

Local taxing bodies, sans U-46 tout achievements

By Joe Hyland

The annual joint meeting of the various taxing bodies in the village was hosted by the Fire Protection District on Wednesday, April 10. Representatives of the Bartlett fire protection, park and library districts were in attendance. In addition, the village, Hanover Township and Elgin Community College (ECC) sent representatives. Wayne Township was not in attendance. In addition, the 800-pound gorilla in the property tax room, School District U-46, did not send a representative.

“Gosh, it looks like it’s a bit of a lighter crowd today,” said Fire Protection District Board President Jim McCarthy in welcoming the participants.

McCarthy went on to note that the annual meeting gave the various taxing bodies an opportunity to update each other on their achievements over the past year, as well as to discuss possible ways to save taxpayer dollars during the coming year.

First up was Paula Amenta from ECC’s Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs Department.

Amenta noted that the state of the economy had an inverse effect on enrollment at ECC.

“As the economy improves, our enrollment goes down,” said Amenta.

Amenta reported on two achievements.

The first was the college’s dual credit program. In this program, high school juniors and seniors who are deemed college-ready can attend ECC on Mondays through Thursdays to take college courses. Amenta said that the program will see its first graduating class on Friday, May 17. Students will actually receive an associate’s degree before they receive their high school diplomas later in the month.

“I would say that’s one of the big highlights,” Amenta said.

Amenta also touted the college’s efforts to help students avoid loan debt, that she said is now estimated at \$1.3 trillion nationally. She said that those students seeking a loan are required to undergo a one-to-one session with a loan counselor.

“You’d be surprised how many think that’s a grant,” Amenta said.

Amenta reported that the program is already showing results.

“We have cut the number of loans by 55 percent,” Amenta said. “So we feel like that’s really important.”

Next up was Village Administrator Paula Schumacher. She reported on efforts the village is making at partnerships with other governmental bodies, in particular noting that the fire district allowed the village to use its

apparatus for fit testing of respirators.

“That was a big thing for us to check off,” Schumacher said. “The more opportunity we have to do that (referring to partnerships), the better off we all are.”

Schumacher also noted that the police department will be conducting active shooter programs for local businesses.

“We’re working with the Chamber of Commerce on that,” Schumacher said.

The main achievement, however, is the nearly finished Lake Michigan water pipeline. Schumacher said that the finishing touches are being placed on the pipeline, with a completion date sometime in May.

Park District Commissioner Lori Palmer had some good news.

“We just received a \$400,000 grant from the IDNR (Illinois Department of Natural Resources) for the inclusive playground at Bartlett Park,” Palmer said, noting that the district is now projecting completion of the playground for the summer of 2020.

Palmer also noted that the district is getting ready for its busy outdoor season.

Palmer also reported that the district still needs summer employees, and needs, among other personnel, 25 more lifeguards.

Library Executive Director Karolyn Nance reported that library staff had also undergone active shooter training. She said that the turnout for the library’s spring event had been good, with an estimated 250 people in attendance. Nance said that the library is planning a patron appreciation day around Thanksgiving.

Nance also reported that the library will be putting together and issuing its first-ever annual report sometime later this year.

Next was Chief Mike Falese. He reported on the district’s “Close the Door” campaign which urges people to keep interior doors closed in order to limit the damage in the event of a fire. He said that two recent structure fires had illustrated the effectiveness of the initiative. Doors from, in one case a laundry room, and in the other a garage, had drastically limited damage from the fires. Falese said that pictures on the department’s web page showed this graphically.

“So we actually saw the effect of those closed doors up close and personal,” Falese said.

Falese said that the district’s finances were seeing some effect from an ongoing slippage in insurance, Medicare and Medicaid payments for ambu-

See 800 pound, pg. 17

Library trustee race remains too close to call

By Joe Hyland

The municipal election results yielded few if any surprises last week.

As for as the Park District Board of Commissioners, incumbent Ted Lewis was re-elected to another term. Also elected to a full term was newcomer Jody Fagan. Newcomer Adam Augustine came in third in the contest. In addition, Dale Ann Kasuba was elected to fill an unexpired two-year term.

At the Fire Protection District, Board of Trustees President Jim McCarthy was re-elected. Antonio Passaro was also elected and he will be replacing Trustee Jay Langfelder, who opted not to run for re-election.

As of *The Examiner’s* deadline, the winners of the election for Library Board of Trustees had not yet been de-

termined, Incumbents Dave Barry and John Sias easily won re-election, while Peggy Deyne was elected to fill an unexpired four-year term. However, the contest between Joe Olsen and Parth Patel for the seat being vacated by Trustee Eric Shipman was too close to call, and will not be determined until absentee and mail-in ballots have been counted.

“We have not yet received a determination,” said Executive Director Karolyn Nance.

The initial tally was 1,181 votes for Olsen and 1,141 for Patel.

“While the results have not yet been certified, Olsen expressed confidence that he would be victorious at the joint taxing body meeting held on Wednesday, April 10.”



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Continued from page 7

lance runs. Falese said that the department is trying to expand the range of facilities to which it can transport a patient. He said that currently ambulances are only allowed to transport patients to emergency rooms.

Falese also said that the district is placing an emphasis on moving funds

Letters

Continued from page 8

is very important.

So, whether you won or lost, you made Bartlett a better place to call home.

Dave Barry
Bartlett Library Trustee

Statement on proposed graduated income tax amendment

Dear Editor,

The proposed amendment (SJRC1) will not fix our state's current fiscal crisis, but will discourage entrepreneurs and facilitate unbridled tax increases on our middle class. I provided that statement when testifying in opposition at a Senate Executive Committee hearing.

"We understand the governor has inherited serious financial problems. However, there is no way the administration can tax its way out of those problems solely through increasing taxes on the "wealthy." Regardless of the stated purpose of this constitutional amendment, the middle class will certainly be included in higher tax brackets in the future, because there simply isn't enough money in the top three percent of earners. Secondly, this amendment clearly discourages entrepreneurs in Illinois whose success is our best chance at economic and revenue growth in our communities. Finally, the Illinois constitution currently states only one tax can be levied on income. This amendment removes that language, creating a situation where the government can tax your income multiple times for multiple purposes.

Todd Maisch
President and CEO
Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Lawmakers crack open Pandora's box with graduated income tax amendment

Dear Editor,

The cornerstone of J.B. Pritzker's political career has arrived. A graduated income tax is moving.

Pritzker heralded new language for a constitutional amendment April 10. Barring any unlikely changes, this will be what the governor rides until the end of May. It adds 26 words to the Illinois Constitution and eliminates 43.

Those few words mean a lot. Together, they would be the biggest change to Illinois taxation since the state adopted an income tax in 1969. And their inartful phrasing means Illinoisans have good reason to be frightened.

Those concerned about Pritzker's progressive tax have been stating a simple message for months: It is a bridge to higher taxes on the middle class. Pritzker's new wording – two elements in particular – only confirms that fear.

One applies to individuals. The other to businesses.

First, the individuals. The Illinois Constitution currently bars the state from imposing more than one type of tax on income. But Pritzker's amendment scraps that language, allowing Illinoisans to be taxed more than once on the same dollar earned.

If Pritzker's amendment becomes part of the Illinois Constitution, the state could adopt an extra income tax surcharge dedicated entirely to pensions, for example. A quarter of the state budget is currently consumed by pension costs, and a 2018 report published by the Federal Reserve

after the recent successful referendum into its emergency fund in order to plan for future capital expenses.

Finally, Falese said that during the next 16 months the district will be seeing retirements of some top level personnel. McCarthy said that one of those would be Falese.

"It's been a blessing to have him all these years," McCarthy said.

The last item on the agenda was setting the date for next year's meeting as April 8, 2020 was selected and the village will host.

Bank of Chicago suggested a 1 percent statewide property tax to pay for soaring pension liabilities. Pritzker pitched new pension obligation bonds to investors earlier this year.

Specifically, Pritzker's amendment deletes these lines from the Illinois Constitution: "A tax on or measured by income shall be at a non-graduated rate. At any one time there may be no more than one such tax imposed by the State for State purposes on individuals and one such tax so imposed on corporations."

Pritzker's amendment eliminates that language and adds this: "The General Assembly shall provide by law for the rate or rates of any tax on or measured by income imposed by the state."

Todd Maisch, president and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, raised concerns about this language in committee testimony. "If somebody decides there's a need for another income tax increase, I think it's going to look a lot like a 'special assessment for public safety.' It's going to be a 'special tax dedicated to education.' It's going to go under that guise," Maisch said.

"It also allows [for] taxation of certain kinds of income a second or third time," he added. Maisch referenced carried interest and agriculture as two examples of income that could be subject to special additional taxation should this protection be eliminated.

Not only does Pritzker's amendment leave Illinoisans vulnerable to additional income taxes, it also lacks protection for businesses seeking to invest in Illinois talent.

In fact, the amendment would allow lawmakers to impose the nation's highest corporate income tax rate.

The Illinois Constitution currently caps the corporate income tax rate at eight-fifths of the individual income tax rate. Illinois' personal income tax rate is 4.95 percent, and the corporate income tax rate is 7 percent, but lawmakers could legally hike that rate up to 7.92 percent.

The cap remains in place under Pritzker's amendment with one very important change: it would apply to the highest individual income tax rate. Under the governor's "fair tax" proposal, that rate is 7.95 percent.

So given Pritzker's top personal income tax rate, lawmakers could pass a corporate income tax rate of up to 12.72 percent. And adding the state's Personal Property Replacement Tax would bring Illinois' effective corporate income tax rate to a whopping 15.22 percent.

The highest marginal corporate income tax rate of any state in the nation is 12 percent in Iowa, according to the Tax Foundation. And that's scheduled to drop to 9.8 percent by 2021.

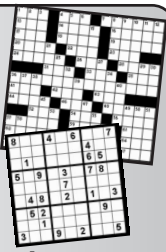
Ultimately, the state's spending and debt habits mean Pritzker's plan will be a bridge to higher taxes for the middle class. Pritzker and state lawmakers should instead pursue sensible spending reforms that don't require declaring open season on Illinois taxpayers.

Austin Berg
Illinois News Network

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Bartlett School marks historic anniversary



A student visited the '90th Anniversary Room,' where pictures and artifacts were on display. (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)



The 90th anniversary gala brought together current teachers as former students such as this family. From left, third-grade teacher Stacy Morgan, Ava Clark, first-grade teacher Mary Giczkowski, retired teacher CC Morgan, and alumni students Tyler and Ryan Giczkowski.

Bartlett Elementary School observed its 90th anniversary on Friday, April 12 with a special event at the school. Many alumni of the school returned to reminisce with old friends and former teachers, peruse memorabilia and watch a video detailing the highlights of the school's history.

In 1874, Bartlett School opened a year after the village was established and remained the only school in the village until 1970. The original school, located above a general store, was the hub of village activities and a community-gathering place. In 1929, the old structure was razed and Bartlett Elementary moved to its current location.



Grace Barnam, left, with friends Maeve Callahan and Julia Spatz, pointed to Barnam's winning 90-year anniversary poster for grades four to six.



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Wanted: More info on health services

Dist. U46 student leaders detail issues raised in summit

By: Rafael Guerrero



Jackson Teeter, School District U46's student adviser to the school board, takes part in the Student Leadership Summit in February. Teeter and other student leaders unveiled summit results for the board.

School District U46 high school students want more information on mental health services available at their schools and more diversity among the staff providing the services, according to results from February's student summit.

Student leaders from the five District U46 high schools presented the major points raised during the Student Leadership Summit at Monday night's school board meeting.

"We took things that we were seeing a lot, things and ideas that we found interesting," Jackson Teeter, a Larkin High School senior, told the board. Teeter is the school board student adviser.

Mental health dominated discussions at the summit, attended by about 200 students. Many spoke candidly about their lack of sleep, stress, anxiety, access to resources and other related topics, the board was told.

One of the biggest takeaways was some students were not aware the district has social workers, counselors and support staff available to help them, the students told the board.

"We want more visibility between students and their counselors and the resources they have available to them," Abigail Culloton, a senior at South Elgin High School, said. "Sometimes students just aren't aware of the resources or counseling they have."

Feedback also revealed a desire for more diversity among the staff who provide mental health services, the students said. While diversity numbers on mental health employees weren't immediately available Monday, state report card data show District U46 teachers are mostly white while most students are minorities.

District U46 CEO Tony Sanders said they are using the student summit results to meet with social workers and make plans for next year.

“(This is) the power is what happens at the school level,” Sanders said. “The students take this information to their principals and athletic directors — who were in attendance (at the summit) — and they hear the conversations” at their respective schools.

The students also told the board there was confusion about District U46’s plan to switch to a career pathways approach to high school. Student leaders said they would like more direct information about the proposed changes to stem confusion and rumors.

Finally, students also revealed at the summit that they’d like more programs on “life skills,” such as resume writing and financial literacy. The information could be incorporated into existing classes or developed into new classes, they said.

“Basically just providing some resources for students that will be useful no matter where they go in life,” said Ian Wright, a senior at Bartlett High School.

Grant to get books to kids

\$70K for Elgin group to benefit children in low-income families

By: Rafael Guerrero



The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning has received a \$70,000 grant for the purchase of over 22,000 books.

A \$70,000 grant awarded to the Elgin Partnership for Early Learning will be enough to purchase more than 22,000 books that will be given or made accessible to children in low-income families.

The funding comes from First Book, a nonprofit organization specializing in improving educational equity among children and families in need, and is a perfect fit for the new 2,000 Days initiative, a joint effort between the Elgin Partnership, School District U46, the city of Elgin, the Gail Borden Public Library District and other groups, officials said.

Among the first efforts being pursued by the initiative, which wants to improve Elgin children’s literacy and readiness to enter kindergarten, is to place books in places around town where children can read them.

“We want everyone to have access to books — while they wait in a doctor’s office, in a restaurant, wherever they are in the community,” said Amber Peters, executive director of the Elgin Partnership. “We need books in the community.”

Peters announced the grant at a Call to Community meeting Friday at Gail Borden Public Library, attended by dozens of people wanting to join the effort to improve early childhood learning and kindergarten readiness in Elgin.

One of the impetuses for the movement comes from a report that said only 10 percent of the children attending kindergarten in District U46 were socially, mentally and academically ready to start school in 2017. The 2,000 days refers to the amount of time between a child’s birth and their first day of kindergarten.

“One reason this book grant will be important is we don’t want a lack of books at home to be a barrier for them when they enter kindergarten,” Peters said.

This is the first grant program offered by First Book, which plans to award more than \$4.7 million in funding this year to recipients in 33 U.S. states and territories.

Melanie Boyer, a spokeswoman for First Book, said the Elgin Partnership for Early Learning is among a small number of groups in Illinois that will receive grants worth a combined \$225,000. The other winning recipients have yet to be revealed, she said.

“The idea behind the entire grant, the 33-state initiative, is we’re providing books where there usually are none,” Boyer said. “There is a large gap in resources and First Book aims to fill it.”

The grant money will be used to purchase English- and Spanish-language physical and digital books for children from birth to third grade through First Book’s online marketplace, Peters said.

The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning is seeking requests from interested businesses, organizations and people who have contact with low-income families with children and would like to receive books being funded by the grant.

Requests approved by the Elgin Partnership will receive access to the online marketplace to purchase the books, which are deeply discounted, Peters said.

It will be up to the group to determine how the books will be used, Peters said. Restaurants, clinics and salons, for example, could make the books available in areas where children and their families wait for appointments, she said. Food pantries might send them home with families when they pick up groceries.

“We expect a lot of the books will go home,” she said.

The book giveaway also will be open to teachers at about a dozen District U46 schools with high percentages of free-and-reduced-lunch students, Peters added.

The books must be distributed by October, she said.

School districts cry foul over proposed PE mandate

Officials say it will cost millions and cut academic classes

By: Suzanne Baker



Hinsdale Central students run laps during a physical education class in 2017.



Hinsdale Central students play basketball during a 2017 gym class.

A legislative proposal to mandate the number of minutes of physical education students would have to take every week has met with strong push back from local school district officials worried about the cost of such a requirement.

In a joint letter to the bill's sponsor, state Sen. Linda Holmes, D-Aurora, superintendents and board presidents from several west suburban districts questioned why the state would mandate at least 150 minutes per week of physical education for elementary students and 225 minutes for middle/junior high and high school students.

Similar legislation is sponsored in the House by state Rep. Sonya Harper, D-Chicago.

"With all of the concentration on student achievement, STEM, the art and the social-emotional well-being of our students, this is one more scenario where we have to make a choice of what not to do for our kids in lieu of providing two more days of PE at the elementary level," the school district officials wrote in their letter to Holmes.

Holmes said she'll hold off on proceeding with her legislation until she and the other bill drafters can find ways to provide more flexibility for schools. The goal of the proposal, she said, is to improve student success in class and on tests as well as stem the growing child obesity trend, she said.

When drafting the legislation, Holmes said the idea was to push for minutes rather than days to give schools more flexibility and to implement a recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC studies show students who partake in physical education have improved grades and better standardized test scores and it helps them stay on-task in the classroom.

"The real problem is nobody wants a mandate," she said of her legislation. "It is a work in progress."

High school students also would no longer be able to count health or driver's education toward their PE time and therefore would have to give up an elective course to accommodate the change, he said.

The Legislative Education Network of DuPage County representing 39 DuPage school districts with 170,000 students opposes the measure.

So does the Large Unit District Association, which serves the interests of Illinois' 52 K-12 school districts, including the state's five largest – Chicago Public Schools, U46, Rockford 205, Indian Prairie and Plainfield 202. Other area school district in the association are East Aurora 131, West Aurora 129, Batavia 101, Carpentersville 300, Geneva 304, Kaneland 302, Naperville 203, Oswego 308, St. Charles 303 and Yorkville 115.

The association's Executive Director John Burkey said the reason schools are so vehement is because they're feeling betrayed.

To get school support for the evidence-based funding formula approved two years ago, legislators agreed to provide relief on state mandates, like daily physical education.

Holmes said she was surprised by the recent uproar from school districts because before the new funding plan was approved, PE was required five days a week.

"What were they doing before this? Were they all not in compliance?" Holmes said.

While daily PE was required, many school districts requested waivers from the Illinois State Board of Education for reasons such as the lack of gymnasium space, accommodations for driver education or student participation in band or chorus. The law was revised in 2012 to limit the number of waivers.

Burkey said as a compromise to get property-wealthy school districts to support the new funding formula, a deal was cut to reduce the number of days for PE to three.

"Districts were OK with it as long as Springfield gave in on mandates," Burkey said. "Our districts are crying foul because now Springfield wants to back off (the agreement)."

"What going to be next," Burkey said

Mandating PE minutes could cause many school districts to face tough financial decisions. Many districts worry that in order to accommodate the change they'll have to extend their school day – adding to staffing costs – or replace PE with something else, Burkey said.

Often at the elementary level, on days when students aren't in PE, they are involved in art or music classes, he said. Those potentially could be eliminated to make room for more PE.

"Local school districts should decide what's important," he said.

Beyond that, hiring more PE teachers across the state is going to exacerbate an already problematic teacher shortage, Burkey said.

One of his districts in Springfield already must use a substitute PE teacher because the district can't find anyone to fill the position on a full-time basis. If the change were approved, that district would have to hire 18 new PE teachers, he added.

"We are talking about adding hundreds of new PE teachers (across Illinois), and they don't exist," he said.

School districts are very aware of the importance of physical activity, Burkey said.

"Bottom line, we all believe in the health and wellness of kids," he said. "We all want healthy kids. We just want to get there in different ways."

Holmes said compromise is possible to make sure all kids have access to daily physical education.

"We have some common goals to work toward to the benefit of everybody," she said.

U46 OKs expansion of credit transfer program

Action ups number of students enrolled in ECC courses

By: Rafael Guerrero



The District U46 School Board has approved a \$3 million expansion of its dual-credit partnership with Elgin Community College in which the number of students enrolled in some courses to receive both high school and college credit is to increase.

School District U46 board members on Monday approved a \$3 million expansion of its dual-credit partnership with Elgin Community College.

The expansion increases the number of students enrolled in ECC courses for which they'll receive both high school and college credit and creates a new program in which students will be able to take college courses at their high schools, also for dual credit. The latter would begin in the 2020-21 school year.

Board members voted unanimously in favor of the changes; board member Jeanette Ward was absent from the meeting.

Right now, a maximum of 44 seniors are allowed to take up to five ECC courses that also count toward high school graduation through the Early College program. The number will increase to 50 in the 2019-20 school year and 100 in 2020-21. Juniors will be allowed to participate in 2020.

The high schools will be allowed to offer as many as 10 dual-credit courses beginning in 2020. The first year of the dual-credit program will be restricted to seniors but will expand to juniors beginning in 2021. District officials project as many as 1,500 students will enroll annually.

Lela Majstorovic, District U46's assistant superintendent for secondary schools instruction and equity, said the new courses complement the slate of Advanced Placement courses already in place at the high schools.

"Students, in order to receive the college credit, would only have to receive a C or better," she said earlier this month. "That's something that is appealing to some students who might be intimidated or get anxiety over high-stakes (end-of-course AP) exams."

The current group of U46 students taking classes at ECC is 39% white, 32% Hispanic or Latino, 25% Asian, 2% black or African-American students, and 2% students identifying as two or more races. At the April 1 school board meeting, District U46 lead counselor Chris Boden said it's anticipated the expansion will help increase the diversity in the dual-credit base.

In order to be eligible to take a dual-credit course, a student must have a 3.0 or higher GPA and meet minimum SAT or ACT score requirements for admission to ECC.

New teachers will be recruited and trained to lead the in-school, dual-credit courses by 2020, officials said.

U46 will cover the tuition for students taking classes at ECC at a cost of \$132 per credit hour. Students taking the dual-credit classes at their schools will pay \$50 per course.

Storm blank Sabres as one of three UEC wins

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin softball team got a dominant outing from pitcher Sophia Salazar as the Storm won a pitcher's duel 4-0 against Streamwood in Upstate Eight Conference play on Tuesday, April 9 at Streamwood.

South Elgin had only two hits itself, but it produced four runs which was more than enough for Salazar who tossed a one-hitter over six innings of play with 15 strikeouts.

"The game was moving along, and both pitchers were hitting their spots," said South Elgin coach Brad Reynard. "Sophia dominated. When she hits her spots, she's tough. She's lights out."

Kaylie Humes drove in a run in the second inning with a single, and that 1-0 lead held until the seventh when Humes drove in another run on a fielder's

choice and Eve Hartmann hit a two-run double for the 4-0 lead.

Salazar did walk five batters but did not face a runner in scoring position until the sixth inning when Streamwood broke up a no-hit bid with a leadoff single and eventually stranded a runner at second. She walked the first two batters in the seventh when Geneva Pollman came in.

"I just had to keep calm and make my pitches," Salazar said. "I just had to stay focused, and I trusted my teammates behind me."

Pollman got a groundout for the first out of the seventh before issuing a walk to load the bases. She struck out the next batter and got the save after a line out.

The win was part of a 3-0 week to start UEC play as the Storm defeated West Chicago 14-4 on Monday, April 8 in a five-inning, 10-run rule game at South Elgin and Elgin 19-0 on Thursday, April 11 in a four-inning, 15-run rule game at Elgin. Sidney Strama got the West Chicago win, and Angelina Guido (nine strikeouts) tossed a one-hit shutout against Elgin.

"Record wise, it's just numbers," Reynard said. "I'm pretty happy with where we're at right now. I like that we're doing it in different ways with our pitching one day to our bats another."

McKenna Eichholz (4-for-4, home run, double, four RBI), Casey Brennan (2-for-3, double, RBI), Humes (2-for-2), Sami Koss (triple, two RBI) and Cara Cruthers (triple, RBI) led against West Chicago. Brennan (3-for-3, double, RBI), Juliana Miranda (2-for-3, RBI), Pollman (triple, two RBI), Hartmann (triple, two RBI) and Guido (double, two RBI) led against Elgin.

The Storm ended the week 9-5 overall after a nonconference doubleheader split against Lake

Park with an 8-7 loss and a 6-5 win on Saturday, April 13 at South Elgin. Pollman had both decisions in the circle and had a huge day at the plate going 5-for-8 with a two home runs, two doubles and five RBI.



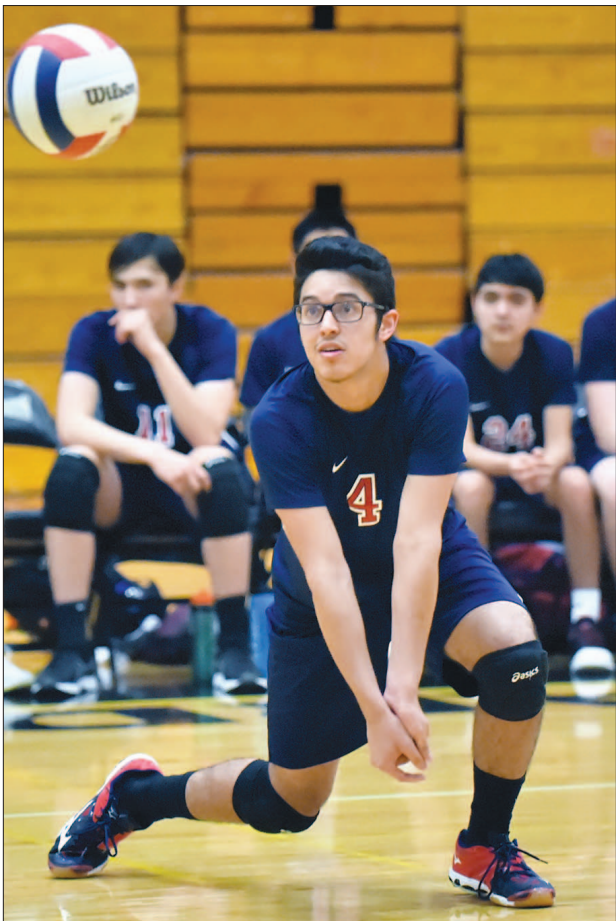
Morgan Meinicke executing a successful sacrifice bunt for the Storm that advanced a runner from second to third.



Storm third baseman Samantha Jimenez making a catch of a Streamwood foul bunt.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

South Elgin falls to North, rebounds to top Elgin



Christian Ayar executing a dig against Glenbard North.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin volleyball team was unable to overcome Glenbard North in a nonconference contest as the Storm dropped a 25-18, 25-19 match on Monday, April 8 at Glenbard North.

Game 1 was tied 10-10 when Glenbard North went on an 11-3 run to take a 21-13 lead. Mandeep Sangha had a pair of kills and Vince Miskiewicz an ace as the Storm rallied to within five, 23-18, but the host tallied the final two points for the set win.

Glenbard North took control of Game 2 early jumping to a 7-1 lead, and it kept its momentum going to

build a 21-11 advantage. South Elgin did rally to pull as close as five but came no closer.

Ultimately, Storm coach Adam Plach said his team struggled to control its side which was indicated in the second set where South Elgin earned just 21 percent of its points.

"The biggest thing is earning our points," Plach said. "We just have to do a better job of controlling our own destiny."

Plach added: "We only had four assists in Game 2 which means we only earned four of our 19 points in that set. You're not going to win a lot of volleyball games like that."

Miskiewicz led the Storm with nine kills, and Sangha finished with five kills and an ace.

"I think we still have some younger guys who are a little green and are still trying to adapt to the varsity



Daniel Skrzypchak accepting a Glenbard North serve for the Storm.



Eugene Gueco making an athletic move to set for a teammate against the Panthers.

game," Plach said. "I think we had a lot of guys who were not ready to respond tonight when they started going on their runs."

South Elgin bounced back with a 25-23, 25-11 win over Elgin in Upstate Eight Conference play on Tuesday, April 9 at Elgin. Sangha (eight kills, two blocks, ace), David Long (five kills), Eugene Gueco (11 assists) and Christian Ayar (seven assists) led the effort.

The Storm are now 6-3 overall, 2-0 in the UEC.

Sabres blanked by Storm during 1-2 week

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood softball team came up short in a pitcher’s duel as the Sabres fell 4-0 to South Elgin in an Upstate Eight Conference contest on Tuesday, April 9 at Streamwood.

Taylyr Crocilla was effective for Streamwood in the circle tossing a two-hitter with two walks, a hit batter and four strikeouts but South Elgin was able to take advantage of four Streamwood errors with three of its four runs coming in unearned. South Elgin took the lead with a run in the second inning.

Offensively, the Sabres were only able to tally one hit.

“Hats off to them,” said Streamwood coach Will Shogren. “They pitched well on both sides. Their pitcher was tough and Taylyr was awesome as well.”

Shogren added: “It just comes down to we have to score some runs. You can’t win if you don’t score.”

Trailing just 1-0, Streamwood broke up a no-hit bid

in the bottom of the sixth inning when Laura Dietrich hit a liner to the center-field fence for a leadoff single. Tessa Freedman followed with a sacrifice bunt, but the tying run was eventually stranded in scoring position.

South Elgin put the game away with a three-run seventh inning.

“Obviously, we don’t like losing,” Shogren said. “It’s never fun to lose, but I told them we want to use this. This is a great game to learn from.”

Streamwood was coming off a 12-2 UEC win against East Aurora in a six-inning, 10-run rule game on Monday, April 8 at Streamwood.

Ariana Wolfard tossed a complete game allowing two runs, both unearned, off three hits, and she struck out eight.

Freedman (3-for-4, three stolen bases, two RBI), Crocilla (3-for-4), Dietrich (2-for-3, double, RBI), Gabriella Cardinale (2-for-3, double, RBI), Hannah Jenig (double, RBI), Corrine Angle (RBI) and Alondra Gonzalez (RBI) led the offense.

The Sabres ended the week with a 1-0 UEC loss in extra innings to West Chicago which scored the winning unearned run in the bottom of the eighth off Crocilla (7.2 innings, six hits, six walks, 17 strikeouts) on Thursday, April 11 at West Chicago. Dietrich and Isabela Camahalan had Streamwood’s only hits.

Streamwood is now 4-3 overall, 2-2 in the UEC.



Taylyr Crocilla made the start in the circle for the Sabres on Tuesday, April 9 against the Storm.



Streamwood first baseman Tessa Freedman making a catch of a foul pop up at the fence as the hitter, South Elgin’s McKenna Eichholz watched the play.



Third baseman Hannah Jenig of the Sabres throwing on to first base to retire a Storm hitter (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Streamwood left fielder Gabriella Cardinale making a running shoestrings catch of a South Elgin fly ball.

Sabres end week splitting pair with Hawks

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood baseball team struggled to get timely hits as the Sabres dropped the opener of a three-game Upstate Eight Conference series against Bartlett 6-4 on Friday, April 12 at Streamwood.

Both teams scored a run in the first inning, Anthony Caruso’s RBI double making it 1-1 in the bottom half of the frame.

Streamwood looked ready to break the game open in the bottom of the third loading the bases with one out but failed to score, and Bartlett went on to score two in the top of the fourth off starter AJ Reyna to take the lead for good. The Sabres eventually stranded five runners in scoring position.

“Just situational hitting, especially with runners in scoring position, we’ve got to get better,” said Streamwood coach Ryan Lasota. “That’s come back to hurt us a couple times recently.”

Dylan Caruso (2-for-3, RBI), Tyler Jones (2-for-3), Max Alanis (2-for-4) and Connor Johnson (two RBI) led at the plate.



After fielding a Bartlett ground ball, Streamwood first baseman Connor Johnson executed an under-handed flip to the pitcher to retire the hitter.

Two Streamwood pitchers combined to issue six walks on the day.

“They made us pay with the walks,” Lasota said. “Credit them. I think it took us 140-something pitches to get through a seven-inning game.”

Lasota added: “Six walks and we had six hits going into the sixth. It’s never good to have the same number of walks as we do hits.”

The Sabres bounced back in Game 2 of the series as Colin Bielinski (three hits, two walks, nine strikeouts) tossed a complete game in an 11-2 victory on Saturday, April 13 at Bartlett. Scott Wolfard (2-for-4, double, RBI), Bielinski (2-for-3, two RBI) and Justin Gonzalez (two RBI) led the offense.

Streamwood opened the week splitting a pair of games against Glenbard South to finish 1-2 in the UEC series. The Sabres fell 14-4 in a five-inning, 10-run rule game on Monday, April 8 at Streamwood with Johnson suffering the loss before earning a 12-10 win on Tuesday, April 9 at Glenbard South with Anthony Caruso the winning pitcher.

On Monday, the Sabres were led by 3-for-3 performances from both Reyna (double, two RBI) and Bielinski. Bielinski (3-for-4, double), Reyna (2-for-4, double, two RBI), Gonzalez (2-for-4, double, two RBI), Dylan Caruso (2-for-5, two RBI), Anthony Caruso (2-for-4, RBI) and Jones (double, three RBI) led on Tuesday.

Streamwood went on to be no-hit in a 9-0 nonconference loss to St. Edward on Thursday, April 11 at Wing Park in Elgin. Wolfard suffered the loss.

The Sabres are now 6-7 overall, 4-4 in the UEC.



Streamwood outfielder Colin Bielinski making a running catch of a Bartlett fly ball on Friday, April 12. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Illinois could be big loser if residents dodge next census

By Grant Morgan
Capitol News Illinois

This is the first part in a Capitol News Illinois series addressing Illinois’ efforts to prepare for the 2020 census and what the state stands to lose if its population is undercounted.

The loss of two congressional seats and billions of dollars in federal funding are only two of the problems facing Illinois if it cannot get all of its residents to respond to the 2020 census.

Although the official count does not start for another year, the federal government and state and local governments are ramping up their efforts to make the next census as accurate as possible.

Activists, lawmakers and community leaders around the state, meanwhile, are fighting to address all the factors that might contribute to an undercount.

The census

The federal census is conducted every 10 years to count population and demographics for every household in the U.S. The data is used to reapportion congressional seats and distribute more than \$800 billion in funds for more than 300 federal programs, according to a study by the George Washington Institute of Public Policy.

In Fiscal Year 2016, for example, Illinois received more than \$34.3 billion in federal funds for 55 federal spending programs guided directly by data from the 2010 census.

This is on top of dozens of state programs that use census data to appropriate money and services, including but not limited to local government unit boundaries and redistricting, tax credits, agency appropriations, and school and infrastructure needs.

“It’s everything from schools to high-

ways getting paved to the information McDonald’s needs to build another franchise,” said Jay Young, executive director of nonpartisan Common Cause Illinois, which works on redistricting and election reform as well as census outreach.

“If you don’t get counted, you don’t exist, and I [the federal government] don’t need to put a qualified health center in your community if you don’t exist. I don’t need to boost police presence if you don’t exist,” Young said.

The 2010 Census

Illinois’ initial response rate to the 2010 census was 80.7 percent, which puts it in the middle of the pack compared to other states.

Census workers had to follow up either by mail or in person to get responses from the other 19.3 percent, and an unspecified number of those people did not respond at all.

While the exact undercount number is not clear, “it is a general consensus that Illinois was historically undercounted during the 2010 Census efforts and data seems to support this theory,” according to a November 2018 report by the Illinois Complete Count Commission, a panel of elected officials from all over the state created to help with census outreach.

For every one person missed, according to the George Washington study, Illinois lost \$953 in federal dollars.

In Fiscal Year 2015 alone, according to the same study, Illinois lost \$123 million in federal funding for every 1 percent of the population not counted in 2010.

Stacked up over the years, the Complete Count Commission’s report said, those numbers amount to “the forfeiture of billions of dollars in federal assistance that aid in the support of children, veterans, senior citizens, and middle- and low-income families,

as well as... schools, healthcare facilities and infrastructure.”

But federal dollars are not the only loss Illinois faces with a census undercount.

Congressional representation

The census also determines state representation in Congress. Every 10 years, the federal government doles out congressional seats based on the relative size of each state’s population.

Illinois has lost a congressional seat every decade since the 1930s, falling to its current number of 18. With the estimated state population declining over the last five years, however, Illinois is all but guaranteed to lose another congressional seat after 2020.

But the state also faces the loss of an additional seat – not because of people leaving, but because of people not responding to the census.

“We think we’re so close to losing two that it’s within the margin that will be controlled by the potential undercount,” Young said.

Election Data Services, a consulting firm that analyzes congressional seat changes using the Census Bureau’s complicated formula for reapportionment, issued a report in December 2018 backing this up.

Assuming the loss of one seat already, Illinois is holding onto the 435th Congressional seat by a mere 25,149 to 53,598 people, according to EDS.

That’s less than half of 1 percent of the state’s population, a number that, based on county-by-county response rates, could reasonably be undercounted in the next census.

Illinois’ congressional maps will have to be redrawn after the census to account for one lost seat. If a second seat is lost, it would require even greater changes decided through a deeply partisan redistricting process

carried out by state lawmakers that always favors the party in power.

All three branches of the state government are currently controlled by Democrats.

Illinois would also lose two electoral votes, weakening its strength in future presidential elections.

Future installments in this series will examine a number of bills moving through the Legislature and specific outreach efforts by local governments and organizations to address the factors that make a 2020 undercount likely.

Restrictions exist when collecting mushrooms

According to the IDNR, no license is required for mushroom collecting in Illinois, but mushroom collectors always need landowner permission. On public sites, mushroom collectors must adhere to approved regulations and hours. Collection of mushrooms is allowed in many IDNR state parks, fish and wildlife, and other recreation areas, but it is prohibited in any area designated as a dedicated nature preserve. Areas under the jurisdiction of the IDNR that offer spring turkey hunting are not open to mushroom collecting until after 1 p.m. daily during turkey season to ensure the safety of all site visitors.

Mushroom collectors should call ahead to the IDNR site they intend to visit to learn of any site-specific regulations.



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Spring in bloom at Bartlett Library event

The library kicked off National Library Week, April 7 through 13 hosting "Beauty in Bloom: A Walk in the Park" on Sunday, April 7. Visitors followed paths throughout the building to sta-

tions for face painting, balloons, crafts and treats. Most craft activities took place in the meeting room, where children built craft kits, painted stones, pictures and more.



Patrons visited the library for the Spring Bloom event.



From left, Dhria Patel, Shaily Patel and Nitya Shah decorated different pieces.



MJ, left, and Jadd DeSmidt painted rocks at one of the craft stations.



Bill Bogas was on hand to draw caricatures of visitors such as Maahi Shah. (Examiner photos by Julie Schatz)



Riya Shah colored a plant starter bench, one of several craft kits donated to the library.

Hawks end week splitting pair with Sabres

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett baseball team got solid pitching and timely hitting to defeat Streamwood 6-4 in the opener of a three-game Upstate Eight Conference series on Friday, April 12 at Streamwood.

Tied 1-1 in the top of the fourth inning, Blake Oliver (2-for-4) got an inside curveball that he hit over the left-field fence for a two-run home run to take the lead for good. Nathan Euliano (2-for-2, RBI) later hit a pair of triples over the final three frames helping the Hawks take as large as a 4-1 lead while tacking on insurance in each inning.

"I got to hit my pitch," Oliver said. "It was a good curve. I just saw it. I was able to recognize it."

Matthew Angelone, Geno Frieri and Michael Vaca

all drove in a run for Bartlett.

On the mound, Frieri tossed five-plus solid innings allowing four runs on seven hits and three walks, and he struck out six.

In the seventh inning, senior Vaca came in to make his first varsity pitching appearance after a fractured arm as a sophomore kept him off the mound for nearly two years. He hit a personal best 88 mph and struck out the side for a save.

"I had a mental mindset of throwing strikes and hitting my spots," Frieri said. "I trusted my defense and with the wind, we made all the plays."

"I felt good," Vaca said. "I just went out and tried to throw strikes. It's crazy and exciting, really, just being on the mound because I love pitching."

Bartlett went on to drop Game 2 of the series 11-2, Matt Ande suffering the loss, on Saturday, April 13 at Bartlett. Vaca had an RBI and both Angelone and Nick Kantzavelos doubled in the effort.

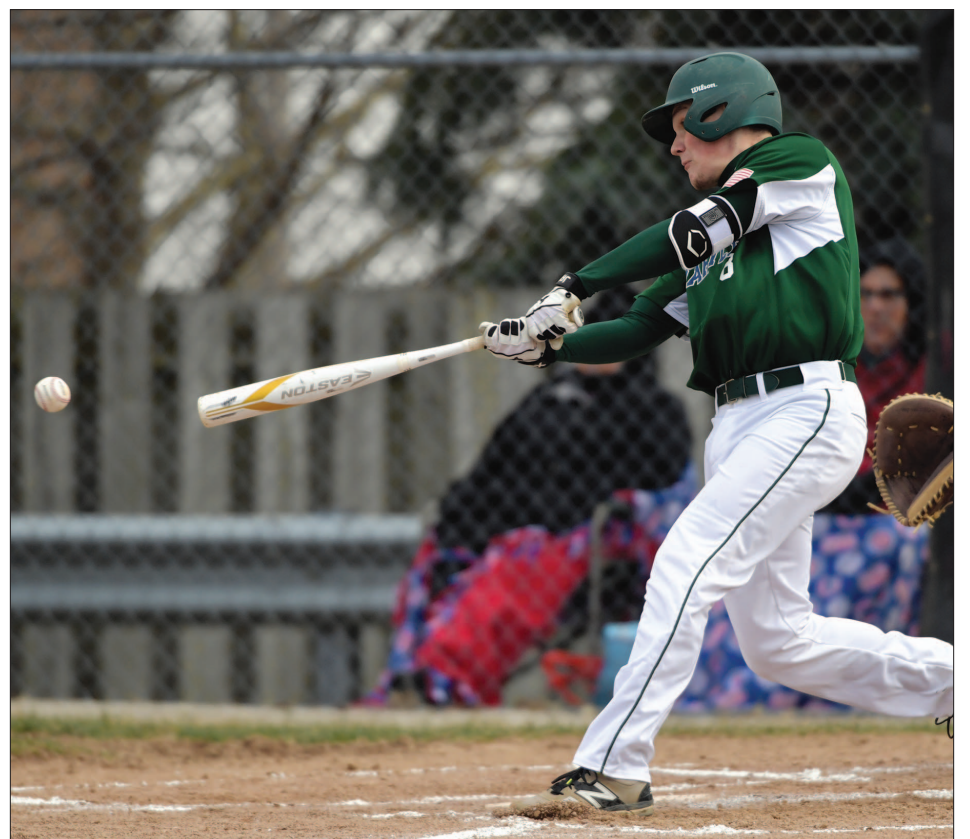
The Hawks were coming off a pair of UEC losses to West Aurora as they were swept in the series. Bartlett fell 10-5 on Monday, April 8 in Aurora and 13-2 on Tuesday, April 9 at Bartlett.

Kantzavelos suffered the Monday loss and Ryan Nelson (2-for-4, double), Angelone (two RBI) and Euliano (RBI) led the offense. Nathan Gargano took the loss in the finale while Bartlett's offense was led by Vaca (double), Euliano (RBI) and Max Lewis (RBI).

Bartlett is now 5-4-1 overall, 4-4 in the UEC.



Blake Oliver of the Hawks welcomed home by Max Lewis, left and Michael Vaca following his home run that gave Bartlett a 3-1 lead over the Sabres.



Matt Angelone driving in Bartlett's first run against the Sabres with an infield single. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Police Reports

Continued from page 3

a report of a hit and run.
★ At 10:04 a.m., police responded to the 0 block of Dorset for a keep the peace request..
★ At 10:39 a.m., police responded to South Elgin High School, 760 E. Main St., for a report of harassment.
★ At 10:48 a.m., police responded to the 800 block of Hamilton for a report of a suspicious vehicle.
★ At 1:36 p.m., police responded to the 1500 block of North Pembroke for a report of an overdose or poisoning.
★ At 2:35 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Carla and West Kane for a 911 investigation.

★ At 2:52 p.m., police responded to Number One China, 1279 W. Spring, for a for a failure to pay complaint.
★ At 2:53 p.m., police responded to the Ride Right, 1375 Paramount Pkwy., for a report of theft.
★ At 3:48 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Thornwood for a report of an abandoned vehicle.
★ At 5:48 p.m., police responded to Lakeview Precision Machining, 751 Schneider Drive, for a report of an activated alarm.
★ At 6:03 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Fieldcrest of a report of a vehicle theft in progress.
★ At 8:45 p.m., police responded to Super Target, 530 Randall Road, for a

report of a suspicious incident.
★ At 11:19 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Ann for a report of a disturbance.
Thursday, April 4
★ At 9:56 a.m., police responded to the 500 block of Cole for a missing person report.
★ At 10:48 a.m., police responded to the 700 block of East Main for a 911 investigation.
★ At 3:35 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Arthur for a 911 investigation.
★ At 4:23 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Thorndale for a report of a missing juvenile.
★ At 5:29 p.m., police responded to

the 200 block of Carla for a 911 investigation.
★ At 6:34 p.m., police responded to Lakeview Precision Machining, 751 Schneider Drive, for a report of an activated alarm.
★ At 6:38 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of North LaFox for a report of a suspicious incident.
★ At 6:47 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Cobbler for a report of a domestic in progress
★ At 8:37 p.m., police responded to Lumber Liquidators, 356 Randall Road, for a 911 investigation.
Friday, April 5
★ At 1:24 a.m., police responded to McDonalds, 100 N. McLean Blvd., for

Hawks lose to Bulldogs, then split two matches

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett soccer team was unable to stop Batavia’s momentum as the Hawks dropped a 4-0 nonconference game on Tuesday, April 9 at Millennium Field in Streamwood.
The game was scoreless nearly the entire first half, but Batavia was able to find the net in the final minute before break. That 1-0 score held until the final 15 minutes when Batavia netted three more goals.



A perfectly placed Batavia free kick eluded the effort of Bartlett keeper Caitlin Yurkovich as it found the net between Yurkovich and the cross bar.

“It really was a tale of two halves,” said Bartlett coach Vince Revak. “We played very well in the first half although we didn’t create as many offensive opportunities as we would have liked. By the second half, we seemed to tire a bit, and began making some simple mistakes that cost us goals and momentum. Batavia is an excellent team, but we really didn’t play like ourselves in the second half.”
Things may have been different for the Hawks who could have had the momentum on their side entering halftime.
Late in the first half, Tessa Evans had a quality chance but her shot went just wide of the net. A few moments later with 30 seconds left before the break, Batavia took the lead.
“If Tessa scores on her chance that went just wide, and if we defended that final play with more urgency, we end the half up 1-0 instead of down,” Revak said. “Once we gave up the second goal, we really put our heads down.”
Bartlett bounced back with a 2-0 victory over Larkin in Upstate Eight Conference play on Thursday, April 11 at Bartlett. The Hawks improved to 2-0 in the UEC.



The Hawks’ Sabrina Fowler playing a ball off her body along a sideline as Bartlett battled Batavia on Tuesday, April 9.

In the second minute, Mikayla Brown gave the Hawks a 1-0 lead off a Maddie Donnelly assist. Morgan Myers, off a Brown feed, scored a second half goal for insurance, and goalkeeper Jessica Hill made four saves for the shutout.
“It definitely helped us get more motivated and more confident,” Brown said of the early score. “I think we were ready to win this game.”
“We played a solid game against Larkin,” Revak said. “Our early goal helped us dictate the game early on, and our combination play and switching was excellent in the first half.”
Bartlett ended the week with a 1-0 nonconference loss to St. Charles North on Saturday, April 13 in St. Charles.
St. Charles North outshot the Hawks 18-6, 10-3 on goal, and scored the lone goal in the 54th minute.
The Hawks are now 4-4-2 overall.



Tessa Evans of the Hawks using a foot to control a pass from a teammate.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

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**WILLIAM F. KELLEY
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Park Board ratifies pact, to vote on new budget

By Joe Hyland

The Park District Board of Commissioners will take up the district’s annual budget ordinance as well a Villa Olivia-related contract at its Tuesday, April 23 meeting.

At its Tuesday, April 9 committee workshop meeting, the commissioners held their initial discussions on the measures. The budget is in the amount of \$15,756,552 with an appropriated

amount of \$17,332,207. Superintendent of Business Services Kevin Romejko was asked via email why there was a difference between the budgeted and appropriated amounts and why the latter was larger. “The budget is the District’s financial plan for the year but the appropriation is the Board of Park Commissioners’ legal spending limit,” said Romejko in an email reply. “The District cannot expend more funds than the Board appropriates,” Romejko’s reply added. “Therefore, the higher appropriation ensures that the District remains in compliance with state laws in the event additional funds are needed or become available for expenditure.” The Villa Olivia contract had to do with the renewal of a contract with Drendel Property Management. “Our current 12 month agreement

with Drendel Property Management (DPM) came to an end on March 31, 2019,” Director of Villa Olivia Peter Pope wrote in a memo. Pope’s memo spelled out some of the services that DPM provides to Villa Olivia. These include maintenance supervision on both the golf course and ski hill as well as overseeing equipment repair and maintenance. In addition, the company provides professional advice concerning purchases, projects, and improvements as well as record keeping. Finally, it aids the facility in relation to hiring and budgeting. According to the memo, Villa Olivia has been pleased with the results from the current contract. The term will be for one year at a cost of \$36,000, which is the same as the previous year. Commissioners approved both items by a vote of 5-0 with Commissioner Jim Mansfield being absent.

Hawks softball ends skid, record two wins in week

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett softball team battled but dropped its 10th straight to start the season in a 19-9 loss to Glenbard South in a six-inning, 10-run rule Upstate Eight Conference game on Monday, April 8 at Bartlett. Glenbard South had built a 10-0 lead in its first two trips to the plate, but the Hawks battled back with a nine-run bottom of the second. Bartlett hit the ball hard all game, including two hard outs in the second inning rally, but was unable to score the rest of the game. During the second inning outburst, Bartlett had six hits and took advantage of three walks and three errors while Lizzie Jacoby (2-for-3) had two big hits in the frame with a double and a grand slam. Anna Tomillo hit a two-run single, Riley Scrivner (2-for-5, RBI) and Amanda Frieden doubled and Abby Tomillo drove in a run in the frame. “All game long I thought we did a good job hitting the ball hard,” said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. “We did a good job getting runners in scoring position and the second inning was awesome, but we struggled to push those runs across the rest of the game.” Charlotte Linnartz went 3-for-5 in the game.

Bartlett used three pitchers, Nicolette Campo suffering the loss, who combined to issue 10 free passes. The Hawks defense also had some mis- cues leading to six unearned runs. “I thought we played some good defense in spots but also had a couple er-

rors,” Wolfsmith said. “Pitching, they know they need to cut down on the walks.” The Hawks, who have missed some key players due to injuries, were win- less after the loss, and Wolfsmith said: “Hopefully we can fight through this rough patch. There have been no easy opponents so far. I know that it’s there, we just haven’t put all the hit- ting and pitching and fielding togeth- er in one game.” The young Bartlett squad corrected that against Elgin as it earned a 12-1 UEC win in five innings on Tuesday, April 9 at Bartlett. Campo got the win in the circle. Against West Aurora in UEC play, the Hawks built a 10-2 lead but couldn’t hold on in a 15-11 loss on Thursday, April 11 in Aurora. Scrivner and Nicole Young both tripled while Jacoby, Linnartz and Erika Rosberg each doubled to lead the Hawks offense, and Vanessa Rincon took the loss. Bartlett capped the week with a 5-4 nonconference win over Waubonsie Valley as Linnartz (2-for-3, two dou- bles) driving in the winning run off a double in the seventh inning on Fri- day, April 12 at Waubonsie Valley. Campo was 2-for-3 with a double, Rincon drove in two runs and both Ja- coby and Scrivner had an RBI. Rincon tossed a complete-game allowing four runs on seven hits and striking out three. The Hawks are now 2-11 overall, 1-3 in the UEC.

Village church bell rings again on snowy Palm Sunday



Church and community members and friends braved the snow and cold to hear the bell for the first time in over a year after the dedication was held inside the sanctuary. (Courtesy photos)

The Immanuel United Church of Christ in Bartlett held a church bell dedication and rang its church bell for the first time in over a year, on Palm Sunday, April 14. The congregation attended the cere-

mony and services, braving a substan- tial spring snowstorm to do so. For more information about the church and or its bell, call the church office, 289-1320, or visit bartlet- tiucc.org.

Traffic Advisory: Annual Egg-Stravaganza

The Village Church’s Egg-Strava- ganza event is on Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thousands of participants are expected to par- take in this free annual event at Bartlett Park and Bartlett Elemen- tary School.

Due to the large number of par- ticipants, the Bartlett Police De- partment encourages everyone to park in the Metra parking lots lo- cated near Oneida Avenue and S. Eastern Avenue, which offer free parking on the weekends. Tem- porary no parking signs will be posted on several residential streets in close proximity to the event to increase safety and re- duce traffic issues and parking complaints.

Please visit the village website at www.village.bartlett.il.us or so- cial media accounts for more in- formation.



John Whitmer tolling the bell before ringing it. Whitmer has been associated with the church since birth, for over 81 years.

South Elgin baseball has perfect week going 4-0

By Seth Hancock

South Elgin’s bats were alive in a perfect 4-0 week in the Upstate Eight Conference as the Storm wrapped up a three-game series sweep of Elgin with a pair of wins before taking the first two of three games against Glenbard East.

The Storm ended the week with a 9-3 victory over Glenbard East on Saturday, April 13 at South Elgin.

Austin Doty (3-for-4, three stolen bases, RBI), Ben Hetelle (3-for-4, three stolen bases, RBI), Patrick Keaty (2-for-4, double, RBI), Anthony Nalbono (2-for-3), Garrett Wano (two RBI) and Cody Gallagher (RBI) led the offense. Grayson Downing got the win.

“One through nine, we’re battling and we’re pulling for each other right now,” Doty said.

In the series opener, South Elgin earned an 11-3 win on Friday, April 12 at Glenbard East. Joseph Teschke allowed three runs on four hits, two walks and two hit batters and struck out five in six innings for the win.

South Elgin had nine extra-base hits and its offense was led by Wano (three-run home run), Hetelle (2-for-4, double, two RBI), Logan Romasanta

(2-for-4, two doubles, RBI), Keaty (2-for-3, triple, RBI), Doty (2-for-4, double), Griffin Allen (2-for-4, double, RBI), Grant Baker (double, RBI) and Nalbono (double).

“We’re really hitting the ball well, really barreling up balls,” Hetelle said. “Earlier in the season we were slow out of the gate, but now we’re starting to get through it.”

Ben Karpowicz (three strikeouts) tossed a two-hitter allowing two unearned runs as the Storm opened the week with a 12-2 win over Elgin in a five-inning, 10-run rule game on Monday, April 8 at Elgin. Downing (2-for-2, double, RBI), Wano (2-for-2, double, four RBI), Hetelle (2-for-3, double, RBI), Joey Haslam (double, two RBI), Romasanta (two RBI) and Allen (RBI) led the effort.

The Storm completed the sweep of Elgin with a 9-2 victory, Allen the winning pitcher, on Tuesday, April 9 at South Elgin. Their offense was led by Hetelle (3-for-4, home run, four RBI), Keaty (3-for-4, RBI), Doty (2-for-3, double), Allen (double, RBI), Nalbono (RBI) and Robert Zagorski (RBI).

South Elgin is now 9-2 overall, 7-1 in the UEC.

North Stars softball wins DuKane opener, 1-2 at invite

By Seth Hancock

The North softball team went 1-2 at the Kaneland Invitational opening with a 12-0 loss to the host team on Friday, April 12.

For North coach Tom Poulin, the lopsided loss is something his softball teams haven’t been used to.

“It hasn’t happened,” Poulin said. “We didn’t compete. We weren’t tough.”

Laine VandeHei went 2-for-3 recording half of North’s four hits who had just five baserunners on the day.

Anastasia Pappas suffered the loss in the circle. The North Stars four pitchers allowed 11 hits, walked six and threw seven wild pitches and their defense committed four errors leading to four unearned runs.

“We’re better than this, but they are very good,” Poulin said. “They have a great approach at the plate. They only swing at strikes, they hit them hard, they make plays and they communi-

cate. They do everything winning softball teams do. We didn’t do anything winning softball teams do.”

North went on to post an 11-run third inning to help earn a 17-10 win over DeKalb, Pappas getting the win, before losing 8-1 to Batavia, Megan DeMeyer suffering the loss, to cap the tournament on Saturday, April 13.

Ashlee Chantos (4-for-4, double), Grace Sobieski (3-for-5, home run, four RBI), Meghan Nicastro (2-for-3, two doubles), Danielle Trumbo (2-for-5, three RBI), Sydney Eby (2-for-3, RBI) and VandeHei (double, three RBI) led against DeKalb. Against Batavia, Nicastro went 2-for-3 and both Pappas and VandeHei doubled.

North opened the week with an 11-8 win over Naperville Central in its DuKane Conference opener on Monday, April 8 in Naperville. Pappas got the win and Eby, VandeHei and Taryn Norberg each doubled.

The North Stars are now 3-2 overall.

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

<http://www.gofundme.com/Help-our-Guardian-Angel>.

* * * * *

Fox Valley Wildlife Center in Elburn, a wildlife hospital serving the needs of orphaned, injured, and sick wildlife from Kane County and surrounding areas, receives almost 2,500 animals per year! Donations of supplies are always appreciated. A current wish list of needed items can be found on the center’s website at fvwc.org. Items can be dropped off at the center, located at 45W061 Illinois Route 38, Elburn, approximately one mile west of Illinois Route 47 inside the Elburn Forest Preserve. The center is operating on spring hours of 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day in April. You can reach the Fox Valley Wildlife Center at 630-365-3800 or contact@fvwc.org.

* * * * *

Seated exercise classes at The Salvation Army, 1710 S. 7th Ave., St. Charles, on Wednesdays for fun and

great exercise! From 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Free and open to all in the community.

* * * * *

Anderson Animal Shelter is happy to offer the opportunity for children and teens to engage in service learning off-site. This convenient option gives students the ability to create and execute their own service project all while truly making a difference in the lives of animals. Some service project ideas include creating your own fundraising project, collecting items from the shelter’s wish list, making cat or dog toys, shredding newspapers and making blankets. For more information call 847-697-2880 or visit www.andersonanimalshelter.org.

* * * * *

The St. Charles Singles Club activities are planned, and singles 40-plus are invited to participate in the fun. There are many opportunities to meet friends for meals, to try new cuisines, to dance, bowl, play cards, volunteer and more. You can find a full listing of activities on the website: www.stcharlessinglesclub.com/. Visit www.stcharlessinglesclub.com or call 630-665-0763 for more information.

* * * * *

The Examiner Asked

On Saturday, April 13 at the Lions Club Bunny Breakfast:

What kind of candy or toy do you like to get in your Easter basket?"



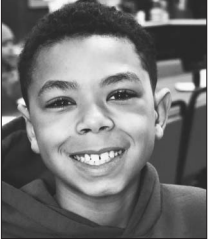
Nyna Gentile: "Chocolate eggs and jelly beans."



Jasmine Acosta: "Lots of chocolate!"



Giovanni Acosta: "I like chocolate Easter eggs."



Cameron Enders: "My favorite is Starburst jelly beans - they're the best jelly beans."



Corban Enders: "All the different sizes of Tootsie Rolls."



Erika Enders: "Milky Ways are my favorite."



Sean Hill: "What my favorite thing would be is a puppy."



CJ Clark: "Jelly beans - lots and lots of jelly beans!"



Blake Keppner: "I like to get Cadbury chocolates and a car."



Matthew Day: "A truck, and M&Ms."

(By Juli Schatz)



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Illinois State Museum again achieves accredited status

According to the Illinois State Museum, it has again achieved accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums, the highest national recognition afforded the nation’s museums. Accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, to governments, funders, outside agencies, and to the museum-going public. The Illinois State Museum has been accredited since 1972. All museums must undergo a reaccreditation review at least every 10 years to maintain accredited status.

Alliance Accreditation brings national recognition to a museum for its commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards and continued institutional improvement. Developed and sustained by museum professionals for over 45 years, the Alliance museum accreditation program is the field’s primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation and public accountability. It strengthens the museum profession by promoting practices that enable leaders to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and remain financially and ethically accountable in order to provide the best possible service to the public.

“I want to thank and congratulate the dedicated staff at the Illinois State Museum, the Illinois State Museum Board, and supporters of the museum for all of the efforts put forth as part of the AAM’s reaccreditation process,” said Colleen Callahan, director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. “We are all committed to continuing and strengthening the Illinois State Museum’s standing as a world-

class museum approaching 150 years of telling the Story of Illinois.”

Of the nation’s estimated 33,000 museums, over 1,070 are currently accredited.

To earn accreditation a museum first must conduct a year of self-study, and then undergo a site visit by a team of peer reviewers. AAM’s Accreditation Commission, an independent and autonomous body of museum professionals, considers the self-study and visiting committee report to determine whether a museum should receive accreditation.

“Accredited museums are a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence,” said Laura L. Lott, Alliance president and CEO. “Accreditation is clearly a significant achievement, of which both the institutions and the communities they serve can be extremely proud.”

The Illinois State Museum inspires discovery and caring about Illinois’ cultural and natural resources and heritage. The museum’s extensive collections and research activities provide the foundation for exhibitions and public programs that tell the story of the land, life, people, and art of Illinois. The Illinois State Museum is headquartered in Springfield. Its facilities are located in Springfield, at the Dickson Mounds Museum near Lewistown and at the Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery in Lockport.

For more information on the ISM, please go online to www.illinoisstatemuseum.org.

Letters

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counties, to central Illinois, to the Metro East region – likely voters oppose Pritzker’s plan for the state to change to a graduated income tax system, according to polling conducted by Fabrizio, Lee & Associates on behalf of Illinois Policy.

More TV ads featuring the governor are unlikely to change that. In fact, respondents who said they were aware of Pritzker’s plan were more likely to oppose a constitutional amendment allowing for a graduated income tax. It doesn’t help that the same polling showed Pritzker is already disliked in almost all of those districts.

The new governor needs to offer some extraordinary political favors if he wants lawmakers to take votes against their constituents.

Enter a capital bill: the king of pork projects.

In 2009, the \$31 billion “Illinois Jobs Now!” capital plan was filled with all kinds of goodies. Pritzker could do the same with a capital spending plan of his own.

Gambling expansion, tax hikes on beer and liquor, and a vehicle registration fee

hike, among other sources, funded the 2009 plan. But the chatter around Pritzker’s capital bill has been all about a potential gas tax hike. Outgoing Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel late last year called on the state to at least double its gas tax. One bill in the Illinois Senate would do just that, making Illinois’ gas tax burden the second-highest in the nation.

Illinois needs infrastructure improvements. But a capital bill crafted to secure political loyalty means too many wasted dollars. And while bringing home the bacon can be valuable to vulnerable state lawmakers, Pritzker might be underestimating the pain of hiking the gas tax.

A poll released in March from the AAA motor club asked Illinoisans if they would pay more taxes or fees to improve the transportation system, and 74 percent said no. The same share of Illinoisans said existing transportation funding is not being spent appropriately.

Maybe Illinois should pay for services already rendered – the state has more than \$8 billion in unpaid bills – before pouring more cement.

Luring lawmakers to vote for one tax hike with the spoils of another is Illinois politics at its worst. Pritzker should pave a new path toward balancing the budget.

Austin Berg
Illinois News Network

Sabres volleyball splits two matches during week

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood volleyball team came out strong to defeat Wolcott 25-14, 25-15 in a nonconference match on Thursday, April 11 at Wolcott.

The Sabres controlled both sets from start to finish led by Carlos Jasso (seven assists), Roberto Sanchez (five kills) and Joey Huizar (four kills).

“We came out playing aggressive serving the ball against the Wolcott team,” said Streamwood coach Jonathan Bacheller.

The dominating performance allowed the Sabres to get everyone some playing time, and Bacheller said he was pleased with sophomore middle Angel Robelo.

“Angel Robelo is getting himself more involved and putting up more blocks,” Bacheller said. “We had an opportunity to play all players on the bench too.”

Streamwood was coming off a 25-22, 25-20 Upstate Eight Conference loss to West Chicago on Tuesday, April 9 at West Chicago.

Despite the loss, Bacheller was happy with his team’s effort which saw both Huizar and Jasso tally six kills and Abraham Martinez 17 digs.

“This two-set loss was without a doubt the best two sets we have played up till this point as a team,” Bacheller said. “Every player came out with intensity and hungry to play really good volleyball.”

Bacheller added: “Our serve-receive was on point and we even had a few aces. We encouraged each other on the floor and fought for every point. Streamwood has improved every game, and we are so close with other good teams.”

The Sabres are now 3-8 overall, 0-2 in the UEC.

Local governments seeking to share in online tax revenue

**By Grant Morgan
Capitol News Illinois**

A U.S. Supreme Court decision last year allows states to collect sales taxes from online retailers, even if they don’t have a physical presence in the state.

Now, Illinois cities and counties want in on that action, too.

“We just want to make sure that we can capture locally-imposed sales taxes on out-of-state retailers online,” said Brad Cole, executive director of the Illinois Municipal League, which represents more than 1,200 local communities throughout the state.

Cole answered questions last week from members of the House Revenue and Finance Committee about how that might be accomplished. The short answer? Not easily.

“... A lot of different organizations, entities and interests need to be aligned to get this right, and ... I’m not prepared to say that we have that ready today,” Cole said.

The court’s decision last June in South Dakota v. Wayfair paved the way for states to collect sales taxes from online retailers like Amazon.

In Illinois, “remote” online retailers that have more than \$100,000 in online sales in the state, or at least 200 discrete transactions, must collect the state’s 6.25 percent use tax.

Last year, the Illinois Department of Revenue estimated the change, which went into effect Oct. 1, could bring in more than \$200 million of new revenue every year.

Local governments like cities and counties also collect sales taxes on top of the state sales tax. Cole and other advocates say local governments should also be allowed to collect sales taxes from online retailers. That, they say, would level the playing field for local brick-and-mortar retailers, who already must add a local tax on sales.

But opponents say trying to impose and collect local sales taxes on online purchases would be overly complicated.

“Municipalities collecting their own sales taxes would be a hideous administrative nightmare,” said Rob Carr, president of the Illinois Retail Merchants Association. “I find it difficult to believe that a local municipality could either afford their own department of revenue or the hiring of a third party to do that for them.”

Yet some local entities, such as north-east Illinois’ Pace busing division, will soon rely on that extra revenue to maintain operations.

“We’re not capturing those out-of-

state taxes,” said Rocky Donahue, executive director of Pace, which was created in 1984 with the revenue of a regional sales tax. “And it’s really hurting our bottom line.”

One option, suggested by committee member Rep. Joe Sosnowski (R-Rockford), would be to create a state tax specifically for remote online retailers. The revenue would be dispersed to local governments based on an established formula.

That way, Sosnowski said, the state wouldn’t have to deal with administering “a thousand different tax rates.”

At least one municipality – the City of Chicago – already applies an extra 1 percent tax to remote online retailers, on top of the state’s 6.25 percent.

If extended to other municipalities, that 1 percent sales tax alone, according to GOP Rep. Ryan Spain (R-Peoria), could bring significant money to the state.

“We want to help close the gap for lost revenues from online purchases compared to purchases from a local retailer,” said Spain, who is sponsoring a bill to extend the 1 percent online use tax to all home-rule municipalities regardless of population size.

Spain added that Peoria alone could see \$2 million to \$3 million in new revenue every year.

Carr, of the Retail Merchants Association, said he understands the pressure to include a solution in the next fiscal year’s budget, but it’s an issue that “has to go very, very carefully,” because the Supreme Court’s vote was 5-4, and it’s not clear how similar future cases will be decided.

But the committee chair, Democratic Rep. Michael Zalewski, of Riverside, said he feels “an abundant pressure” to solve the issue in the upcoming budget, because lawmakers “want to see local governments get their fair share.”

According to Cole, Illinois would be the first state to fully address local government sales taxes applied to online retailers.

Sudoku and Crossword Puzzles available on our website

www.examinerpublications.com

