

Press Clippings 03/11/20

---The Courier-News---03/11/2020

U-46 to spend \$7.1M to overhaul space at Larkin

Improvements will be for culinary, child care, health care and science pathways

By: Rafael Guerrero



District U-46 plans to spend \$7.1 million making improvements to Larkin High School's culinary, child care, health care sciences and science classrooms in preparation for the district's conversion to a career pathways high school system. (Rafael Guerrero/Courier-News)

District U-46 plans to spend \$7.1 million making improvements to Larkin High School's culinary, child care, health care sciences and science classrooms in preparation for the district's conversion to a career pathways high school system.

"For the educational pathways project, Larkin High School has been identified as the first location where we will start implementing the needed construction to support the programs that will be in place," Plant Operation Director Sheila Downs told the school board Monday when laying out the proposal.

Most of the work will be done to classrooms in the school's D wing, already in use for the culinary, child care, health care and science programs, documents presented to the board said. The first phase of the pathways program is to launch in 2021.

The culinary space is not big enough to meet student demand for the courses and lacks the industry standard equipment and layout needed for the new pathways programs, documents said. The redesigned space will be set up for multi-purpose uses for restaurant and catering work.

Among the improvements to the health care science rooms will be electrical upgrades and the creation of sanitary spaces, which the new curriculum will require, the proposal said.

Because industry certification is one of the health care science pathway program's objectives for students, the Larkin program will require at least three modernized classrooms, with one of them being a lab/clinical classroom, documents said.

Downs said district officials also decided to renovate some of the school's science classrooms, which she described as "antiquated" and in need an upgrade. The reworked lab space will be able to house new equipment and provide flexibility for science and STEM pathways programs, she said.

The child-care classroom changes proposed will be done with the intention of having the program certified by the Department of Children and Family Services, Downs said. A new outdoor playground will be part of the upgrade, she said.

In order to accommodate the work, which will start in the spring, culinary classes held in the D wing will be moved to mobile classrooms after spring break, Downs said. Eleven classes and one office will be housed in the temporary space, she said.

“We’ve worked with the teachers, and our (Career and Technical Education) coordinator has worked specifically with the CTE teachers to provide alternative learning opportunities,” said Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent for secondary schools instruction and equity.

“But (students) could still do some different types of culinary lab lessons. They do have hot plates and other things you can put in a mobile classroom.”

If approved by the school board, construction work will begin April 7 and should be substantially completed by Aug. 3, the proposal said.

Money for the renovation work is included in the district’s 2019-20 capital budget and will be funded with money earmarked for operations and maintenance.

Jakobe Strong attempting a jump shot for the Sabres while under pressure from the Saints' Chase Monkemeyer on Tuesday, March 3. For story and more photos see page 8. (Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

Pet of the Week



Sheba anyone?

Sheba, an 8-year old brown and white bit bull, came to KCAC as an owner-surrender. She is very sweet and low-key. Sheba can be ready to play whenever an opportunity presents itself. Her age does not get in the way. Sheba loves getting attention, gets excited when all eyes are upon her and she’s the receiver of all the pets. She gets along with other dogs and will back off if they don’t like her getting nosy. Sheba will make a wonderful companion for either a family with older children that understand an older dog’s need to rest between play sessions or a family that has other dogs to play with that also enjoy a little down time.

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)

District U-46 approves multiple proposals, bills

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved of over \$4.1 million in expenditures over eight proposals at its meeting on Monday, March 2.

The largest item was \$1.1 million, from the education fund, for textbooks for students in the dual credit program with Elgin Community College (ECC) with the proposal running through the 2023-2024 year.

The proposal expands the taxpayer burden for the dual credit program as previously taxpayers were only on the hook for tuition costs, not textbooks.

The proposal state the district wants “to decrease the barriers for students seeking dual credit... by purchasing the books that will be used for the part-time (in high school) dual credit students and providing an Elgin Community College bookstore credit for our full-time (at ECC) dual credit students for the next four school years.”

The board approved of a \$968,484 (education fund) proposal to purchase 1,700 iPads from Apple Inc., 1,700 iPad covers from Bump Armor and 1,100 Chromebooks from Heartland. Also, concerning technology, the board approved \$426,915 (education fund) with Instructure, Inc. for a Learning Management System (LMS) and a proposal to purchase 20 interactive boards from Dell (\$45,000) and accompanying stands from Pace (\$26,000) which will be paid for by the nation’s taxpayers through Title I funds.

The LMS proposal from Instructure

was significantly higher than a \$248,260 bid from Blackboard, Inc. The proposal states: “While Blackboard was less expensive than our selected provider, all members of Instructional Council felt they were not well aligned with our needs.”

A two-year contract renewal with Tyler Technologies was approved costing \$335,763 (transportation, operations and education funds) to renew Versatrans Routing and Planning Software which helps the transportation department create routes and to track vehicles.

The board approved two projects at Streamwood High School, both from the operations and maintenance fund.

Included is \$881,595 with Abbey Paving and Sealcoating Company, Inc. for a “full removal and replacement of the tennis courts and fencing,” the proposal states. Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc. came in under at \$815,000 but U-46 is in “an ongoing dispute with Chicagoland Paving over liquidated damages” from another project.

Also at Streamwood will be a painting project for the second floor of the school costing \$87,972 with Go Painters, Inc.

At Elgin’s Larkin High School, the board approved a \$215,364 expenditure (operations and maintenance fund) with Peters Electric and Technology, Inc. to make building modifications to prepare for the career pathways programs.

Also unanimously approved was \$4.6 million in itemized bills.

Kane Animal Control offering Easter Bunny photo event

According to Kane County Animal Control (KCAC), they are providing a chance to obtain a picture with four-legged best friends and family.

The public is invited to bring their pets to Two Bostons, 1900 S. Randall

Road in Geneva on Saturday, March 21 from noon to 3 p.m. to get a free pet and family photo with the Easter Bunny. Two Bostons is partnering with

See Easter Bunny, pg. 8

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Gail Borden Public Library District

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General Primary Early Voting
General primary early voting for all Kane County precincts continues daily at the main library through March 16. Please refer to the Gail Borden website at www.gailborden.info for specific times.

Stay Healthy with Essential Oils
Essential oils are the concentrated extracts of potentially beneficial plants, such as lavender and peppermint. Learn more about their uses at Stay Healthy with Essential Oils from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on March 11 at the South Elgin Branch.

St. Patrick’s Shenanigans
Calling all children ages six through eleven. Wear your green and come to the South Elgin Branch from 4 to 5 p.m. on March 12 for St. Patrick’s Shenanigans. Arts, crafts, and games will celebrate everyone’s favorite Irish holiday.

No Shushing Friday Movies
Join us at the South Elgin Branch from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on March 13 for “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” (2019, PG). Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in this timely story of kindness triumphing over cynicism, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. As always with our No Shushing Friday Movies, the setting is casual and family friend-

ly. Chatting and snacks from home are welcome. Please contact the library one week in advance if you need accommodations for a disability.

Pop-Up Adult Fiction Book Sale
Come to the main library from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on March 12 for the Pop-Up Adult Fiction Book Sale. We have a large selection of mysteries, Sci-Fi, thrillers, romance novels and general fiction materials ready for you to purchase.

Read to Rover
Trucker, our volunteer listener dog, will be at the South Elgin Branch from 1 to 3 p.m. on March 15. Read to Rover is a popular program with children so be sure to call the library to register your child for a 15-minute time slot.

Immunization Panel Discussion
Discuss your concerns about immunizations with health care experts from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the main library on March 16. This free Immunization Panel Discussion is hosted by Building Community Immunity Together. Everyone is welcome to attend.

South Elgin Sentinels Chess Club
The South Elgin Sentinels Chess Club invites chess players of all ages to hone their chess skills from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on March 17 at the South Elgin Branch. Beginners are welcome. Intermediate or advanced players can play opponents or work on chess puzzles.

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Hawks soccer looks to rely on talent, leadership

By Seth Hancock
A young Bartlett soccer team has high hopes for the 2020 season with talent and strong leadership at the helm.
The Hawks went 7-13-2 last season, 5-4 in the Upstate Eight Conference. Bartlett lost 11 seniors from that team.
Last season's record was deceptive with the Hawks losing eight games by one goal. Bartlett coach Vince Revak hopes his team can improve upon last season's results.
"I am hoping for a top three finish in conference, and to vastly improve upon our 7-12-2 record from last year," Revak said.
Revak added: "We dropped a good number of very close results last year, and although we'll have a young team, the goal is to fix the mistakes that cost us those games last season."
This year's roster is dominated by underclassmen, 10 sophomores and

four freshmen. The Hawks have six juniors and two seniors.
Some key returners are seniors Mad-die Donnelly (midfielder) and Christina Mondelli (midfielder) as well as junior Serena Salvato (striker) who Revak said "will provide us with years of experience and leadership." Revak said of returning sophomores Tessa Evans (midfielder) and Sabrina Fowler (defender) that they "are already playing at a high level even for their second year with varsity."
"I think our young group will bring a lot of new energy to the team, and though we have fewer veterans this year, the leadership we have will definitely be an asset to helping the younger players grow and improve quickly," Revak said.
Bartlett opens the season with a non-conference home contest against Schaumburg on Monday, March 16 at Millennium Field in Streamwood.

Park Board supports accessible playground bid

By Joe Hyland
At its Tuesday, Feb. 25 meeting, the Park District Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a bid to begin construction of the Free to be Me accessible playground that is to be constructed in Bartlett Park.
Commissioner Lori Palmer, at the board's Feb. 11 committee workshop meeting, reported on the bid opening. "We had six qualified bids," said Palmer.
The bids ranged from a low of \$403,372 to a high of \$492,204. The low bid was submitted by The Kenneth Company. Executive Director Rita Fletcher's written report at the committee workshop meeting confirmed that the design firm the district is using, Hitchcock Design, had contacted the references provided by the firm and confirmed the pricing.
Fletcher also reported at the earlier meeting that the district would be using funds from three sources to finance the project. A \$400,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Natu-

ral Resources would be used along with \$250,000 raised by the Parks Foundation. Finally, the district would fork over the remaining needed \$150,000.
At the Feb. 25 meeting, Commissioner Diana Gunsteen had a question about the grant money.
"As far as receiving the grant money, what would the timing be on that?" Gunsteen asked.
"We have already received half of the grant money," Fletcher replied "When it is completed, we will receive the other half."
Fletcher said it is hoped that ground can be broken in March. She said that the necessary permits for the project have been cleared with the village. The playground will feature specialized equipment to allow those with special needs to use the playground and generally be outdoors in the more or less fresh air. Fundraising efforts have been underway for a number of years, with the Parks Foundation taking the lead.

Bartlett cheerleading team has six named to all-UEC team

The Bartlett High School cheerleading team had six members named to the UEC all-conference team.
Honored were freshman Alyssa Koepp, juniors Nikki Baker, Mia Beres, Kayla Emmet and seniors Bianca Natali and Juliette Zenino.
Additionally two team members were honored by their team as Lilly Lagerholm received the sportsman-

ship award and Abby Dunbar was named MVP for the season.
The Bartlett squad placed second at the Upstate Eight Conference competition in January.
The team will lose seven graduating seniors this year. In addition to Natali and Zenino, other seniors include Aril Byun, Rebecca Byun, Rachel Hutchison and Jazmin Sanders.



Pictured from left, Alyssa Koepp, Kayla Emmet, Nikki Baker, Mia Beres, Bianca Natali and Juliette Zenino. (Courtesy photo)



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Hawks fall to regional host 53-39 to end season

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team saw its season end in the Naperville Central Regional semifinals as the No. 15 Hawks fell 53-39 to No. 3 Naperville Central on Tuesday, March 3.

Through the first half, the Hawks remained close as they were looking for an upset falling behind 16-14 after one quarter and 24-18 at halftime, but Naperville Central started to pull away in the third quarter.

The loss ends Bartlett's season at 10-20 overall with

a young team that included 10 juniors and two sophomores. Of those losses, 12 were by single digits.

"Literally we were 15 possessions from having an 18-win season," said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. "Hopefully they take the lessons from the teams we played, what we need to do to get better, how we need to be more consistent and not let teams go on runs like they did in the third quarter."

The Hawks deficit grew to 16, 43-27, late in the third quarter. Bartlett responded with an 8-0 run to pull to 43-35 early in the fourth, but that was the closest it

would come the rest of the game.

Sophomore Conrad Luczynski (11 points, seven rebounds) led the effort and junior Hayden Angell followed with nine points. Juniors Nick Kantzavelos and Clark Lewis both hit a pair of three-pointers for six points.

"The third quarter was the difference in the game," Wolfsmith said. "I thought we played a good first half on their floor."

Bartlett will lose four seniors: Liam Gallagher, Jack Kline, Cameron Kunzer and John Rivera.



Bartlett's Clark Lewis got caught between Naperville Centrals' Cameron Dougherty and Michael Wood.



The Hawks' Nicholas Bucaro on a drive to the basket past the Redhawks' Kyle Baskin.
(Examiner photos by Caroline Hollis)



While still maintaining control of the ball, Hayden Angell of the Hawks tripped over Naperville Central's Cameron Dougherty on his way to the basket.



Bartlett's Nick Kantzavelos blocking a lay up by Naperville Central's Cameron Dougherty on Tuesday, March 3.

Achieve your own smooth landing



photo of Joe and Lee Kerwin

Dr. Joe Kerwin, already a naval flight surgeon and naval aviator, joined NASA as its first physician-astronaut in 1965. In 1973, he played a critical role on the mission to repair the newly launched Skylab space station.

A Midwesterner by birth, his unique trajectory came full circle in September 2019 when he and his wife Lee moved to Clare Oaks. Thanks to Clare Oaks' continuum of care, Joe and Lee live under the same roof, share meals and visit often.

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Storm top Elgin, but fall to North at regional



South Elgin's Drew Cwik dribbling into the lane while closely defended by North's Jimmy Durocher.



Kendis Wiley driving to the hoop for the Storm and past the North Stars' Conner Linke.



The Storm's John Aaron Wafford pursuing a baseline route toward the North basket while hemmed in by the North Stars' Luke Scheffers.

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team battled, but the No. 6 Storm couldn't overcome No. 2 North in a 54-40 loss in the Elgin Regional semifinals on Tuesday, March 3.

North jumped out to a 15-6 lead after one quarter and 30-15 by halftime, but despite the double-digit deficit the young Storm squad kept clawing.

The Storm's deficit grew to 20 late in the third quarter, 42-22, but consecutive three-point plays from sophomores Lane McVicar (seven points) and Drew Cwik (seven points) pulled them to 42-28 entering the fourth. Junior Dylan Marquis (eight points, five rebounds) made it 42-30 to start the fourth.

North led by no more than 16 the rest of the game, but the Storm pulled no closer than 12.

"It never felt like we were out of the game," said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson. "That's a good mentality to have with a young team, knowing that they can still be in the game even down 16 with six minutes to go. They still had that fight and desire to keep playing, and in this day and age it's hard to get kids to buy into that."

Junior John Aaron Wafford and sophomore Kendis Wiley both added five

points in the effort.

The Storm did have chances to pull closer in the second half but struggled to shoot, especially from behind the arc going 1-for-15.

"We didn't make shots in that second half," Johnson said. "We couldn't make our open shots to stay in the game early, but I'm proud of the guys and their effort through the second half. I think we would have erupted if we had made one or two of those threes and gotten in to six or seven. The ball doesn't go in sometimes."

In the regional quarterfinals, South Elgin defeated No. 9 Elgin

52-29 on Monday, March 2. Leading 28-21 after three quarters, the Storm pulled away with a 24-8 fourth.

Cwik hit three three-pointers and both he and McVicar scored 10 points to lead the effort. Wiley scored eight points, Marquis seven and both Wafford and junior Wyatt Steurer six.

The Storm finish the season 13-20 overall and will lose three seniors: Moses Montgomery, Derryl Barnes Jr. and Joseph Zdybel.

"I'm proud of the fight that we've had all season," Johnson said. "Being as young as we are, we had some big victories against some tough teams and we came to fight every night."



Dylan Marquis of the Storm releasing a hook shot over the North Stars' Conner Linke, a shot that found the bottom of the net and Marquis also drew a foul during the effort.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Sabres downed by Saints at Elgin Regional



Luke Pentecost getting off a three-point shot for Streamwood from an open corner against the Saints.



St. Charles East's Zack Clodi, left, and the Sabres' Lorenzo Coney battled for possession of the ball until a jump ball whistle ended the struggle.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys basketball team saw its season end in the Elgin Regional semifinals after the No. 5 Sabres fell 95-69 against No. 3 St. Charles East on Tuesday, March 3.

St. Charles East dominated most of the first half but just as the Sabres looked to be building momentum,

closing an 18-point deficit down to eight by halftime, that momentum was lost to start the third quarter.

Trailing 47-39 entering the third quarter, Streamwood turned the ball over on each of its first three second half possessions all leading to St. Charles East points to make it 53-39. From there, the Sabres faced a double-digit deficit the rest of the night including 74-53 entering the fourth.

"We started the third quarter with three straight turnovers and it went from an eight-point game to a 14-point game," said Streamwood coach Kent Payne. "That was it. It was embarrassing. We turned the ball over and missed shots."

Two bright spots on the night were juniors

Jakobe Strong and Darrel Luce. Strong scored 33 points including five three-pointers, and Luce pulled down nine rebounds to go along with five points.

"Jakobe and Darrel, they were terrific," Payne said. Strong scored 19 of his points in the first half which helped Streamwood battle back from a slow start.

Streamwood trailed 27-11 after one quarter and 41-23 with 3:23 left in the second when senior Luke Pentecost, who had 12 points on four threes, hit back-to-back treys to help spark a 16-6 finish to the half. Pentecost had a third trey on the run, and Strong hit a three-pointer at the last second to make it 47-39.

Junior Kyle Maybrun scored 11 points and senior Lorenzo Coney eight for the Sabres.

Streamwood ends the season 15-16 overall. Coney and Pentecost were the Sabres only seniors this year.

"We were competitive this year, but we just didn't get it done against the above average and good teams," Payne said. "That was our story, and that's why we're 15-16. Tonight, we weren't even competitive which is frustrating."

Police to participate in St. Patrick's Day campaign

The Streamwood Police Department has announced it will conduct special patrols this St. Patrick's Day to crack down on impaired drivers and encourage people to wear their seat belts. Celebrated throughout the country, St. Patrick's Day is one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to the number of drunk drivers on the road. Those drinking or using another impairing substance should plan ahead for a sober ride home.

"We urge our community residents and visitors to enjoy St. Patrick's Day responsibly," said Deputy Chief Shawn Taylor. "We'll be out in force to keep impaired drivers off the roads and help ensure that everyone makes it home safely."

Before the green beer starts flowing,

remember to designate a sober driver. If a designated driver is not available, call a cab, use a ride-sharing service, have a sober friend or family member provide a ride, or stay put and sleep it off. Never let a friend drive impaired and always buckle up – it's the best defense in a crash.

Pedestrians are at risk, too. When walking, keep an eye out for cars. If a designated driver, be alert for impaired walkers who may not obey street signs and pedestrian signals.

The Illinois "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket" campaigns are administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation with federal highway safety funds managed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Kids invited to fishing event at Wood Dale Forest Preserve

According to the DuPage Forest Preserve District, young anglers can be introduced to the excitement of fishing at "Trout Fishing for Kids" on Saturday, March 28 from 8 a.m. to noon at the district's Wood Dale Grove Forest Preserve in Wood Dale.

Children ages 15 and under get a great opportunity to fish the 9-acre Grove Lake after it's been stocked with rainbow trout but before the official spring opener, giving them a better chance to catch fish. Family members 16 and older are welcome to join the young anglers but may not fish themselves. The event is free and registration is not required.

Some equipment will be available for

loan, but participants are encouraged to bring their own gear. Bait is provided. The entrance to Wood Dale Grove Forest Preserve is on Wood Dale Road one-half mile north of Lake Street.

For more information, call 933-7248.



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Streamwood's Kyle Maybrun driving into the paint while closely defended by the Saints' Luke Matheny.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)