They set spending targets for each year, and education leaders throughout the state have counted on annual increases. Pritzker's proposal to the legislature would mark the first time since 2017 that state funding would fall short of a \$300-million-extra-per-year pledge.

"We started to move forward with planning for our future after filling our budget hole" after years of insufficient state revenue, said Jennifer Garrison, superintendent of the Vandalia School District 203, in southern Illinois. "Just as we are getting started implementing our plan, we once again take a step back and face uncertainty."

Vandalia is among the 42% of school districts still considered well below "adequate" in terms of spending on education.. The 2017 budget revamp set a target for the state to provide schools an additional \$300 million annually, but education advocacy groups and the state school board think even that falls short.

For next school year, for example, the Illinois State Board of Education recommended [an increase of \\$510 million](#).

What's needed, Garrison said, is closer to \$650 million. "It is important for the public to understand that the \$350 million is a compromise of what is really needed to begin with."

The Illinois Board of Education estimates the state is \$7 billion short of adequately funding its schools.

Garrison's district had planned to hire a curriculum coach with the state funds it expected for next year. In reality, he said, the district needs three coaches.

"While this example might seem minor to some, it is major to us," Garrison said. Without a cut in state funding, "I am now in a position once again to do more with less."

Jeff Craig, superintendent of West Aurora School District 129, said his district is around 53% adequately funded. He faces scaling back programs, putting projects and purchases on hold, and reducing hires to essential staff only.

His district already went through budget cuts a few years ago that resulted in a salary freeze for administrators and delay of building maintenance, he said.

Craig said his district will likely take a more conservative approach to the budget for the next school year, but any cuts will be made "as far away from the classroom as possible."

"Our kids should never know that we have fiscal challenges," Craig said. "If there's going to be reductions or a more conservative approach it's going to be felt by adults and not the students."

Although times are better than before 2017, Craig said that dwindling funding exacerbates the teacher shortage. Schools struggle to find staff.

"We know as a state we're pretty financially fragile and everyone needs to find revenue but there's only so much to go around," Craig said.

The Elgin U-46 district, which last year received only 56% of what the state calculates as adequate funding, can look to past experience for handling fiscal uncertainty.

Funds that appear midyear often goes toward "buying stuff," rather than hiring more staff, Superintendent Sanders said.

When the state put its new school funding model in place, it gave the district \$22 million mid-school year, he said. The district purchased Chromebook laptops for high schoolers, to prepare for the following school year.

As for now, he said, "when we know our budget and we can staff appropriately, we can do better things for kids."

South Elgin boys hoops split pair of UEC contests

By Seth Hancock
The South Elgin boys basketball team split a pair of Upstate Eight Conference games starting with a 47-46 loss against East Aurora, the league's co-leader, on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at South Elgin.
The close, defensive game saw the Storm shoot just 33 percent from the field, and they were out rebounded 33-25.
South Elgin did bounce back against West Chicago with a 54-33 win on Friday, Feb. 21 at South Elgin.
Holding a two-point lead, 11-9, after the first quarter, the Storm started pulling away in the second allowing just two points to West Chicago. Josh Genz opened the frame with a three-pointer and John Aaron Wafford (11 points) hit a bucket for a 16-9 lead, and later Lane McVicar (12 points, two threes) converted consecutive three-point plays while Drew Cwik (10 points) capped the period with a trey for a 25-11 lead at halftime.
Cwik added two more three-pointers to build a 28-11 lead two minutes into

the third quarter, and the Storm led 39-20 entering the fourth where they built as large as a 23-point lead.
Kendis Wiley added 10 points in the effort, and the Storm won the boards 27-21. South Elgin shot 50 percent from the field compared to 34 percent for the Wildcats, and the Storm shot 8-for-22 (36 percent) from behind the arc.
South Elgin is 12-18 overall, 8-9 in the UEC, entering the final week of the regular season as the Storm prepare for the Elgin Regional. The No. 6 Storm open the postseason against No. 9 Elgin.
"We just need to focus on execution on offense and understanding roles and possessions," said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson. "There are big possessions in games and we need to know what we have to do in certain situations against certain players."
Johnson added: "I think if we just keep working on what we've been working on all season, we'll get there. It's a long stretch, and we still have some practices left to get us ready for the game's that really matter."

Storm girls hoops edged by Cary-Grove at regional

By Seth Hancock
The South Elgin girls basketball team's season came to an end in a heartbreaker in the Dundee-Crown Regional semifinal as the No. 4 Storm fell 49-45 to No. 5 Cary-Grove on Tuesday, Feb. 18.
The game was a nail biter from start to finish, and Storm coach Dan Mandernack was ultimately proud of his team's effort.
"The kids executed what the game plan was to perfection," Mandernack said. "Great credit to Cary-Grove. They played well and made huge shots."
Mandernack added: "I told them basketball can be a cruel game and we got bit tonight with some bad luck from the free-throw line, but it happens to even NBA players. Go hug mom and dad, great season, most wins in regular season ever and a lot to be proud of. Great memories, great group."
At the charity stripe, the Storm went 8-for-17 in the game.

The game was tied 11-11 after one quarter, South Elgin led 22-19 at halftime and Cary-Grove evened the score up at 35-35 entering the final frame, which it won 14-10.
Sophomore Ella Winterhalder led the Storm with 20 points including five three-pointers, and senior Megan McClure followed with 12 points with three treys. Sophomore Caroline Croft also hit a three and contributed six points.
South Elgin ends the season 22-10 overall and along with McClure will lose seniors Danielle Kucharski, Haley Molitor, Jennifer Trejo, Madison Waichunas and Aryanna Williams.
"The press was great the final minutes, they kept fighting and hustling and we got turnovers but just missed on converting," Mandernack said. "Just could not get over the hump, but the heart and effort was there and I'm really proud of them. Great season, great memories and friendships and 22 wins."

Police honor Faurie with 2019 Employee of Year award

The Bartlett Police Department has announced that Records Clerk Holly Faurie was selected as the department's 2019 Civilian Employee of the Year for her outstanding performance and work ethic during the past year. She has been a dedicated member of the police department for the past five years.
Faurie was recognized by her supervisors and peers for providing exceptional service and consistently presenting herself in a highly professional manner when dealing with residents and police department personnel. During the past year, she took on an informal leadership role by serving as a field training officer to help train new records clerks. She also provided supervisory support as the dayshift Records Clerk in Charge. Faurie pro-

vided valuable assistance to help complete time sensitive records section and property control projects.



Records Clerk Holly Faurie.
(Courtesy photo)



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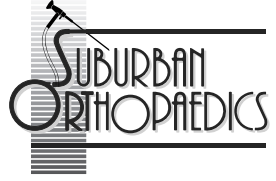
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Hawks top Rams, fall in regional final to Lancers



Working with a height disadvantage, Bartlett's Trinity Reyes attempted a drive into the lane and toward the Lancers basket against Lake Park's Ellie Helm.



Focused on her target, the Hawks' Mackenzie Hare drove through the lane and past Glenbard East's Hannah Simek on a path to the Rams basket.

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team and junior Lexie Sinclair didn't go down without a fight as the No. 5 Hawks fell 67-59 against No. 3 Lake Park on Thursday, Feb. 20 in the Lake Park Regional finals.

It was the second contest between the teams this year, Bartlett defeating Lake Park 66-63 in January.

The rematch was a game of ups and downs on both sides with Bartlett leading most of the first half but Lake Park rallying and pulling away in the second half. As the Hawks saw their own 10-point lead in the first half turn into a 10-point deficit in the third quarter, Sinclair kept her side in the game scoring 20 of the team's 24 points in the second half which was part of a game-high 32-point effort.

For Sinclair, she knows the team's potential is strong next year with nearly the entire squad coming back. Bartlett had one senior this year, Marina Vasquez.

"It was good that we were able to stay close and make it a game," Sinclair said. "It was a game of runs. We went on runs, they went on runs. We've got to get through adversity. We don't want to feel this way again."

Sinclair added: "We'll be alright. We'll be there next year."

Bartlett built a 20-16 lead after the first quarter behind nine points from Sinclair and a pair of three-pointers from junior Danielle Hedeon. The Hawks opened the second on a 12-3 run capped by a three-pointer from sophomore Mackenzie Hare (11 points, three treys) for a 32-22 lead, and another Hare three later made it 35-26 with 1:47 left in the half.

Lake Park began its rally by finishing the first half on a 7-0 run to pull to 35-33 and went on a 14-2 run over the first six minutes of the third to take a 47-37 lead. Sinclair, who scored all of her team's points in the third, tallied the final nine points of the frame, starting with her second trey of the night, to pull to 47-46.

"It's because of her, her tenacity and her work ethic," Bartlett interim coach Kristi Ragan said of Sinclair. "We can rely on her to make big plays, and we have a couple players who can do that, but we're really, really proud of her for sure."

Lake Park built an 11-point lead in the fourth quarter but saw Bartlett pull within three in the final two minutes, but the Hawks never pulled ahead.

The loss ends the Hawks season at 24-9 after a year of adversity. Bartlett's coach Brad Hunt died unexpectedly over the summer after guiding the Hawks to a sectional final appearance last year, and first-year coach Joe Eirich stepped down for personal reasons the week of this year's regional.

"This team, these girls are so tough in what they've faced for the last nine months," Ragan said. "We're only going to come back better from this. We showed it every second of that game how tough these kids are."

Bartlett opened the regional with a 65-39 win in the semifinals over No. 9 Glenbard East on Tuesday, Feb. 18.



Prior to launching a shot for Bartlett, Cierra Thomas put a head fake on Glenbard East's Lisa Stranski.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Hawks' Lexie Sinclair getting off a jump shot over Lake Park's Ellie Helm during third quarter action against the Lancers. Sinclair had a huge night leading all scorers with 32 points during the regional title game loss Thursday, Feb. 20.

Streamwood buries Elgin during 1-2 week



With a clear path to the Elgin basket, Streamwood’s Zach Marquez finished off a drive with a layup.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys basketball team came out strong and didn’t slow down in an 89-58 win over Elgin in Upstate Eight Conference play on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at Streamwood.

Kyle Maybrun and Zach Marquez (13 points, three three-pointers) both scored 11 points in the opening quarter as the Sabres built a 28-9 lead and never looked back. Maybrun, who had hit three treys in the game, added another 11-point period in

the third to finish with a game-high 22 points.

“The start of games are always important to us because once we get going, we’re going to keep rallying,” Maybrun said. “If we start strong, it’s scary and it’s not going to be good for the other team.”

Streamwood was just getting started as it hit five of its 15 threes in the second quarter, led by two from Jakobe Strong (14 points, three treys), to help build a 50-26 lead by halftime.

Along with Maybrun’s 11 points, Strong added eight in the third quarter as Streamwood outscored Elgin 31-20 to take an 81-46 lead into the fourth. The Sabres led by as much as 38 points in the final frame.

“We just came out and hit some shots,” said Streamwood coach Kent Payne. “We were able to put a lot of pressure on them and create some turnovers and just created a great tempo that really works for us and we just kind of built on it.”

Lorenzo Coney added 17 points in the effort, Richard Santiago six and Ryan Torre five.

Streamwood went on to drop a 94-89 UEC game to East Aurora, which is tied on top of the league with Glenbard South, on Friday, Feb. 21 at Streamwood. It was senior night for the Sabres who recognized their two fourth year student athletes, Coney and Luke Pentecost.

The Sabres finished the week with a 62-54 non-conference loss against Geneva on Saturday, Feb. 22 at Geneva. Strong (15 points), Maybrun (11 points), Coney (six points), Marquez (six points) and Darrel Luce (six points) led the effort.

Entering the final week of the regular season, the Sabres are now 15-14 overall and 10-7 in the UEC. No. 5 Streamwood will prepare for No. 3 St. Charles East as the teams face off in the Elgin Regional semifinals.



An elevated Lorenzo Coney attempting to score for the Sabres over Elgin’s Emmanuel Hernandez.



Kyle Maybrun reeling after being separated from the basketball following contact with Elgin’s Jeffery Lomax, left, as the Maroons’ Emmanuel Hernandez trailed the action.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Pet of the Week



A royal feline

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Bartlett succumbs to late Raiders rally 51-47



Bartlett's George Betevis in a battle to tie up Glenbard South's Aryton Temcio and force a jump ball whistle.



Conrad Luczynski pulling down a rebound for the Hawks in front of the Raiders' Brandon Malone. Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team saw a double-digit lead slip away against Glenbard South, which is tied with East Aurora on top of the Upstate Eight Conference, as the Hawks fell 51-47 on Friday, Feb. 21 at Bartlett.

After trailing by as much as 14 in the third quarter, Glenbard South rallied to pull within one, 38-37, to setup a back-and-forth final period.

Bartlett led 45-39 midway through the fourth quarter when Glenbard South went on a 9-2 run to pull ahead 48-47 with 35.5 seconds left to play.

In the remaining seconds, the Hawks went to the free-throw line in the bonus for a chance to pull ahead

but missed on the front end. With under 10 seconds left, Glenbard South split a pair of free throws to pull ahead 49-47 and grabbed the rebound on the miss before finishing the scoring again at the line.

"If we grab that ball with nine seconds left, down by two, is it a different story at the other end? With no timeouts, they get the ball and it's pretty much the ball game at that point," said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith.

Hayden Angell scored 17 points to lead the Hawks which helped the host build a 29-18 halftime lead.

Bartlett's lead improved to 38-24 with 3:21 left in the third quarter when Glenbard South countered with a 13-0 run to end the frame.

"We had chances where we could have stretched the lead or taken back the lead, but we didn't," Wolfsmith said.

The Hawks were coming off a 44-43 UEC loss against Fenton on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at Fenton. Nicholas Bucaro led the effort with 12 points, Ian Smith and Clark Lewis followed with eight and seven points respectively and a pair of three-pointers each and both George Betevis and Nick Kantzavelos had five points.

Bartlett is 10-18 overall, 7-10 in the UEC, entering the final week of the regular season as it prepares for the Naperville Central Regional. The No. 15 Hawks open the postseason with No. 3 Naperville Central.



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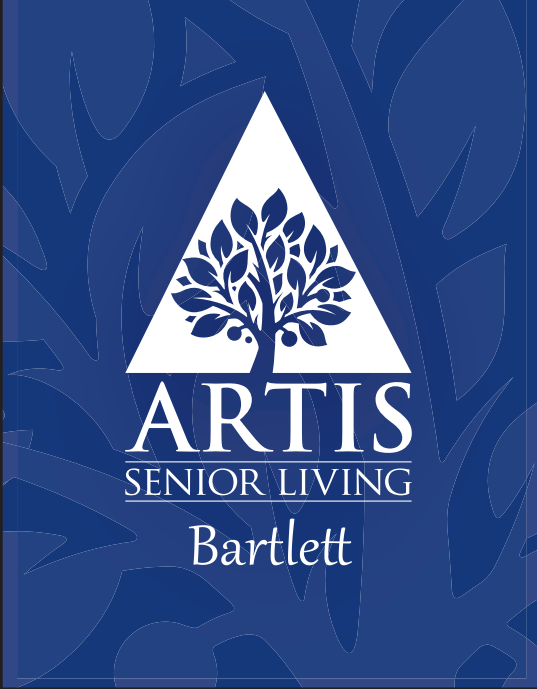
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Despite big comeback season ends for Sabres

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball battled to the end but saw its season end as the No. 6 Sabres fell 62-54 against No. 3 McHenry on Tuesday, Feb. 18 in the Streamwood Regional semifinal.

The Sabres led 45-41 with 6:05 left in the game, a lead that seemed unlikely after a slow start, after senior Peyton Hedger (seven points, eight rebounds) hit a three-pointer, her second of the game.

Over the next four minutes, McHenry went on a 15-3 run keyed by two of its 10 threes on the night to take a 56-48 lead with 2:11 remaining. Its lead grew as large as 10 in the final minute.

"It was exactly where I wanted us to be," said Streamwood coach George Rosner of the 45-41 lead. "We gave up two threes that took that lead away. Two mistakes defensively, and they hit them. You can make a mistake on defense and leave somebody open, but at the same time they have to hit the shot and to their credit they did."

McHenry came out looking to put the game away early building a 16-point lead, 24-8, after one quarter, but the Sabres caught fire offensively and then

allowed just 14 points defensively in the middle frames.

Senior Kaylee Angle, who had a team-high 19 points, led the comeback off the bench knocking down three of her five treys of the night in the second quarter to pull to 31-27 at halftime, and she scored 16 of her points in the middle frames as Streamwood led 42-38 after the third. Angle, a regular starter, was nursing an ankle injury.

Junior Vivian Sumoski (nine points, seven rebounds) hit consecutive buckets in the third quarter to take a 37-36 lead with 1:30 left in the frame, Streamwood's first lead since 2-0.

"We've seen this before where we've had bad starts, and some teams just fold and the game's over and we don't," Rosner said. "We just stayed with it and stayed with our game plan. I think we made it

a great game."

Streamwood ends the season 12-17 overall and will lose five seniors including four-year star point guard Mandy Mien (nine points, eight rebounds, five assists) as well as Vicki Kopko (six points) and Idalyd Ocampo.

"These five seniors were incredible," Rosner said. "They've stuck with it. They've been part of the program since seventh grade, sixth grade and they're quite a group and it's a big loss for us to lose them. It's probably one of the best group of seniors I've ever had."



Sayuri Ishikawa in the process of hitting a three-point shot as part of a dramatic comeback effort that began in the second quarter against McHenry.



Vivian Sumoski attempting to put in a shot off the glass while drawing contact from the Trojans' Kate Delgadillo. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Streamwood head coach George Rosner addressing the team during a timeout as the Sabres were attempting another rally this one in the fourth quarter.

Gun rights advocates sue ISP for alleged FOID delays

By Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois

A pair of gun rights advocacy groups are suing the Illinois State Police, its director and the chief of the Illinois State Police Firearms Services Bureau for "not acting in a timely manner on Firearm Owner Identification card and concealed carry applications."

The Illinois State Rifle Association and the Second Amendment Foundation filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court alleging violations of Second Amendment rights.

"The citizens of Illinois have been delayed getting their FOID cards for months," ISRA Executive Director Richard Pearson said in a news release. "We have tried to work with the State Police on this matter, but nothing is happening. We are left with no other choice but to file a lawsuit."

The gun rights groups said the lawsuit was filed on behalf of Illinois residents Ryan A. Thomas and Goran Lazic in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division federal court. The news release said Thomas and Lazic have been waiting for their FOID cards and licenses for three years.

The lawsuit contends the State Police, "has swept or transferred funds totaling more than (\$29.5 million) from the State Police Firearms Services Fund, the State Police Operations Assistance Fund, and the State Police Services Fund away from these funds and into other accounts."

According to the complaint, the money should have been used for the ad-

ministration of the FOID card act, background checks for firearm-related services, and concealed carry licensing.

"Instead, the more than (\$29.5 million) has been subject to interfund transfers which are ostensibly to be repaid but which have not been, or swept into other accounts without an obligation to reimburse the funds at all," according to the lawsuit.

"The sweeping of funds has denied qualified Illinois citizens their rights and the ability to defend themselves and their families," SAF founder and Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb said in the release. "Because of this practice, ISP processing of FOID and concealed carry applications has slowed to a crawl, allowing paperwork to languish. That's not just poor performance, it's pathetic."

ISP spokesperson Beth Hundsdoerfer, however, said in a statement the ISP does "not have the authority to 'sweep' funds."

"In 2015 and 2018, \$13.2 million was swept from the Firearms Service Fund into the general fund during the budget crisis. Under the current fiscal year, funds have not been swept, allowing the Firearms Services Bureau to start filling 17 analyst vacancies, procure technology to offer better customer service and to begin building a new Appeals Bureau," she said.

She added that 90 percent of FOID applications were on average processed in fewer than 30 days and it took an average of 65 days to renew a FOID card in 2019.