

Press Clippings 10/25/2017

SPORTS SECTION

---Courier News--- 10/22/17

Girls Volleyball: Magical McKenna

Slavik runs show as St. Charles East opens regional, sweeps Elgin

BY PAUL JOHNSON

St. Charles East coach Jennie Kull knew she had something special on her JV team last season in McKenna Slavik.

“She’s been a top setter forever,” Kull said. “We just didn’t need her until this year, and we’re lucky to have her.”

Slavik, a junior setter, was at it again in Tuesday’s 25-10, 25-7 win over Elgin in a Class 4A St. Charles East Regional semifinal. She finished with 17 assists and five kills.

The Saints (29-7) advanced to the regional final at 6 p.m. Thursday against Geneva, a 25-21, 25-18 semifinal winner over South Elgin.

“The girls on the team have really helped to integrate me and make me a part of it and feel at home,” Slavik said. “It hasn’t really been that hard. It’s really helped me be one with them.”

Senior Kyra Slavik, McKenna’s sister, also is a setter. But Kyra’s ability to hit and pass made the decision to have McKenna be the team’s setter this year an easier one. Kyra Slavik led the Saints with seven kills against Elgin (17-20).

“McKenna is just doing really well right now,” Kull said. “She’s running the offense and doing what we need her to do. I’m just really pleased with her.”

Elgin got off to a solid start in the first game, trailing 7-6 before East picked things up. McKenna Slavik moved the ball around during a 9-1 run that followed and broke the game open, setting four teammates for kills.

In the second game, Slavik reached into her bag of tricks for four kills, all on tips when it looked like she was going to set somebody else.

“It’s just practice and a lot of reps,” Slavik said. “I just try to see the other side of the court when I’m out there. Usually, when we’re struggling on the outside and we need a point to get out of it, then I’ll try to find a spot.”

Slavik ended the match with an ace, setting up a rematch with Geneva.

“(Other teams) have to stay on her and it opens up other things,” Kull said of the tip kills.

It was the end of a long season on the road for Elgin, who played all but one of its 37 matches away from home as Cheshbrough Field House was renovated.

“I had a checklist of things that I wanted to mark off at the beginning of the season, and we got a lot of them,” Elgin coach Scott Stewart said. “We beat Larkin. We won a tournament. We won a game in our home tournament.”

“We played a game on the new floor. We won 17 games. That’s more than I’ve ever had. I’m proud of the girls.”

The Saints beat Geneva in three games earlier this season, and Kull expects a similar battle in the final.

“They’re a good team, so you have to respect them,” Kull said. “They’ll come out to play, and we know that. We have to be ready.”

Parking ban stays on
select village streets
See Page 10

South Elgin soccer
loses in title quest
See Page 12



Head over heels on a big day

Nate Gomez had a big day against East Aurora including this long dash where he was finally tripped up by the Tomcats' Gabriel Boyd on Saturday, Oct. 21 at South Elgin. For story and more photos, see page 8.
(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

Editorial

Race Hustling on the U-46 School Board

Part IV

Last week, we presented evidence of the corrupting, incestuous relationship between U-46 **Trustee Traci O'Neal Ellis** and former superintendent Jose Torres. Along the way, we were again forced to wade into the toxic racial identity politics that animate much of what **O'Neal** says and does because she and Torres are cut from the same cloth.

Though we have a great distaste for the subject matter and a healthy wariness of the landmines found therein, we must press on in order to demonstrate how pervasive this identity politics pathology is at the highest levels in U-46, and beyond. Fortunately, the targets of our criticism need not be strictly racialized, as are the world views of **Ellis** and Torres, who see things through the prisms of a black woman and Hispanic man, respectively. Current U-46 CEO Tony Sanders—who is noticeably white—has found multiple ways to bring further shame and to do further damage to our school district, proving that anybody, of any race, can be a race-hustler as long as they lack integrity and seek to gain personal advantage.

Under Torres's superintendency, Sanders served as chief of staff. When Torres quit U-46 to take the reins at the Illinois Math and Science Academy, our school board promoted Sanders to CEO. Under Illinois law, however, Sanders was not qualified for the superintendent job. So, **Ellis** and her like-minded peers also hired retired District 300 Superintendent Kenneth Arndt to serve as a part-time superintendent—a highly-compensated figurehead who could pop into district headquarters to sign official documents that Sanders, by law, was unqualified to sign. Odd, though.

Why would **Ellis** and company go to such lengths to elevate Sanders into this unorthodox arrangement and incur redundant administrative personnel costs, inefficiencies, and potential blow-back from the electorate? The answer is quite simple: Sanders is a team player. By this, we mean that Sanders is willing to dance on the end of **Ellis's** string, perpetuating her divisive racial politics no matter what the effect upon our students, teachers, parents and society. He is further willing to disregard truth and fairness along the way.

Don't take our word for it, though: You can watch the man in action earlier this year by visiting www.examinerpublications.com. There, you will find a link to a video of him speaking at the Black History Family Festival last year and engaging in a breathtaking exercise in pandering, deceit and self-abasement. His topic is "structural racism," and his apparent purpose is to offer an apology from white America to black America, and to fuel anger and resentment in the latter group. Angry and resentful black voters are, after all, good for **Traci O'Neal Ellis** at election time. In his speech, Sanders offers dubious facts and figures to support his claim that structural racism is a fact of life in Illinois, and right off the bat he masterfully virtue signals to the crowd his racial bona fides: "This is why I can't sleep at night." We shudder to think at how restless he would be if his bed were not feathered with a quarter-million tax dollars every year.

Turning back to his speech, though, we offer a few examples of his dishonesty in the service of racial pandering. He cites as proof of structural racism the unequal consequences of Illinois funding shortfalls for various school districts—U-46 versus Barrington and St. Charles—asking rhetorically: "Is that fair? Is that a form of structural racism?" The lie built into this inflammatory claim is that U-46 receives proportionally far greater funding from Springfield (as well as Washington D.C.) than do Barrington and St. Charles—a disproportion that partially correlates to each district's minority population. Here are the real numbers: Barrington and St. Charles receive only 7.8 percent and 8.5 percent of their respective budgets from the state, whereas U-46 gets 27.1 percent of its budget from the state. Such a racial spoils system—the kind that **Ellis** ceaselessly promotes—creates a dangerous sense of entitlement all the while the money is rolling in, but if that revenue stream slows, even proportionally: Racism! Facts be damned.

Sanders also claims, without offering a shred of evidence (because he has none), that Illinois education cuts paid for "correctional officers and court reporters," and asks again: "Is that a form of struc-

See Race Hustling Part IV, pg. 5

Halloween Safety Tips

The Village of South Elgin has set Halloween trick-or-treat hours as 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Residents are encouraged to turn on their front porch lights if they want to pass out candy on Halloween.

The South Elgin Police Department encourages everyone to have a safe and fun Halloween by following these important safety tips while trick-or-treating:

Children are reminded to bring their Halloween candy home and have their parents properly inspect the candy before eating them.

A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children.

Older children should walk together with a large group of friends and stay in their immediate neighborhoods.

Children should always walk on the sidewalk and should avoid trick-or-treating near busy streets.

Motorists are reminded to drive carefully in residential neighborhoods and watch out for children crossing the street.

Children should carry glow sticks or flashlights when trick-or-treating during the evening hours and only go to homes where the porch light is turned on.

Children should never enter a residence or a vehicle to accept Halloween candy.

Police will also be conducting extra patrols in the residential neighborhoods on Halloween. Parents and children are encouraged to immediately dial 9-1-1 if they observe any suspicious activity while trick-or-treating.



New tax levy proposal aired at U-46 meeting

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 plans to hike the property tax levy by the maximum allowed by law, which it consistently has done each year, as the 2017 levy was presented to the Board of Education on Monday, Oct. 16. A vote on the determination of the levy as well as a resolution is expected to take place on Monday, Oct. 30.

The actual 2016 extension was \$264.8 million and the district expects \$271.5 million from the proposed levy. The

proposal is for \$272.8 million, a defensive levy according to the administration.

Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations, described the process in making the determination.

“Basically we’re starting with our 2016 extension.... We take that extension and multiply it with the Consumer Price Index, or CPI, which is 2.1 percent. Then we also have to add in for the new growth. We’ve estimated about \$20 million in (Equalized As-

sessed Value),” Burnidge said.

While CPI is 2.1 percent, the final extension is 2.53 percent with the inclusion of new construction value. The new construction numbers are estimates which is why the defensive levy is being asked for Burnidge said.

Including property taxes derived from debt services, the total property tax extension in 2016 was \$307 million and the estimation for 2017 is \$315 million.

The administration also plans to use an abatement for the third straight year, which is supposed to have the effect of keeping the levy flat, and board member Sue Kerr said the debt service levy does not include the abatement and is “applied in February” which Burnidge said was correct.

The abatement process does still increase property taxes, but those increases are realized by future property owners and board member Jeanette Ward has called it a “sleight of hand.”

During the Fiscal Year 2018 budget discussions, Ward said: “We are in fact increasing the levy extension in a permanent manner, while we abate back money on a temporary basis. This is disingenuous to the taxpayers.”

Ward suggested during the budget process “reducing the property tax burden correspondingly” with the increases in revenue that are expected to come from a new state funding model approved by the General Assembly.

The new education funding model was made possible by the state increasing the personal income tax by 32 percent and the state’s corporate tax by 33.3 percent. U-46 CEO Tony Sanders lobbied for those tax hikes.

The board will also vote on a \$566,297 five-year proposal with Hobsons, which will come out of the education fund if approved, to purchase the Hobsons Naviance program. If approved before the end of November, the cost would be reduced to \$516,297 Sanders said.

The program would replace Career Cruising and “it’s a web- and app-based program” that helps students with college and career planning said Bruce Phelps, interim director of business services. He said Hobsons Naviance is “more comprehensive” by including college planning tools where Career Cruising was focused solely on career planning.

Board member Phil Costello asked

how the program helps the district in tracking data? In responding, Terri Lozier, assistant superintendent, said it includes building level data accessible by school administrators as well as scholarships available to students. She said “we’ll know where our students will be going” to college with the program.

The program will allow for electronic submission of transcripts to colleges and allow for four-year high school plans and parental access district officials said.

Board member Sue Kerr asked if it would help students narrow their college choices as well as narrow scholarships available and Phelps said it would. Phelps also said it would help the district “target” scholarships to “particular groups.”

Board members Melissa Owens asked about student access and Lozier said “they’ll have access to it all the time” and the hope is to start it at the middle school level to help with high school planning. Lozier said the district plans on using the program starting in the 2018-19 school year.

Costello said “it lines up with our strategic objectives very well” and “it sounds like a great mapping tool.”

Also presented was a three-year contract with Automatic Building Controls (ABC) costing \$898,203 and coming out of the operations and maintenance fund if approved.

From the proposal, the services are “to maintain, service, and repair the District’s vast array of Applied Equipment (Absorbers, Chillers, Centrifugal Chillers, Direct Expansion Units, and Air & Water Cooled Chiller Units) and additionally to maintain and upgrade the District’s Building Automations Systems (Applied Equipment Electronic Control Systems).”

In response to questions from Costello, the district said it has been using ABC for “more than 15 years” and “as part of the new contract, they have agreed to provide training” so that “tasks currently performed by the vendor” can be performed in house which could lead to future savings. The proposed contract is an increase from previous contract which the district said “much of the added costs were for emergency services and upgrades to obsolete equipment.”

Village Board approves remote capture pact

By Kristin Carreno

At the Monday, Oct. 16 meeting of the Village Board, trustees voted 5-0, Greg Liesure abstained, to prove of a resolution to authorize the execution of an electronic payment services agreement with American Eagle Bank for remote deposit capture.

According to Director of Administrative Services Megan Golden, staff have been looking to process utility bill payments more efficiently through electronic collection of customer payments using their bank’s online bill payment feature. They have begun to capture some of these payments electrically in lieu of paper checks.

“In order to more efficiently process paper checks, we would like to utilize remote deposit capture, which is essentially scanning the check and then submitting an electronic file to give it to the bank for deposit,” said Golden.

“This will eliminate the need to copy checks which will cut down on staff time and will provide a more accurate count of our check receipts. The electronic payment services agreement is necessary to establish a remote deposit capture with American Eagle Bank. American Eagle Bank will provide the equipment and the training.”

Race Hustling Part IV

Continued from page 1

tural racism?” Read the pervious sentence again to ensure that you did not miss the shocking racism that Sanders accidentally reveals because it is a textbook example of the real and pernicious racism that the **Traci O’Neal Ellis** types perpetuate. The only way for Sanders’ audience to agree with his point is to accept the racial divide implicit in his formulation—a divide that is preposterously illogical and racist. His meaning, most obviously, is that black people are the target of increases in corrections and courtroom spending because, after all, they are the criminals (or are they the hapless targets of racist police?). Meanwhile, Sanders would have his black audience believe that when all 40,000 of our district’s students suffer funding cuts, the secret legislative intent is a brilliantly disguised racist maneuver to punish black students—the entire 6.3 percent of the U-46 student body they represent. What nonsense from the number one man in our school district.

Circling back to the “racist police” parenthetical, above, we put it there for two reasons. First, racist police would be Sanders’ defense to our charge of implicit racism in his formula (i.e. prison is where black people live). Second, Sanders elsewhere betrays his Ellisesque anti-police, Black Lives Matter sentiments. Later in his speech, he offers and then bemoans a statistic that starting correctional officers and starting teachers both earn \$42,000 annually, and in doing so he reveals much about himself. As a man unqualified to hold the job of superintendent, Sanders derides correctional officers for needing “only” a high school diploma or G.E.D. While *The Examiner* values and respects the work of our teachers, we point out that correctional officers work 12 months per year. They also face the very real threat of injury or death every day they spend inside the walls of a prison. So, as Tony Sanders gathers a million dollars over his first four years as CEO of U-46, he will have the luxury of fretting about structural racism through sleepless nights in his very safe, comfortable home—all the while begrudging third-shift correctional officers the \$170,000 they earn during those same nights, over those same four years, a fraction of what Sanders will make in just one year. Perhaps, like **Ellis**, Sanders is simply speaking his truth. Perhaps, like **Ellis’** hero Colin Kaepernick, Sanders dismisses law enforcement officers as “pigs.” More likely, Sanders is just hopelessly out of touch and arrogantly contemptuous of the people who put that roof over his head.

Sanders’ slight-of-hand and racial pandering, however, is not limited to economic complaints, such as getting fewer of our tax dollars to spend running a half-billion dollar district that has students falling farther behind in meeting state standards every year they attend U-46. He is happy and willing to wade into any subject that stokes racial resentment in his audience (which includes his number one fan, **Traci O’Neal Ellis**). For example, he asserts that the fact that “African-Americans in Illinois have the highest infant mortality rates” is further evidence of structural racism. How that sad statistic is the fault of non-blacks, the Illinois General Assembly, or a statue of General Robert E. Lee—Sanders doesn’t say. What’s the difference though? The point is that black people must be victims so that politicians like **Ellis** and Sanders (he is unmistakably a politician) can ride in to their rescue, year after year, generation upon generation—even though, according to **Ellis** and Sanders, things have scarcely improved since South Carolina seceded from the Union.

Yet these race hustlers keep dividing us, keep making false promises, keep getting elected, keep holding onto the highest positions of bureaucratic power, and keep making asinine statements such as this Sanders gem: “Black History Month should not just be a month. It should continue to be a year-round discussion in our community.” Really, Tony? If we talked about it any more than we already do, we wouldn’t have time for weather forecasts and sports scores. Why is this so? Because it pays. For the low price of self-abasement, Sanders has achieved job security and wealth as head of U-46 while remaining unqualified as a school superintendent. How? They changed the law in Springfield just for him: that’s how.

Next week, we reveal how it happened and who owns the two state senators and two representatives who sponsored the bill to keep our schools’ CEO in a position to abet, among other things, the racial machinations of **Traci O’Neal** and those four benevolent, bill-sponsoring legislators in the Illinois General Assembly. (HINT: Their patrons are the same folks who filled the campaign coffers of **Traci O’Neal Ellis**). We will also dig a bit deeper into Sanders’ specious claims to his black audience about neighboring school districts to demonstrate how Sanders and **Ellis** not only shade the truth, but turn it inside out to advance their destructive racial narrative.

“It’s like you’re standing at the teller line,” Liesure said about the machine.

The only cost associated with this item is a \$900 fee if the equipment is not returned to American Eagle, according to Golden.

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A View from the Cheap Seats



Irreconcilable Differences

By Rich Trzupek
When I listened to Gen. John Kelly's impassioned plea to move beyond politics involving the men and women who serve us in uniform, I was naïve enough to think "surely, this is a healing moment." By carefully explaining all of the care and feeling and pain that goes into notifying a close relative of their loved one's death while in serving, Kelly moved – or tried to move – beyond petty politics. By bearing witness to President Trump's angst and search for advice about the right thing to say and how to say it before he made phone calls to those who had their lives shattered by what happened in Niger, Kelly tried to explain how much President Trump wanted to do the right thing, the right way.

By putting Trump's comment that Army Sgt. La David Johnson's "knew what he was getting into" in proper context, Kelly tried to let America know that the President shares his, and most Americans, awe and gratitude for those who serve in uniform. For Kelly, for those like him in service, saying "he knew what he was getting into" is a way of paying respect to brave men and women who are fully aware that service may ultimately involve the ultimate sacrifice. Kelly was appalled that a United States Congresswoman should attempt to pick-out a single phrase, entirely out of context, in an effort to twist a message of gratitude and respect into something callous and cold.

Kelly's sincere and emotional remarks might have touched a liberal heart even a few decades ago. Today however, the left and its MSM branch will let no opportunity go by to demonize anyone and everyone with a different point of view. Of all the unwarranted, ridiculous, shameful attacks on this marine who has served his country so selflessly and well, the charge of racism is most reprehensible. Kelly is not racist, he is a marine. Anyone who knows anything about the marines understands the difference. Rather than make my own poor attempt to explain that, I would rather let Gen. Kelly explain it for himself, with excerpts from a speech he gave just four days after losing his son Robert to combat in Afghanistan in 2010. Here is some of what this great American had to say:

Two years ago when I was the Commander of all U.S. and Iraqi forces, in fact, the 22nd of April 2008, two Marine infantry battalions, 1/9 "The Walking Dead," and 2/8 were switching out in Ramadi. One battalion in the closing days of their deployment going home very soon, the other just starting its seven-month combat tour.

Two marines, Cpl. Jonathan Yale and Lance Cpl. Jordan Haerter, 22 and 20 years old respectively, one from each battalion, were assuming the watch together at the entrance gate of an outpost that contained a makeshift barracks housing 50 Marines.

The same broken down ramshackle building was also home to 100 Iraqi police, also my men and our allies in the fight against the terrorists in Ramadi, a city until recently the most dangerous city on earth and owned by Al Qaeda. Yale was a dirt poor mixed-race kid from Virginia with a wife and daughter, and a mother and sister who lived with him and he supported as well. He did this on a yearly salary of less than \$23,000. Haerter, on the other hand, was a middle class white kid from Long Island.

They were from two completely different worlds. Had they not joined the Marines they would never have met each other, or understood that multi-

ple America's exist simultaneously depending on one's race, education level, economic status, and where you might have been born. But they were marines, combat marines, forged in the same crucible of marine training, and because of this bond they were brothers as close, or closer, than if they were born of the same woman.

A few minutes later a large blue truck turned down the alley way—perhaps 60 to 70 yards in length—and sped its way through the serpentine of concrete jersey walls. The truck stopped just short of where the two were posted and detonated, killing them both catastrophically. Twenty-four brick masonry houses were damaged or destroyed. A mosque 100 yards away collapsed. The truck's engine came to rest two hundred yards away knocking most of a house down before it stopped.

I traveled to Ramadi the next day and spoke individually to a half-dozen Iraqi police all of whom told the same story. The blue truck turned down into the alley and immediately sped up as it made its way through the serpentine. They all said, "We knew immediately what was going on as soon as the two Marines began firing." The Iraqi police then related that some of them also fired, and then to a man, ran for safety just prior to the explosion.

All survived. Many were injured ... some seriously. One of the Iraqis elaborated and with tears welling up said, "They'd run like any normal man would to save his life."

What he didn't know until then, he said, and what he learned that very instant, was that marines are not normal. Choking past the emotion he said, "Sir, in the name of God no sane man would have stood there and done what they did."

"They saved us all."
One of our security cameras, damaged initially in the blast, recorded some of the suicide attack. It happened exactly as the Iraqis had described it. It took exactly six seconds from when the truck entered the alley until it detonated.

You can watch the last six seconds of their young lives. Putting myself in their heads I supposed it took about a second for the two marines to separately come to the same conclusion about what was going on once the truck came into their view at the far end of the alley. Exactly no time to talk it over, or call the sergeant to ask what they should do. Only enough time to take half an instant and think about what the sergeant told them to do only a few minutes before: "...let no unauthorized personnel or vehicles pass."

The recording shows the truck careening to a stop immediately in front of the two marines. In all of the instantaneous violence Yale and Haerter never hesitated. By all reports and by the recording, they never stepped back. They never even started to step aside. They never even shifted their weight. With their feet spread shoulder width apart, they leaned into the danger, firing as fast as they could work their weapons. They had only one second left to live.

The truck explodes. The camera goes blank. Two young men go to their God.

Six seconds.
Not enough time to think about their families, their country, their flag, or about their lives or their deaths, but more than enough time for two very brave young men to do their duty ... into eternity. That is the kind of people who are on watch all over the world tonight—for you.

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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.

Keep up the good work

Dear Editor,

Thank you again for exposing Traci O'Neal Ellis, her background, and the backgrounds of her supporters. You really hit the nail on the head when you exposed the privilege of race hustlers who intimidate others with threats of being labeled racist. I admire your fortitude.

How can we the people hold her accountable? I was wondering the same thing as Jerry Marchese brought up in his Letter to the Editor, how could the administration of U-46 allow Ms. Ellis to remain in her position?

Keep up the good work! And please keep those cartoons coming -- I missed them the past two weeks.

Francine Freiberg

Opinion: Taxpayers should flex their muscle, pick their punches

Dear Editor,

Cook County's new soda tax was formally repealed yesterday, in large part due to the pressure taxpayers put on their elected representatives. In his column this month, Austin Berg explains the lesson he thinks we should take from this fight:

It wasn't exactly the Boston Tea Party, but it took everything short of dumping Diet Coke into Lake Michigan for Cook County residents to force the repeal of an unpopular tax on sweetened beverages.

The county's penny-per-ounce "soda tax" will be no more come Dec. 1. And Illinoisans across the state should take heart.

Even the most powerful machine politicians – yes, including House Speaker Mike Madigan – are not above the wrath of the voting public.

Internal polling for one Cook County commissioner showed more than 90 percent of constituents opposed the soda tax. Even Cook County Commissioner Ed Moody, an appointee and longtime political worker for Madigan, flipped his vote in the face of such extreme numbers.

Ultimately, political support for the repeal became nearly unanimous.

Tax repeals are some of the rarest birds in Illinois' political kingdom. Gov. Jim Thompson's repeal of the state's punitive inheritance tax in 1982 and Chicago City Council's vote to repeal the city's feudal "head tax" in 2011 are a couple notable examples.

Years before the soda tax repeal, 2013 marked the death of a particularly unpopular sales tax increase in Cook County, which pushed Chicago's sales tax to the highest in the nation among major cities. It took the ousting of a board president to kill the increase. But it was only a matter of time before that tax hike came back.

Today, Chicagoans are again stuck paying the highest sales tax of any major city in the country, soda tax or no soda tax.

A similar dynamic has played out at the state level. Former Gov. Pat Quinn signed a temporary income tax hike into law in 2011, which partially sunset at the start of 2015. There was a political cost. Quinn lost the governorship. But billions of dollars in new revenue only further cemented the state's terrible spending habits, so when the tax was partially rolled back the books looked even worse.

Cut to this summer, when Illinoisans watched lawmakers ram through the largest permanent income tax hike in the state's history.

Therein lies the lesson for Illinoisans who are rightly indignant about their tax bills.

One can righteously rail against tax increases ad nauseam. It might even have consequences at the ballot box. Indeed, nine of the 15 House Republicans who cast at least one vote for the state income tax hike have already announced they won't run for re-election in 2018. Illinoisans should never forget that their voices have power.

But if aggrieved taxpayers don't also demand fixes to underlying spending problems, calls for additional tax hikes will return. And they'll be stronger than ever.

In Cook County, effective taxpayer advocacy means putting pressure on commissioners to address a practically bankrupt pension system, where the average career worker will receive about \$2 million in total benefits over the course of his or her retirement.

Hate the soda tax?

Of course, tell your commissioner. But also push for the county to extend 401(k)-style retirement plans currently offered to state university workers to its own workforce in order to begin an end to the pension crisis.

Property tax bill higher than your mortgage payment?

By all means, shout it from the rooftops. But also call for local government consolidation, limits to the extremely broad scope of government union bargaining power, and reform of the state's prevailing wage laws, which over inflate the cost of public projects.

Fed up with yet another income tax hike without reform?

Call your state lawmaker. But also demand he or she stand up to the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which is still pushing for huge raises for the highest-paid state workers in the nation who also receive platinum-level health insurance at a fraction of the cost.

It's easy to rejoice in the defeat of an onerous tax.

What's harder? Pushing for reforms needed to change the political battlefield altogether.

Dan McCaleb
News Director, Illinois News Network

Storm totally dominate Tomcats in 65-20 win

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin football team left no doubt it would complete an undefeated season in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division as the Storm built a 58-6 halftime lead on the way to a 65-20 win over East Aurora on Saturday, Oct. 21 at South Elgin.

All facets of the Storm put points on the board in a 30-0 first quarter including a safety on an East Aurora punt from the special teams and a defensive score in the form of an 18-yard interception return by senior Kyle Viverito.

Senior Pierre Toussaint (nine carries, 92 yards) added a four-yard touchdown run and five-yard TD reception from senior quarterback Nathan Smith (3-for-7, 50 yards) in the first quarter, and senior Nate Gomez

(seven carries, 94 yards) had a 37-yard scoring run.

The Storm, now 8-1 overall and 5-0 in the UEC Valley Division, have garnered the 10th seed in the playoffs and will host No. 23 Palatine (6-3) in the opening round.

"We always saw in ourselves that we'd be able to be this good," Smith said. "We have all the confidence in the world, and we just can't wait to get after it in the playoffs."

Gomez added touchdown runs of 32 yards and one yard as well as a 42-yard TD pass to Davion Cherwin in the second quarter and Smith, who ran for 31 yards, added a one-yard TD run. Senior Monte Mardis (seven carries, 73 yards) ran in a 32-

yard score in the third quarter and Andrew Bucaro completed a 9-for-9 performance on extra point kicks for a 65-6 lead.

The Storm finished with a 354-211 advantage in total yardage. Senior William Dunn added an interception.

The undefeated performance in conference is the second time in three years for the Storm.

"Just really proud of our seniors," said South Elgin coach Pat Pistorio. "They were around for that last one so it's a memorable moment for them. Really, extremely proud of them and all the hard work they've put into this."



During a fake punt attempt, East Aurora's Joshua Pryor was brought down well in front of his goal by the Storm's Vince Clinite and Anthony Zabran.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Storm's Davion Cherwin making a pass reception against East Aurora. The catch and Cherwin's run down the sideline resulted in another South Elgin touchdown that, at the time, extended the Storm's lead to 44-6.

North tops Warriors, East to win regional title

By Seth Hancock

The North soccer team had a chance at redemption but more importantly a chance to extend its season in the North Regional title game on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The top-seeded North Stars suffered just one Upstate Eight Conference River Division loss, 3-0 against cross-

town rival No. 7 East. In the rematch, North built a 3-0 lead and held on for a 3-2 victory.

Jake Persenico, off a Bernard Elegbede feed, made it 3-0 with 27:21 left in the game, but East scored less than two minutes later. A second yellow card issued to a North Stars player left the host down a man for nearly

the final 14 minutes of play and East would eventually pull to within one off a penalty kick in the final 10 minutes, but North was able to maintain the lead thanks in large part to goalkeeper Piercarlo Ricossa (seven saves).

"At the end of the day, you want the result, you want to move on and you want to have practice on Monday," said North coach Eric Willson whose team will face No. 12 Wheaton North in the Conant Sectional semifinal.

"That's what we have so we're pretty happy."

happy."

The game started with a bang for the North Stars as Peter Willis headed in a Matthew Beaulieu corner kick in the opening two minutes of play. North would not add to that lead until six minutes into the second half when Joshua Amaro scored unassisted.

"I told the team multiple times leading up to this game that whoever scores the first goal is going to have a huge advantage," Willis said.

On the earlier loss to East, Willis said: "We had a big crowd there and they watched us get demolished by

East. Everyone was talking about how we choked and that kind of lit the fire, and it's been burning ever since. We got redemption."

In the regional semifinals, North defeated No. 17 Willowbrook 5-0 on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

The score was just 1-0 at halftime after a late goal by Willis off a Persenico corner kick before an Elegbede goal, assisted by Beaulieu, opened up a four-goal second half. Persenico, Gabriel D'Amico and Noah Linn all found the net in the second half.

North is now 13-2-4 overall.



North's Jake Persenico negotiating across midfield with Willowbrook's Tomas Hernandez in pursuit.



Bernard Elegbede firing off a solid shot for the North Stars despite the presence of the Warriors' Aaron Gualpa, left and Steven Cerda.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Pact with Bartlett ratified, sustains swim programs

By Kristin Carreno

At the Village Board meeting on Monday, Oct. 16, trustees unanimously approved an ordinance authorizing an intergovernmental agreement with the Bartlett Park District for aquatic programs to be available to village residents at a reduced rate. According to Director of Parks & Recreation Kim Wascher, the agreement is for a three-year term beginning Dec. 1 and ending Nov. 30, 2020.

According to Wascher, since the initial agreement which began in 2011, there have been over 3,500 participants the past three years. The rates and fees for each of the options may be increased each year in reaction to the budget adopted by the Bartlett Park District.

"The only change within the IGA is the offering of the Barracudas swim team," said Wascher. "In the past few years our residents have requested

that we look into adding this to the agreement. When it came up at the renewal and staff met with Bartlett, they were happy to add this option for the residents of South Elgin."

According to Wascher, over the past three years the average revenue has been \$25,884 per fiscal year. These programs account for approximately 19 percent of Parks & Recreation revenue each year.

"With the purchase of our registration software, staff has cut their work time for these programs by 75 percent," Wascher said.

Wascher noted that 90 percent of village residents register online."

"Having a place for residents to participate in aquatics programs is a great opportunity to participate in a lifelong skill," Wascher said. "We do not have to be responsible for maintaining a pool facility here and the costs that go along with having a pool."

Storm dominate Sabres to end regular season



Hayley Fisher of South Elgin during a service return against the Sabres.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin volleyball team kept its momentum rolling in its regular season finale prior to entering the St. Charles East Regional.

The Storm, who are seeded seventh, faced their opening postseason foe Streamwood, seeded 10th, won their 14th straight match on senior night with a 25-13, 25-7 Upstate Eight Conference crossover win on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at South Elgin.

Game 1 saw South Elgin build a 14-5 lead and senior Libby Vedrine (nine kills, five blocks, three digs) later had three straight kills for a 19-8 lead, and Streamwood was unable to pull closer than eight the rest of the set.

In the second set, the Storm jumped to a 6-0 lead and later used an 8-0 run for a 14-1 advantage to take control which they wouldn't relinquish. Ahead 23-7, a Vedrine kill and Streamwood error ended the match.

"We had our senior lineup in the first game and they got the job done," said South Elgin coach Joni Plach. "We had our normal lineup in Game 2. We have regionals next week and wanted to get ready for it, and they did a nice job."

The Storm have seven seniors including Casie Swanson (10 assists, three digs), Yvalis Cortes-Rojas (seven digs), Brittany Kummerer (three kills, four digs), Sarah Murray (five digs), Katie Flanagan (two kills) and Amelia O'Neal (ace). Kendall Richardson finished with four assists and two digs, and McKayla Geraghty had an ace.

Along with winning 14 straight matches, the Storm have won three straight invitational titles.

"I think most definitely we're playing really well at the right time, especially with the three tournament wins," Vedrine said. "We're really gelling right now."

South Elgin is 25-7 overall. The East Regional includes some tough competition including No. 3 Geneva and No. 2 East.

"We're prepared to play anybody if we're playing our best," Plach said.

Plach added: "We have seven seniors which is the most seniors we've ever had. A lot of them I've coached their sisters. It's going to be hard to see them go, and hopefully we can keep the season going long into the post-season so we can keep them playing for us a while longer."



Katie Flanagan executing a kill shot against Streamwood.

U-46 vote clears hurdle for BHS sports complex

By Seth Hancock

Work can now begin on a sports complex at Bartlett High School after the Board of Education in School District U-46 approved by a 7-0 vote a \$1.6 million proposal for the first phase of the project at its meeting on Monday, Oct. 16.

The work will be done by L.J. Morse Construction Company and will go towards bleachers, a press box and stadium lights. The completion date is set for May 11, 2018 meaning the Bartlett Hawks athletics programs, including varsity football and soccer, can start hosting games on campus instead of at Millennium Field in Streamwood where they have been hosting games since the school's opening two decades ago.

Funding will largely come from private donations collected by the Bartlett Boosters Club which submitted a check for \$925,000, but the rest will come from the district's operations and maintenance fund as well as debt certificates from Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB).

For George Kantzavelos, the Bartlett booster's director of the activity complex, the approval was a big deal after the years of work put in to bring this to fruition.

"Other than the marriage to my wife and the birth of my three children, yesterday's vote was one of the proudest moments in my life," Kantzavelos told *The Examiner* after the vote. "We have been working on this since 2011, and to know that within the next week we could see bulldozers at our school is overwhelming."

Kantzavelos thanked the board for the approval as well as Jeff King, chief operations officer, and Chris Allen, director of plant operations, for their work from the district level as well as Mike Demovsky, Bartlett's principal, and Jeff Bral, Bartlett's athletics director, for their "full support." He also thanked several individuals from the boosters.

"Members of the Activity Complex Board Valerie Salmons, who was instrumental in securing key donations, and our advisors Seth Lewis and [Village President Kevin] Wallace for all the work they put in. The BHS Booster Club for voting to move ahead with

this project. Of course our donors, who without them we would never have a place we could call home. Thank you all," Kantzavelos said.

There will be three more phases estimated to cost \$1 million each according to Kantzavelos and will include concession stands and a gated entrance in the second phase, locker rooms for the third and a turf field for the fourth with the hope "to have this completed by the 2020 season."

"Our efforts will not stop today," Kantzavelos said. "We actually have a meeting set up for two weeks from now with another major donor. We are raising funds for phase two and three."

The Hawks football team has already had a taste of playing at home hosting its homecoming game last year on the field after securing a donation from the Bartlett Rotary Club for a scoreboard. Both the boys and girls soccer teams have also played on the field.

Casey Pearce, a Bartlett senior and the U-46 board's student advisor, said prior to the vote: "It won't be done in my time, which is unfortunate, but my sister will go here soon. I think it will be really exciting to see what the final product looks like."

The expected amount to come from QZAB is \$466,270 which is expected to be paid back by the Bartlett boosters. Board member Melissa Owens asked if there were details on the bonds to which King said "my hope is the next board meeting you will be seeing it."

"We were trying to get some of this project completed before winter broke. Had we waited until November, we wouldn't be able to do that," King said.

Owens said she was uncomfortable with the vote without further detail on the bonds but voted for the project because of the work already put in by the boosters.

Board member Jeanette Ward clarified that essentially "we are like the cosigner" as the boosters will pay the debt back, and Allen said that was correct.

Also receiving unanimous approval by the board on Oct. 16 was \$4.5 million in itemized bills and a \$66,339 proposal with Heartland Business Systems, which will come out of the education fund, for 315 computers.



The Storm's Yvalis Cortes-Rojas moving into position to accept a Streamwood shot and to set up a winning South Elgin point.



Park Bench

...have a seat and we'll fill you in

Tot Tot Open Gym

We will break out the mats, tunnels, tricycles and more for your enjoyment. A waiver must be paid at the door prior to participating. This class will be held at Municipal Annex, 1 W. State St., on Wednesdays at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$2 each week.

All-Star Sports Classes

South Elgin Parks & Recreation will be keeping the little ones active both mentally and physically. This action-packed game will keep players moving and engaged while learning sports such as soccer, T-ball, basketball, golf, and more! Check out our available classes on our website www.southelgin.com/recregistration.

Youth Chess Scholars

Develop your child's intellect through the fun game of chess! All participants will learn the rules of chess as well as some basic strategies. This class will be held at Eastside Recreation Center, Elgin on Thursdays, starting Nov. 2 through Dec. 14 at 6 to 7 p.m.

Let's Build It Robotics- Gears and Gizmos!

Design and build your own robots! Your child will explore the field of robotics, through a series of exciting and dynamic lessons. No previous experience is necessary; both new and returning participants are welcome! This class will be held at Eastside Recreation Center, Elgin on Wednesdays, Starting Nov. 1 until Dec. 13 at 6 to 7 p.m.

Master the Magic

Get ready to be magical. New tricks will be taught at each session. This class will take place Thursday, Nov. 2, at 6:45 to 7:40 p.m. at the Bartlett Park

District with a fee of \$19 for residents, \$22 for non-residents.

Fitness

Zumba Kids (7 to 11 years old)

This is a great opportunity for boys and girls to be active and jam out to music. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex on Thursdays 5 to 6 p.m.

Zumba Kids Jr (4 to 6 years old)

Classes feature kid-friendly routines. We break down the steps, add games, activities, and cultural exploration elements into the class structure. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex on Tuesdays at 5 to 6 p.m.

Teen

Middle School Basketball

South Elgin Parks and Recreation offers co-ed boys and girls basketball for seventh and eighth graders. Practices are Tuesday and Thursday evenings, with one game per week played on Saturday. Registration deadline is Oct. 26 and there will be a \$20 late fee after this date. This class will be held at Kenyon Woods Middle School with a \$80 R/\$90 NR fee and the first game is Dec. 2. Our Parks & Recreation sports league rely on volunteer coaches, if you are interested or know an adult that is interested, please register using the following section number: Head Coach Section # 33702-01.

Mandatory Skills assessment will be held for the seventh- and eighth-grade teams in late October/early November

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.



Gail Borden

Public Library District

www.gailborden.info

...where the world is just a page away.

Read! Learn! Connect!

Parade around in costumes during our annual **Halloween Happening** parade at the Main Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin, on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. or at the Rakow Branch, 2751 W. Bowes Road, Elgin, on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Children from birth to grade two accompanied by parents can join in on the parade at the Main Library while children from preschool to kindergarten are welcome to attend the Rakow Branch parade. Dress up in your best costumes and drop by for some great fun! No registration required.

Escape from a pizzeria full of murderous robots during the **Escape Room: One Afternoon at Freddy's** at the South Elgin Branch on Thursday, Oct. 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. Teens in grades six to eight are encouraged to register for this brain-bending event, where they will work with others to solve puzzles and escape before time runs out.

New parents with little ones from birth to six months old are invited to our special **Welcome Baby: Baby's First Library Visit program** at the South Elgin Branch on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 1 or 2 p.m. This short session will educate new parents on the programs and resources the library has to offer that will help support baby's early literacy development. Attendees will receive a special gift! Please register in advance by calling 847-429-4597, in person at any library location or online at www.gailborden.info/register.

Craft some delicious and scary cupcakes with other adults at the **Halloween Cupcake Decoration class** at the Rakow Branch on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. Whether it's a

mummy, spider webs, bats or more, these cupcakes are guaranteed to spook! Supplies will be provided so no need to bring your own. This event is for adults ages 17 and up.

Celebrate the **Day of the Dead** at our annual Mini-Fest at the Main Library on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. Families will enjoy crafts, stories, face-painting, traditional sweet bread and much more! All ages are invited to drop by, learn something new and have a lot of fun with us. This event will be in English and Spanish.

Enjoy a 1940s radio hour reenactment for all ages during **Music in the Stacks: WWII Radio Hour** at the South Elgin Branch on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 2 to 3 p.m. This piano-accompanied trio – Patti, Maxine and Andrew—will wow crowds with tunes, choreography and much more! No registration is required for this musical entertainment.

Be One Smart Cookie as we talk about **Brain Health** with Nutrition and Kitchen Coach Joyce Lande at the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room on Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 6 to 6:45 p.m. She will share her best diet tips that will motivate us to make mindful and tasty food choices that will promote brain health. Registration is required for this event.

Get ready for Winter with the whole family and learn something new at our **Build a Winter Birdhouse** event at the South Elgin Branch on Sunday, Nov. 12 from 1 to 2 p.m. Families will make a homemade bird feeder to take home and discover which birds are native to the area. Materials will be provided by the library. Registration is required for this event.

Parking ban to remain on select village streets

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Monday, Oct. 16, trustees discussed the recently approved ordinance that prohibits parking on the village streets of Mavis, Ross, Josephine, Arthur, Beck, Woodrow, Wilson and Chipstone. This ordinance was passed due to the roads being too narrow. Some residents impacted by the ordinance then attended the Oct. 2 board meeting to voice their concerns At that meeting, board members told residents they determine if a compromise to their concerns still might be possible.

Chief of Police Jerry Krawczyk said he spoke with officials from the fire district since the last meeting who confirmed if parking is allowed on even one side of the street it would still be a major safety concern.

"The fire code says 20 feet is the minimum but that's without parking," said Fire Protection District Assistant Chief Steve Wascher who was present at the meeting.

The parking ordinance was prompted by an incident on July 29 when police responded to a loud music complaint for two house parties on Mavis. According to Krawczyk, officers had to park vehicles near Illinois Route 31 and walk to the residences because Mavis was impassible due to parked cars. Officers heard gunshots and fighting coming from one of the residences. The officers were outnumbered and called for assistance. The response for mutual aid was delayed as responders had to park even farther away from the scene.

"I spoke with Fire Chief Sohn and Deputy Chief Wascher regarding the parking in this area," Krawczyk said. "They both confirmed that it is impossible to get their ambulance or fire trucks through those streets when cars are parked on both sides. They said even if cars are only parked on one side, it is extremely difficult. Their concern is if they had to respond to a house fire or a life-threatening call in need of paramedics, the risk of essential fire vehicles and equipment would not be able to respond directly to the residence."

"Another issue is we will have people complaining: 'I'm losing my driveway now and you're affecting the value of my property,'" Trustee Mike Kolodziej said. "It's one of the situations where you're damned if you do

and you're damned if you don't."

Adding a public parking lot on Beck Avenue was another possibility mentioned. According to McLaughlin, this would add 14 parking spaces.

"Adding a parking lot is not a proposal," Village Administrator Steve Super said. "We've done no budgeting. If the board says it could be a valuable thing we could certainly come back and look at the budget process and try to do something with this and do some analysis and maybe add something like this by next year.

"After the last meeting I did drive down those streets and they are very narrow," Trustee Lisa Guess said. "I do sympathize and understand residents have been able to park on the street all these years.... But everything is changing all the time. There's more cars and more population and I think it's better to have no parking and have our streets open to our police and fire department. I'm sorry that I have to say that because I understand residents have utilized the parking on the streets but it's a safety issue to all of our residents."

"It would take just one fire or one medical emergency where we open up the village for a lawsuit to allow parking like this," Kolodziej said. "I think public safety is first and foremost. If police can't get through to do their job that concerns me. It's a safety and liability issue."

Ricky Palmer, a resident of Beck Avenue, said: "I understand your points and it's for safety," Palmer said. "It's kind of hard for me because you're not in our shoes. I wouldn't have bought my house if I knew this was an issue."

"We also have to protect the entire village," Kolodziej said. "One lawsuit against the village affects every citizen in the village."

"I'd like to investigate doing a parking lot on Beck like Marc showed," Guess said. "But keep the no parking signs up and then maybe a path to Chipstone from there."

"Fourteen parking spots is better than none," Kolodziej said. "I think that's a good compromise that doesn't jeopardize public safety."

The village will continue to adhere to its ordinance and prohibit parking on both sides for streets that are less than 20 feet in width, according to Village President Steven Ward.

North Stars football stun Batavia, win division title

By Seth Hancock

The North football team didn't let the daunting defense of Batavia faze them as the North Stars clinched their first conference title in 13 years with a 35-28 victory in Upstate Eight River Division play on Friday, Oct. 20 at North.

Batavia entered play having allowed just 3.9 points per game and its eight previous opponents found the end zone just four times. The North Stars found the end zone five times, one coming from their defense.

Trailing 14-7 in the second quarter, Lucas Segobiano (48 rushing yards) ran in a five-yard score to tie it, and on Batavia's following possession Ryan Thiesse returned an interception 38 yards for a score and a 21-14 lead. North wouldn't trail again.

"If we all go out with the same mind set that we're not coming off this field without a victory, then nobody is going to stop us," said North coach Rob Pomazak. "The kids proved that. I'm so proud of them."

Batavia tied the game in the third quarter, but Alec Kritta (four recep-

tions, 78 yards) caught a 32-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Michael Hohensee (18-for-27, 214 yards) and Segobiano added a two-yard TD run for a 35-21 lead in the fourth quarter.

Both teams traded touchdowns in the first quarter, Batavia scoring first before Tyler Nubin (six receptions, 51 yards) caught a 16-yard touchdown pass from Hohensee. Brandon Eickert was 5-for-5 on extra point attempts.

Hohensee added 86 rushing yards and Thomas Nelsen had six receptions for 71 yards for the offense while Chris Edlund added an interception on defense. Batavia did edge North 369-348 in total yards.

North is now 8-1 overall, 6-0 in the UEC River Division. The North Stars, who are seeded sixth, open the post-season hosting No. 27 Highland Park (5-4).

"Nobody counted us in," Pomazak said. "Everybody thought we were going to fold the tent because it was Batavia, and we proved everybody wrong."

Sabres topple Storm in soccer regional title match

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team saw its season come to an end after the No. 10 Storm dropped a 3-1 game in the Rockford Guilford Regional title game against No. 3 Streamwood on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Earlier this season, the Storm had dropped a 2-0 game against Streamwood but the rematch was tied 1-1 at halftime.

Streamwood struck first with a goal in the opening eight minutes of play, but five minutes later senior Christopher Stanczyk netted the equalizer with an unassisted goal.

In the end, Streamwood had a 12-5 advantage in shots on goal which led to a pair of second half goals. Storm senior keeper Brian Dykstra finished with nine saves.

"They're a good team and their pressure probably tolled at the end," said South Elgin coach Simon Brinklow. "When that third one went in that was a little too much."

In the semifinals, South Elgin faced another rematch and it got three different goal scorers to earn a 3-0 win

over No. 6 host Rockford Guilford on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The Storm tied Rockford Guilford 1-1 the previous week.

"We are not a team with a 10- to 15-goal scorer," Brinklow said. "We have to play as a unit and share goal scoring responsibilities, which is what we did."

Senior Eduardo Carrillo got the scoring started with an unassisted strike in the first half, and the 1-0 lead held till halftime.

In the second half, Nicholas Flores had a goal and an assist. Flores made it 2-0 off a Stanczyk assist and then provided a helper on senior Alex Kirkby's goal that made it 3-0.

"Team played well, maintained possession and we were patient," Brinklow said. "First half was one of the best halves we have played this year. With the amount of possession we had the second and third goals finally came in the second half."

South Elgin ends the season 8-10-3 overall and will also graduate seniors Fernando Rivera, Sergio Briones, Matthew McKee, Liam Swangren and Kevin Guerrero.

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

tions, please call Jan Lister at 630-837-2632 or Carolyn at 630-213-1205 or email Car644@gmail.com by Monday, Nov. 6.

Anderson Animal Shelter will hold its annual gala fundraiser dinner and auction, A Night to Paws on Saturday, Nov. 11, 5 to 10 p.m. at the Q Center, St. Charles. Visit www.andersonanimalshelter.org/gala for more information on the several ways you can participate in this event.

Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars State Commander Jeffrey Hastings announced the kick-off of this year's VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition. Illinois high school students have the opportunity to compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C. Students must write and record a three- to five-minute essay on the theme, "American History: Our Hope for the Future," using an audio CD or flash drive and present their recording, typed essay and completed entry form to their local VFW Post by Oct. 31. Interested students and teachers should contact the Voice of Democracy Chairman at your local VFW Post or contact the Illinois State Voice of Democracy Director Robert McLeod by phone at 708-363-7462 or email at rock76@yahoo.com. For more information. For details visit: www.vfw.org/VOD.

Willowbrook High School Class of '68 is looking for class alumni for their 50 year reunion to be held Aug. 4, 2018. Please contact the reunion committee at willowbrook68@gmail.com or Larry Durnil at 630-251-4693 for registration forms and info.

Enrich the lives of adults with developmental disabilities and other special needs by becoming a volunteer with the Association for Individual Development (AID). AID offers many unique volunteer opportunities in Aurora, Elgin, Batavia and Yorkville. Assist with arts and crafts projects; teach special classes such as cooking or basic computer skills; coordinate community outings; or work on the Fox Valley Crisis Line. Volunteers are greatly needed Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The gift

of time, talent and compassion can change a life. To apply to become a volunteer, visit the AID website (www.the-association.org) and click on "Volunteer" under the "Support" tab or call Maureen at 630-966-4020.

The South Elgin Food Pantry is open to anyone who lives in South Elgin or Valley View. Distributions are the first and third Wednesdays of each month, 9:30 a.m. to noon. The pantry has also added an evening pickup time the first Wednesday of every month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. People may pick up food only once a day this first Wednesday, either morning or evening. Newcomers are welcome. Residents of South Elgin and Valley View in St. Charles may use the food pantry. They must show evidence of residence, but do not have to share income information. For more information, call 847-931-0563 Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Please leave a message at other times.

Hosanna! Lutheran Church Community Care Center Food Pantry has changed its hours for 2017. The pantry will now be open on the first and third Monday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and the first and third Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A photo ID is required in order to receive two pre-packaged bags of food every four weeks. For more information please contact the church office at 630-584-6434, email to Welcome@HosannaChurch.com or visit our website at www.HosannaChurch.com/ Hosanna! Is located at 36W925 Red Gate Road (entrance just east of Randall Road) in St. Charles.

Low impact/sculpt aerobics exercise classes at The Salvation Army, 1710 S 7th Ave., St. Charles Tuesdays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Free and open to all.

Are you looking for a fun way to celebrate your child's birthday party while also supporting a good cause? Consider having your child's birthday at Anderson Animal Shelter! Parties can now be booked on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Please contact Carrie Frost by phone at 847-697-2880 x51 or by email at cfrost@andersonanimalshelter.org for additional information. Parties must be booked in advance by speaking directly with the coordinator; limitations apply.

The Examiner Asked

On Friday, Oct. 20, children at Klub Friday Night:

If you could go back in time to meet and talk to anyone, who would it be and why?



Skylar Sawyer: "I would like to meet Harry Houdini because I'm interested in magic and he was the best of all time."



Thiago Ladron de Guevera: "I would like to talk to Pele, the soccer player, because I like soccer and I'm Brazilian like he is."



Julia Merritt: "I wish I could see my grandpa again. He died recently and I really miss him."



Corey Staggs: "I would want to meet Walter Peyton, because he was the greatest football player ever."



Leah Birns: "Calvin Coolidge, because he was an incredible President of the United States."



Sebastian Guillen: "Pele, he's a famous soccer player and my favorite player to watch, even though he is retired."



Camryn Antor: "I would like to talk to Abraham Lincoln because I would like to know how he did such a great job saving our country."



Eva Wasik: "I wish I could meet Christopher Columbus because he was the first person to discover America and I'd like to know what he saw when he arrived here."



Izzy Sirota: "George Washington because he was the first President of the United States. I would ask him how he was so successful without having anyone to show him how to be president."



Shea Bohndorf: "I would like to talk to Cleopatra and learn about Egyptian history from her."



Jason Antor: "Jackie Robinson. He was a famous baseball player and really good and the first black baseball player in [Major League Baseball]."



Jasmine Tamoro: "I would like to talk to a young Mike Phelps and ask him what motivated him to be such a good swimmer."

(By Juli Schatz)

Young village residents given passport honors



Pictured, front row, left to right: Noah McCarthy, Michael Trevino, Axel Koontz and Vala Koontz. Middle row: Char McCarthy, Colleen McCarthy, Dawn Trevino, Sandy Koontz and Pam Rohleder. Back row: Emma Marston, Trustee Michael E. Camerer, Trustee Kristina Gabrenya, Village Clerk Lorna Giless, Trustee Aaron H. Reinke, Bobby Trevino, Trustee Adam J. Hopkins, Village President Kevin Wallace, Trustee Raymond H. Deyne and Jason Koontz.

(Courtesy photo)

By Christy Mazza

Every summer, Bartlett residents have the opportunity to participate in the Passport to Adventure program. The program is sponsored by the Kane-DuPage Regional Museum Association, KDRMA, for children aged four through 12.

During the President's Report portion of the Village Board meeting on Oct. 3, three families were recognized for their participation in the program.

"This year the program theme was 'Discover Your Local Treasures,' and we bring families in from all over the two counties, even beyond our borders, who discover our community of Bartlett and also eat at our restaurants," said Pam Rohleder, director of the Village of Bartlett museums.

First recognized was 6-year-old Liberty Elementary School student Michael Trevino, who along with his family visited 35 sites. Of those, Trevino's favorite was the SciTech museum of Aurora.

"This is the family's second year in the program, and this year they returned to their favorite sites, and discovered new ones," Rohleder said.

Four-year-old Schick's Crossing Preschool student Noah McCarthy, who was also recognized, and his mother and grandmother visited 60 sites. Of those, his favorite site was Graue Mill in Oak Brook.

"Grandmother Char summed it up best when she wrote in an email to me: Noah and I have continued to remain very busy with Passport to Adventure," Rohleder said. "Noah has learned in a lot of ways he may not be able to express yet. But the foundation for museum manners, farm chores and

overall appreciation of nature has opened up a whole new world to him."

The final two children recognized, 6-year-old Sycamore Trails Student Axel Koontz and his 4-year-old sister Vala, who attends preschool at Streamwood High School, visited all 70 sites and were the winners of the Mayor's Medallion. This is the second year in a row the children were awarded the medallion for visiting all the sites.

"For several years, the family has participated in the Passport program," Rohleder said.

Vala's favorite was the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art in Elmhurst, and Axel's favorite site was Jurica-Suchy Nature Museum in Lisle.

"Visiting 70 museums in four months is an adventure no child would do unless it was fun and engaging," Rohleder said. "Our local institutions in Kane and DuPage counties understand the importance of connecting children and welcoming them to learn."

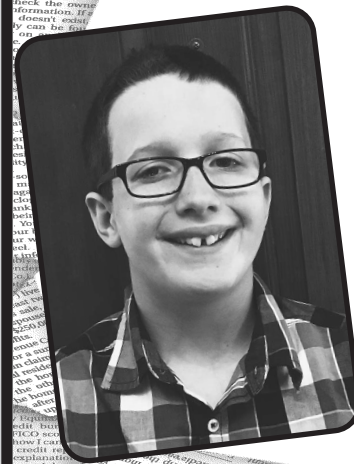
Rohleder said that this year, KDRMA printed 18,000 passports that contained 70 sites, which is five more than were featured last year. Of those passports, 600 were picked up in Bartlett, which celebrated its 20th year of involvement this year.

"Bartlett is one of the top distribution communities within the whole program, and we are certainly proud of that fact," Rohleder said.

The Passport to Adventure program runs annually from May 1 until Labor Day. Free passport booklets can be picked up at any of the participating locations.

Four Bartlett locations are included in the program: Bartlett Depot Museum, Bartlett History Museum, Arts in Bartlett and Bartlett Nature Center.

New member of Examiner team



Robert Zacher, attends Sycamore Trails Elementary School where his favorite subject is silent reading. For fun he plays football and the piano, and is a member of Boy Scouts. His favorite football team is the Seattle Seahawks and his favorite book series is Ranger's Apprentice.

Zacher will be delivering on Harmony Drive, Pleasant Drive and Wisteria Court.

(Examiner photo)

New member of Examiner team



Rosann Zacher, attends Sycamore Trails Elementary School where her favorite subject is writing. For fun she plays football as well as the piano and is a member of Girl Scouts. Her favorite song is 'Craving You' by Thomas Rhett.

Zacher will be delivering on Harmony Drive, Pleasant Drive and Wisteria Court.

(Examiner photo)

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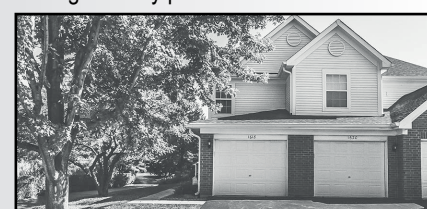
1418 Saddleridge Place, Bartlett \$424,900
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1310 Saddlebrook Road, Bartlett \$350,000
4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Picture perfect Home in a fantastic subdivision! This 4 bedroom home features hardwood floors, an eat-in Kitchen, finished Basement and a wonderful yard, perfect for outdoor entertaining. Freshly painted! Come take a look!



1258 Churchill Court, Bartlett \$324,900
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1618 Thornfield Court, Roselle \$189,900
2 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Fantastic end unit Townhome on one of the best lots with a great private view of nature preserve and pond. Bright, open floor plan and spacious Balcony. Can't beat the location!



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Hawks effort falls short in 1-0 regional loss



Lake Park's Matt Karas, left, and Bartlett's Andrew Wolf engaged in a physical battle for possession of a loose ball.

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett soccer team made No. 2 Lake Park work in the West Chicago Regional semifinals, but the No. 18 Hawks were unable to pull off an upset as they fell 1-0 on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

With a wind advantage, Lake Park dominated the chances in the first half but the Bartlett defense was able to keep them off the board until 10:05 left before the break when a set piece led to the game's only goal. Earlier in the half, Lake Park had consecutive corner kicks which led to a shot off the crossbar as well as a defensive save by Austin Cichon before Rudy Reyes finally cleared the ball.

"The rankings, they're irrelevant when you walk onto the field for a postseason game," said Bartlett coach Victor Marquez. "Lake Park had opportunities in that first half and down 1-0 was very reachable. The guys gave a great effort to try and tie it, and I re-

ally couldn't have asked for anything more from the guys."

With 8:22 left in the game, the Hawks had their best scoring chance on what essentially was a fluke. Nicolas Gomez played the ball up from deep that got a good bounce catching the opposing keeper off guard, but it eventually bounced just over the net.

Tyler Serpico also had a solid shot in the game and Matthew Tobin set-up a quality chance on a corner kick.

Andrew Wolf, one of seven seniors on the squad, said his teammates were "holding each other accountable" in practice which helped Bartlett see growth from the season which included five wins after going winless in their first 12 games.

"We battled today," Wolf said. "The seeding doesn't mean anything to us. It stings now, but we have grown a lot this season."

Bartlett opened the postseason by earning a 1-0 win over No. 15 Glenbard North in the regional quarter-final on Monday, Oct. 16 at Glenbard North.

Glenbard North had the bulk of the scoring chances, but the Hawks scored the lone goal needed on a counter attack with 6:44 left to play. Hawks keeper Zachary Rebac, who made eight saves to preserve the shutout, stopped a Glenbard North threat on a free kick and saw senior Oscar Soto running up the right side and played it to him, and Soto would score on the breakaway.

"I looked up the field and saw one man running and sent it up," Rebac said. "I knew Oscar was really fast."

Rebac added: "It was a real relief because during the game we didn't have that many shots."

Bartlett will also lose seniors Brandon Palid, Joseph Dimas, Johnny Andrade, Hector Rebolgar and Sergio Navarrete.

After winning just one game last year, the Hawks finished this season 5-14-4.



Bartlett's Raj Parikh clearing the ball out of harm's way deep in Hawks territory against Glenbard North. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Hawks' Austin Cichon executing a header above Lake Park's Matteo Costa.

Storm totally dominate Tomcats in 65-20 win

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin football team left no doubt it would complete an undefeated season in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division as the Storm built a 58-6 halftime lead on the way to a 65-20 win over East Aurora on Saturday, Oct. 21 at South Elgin.

All facets of the Storm put points on the board in a 30-0 first quarter including a safety on an East Aurora punt from the special teams and a defensive score in the form of an 18-yard interception return by senior Kyle Viverito.

Senior Pierre Toussaint (nine carries, 92 yards) added a four-yard touchdown run and five-yard TD reception from senior quarterback Nathan Smith (3-for-7, 50 yards) in the first quarter, and senior Nate Gomez

(seven carries, 94 yards) had a 37-yard scoring run.

The Storm, now 8-1 overall and 5-0 in the UEC Valley Division, have garnered the 10th seed in the playoffs and will host No. 23 Palatine (6-3) in the opening round.

"We always saw in ourselves that we'd be able to be this good," Smith said. "We have all the confidence in the world, and we just can't wait to get after it in the playoffs."

Gomez added touchdown runs of 32 yards and one yard as well as a 42-yard TD pass to Davion Cherwin in the second quarter and Smith, who ran for 31 yards, added a one-yard TD run. Senior Monte Mardis (seven carries, 73 yards) ran in a 32-

yard score in the third quarter and Andrew Bucaro completed a 9-for-9 performance on extra point kicks for a 65-6 lead.

The Storm finished with a 354-211 advantage in total yardage. Senior William Dunn added an interception.

The undefeated performance in conference is the second time in three years for the Storm.

"Just really proud of our seniors," said South Elgin coach Pat Pistorio. "They were around for that last one so it's a memorable moment for them. Really, extremely proud of them and all the hard work they've put into this."



Nate Gomez had a big day against East Aurora including this long dash where he was finally tripped up by the Tomcats' Gabriel Boyd. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Storm's Davion Cherwin making a pass reception against East Aurora. The catch and Cherwin's run down the sideline resulted in another South Elgin touchdown that, at the time, extended the Storm's lead to 44-6.



Bartlett Park District's Park Bench

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The following programs and services are provided by Bartlett Park District, some require advance registration. For more information, call 540-4800 or visit www.bartlettparks.org.

Holiday Toy and Book Drive for Children

To participate bring new, unwrapped toys and books to the Community Center, 700 S. Bartlett Road. Donations will be accepted from the beginning of November through Dec. 15. We are working with Hanover Township to provide holiday cheer for local children and families in need. A great big thank you goes to those who so generously donated last year. You made a difference.

Villa Olivia Winter Sports Open House

Sunday, Nov. 12, 12 to 4 p.m.

Join us for pre-season specials, games, prizes and refreshments.

Thanksgiving Day Champagne Brunch

Thursday, Nov. 23, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spend your day sharing memories with your family instead of cooking in the kitchen. Chef Roselo and his staff will prepare a variety of delicious entrees, side dishes and desserts for you to enjoy during your family meal. Reservations are required at 289-1000 and are for one and a half hour sittings. Service is available from 9:30 a.m. through 2 p.m. Villa Olivia is located at 1401 W. Lake St. in Bartlett.

First Bite Impression: Appetizer Cooking

Thursday, Nov. 30, 7 to 9 p.m.

It's the first bites that make the lasting impressions at your dinner parties and leave your guests reaching out for more. Join chefs Roselo Zepeda and

Alan Ickes as they show you how to 'wow' your guests with flavorful hors d'oeuvres when attending or hosting a party. The fee is \$55 per person and all supplies are included. Open to age 16 through adult. Registration only at Villa Olivia, 1401 W. Lake St.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 9, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

This special event includes an early visit from Santa, plated breakfast, holiday crafts, festive music and plenty of fun. Children under two are invited to visit with Santa and receive a small gift; however meal and crafts are not included. All guests must pre-register. Online registration not available. This event takes place at Villa Olivia, 1401 W. Lake St. Cost is \$14 for adult resident/\$18 nonresident; \$12 child resident/\$16 nonresident child. Reduced fee for additional children in same household and those under two years of age.

Holly Jolly Trolley Ride

Thursday, Dec. 14, 4 to 9 p.m.

Santa is back and he's jollier than ever! Climb aboard our private holiday trolley and step into your favorite Christmas stories. The night starts with crafting, coloring and story-telling as the kids wait patiently for their Winter Wonderland ride. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided while you wait. The trolley will whisk you along to Santa's Workshop where Santa will greet each child and present them with a small gift of the season. Bring your cameras to capture the moment. Children must be accompanied by a registered and paid parent or guardian. No internet registration. Fee is \$10 resident and \$15 nonresident. Trolley leaves from Villa Olivia, 1401 W. Lake St.

Wayne Board provided results of financial audit

By Joe Hyland

At its Tuesday, Oct. 17 meeting, the Wayne Village Board received some good news, financially speaking. Village Treasurer, Howard Levine, provided the report

"We have a clean opinion, and we're solvent," said Levine, referring to the village's annual audit, performed by Seldon Fox.

Levine said that interested citizens will eventually be able to view the entire audit.

"It'll wind up going on the website," Levine said.

Trustee Pete Connolly expressed his appreciation for Levine's efforts on the audit.

"It is all possible because of Nancy," Levine said, referring to Accounting Director Nancy Harris.

But there was more good news.

"We continue to be on target or a little ahead according to our plan," Levine said of the village's revenues.

Levine indicated this was due, in large part, to the village getting more money from the state. The news was not all good, however.

"We have a significant shortfall on the amusement tax due to some uncollected items," Levine said.

Levine later added that the amount was in the neighborhood of \$5,000 to \$7,000 from a budgeted \$20,000. An exact amount, due from horse shows, was not available since some of the show secretaries had not yet submitted their reports.

Levine also said that the village is attempting to collect that revenue.

"While we want to be aggressive in our approach we also want to balance the cost of collection against the potential revenue," Levine said.

Levine said that Kane County property taxes were coming in slower than DuPage County's. However, the village was experiencing a positive cash flow due to Summer Fest.

Levine said he expected the property tax issue to eventually resolve itself.

"We pretty much collect 100 percent of the levy," Levine said.

Levine also said that the situation in Springfield was helping matters.

"The state has actually come through with the extra payments we were supposed to get under the budget deal," Levine said. "We budgeted a 5 percent decrease under state funds."

And, while Levine said this should result in an estimated \$20,000 windfall for the village, he added a cautionary note.

"I wouldn't spend it until we actually confirm that the state sent it to us," Levine said.

Levine also said that rising interest rates should improve the rate of return for the village's investments in certificates of deposit.

Committee discusses ways to fill budget gap

By Christy Mazza

Village staff and board members continued to wrestle with how to plug an \$800,000 hole in the budget during the Committee of the Whole meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

According to Finance Director Todd Dowden, the hole is the result of two things. First, the village had to use approximately \$400,000 from the general fund to balance the current fiscal year budget, and secondly, thanks to changes in the way the state will be sharing income tax, the village expects to receive \$400,000 less annually this coming year.

Dowden explained that the general funds cover mainly operations, including "the police department, streets department, snow plowing and general administration," not capital improvements which are funded through other means, such as motor fuel taxes (MFT) or loans, among others.

As one way to bridge the budget gap, village department heads have made suggestions on items to cut from their departments, and village trustees have been kicking around these ideas.

For example, Public Works Director Dan Dinges listed bike path maintenance at \$10,000 annually, sidewalk and curb replacement at \$60,000 annually and storm water maintenance at \$50,000 annually as possible items to cut. He also suggested going back to a 50/50 tree replacement program. The current program costs the village \$150,000, and reverting back to the old program and capping trees at 300 would bring the cost down to \$45,000.

Trustee Michael Camerer questioned Dinges as to whether or not any of those projects, in particular bike path maintenance, could instead be funded with MFT funds instead of coming out of the general funds.

"Roughly \$1 million we get per year is not enough to maintain the roads we currently have, so taking it and using it on bike path is going to make the road program less, which then we start having to catch up on roads again," explained Dinges.

In response, Camerer brought up a parking lot repaving project that had been proposed earlier this year that village board members did not approve: The repaving of the parking lot at Ruzicka Field. That project was predicted to cost more than \$600,000, an amount that would have come from MFT funds.

"I don't quite get why we had the money to do a parking lot," Camerer said.

Dinges responded that it comes down to what the village board wants to use MFT funds for, and cleaning up the parking lot at Ruzicka has been talked about many times.

Village Administrator Paula Schumacher said some internal steps have been taken in an effort to plug the budget gap, including holding positions open. According to data provided by the village, staff has been reduced by 5 percent since 2007. She did say there were more internal things that can be done, including combining the community development and building departments.

"Somebody in every department," Schumacher said of staff that has been cut. "It's police officers; it's maintenance workers; it's secretaries. There's no department that's been spared from losing people."

Police Chief Patrick Ulrich added his department will not fill three currently vacant positions, including one officer, one investigations secretary and one records clerk.

Changing the schedule for vehicle replacement is another option board members will look at more closely. Funds for vehicle replacement come from water and sewer funds and the general funds. Currently, police vehicles, which are purchased using general funds, are replaced depending on mileage, maintenance history and engine hours, according to Ulrich. Dowden said approximately \$200,000 is spent annually replacing police vehicles.

"If we're not going to replace them, we'll have to spend more money maintaining them," Ulrich said.

During previous meetings, board members have also discussed with village staff the possibility of implementing a home-rule sales tax of 0.5 percent. Currently, Bartlett does not tack on such a sales tax.

According to Dowden, the general fund tax levy has remained the same or has been reduced since 2012. The possibility of raising the property tax levy was suggested by Village Trustee Vince Carbonaro during a previous discussion as another option to shore up the \$800,000 hole.

Schumacher said village staff will look deeper into making cuts, and the matter will be brought up again for more discussion in the future.

Bartlett football subdued by Rams in season finale

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett football team couldn't maintain its early momentum as the Hawks ended the season with a 30-13 loss against Glenbard East in Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division play on Friday, Oct. 20 at Glenbard East.

After watching an early lead slip away to a 7-7 tie by halftime, the Hawks saw the host score 17 straight points handing them a 24-7 deficit.

Bartlett senior quarterback Dean Kotsovetis (10-for-17, 110 yards) threw a 51-yard touchdown pass to Austin Gates (six receptions, 69 yards), and after the failed extra point attempt the score was 24-13 in the third quarter. The Hawks were unable to score again.

"We got the big play that we needed to get back in it. We could have had it," Gates said.

Along with his 69 receptions yards,

Gates also threw a 51-yard pass to Malik Whitehead.

The Hawks had opened the game strong as Gates caught an 18-yard touchdown pass from Kotsovetis early in the first quarter for the 7-0 lead.

That lead looked like it may hold up through the first half, but late in the second quarter Glenbard East had an interception it would later convert into seven points right by the break.

"We had some things rolling at that point," said Bartlett coach Eric Illich. "That's how it goes sometimes."

Senior Brandon Sinclair finished with two receptions for 23 yards, and senior Joey Allen had 46 rushing yards off 21 carries. Bartlett was out gained 330-194 in total yards.

The Hawks finish the season 2-7 overall, 2-3 in the UEC Valley Division.

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Village Board ratifies new waste hauling pact

By Christy Mazza

During the Tuesday, Oct. 17 Village Board meeting, trustees voted to approve a five-year waste hauler contract with Groot Industries.

In addition to garbage and recycling

collection, the new contract will allow residents to recycle electronics, and brush pickup will now be provided by the waste hauler instead of the village’s public works department.

The new contract will also bring cost

savings to residents. For the first year of the new contract, the cost will come in at \$19.35 per month for single family homes and \$17.51 for multi-family homes. This cost will go up incrementally every year until 2022 when the cost will be \$21.62 for single family and \$19.57 for multi-family. Single family home residents are currently paying \$23.72 and multi-family home residents are paying \$21.35 monthly.

The new pact will put an end to the need for branded yard waste bags; however, brush and other yard waste will need to be bundled or bagged appropriately for pickup.

Even though branded bags won’t be necessary, for leaf and grass clipping collection, outside of the months of October and November, special stickers will have to be purchased and affixed to generic lawn bags. During October and November, stickers will not be required.

The village plans on providing further information on this, along with more information about the electronics program, before the new contract begins in January.

Removing brush pickup from the list of village responsibilities was some-

thing board members and staff were interested in doing. Public Works Director Dan Dinges has said that when staff is tied up completing brush pickup, they are not getting to other work, such as pavement patching or routine tree trimming or bike path maintenance.

Additionally, Dinges said brush pickup tends to result in the most workman’s comp claims in his department.

“That was a huge victory and a lot of work put in by staff,” said Village President Kevin Wallace of the new contract. “That was a fantastic job. We had a lot of options, and I think we went through a lot of details. I believe this is going to be very similar to what we have now.”

All village trustees voted to approve the contract except for Trustee Vince Carbonaro. Carbonaro took issue with the required stickers, citing concerns with sticker theft and the potential that police calls will increase due to such thefts.

The current contract, which expires on Dec. 31, was with Republic Services; however, Groot Industries recently purchased the village’s routes from that hauler, making them the current waste hauler for Bartlett.

Fire District welcomes new recruit at meeting

By Joe Hyland

“I would ask our newest member, David Bartelt, to lead us in the Pledge (of Allegiance),” said Fire Protection District Board of Trustees President Jim McCarthy to open the board’s Wednesday, Oct. 18 meeting.

Following that, McCarthy turned the floor over to Chief Mike Falese for the actual swearing in.

Falese had some remarks to make before the oath was administered.

“Some of the comments are similar to those from several years ago when we hired our last member,” Falese said.

Falese noted that being a firefighter was something unique.

“It’s an opportunity to be a part of something very, very important,” Falese said, maintaining that the profession is second to none because a member gets the opportunity to serve others.

Falese said that Bartelt would have challenges ahead of him, but expressed confidence that he would meet them.

“The expectations from this district will be high.” Falese said. “You are

wired to serve, and I see that.”

Falese said that Bartelt will be both challenged and watched over by his fellow firefighters. He noted that Bartelt is a former Marine and Northern Illinois University graduate.

“You bring a set of skills that are very, very wonderful,” Falese said.

Commissioner Rick Wagner then swore Bartelt in.

Bartelt’s wife, Jayna, then pinned his new badge on.

Bartelt offered a few words of his own.

“I just want to take this opportunity to thank everybody,” Bartelt said. “I’m very happy to be working with you guys.”

Later in the meeting, Trustee Frank Giovanelli commended those involved in the hiring process.

“It’s a true testament to our commissioners and our chiefs in the hiring and interview process,” Giovanelli said. “You really hit a home run.”

McCarthy also added some words of praise by saying the effort to find the right candidate was a testament to the district’s efforts to always improve.

Tax levy

Continued from page 6

solely on career planning.

Board member Phil Costello asked how the program helps the district in tracking data? In responding, Terri Lozier, assistant superintendent, said it includes building level data accessible by school administrators as well as scholarships available to students. She said “we’ll know where our students will be going” to college with the program.

The program will allow for electronic submission of transcripts to colleges and allow for four-year high school plans and parental access district officials said.

Board member Sue Kerr asked if it would help students narrow their college choices as well as narrow scholarships available and Phelps said it would. Phelps also said it would help the district “target” scholarships to “particular groups.”

Board members Melissa Owens asked about student access and Lozier said “they’ll have access to it all the time” and the hope is to start it at the middle school level to help with high

school planning. Lozier said the district plans on using the program starting in the 2018-19 school year.

Costello said “it lines up with our strategic objectives very well” and “it sounds like a great mapping tool.”

Also presented was a three-year contract with Automatic Building Controls (ABC) costing \$898,203 and coming out of the operations and maintenance fund if approved.

From the proposal, the services are “to maintain, service, and repair the District’s vast array of Applied Equipment (Absorbers, Chillers, Centrifugal Chillers, Direct Expansion Units, and Air & Water Cooled Chiller Units) and additionally to maintain and upgrade the District’s Building Automations Systems (Applied Equipment Electronic Control Systems).”

In response to questions from Costello, the district said it has been using ABC for “more than 15 years” and “as part of the new contract, they have agreed to provide training” so that “tasks currently performed by the vendor” can be performed in house which could lead to future savings. The proposed contract is an increase from previous contract which the district said “much of the added costs were for emergency services and upgrades to obsolete equipment.”

project completed before winter broke. Had we waited until November, we wouldn’t be able to do that,” King said.

Owens said she was uncomfortable with the vote without further detail on the bonds but voted for the project because of the work already put in by the boosters.

Board member Jeanette Ward clarified that essentially “we are like the cosigner” as the boosters will pay the debt back, and Allen said that was correct.

Also receiving unanimous approval by the board on Oct. 16 was \$4.5 million in itemized bills and a \$66,339 proposal with Heartland Business Systems, which will come out of the education fund, for 315 computers.

Complex

Continued from page 9

the U-46 board’s student advisor, said prior to the vote: “It won’t be done in my time, which is unfortunate, but my sister will go here soon. I think it will be really exciting to see what the final product looks like.”

The expected amount to come from QZAB is \$466,270 which is expected to be paid back by the Bartlett boosters. Board member Melissa Owens asked if there were details on the bonds to which King said “my hope is the next board meeting you will be seeing it.”

“We were trying to get some of this

Hawks volleyball split pair, ending regular season play

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett volleyball team came out strong to earn a win in its final home game of the season as the Hawks defeated Larkin 25-13, 25-15 in Upstate Eight Conference crossover play on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at Bartlett.

The Hawks used long service runs by both Emily Baggot and Samantha Martino to build early leads in both sets that they wouldn’t relinquish.

“The key to our success was our team communication and our energy through both of the games,” said Bartlett coach Katie Spychala. “We also had really strong and consistent serves from all of our players during the match to bring us to a win.”

The match was also Bartlett’s senior night as the Hawks recognized their five graduating players: Jennifer Carbery, Shayna Chacko, Meghan Colley, Alexia Hetzel and Brianna Keszycki.

“I was very proud of how the team played on our last home game of the season,” Spychala said. “It was also our senior night so everyone was determined to play their best volleyball game.”

Bartlett, which will now turn its focus to the St. Charles East Regional, completed its regular season at the Lake Park Invite. On the final day of play, the Hawks dropped matches against Hersey (25-14, 25-7) and Buffalo Grove (25-21, 25-15) on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The Hawks are now 13-20 overall and No. 9 Bartlett opens the postseason against No. 8 Elgin.

“To prepare for regionals, we are focusing on our defense and running out of system plays,” Spychala said. “We are excited to have the (Lake Park) tournament this to get the game practice we need to be ready for the start of regionals.”

Reports

Continued from page 13

Monday, Oct. 16

★ At 1 a.m., police responded to the 800 block of Helen for a report of a suspicious noise.

★ At 9:14 a.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Angeline for a report of suspicious conduct.

★ At 11:43 a.m., police responded to Thornton Oil, 900 N. LaFox, for a report of a domestic in progress.

★ At 12:35 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Riverview for a report of a theft.

★ At 12:48 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of South LaFox for a report of a suspicious incident.

★ At 1:36 p.m., police responded to Best Buy, 424 Randall Road, for a shoplifting complaint.

★ At 2:10 p.m., police responded to the 400 block of Carriage for a report of criminal damage to property.

★ At 4:02 p.m., police responded to Kohl’s, 350 Randall Road, for a shoplifting complaint.

★ At 4:03 p.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Angeline for a report of suspicious conduct.

★ At 8:11 p.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Angeline for a report of criminal damage to a vehicle.

★ At 8:16 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Ashton for a request to assist Fire Department personnel.

★ At 9:08 p.m., police responded to Premise Alert Record, 731 Pleasant Drive, for a report of a suspicious incident.

★ At 10:17 p.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Sandhurst for a report of a suspicious incident.

STREAMWOOD

Thursday, Oct. 12

★ At 10:01 p.m., Sandra D. Craig, 56, Bartlett, was arrested and charged with DUI. She was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.

Sunday, Oct. 15

★ At 4:13 a.m., Carlos A. Arrascue-Covenas, 42, Hoffman Estates, was arrested and charged with DUI, BAC over .08 and no insurance. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.

Monday, Oct. 16

★ At 8:40 a.m., Aldo Acampo, 36, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with felony driving while license revoked or suspended. He was transported to bond call.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

★ At 3 p.m., Vincent A. Kraye, 22, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with driving while license suspended. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.

Pet of the Week



Princess seeking a new kingdom

Princess Leia Organa of Alderaan has come to DuPage County Animal Care and Control! Strong, independent, and kind this royal lady will make a great friend to the loyal subject – or person – who adopts her. A busy princess with a lot on her mind, Leia would prefer to be the only cat in the home. She is 6 years old, spayed, up to date on vaccines, front paws declawed and ready to go to her new home! Thanks to the DuPage Animal Friends, now through Oct. 31, Leia and all other adult cats will have their adoption fees waived as part of our Cat-Pacity promotion! Feel the Force, adopt today! Please visit www.dupageco.org/animalcontrol for more details or call (630) 407-2800.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

Sabres soccer stop Storm to win regional crown

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood soccer team will get a chance to defend its home turf after the No. 3 Sabres defeated No. 10 South Elgin 3-1 in the Rockford Guilford Regional championship game on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Oscar Chavez scored twice to lift the Sabres to the victory and advance them to their own Streamwood Sectional where they will meet No. 11 Hampshire in the semifinals.

"We're excited we get to have another home game," Chavez said. "It's going to be good."

Although holding a 12-5 advantage in shots on goal for the game, the Sabres were locked in a 1-1 tie at halftime. Chavez scored unassisted in the eighth minute for a 1-0 lead, but South Elgin responded with the equalizer five minutes later.

Streamwood broke through with a pair of goals within a three minute span in the second half, the first coming in the 53rd minute when Chavez scored off a feed from Alex Chavez. Alex Chavez provided the final goal off a Rafa Gil pass.

"We were shocked at halftime," Oscar Chavez said. "We talked about our mistakes and how we needed to pressure more. We finally connected in the final third and got two good goals."

Jorge Bracamontes set up the first second half goal, and Aldo Lazaro played a part in the second. Streamwood goalie Daniel Dominguez finished with four saves.

In the semifinals, the Sabres used a seven-goal second half to defeat No. 14 Hononegah 8-1 on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Tied 1-1 after the break, Alex Chavez scored the go-ahead for his first of four goals in the second half, and he also

added an assist. Oscar Chavez found the net twice and assisted on two more, and Lazaro scored in the second half.

"We had a nice talk at halftime on expectations for the second half, and they responded well with seven goals," said Streamwood coach Matt Polovin. "We completely wore out Hononegah. I was much happier with the second half."

Gil, Alex Herrera, Tony Hodzic and Gregorio Esteves all provided helpers in the second half. Dominguez finished with two saves.

In the first half, it was Gil who got the Sabres on the board first from a Bryan Mora feed.

"I felt in the first half we were still the better team with the amount of chances we had on goal, and we just didn't finish," Polovin said. "Their goalie played very well and made some big saves."

Streamwood is now 13-5-2 overall.

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Streamwood shut down by St. Charles East



In somewhat of a reversal of roles, Streamwood's Dan Wisniewski throwing a pass intended for the normally quarterbacking Brendon Marton.



Emmanuel Martinez of Streamwood being hit by East's Jacob Molina as a pass fell incomplete while the Saints' Yalon Rogers closed in on the play.

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood football team was unable to keep pace with St. Charles East as the Sabres dropped a 56-0 Upstate Eight Conference River Division game in their season finale on Friday, Oct. 20 at Millennium Field.

St. Charles East scored on six of its seven first half possessions to take a 42-0 lead by halftime, and the visitors also finished with a 4-2 turnover advantage.

It was senior night for Streamwood, and although going winless this season coach Don Guindon said his seniors showed a lot of leadership for a young team.

"We wanted our seniors to go out and play with effort, play strong," Guindon said. "We finished with

no wins, but the guys showed up every day."

Guindon added: "No one has academic problems, and they show up to classes and practices. The seniors get the credit for that because they've been the leaders for the younger guys."

The Sabres struggled to move the ball on offense, finishing with negative rushing yards and 82 total yards, but did have some big plays including some passes from senior quarterback Brendon Marton (6-for-15, 76 yards). Streamwood also converted on a fourth-and-long fake punt in which Jamel Sheppard threw a 26-yard pass to senior Frank Fritzmann (two receptions, 35 yards).

Senior Eric Jopek had two receptions for 38 yards, and both Marton and senior Aaron

Terrell had a fumble recovery for the Sabres defense.

Streamwood finishes the year 0-9 overall, 0-6 in the UEC River Division. The majority of the Sabres roster is non-seniors.

"They know they've got to work," Guindon said. "We've got a lot of guys returning. They know they've got a lot of work to do, but they're phenomenal guys and I'm looking forward to working with them."



Sabres' running back Sirrion Dixon straining for yardage between would-be East tacklers Dillon Gearhart, left, and Eli Merced.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



During a fake punt by the Sabres, Frank Fritzmann securing a reception for a first down despite providing a piggy-back ride for East defensive backs Jacob Molina and Yalon Rogers.

Streamwood falls to South Elgin in two sets

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood volleyball team couldn't overcome a slow start as the Sabres dropped a 25-13, 25-7 match against South Elgin in Upstate Eight Conference crossover play on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at South Elgin.

It was a match up against the Sabres', who are seeded 10th, first round opponent in the St. Charles East Regional. South Elgin is seeded seventh.

Streamwood fell behind 14-5 in the opening set and later 19-8, and it was unable to come closer

than eight the rest of the game. In Game 2 the Sabres fell behind 6-0 before a kill by Ashley Rothenberg (five kills) made it 6-1, but South Elgin followed with an 8-0 run for a 14-1 advantage the Sabres were unable to counter.

"We just shut down," said Streamwood coach Sheryl Hettinger. "We get down early, and then we shut down. It's all mental."

Corinne Angle had 12 digs, and both Mariely Sotelo and Ava Sumoski had a pair of kills for Streamwood.

"We've been trying to stay positive in practice," Hettinger said. "I think a lot of our struggles have to do with a lack of confidence and

chemistry. They've shown that they have the talent, but they have to know they can win."

The Sabres finished the regular season with a 25-10, 25-12 nonconference loss against Schaumburg on Friday, Oct. 20 at Schaumburg.

Streamwood is now 2-23 overall heading into the postseason. Although struggling to earn wins, Hettinger said the young team has seen growth.

"Throughout the whole program, we're young," Hettinger said. "I think they need to focus on advancements that have been made and not the wins and losses. They're competitive and they want to win so it's hard for them not to look at those wins and losses, but they need to see that they are making progress. The coaches, we're seeing progress even though we're not getting the wins."



Mariely Sotelo keeping a volley alive against South Elgin.



The Sabres' Leslie Garcia attempting to drive a winning shot cross court past South Elgin's Hayley Fisher's block effort.



Streamwood's Lillian Dewsnap returning a South Elgin serve.



Jahniah Gould of Streamwood delivering a kill shot against the Storm.

(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)