

# The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 25  
Number 15

"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  
August 21, 2019

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for strong 2019  
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Workshop obtains  
planning feedback  
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## U-46 Board prepared to vote on varied proposals

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on expenditure items totaling \$531,670 at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Aug. 26.

The votes will be on 10 total items that were presented and briefly discussed at the Aug. 12 board meeting. Board member Melissa Owens was absent at that meeting.

The largest proposal is for interactive boards, costing \$67,500 from Dell EMC, and interactive board stands, \$36,750 from PACE Systems, Inc. for elementary libraries. The items will be paid for by the education fund if approved.

"The Literacy Department in collaboration with the Elementary Library Leadership team recommends that each elementary library have an interactive board bundle... to demonstrate the use of library online resources," the proposal states.

A contract renewal with Gorbold Behavioral Consulting, Inc. has a cost of \$75,000, the same price as last year, and would be paid for by the nation's taxpayers through grant funds.

Gorbold would "provide training, assessments, interventions, and/or diagnostic procedures including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)" to "support students with autism and experiencing social emotional challenges across the district based on student" individualized education plans (IEP), the proposal states.

Board member Kate Thommes asked how many students will receive ABA services to which Leatrice Satterwhite, director of specialized student services, said: "We do not provide ABA services as a district, but these individuals provide workshops and training that you would use with ABA for our staff."

Thommes asked if families can opt their students out of ABA and Satterwhite said: "That's fine because we don't provide direct ABA services to any U-46 students."

With Northwest Illinois Association, the district is asking for a contract renewal costing \$70,462 (grant funds) "to help district staff identify and diagnose children with hearing, vision, orthopedic, and multi-impairments"

according to the proposal. The cost is down from \$123,435 last year "due to number of students graduating in 2019."

A contract renewal with Van Acker and Associates has a price tag of \$68,250 (grant funds), up from \$63,720, for a behavior consultant.

"The district continues to need assistance from an expert in behavior with restructuring the Emotional Disability (ED) self-contained program and conduct training embedded in empowering district educators to understand student behaviors as well as the root causes to challenging student behaviors in order to be more proactive and to respond appropriately and effectively," the proposal states.

Costing \$51,490 (grant funds), the district is asking for a contract renewal with Embrace IEP for software for data management of 504 plans. The cost is down from \$55,433 when the software was piloted at four district schools.

Thommes asked if it was the same software as previously used to which Satterwhite said "it is not" but was piloted adding that the previous online system went to a new version which would require staff training. Thommes asked if parents have access to the software and Satterwhite said she was not sure but the district can send electronic IEPs to parents with the software.

A proposal with Dale Carnegie Training has a cost of \$48,300 (education fund) for professional development of operations staff.

Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations, said this will be the third year of the professional development.

Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if the same people will be trained. King said the training was the same each of the last two years and this "will build on the previous two," and a selective process will be used to determine who receives the training.

A contract renewal with Unified Business Solutions has a cost of \$30,067 (education fund) for Microsoft Dynamics GP2016 software used for purchasing and financial operations. The cost is up from \$29,844.

With Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, the district is asking for a contract renewal costing \$29,025 (education fund) for READ 180 and System 44 programs. The cost is up from \$27,825.

"READ 180 is a multimedia program that is designed to meet the specific needs of students whose reading achievement is below grade level," and "System 44 is a foundational reading program designed for the struggling readers," according to the proposal.

A contract renewal with BMC Software, Inc. costs \$28,536 (education fund) for its Footprints software which the proposal says is "a flexible integrated IT service management platform which provides end-to-end flow for Incident and Problem Management." The cost is up from \$21,960.

A bid with Wisco has a price tag of \$26,290 (grant funds) to purchase 11 metal inert gas welding machines for Elgin High School. The "welders are needed for students to perform the specified tests" in order to earn welder certifications.

## Village Board approves professional services pact

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Aug. 15, trustees voted unanimously in approval of a resolution authorizing a professional services contract with MTI Construction Services, LLC., Lombard, for a construction manager at-risk. This contract is for the replacement of Fire Station #31, 1204 S. Park Ave., and renovations to the Public Works Department, 565 S. Bartlett Road, at a cost of \$799,000.

One of the goals for 2019 is facility improvements which includes these two very large projects, according to Village Manager Sharon Caddigan. A construction manager is desirable for these projects as they act as representatives on job sites and hire and organize the subcontractors. This reduces the amount of time village staff will spend monitoring separate simultaneously running projects.

"This is the same process we used in 2005 when we did the police station," said Caddigan.

A construction manager at-risk requires delivery of the project at a guaranteed maximum price (GMP), according to Caddigan.

"This helps to keep overall costs down," Caddigan said.

According to Caddigan, the agreement places a "not to exceed cost of \$799,000 for all reimbursable costs throughout the project" which includes required staff monitoring. The GMP is based on a percentage of the final construction cost. This agreement sets that percentage at 3.25 percent of final costs. After building plans are complete and out to bid for construction, an amended agreement of the finalized costs will be brought to the board.

"This benefits the village in a number of ways," Caddigan said. "Most importantly any savings in the cost

goes back to the owner which is the village."

According to Caddigan, a request for proposals was solicited and four of the 12 companies that submitted proposals were interviewed. These companies were selected based on prior experience working on more than one large project at the same time.

Caddigan said it is difficult to compare the costs between the four companies because the agreement includes a percentage of the final cost. The exact total is not yet known but anticipated total costs ranged from \$1.2 to \$1.4 million.

"We don't know how much the total cost will be until they finish the designs, bid the projects, hire the subcontractors, etc.," Caddigan said. "All of the groups were comparable in their costs. Each company had different reimbursables and percentages. MTI wasn't the lowest or highest (bidder) but they had the experience running two projects concurrently and coming in under budget and on time."

According to Caddigan, comparing costs is also difficult because each company had different "approaches and assumptions" as well.

"As an example, MTI quoted two superintendents, one for each job, while others quote only one for both," Caddigan said. "So to compare the costs they provided is quite difficult."

"MTI Construction Services has done a number of projects in the area," Caddigan added.

"They recently completed some projects in Elk Grove Village similarly running multiple programs at the same time that were also fire stations."

Caddigan said the agreement requires the fire station to be complete in March 2021 and the public works facility in June 2021.



### Taking an unusual seat

Victoria, Charlie and Nathan Rivera thought it would be 'neat' to sit in the bucket of a park district backhoe at the annual Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday, Aug. 10 at Park Place. For story and more photos see page 12.

(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  
August 21, 2019



Financial update  
provided at meeting  
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Softball game pits  
village vs. chamber  
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## Board discusses choices for excess flow facility

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees discussed plans for the wastewater excess flow facility off of Devon Avenue at its committee of the whole meeting on Tuesday, July 16.

New regulations from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) as well as changes from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of greater Chicago has forced the village to look into options for the Devon facility which is

planned for demolition.

Sewer rates have increased in the village in each of the last two years based on plans estimated to cost \$8 million, but now those estimates could cost up to \$12 million.

Village President Kevin Wallace noted that the current concerns stem from new regulations from the IEPA and Dan Dinges, director of public works, stated the state agency added new limits to the village's permit resulting in a violation in 2016.

"We were able to work with the EPA to bring our permit back to the old permit limit through October of 2020... while we worked with trying to work out a solution with MWRD," Dinges said.

Dinges said the village has worked with the MWRD to take all excess flow from the Cook County portion of Bartlett instead of using the Devon facility, and an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) was being drafted requiring the village to rehab a lift station at Devon and Berteau avenues and build a 4-million-gallon storage unit.

In August 2018, the MWRD board approved of working on that IGA which would require them to accept 2.8 million gallons per day (MGD) rather than an original 1.15-million-gallon restriction, but in January of this year the IGA was sent to the village which kept the original restriction.

"We had been in discussion and thought both sides agreed that they would accept 2.8 MGD," Dinges stated. This would require the village to build 5.6 million gallons of storage rather than 4 million.

The 1.15-million-gallon restriction stems from a 1971 agreement with the MWRD.

Building 5.6 million gallons of storage at the Devon site would be tough according to Dinges who said: "It's pretty tight, there is flood plain there and it got awfully tight to try and squeeze that in. We could make it work, but we would have to build it in phases. You'd probably still be building a 4-million-gallon storage tank, demolishing the excess flow facility and building another tank to supplement the remaining capacity."

Dinges said the estimated storage space needed for the village is based on a 2013 storm that created a peak number of 6.7 million gallons of wastewater.

Three options were discussed on how to handle this issue, Dinges saying the third option is the best and most cost-effective option which would be building a new lift station and treating Cook County wastewater at a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) at Bittersweet Drive.

"We believe that the Bittersweet WWTP can handle the excess flow from the MWRD area with minimal changes to the improvements that are already planned for the Bittersweet WWTP," Dinges wrote in a memo. "This allows us to eliminate the De-

von Excess Flow Facility, avoid constructing large storage tanks at the Devon site and paying MWRD for the excess flow. We also are looking at incorporating the existing DuPage lift station that is on the Devon site into the new lift station to eliminate an old lift station."

The first option is to upgrade the Devon facility to meet IEPA regulations which would leave the village open to having to face more IEPA restrictions in the future. The second is to build storage at Devon and drain it to MWRD which would require the village to pay MWRD for water treatment.

Trustee Raymond Deyne asked how this will be paid for and Paula Schumacher, village administrator, said through bonds. Todd Dowden, finance director, noted that there have been two sewer rate hikes with a third hike planned based on the original \$8 million projection.

Dowden stated that sewer rate hikes have been proportionate between Cook and DuPage counties, but DuPage increased "slightly more... based on anticipated capital improvements."

"But the north end of town is bearing the cost, the \$11 to \$12 million, and you factored \$8 million of it in already on the current sewer rates for Cook County?" Trustee Adam Hopkins inquired. Dowden said that was correct.

Deyne said "you're not painting a rosy picture this evening" stating that the third option was the only choice, Dinges stating "you minimize your risk" with that option.

Hopkins agreed the third option was best but, regarding the \$12 million projection, stated: "We've got to get that number down somehow."

"I've got my fingers crossed that it's going to come in lower than that, but until they dig into it we won't know," Dinges said.

Dinges said MWRD's explanation for not accepting 2.8 million gallons was because "if we do it for Bartlett, then they're opening themselves up for every other customer they treat."

Hopkins said that his "big hang-up" was that most other municipalities with the MWRD do not have an excess flow facility and use a gravity flow system.

"It's kind of like we're getting kind of the shaft here, but there was a 1971 agreement made by our village and I guess we have to follow it and it is what it is," Hopkins said.



### Its that time of year again

First-grader Mason Petdel, left, showed his friend and kindergartner Ricky Raphael around school on the first day of school at **Prairieview Elementary School** on Wednesday, Aug. 14. For story and more photos see page 20.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

## Parks contracts supported for full board approval

By Joe Hyland

At the Tuesday, Aug. 13 committee workshop meeting, the Park District Board of Commissioners gave preliminary approval to several contracts.

The first was for the playground replacement project at Valleyview Park. A report from Superintendent of Parks and Planning Kelly O'Brien noted that bids had been opened on Aug. 7. A total of five bids were received ranging from \$113,056 to \$157,572. All bids included the option of removal and replacement of the asphalt trail in the park. The low bidder was Hacienda Landscaping, Inc.

"After viewing it all, staff recommends we hire Hacienda Landscaping in the amount of \$118,916," said

Board President Lori Palmer, noting that the contract would include the removal and replacement of the trail, bringing the total cost to \$118,916.

"What was the budget for it?" Commissioner Ted Lewis asked.

"We're within budget for the whole project," Executive Director Rita Fletcher told him.

The next contract was for asphalt replacement at Bartlett Community Center. A report from O'Brien noted that this is part of the district's capital improvement plan. Three bids were obtained, with the low bidder being A & A Paving Contractors at \$23,520. The plan calls for the removal and replacement of 10,982 square feet of asphalt in the area of the intersection and drive near the Bartlett

Aquatic Center and the drive located near the library.

The final contract was for the repainting of the Lazy River feature at the aquatic center.

"When was the last time we did that?" Palmer asked.

"Fall of 2015," O'Brien responded.

O'Brien's report noted that three bids had been received for this project as well, with the low bidder being Nedrow Decorating, Inc. at \$24,450.

All of the contracts were approved to be moved forward to the general board meeting set for Tuesday, Aug. 27.

The vote was 4-0 with commissioners Steve Eckelberry and Diana Gunsteen being absent.

# Poplar Creek Library offering brick program

**By Kristin Carreno**  
The Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park Ave., is offering engraved bricks for purchase to help fund its paver project. An estimated total of \$31,500 in repairs is needed to repair damage from drainage issues that have affected the sidewalk and main entrance of the building, according to Library District Executive Director Debra Stombres.

According to Stombres, the problem began several years ago and damage to the sidewalk has built up over time. The actual cost to repair the sidewalk is not yet known but is estimated at \$7,500. The cement and paver replacement portion of the project, which needs be done to access the drain, is estimated at \$24,000.

According to Public Relations and Programming Director Mary Hauserman, each 5- by 10-inch brick has four lines and allows up to 16 characters per line for personalized engraving. The cost is \$85 per brick. A one-color logo can be included for an additional \$10. Money from all orders will help cover the cost of the necessary repairs. Brick engraving examples include recognizing a family member, dedication

to a loved one, honoring a beloved pet or celebrating a marriage, birth of a child or other special occasion.

“We thought this would be a great way to help solve the problem while allowing patrons or businesses to dedicate a brick paver to their loved one, family or business,” said Hauserman.

About \$1,000 has been received in donations so far from brick dedication orders for the first phase of the project, according to Stombres. Orders for bricks to be included in the second phase of the project are underway and there is no deadline date set yet for brick orders.

“There is an eight-week lead time to have [bricks] engraved and we hope to start the project in October,” Stombres said. “We will continue to take brick orders and do another set early in the spring if not sooner.”

The engraved brick order form can be found online at [www.pclib.org/donations/2-uncategorised/198-engraved-brick](http://www.pclib.org/donations/2-uncategorised/198-engraved-brick). Logos should be sent as attached files to [bricks@pclib.org](mailto:bricks@pclib.org).

For more information please call Stombres at 483-4917 or email [dstombres@pclib.org](mailto:dstombres@pclib.org).

# U-46 Board reviews ISBE salary, benefit data

**By Seth Hancock**  
On average, School District U-46 employees took 12.3 paid sick days, which is above the allotment allowed under contract, in Fiscal Year 2019 according to the salaries and benefits report generated by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The 51-page report was presented to the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, Aug. 12. Board member Melissa Owens was absent from the meeting.

The salaries and benefits in the report represent a little over half the total salaries and benefits expended by the school district in FY2019 as certain staff and certain income expenditures, like stipends, are excluded from the report.

“This is an annual report,” said Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations. “We send information to ISBE. They send back the final report with what they want on it, what positions, etc.”

The report required no vote from the board.

According to Illinois’ school code, each “school board shall report to the State Board of Education... the base salary and benefits of the district superintendent and all administrators and teachers employed by the school district” and that report “must be presented at a regular school board meeting, subject to applicable notice requirements, and then posted on the Internet website of the school district, if any.”

Sue Kerr, the board’s president, asked what salaries are included for those in the report to which King said “it would be their base salary.”

The salaries listed in the report totaled \$175.4 million while \$397,833 was spent in annuities, \$17.1 million in retirement benefits and \$30 million in other benefits. The FY2020 budget was presented that same evening which showed U-46 spending \$287.9 million in salaries in FY2019 and \$389.3 million with benefits added making this report representative of 60.9 percent of salaries and 57.3 percent of salaries plus benefits.

There were 2,402.4 full-time employ-

ees (FTE) included in the report representing only 50.8 percent of the 4,726 FTEs in FY2019 according to the budget presentation. Those 2,402.4 employees took 29,521 paid sick days according to the report for the 12.3 average.

The U-46 teacher’s union contract in section 16.11, regarding sick leave allotment states: “Each employee will receive twelve (12) days of sick leave per year without loss of pay.”

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that only about 25 percent of American employers offer more than 10 paid sick days a year. A majority of employers offer between five and nine paid sick days while about 25 percent provide less than five paid sick days according to the BLS.

Prior to vacating his seat on the U-46 board, former board member Phil Costello suggested that the district include a disclaimer on its website stating that the salary information is “misleading” because it does not represent the full data.

“There should be a notation on the... staff salary and benefit information list of employees that indicates that there are significant disclosure limitations since the report only provides 60 [percent] of total compensation. Most employees on the list have multiple sources of U-46 compensation beyond the amount listed.”

Costello also suggested the district “focus contracts on individual value of services provided measured by supervisors in performance evaluations and demonstrated positive outcomes rather than arbitrary increases based on length of employment.”



## Clemmons is seeking a positive home

Clemmons is a handsome, mature 8-year-old gentleman who was found as a stray. He is now on the prowl for a permanent partner to spend the rest of his days with. Clemmons is FIV-positive, but he doesn’t let that bother him and it shouldn’t bother his future partner either! FIV is a virus that slowly effects a cats immune system although most infected cats live perfectly long and healthy lives. FIV is not contagious to humans but can be passed through bite wounds. Because of this Clemmons would need to be the only cat in the household or be partnered with another FIV-positive pal. Thanks to the generous donors of DuPage Animal Friends Clemmons’ adoption fee has been waived! For more information please call 630-407-2800 or email [animalservices@dupageco.org](mailto:animalservices@dupageco.org).

*(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)*

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# Latest FY2020 budget presented to U-46 board

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 plans to increase spending by 6.5 percent despite expecting a 2.5 percent decline in enrollment in the 2019-2020 school year as the Fiscal Year 2020 budget was presented to the Board of Education on Monday, Aug. 12. Board member Melissa Owens was absent.

A public hearing on the budget is set for Sept. 9 with a final board vote on Sept. 23.

Expenditures are set at \$594.3 million, a \$36.2 million increase over last year's \$558.1 million budget and a \$14.7 million increase from the \$579.6 million tentatively set for FY2020 in June. Salaries and benefits are the largest expense at \$403.7 million (\$14.4 million increase from last year), and purchased services saw the largest increase (additional \$5.7 million) from the June tentative budget.

Revenues are set at \$596 million, a \$34.9 million or 6.2 percent increase over last year's \$561.1 million budget and a \$15 million increase from the \$581 million in the June tentative budget.

The largest change in revenue from the June tentative budget was from the district's expectations from the state's "evidence-based" funding formula as U-46 expects \$197 million, a \$22.5 million increase from last year as opposed to the \$8.5 million increase expected in June. Local sources make up the largest revenue side which is expected to increase \$9.3 million (\$323.6 million to \$332.9 million) including a \$3.1 million increase in property tax revenue (\$303.8 million to \$306.9 million).

In the FY2019 budget, U-46 projected spending this year to only rise by \$1 million to \$559.1 million and revenue by \$3.2 million to \$564.3 million.

U-46 expects a loss of 950 total students in enrollment from 38,394 in 2018-2019 to 37,444 this year. At the same time of the enrollment declines, the budget adds 84 total full-time employee (FTE) positions for 4,810 total FTEs which include new administrators, interventionists, instructional coaches and staff for special education and English language learners according to Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations.

Based on this year's enrollment projection, the district plans to utilize only 67 percent of its capacity of 56,224.

The trend of spending increases, including adding staff, despite enrollment declines has been ongoing over the last four years and is projected to remain into the foreseeable future according to the budget's forecast.

From 2018-2019 to 2022-2023, the district expects a loss of 3,449 total students for a 9 percent decrease in enrollment (38,394 to 34,945). At the same time, spending is projected to rise 14 percent. The district projects a loss of on average 862.3 students per year and only 62 percent of its capacity being utilized by 2022-2023.

Spending is projected to rise on average \$14 million each year for \$636.2 million total by 2023. Revenues are expected to rise an average \$13.6 million annually for \$636.9 million total in 2023.

On the property tax levy, U-46 plans to continue its trend of asking for the largest allowed under the law and plans an abatement. The levy amount will be determined in December according to Burnidge.

"Our property tax can grow at a rate of inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), plus any revenue from new construction," said Burnidge. He said CPI was 2.1 percent in 2016 and 2017 and 1.9 percent in

2018 with a projected 1.9 percent in 2019.

Burnidge said "looking forward, we're projecting about \$6 million a year" in additional property taxation with a projected 2 percent CPI. The levy is estimated to be \$324 million by 2022.

Along with the \$197 million in "evidence-based" state revenue, the district projects \$27.3 million over four state categorical payments.

Burnidge noted one of the categorical payments from the state comes from an "orphanage claim."

Board member Kate Thommes asked what the "orphanage claim" was and Burnidge said: "That's one of the special ed claims that we do submit to the state where we do get reimbursed for some of those costs. It's not a large amount, but it's a smaller amount."

No further explanation of what the "orphanage claim" is was given.

In 2017 under the former general state aid formula, U-46 received \$120 million according to Burnidge. Under the "evidence-based" formula that has increased to \$157 million in 2018 and \$178 million in 2019, this from a state that's \$160.9 billion in debt according to usdebtclock.org.

On federal funding, Burnidge said "our federal levels are very similar to last year" with an expected \$38.8 million.

On the spending side, Burnidge said "about 70 percent of our total budget" comes from salaries and benefits and noting that "we've added additional staffing positions" and there is an expected 5 percent rise in health insurance costs.

Salaries are expected to increase from \$254 million in 2016 to \$303 million this year and benefits from \$90 million to \$101 million. Combined, that's an increase from \$344 million to \$404 million.

Other expenditures presented included \$38 million for capital projects, \$6.9 million for technology and \$4.1 million for replacement of 43 buses.

Also noted was additional funds set aside for schools to propose "innovations." U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said: "If their school, their site and their teachers have innovations that they would like to propose to be funded across the district, then we would consider those as long as they align to the board's five-year vision."

Sanders said an attachment with further details was provided to the board, but it was not posted for the public.

On debt management, Burnidge said U-46's principal has been reduced \$101 million since the last major debt issuance in 2015 and the outstanding principal debt will be \$218 million by the end of FY2020.

In 2019, the district plans to pay \$23 million on the principal and \$20 million on interest payments. Interest payments are expected to be higher than principal payments in 2020 (\$23 million interest/\$21 million principal), 2021 (\$26 million interest/\$16 million principal) and 2022 (\$27 million interest/\$16 million principal).

The board spent less than 10 minutes discussing the budget with the majority of that discussion from administrators lauding its plan to add more instructional coaches.



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# School year begins anew for students

Students at **Prairieview Elementary School** arrived to start a new school year on Wednesday, Aug. 4. They caught up with friends and met their teachers; kindergartners started to find their way around the school and learned how to be good students.



Morgan Mroz was dressed to the nines for her first day as a kindergartner at Prairieview Elementary School.



From left, Dane Augustine, Bradley Knight and AJ and Michael Schulze at the end of their first day of school at Prairieview Elementary.



The last group of students boarded their school bus for home.



Students 'lockers' were full of school supplies for the new year.



Kindergarten teacher Kim Deering reading to her class.

(Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)

# School begins anew for village students

During the first week of school at Clinton Elementary, students were getting settled in to their new classrooms, teachers had memorized most of their students' names, and kindergartners were getting used to the idea of going to school.



Krista Jones' class featured pictures of her students they made earlier in the week.



Students met art teacher Tom Bremer on his first day at Clinton Elementary School.



Teachers welcomed students back to school with a large banner signed by all.



Second-graders wrote a letter in Molly Roberts' writing class.



Kindergartners Ryan Papins, Brooklyn Dovichi and Giuliani Solita in Cyndi Entwistle's class played with 'Magic Sticks' for their game time activity.



Erin Phillips read a story to first-graders.



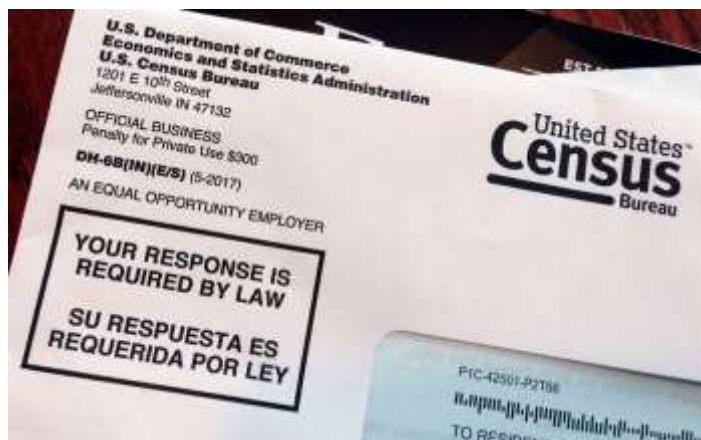
Students in Simira Lazar's class lined up to go outside. (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)

## Press Clippings 08/21/2019

---Daily Herald---08/21/2019

### How Elgin hopes to reach 'hard-to-count groups' in 2020 census

By: Elena Ferrarin



The city of Elgin and Gail Borden Public Library are launching a "2020 Elgin Complete Count" effort next week. This photo shows an envelope containing a 2018 census letter mailed as part of a test run of the 2020 Census.

The city of Elgin and Gail Borden Public Library are launching a "2020 Elgin Complete Count" effort next week, including a focus on reaching groups most at risk for undercounting, such as young children and foreign-born residents.

Laura Valdez, Elgin's assistant city manager, and Denise Raleigh, who oversees public relations/communications for the library, co-chair the initiative, whose goal is create a network of people to spread the word and ensure participation for an accurate count of the entire community.

"We want to make sure we have the right messengers," such as faith-based organizations and nonprofits, "to reach these hard-to-count groups ... so we can ensure accurate information and we can build awareness and trust," Valdez said.

The library received approval for a \$40,000 grant from the Chicago nonprofit Forefront and a \$148,490 grant from the Illinois Secretary of State to fund the census count effort, Raleigh said.

The city might contribute some money for specific initiatives, Valdez said.

The money will be used to: hire part-time staff; buy tablets so residents can fill out online census forms; print materials, translations, flyers, yard signs and T-shirts; provide media advertisement including in Spanish, Pace buses and billboards; and boost Facebook messaging, Raleigh said.

The initiative includes a mayor's advisory committee with 17 members and several subcommittees, and more than 50 partners, such as Elgin and Hanover townships, Amita St. Joseph and Advocate Sherman hospitals, Centro de Informacion and Elgin Community College.

Federal funds totaling \$675 billion per year for everything from hospitals to roads are distributed to local communities based on population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, race and other factors, the [U.S. Census says](#).

The 2010 Census showed Elgin had 108,188 residents; estimates for 2018 put the city's population at 111,683.

The Kane County Board recently received information from the Illinois Complete Count Commission and the U.S. Census Bureau showing a potential 97,901 individuals, or 19% of the county's population, were not counted in 2010, with a potential loss of \$176 million per year since 2010, county board member Mo Iqbal said.

"The complete count is about money and power -- without a complete count we lose both the federal tax dollars, and the representation in the congress and electoral college," he said.

In 2010, kids under age 5 were [undercounted](#) by 4.6%. [Elgin Area School District U-46](#) plans to implement a "multimedia interactive communication plan" with posters, videos and more, and school leadership and staff members will encourage students and families to be counted, spokeswoman [Mary Fergus](#) said.

By law, census information is confidential and not shared with anyone, including federal, state and local agencies. Still, immigrant communities can be reluctant to participate, particularly in the wake of President Donald Trump's controversial attempt to add a citizenship question to the census, Raleigh said. That was stopped in June by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Our message is about trust," Raleigh said.

## **Schools benefiting from commitment to funding**

As we begin the 2019-20 school year in U-46, we'd like to give thanks to the Illinois General Assembly and all those who worked to successfully fix the state education funding formula. Under Evidence-Based Funding, the state now directs more funds to students in previously under-resourced districts, including School District U-46. The legislation, signed into law in 2017, reflects a growing understanding about the connection between equity, adequacy and student outcomes.

While we are still far from what the state recognizes as our district's adequacy level (U-46 is considered to be funded at 59 percent adequacy), we have already been able to provide significant support to our more than 38,000 students through this new revenue.

We have lowered class sizes for kindergarten through second-grade students. We have added more instructional coaches, giving teachers the ongoing guidance needed to improve their professional practice in order to reach all learners. Last year we were able to restore guidance counselors to each of our middle schools, and this year we were able to add assistant principals to 10 of our larger elementary schools.

We rolled out our 1:1 technology program last year with Chromebooks for all high school students. This year, we've expanded that program to fifth- through twelfth-graders, distributing a total of 26,000 Chromebooks since last year.

Finally, we've been able to make some long-needed upgrades to our more than 55 school buildings and facilities with new high school libraries, some much-needed paint, as well as less visible changes that impact heating and cooling, building structures and general maintenance. We have also been able to abate property tax levies to help our residents.

The commitment to funding public education in a fair and equitable manner is already benefiting students in need. The continued focus will benefit the state of Illinois for generations to come.

Tony Sanders  
Chief Executive Officer  
School District U-46

## **SPORTS**

### **---The Courier-News---08/21/2019**

Boys Basketball

#### **Elgin grad Allen takes over at alma mater**

Posted 156-43 record during tenure in Vegas

**By: Paul Johnson**



Todd Allen has been hired as Elgin's varsity boys basketball coach, replacing Dave Hess.

Since moving back to the area from Nevada in 2016, Elgin graduate Todd Allen has had the itch to be a head basketball coach.

When he saw the job posting at his alma mater during the summer, he initially thought it must be a mistake.

It was no mistake.

Dave Hess resigned in July after only one year at the helm, and Allen saw that as an open door. He has been hired as Elgin's varsity boys basketball coach.

"When I found out about it I talked to my wife (Tina) and was like, 'I can't believe this,' " Allen said. "I know Hess was hired last year. I talked to her and she said, 'You know what, this is what you want. Go do it.' She supports me.

“It’s a good opportunity. We have a lot of work to do, but I think I’m up to the challenge.”

Allen, who turns 49 in October, graduated from Elgin in 1988, but he never played varsity basketball. His family moved to Las Vegas after high school and he followed, eventually graduating from UNLV.

Allen wound up coaching and teaching at Centennial in Las Vegas. He worked at the high school for 15 years, spending seven seasons as the varsity boys basketball coach.

He coached several NCAA Division I players, including Troy Brown Jr., who was drafted in the first round by the Washington Wizards in 2018.

At Centennial, Allen had a 156-43 record and won four league titles with the varsity, according to the Las Vegas Journal-Review.

“I started at the bottom,” Allen said. “I volunteered with the freshmen, worked my way up. We had some good players come through there, had some good people around me. That always helps.”

After moving back to the area three years ago due to his wife’s job, Allen returned to coaching by helping out at Round Lake, spending a season as a varsity assistant at Mundelein and helping out at a middle school.

Allen is back at a familiar place doing what he was hoping to do once again — coach varsity basketball.

“I’m excited,” Allen said. “When the job opened, the timing couldn’t have been better. I was kind of looking. When I saw it was Elgin, that’s when I thought this would be a great opportunity.”

In former assistant Jeff Howard, Allen will welcome a familiar face back to Elgin bench’s. Allen also is excited to have the recently renovated Chesbrough Fieldhouse as an asset.

“I told the kids, you have a great facility,” Allen said. “We’re going to utilize it. We want people to come out. We have to get things going here.”

The Maroons are coming off a 6-24 season. Allen is tasked with bringing the program back to prominence. Elgin hasn’t won a regional in eight seasons or a sectional since 2007-08.

Allen pointed to rival Larkin’s trip to state two seasons ago as an inspiration.

“We want to get to that point,” Allen said. “Hopefully, we can build what (Larkin coach Deryn Carter has) done over there and do our own little thing and make our own mark.

“I think with time and if people buy in, I think we can turn things around. I really do.”

# Police Reports

Continued from page 3

for processing, where he later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

**Sunday, Aug. 11**

★ At 4:05 a.m., in the 27W0 block of North, Trinette A. Barfield, 44, of the 300 block of Springlake, Aurora, was arrested for DUI, DUI-BAC>.08, speeding, no insurance and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle. She was transported to the police department for processing, where she later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

**Friday, Aug. 16**

★ At 10:47 p.m., in the 200 block of West North, Christian J. Leon, 23, of the 800 block of Fulton, Aurora, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and cannabis, failure to obey a stop sign and driving while license suspended. He was transported to the police department for processing, where he later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

court date.

## SOUTH ELGIN

**Wednesday, Aug. 7**

★ At 3:04 a.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Burke for a vehicle check.

**Thursday, Aug. 8**

★ At 9:21 a.m., police responded to the 700 block of East State for a fraud report.

★ At 1:49 p.m., police responded to the 700 block of Glenwood for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle in progress.

★ At 3:45 p.m., police responded to the 1400 block of Exeter for a report of a drug law violation.

★ At 5:02 p.m., police responded to the 500 block of East Middle for a 911 investigation.

★ At 8:04 p.m., police responded to McDonalds, 100 N. McLean Blvd., for a warrant service.

**Friday, Aug. 9**

★ At 12:05 a.m., police responded to the 900 block of West Kane for a DUI.

★ At 8:42 a.m., police responded to Home Depot, 440 Randall Road, for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

★ At 8:45 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of South Collins for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

★ At 8:56 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of Randall and Stearns roads for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

★ At 9:03 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of South McLean and West Spring for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

★ At 10:54 a.m., police responded to Ross Dress for Less, 484 Randall Road, for a report of theft.

★ At 12:13 p.m., police responded to Coffee Haus of South Elgin, 406 Randall Road, for a report of criminal damage to a vehicle.

★ At 12:16 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Kenilworth for a report of criminal damage to property.

★ At 12:22 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Burke for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

★ At 1:28 p.m., police responded to Jewel, 375 Randall Road, for a report of a suspicious vehicle.

★ At 1:51 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Ione for a fraud report.

★ At 3:44 p.m., police responded to the 800 block of Sundown for a report of a domestic in progress.

★ At 4 p.m., police responded to Springs at South Elgin, 350 Gyor Ave., for a trespassing complaint.

★ At 4:51 p.m., police responded to HD Plumbing and Heating, Inc., 860 Commerce Drive, for a report of an activated alarm.

★ At 5:18 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Lenox for a report of a domestic in progress.

★ At 6:55 p.m., police responded to Animal Care Clinic and Pet Rescue 477 Briargate Drive, for an indecent exposure complaint.

★ At 7:33 p.m., police responded to the Sperry Park, 730 Dean Drive, for a child custody dispute.

★ At 11:43 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of South Collins for a report of a suspicious incident.

**Saturday, Aug. 10**

★ At 1:24 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of Ann for a report of a domestic in progress.

★ At 3:16 a.m., police responded to the 500 block of South East for a report of a suspicious vehicle.

★ At 10:26 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of Clove and North Camden for a report of an obstruction in the roadway.

★ At 1:22 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Sandhurst for a report of fraud.

★ At 1:35 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Woodridge for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle.

★ At 4:48 p.m., police responded to Brar Dentistry, 300 Randall Road, for a report of an activated alarm.

★ At 7:19 p.m., police responded to

## Storm soccer sets sights high for new season

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team hopes to improve on last season under a new coaching staff as the Storm prepare for the 2019 season.

The Storm went 3-14-2 overall, 1-8 in the Upstate Eight Conference, last year.

Despite some struggles in 2018, South Elgin's young team gained some valuable experience and this season first-year coach Jerzy Skowron has set a goal of winning a conference title.

"The talent at the schools in the conference, especially within the five high schools in the district, is very high every year," Skowron said. "So without question, it's going to be a challenge. We feel that we absolutely have the talent to compete every day with the top teams in the conference, and we're not going to settle for anything less."

The Storm does return an all-conference recipient in senior forward Lucas Reutimann. Some other key returners include seniors Anthony Sisler (midfielder) and Grayson Downing (forward) as well as juniors Zachary Juszek (goalkeeper), Elijah Patrick (midfielder), Edwin Ayala (defender), Ryan Doherty (defender) and Danny Quintana (midfielder).

Some newcomers to watch include

senior Angel Resendiz (forward), juniors Nick Flores (forward) and Kenneth Ean (midfielder) and sophomore Brandon McKee (defender).

Skowron said that "fitness was an issue" to start the summer, but the squad has grown and he said it has to continue growing to see success.

"The boys will have to continue to grow as people, as students and as athletes as we continue to build the family culture that we've been preaching all summer," Skowron said. "And I think they're going to see the fruits of their labor sooner rather than later. They'll need to continue to play and fight for each other every single day because in all reality, the biggest obstacle standing in their way will always be themselves. So the more that we can get them to fight for each other, the easier it will be to attain the goals that we're setting for each other."

Skowron added: "We are very talented, and we will turn some heads as we make noise heading through the season. The boys are buying into the new culture, and that just goes to show how coachable these young men are, and can be."

South Elgin opens the season on the road for a nonconference match against St. Charles East on Monday, Aug. 26.

## South Elgin volleyball team to be young, inexperienced

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin volleyball team will be inexperienced in 2019 but will have potential as the Storm prepares for the upcoming season.

The Storm set a program record for wins last year finishing 27-10 overall with an 8-1 record in the Upstate Eight Conference but did lose most of its roster to graduation including four all-conference recipients (Hayley Fisher, McKayla Geraghty, Kendall Richardson, Anna Skrzypchak).

"With graduating eight players, there are a lot of new faces on the team," said South Elgin coach Joni Plach. "My conference and overall goals are to play each team competitively."

South Elgin returns four-year varsity starter senior Angelina Negron who will be expected to help lead the team this year.

"She has had a lot of great role models in her three years of learning how

to be a leader," Plach said. "She is ready to take on the role of leader this year."

The rest of the Storm's roster is made up of five more seniors, one junior and three underclassmen who are all new to the varsity squad this year.

With a new team the squad will need to gain some confidence and experience according to Plach, but she said the team is eager to learn and compete.

"We need to work on having confidence and working together as a team," Plach said. "Even though there is only one girl who played varsity last year, each girl has the talent to play at this level."

Plach added: "South Elgin has a long tradition of having successful volleyball teams. The new girls are excited to represent South Elgin."

South Elgin will open the season on the road with a nonconference match against Geneva on Tuesday, Aug. 27.

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# Chicago Loop waiver approved at meeting

**By Kristin Carreno**  
Trustees, at the Aug. 15 Village Board meeting, voted unanimously in favor of renewing a locational restrictions waiver to permit live entertainment with alcohol service in a C-2 commercial district. The renewal was granted to Chicago Loop, 7 W. Streamwood Blvd. According to Director of Community Development John Peterson, this motion renews the waiver which was originally granted in September 2011 to Michael Maznuk, the petitioner. The zoning code requires that the village board review the status of the waiver yearly and recommend it either be renewed or revoked based on certain criteria. "The petitioner has submitted the required application and supplemental information," said Peterson. "We have reviewed all the information provided. We also included a memorandum from the police department concerning calls."

Peterson added there have been no complaints regarding the live entertainment at the establishment over the past year. According to Peterson, this is an existing property in a developed shopping center and is bound on the north, south and west by developed C-2 zoned commercial uses and to the east by developed R-3 single-family residences. According to Peterson, Maznuk is in conformance with the standards of the code including the requirement to have a minimum of 35 percent of total sales in food versus alcohol. "He also believes there has been no adverse impact in the neighborhood last year and conforms to the requirements of the waiver," Peterson said. Village President Billie Roth asked Maznuk if there was "anything he would like to say." "Thank you for considering us each year," Maznuk responded.

## Sabres soccer squad set for strong season in 2019

**By Seth Hancock**  
The Streamwood soccer team has high expectations for the upcoming season as the Sabres prepare for 2019. The Sabres went 18-5-3 overall last year, 6-1-2 to finish second in the Upstate Eight Conference, and advanced to their first super-sectional game since 2014 when Streamwood made its first state appearance. This year, making state is a goal along with seeking the UEC title and tournament titles at Barrington and the PepsiCo Showdown. "The team came close again to winning the conference championship, and this season they want to win the Upstate Eight championship for sure," said Streamwood coach Matt Polovin. "The team has already said the season will be a major let down if they don't get back to the state finals. They were last there in 2014 and came so close last season with a 1-0 loss to Lake Park in the super-sectional game. They have a very tough schedule but will be ready to go against Metea Valley in their season opener." Streamwood has plenty of talent coming back including a pair of all-conference recipients in senior attack-center midfielder Edwin "Pee-

Wee" Peralta and junior center back Jose Ibarra. Polovin called Ibarra the top "defender in the state and one of the best defenders in high school in the country" and Peralta, who had five goals and 10 assists last year, the "top midfielder in the area." Some other key returners are seniors Leo Magana (center midfielder) and Josh Taboada (center back), junior Jose Banuelos (forward) and sophomore Fernando Mancera (outside back). Newcomers to watch include freshmen Angel Diaz (center forward), Michael Garcia (forward), Aldo Jimenez (midfielder) and Aaron Taboada (holding midfielder). With its entire backline returning, Polovin said defense will be the strength for Streamwood. "Biggest strength will definitely be our defense," Polovin said. "When you're led by one of the best defenders in the country, that is a great start as well as surrounded by the same group, who led the team to the super-sectional game last season. All the defenders are back, faster and stronger." Streamwood will be on the road against Metea Valley for the nonconference opener on Monday, Aug. 26.

## Police to participate in statewide Labor Day initiative

As Illinoisans gear up for Labor Day celebrations throughout the state, the Streamwood Police Department announced its plans for a traffic safety campaign focusing on drunk, unbuckled and distracted drivers. "Our goal is to help ensure that our community's residents and visitors make it home safely after the party ends," said Deputy Chief Shawn Taylor. "We'll be out in force to keep impaired drivers off the roads. If you'll be celebrating, we urge you to plan ahead for a sober ride. It could be a matter of life or death." The police department is partnering with the Illinois State Police and local law enforcement across Illinois for the increased statewide effort. The high-visibility crackdown will run from Aug. 16 through the holiday weekend into the early morning hours of Tuesday, Sept. 3. Police remind all before the fun starts

this Labor Day, remember to designate a sober driver and don't let friends or family members drive drunk. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair judgment and reaction times, making driving unsafe. The "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign is funded by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The crackdown runs concurrently with a media campaign reminding motorists that impaired driving has "Life or Death" consequences. Visit LifeOrDeathIllinois.com for more information.

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# Connections

Poplar Creek Public Library

- Dedicate a Brick**  
Memorialize a loved one, recognize your business, and support your library by purchasing a personalized engraved brick paver for the west entrance of the Main Library in Streamwood. For more information visit [pclub.org/donations](http://pclub.org/donations) or pick up a flyer in the library.

**Navigating the College Process**  
**Thursday, Aug. 22 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting Room 1**  
Are you confused about the daunting college process? Want to avoid myths and misconceptions? Learn little-known financial strategies to increase financial aid in this 90-minute workshop presented by My College Planning Team.

**Written in Stone**  
**Thursday, Aug. 22 at 7 p.m.**  
**Meeting Room 2**  
Cemeteries can be critical for finding information related to the births and deaths of our ancestors. When there is a lack of records, sometimes the only information we have will be on a gravestone. Come to this informative presentation on research in cemeteries, alternative source when death records cannot be located. Registration is required; space is limited. Call 483-4927 to register

**Kids Drop-in Craft**  
**Tuesday, Aug. 27 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**  
**Sonya Crawshaw Branch**  
Stop by the Branch Library in Hanover Park to make and take a fun craft! All supplies will be provided, but are limited. Ages 3 and up. No registration-just stop by! Questions? Call the Branch at 372-3131.

**Picasso Art Class**  
**Thursday, Aug. 29 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting Room 1**

- There are still seats available for our popular step-by-step art class with instructor Sarah Nasir. No experience needed! This month we will be painting a beautiful waterfall scene. Registration required; Poplar Creek Library cardholders only. \$5 material fee to be paid upon registration. To register, please call 483-4910 or visit our website calendar.
- Funny Film Friday!**  
**Friday, Aug. 23 at 2 p.m.**  
**Meeting Room 1**  
Enjoy some laughs at the library with hilarious new and classic movies. Refreshments will be provided. No registration required-just drop in! For specific movie title, please call 483-4910.
- Wildlife in Your Community**  
**Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting Room 3**  
Come and learn about all the different wildlife that live in your community. Presented by Crabtree Nature Center. Sponsored by the Tri-Village Garden Club and Poplar Creek Library. Registration is preferred, but walk-ins are also welcome! Register online or call 483-4910.

For a complete listing of scheduled programs at Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park Ave., in Streamwood or Sonya Crawshaw Branch, 4300 Audrey Lane in Hanover Park, visit [www.poplarcreeklibrary.org](http://www.poplarcreeklibrary.org). Questions? Call 837-6800.



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# Feedback provided at village workshop event

By Kristin Carreno

On Thursday, Aug. 8, village staff, the entire village board and all department heads attended a workshop that contained a presentation focusing on 2020 goals, observations and opportunities in the village.

Barbara Hornbach, an engagement team member from Executive Service Corporation (ESC), Chicago, presented staff with the results from 17 interviews conducted of representatives and owners of not for profit businesses and organizations in the village.

Village Manager Sharon Caddigan indicated that for the past 30 years the village has used “goals and objectives sessions” or “workshop meetings between village board and staff” to review issues relevant to the community and plan priorities for the upcoming budget year.

“This is essentially part of the village budget process,” Caddigan said. “The point of goals and objectives is to come up with priorities our residents want us to focus on as a guide for budgeting.”

According to Hornbach, mostly educators and social service providers within Hanover Township, the Streamwood Park District, school district and the library were interviewed in June.

Hornbach said the majority of responses indicated these individuals had positive relationships with village staff and department heads and described them as “open, supportive and interactive with residents.” When asked about the village itself, multiple responses included the words “progressive, accessible, well managed and organized.”

A common concern among respondents was if residents were receiving enough services and support to live comfortably, according to Hornbach. The village supports Hanover Township Food Pantry, clothing drives, transportation and social services. However, raising the level of these services and adding more, specifically for

senior citizens and the disabled, was mentioned by respondents.

“Youth services, gyms to keep kids off the streets, mental health and substance abuse services - those are the kinds of things we have been hearing from this collection of organizations that we interviewed,” Hornbach said.

According to Hornbach, another common concern was Streamwood High School.

“Some people said we need to improve perception of safety and academic quality in the high school,” Hornbach said.

Hornbach said participants described Streamwood police as “supportive, helpful and responsive.”

Diversity and bringing people together in a variety of innovative ways was also discussed among the people interviewed, according to Hornbach.

English as a second language classes are offered. Hornbach indicated that interviewees suggested providing more bilingual services, especially to new residents.

According to Caddigan, the village has used a number of different consultants over the years including Northern Illinois University, private consultants and ESC. ESC has been working with the village for approximately 10 years.

“We contract with them annually to perform the assessment,” Caddigan said.

Village staff asks various stakeholders or partners to be interviewed to get input on key issues, according to Caddigan. This year’s interviews included a number of community partners such as “elected and appointed officials from the park district, school district, township, library, etc.”

“We do a lot of joint programming with many of these groups to most cost efficiently serve our residents,” Caddigan said. “The interviews touched on issues these groups felt were important for us to consider as we look at village programs and services.”

# Sabres volleyball seeking a productive new season

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood volleyball team looks to have a productive 2019 season as the Sabres prepare for the campaign under a new coach.

The Sabres finished 7-26-2 overall, 2-7 in the Upstate Eight Conference, last season and return several key players from last year.

New Streamwood coach Shelly Mueller’s goals are to be competitive in the conference and improve on last season’s record.

“I am excited to see what they can do in conference and hope to improve both our conference record and overall record,” Mueller said. “We have a lot of athletes but only a few girls that play club, so this season is really about getting everyone on the same page and improving our team play. We have a lot of good pieces so coming together and playing as a team is going to be key.”

Some key returners will be seniors Kaylee Angle (middle hitter), Alexa Silva (libero) and Mariely Sotclo (outside hitter).

Some other players expected to contribute are seniors Leandra Gottschalk (setter) and Mary Rackow (setter) as well as juniors Natalie Stoch (outside hitter) and Vivian Sumoski (right side hitter).

“I am really excited about this group at the varsity level,” Mueller said. “We

have several returning players and also a good athletic group of juniors that are ready to step up into varsity roles. This is a team that can develop and really make some changes for Streamwood volleyball.”

Mueller added: “I think we are going to be able to run a very fun and dynamic offense. We have a lot of hitters that are smart and can move people around. I think this is going to be a fun and effective year offensively for us.”

The Sabres open the season on the road for a nonconference game at Chicago’s University High on Tuesday, Aug. 27.

Facebook not to be utilized

Due to the recent privacy breeches on Facebook that resulted in massive losses of personal data *The Examiner* will no longer publish any items that list, reference or utilize specific Facebook addresses.

The extensive breeches were the subject of a Federal Trade Commission investigation that resulted in a huge financial settlement.

Letters to the Editor

Deadline for letters is noon on Monday. Please include a phone number for verification, and submit letters electronically.

All letters are printed as received. Grammatical and spelling errors are the responsibility of the author.

## Bipartisan Fiscal Suicide

Dear Editor

*“Bipartisan.” Headlines that use this word should be a huge red flag for any supporter of the Constitution and liberty. Remember how George Carlin used to put it?*

*“The word bipartisan usually means some larger-than-usual deception is being carried out”*

*No kidding. And this time, the “bipartisan” is a massive economic ripoff.*

*Recently, the federal House passed a new spending bill. And it’s not good. It increases discretionary spending to \$1.375 TRILLION. The deal will allow for an increase in both domestic and military spending.*

*In other words, no spending cuts.*

*It also includes \$320 billion in additional spending over existing law and simply suspends the debt ceiling until mid-2021.*

*It’s impossible for anyone to vote in favor of this bill - or sign it - and simultaneously keep their oath to the Constitution.*

*I covered this in some detail recently in an edition of Path to Liberty. Here’s a little of what I talked about on the show:*

*What did George Washington have to say about spending, the “public credit,” and debt? Quite a bit, actually;*

*Some strong statements from 2011-2016 on how the debt absolutely needs to be reduced;*

*A brief overview of the latest spending insanity that passed the House and is probably passing the Senate too;*

*A promise to never sign something like this again. Actually, that’s what the oath of office requires; and*

*James Madison’s timeless warning about three things, including DEBT.*

*I can’t thank you enough for reading, listening, watching - and your support! Before you go, I’m asking you to join the TAC today - we need your support more than ever. And as little as 2 bucks a month helps us make a difference.*

*We don’t need everyone to join us, but we do need you. It only takes a small percentage of people to power a movement.*

*As we start our 14th year (we just celebrated our 13 year anniversary on June 25), your financial support guarantees we can keep building on this strong foundation for the Constitution and liberty.*

*You may join by going to: [www.shop.tenthamendmentcenter.com](http://www.shop.tenthamendmentcenter.com).*

*On behalf of everyone who rolls up their sleeves every day to help spread this message of liberty, thank you.*

*Concordia res parvae crescunt (small things grow great by concord).*

Michael Boldin  
Tenth Amendment Center

## New gun legislation would not work

Dear Editor,

*In 2016, there were 11,004 gun homicides in the United States. Additionally, 10,497 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes. Why do leftists demonize guns but are silent when it comes to alcohol’s role in DUI deaths?*

*Some big government types want new legislation severely restricting gun purchases. But it won’t work.*

*Recently, a convicted felon walked into the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago and open fired with a rifle; another convicted felon with an extensive criminal history of weapons opened fire on Philadelphia police officers, wounding six; and a shooter, also a felon, killed a California Highway Patrol Officer.*

*Current gun laws did not stop these criminals who are already legally barred from possessing a firearm from using guns to attack others.*

*We should stop the feckless politicking and political correctness and admit that we have a cultural problem. We should look at the rise in secularization, family breakdown, drug abuse, mental illness, identity-politics and demand personal responsibility and accountability.*

*BTW - with the legalization of weed, the*

*numbers of intoxicated drivers and deaths will certainly increase in the coming years, as will violence-related marijuana-induced psychosis.*

*Forgetting God and His ways have consequences.*

David E. Smith  
Executive Director  
Illinois Family Institute

## Taking issue with mandated teaching

Dear Editor,

*So now Gov. Pritzker signed a bill, House Bill 246, that will ensure students in Illinois public schools will learn about the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in state and national history.*

*Of course there is no fair and balancing law which ensures that students learn about the similar contributions of the millions of decent moral Americans (and a few billion people around the world) opposed to the normalization of immoral sexual activity and sexual/gender disorders. Since thinking people have known for centuries that homosexual activity is clearly immoral (Plato, for example, perceptively taught that over two thousand years ago, and many other intellectuals have taught that over the centuries), what this new law means is that Illinois’ public schools will now be used to promote immoral, disordered lifestyles. In other words, the public schools will now be used to corrupt the morals of children.*

*Decent ethical people should be outraged over this. In a way, this can be considered a subtle form of child abuse, of taking advantage of children. Children are too young to be able to refute the lame and silly “arguments” heterophobic homosexuals use. The indisputable facts are: female minds in male bodies and male minds in female bodies and homosexual minds in heterosexual bodies are obvious signs that something went wrong somewhere (in nature and/or nurture), are obvious signs of mind/body mismatches or disorders. So to put transgenders and heterophobic homosexuals on the same level as normal heterosexuality is clearly absurd.*

*No rational person can deny that. (But liberals have a problem processing inconvenient facts.) School districts around this state should not take this extremist liberal nonsense sitting down. They should get together and sue the state and take the case, if need be, all the way to the Supreme Court, which thankfully is becoming more conservative (and more rational).*

Wayne Lela

## Taxpayers need more friends in Springfield

Dear Editor,

*Transportation is a vital part of the Illinois economy.*

*When it comes to Interstate highways, Illinois has the third most Interstates in the nation. New York has 31 Interstates, while California and Texas both have 25. Illinois comes in third with 24 Interstates. There is no question that Illinois, with its location in the center of the country, is a transportation hub in the Midwest.*

*Funding our roads and infrastructure is important not just to the Illinois economy, but in the national economy as well. Funding transportation needs, though, should be handled responsibly. Unfortunately, Illinois’ track record on responsible spending is abysmal.*

*Does anyone really trust Springfield politicians to put real priorities over political priorities? We certainly do not.*

*The Capital plan the House and the Senate approved at the end of the legislative session has very little specifics on where the money is going, while simultaneously doubling the gas tax on poor and middle-class families and raising the license plate renewal by \$50 on Illinois drivers. Illinois taxpayers deserve to know how their*