Press Clippings 1/17/2018

---Courier News--- 1/17/18 EMSA heads downstate for first principal

With 22-year career, Fuhr comes to Elgin from Jacksonville BY RAFAEL GUERRERO



Lezlie Fuhr meets with officials Tuesday after being announced as principal of the Elgin Math and Science Academy. (Rafael Guerrero/Courier-News)

A downstate elementary school principal will be the Elgin Math and Science Academy's first principal, school officials announced Tuesday.

Lezlie Fuhr has been principal of North Jacksonville Elementary School since 2006, and in education for 22 years. North Jacksonville is part of Jacksonville School District 117, located about four hours southwest of Elgin.

"After reading the EMSA charter proposal, I was inspired to put what I have learned into practice, and bring EL Education to the local community," Fuhr said in a written statement. "This is an exciting endeavor, and I cannot wait to bring the wow and wonder of an engaging curriculum to our student body."

Kerry Kelly, Elgin Charter School Initiative president, said Fuhr's annual salary will be between \$105,000 and \$115,000.

On Tuesday, Fuhr met with the media and school officials at the Neil Building, the site of the charter school set to open this fall. Walking through the classrooms and hallways of the former Fox River Country Day School site, the incoming principal said she was as enamored with the building now as she was when she interviewed there late last year.

"What really excites me is we can build this from the ground up, make it what it needs to be instead of having to settle within the constructs of a traditional school setting," Fuhr said.

"It's been a dream of mine to build a school from the ground up, get it right the first time."

Fuhr comes from a school district of more than 3,000 students. According to the Illinois report card data, about one-quarter of its students in 2017 identified as white and 56 percent were from low-income families. By comparison, School District U46 is a majority-minority school district,

with most recent state data showing low-income students making up about 60 percent of its enrollment.

She acknowledged the job will include a number of firsts for her: first time in a suburban setting, first time outside the non-charter public school setting and first time helming a new school.

Fuhr said she, like the charter school organizers, believes in the outdoor-oriented Expeditionary Learning model the school will incorporate. The school at 1600 Dundee Ave. will embrace the wilderness surrounding the site, officials have said.

"Though I would try to think outside the box, I was often pulled back and not able to really push the boundaries on some things," Fuhr said of her experiences in the traditional school setting. "What really grabbed me is that (Expeditionary Learning) is really meaningful, purposeful learning that the students can take to a professional level."

Fuhr is a member of Illinois Principals Association and has received several accolades over the years, including being voted Principal of the Year by the Two Rivers IPA Region in 2015 and receiving the Horace Mann Reaching Out and Building Bridges Award in 2014, according to an EMSA news release.

"We are pleased to welcome Lezlie to the EMSA team," Dennis Verges, EMSA board vice chairman, said in the news release.

"Ms. Fuhr is a dedicated and compassionate leader who is committed to meeting the educational needs of all children. Ms. Fuhr believes in the transformative power of hands-on, active and meaningful learning."

Fuhr has already made a hire for her staff, announcing her selection of Patricia Williams as the school's outreach coordinator. Williams was director of the Elgin-based Neighborhood Housing Services of Fox Valley, which closed in 2017.

Williams and Fuhr said the next steps for EMSA include student recruitment and outreach to Elgin's minority populations, which were a focus of the charter from the beginning. Williams said she has many contacts with the area's Hispanic community through her Neighborhood Housing Services job.

A lottery to select students for the inaugural class will be held in early April. Williams said about 300 families with more than 500 potential students have expressed an interest in EMSA, with 80 students already enrolled in the approximately 200-slot lottery.

Fuhr said they are receiving applications for their job openings, which will include eight teaching positions, one bilingual coordinator, one special education director and one special education teacher.



Fire District recognizes three recent promotions

By Kristin Carreno

At the Fire Protection District meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, a ceremony was held for three recently promoted department members. Rich Stumbaugh was promoted to lieutenant, Bill Eckles was promoted to captain and Mike Rothecker was promoted to assistant fire chief. Fire Chief William Sohn called each member to be sworn in to their new position by President Mary Van Winkle.

Family, friends and fellow fire protec-

tion district members were in attendance to show their support.

After taking their oaths, Sohn gave Stumbaugh, Eckles and Rothecker a chance to speak.

"I wouldn't be standing up here if it wasn't for all the folks in my life, namely my wife and my kids," said Rothecker. "They've dealt with the fire service their entire lives. They've known nothing different for a working career for me. The firefighters know how difficult that can be and certainly the firefighters spouses know how difficult that can be and get, so I have to thank them immensely. I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for that kind of support group.... I will continue to serve the district in a positive and professional manner and, most importantly, I will promise to try and save and send everybody home safely each and every shift."

After thanking his family and friends, Stumbaugh said: "My aspirations changed from a couple of other things to wanting to be a firefighter. I always knew the odds are sometimes against you. You test and you test but I was lucky enough to come to South Elgin. South Elgin just has a special place in my heart. My very first boss was Capt. Sohn. He took me under his wing and basically the sky was the limit.

Stumbaugh added: The people here are what make the place and there's just a great bunch of people here, past and present.... I would put this department against any other department that's out there."

"This is an awesome career," Eckles said. "I do look forward to my new opportunities and new roles. I appreciate everything that has been given to me. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the district."

It has been almost four years since the department had a big promotion such as this one, Sohn added.

Additionally, on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 10 a.m., 14 new firefighters will be appointed to the district, according to Sohn.

EMSA now accepting enrollment applications

By Seth Hancock

The Elgin Math and Science Academy (EMSA), a charter school in School District U-46, is now taking applications for its first school year which starts in August.

An online application for prospective EMSA students can be found at elginmathandscience.com and must be submitted by April 4, and a public lottery will be held on April 11 if more than 200 students apply. There will be 200 slots for kindergarten through third grade for the 2018-19 school year while the school expects to add a grade level each year through eighth grade for an eventual 450 total students.

Kerry Kelly, EMSA's founding board president, said after the Illinois State Charter School Commission (ISCSC) voted 5-3 in favor of the charter proposal last October that "now it feels like all of our efforts are going to really go towards building a school. That's exciting."

Part of "building a school" was hiring EMSA's first principal which the charter has announced will be Lezlie Fuhr who said in an EMSA press release that her reason for joining the school was in part the planned expeditionary learning model (EL Education) which is designed to have a more hands-on curriculum model for science.

"After reading the EMSA charter proosal, I was inspired to put what I have learned into practice, and bring EL Education to the local community, Fuhr said. "This is an exciting endeavor, and I cannot wait to bring the Wow & Wonder of an engaging curriculum to our student body. According to the release, Fuhr has over two decades, 22 years, of education experience in both administrative and teaching roles. Since 2006, she has been the principal at North Jacksonville Elementary School in Illinois, which is a majority low-income school. Fuhr holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Southern Illinois University and a master's in educational administration from the University of Illinois-Springfield and ਤੋਂ was named the teacher of the year by the National Institute of Education in 1999 and awarded the Horace Mann Reaching Out and Building Bridges Award in 2014 and principal of the gear in 2015 by the Two Rivers Region **a** of the Illinois Principal's Association.

"We are pleased to welcome Lezlie to the EMSA team," said Dennis Verges, EMSA's board vice chair. "Ms. Fuhr is a dedicated and compassionate leader who is committed to meeting the educational needs of all children. Ms. Fuhr believes in the transformative power of hands-on, active and meaningful learning."

Fuhr has chosen Patricia Williams, coming from the Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, as EMSA's outreach coordinator.

EMSA will be located at the former Fox River Day School (1600 Dundee Ave., Elgin) which the charter's website states: "EMSA students will have daily access to an outdoor laboratory of rare ecosystems — forested fens and their endangered species — as well as typical food webs of the Midwest. It is not unusual to spy a grazing deer or a circling Cooper's hawk from classroom windows."

The process towards opening the school in the fall of 2018 has been a long one for EMSA which first had a charter denied in 2014 by both the U-46 Board of Education and the ISCSC.

Last April, the U-46 board conditionally approved EMSA's charter by a 6-1 vote "pending a mutually agreed upon contract," but it reversed its decision a few months later in June by voting 4-3 against the contract.

The reversal by the board will cost U-46 as the ISCSC, in its October approval, granted EMSA 100 percent of the Per Capita Tuition Charge funding from the district. EMSA was only seeking 92 percent in its negotiations with the U-46 administration. U-46 board members Phil Costello, Veronica Noland and Jeanette Ward voted in favor of EMSA both in April and June while board members Traci Ellis and Sue Kerr voted against the contract after approving the charter in April. Donna Smith, the board's president, opposed EMSA both times while board member Melissa Owens voted against the contract but was not on the board for the April vote. EMSA has a few upcoming events listed on its website, the first that it will be distributing information during the Preschool Information Fair at Gail Borden Library in Elgin this coming Saturday, Jan. 20 starting at 10 a.m. It will also be holding a Mardi Grasthemed fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 24 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Dream Hall Event Space (51 S. Grove Ave., Elgin).



Pitted-off siblings

Rosanne and Robert Zacher playing a competitive foam pit game at *The Examiner* holiday party on Thursday, Jan. 11. For story and more photos see page 9. (*Examiner photo by Daniel Klein*)

Fire Board ratifies pact to resurface Station 22 lot

By Kristin Carreno

At the Fire Protection District meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, members voted unanimously in favor of a contract to resurface the Station 22 parking lot at 2055 McDonald Road. According to Fire Chief William Sohn, village board trustees have recommended Baxter & Woodman to perform this project at a cost of \$7,900.

According to Sohn, this issue has been discussed by fire district board over the past several months.

Baxter & Woodman has been doing satisfactory work for the village for

numerous years, according to Sohn. Therefore, the district should receive good work at a decent rate in following the village board's recommendation.

"Baxter & Woodman is familiar with the village and us and that's my suggestion," said Sohn. "Hopefully we'll get the parking lot done the right way this time."

According to Sohn, Baxter & Woodman will oversee the project to ensure the district receives what they ask for. The \$7,900 cost is within budget, Sohn added.

Two U-46 proposals set for vote at next meeting

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 will vote on two proposals costing over \$900,000 at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Jan. 22. The proposals were presented at the Monday, Dec. 18, 2017 meeting.

One proposal, costing \$468,437 with Currie Motors, is to replace a total of 13 trucks. The funding would come from the operations maintenance fund if approved.

According to the proposal, the rationale is "to replace aged vehicles, which will decrease down time and improve our efficiency" and according to the executive summary: "All of the vehicles listed for replacement are at least 10-17 years old and have in most cases exceeded their useful life. Due to the deterioration and mechanical failures we recommend the attached list for immediate replacement."

Included for replacement are six F350 4X4 pickups (\$34,355 per truck/\$206,130 total), five full-size transit vans (\$26,747 per/\$133,735 total), one F550 4X4 with box (\$51,057) and one F550 4X4 dump truck (\$77,515).

The district says the replacement will lead to lower maintenance and repair costs as well as increased safety.

Board member Sue Kerr said that some of the vehicles in the district are listed as in worse condition than those being replaced and asked if those vehicles are still in use.

"We're getting by with what we have," said Chris Állen, director of plant operations, who added: "These are the vehicles that have been targeted for immediate replacement."

The second proposal is with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt to purchase the 2014 edition of On Our Way to English for first and second grade. The cost would be \$442,954 and would come out of the educational fund if approved.

The purchase would be used to replace an out of print version currently used in U-46 according to the proposal, and the textbook "is a comprehensive resource that supports English language development and enhances the rigor and relevance of students' linguistic and academic development in the Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) at Liberty Elementary as well as the 80:20 Dual Language Program."

The proposal goes on to say the textbook is "designed to meet the rigor of Common Core State Standards while developing the English language in the four language domains: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. It includes a focus on thematic, contentbased instruction, which supports the ELL (English Language Learners) content-based thematic units, including but not limited to content-based ESL (English as a Second Language) science and social studies instruction at the elementary level."

The textbook is currently used in kindergarten and fifth grade classes according to the proposal, and the plan is to implement it in the first and second grades in the 2018-19 school year. Full implementation in all grade levels will be by the 2019-20 school year according to the plan.

The board was also presented with its 2018-2019 meeting schedule at the December meeting.

Donna Smith, the board's president, said it's "basically first and third (Monday of each month) except the changes with holidays."

The first and third Monday's will be used for meetings in August, October, November, December, March, April and June while there is only one meeting in July (the 23rd) and January (the 14th) and three in May (the 6th, 13th and 20th). The second and fourth Mondays of September will be used as meetings and first and fourth in February.

Storm boys hoops drops two of three in two days

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team saw one slip away against West Aurora as the Storm dropped a 73-55 Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division game on Friday, Jan. 12 at South Elgin.

The Storm led 24-23 at halftime and the game remained close through three quarters of play before West Aurora capped the game with a 24-12 fourth quarter

South Elgin went on to split a pair of games at the Rockford Jefferson MLK Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 13.

The Storm fell behind 37-22 by halftime against Batavia and was unable to rally in a 74-43 loss. South Elgin bounced back with a 62-57 win over Harlem as the Storm used a 26-10 second quarter to take a 40-27 lead into the break, and they held on despite a Harlem second half rally.



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"We competed for three and a half quarters," said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson.

Ultimately, West Aurora started its strong finish late in the third quarter.

Drake Montgomery (10 points) had drawn South Elgin to 45-43 in the final two minutes of the third quarter, but turnovers doomed the Storm for nearly the next six minutes of play as West Aurora went on a 19-3 run for a 64-46 near the midway point of the final period.

"We said if we don't let them get runouts, we will be in it at the end of the game, but we gave up so many open run-outs which led to open shots," Johnson said. "That ultimately put us in a position where we had to battle back."

Vincent Miszkiewicz finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Storm, and David Binion added 15 points and seven rebounds. Binion and Noah Rohr (12 points) each hit two three-pointers.

"I thought we just came out really flat against Batavia," Johnson said but against Harlem he said: "We got back to the way we want to play but I think our kids were tired from three games in 24 hours. You could see it in their faces. I'm proud of them for working it through and getting out of here 1-1. Montgomery (11 points), Binion (10 points), Miszkiewicz (10 points) and Jace Warrick (five points) led against Batavia. Montgomery hit three treys on the way to a game-high 18 points against Harlem and Miszkiewicz added 16 and both Rohr (two threes) and Binion eight.

South Elgin is now 11-5 overall, 2-2 in the UEC Valley Division.



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Pet of the Week



Loki looking for social atmosphere

Loki is a sweet black and white, 1-year-old male cat. He is very energetic and a true mischief-maker. Loki enjoys running, hiding and chasing cat toys. He is very talkative and very social with people. He gets along with other cats, but doesn't seek them out and probably would like to be the only cat in the home.

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



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Fire District to renew fiduciary insurance plan

By Kristin Carreno

At the Fire Protection District meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, board members voted unanimously in favor of renewing the district's pension fiduciary insurance policy. According to Fire Chief William Sohn, a decision on this matter was needed at the time of the meeting and could not wait any longer. The renewal date for the insurance is Feb. 1 and the board will not meet again prior to that date.

According to Assistant Chief Steve Wascher, the pension liability insurance also covers the Pension Board who had adopted the policy years ago. The district board adopted the policy last year.

"We need to make a decision on this tonight," said Sohn.

According to Sohn, the only change regarding the policy was the rate had increased by \$100.

"We discussed this at great lengths last year," Sohn said.

After discussing this matter in 2017 board members had agreed it was in the district's best interest to have it, according to Sohn.

North Stars run out of gas against East in 1-2 week

By Seth Hancock

The North girls basketball team was unable to finish against cross-town rival East as the North Stars dropped a 51-43 Upstate Eight Conference River Division contest on Friday, Jan. 12 at East. North won the first game between the foes at North.

It was a back-and-forth game which North led by six entering the fourth quarter, but East opened the final frame on a 12-0 run for a 41-35 lead as part of a 22-8 period.

"We just ran out of gas, and they were fighting for loose balls and offensive rebounds," said Leilauni Chanthaboury who finished with 14 points, four three-pointers and four steals. "We couldn't keep up."

"I thought our third quarter was good and their fourth quarter was better," said North coach Mike Tomczak. "Fourth quarter we looked quite gassed."

It was a seesaw fight that saw the North Stars jump to a 13-6 lead before falling behind 21-19 by halftime. North won the third 16-8 to jump back ahead 35-29.

Anna Davern led the effort with 19 points, six rebounds and three steals and she did that while fighting the flu which fellow starters Caroline Jakaitis (two points) and Megan Gunnink also had. Caroline Shafar and Anna Tate both had four points for North. "What we saw out there was nothing short of a heroic effort from Jakaitis, Gunnink and Davern," Tomczak said. "Those three gave everything they could viscously sick. We don't want to use it as an excuse, but that's where we're at."

The North Stars opened the week with a 56-50 UEC River Division win over Streamwood on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Streamwood. North jumped to an 11-2 lead after one quarter and 27-15 at halftime before withstanding a Streamwood rally.

Tate scored 27 points, Davern 10, Gunnink eight and Jakaitis six to lead the effort.

North then dropped a 61-47 nonconference game against Glenbard West on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at North. Of the North Stars points came from Davern (20), Chanthaboury (15 off five threepointers) and Tate (12).

The North Stars are now 11-9 overall, 4-3 in the UEC River Division.



This week in... South Elgin

	<u>Thursday, Jan. 18</u>
• 7 p.m.	South Elgin girls basketball at West Chicago High
	School.*
	<u>Friday, Jan. 19</u>
• 5:30 p.m.	St. Charles North girls basketball vs. Batavia High
	School.*
• 7 p.m.	South Elgin boys basketball at West Chicago High
	School.*
• 7 p.m.	St. Charles North boys basketball vs. Batavia High
	School.*
	<u>Saturday, Jan. 20</u>
• 4 p.m.	South Elgin girls basketball at Burlington Central High
	School.*
<u>Tuesday, Jan. 23</u>	
• 7 p.m.	Recreation Board meeting at Village Hall.
• 7 p.m.	South Elgin girls basketball at Glenbard East High
-	School.*
• 7 p.m.	St. Charles North boys basketball at Streamwood
-	High School.*

* Home game unless otherwise specified.

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Storm fall to East, then split pair of contests



The Saints' Sara Rosenfeldt, left, and the Storm's Miah Galvan tangling for a loose ball under the St. Charles East basket.



South Elgin's Casey Brennan attempting to secure a rebound between the Saints' Ashley DiOrio, left, and Sara Rosenfeldt.



Catora Brown putting up a shot off the glass from the paint as the Saints' Alexis Keifer closed too late to prevent the bucket.

South Elgin trailed by as much as 21 in the fourth.

South Elgin finished with 22 turnovers against West Aurora's pressure, but Mandernack said frustration came with many turnovers on the Storm's own miscues.

"That's a ton especially when many of those were unforced," Mandernack said. "It's disappointing because we really worked hard on playing against their press this week. I'll take the blame on that because we should have prepared more."

Alexis Roberts finished with six points off a pair of treys, and Mandernack was happy with the play of Madison Waichunas and Darrielle Allen.

South Elgin was coming off a 50-38 UEC crossover loss to East on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at South Elgin. Trailing 33-16 at halftime, the Storm held East to just three points in the third quarter to pull to 36-28 but they wouldn't keep the rally going into the fourth.

McClure (11 points), Brown (eight points), Miah Galvin (seven points) and Brennan (six points) led the effort.

The Storm ended the week with a 51-47 nonconference victory over Rosary on Saturday, Jan. 13 at South Elgin. McClure scored 24 points and Roberts 17 to lead the Storm, both hitting four buckets from behind the arc.

South Elgin is now 8-9 overall, 2-2 in the UEC Valley Division.

By Seth Hancock

An offensive lull in the second quarter and turnovers doomed the South Elgin girls basketball team as the Storm fell 43-24 against West Aurora in Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division play on Friday, Jan. 12 at South Elgin. In the second quarter, the Storm saw their season scoring leader Catora Brown get injured and leave the game for good and Casey Brennan's (six points) bucket in the final minute of the frame represented the team's only points of the period as South Elgin's five-point disadvantage after the first ballooned to 26-9 at halftime. "Catora went down and it's always going to hurt when you don't have your best player on the court," said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. "We struggled in that second quarter, but I still felt we played good. It's odd to say when you only score two points, but we had some good looks that rimmed out and just didn't land." Mandernack added: "At some point though, you just need to hit some shots.' Megan McClure scored all eight of her team-high points, including a pair of threes, in the third quarter as the Storm trimmed their deficit to 34-20.



South Elgin's Megan McClure grasping to retain the basketball while driving along the baseline while encountering the Saints' Alexis Keifer and pursued by St. Charles East's Emily Vitkus. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

North tops Rancho Solano, edged by Saints



While driving along the baseline the North Stars' Erik Larson was seeking a seam to the hoop while protecting the ball from the Mustangs' Nikc Jackson.



The North Stars' Luke Scheffers dribbling between Rancho Solano's Caden Hoffman and Brett Hardt Jr.

By Seth Hancock

The North boys basketball team got a chance to play Arizona's Rancho Solano, a team that entered 15-3 on the season, and the North Stars came through with a 60-48 nonconference win on Monday, Jan. 8 at North.

After falling behind by double digits, the North Stars quickly responded and eventually pulled away late for the victory.

"We appreciate the opportunity to go against them," said North coach Tom Poulin. "They are a very good basketball team and a class act, and I thought we rose to the occasion."

Rancho Solano hit first by taking a 20-10 lead after one quarter, but the North Stars would allow only 28 points the rest of the game.

North eventually took a 40-35 lead after three quarters and ahead just 45-42 early in the fourth the North Stars put it away with an 11-0 run. Zachary Ludwig (12 points) scored eight points during the run, including a three-pointer and five free throws, and Kyle King (17 points, 11 re-bounds, six assists, three steals) hit his second trey of the game as North built a 56-42 lead with 1:46 left.

"We gave up 20 points in the first quarter which is unlike us, but it's a testament to our defense to allow only 28 the rest of the game," said Brendan Dal Degan who scored 14 points. "We eventually got hot on offense, and once we got a cushion we kind of went with it."

North finished with 10 buckets from behind the arc, Dal Degan providing four. Erik Larson (10 points) added a pair of threes and Luke Scheffers one.

"When we play our best we have multiple people contribute, and that means the ball is moving," Poulin said. "We play through Kyle and let him facilitate. They gave us some open threes and gave us some dives to the hoop,



North's Kyle King attempting to shoot over the Mustangs' John Gorgol as Rancho Solamo's Tyson Legner tried to block the effort from behind.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

and we made some quality decisions."

North would go on to drop a 53-50 game against cross-town rivals East in Upstate Eight Conference River Division play on Friday, Jan. 12 at East. The North Stars won the first matchup between the foes.

Tied 50-50, East won with a last second heave. From the baseline with under four seconds left, North threw a long inbound past half court that was eventually stolen and East's player threw the ball from near half court which landed at the buzzer.

King (19 points, 11 rebounds, three blocked shots), Ludwig (14 points) and Dal Degan (eight points) led North.

The North Stars are now 10-7 overall, 3-2 in the UEC River Division.



Preschool **Preschool Open House** Saturday, Jan. 27 from 12 to 1:30 p.m.

Municipal Annex, 1 W. State St. New this year! Come out and learn all about our preschool program for the 2018/19 school year. Join the teachers for an informative sit down and then take time to view the classrooms and ask any questions.

Special Events

Daddy Daughter Princess Ball Treat your girls to a night out. We have a night full of fun planned. This event will be held Saturday, Feb. 10 at Corron Elementary School from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$35 for residents and \$40 for non-residents per couple. Each additional child is \$10. Space is limited and this event fills up fast so register now!

Chess Club

All participants will learn the rules of chess as well as some basic strategies. This class will be held Thursdays, Jan. 25 to March 1 from 6 to 7pm at the Eastside Recreation Center in Elgin. The cost is \$85 for residents and \$95 for non-residents.

Afterschool Guitar Stars

The children will learn the fundamentals of guitar playing. No previous knowledge of guitar or music is necessary. This class will be held Fridays, Jan. 26 to March 2 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Eastside Recreation Center in Elgin. The cost is \$111 for residents and \$121 for non-residents.



STEAM

Explore the wonders of Tangrams during STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) at the South Elgin Branch on Wednesday, Jan. 17 from 4 to 5 p.m. Kids in grades one to five can register for these exciting monthly sessions where we will dive into STEAM in a fun, hands-on way.

Creativity Lab: Snowmen Building Ignite your creativity during our Creativity Lab: Snowmen Building at the South Elgin Branch on Thursday, Jan. 18 from 4 to 5 p.m. This drop-in session takes place weekly for grades one and up and covers a new topic each



Featured Author Series: Judy Schachner

Stop by the South Elgin Branch for our monthly Featured Author Series: Judy Schachner on Sunday, Jan. 21 from 2 to 2:45 p.m. We'll have storytimes featuring this popular children's author and attendees will get a craft to take home! No registration necessary.

Device Advice

Did you get a new device for the Holidays? Drop in for Device Advice at the South Elgin Branch on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with your device and get one-on-one help from a friendly volunteer who can help answer your questions. No registration necessary.

Youth/Teen

Klub Friday Night - Glow Night Friday, Jan. 19 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Fox Meadow Elementary School KFN is a great place where fourth through seventh graders can come and hang out with their friends and peers. The cost is \$5 at the door with an ID or \$20 at the door without an ID. ID's can be purchased at Village Hall or on-site... your parent/guardian must be present.

Youth

Sewing 4 Fun – Kids Quilting Class Come join us as we explore the various quilting patterns and techniques used today. All materials, machines and tools are provided. This class will be held Thursdays, Feb. 1 to 22 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Sewing 4 Fun, 1004 S. McLean Blvd. The cost is \$110 for residents and \$120 for non-residents.

Chess Scholars After School

Adult

Investment Strategies for Your Age Doesn't matter if you are 20, 60 or any age in between, you will learn strategies on investing related to your current age. There is no charge for this class but registration is required. This class will be held Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Municipal Annex.

Fitness PiYo

PiYo Live combines the musclesculpting and core-firming benefits of Pilates with the strength and flexibility of flowing yoga movements. This class will be held Mondays, Jan. 29 to Feb. 26 from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. at the Municipal Annex. The cost is \$50 for residents or \$60 for non-residents or \$10 drop-in fee per class.

For more information on these and other programs offered by South Elgin Parks and Recreation, please call 847-622-0003 or visit our website at www.southelgin.com-Parks & Recreation-Programs-Seasonal Brochure.

week.

Veterans Information Networking Session

Join us for a monthly Veterans Information Networking Session covering The State of Illinois Benefits for Veterans at the South Elgin Branch on Thursday, Jan. 18 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. This drop-in session is presented by John Fanning, Illinois Veteran Service officer.

Preschool and Childcare **Information Fair**

Calling all parents! Save the date for our annual Preschool and Childcare Information Fair at the Main Library on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parents and caregivers are welcome to drop in and visit with representatives from local preschools, daycare centers and licensed homes to talk about their services and who can help answer questions. Starting on Monday, Jan. 15, visit www.gailborden.info for a complete list of representatives who will be present during the fair.

Multicultural Children's Book Day

Celebrate diversity during Multicultural Children's Book Day at the South Elgin Branch and the Rakow Branch on Saturday, Jan. 27 during each location's normal operating hours. Families are encouraged to drop in at some point during the day to celebrate with us and take home a craft! No registration required. On Saturdays, the South Elgin Branch is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the Rakow Branch is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Elgin Master Chorale Children's **Chorus Encore Group**

The Elgin Master Chorale Children's Chorus Encore Group will take singing to the next level at the South Elgin Branch on Sunday, Jan. 28 from 2 to 3 p.m. All ages are invited to listen to the wonderful group, conducted by Becky Narofsky, but don't be afraid to get involved, because this performance will include audience participation! No registration required.

Sabres boys hoops battles through a 1-3 week of play

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys basketball team couldn't complete a comeback as the Sabres fell 67-58 against Geneva in Upstate Eight Conference River Division play on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Geneva. Geneva took control early building as large as a 17-point lead in the first half and it led 39-24 early in the third quarter when the Sabres started to rally behind Keenon Cole who scored 20 of his 29 points in the second half, including two of three three-pointers.

Streamwood eventually pulled within two after a 17-4 run that included 10 points from Cole and was capped with five straight points from Nick Droll to make it 43-41 with 1:43 left in the third quarter.

The Sabres trailed just 45-43 when Geneva had three chances on the final possession of the third quarter to eventually take a 47-43 lead into the fourth, and that inability to limit the host's chances among some other little things took its toll on Streamwood. "It's a close game and you just fought coming all the way back," said Streamwood coach Paul Kowalyszyn. "It comes down to the little things like that at the end of the third quarter. We do the little things right about 50-50, and that's not enough against a team of Geneva's caliber. If we clean those little things up, we have a chance to win the game."

Brendon Marton (14 points) hit his second trey of the game to pull to 51-48 with six minutes left in the game, but Geneva countered with a 7-0 run and led by at least eight the rest of the game.

Jack Maybrun scored five points and Kowalyszyn was happy with the play of Kevin Bauer, Sam Enno and Zack Marquez on a night the Sabres were playing without two starters and had a short bench.

"Geneva's a top-notch program and we were playing down with only eight players," Kowalyszyn said. "They played their butts off."

Kowalyszyn added: "We just don't know how to win a game like that. That's what we're working for."

Streamwood went on to drop a 66-49 UEC River Division game against Larkin on Friday, Jan. 12 at Streamwood. The Sabres led 30-25 at halftime before Larkin rallied.

Cole had 13 points and 14 rebounds to lead Streamwood while Lamont Cole scored nine points, Nikola Sinik seven and Marton five.

The Sabres capped the week by splitting a pair of games to open the Lake Zurich MLK Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 13. Streamwood dropped a 52-47 game to Lake Zurich but defeated Richmond-Burton 70-57.

Sinik hit four treys in each game leading to a team-high 14 points against Lake Zurich and 22 points against Richmond-Burton, which Keenon Cole led in with 26 points after a an eight-point effort in the opener. Marton had 27 point over both games.

Streamwood is now 8-12 overall, 0-6 in the UEC River Division.

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When piston rings become so worn that they allow hot engine gases to escape into the crankcase, the resultant "blow by" causes a decrease in horsepower due to loss of some of the high pressure pushing the piston. In addition, contaminates from incomplete combustion may migrate into the crankcase oil, which will lead to dilution. If blow by is allowed to continue and worsen, it can allow engine oil to

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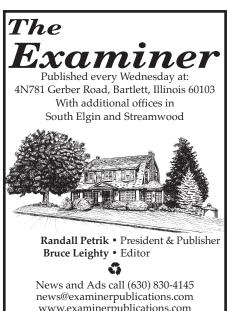


Awarded the 2014 National Blue Ribbon for Academic Excellence leak by the rings into the combustion chamber, where it can reduce the octane rating of the mixture. The consequent "detonation" (premature spontaneous burning of a fuel–air mixture) can cause severe destruction of the piston and chamber. For these reasons and others, worn piston rings should be replaced.

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HINT: Wear of piston rings, the circular components fitted into grooves in the pistons, can be confirmed by a compression test.

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Sabres fall to Hawks amid three-loss week



Streamwood's Monica Brown, left, battling the Hawks' Kate Mongold for possession of the basketball following a loose ball. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Sabres' Maddi Exline penetrating into the lane after a journey along the baseline and dealing with the imposing presence of Hoffman Estates' Raven Wilson prior to putting up a shot.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball team faltered late against Hoffman Estates as the Sabres dropped the nonconference contest 43-41 on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Streamwood.

41 on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Streamwood. The game was tight all the way through as a six-point lead, 26-20 in favor of the Sabres after Mandy Mien (team-high 14 points) converted a three-point play in the third quarter, represented the largest advantage of the game.

The Sabres led 34-30 entering the fourth quarter and remained on top until Hoffman Estates hit a three-pointer with 3:30 left to play to pull ahead 38-36 which grew to 41-36. Monica Brown (six points) hit her second trey of the game and Mien had a steal and hoop to pull even at 41-41 with 49.1 second left, but 18 seconds later Hoffman Estates would score the final points of the game.

"We gave up wide open shots down the stretch and they hit them," said Streamwood coach George Rosner. "We're in a tight game and you can't give them those types of looks."

Andrea Bracy scored 10 points including a pair of threes, all of which came in the second quarter as Streamwood took a 21-17 lead into halftime. Rebecca Roncone contributed six points in the effort.

The loss was the sixth straight for Streamwood.

"It's a frustrating loss," Rosner said. "We felt we could have won this one on our home floor."

The Sabres saw their losing streak reach seven games as they ended the week with a 64-54 nonconference loss against Addison Trail on Saturday, Jan. 13 at Addison Trail.

Streamwood opened the week with a tough 56-50 loss against St. Charles North in Upstate Eight Conference River Division play on Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Streamwood.

After a slow start saw the Sabres fall behind 11-2 after one frame, Streamwood won the final three frames 48-45 and eventually pulled within two points late in the game. Bracy scored 19 points, Maddi Exline 14 and Mien 12 to lead the Sabres.

"We gave them everything we could and we lost by six," Rosner said.

Streamwood is now 3-15 overall, 3-3 in the UEC River Division.



Mandy Mien going in for a layup for the Sabres to put early points on the board against Hoffman Estates.

board for the April vote.

dent, opposed EMSA both times while

board member Melissa Owens voted

against the contract but was not on the

EMSA has a few upcoming events list-

ed on its website, the first that it will be

distributing information during the

Preschool Information Fair at Gail Bor-

den Library in Elgin this coming Satur-

day, Jan. 20 starting at 10 a.m. It will

also be holding a Mardi Gras-themed

fundraiser on Šaturday, Feb. 24 from 7

EMSA now accepting enrollment applications

By Seth Hancock

The Elgin Math and Science Academy (EMSA), a charter school in School District U-46, is now taking applications for its first school year which starts in August.

An online application for prospective EMSA students can be found at elginmathandscience.com and must be submitted by April 4, and a public lottery will be held on April 11 if more than 200 students apply. There will be 200 slots for kindergarten through third grade for the 2018-19 school year while the school expects to add a grade level each year through eighth grade for an eventual 450 total students.

Kerry Kelly, EMSA's founding board president, said after the Illinois State Charter School Commission (ISCSC) voted 5-3 in favor of the charter proposal last October that "now it feels like all of our efforts are going to really go towards building a school. That's exciting." Part of "building a school" was hiring EMSA's first principal which the charter has announced will be Lezlie Fuhr who said in an EMSA press release that her reason for joining the school was in part the planned expeditionary learning model (EL Education) which is designed to have a more hands-on curriculum model for science. "After reading the EMSA charter proposal, I was inspired to put what I have learned into practice, and bring EL Education to the local community," Fuhr said. "This is an exciting endeavor, and I cannot wait to bring the Wow & Wonder of an engaging curriculum to our student body.' According to the release, Fuhr has over two decades, 22 years, of education experience in both administrative and teaching roles. Since 2006, she has been the principal at North Jacksonville Elementary School in Illinois,

which is a majority low-income school. Fuhr holds a bachelor's degree in el-

ementary education from Southern Illinois University and a master's in educational administration from the University of Illinois-Springfield and was named the teacher of the year by the National Institute of Education in 1999 and awarded the Horace Mann Reaching Out and Building Bridges Award in 2014 and principal of the year in 2015 by the Two Rivers Region of the Illinois Principal's Association.

"We are pleased to welcome Lezlie to the EMSA team," said Dennis Verges, EMSA's board vice chair. "Ms. Fuhr is a dedicated and compassionate leader who is committed to meeting the educational needs of all children. Ms. Fuhr believes in the transformative power of hands-on, active and meanThe reversal by the board will cost U-46 as the ISCSC, in its October approval, granted EMSA 100 percent of the Per Capita Tuition Charge funding from the district. EMSA was only seeking 92 percent in its negotiations with the U-46 administration.

U-46 board members Phil Costello, Veronica Noland and Jeanette Ward voted in favor of EMSA both in April and June while board members Traci Ellis and Sue Kerr voted against the contract after approving the charter in April. Donna Smith, the board's presi-

contract after approving the charter in April. Donna Smith, the board's presi-Federal grant funds to support land acquisition for public use

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) recently announced \$1,270,500 in federal grant funding has been approved for local governments to purchase land to be used for public access and recreation. Funding for the program is made available through the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). "These federal grants provide local governments the opportunity to buy land that will allow more public access to outdoor recreation opportunities close to home for local residents and visitors to these communities," said IDNR Director Wayne Rosenthal. The LWCF grant program, which is administered in Illinois by the IDNR, provides up to 50 percent of the cost of projects to help purchase land to be used for public access, with the local governments matching the value of the grants awarded. This year's LWCF grant projects are: Champaign County • Champaign Park District, \$137,000, for the acquisition of Human Kinetics Park, a 5.6-acre park that is privately owned

but currently leased to the Champaign Park District. It will be developed into soccer fields, a multi-purpose field, a multi-purpose path and parking. Cook County • Glenview Park District, \$383,500, for the acquisition of 2.95 acres of property adjacent to the Grove National Historic Landmark. This critical parcel is needed to reassemble the original acreage owned by the Kennicott Family and preserve the ecosystem on the property. Trails will be established on this property to connect to the existing trail system. Kane County • Forest Preserve District of Kane County, \$750,000, for the acquisition of 149 acres adjacent to the Binnie Forest Preserve. Acquiring this property will add further protections to the wetlands on site and the Kishwaukee Headwaters. Wetlands and floodplains will be interpreted through signage and trails. The LWCF grant program has been in existence since 1965. Prior to this year, more than \$126 million has been awarded for 733 park projects in Illinois.

ingful learning."

Fuhr has chosen Patricia Williams, coming from the Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, as EMSA's outreach coordinator.

EMSA will be located at the former Fox River Day School (1600 Dundee Ave., Elgin) which the charter's website states: "EMSA students will have daily access to an outdoor laboratory of rare ecosystems — forested fens and their endangered species — as well as typical food webs of the Midwest. It is not unusual to spy a grazing deer or a circling Cooper's hawk from classroom windows."

The process towards opening the school in the fall of 2018 has been a long one for EMSA which first had a charter denied in 2014 by both the U-46 Board of Education and the ISCSC. Last April, the U-46 board conditionally approved EMSA's charter by a 6-1 vote "pending a mutually agreed upon contract," but it reversed its decision a few months later in June by voting 4-3 against the contract.



Embrace the New Year with Meditation Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Join Renate Lanotte, MS LCSW, psychotherapist and meditation instructor, as she discusses how meditation can evoke a deeper state of relaxation and more peace within. She will also present a powerful meditation technique that can enrich one's life on all levels. The audience will have a chance to practice this simple meditation that can help you in all aspects of your life.

TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Create your space and earn volunteer hours. The Teen Advisory Board will be part of creating teen programs/activities and give input on books and materials purchased for teens.

Learning Libby Thursday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m.

Get started on your 2018 reading goals with Libby - a new app to read and listen to books on your smartphone or tablet. Libby is easy to use and userfriendly. Please bring your devices with you. Registration required.

Now Showing

Friday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m. It's movie night at the Library, and we are showing "Despicable Me 3." Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Concessions will be available for sale the Friends of the Library.

Introduction to Microsoft Word Saturday, Jan. 20, 10 a.m.

This class is targeted towards beginning users and will provide the basics for using Microsoft Word. Learn how to create a simple document, edit and format text, correct spelling errors, adjust the margins, save and open files and more. Knowledge of mouse and keyboard required. Registration required.

Keep Calm and Color On Saturday, Jan. 20, 2 p.m. Come and experience the latest trend

in relaxation: Adult Coloring Books! Coloring pages and colored pencils will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Registration required.

Career Transition Workshop Tuesday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.

Re-package yourself for a new career by identifying how to transfer skills from one industry to another. Re-evaluate how your life works, change old patterns and evolve a new definition of your skills. Learn how to transfer volunteer, technical, management experiences to meet the needs of the next job opportunity. The 90 minute session will be hands-on and highly interactive that will focus on: Understanding the critical job skills for today's workforce, define internal factors and external forces and the impact they have on your career and identify transferable skills and understand how to market their skills and qualifications in preparation for their job search. Registration required.

Adult Chess Club Wednesday, Jan. 24, 6 p.m.

Interested in chess or simply love the game? Come learn and play in a friendly, welcoming environment. All boards and pieces will be supplied. Volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and provide instruction.

For a complete listing of scheduled programs at the Bartlett Public Library, 800 S. Bartlett Road, call 837-2855 or visit www.bartlettlibrary.org.

Bartlett girls hoops splits four games at tourney

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team finished sixth at the DeKalb MLK Tournament after a 2-2 performance.

The opening day saw plenty of success with an opening win for the Hawks before threatening to upset a one-loss team on Saturday, Jan. 13.

Bartlett opened against Johnsburg and broke loose from a three-point game at halftime with a 30-point third quarter for 59-45 lead on the way to a 73-56 victory. Kayla Hare knocked down four threes on the way to a game-high 29 points and Shelly Banks, Teagan Noesen and Lexie Sinclair each scored 12.

"It was kind of a nip and tuck game

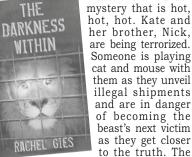
Hunt added: "We're going to learn from it, and I'm ecstatic with their performance on the day.'

Hare scored 15 of her 22 points in the second half including nine in the third quarter with her third trey of the match giving Bartlett a 44-34 lead with 1:59 left in the period, the largest lead of the game. Sinclair (12 points) and Savannah Standefer (six points) each hit a pair of threes, and Banks had five points.

"We're feeling pretty good with the day," Hare said. "We all battled and did some good things that we can take forward into the future this season."

Bartlett wrapped up the tournament splitting a pair of games on Monday, Jan. 15. The Hawks defeated Grant 55-44 before losing to Fremd 65-52 in the fifth place game. Hare went 18-for-20 at the free-throw line and scored 28 points against Grant while Sinclair added nine points and Standefer eight. Sinclair (14 points), Hare (11 points), Danielle Kleeman (11 points) and Noesen (10 points) led against Fremd. The Hawks, now 11-9 overall, improved upon a winless performance at the tournament last season. "We had a chip on our shoulder from last year," Hare said. "We wanted to come and prove ourselves that we are better than how we did last year."

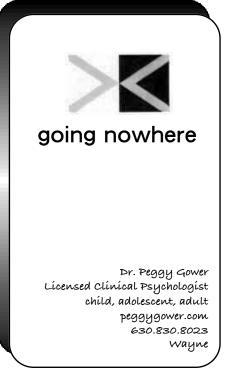
Rachel Gies surprises her readers with this suspenseful thriller. The Darkness Within is a murder



are being terrorized. Someone is playing cat and mouse with them as they unveil illegal shipments and are in danger of becoming the beast's next victim as they get closer to the truth. The list of suspects is constantly

changing. Terror and suspense explode as it all comes to a terrifying shocking end. Previously self published books include Captured Pearl and One Size Fits Most.

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in the first half, but I thought the second half they got tired and we took advantage," said Bartlett coach Brad Hunt. "We were getting pretty much everything we wanted."

The Hawks followed up by building a double-digit lead in the second half before falling 65-58 to Lincoln-Way East, a team that entered 19-1 overall this season.

Lincoln-Way East broke from a 55-55 tie with a 5-0 run for a 60-55 lead with 47.4 seconds left to play and then sealed the win with a 5-for-6 performance at the free-throw line after Noesen's (12 points) third trey of the game pulled the Hawks to 60-58 with 33.4 seconds left to play.

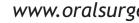
"We had a state-ranked team on the ropes, and I think we showed that we have some young girls who made some mistakes," Hunt said. "They're a senior-laden team and well polished and a great coach, and that ended up being the difference in the fourth quarter."



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Input sought regarding two drive-thru plans

By Seth Hancock

À petitioner is seeking input from the village and its Board of Trustees on a concept to bring two new drive-thru restaurants to the Bartlett Commons Shopping Center prior to submitting an application. The board discussed the plan at its committee of the whole meeting on Thursday, Jan. 4.

The shopping center is located on the northwest corner of Stearns Road and Illinois Route 59 and Nico Scardino, the petitioner, seeks to build a 7,600 square foot commercial building on a 37,200 square foot lot on the north near Route 59 and a 5,200 square foot commercial building on a 38,800 square foot lot on the south off of Stearns Road. Both buildings would require drive-thru space.

Concerns over parking and safety concerns over a potential increase in traffic made up the bulk of the discussion.

At the north lot the plan is to have 31 parking spaces, one handicap, and on the south lot 42 spaces, one handicap, but that is just conceptual as requirements will be determined upon submission of a formal application.

Jim Plonczynski, community development director, said currently there are 390 parking spaces in the shopping center, and Scardino is seeking parking relief similar to that which was given to Home Depot. Scardino would add 11 spaces to the north side and 10 land bank spaces.

Plonczynski said the current requirement is five parking spaces per 1,000 square feet but a previous owner at the site was "granted a 4.5 space per thousand variance back in 1989."

Trustee Raymond Deyne said his concern was possibly losing handicapped parking spaces to which Mike Anderson, who is working with Scardino, said it is only conceptual right now and the "intent is to comply with the code requirements for handicap parking, we're not asking for any reduction from what your code requires." Plonczynski said Illinois code requires one handicap space for every 20 spaces.

Trustee Michael Camerer was concerned the plan would lead to less parking spaces on the whole for the shopping center and he's heard complaints from residents who said they've had their cars towed from the center. Scardino, who currently operates a restaurant in the center, said that stemmed from a specific event held by another business owner and he put up reserved parking signs and residents were "warned ahead of time." "I don't understand how they can mark off parking like that in a strip shopping center and then tow the cars," Deyne said.

Scardino said spaces were filling up during the event making leaving patrons of his establishment to be unable to come. Kevin Wallace, the village president, said "your location was closed at the time" and Scardino said "we were open at the time when that happened."

"I got calls from several residents Nico, several, and they said 'I just got my car towed,'" Wallace said and Scardino responded that he could provide tow company data.

"I just think the board is making a good point," Wallace said. "It's kind of ironic that we're going to be talking about a parking variance when I personally have had several complaints about being towed out of that lot which tells me there's not enough parking already."

Scardino said there wouldn't be "anymore reserved parking spaces" if this plan goes forward.

Trustee Adam Hopkins said he shares some of the parking concerns but he would hold judgment until a traffic study is done which would be required upon a submittal of an application.

Trustee Kristina Gabrenya was concerned with the volume and safety of traffic that would come due to these restaurants.

Plonczynski said there is already planned work to be done at that intersection to create dual left-turn lanes across the intersection.

"The changes in that intersection are

going to be relatively profound," Wallace said. "Nico's a smart guy. I don't think that he would be looking into making this expansion if he didn't think that it could handle the flow and has done some homework, but we certainly have some questions to answer."

Deyne asked about the timeline on the intersection to which Wallace joked "it's 2000 and never" but Plonczynski said "you'll see it ramp up in spring."

Gabrenya suggested this plan could potentially hurt some of the small business owners in the shopping center and said that "sacrificing those businesses to bring in two new businesses doesn't make sense to me until we see how it plays out."

Two other aspects discussed were a stormwater basin and the effects on a farmer's market.

One of the locations is on a stormwater detention basin and the proposal is to have underground detention.

"The detention basin would have to be compensated for filling over it but also to provide any other storm water requirements because that is the basic area for storm water for this development," Plonczynski said and "we have a number of underground stormwater" detention basins already in the village.

The other location has been used for a farmer's market, but help will be offered to relocate if needed.

If the plan moves forward, an application would have to be submitted and it would go to the plan commission.

Winter finally started at park district facilities

By Joe Hyland

The cold snap we experienced during the holidays could hardly have come at a better time for the Park District's winter sports programs.

"How'd it go last week?" asked Commissioner Anthony Mostardo of Superintendent of Villa Olivia Peter Pope at the district's Tuesday, Jan. 9 committee workshop meeting

"Not too bad," Pope replied.

Pope said that a very recent run of above freezing temperatures had caused the loss of much of the snow Villa Olivia personnel had been able to make during the cold weather that had preceded it. As a result, the figures for the holiday season did not match last year's.

"Last year was a really good year during the holidays," Pope said.

However, the numbers Pope presented showed that, while this year's holiday season was not nearly as good as its 2016-17 counterpart, it was much better than both the 2015-16 and 2014-15 seasons.

Pope noted that personnel had been

making as much snow as they possibly could during the most recent cold snap, and that this should tide the facility over during the latest run of warm weather.

"We're really anticipating making it through," Pope said.

The weather also proved to be a boon to the district's ice skating rinks.

"The current weather conditions have been great for making ice," Superintendent of Parks and Planning Kelly O'Brien said in a memo. "A minimum of 72 hours of constant temperatures of 15 degrees or below is necessary for the ice making process."

O'Brien's report detailed that the rink at Community Park had opened on Dec. 27, 2017 and the rink at Leiseberg had followed on Jan. 2.

O'Brien also reported that the district was abandoning attempts to put in a rink at Blue Heron after two years of unsuccessful attempts. According to her report, the district will be exploring both other rink materials as well as other possible locations for a future third rink.

no taken, from a back pack they carry, constantly in harm's way with enemies not liking or jealous of our way of life and who are trying to kill them. Very often, when there is an election, their votes do not always get counted. *Tell me that I am wrong in my analysis* that is not the way it was supposed to be and needs to be stopped. Tell me I am wrong in that I believe criminals, on any level, should NEVER have the right to vote... this very same privilege that is granted to those of us that do not break the laws of our nation. Then, tell those of like mind how to reach elected officials who think registering those serving in prisons have the right to vote and to stop this insane practice. Tell me how we get the prisons back to where it was not a fun place to be sentenced to serve because one broke our laws, laws that were made to keep our citizens, families, children safe from those who break and abuse these very same laws? Might there be any hope remaining to possibly get this great nation back on the right course?

Hawks boys hoops extend streak with two wins

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team continued to see success with two wins to extend a winning streak to four games.

The Hawks defeated East Aurora 53-49 to improve to 3-1 in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division on Friday, Jan. 12 at Bartlett. At the Downers Grove North Winter Classic, Bartlett improved to 10-7 overall with a 57-49 victory over Hinsdale Central on Saturday, Jan. 13.

The recent success has come without leading scorer Ben Tompson who suffered an ankle injury on Dec. 2 and has not played since. The Hawks hope for Tompson to return later this month.

"The kids have been playing well and they have been sharing the ball as a team," said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. "They are still trying to find their roles a little bit with Ben's injury, but every game we are gaining more nament. The Hawks had entered the tournament 3-6 overall.

At Jacobs, the Hawks went 4-1 to finish third in the 16-team field led by alltournament recipients Ben Fisher, who scored 87 points over the tournament, and Tomas Vikonis, who scored 62 points.

"Overall, I'm very pleased with the growth we made during the tournament," Wolfsmith said.

Austin Gates scored 61 points, Byron Price 44 and Garrett Jurina 25 at Jacobs.

Balanced scoring and teamwork has been a key during the streak.

"It's been all about playing together as a team," Wolfsmith said. "When a team loses its leading scorer for an extended period of time it takes some time for everyone to settle into their new roles. I am happy with the way we have been fighting through that process."

"No one person is going to be able to step in and make up for (Tompson's) absence," Vikonis said. "We have to do it as a team. So we are really trying to move the ball around."

Letters

Continued from page 8

pened to break the law, be convicted and get sentenced to hard labor with nothing but bread and water?

Time was when the death penalty or going to prison was a genuine deterrent to crime. These liberal-minded uniformed few have now turned prisons into a country club and may never be a deterrent to crime again. The liberals that do not like our system the way it once was and having their heads buried deep where the sun never shines, are – at this very time in Chicago's Cook County Jail - registering these criminals to vote. What in holy hell have we become?

Compare all of this to our guys and gals in the military service of our country. More often than not, these fine patriots sleep on the ground, no warm or cool areas, do not always have clean clothing to change into, eat K rations (and you do not want to know how that tastes) served,

Jerry Marchese

experience for our guys, especially our bench players."

Bartlett's streak of four straight wins has been a part of a 7-1 streak which started at the Jacobs Christmas Tour-

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

Your fellow comrades welcome you! * * * * * *

Hoopla is a streaming service that allows you to instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more, 24/7 with your Bartlett Library Card on your smartphone, tablet and computer. Use your Library Card number and PIN # to set up a Hoopla account. Bartlett Public Library District patrons can stream or download up to five items per month. Call 837-3560 for more information.

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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.

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West Suburban Patriots Patriots Breakfasts are held on the second Saturday of each month from 9 until 11 a.m. at Wheaton Bowl banquet room in Wheaton. There is no charge to attend their meetings. An a la carte breakfast is available for a nominal fee. Wheaton Bowl is located at 2031 N. Gary Ave. For more details, see westsuburbanpatriots.com.

SPORTS SECTION

---Courier News--- 1/17/18 BOYS BASKETBALL: **Red-hot cole** Junior forward emerges as a scoring machine, Division-I prospect

BY PAUL JOHNSON



Streamwood forward Keenon Cole drives to the basket during the Hoop Mountain Midwest Summer Shootout at Batavia. Cole has emerged as a leader as a junior for the Sabres and is averaging 15.1 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. (Brian O'Mahoney/The Courier-News)

Streamwood junior Keenon Cole entered high school as a football player with one year of organized basketball experience.

Things certainly have changed.

Cole's freshman basketball season was wiped out due to a torn ACL suffered in football. So essentially, this is only his third year of organized basketball, but the 6-foot-6 forward is getting Division I interest.

"I never thought I would be in this position in my life," Cole said. "I take every moment in and keep working hard. When I leave Streamwood, I want to be the best Streamwood has ever had."

Cole is averaging 15.1 points and 7.1 rebounds, both team highs for the Sabres (10-12, 0-6 Upstate Eight River). He's also added 1.6 blocked shots and 1.3 steals.

"He's come a long way in a short amount of time," Streamwood coach Paul Kowalyszyn said of Cole. "He was a football-first guy. I think he made the right decision. He's still learning the game.

"When he becomes a complete basketball player, he'll be even better."

There were rumblings about the new kid at Streamwood last season, but the spotlight intensified when Cole switched to the renowned Mac Irvin Fire AAU team over the summer.

"It got my name out a lot," Cole said. "I got to play with some of the best players in the state. That just gave me a lot of confidence. That told me I could do what I needed to do. It just let me know that I can play (with the best).

"Confidence is everything for me personally. When my confidence is up, I'm good."

For such a raw player, Cole offers a variety of skills.

"He can shoot the basketball," Kowalyszyn said. "He can post up. He can drive. He can handle it a little bit. He brings it down the floor once in a while. He's kind of a do-all.

"One major benefit for him is that he blocks shots. His ability to alter shots helps us tremendously on that end."

In addition to his personal emergence, Cole is trying to help Streamwood get its footing. He's not the only inexperienced player on the roster, and it has been an up-and-down season.

The Sabres did finish off the Lake Zurich Tournament last weekend with three straight wins heading into Saturday's game at Hoffman Estates.

"We have a lot of players who are new to the game," Cole said. "When we put it all together, it's all success for us. People have to see it to believe (that we're good). We'll start coming up with some conference wins. (The Lake Zurich Tournament) was a really good confidence booster."

Kowalyszyn knows that he and his staff have had to put in a lot of time on fundamentals with this green group. He's seeing progress, however, as the playoffs creep closer.

"We're finally figuring out how to put it together," Kowalyszyn said. "When you have guys that are raw, this is the time of the year you start seeing them put things together. Sometimes our record looks worse than we actually are. We're figuring out how to win some games.

"Having a guy like (Cole), this is something we haven't had in quite a few years. He makes a huge difference."

Paul Johnson is a freelance reporter for The Courier-News.

---Daily Herald--- 1/17/18 GIRLS BASKETBALL: Elgin tops Westminster, takes 2nd in City Classic

DAILY HERALD REPORT

At the Elgin City Classic, the Elgin girls basketball team wrapped up tournament play with a 56-43 win over Westminster Christian to finish in second place.

The Maroons (3-18, 2-1 in the Classic) benefitted from the duo of Dajha Cooper (7 rebounds, 3 steals) and Makenna Downing (2 steals, 2 assists), who each poured in 12 points.

Emily Graves also scored in double figures with 10 points.

Elise Van Noord led Westminster (5-10, 0-3 in the Classic) with a game-high 16 points while Grace Schmitt grabbed 15 rebounds. Mica Glanzer also hauled in 11 rebounds.

Harvest Christian (3-0) won the Classic for its fourth consecutive tournament title.

Elk Grove 54, Jacobs 41: Kerri Healy scored a team-high 16 points while Kyra Cabusao added 12 points in a nonconference loss to the Grenadiers.

Jacobs (6-12) couldn't answer Elk Grove's Megan Murray, who scored a game-high 24 points.

Aurora Central 49, IC Catholic 38: The Chargers (12-8, 4-2) survived IC's pressure defense to grab a Metro Suburban Blue win over the Knights.

Tressa Cwinski led the way with 14 points while Lara Anger also added 10 points.

---Daily Herald--- 1/17/18 Geneva catches fire, shoots down Streamwood BY JOHN LEMON

After two games when it seemed like Geneva couldn't get any shot to drop, the Vikings enjoyed a night when it seemed every shot that went up went in.

Geneva found its home gym the right remedy to snap a rare two-game losing streak, scoring a season-high 87 points thanks in large part to sinking 14 shots from behind the 3-point line in an 87-51 Upstate Eight River victory over Streamwood.

Senior guard Margaret Whitley, who didn't make a 3 last week against Mother McAuley or Loyola, led the way hitting all five of her 3-point attempts, and none of her first four even touched the rim while swishing through.

"They were just bottom of the net," Geneva coach Sarah Meadows said. "It was awesome."

Whitley finished with 19 points, and Brie Borkowicz was right behind with 17 points and four 3-point baskets.

"We've just been working really hard in practice and focusing on our shooting and really working on our form," Borkowicz said.

"We know everyone wants to beat us and we need to remember that every team we are going to play is going to play us hard, as hard as they can. We just have to be ready for that. We are going to lose sometimes, it's how we respond to it. Everyone played well tonight."

Geneva (16-3, 6-0) made just two 3-point baskets in a loss to Loyola Saturday. They had that beat by the 5:10 mark of the first quarter, all three by Whitley.

A 3 from Borkowicz opened a 20-1 lead.

Streamwood (3-16, 3-3) rallied behind Maddie Exline, who was just as hot as Geneva's shooters. Exline scored 15 of the Sabres' first 19 points and helped her team reduce that 19-point deficit to 25-19 early in the second quarter.

"It was a good day," Exline said. "Honestly our press break is really what got me the shots. Our girls broke down the press and I was able to run the floor and get open looks."

The Sabres did handle the Vikings' press well, turning the ball over only four times in the first half and eight in the game.

"I thought we did a great job breaking their press," Sabres coach George Rosner said. "Very few turnovers and this is the No. 1 press you are going to see. Everyone worked hard and contributed."

After Exline brought the Sabres within 6 points, it again was Whitley who opened the margin back up with back-to-back 3s. Cassidy Navigato drained the first of her three 3-pointers as Geneva led 38-26 at halftime.

Stephanie Hart, who didn't score in the first half, joined the 3-point show with two quick treys in the third quarter during a 16-2 run that made it 54-28.

Brittany Caskey, Anna Burke and Anilise Bragg all scored in the fourth quarter before Emma Davine put the final touches on Geneva's big night with the last two baskets. Madison Mallory finished with 10 points, Navigato 9 and Hart and Maddy Yelle both had 8 -- a night the Vikings needed following last week's cold shooting.

"We know every shooter isn't going to make every shot but usually there's two that will make them," Meadows said. "We just have not been scoring. Tonight everyone was scoring."

Exline led Streamwood with 21 points. Mandy Mien added 8.

"We are facing a really good team like Geneva, we can't look at the score, we just have to keep playing hard the whole time," Exline said.

"That was quite a shooting exhibition (by Geneva), but I'm proud of my girls," Rosner said. "I thought we gave a great effort tonight."