

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 25
Number 8

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

50 cents
July 3, 2019

District U-46 Board
hears presentation
See Page 3

Summer ends for
Sabres baseball
See Page 8

Various items approved at U-46 board meeting

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved of \$1.3 million in expenditure items at its meeting on Monday, June 3.

Included was one item that was presented and voted on in the same evening which breaches the normal protocol of presenting an item at a meeting and voting on it at the following meeting.

That item was a \$426,000 expenditure, from the operations and maintenance fund, with Celtic Environmental Co. for a paint removal project at Streamwood High School using chemical stripper. The proposal states that lead paint was found in areas of the school with this project being done on the third floor with further phases planned in future years.

"The walls in the corridors, restrooms, and stairwells have been painted numerous times, but the condition has deteriorated," the proposal states. "The layers of paint beneath the top coat have worn away and look unsightly."

Board member Melissa Owens asked why the vote was needed that evening to which Sheila Downs, director of plant operations, said: "We put this out originally to bid two months ago. We were doing a different version. We were originally trying to do abrasive blasting, and we only got one vendor and we were told that they weren't certain that that would be the most effective and that they weren't confident in that method for

this."

Downs said the district removed the bid to research alternative options to the chemical stripper but decided that was the best option.

There was only one bid and Owens asked: "Is this a process that's not well known?"

"No, this is a very common practice," Downs said. "We were hoping to look at other alternative practices."

Downs added: "Chemical is not always the most environmentally green option, so we were really trying to look at other greener options. But we ended up landing back on chemical peel because really, it's going to be the most effective, and there's so many layers of paint."

Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if there were any concerns with the timing and being able to complete the project before the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Bruce Phelps, senior business official, said there's a penalty to the company of "\$500 a day if they don't complete it on time," and Downs said the district will go out to bid earlier for future phases.

Board member Veronica Noland asked if this was "unique to Streamwood," and Downs said it was "very bad right now" at Streamwood but she hasn't seen that at other schools.

The remaining expenditure items totaling \$841,030 were all approved under the consent agenda.

One of the items is \$173,838 to the Boys and Girls Club which will be paid for by the nation's taxpayers

through Title I funds going towards eight weeks of summer camp for 125 students deemed "low-income" or "at-risk" based on being in a Title I designated school.

Coming from the education fund was a three-year contract renewal costing \$175,000 (a \$23,000 increase) with Futures in Rehabilitation Management, Inc. for criminal background checks for personnel, a two-year contract renewal costing \$64,458 (up \$233) with HERO by Schoolmint for student behavior tracking and \$40,000 to renew membership with the lobbyist group Illinois Association of School Boards.

Four items to be paid for from the operations and maintenance fund were approved including \$168,337 with Rogers Flooring, Inc. for carpet tile and VCT floor installation as well as some moisture mitigation at 10 district schools, \$138,497 with Stalker Sports Floors for gym floor sanding

and finishing at Bartlett and South Elgin high schools and two asbestos abatement projects with Cove Remediation at Bartlett's Eastview Middle School (\$45,000) and Elgin's McKinley Elementary School (\$35,900).

The board also unanimously approved \$7.7 million in itemized bills and a personnel report and workers' compensation cases which included one new position.

Also approved was the physical education exemptions terms and conditions for the 2019-2020 school year, a resolution for the display and public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2020 Northern Kane County Regional Vocational System (NKCRVS) budget and a U-46 retirement committee charter.

The NKCRVS budget was presented on June 17 showing \$1.8 million in revenues and expenditures. A public hearing will be held on July 15, and a final vote is scheduled for Aug. 12.

Budget, mobile issues set for District U-46 vote

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on a budgetary resolution as well as a resolution concerning mobile classrooms at its upcoming meeting on Monday, July 15. The items were presented on June 17.

Included is a resolution to display and set the public hearing date for the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. That budget is expected to be presented to the board on Aug. 12 while going on public display on Aug. 13, a public hearing is scheduled for Sept. 9 and a final board vote is planned for Sept. 23.

The tentative budget was presented to the board that evening showing expenditures at \$579.7 million, up 3.9 percent or \$21.6 million from \$558.1 million, and revenue at \$581 million, up 3.6 percent or \$19.9 million from \$561.1 million. That's larger than the \$559.1 million (\$1 million increase) in expenditures and \$564.3 million (\$3.2 million increase) in revenue that was projected for FY2020 in the district's FY2019 budget.

The FY2019 budget also projects continued enrollment declines, but U-46 is planning to add more staff despite the declining population as Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations, said the district "estimated an increase in about 54 new teaching positions."

In the 2018-2019 school year, enrollment declined for the fourth straight

year dropping by 633 students to 38,572. U-46 has lost 1,915 total students since 2014's enrollment of 40,487 but spending has increased nearly \$100 million during that time which is over \$70 million faster than the rate of inflation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator.

Using the FY2019 budget projections and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) numbers, if the district's forecasts are realized there will have been a 13.1 percent drop in enrollment from 2012 to the 2021-22 school year while costs are expected to rise by 36.3 percent over the same period.

Also to be voted on is a resolution declaring the need to continue using temporary classrooms, or mobile units. U-46 plans on using eight double units and five single units housing 21 total classrooms, and they are expected to be used at nine schools.

The district plans on using two double units at both South Elgin High School and Elgin's Century Oaks Elementary School, and a single and double unit at both Elgin's Hillcrest and Lowrie elementary schools. One double unit is planned to be used at both Streamwood's Hanover Countryside and Hoffman Estate's Lincoln elementary schools and a single unit is planned at Elgin's Creekside, Harriet Gifford and Washington elementary schools.



Peaceful warrior

Karen Benish did a version of the warrior pose at Fitness in the Park on Thursday, June 27 at Oak Ridge Park. For story and more photos see page 7.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

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

75 cents
July 3, 2019



New system on tap
for Park District
See Page 7

District U-46 Board
hears presentation
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Village Board discusses evolving marijuana use

By Seth Hancock

With the prohibition of marijuana under state law on its way out, how will the Village of Bartlett handle the change?

That was a topic of discussion by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on Tuesday, June 18.

In June, Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed House Bill 1438 allowing the possession of up to 30 grams of marijuana for Illinois residents 21 or older for recreational purposes starting in 2020. This comes after former Gov. Bruce Rauner had signed into law bills that decriminalized small amounts of marijuana possession and legalized medical marijuana.

Trustee Adam Hopkins raised the issue during new business asking if there were any plans to have discussions on "the ever-changing marijuana laws here in the state. Do we plan on having this in committee any time soon?"

Paula Schumacher, village administrator, said that staff has looked at zoning ordinances created for medical marijuana from "a few years ago... both for dispensary and for growing," and "what I've asked staff is to pull that information out again, revise it in light of our new law in the state and then we have that scheduled for committee on July 16."

Hopkins said that other communities have already started to discuss the issue and asked that the village keep track of how they plan to deal with the issue.

Schumacher said the village is monitoring other municipalities, and "we certainly want to address the issue before we have anything pending to get

ahead of it."

Bryan Mraz, village attorney, said the village will have more power to regulate recreational pot as opposed to medical marijuana.

"The idea of that was to get board direction because the new law gives you quite a bit of authority in terms of not allowing it, much more so than on the medical marijuana," Mraz said. "This recreational marijuana, you can ban it and if you were to decide to do that, you'd restrict it in the zoning ordinance."

Hopkins asked: "Is that actually something that we could actually ask the voters in a referendum question?"

"You could, but it would take so long to get on the agenda that you'd be way behind everyone else," said Mraz noting that the election cycle would provide a time constraint.

Under the new law, only medical marijuana dispensaries will be able to sell pot to residents for recreational purposes at the start of 2020, but by the middle of next year licenses will start to be granted for recreational marijuana businesses. County and municipal governments will be able to ban such businesses.

Residents can possess up to 30 grams of cannabis flower, 5 grams of cannabis concentrate or 500 milligrams of cannabis-infused products. Out-of-state visitors can possess half the same amounts.

Marijuana can only be smoked on private property or at some marijuana-based businesses. Private property owners can prohibit usage on their property.

Only medical marijuana patients will be allowed to grow cannabis plants.

Pair of police items ratified at board meeting

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees unanimously approved of a pair of police related items at its meeting on Tuesday, June 18.

The votes were 4-0, trustees Michael Camerer and Kristina Gabrenya were absent.

Included was a resolution authorizing an intergovernmental agreement between the Bartlett Police Department and DuPage County's Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigation Team, known as MERIT. There are annual dues costing \$4,000.

Chief of Police Patrick Ullrich wrote in a memo to the board that MERIT is a "newly created task force, which includes the following operational components: crisis negotiations, SWAT, K-9 response, major crash reconstruction, Incident Management Assistance Team, planned events, crime scene investigation, computer forensics, investigations, major crimes/officer involved shootings, and intelligence."

"A benefit to becoming a member of this task force is if the Village of Bartlett required any or all of the task force's operational components for an

incident that occurred in the DuPage County portion of the Village, we would have the ability to request the task force's assistance," Ullrich added.

The task force was created in 2018 as part of a consolidation of the county's major crim task force and investigative assistance team.

"The pooling of resources into a combined county-wide entity would lead to the expedient solution of serious crimes, critical incidents, and other law enforcement endeavors," Ullrich stated.

Also approved was an intergovernmental agreement between the village and School District U-46 to provide school resource officers at Bartlett High School and Eastview Middle School in the 2019-2020 school year.

Ullrich stated in a memo: "There are no changes from last year's agreement, except for the police officer's annual salary cost of \$69,919 and the school resource officer's overtime hourly rate of \$71.43.... School District U-46 would be responsible for reimbursing the Village of Bartlett for the annual cost of non-probationary police officer's salary in exchange for assigning school resource officers."

Bartlett's Independence Day Schedule of Events

Wednesday, July 3

- 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Special Needs Private Event
- 5 to 11 p.m. Food and Beer Tent
- 5 to 11 p.m. Carnival POP \$25
- 5 to 11 p.m. Bingo
- 5 to 6:30 p.m. Sam Savage
- 7 to 9 p.m. Tony Ocean
- 9:30 to 11 p.m. The Four C Notes

Thursday, July 4

- 12 to 11 p.m. Food and Beer Tent
- 3 to 9:30 p.m. Bingo
- Noon to 2 p.m. Children's Entertainment Provided by Jazz Entertainment
- Noon to 2 p.m. Los Treboles Negro
- Noon to 11 p.m. Carnival
- 2 to 3:30 p.m. Wild Earp & the Free For Alls
- 4 p.m. Turtle Race (Aquatic Center)
- 4 to 5:30 p.m. AnuElusion
- 6 to 8 p.m. Rick Lindy & the Wild Ones
- 8:30 p.m. Chicagoland Skydiving Center
- 8:30 to 11 p.m. Modern Day Romeos
- 9:30 p.m. Firework Extravaganza

Friday, July 5

- 5 to 11 p.m. Food and Beer Tent
- 5 to 11 p.m. Carnival
- 5 to 5:45 p.m. Austin Hopkins
- 6 to 11 p.m. Bingo
- 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. Hillbilly Rock Stars
- 8:15 to 11 p.m. Smokin' Gunz

Saturday, July 6

- Noon to 11 p.m. Carnival
- Noon to 6 p.m. Carnival POP \$25
- Noon to 11 p.m. Food and Beer Tent
- Noon to 1:30 p.m. Rumor Hazit
- 2 to 3:30 p.m. Friday Jackson Band
- 4 to 5:30 p.m. 4th Point
- 6 to 8 p.m. Bad Medicine
- 6 to 11 p.m. Bingo
- 8:30 to 11 p.m. Anthem

Sunday, July 7

- 1 p.m. Bartlett Lions Club 4th of July Parade
- 3 to 9 p.m. Carnival POP \$25
- 3 to 9 p.m. Food and Beer Tent
- 3 to 9 p.m. Bingo
- 3 to 4:30 p.m. Johnny Russler & the Beach Bums
- 5 to 6:30 p.m. Voyage
- 7 to 9 p.m. 16 Candles

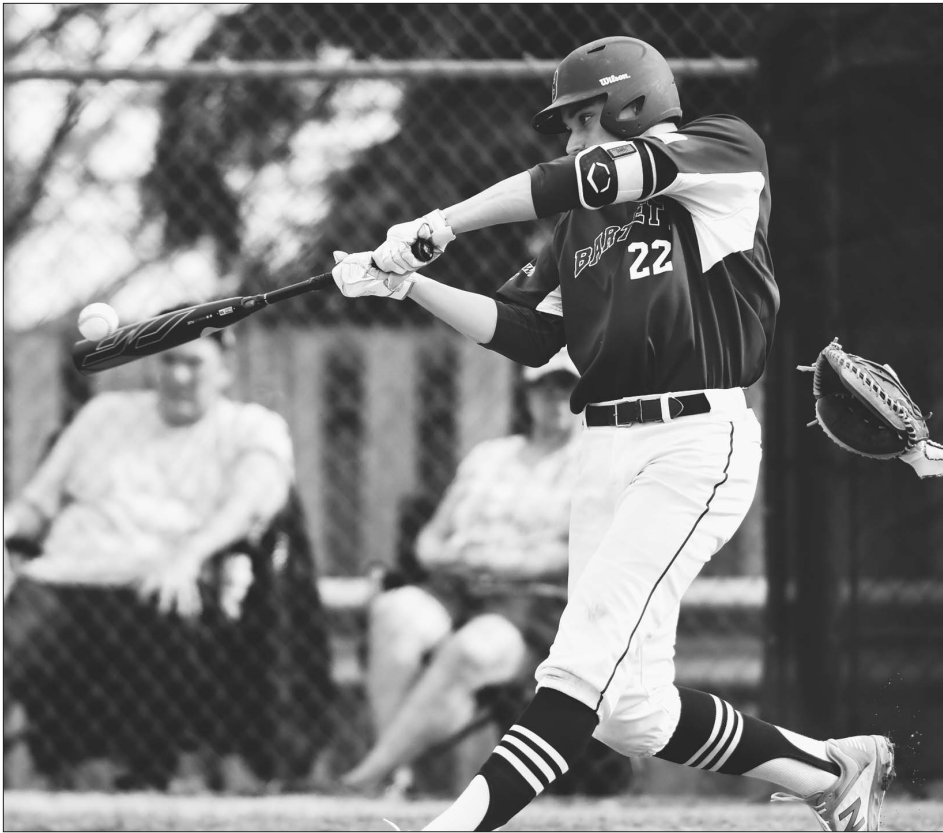
Festival closes at 9:30 p.m. before fireworks and will reopen after the show.

www.bartlett4thofjuly.com

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Pair of Hawks named to all-conference squad



Michael Vaca singling to drive in a run against Streamwood during an April game. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Matt Angelone at the plate also delivering a single during season action.

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett baseball team finished its 2019 campaign with a solid 19-11-1 record, 16-10 in the Upstate Eight Conference.

Leading the way were two seniors, Matt Angelone and Michael Vaca, who earned all-conference honors. The pair will continue playing baseball next year at the junior college level.

Vaca, a centerfielder and relief pitcher, led the Hawks in batting average (.337), on-base percentage (.458), slugging percentage (.558), hits (32), runs (32) and doubles (11) while adding 20 RBI, two home runs and two triples. Vaca, primarily a closer in relief, was a perfect 2-for-2 in save opportunities and had a 3-0 record with 26 strikeouts, a 0.64 ERA and a 0.73 WHIP in 11 innings.

Angelone, a catcher, had a team-high 23 RBI and added 30 hits, six doubles, a .291 batting average, a .357 on-base percentage and a .350 slugging percentage. From behind the dish, Angelone threw out 11 would-be base stealers.

"Excellent centerfielder, and he is attending Triton College where he will play baseball as well," Bartlett coach Devin Rosen of Vaca.

Of Angelone, Rosen said: "Good catcher and a hard worker. Matt will be attending Elgin Community College where he will play baseball also."

Angelone will play for the ECC Spartans who went 42-19 this year, and Vaca joins a Triton Trojans team that went 31-19. Angelone will be joined at ECC by Bartlett senior Geno Frieri who went 4-2 with 37

strikeouts and a 1.79 ERA on the mound for the Hawks this season.

For Vaca, the Hawks MVP, he said via social media, the all-conference honors is shared with his teammates where he also stated: "The Hawks gonna be scary in 2020."

Bartlett had four juniors and two sophomores this season including junior Blake Oliver who led Bartlett with three home runs, sophomore Nathan Euliano who led with four triples and sophomore Nick Kantzavelos who was the Hawks winningest pitcher with a 5-1 record.

The Hawks will also lose seniors Matthew Ande, Daniel Cahill, Caleb Ercoli, Francesco Gherardi, Max Lewis, Sam Mallinas, Milan Patel, Kevin Vesta and Jack Young.

Dist. U-46 Board hears committee presentation

By Seth Hancock

The instructional initiatives committee of School District U-46's Citizen's Advisory Council (CAC) gave an update to the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, June 17.

The report stated that the committee was "a reformation of the Curriculum Committee" with committee member Tracy Kelly saying the purpose of the committee is "to inform parents about current and upcoming instructional processes and programs that U-46, that will help their children succeed."

The committee held presentations with U-46 staff during the 2018-2019 school year regarding updates to the Chromebook rollout, career pathways, physical education (PE) initiatives, transitional math, dual language and full day kindergarten (FDK).

The Chromebook rollout presentation gave an update to one-to-one technology in the district according to Kelly who said "the reason for those Chromebooks was to hopefully enhance the learning experience."

The career pathways presentation provided information from townhalls

held by U-46 regarding the transition at secondary schools to the system.

"We just tried to focus on getting feedback and using that feedback provided by the community to ensure that this project best serves the needs of our students," Kelly said of the presentation.

The presentation on PE initiatives, according to the report, focused on PE changes through technology as well as secondary courses that will allow students to receive certification as life-guard or referees. Also discussed is an independent PE course that will be piloted in the 2019-2020 school year.

In March, the previous board approved of the independent PE course to be piloted with 50 total students at both Bartlett and Elgin high schools and 25 at the DREAM Academy before full rollout in 2020-2021 with a projected 200 students at all five high schools.

The course is mostly completed online with students having to post 150 minutes of physical activity each week with heart rate monitors with teachers continuously monitoring and

providing feedback. Students would meet with the teacher 10 to 12 times a semester during 0 hour, before school, while students would still have to take state mandated fitness tests.

The presentation on transitional math concerned the concept of the course which is expected to help seniors who may need extra math preparation before college.

The dual language update provided the "desired outcomes" of English language learners courses according to the report as well as an update on the dual language program as it rolls up to high school.

The FDK presentation focused on feedback from staff and parents as it is now in its third year. Kelly said that "now these students are taking the MAP test," and "we'll be able to see next year how that's working out."

Kelly added: "We need to be paying

attention to the possibility of how the kids are getting ready for the future grades, and we're going to revisit this one next year."

Next year's planned presentations will be on Naviance/Explorer, one-to-one technology, assessment and school report cards, career pathways, FDK, dual language and curriculum update.

Kelly said the committee wants to communicate better with parents to increase turnout to the presentations.

Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if the committee has looked at topics that may better attract parents.

"That's what we were trying to do," Kelly said. "We found that if the topic was interesting to somebody, then they would come. Otherwise we wouldn't see them. So we're trying to make it interesting for everyone all the time."

Police apprehend juvenile for Bartlett Park armed robbery

On Sunday, June 23, at approximately 7 p.m., the Bartlett Police Department investigated an incident at Bartlett Park. A victim alleged two male juveniles stole his cell phone and then fled on foot after one of them asked to borrow it to make a telephone call. The victim also alleged one of the male juveniles pulled out what appeared to be a silver handgun from his waistband and made a threatening comment when the victim tried to catch the male juveniles.

Officers were able to apprehend one of the male juveniles in the area of Lake Street and Oak Avenue. He was petitioned to Cook County Juvenile Court for the criminal offense of armed robbery. Police were also able to recover the silver handgun that turned out to be a BB gun in the field behind Eastview Middle School.

Bartlett Police continue to investigate and are still trying to identify the other male juvenile that was involved in this incident.



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Storm boys basketball wraps up summer season

By Seth Hancock

Summer games and camps are winding down for the South Elgin boys basketball team, and the Storm have set expectations high after its record setting season this past winter.

The Storm set a program-record for wins, 25-9 overall and 15-3 in the Upstate Eight Conference, including a run to the sectional finals. South Elgin graduated most of its team including the Conference Player of the Year in Vince Miszkiewicz, all-conference recipient Drake Montgomery and honorable mention Jace Warrick.

Although being young, Storm coach Brett Johnson said the expectations are the same.

"The expectations don't go away," Johnson said. "I'm holding them to those same expectations and I'm trying to push them to their level. I don't want to be just a team that has one good year. I want to continuously build good basketball players and good people year in and year out."

Over the summer, the Storm played nearly 50 games between shootouts and the Geneva Summer League. In it's

final week at Geneva, the Storm split a pair of games on Monday, June 24.

South Elgin opened the day with a 10-point loss against Naperville Central.

"We just struggled to score, and they executed their plays perfectly," Johnson said. "But we had a lot of plays that we didn't execute. We didn't rebound the ball, we didn't get back on defense and in summer league those are the things you're looking for. The effort plays and the things that are going to make each individual player better."

Against Sterling, the Storm bounced back with a 47-41 win. For Johnson, he was looking for his players to control what they can control this summer and looking for coachability among the players, and he said he saw some positive signs.

"This summer I think we've done a good job of competing," Johnson said. "We're playing hard, and we're playing tough and we're getting more physical which is very good for a team that has two seniors and everybody else is new."

BartlettVFWAux@gmail.com.

Bartlett American Legion Post 1212 meets every third Wednesday of the month at the Bartlett Log Cabin located at North Avenue and Oak Street at 7 p.m. We are looking for veterans who are interested in serving their community and country and helping other veterans and their families who are in need. All veterans are welcome.

In the days before the American Revolution, patriots would gather in local taverns to discuss the issues of the day and consider remedies to their grievances. Continuing on this tradition, West Suburban Patriots invites you to Patriots' Pub. This is a casual get together with no guest speaker or structured program, just an opportunity to gather with like-minded citizens. Cash bar and pub food available for purchase. Patriot's Pub Nights will be held every-other-Tuesday at Chrisy's, 552 N. Gary Ave., Carol Stream from 7 to 10 p.m. For more details, see westsuburbanpatriots.com.

Animal Shelter Supply Drive supporting various animal rescue groups. Kitten/cat/dog food of any kind, KMR-kitten replacement milk, cat litter/pans, collars, leashes, carriers/crates/cages, toys, scratching posts, cat condos, pet beds, old towels. No bedding please. Donation bin located at Heartland Animal Hospital on Stearns and Illinois Route 59.

Looking for a Job? The Bartlett Library has resources to assist you in your employment search: Join their career networking email list to hear about job fairs, programs and employment opportunities; stop by the Cafe and see their job board; check out the materials that cover topics such as resume writing and interviewing help; stop by the Adult Services Desk or call 837-3560 for more information.

You can feed a family pet for less than \$10 a month. Brunos Pro Bone O Pet Pantry is a 501 (c)(3) charity pet food pantry that distributes free food to help elderly, disabled, or low-income pet owners who are struggling to keep food in the bowls of their beloved companions. Even \$10 a month for food may be too much to spend for someone whos trying to keep their furry family members at home—where they belong. Please help by donating food or funds to Brunos Pet Pantry: they believe no one should have to give up a dog or cat because of money. They need your help! Please call 926-3610, or www.brunospantry.com.

Johnson said the returning players gained valuable experience this past winter with the long postseason run, and they're showing some leadership.

Returning are incoming seniors Derryl Barnes Jr. and Moses Montgomery as well as junior Aaron Wafford and sophomores Drew Cwik and Lane McVicar.

"Those guys are really good leaders, and I'm proud of how they've come together through the summer with trying to work together and communicating that with the new guys coming in with what some of the expectations are," Johnson said.

Johnson added: "The speed is different, and I think that's something that they have noticed. The five guys coming back understand the speed and the intensity, and the new guys are starting to feel that out and I think

they're getting better. But as a coach it's nice to have kids that want to play and have an opportunity to play 40 some games over the summer and get them on the court and show what they're made of."

With the summer work wrapping up, Johnson said he wants his team to work on their individual skills like ball handling. He said players need to find their roles on a team that will likely be together for two seasons.

"Right now we've got to keep that team aspect and just finding your roles on this current team," Johnson said. He added: "You're only as strong as your weakest link, so if all five guys on the court at one time can all dribble it's hard to guard all five of those guys because they're all a threat. That's what I keep preaching to them, 'you all have to be a threat in some way.'"

Letters

Continued from page 8

ceived no such written reply from Representative Villa, just further requests for my phone number.

It has been my assumption that state representatives represent all their constituents and replies to inquiries were an essential part of the position.

It appears I was wrongly informed.

Jerry Marchese

Speeding on our streets

Dear Editor,

I can empathize with Colleen Watt in her letter last week lamenting cars speeding down Hickory Street. I can agree that the stop lights down town disrupt a safe flow of traffic, but police are not the problem. Speeding is a community problem that is not on the Village Board's list. Hickory is one of several cut through streets in Bartlett. We will drive 20 mph on our own street, but cut through drivers feel entitled to drive 5 mph over our residential limit of 25 mph.

Village Board gives three minutes each meeting for residents to speak. The homeowner at North and Western spoke and made the list. You might try a street petition to get Hickory posted at 15 mph. Bring those 20 kids who might play in the street to the meeting so they can see democracy in action. Are the speeders every day, all day, in both directions?

Ask for public work horses at both ends of the block in the north bound lane. What happens? Try temporary speed bumps. What happens? Speed monitoring alone does not seem to work.

Everyone is welcome to join the walkability discussion at our face book Bike Walk Bartlett group page.

Terry Witt

Career politicians hold the football

Dear Editor,

Like Lucy promising to let Charlie Brown kick the football, career politicians in Springfield are again promising that this time will be the last time we have to raise taxes. We just have to trust them...

Pardon me, but haven't we heard this one before?

In 1989, taxpayers were told that the newly established state income tax was going to be just a "temporary" tax. The income tax was made permanent in 1993. Hallelujah, our economic problems were solved!

Except they weren't.

In 2011 in the dead of night, lawmakers approved a 67 percent income tax increase that was supposed to gradually be reduced over time. OK. This time Springfield meant it. Senate President John Cullerton said at the time, "The purpose of this bill is to raise enough money so that we can continue to pay our pensions without borrowing the money. To pay off our debt. To have enough money to pay the interest on that debt. And, for the

first time ever, establish caps on how much we can appropriate..."

Surely, our economic problems were solved now. The career politicians were so proud of themselves for having the "courage" to spend more of your hard-earned money. This surely would be the last time we needed to raise taxes in Illinois. Right?

In 2017, career politicians scrapped the idea of a gradually reduced income tax and again raised taxes by 32 percent and made the tax hike permanent.

It took awhile but in 2017 a bunch of "courageous" legislators had finally done it! They finally did what could not be done in 1989, 1993 and 2011. They had finally solved the state's budget crisis! Surely this time would be the end tax increases in Illinois.

Nope.

Just this spring, the Democrat majority approved a Constitutional Amendment to create a progressive income tax in Illinois. They are promising that they are only going to tax the wealthiest taxpayers in Illinois and if voters would approve this Constitutional Amendment in the 2020 election, we could finally get Illinois back on track financially. They promise. This time will be the last time for tax increases. They even went so far as to pass a bill (that can be changed at any time) to set the Progressive Income Tax rates. They mean business this time...

No one should believe these lies. Time and time again, Illinois residents have seen their taxes go up on the promise that the latest tax hike scheme would solve the State's financial problems once and for all. And time and time again, we have seen those false promises exposed for the lies they are.

If Illinois residents approve the governor's progressive income tax hike scheme, there is no end in sight to how high our taxes will go. Every state that has a progressive income tax ends up raising taxes on middle class families. Sure, the rhetoric sounds great. Tax the wealthiest Illinois residents. Make them pay!

But the reality of a progressive income tax is that over time every income tax bracket ends up seeing tax increases. It is easy for career politicians to raise one income tax bracket one year and focus on another bracket the next year. It is much harder to raise everyone's taxes all at once than it is to raise just some taxpayers' taxes one income bracket at a time.

Giving more of our hard-earned money to Springfield has only achieved one result – more spending. The last thing we need to do is give career politicians in Springfield more of our money to spend. We must stand firm and oppose the Progressive Income Tax.

Governor Pritzker is holding the football waiting to pull it away as soon as we try to kick it. Let's not be Charlie Brown and fall for the ruse. Let's reject the tax hike at the ballot and refuse to play the governor's deceptive games.

Chris Miller

State Representative 110th District

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

grown locally at Nettle Creek Lavender Farm, a small family owned and operated farm located in Morris.. Smith will be bringing a wide variety of lavender items and other herbs for sale. This event is free to the public. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson 837-0281 or visit their website at www.trivillagegardenclub.org.

Join My Child's Life Matters for its third annual "Ride for John" motorcycle ride on Saturday, July 27. Since the end of 2018, 192 people die every single day from an opioid overdose. The goal is to get 192 riders in a group to show the world just how impactful 192 is. Riders will meet at City Limits Harley Davidson, 2015 N. Rand Road in Palatine at 9 a.m., kick stands up at 10 a.m., and the ride will finish at the American Legion Post 76, 570 S. Gary Ave., in Carol Stream. After the ride, all are invited to join in for a community awareness gathering at Legion Post 76 from 1 to 5 p.m. There will be live music from The Last Generation, food and drinks, raffles and prizes, a balloon release, and guest speakers; including DuPage County Sheriff, James Mendrick. Registration is \$20 per rider and \$5 for each passenger. Checks made payable to "My Child's Life Matters" may be mailed or dropped off in person to 704 N. Addison Road, Villa Park, IL 60181. You may also register online at www.mychildslifematters.net/events.

The Bartlett High School Fine Arts Booster Club is looking for crafters for its fourth annual craft show on Saturday, Oct. 26. For information or applications please contact Yvonne at bhsartcraftshow2016@gmail.com or call 213-0183.

Bartlett VFW Post 11018 has its monthly meeting the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., at Clare Oaks just off West Bartlett Road and east of Illinois Route 59. Men and women who have served in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters may be eligible for membership. A DD-214 is required, plus citizenship and honorable service. Your fellow comrades welcome you!

VFW Auxiliary to Bartlett Post 11018 meets the second Thursday of each month. If you are interested in learning more, please email

Streamwood drops two of three to Panthers



Colin Bielinski delivering a pitch to a waiting Glenbard North hitter during his start against the Panthers on Tuesday, June 25.



Streamwood catcher Eric Arroyo looking back at a pop foul off the bat of a Glenbard North hitter that eluded him.



Tyler Jones extends to exchange a low five with coach Ryan Lasota as Jones circled the bases following his home run against the Panthers.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood baseball team's summer league came to an end after dropping two of three in a summer postseason series against Glenbard North, all six-inning games.

After splitting a doubleheader, the Sabres dropped the third game 7-3 on Wednesday, June 26 at Glenbard North. Eric Arroyo took the loss on the mound while Scott Wolfard (double, two RBI), Tyler Jones (double) and Colin Bielinski (RBI) led the offense.

Streamwood ends the summer league 3-10 overall, and despite not advancing in the postseason Sabres coach Ryan Lasota said his team has improved along the way.

"Some guys are getting better with base running, some guys are pitching better," Lasota said. "You can take something positive with every guy where they've improved from the beginning of summer."

Lasota added: "There's still a lot that guys still need to improve on, but some guys it's taking a step or two steps in certain facets of the game whether it's defensive and offensive or pitching. You can see that there's been improvement from every kid."

At Streamwood, the Sabres dropped the series opener 3-0 before a thrilling walk-off win 10-9 on Tuesday, June 25.

The first game saw solid pitching for the Sabres, but they were held to just

three hits at the plate led by a Bielinski double.

Jimmy Flynn tossed five strong innings allowing three runs on eight hits and a hit batter, and he struck out

three. Jeremy Lunz tossed a scoreless inning of relief with a hit, a walk and two strikeouts.

"Jimmy Flynn has pitched really well for us this summer," Lasota said. "He was a kid on the fresh/soph team last season. He's come in and every time he's pitched for us this summer, he's thrown strikes and kept us in the game. He's definitely looking to get himself into the rotation for next spring."

Lasota added: "Unfortunately we couldn't do much offensively. Just too many strikeouts and not a great approach overall."

The second game was a battle that saw the Sabres post six runs in the second inning, Jones capping the rally with a three-run home run, for a 7-2 lead before Glenbard North scored five in the third to tie it at 7-7 and eventually took a 9-8 lead into the bottom of the sixth.

With the bases loaded and two outs, Wolfard delivered a two-run hit to end the game. Bielinski (2-for-4, home run, double, two RBI) and Vinny Robles (double, two RBI) contributed in the game.

"We jumped out to a nice lead," Lasota said. "We always have one bad inning it seems like where we're not making plays or walking guys, whatever it may be, and all of the sudden it's tied. We go down one there, but we put together some nice at bats and Scotty comes up with a big hit for us. It was good to see us fight and claw and show some resiliency with the summer season on the line."

Bielinski tossed two-plus innings in the start allowing seven runs, six earned, off five hits and five walks, and he struck out three. Jones was the winner in relief allowing two runs, both unearned, off five hits and a walk, and he struck out six over five innings.

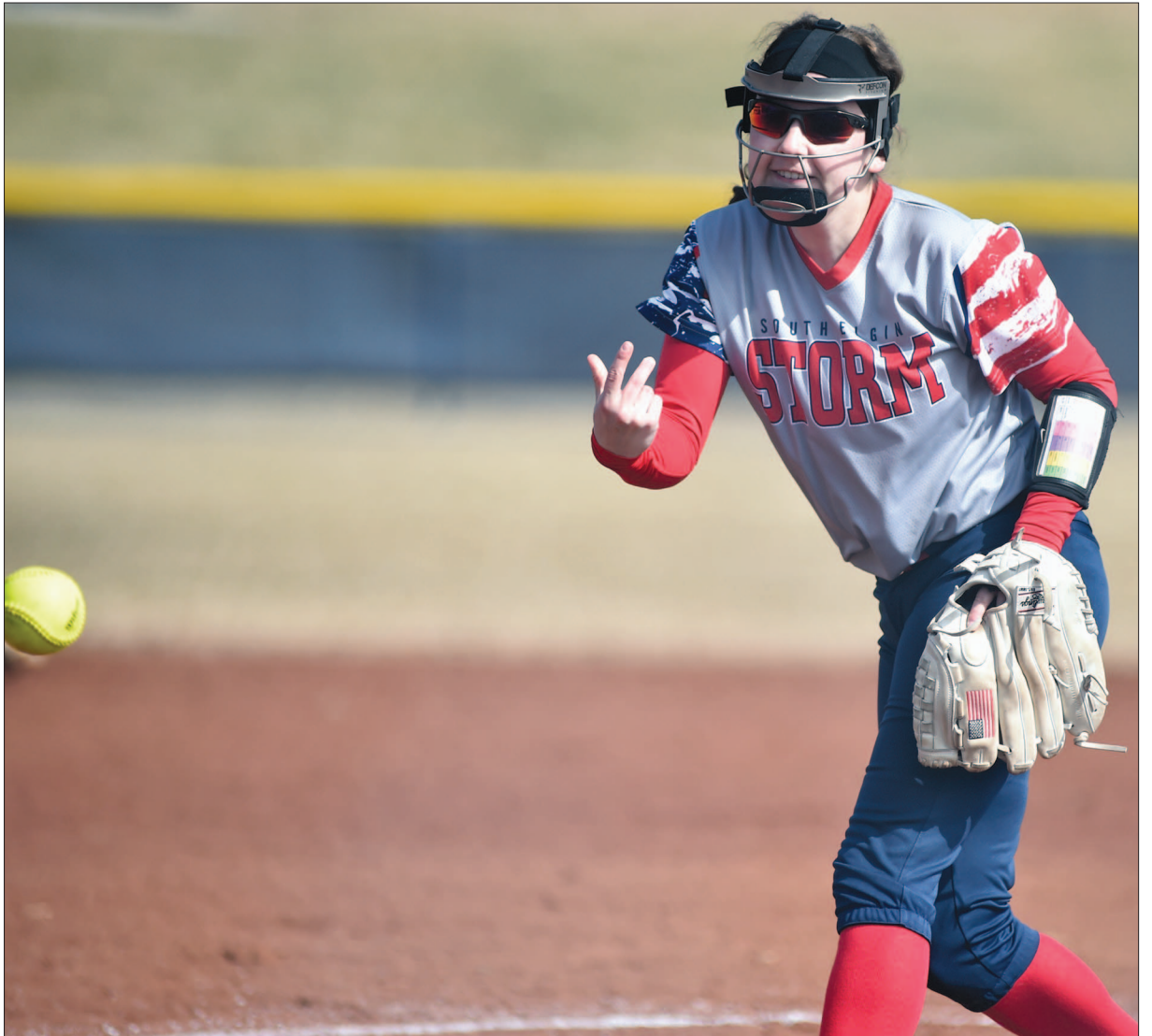


Sabres' second baseman Dylan Caruso taking a throw from the catcher in an effort to retire Glenbard North's Shea Gaffney from stealing second, however, the throw was just a bit late. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Storm well represented on all-conference squad



Geneva Pollman nailing down a win with a save against Bartlett in a May game at South Elgin.



Sidney Strama making a start in the circle for the Storm against Conant.

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin softball team had a big year going 26-7 overall and capturing the Upstate Eight Conference title with a 17-1 mark.

Leading the way was senior center-fielder Casey Brennan, who will be playing at Quincy University next year, who was named the UEC player of the year. Seniors Geneva Pollman (left fielder) and Sidney Strama (pitcher), junior McKenna Eichholz (catcher) and freshman Cara Cruthers (infielder) were all named all-conference.

For Brennan, she was the team's scorer leading the Storm in runs (41) and stolen bases (14 out of 15 attempts).

She finished with 40 hits, 20 RBI, seven doubles, three triples and two home runs and finished with a .404 batting average, .464 on-base percentage and .596 slugging percentage.

"She has been a force for us in center field," said South Elgin coach Brad Reynard. "She does it all well, a five-tool player. She can run, throw, hit for average and power and is a tremendous leader. She will be missed immensely. You can't replace players like her, a once in a coaching lifetime sort of player. Great player but even better human."

Pollman, who will play at Triton College, led the Storm in hits (42), dou-

bles (10), batting average, (.462) and on-base percentage (.559). She added 39 runs, 32 RBI, 10 stolen bases, six home runs, three triples and an .835 slugging percentage.

Strama, who will play at Agnes Scott College, was the Storm's ace finishing with a 13-2 record with 72 strikeouts, a 2.19 ERA and a 1.33 WHIP. At the plate, she added 10 RBI and two doubles.

Eichholz was South Elgin's power hitter with a team-high seven home runs. She batted .419, slugged .767 and had a .495 on-base percentage to go along with 36 hits, 32 RBI, 18 runs and nine doubles.

Cruthers was the Storm's top run producer leading the squad in RBI (34) to go with a team-high six triples

and .882 slugging percentage. She had 37 hits, 37 runs, eight doubles, six home runs, a .435 batting average and a .514 on-base percentage.

Senior shortstop Sami Koss and freshman third baseman Sami Jimenez were honorable mentions.

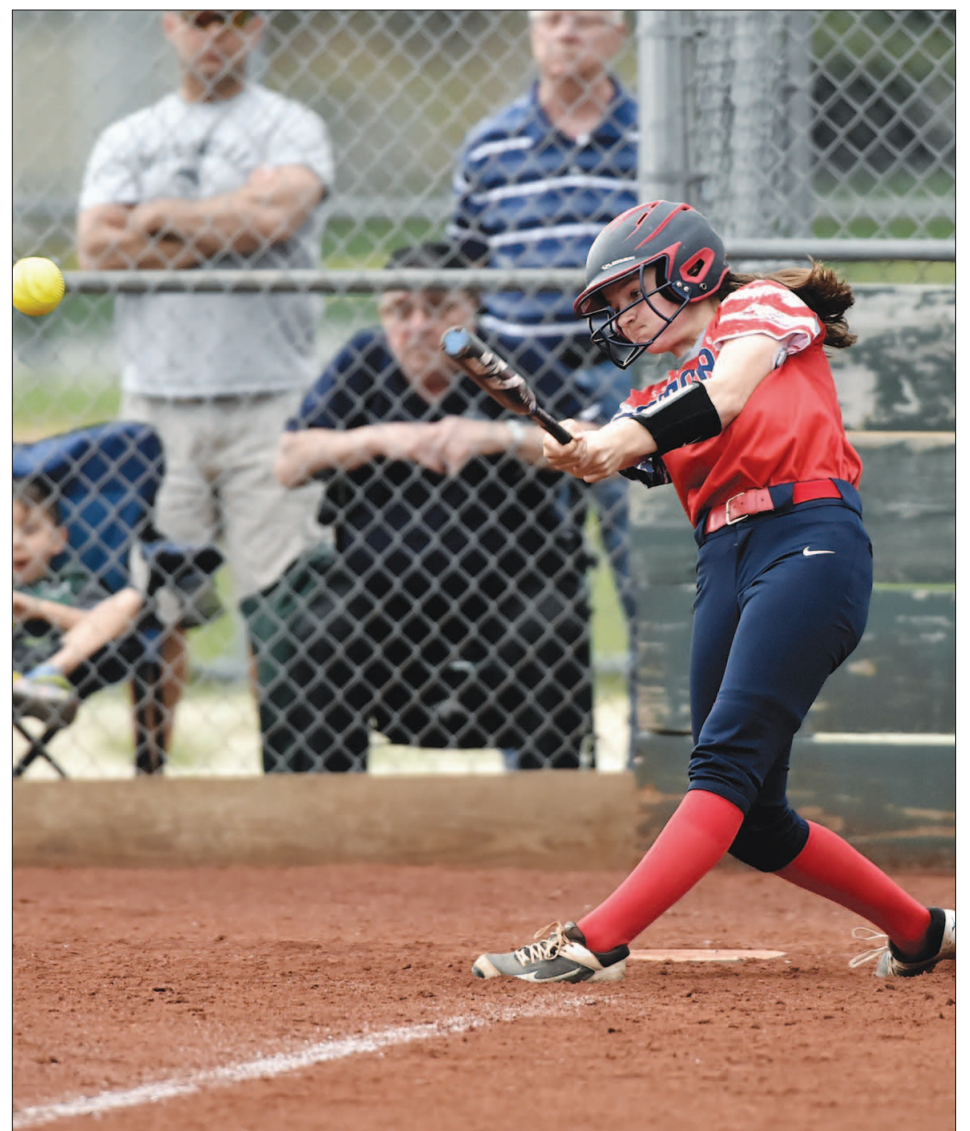
Jimenez tied Pollman for the team-high 42 hits and added 30 RBI, 29 runs, eight doubles, four home runs, one triple, a .433 batting average, a .500 on-base percentage and a .660 slugging percentage. Koss had 29 hits, 26 RBI, 20 runs, five doubles, two triples, one home run, a .330 batting average, a .371 on-base percentage and a .466 slugging percentage.

South Elgin will lose five total seniors including Juliana Miranda.



Casey Brennan scoring for South Elgin as Bartlett pitcher Venessa Rincon waited for a throw that was too late to prohibit the run.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Cara Cruthers making solid contact during a 2019 season game.

Storm have five players named to all-UEC team



Joseph Teschke on the mound against Streamwood this past season.



Logan Romasanta during a start against the Sabres in May.

By Seth Hancock

A strong senior class propelled the South Elgin baseball team to the Upstate Eight Conference title as the Storm finished 25-6 overall, 22-4 in the UEC.

Leading the way were five of 13 seniors who earned all-conference honors: Austin Doty (center fielder), Ben Hetelle (outfielder), Logan Romasanta (pitcher), Joe Teschke (pitcher) and Garrett Wano (third baseman).

Doty led the Storm in most offensive categories through the regular season including batting average (.407), on-base percentage (.534), slugging percentage (.617), runs (33), doubles (11) and stolen bases (27). He tied for the team-high in hits (33) and home runs (two) with Wano.

Wano led the Storm in RBI (29) while batting .367 with a .406 on-base percentage, .533 slugging percentage, 23 runs, 11 stolen bases and nine doubles.

"He did a great job for me this year with his leadership skills," South Elgin coach Jim Kating said of Doty. "He brought intensity and was a table setter for me. Statistically, I think he only

got thrown out once and he stole over 30 bases (including postseason). He came up big with some clutch hits."

Of Wano, Kating said: "He got hot and did some really nice things. He got put into a position to be able to drive some runs in and played a pretty good third base for me."

Teschke was the leader on the mound with a 5-0 record with 43 strikeouts in 40.2 innings of work, and he finished with a 2.07 ERA.

"He did a fantastic job," Kating said. "He had tremendous growth from last year to this year. I was very proud of him. He wanted the ball and he showed up for games."

Hetelle finished with a .356 batting average, .405 on-base percentage and .452 slugging percentage finish-

ing with 26 hits, 19 runs, 17 RBI, four doubles and a home run.

"He did a really good job out in the outfield," Kating said. "He had some pretty clutch hits for us. He ended up having an appendicitis for the last two weeks, but he came back for the playoff games and did a stellar job for us."

Romasanta finished with a 3-1 record on the mound with 34 strikeouts and a 1.11 ERA in 25.1 innings pitched. At the plate he had 24 RBI, 23 hits, nine doubles, six runs, a .284 batting aver-

age, a .394 on-base percentage and a .432 slugging percentage.

"He did a really good job for us on the mound," Kating said. "He came on and he did well."

South Elgin will also lose seniors Griffin Allen, Grant Baker, Nathan Evensen, Cody Gallagher, Patrick Keaty, John Roberts, Patrick Roy and Robert Zagorski.



Ben Hetelle tracking down a Bartlett fly ball during an early May contest at South Elgin.



Garrett Wano attempting to advance an extra base after singling against Streamwood this season as Sabres' shortstop Tyler Jones applied a tag on Wano.



Austin Doty making a diving catch in shallow center field to rob a West Aurora hitter of a base hit during an April game this season. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)