

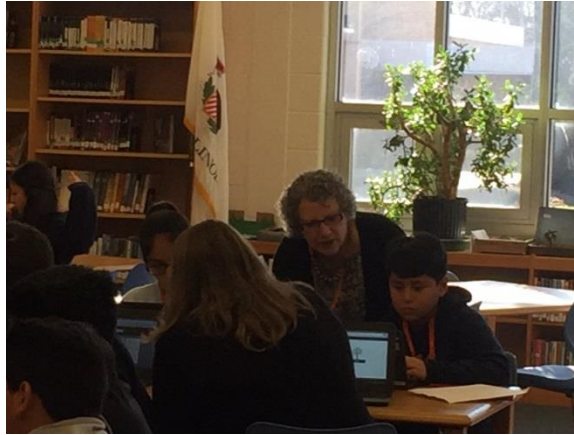
Press Clippings 12/6/2017

---Courier News--- 12/6/17

Gaining principal perspective

Community leaders see U46 operations differently after day

BY JEANIE MAYER



Elgin City Councilwoman Carol Rauschenberger talks with a student at Kimball Middle School in Elgin while participating in Principal for a Day.

Community leaders in the Elgin area had a chance to see school operations from a different perspective Friday when they served as principals for the day at District U46 schools.

Now in its 10th year, the program gives police officers, firefighters, civic leaders and elected officials the opportunity to experience school life through a behind-the-scenes look at U46 schools while helping to foster partnerships within the community.

Elgin City Councilwoman Carol Rauschenberger and Heather Weiss, president of the District U46 Transportation Union, toured Kimball Middle School with Principal Alan Tamburrino.

The pair sat in on a music class and observed a dual language social studies course being taught. Both said they were most impressed with the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program, which helps students develop the skills they need to be successful in college.

“Kimball is really a school that has national recognition for AVID,” Rauschenberger said. “This is an age group when kids can learn organization. They can teach organizational skills and it can last their whole life. I am very impressed with the program.

“I want U46 to have a reputation to match the excellence we have in many of these schools. As City Council person for the city of Elgin, I know that what makes a great city is not just clean streets and a diverse community. We need a school system that matches that. I would like to see the school district and the city work even more closely together.”



Heather Weiss, center, president of the District U46 Transportation Union, served as principal Friday at Kimball Middle School in Elgin.

Weiss, who also works as a bus driver in the district, said she was happy to participate in the Principal for a Day program because her mother had been a teacher at Kimball. She saw it as an opportunity to visit the school where her mother worked.

“It has been informational,” Weiss said. “It is a different aspect from what I do every day as a bus driver. It is seeing the kids in their work environment.”



Dianha Ortega-Ehreth, who served as principal for the day Friday at Century Oaks Elementary School in Elgin, visits with a kindergarten class. (Jeanie Mayer/Courier-News Photos)

Dianha Ortega-Ehreth, of the Youth Leadership Academy, served as the principal at Century Oaks Elementary School. This was her fifth time participating in the program, she said.

“When you are in the school experiencing it, you understand it so much better,” Ortega-Ehreth said. “It gives you a greater appreciation for U46. Every school I have seen has so much to offer.”

Ortega-Ehreth said she spent her morning visiting an art class, observing the assistant principal having a meeting with a student and talking with some kindergartners as they ate their lunch.

“I got to visit an art class and talk with the students about what they liked about their school,” Ortega-Ehreth said.

After a morning of acting as principals, the community leaders gathered at Villa Olivia for a luncheon and program. The guest presenter was Beth Purvis, former Illinois secretary of education, who spoke about the importance of community partnerships.

---Daily Herald--- 12/6/17

U-46 takes part in Hour of Code campaign

BY MADHU KRISHNAMURTHY

Students at several Elgin Area School District U-46 schools are taking part this week in the global Hour of Code as part of Computer Science Education Week.

Coding -- a process to make a computer follow specific instructions -- is an in-demand job skill.

The Hour of Code began in 2013 as a way to introduce students to computer science, an effort supported by Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, Boys and Girls Clubs of America and the College Board. It's designed to demystify code and show that anyone can learn the basics. More than 100 million students participated in an Hour of Code the last four years.

Many students at Glenbrook Elementary School in Streamwood have been learning coding with teacher Ellen Smith, who oversees a coding club for fourth- through sixth-graders.

Her fourth-graders spend about an hour per week working on computer science skills using activities on [Code.org](https://code.org) or Scratch, both free computer programming resources.

"It gives my students a basic understanding of computer science," Smith said. "There is only going to be more of a demand for coding skills going forward, and they all seem to enjoy it."

At neighboring Heritage Elementary School, fifth-grade dual language teacher Carol Romero started Hour of Code events two years ago. Her lessons are popular with students and teachers.

This week she hopes to expand coding events to more classrooms and launch a coding club in the spring.

"Coding enhances problem solving and higher level thinking skills," Romero said. "The students love creating lines of code."

Other U-46 schools participating in the Hour of Code or offering ongoing coding clubs and lessons are: Eastview Middle School and Liberty Elementary School in Bartlett; Elgin High School; Heritage and Oakhill elementary schools in Streamwood; and Highland and Hilltop elementary schools, and Larsen Middle School, all in Elgin.

---Daily Herald--- 12/6/17

Amazon executives part of computers science initiative in Barrington

BY BOB SUSNJARA

Amazon.com Inc. executives were among those who provided encouragement to Barrington schoolchildren Tuesday as part of a worldwide computer science initiative.

Barrington Village President Karen Darch joined the Amazon executives as speakers at St. Anne Parish School's Hour of Code celebration. Barrington Area Unit District 220 also had Hour of Code activities, with an associate from accounting firm KPMG US featured in a Roslyn Road Elementary School fifth-grade classroom.

[Hour of Code](#), which is part of Computer Science Education Week, started in 2013 and is meant to be a fun way to demystify the process and show anyone can learn the basics.

Teachers in at least 180 countries this week are expected to dedicate an hour to educating students about coding, which is a process to make computers follow specific instructions.

At St. Anne, Hardik Bhatt, who was the state's chief information officer for the past two years until he joined Amazon Web Services in September, told the students that if one day they see robots cooking and delivering their hamburgers at a fast-food restaurant. they should remember humans were behind the creation.

"Who is Mark Zuckerberg? He's a human," said Bhatt, who previously worked as the city of Chicago's chief information officer and at Cisco Systems Inc. "Who is Bill Gates? He's a human. Who is Warren Buffett? He's a human."

Bhatt also got the children to think about how technology is at work when they use a water faucet or turn on the lights.

Amazon Web Services sales executive Kim Majerus-Skonie, whose children attend St. Anne, said knowledge about science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics could lead to careers in writing, marketing and other jobs.

In addition, Majerus-Skonie had a message for girls who might be interested in technology, which remains a male-dominated profession. She said she began her tech career while an Addison Trail High School student and was the only girl who joined a Motorola Inc. work program in 1987.

"It's OK to be different," Majerus-Skonie said. "It's OK to think about being the only one doing something different."

KPMG's Nidhi Kulkarni answered coding questions in Andrew Carter's fifth-grade classroom at Roslyn Road Elementary. Student Kaelyn Louis was among those who enjoyed the coding exercises that followed Kulkarni's presentation.

"I like how there's different choices of what you can code," Kaelyn said.

"You can code robots, but you also code different games and stuff. I like that."

Other suburban school systems participating in Hour of Code this week include Elgin Area School District U-46 and Des Plaines Elementary District 62.

Amazon, Microsoft Corp., Apple Inc. and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America are among the entities behind Hour of Code.

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U-46 schools join in 'Hour of Code,' introducing students to computer science

SUBMITTED BY ELGIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46

Several Elgin Area School District U-46 schools will participate this week in the global "Hour of Code" as part of Computer Science Education Week. Coding is essentially a process to make a computer follow specific instructions, an in-demand job skill.

The Hour of Code began in 2013 as a fun one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code" and to show that anybody can learn the basics, according to organizers of the event. Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, Boys and Girls Clubs of America and the College Board are among those that support the effort. In the last four years, more than 100 million students have participated in an Hour of Code event.

Among the U-46 schools participating in the coding fun is Glenbrook Elementary. Many of the Glenbrook Elementary students are already familiar with coding through teacher Ellen Smith. Her fourth graders spend about an hour a week throughout the school year working on computer science skills using activities on Code.org or Scratch, another free computer programming destination. Smith also oversees a coding club for fourth through sixth graders to further develop their coding skills.

"It gives my students a basic understanding of computer science," Smith said. "There is only going to be more of a demand for coding skills going forward, and they all seem to enjoy it."

Fifth-grade Dual Language Teacher Carol Romero at neighboring Heritage Elementary, also in Streamwood, started Hour of Code events two years ago and has seen the lessons grow in popularity among students and teachers alike. Next week she hopes to expand coding events to more classrooms at her school and launch a coding club in the spring.

"Coding enhances problem solving and higher level thinking skills," Romero said. "The students love creating lines of code!"

Other U-46 schools participating in the Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week, Dec. 4-10, or offering ongoing coding clubs and lessons include:

- Genius Hour Projects at Eastview Middle School, 321 Oak Ave. in Bartlett, during school time;
- Computer Programming 1-2 and 3-4, Web and Media Design, and Multimedia and Design Presentation at Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin;

- Hour of Code Dec. 4-8 and Dash & Dots Robotic Club from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Mondays at Glenbrook Elementary School, 315 Garden Circle in Streamwood. Also, Scratch Coding & 3-D Printing Club from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Thursdays, starting in January.
- Hour of Code Dec. 4-8 at Heritage Elementary School, 507 Arnold Ave., Streamwood;
- Sylvan Learning from 2:15 to 3:45 p.m. Wednesdays and Fall Coding Programs through Dec. 20 at Highland Elementary School, 190 N Melrose Ave., Elgin;
- "Let's Code It-The Digital Dimension," provided by Afterschool Enrichment Solutions, from 2:05 to 3:05 p.m. at Hilltop Elementary School, 1855 Rohrssen Road, Elgin;
- Larsen Robotics Club from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Larsen Middle School, 665 Dundee Ave., Elgin;
- Hour of Code Dec. 4-8 at Liberty Elementary School, 1375 W. Bartlett Road, Bartlett;
- Hour of Code Dec. 4-8, 2nd Dual One Way at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, and Tech Club 2 to 4 p.m. Mondays and Fridays at Oakhill Elementary School, 502 Oltendorf Road, Streamwood.

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U-46 teachers union chief, lawyer file as candidates in state House race

BY RAFAEL GUERRERO



Dan Ugaste (left) and Richard Johnson. (Handout)

The head of the Elgin-based **School District U46** teachers union made his interest in a state representative seat official Monday, filing petitions on the last day to declare for the March primary election.

Richard Johnson, the president of the Elgin Teachers Association, filed Monday afternoon as a Democrat for the Illinois House 65th District primary, according to state election records. As of Monday afternoon, he was the only Democrat in the race.

One Republican made his run official last week. Dan Ugaste, a Geneva lawyer, submitted paperwork to run for the 65th District when filing opened last Monday. Ugaste, 54, had announced plans to run in the summer.

Ugaste previously ran in 2014, garnering a third of the vote in a three-way Republican primary, finishing second behind incumbent Rep. Steve Andersson.

Johnson, 39, is in the last year of a two-year term as president of the Elgin Teachers Association, which has approximately 2,500 members. The Elgin resident had said earlier in the fall that he was planning a run for the state House.

For more than a decade, Johnson was a high school teacher, spending it all at Bartlett and Elgin high schools until he stepped down to take over as union president. During his U46 stint, he also earned master's and law degrees. Johnson graduated from law school in 2014 and passed the Illinois bar the same year.

Both Johnson and Ugaste hope to replace Andersson, of Geneva, who announced earlier this year he would not seek a third term in office.

The 65th Legislative District includes the westernmost parts of Elgin, South Elgin, Geneva, St. Charles, Pingree Grove and Hampshire.

SPORTS SECTION

---Daily Herald--- 12/6/17

Larkin wins 14th straight over Elgin

BY JERRY FITZPATRICK



Larkin's Jalen Shaw dunks against Elgin's Jack Sitter at the end of the first quarter at Chesbrough Field House at Elgin High School Tuesday. John Starks | Staff Photographer

Larkin's 51-43 victory over rival Elgin at Chesbrough Field House on Tuesday won't be remembered as one of the great games in series history, but the Royals will take it.

Larkin won a record 14th straight game over its crosstown rival despite committing 22 turnovers and shooting 33 percent from the field (17 of 51).

The Royals were led by 6-foot-10 senior Jalen Shaw, who finished with 15 points, 15 rebounds and 7 blocks.

"The list probably starts and ends with him," Larkin coach Deryn Carter said of Royals who played well. "I have to do a better job of getting guys prepared because we're just not playing very well. I'm very disappointed. As a coaching staff, whether it's lineup adjustments, whether it's practice changes, whether it's scout stuff -- it's just not good enough."

The Royals built a 7-point halftime lead despite their issues and extended it to 44-28 through three quarters because Elgin shot even worse. The Maroons made only 8 of 39 shots through the first three quarters (20.5 percent) and 14 of 57 for the game (24.5 percent).

Still, it was a better effort overall by the Maroons than in last Friday's 64-38 loss to Batavia

"We battled," said Elgin coach Mike Sitter, whose team slipped to 1-4 overall, 0-2 in the Upstate Eight River. "We didn't battle last Friday night against Batavia. In practice all we talked about was effort: leave it all out on the floor. You should be limping, you should be sore when you leave the gym and they are. The kids who played a lot are sore and beat up. That's a physical team and we battled them and we played as physical as they were so I'm happy with that. We just couldn't hit water if we fell out of a boat."

Shaw had a lot to do with Elgin's shooting woes. The intimidating shot blocker altered as many attempts as he actually blocked. However, he knows his team must clean up its mistakes against the UEC River's elite teams.

"We have to stop turning over the ball and we have to stop getting in foul trouble," Shaw said. "I mean, we're super competitive in practice but we take it overboard and it goes over to the game."

Xavier Bonds had 10 points, Dan Toolsie and Tre Morris each scored 8 points and John Fortmann finished with 7 points for Elgin.

Anthony Lynch scored 13 points and Pierre Black and Isiah Talley each contributed 7 points for Larkin.

Both teams return to UEC River action on Friday at 7 p.m. Larkin visits St. Charles East (4-2, 0-1) while Elgin hosts Geneva (5-1, 1-0).

---Daily Herald--- 12/6/17
McDonald, Vikes top Sabres
BY ALAN OSHINSKI

Jack McDonald was on fire. So was Keenon Cole.

The players with contrasting styles each went off for more than 30 points. Streamwood's Cole won the individual battle with 34, but McDonald got a little more support from his Geneva teammates as they downed the Sabres, 74-52, in Upstate Eight River Division boys basketball action in Streamwood Tuesday night.

With Steamwood playing mostly zone defense, the Vikings lit it up from outside, hitting 51 percent overall and 10 of 20 from 3-point range.

McDonald led the way with a career-high 31 points. Mitch Mascari added 14 points while Jack Hood and Nate Santos added 8 apiece for Geneva (5-1, 1-0). Mascari also pulled down 10 rebounds.

"They sat back in that zone and we were all hitting, especially in the first half," said McDonald, a 5-foot-11 guard. "The shots were just going in tonight."

"I thought we did a nice job against their zone, moving the ball around," said Geneva coach Scott Hennig. "Fortunately, we hit some shots. They're a good team. The Cole kid is a Division I player and he's tough to stop. We tried to rotate guys on him, but he just made plays."

Cole, at 6-foot-7, dominated inside, although he also made 3 shots from beyond the arc. He ripped down 7 rebounds and blocked 2 shots.

Brendon Marton added 9 points, 2 blocks, and 3 assists, but no one else on the Sabres had more than 4 points. And nobody could seem to stop the Vikings' shooters.

"They run their man-to-man stuff so well," said Streamwood coach Paul Kowalyszyn. "We know they can shoot, so we thought our best bet was to do what we did and take the gamble. They shot really well from the outside."

"Offensively, we were stagnant today. We didn't execute anything, and then defensively, they made us pay for every little mistake."

Streamwood never led and was tied only at 5-5. Geneva led 21-12 after one period and never looked back. Santos' 3-pointer to open the second quarter put the Vikings ahead by 11 and the Sabres never got closer.

Streamwood put together an 8-0 run, capped by Zack Marquez's conventional 3-point play, to make it 43-33 midway through the third, but that was as close as they got. The Vikings answered with 9 straight points to go up 52-33. The Vikings put the game away at the free-throw line, with McDonald and Mascari combining to make 9 of 10 from the line in the fourth quarter.

---Daily Herald--- 12/6/17

Larkin hangs on to knock off Elgin

BY JOHN RADTKE



Larkin's Hailey Buttrum and Alexia Saldivar battle for a rebound with Elgin's Sabrina Chen and Kylie Graves Tuesday at Chesbrough Field House at Elgin High School. **John Starks | Staff Photographer**

After struggling through winless seasons thus far, the girls basketball teams from Elgin and Larkin were determined to do whatever they had to do to get that first victory Tuesday night at Elgin's Chesbrough Field House.

In the end it was Larkin, which had a better shooting percentage from 3-point range than from the free-throw line, that hung on for a hard-fought 55-52 Upstate Eight River win.

"We needed it bad," said Larkin coach Steve Knapp, whose team was playing for the first time since finishing the Burlington Central Thanksgiving Tournament on Nov. 18.

"Good for the girls."

The Royals (1-5, 1-0) won despite going just 9-for-25 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter and 17 of 38 for the game.

After a spirited and well-played first half, the game turned into a free throw-fest in the second half. The teams combined to make only 19 of 46 attempts from the line in the second half and 31-for-66 for the game.

But it turned out that the 3-point shot provided Larkin the separation it needed to make Elgin chase the lead the entire second half.

After taking a 23-21 lead into the halftime break the Royals came out on a 16-7 run to start the third quarter, a spurt that was fueled by four 3-pointers -- one each from Aaliyah Dixon, Gloria Stoltz, Brianna Young and Kiara Villa.

"We're not really a 3-point shooting team, we're more of a driving team," said Knapp, whose team was 16 of 44 for the game including 6-for-15 from 3-point range.

"But we do have some shooters that can make them."

One of those is Young, a sophomore who knocked down three 3s on the night and scored a game-high 18 points.

"It was just opportunity," said Young, who also had 8 rebounds. "We just went out confident and positive and got some shots up. Our main thing tonight was to be strong with the ball."

Ahead 36-25 after Young's 3 with 3:45 left in the third quarter, the Royals held Elgin (0-8, 0-3) at bay until the Maroons, with the help of Larkin's free throw woes, fought their way back into the game.

Elgin closed the gap to 49-45 with 2:12 to go on a steal and a layup from senior Kylie Graves.

But Larkin finally found the bottom of the net on enough free throws in a span of a little over a minute to move the lead back to 9 at 54-45 after 2 free throws from sophomore Aaliyah Dixon, who scored 17 points, with 39 seconds to play.

Still, Elgin didn't wilt. Junior Kamiya Harvey, who scored 14 points, hit a 3 with 29 seconds left and after Larkin missed twice from the line, Graves made 2 free throws with 20 seconds to go to make it a 54-50 game.

But senior Haley Bohne made the second of two from the line with 10 seconds left, making Harvey's layup with two seconds to play academic.

"It was the tale of two halves," said Knapp. "The first half was a clean basketball game and not a lot of fouls. I think both teams got a little tired in the second half and we didn't play very good defense. Both teams played hard but, man, we gotta make some free throws."

Junior Dajha Cooper added 14 points for Elgin, which was 17 of 60 shooting for the night but did win the rebound battle 45-39, led by 13 from Cooper, who fouled out midway through the fourth quarter. Graves added 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Maroons while senior Makenna Downing had 8 points.

"We had a lot of missed shots in the first half and early turnovers," said Elgin coach Dr. Nick Bumbales. "(Larkin) hit some big shots. They looked pretty good for being off for two-and-a-half weeks. Steve did a good job and Young had a good game. We didn't have a matchup for her.

"My kids battled and played hard to the end but it's disappointing."

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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

50 cents
December 6, 2017

Village veteran
committed to vets
See Page 5

Holiday season
begins in earnest
See Page 6

U-46 plans to expand dual language program

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 plans to expand its dual language program to high schools starting in the 2018-19 school year as the administration updated the Board of Education on Monday, Nov. 20.

The plan is to implement it at all five high schools with a projection, based on current middle school numbers, of 731 total students in 2018-19 and 856 more students in 2019-20. Elgin High School is expected to have the most dual language students at 588 followed by Larkin (447), Streamwood (254), Bartlett (214) and South Elgin (84) by 2019-20.

Annette Acevedo, director of English language learners programs, said a committee has been set up to look at curriculum. No estimated or expected costs were given.

For those students in the Transitional Program of Instruction (TPL)/English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, which are for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students not in dual language, the plan is to consolidate those programs into just Bartlett and South Elgin high schools.

Despite one board member questioning the efficacy of the dual language program, the administration's presen-

tation focused on theory on the efficacy without any specific data to support its claims.

The dual language program was started in the 2011-12 school year rolling up a grade level each year to it being at the middle school level now. U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said the first graduating class is coming up "to truly be bilingual and bi-literate and not have to lose their language, and then go out and find positions within our community, they will be unstoppable."

"We have chosen to continue on this path because we fundamentally believe to our very core that this is the logical next step for our dual language students as we move to provide them with a well-rounded, holistic education," Acevedo said.

The stated purpose of the dual language program when it was started was to promote bilingualism and bi-literacy, but instead of its academic value Acevedo said its value is on the social and emotional side calling it "equity work at its finest."

The administration said that there are studies that have shown that the achievement gap shrinks when more students can speak two languages, but is the dual language program

helping those students learn a second language, specifically those who are Spanish speakers learning English which the program has primarily targeted since its inception?

Board member Jeanette Ward said "I have no objections to learning other languages, like in the world language program" in Streamwood High School's academy, but "I've heard from more than one person that the dual language program is mostly or entirely Spanish, and it seems like we are targeting mainly Spanish speakers with the program."

Ward asked: "My concern is that it prolongs dependence on Spanish, and if this program is successful then why have the percentage of limited English proficient students increased in our district from about 24 percent in 2014 to about 29 percent in 2017?"

From the Illinois State Board of Education's report card date, the percentage of students labeled as LEP has risen each year since the dual language program was implemented. That percentage was at 20 percent in 2009 to 29 percent today.

The administration did not answer Ward's concerns until board member Melissa Owens later asked how many students gained English proficiency but remained in the dual language program? Acevedo said "our retention rate is about 94 percent" but offered no data on how many students were LEP but became English profi-

cient in the dual language program.

Sanders said he didn't "think" the percentage of LEP students rising was because of dual language students "not passing out and passing the access test, it's actually just the students arriving in U-46 and the changing demographics of our region."

Despite the district having no data to show the value of the dual language program, Owens supports it because she said employers are looking for bilingual workers and her job "was probably the last one I saw that did not have a specific requirement to be bilingual or a bilingual would be a major consideration for employment."

Board member Sue Kerr asked: "Have we looked at our students at all to study the impact of dual language on academic achievement?"

Acevedo said "we do, and we are continuing to work with the assessment office and looking at our data," but did not have any data to present to the board that evening.

Suzanne Johnson, deputy superintendent of instruction, said: "Many of our students and our data that we look at regularly should start to show how we're addressing those gaps between their eighth grade and their senior year of high school."

The district has often touted its work on the dual language program and

See U-46 language program, pg. 2

U-46 tax levy amount approved via split vote

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 officially ratified an \$8 million increase in the tax levy by a 5-2 vote, Phil Costello and Jeanette Ward voting no, at its meeting on Monday, Dec. 4.

The board voted in November by the same 5-2 votes on two measures on the determination of the levy, and the December votes were on the Certificate of Tax Levy and a corresponding resolution.

"In light of forecasted enrollment declines of 2 percent a year over the next three years, I disagree with increasing total spending upon which this levy relies," Ward said. "We are also set to receive close to \$13 million additional dollars of funding from the state of Illinois, and we should be reducing the property tax burden correspondingly. Instead, we are increasing the total spending by \$6.5 million from last year and correspondingly again the tax levy."

In the current budget, the district forecasts enrollment declines each year for the foreseeable future eventually dropping to 36,360 by the 2020-21 school year while at the same time the district plans to spend more and tax more each year. Using Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) data, if the projections come true that will represent a 10.6 percent decline from a 2012 high in enrollment while expenditures will increase by 22.6 percent over that period.

Costello said: "I'm concerned with the overall state of the budget. I guess I would have liked to have seen a little bit more cost containment and looking at various avenues to bring down some of the costs, and I still think that our overall structure over the next several years is going to drive up costs significantly, and as Mrs. Ward said, without student attendance coming up as well. So we need to find ways to balance that out, and I don't think this levy will address that point."

Board member Traci Ellis said she was "perplexed" and felt that somehow no concerns have been raised in the past regarding the budget.

"I'm perplexed because it's this board's job to give direction to administration," Ellis said and "there have been umpteen finance committee meetings, this budget and this conversation happened across several financial committee meetings, across several board meetings and it feels disingenuous, I don't know if that's your intent, but it feels disingenuous to wait until it's the vote to say you didn't have cost containment measures."

"I thought I did throw out a couple things that I thought merited some conversation and I don't recall getting responses to that," Costello responded.

Board member Melisa Owens agreed with Ellis that "we shouldn't be hav-

See U-46 tax levy, pg. 8



Its beginning to look a lot like....

Hazel Nowak, left, had been waiting all day Friday and Saturday morning, to meet Santa, according to mom. Big sister Haily joined her on Santa's lap on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Hoosier Grove Barn. For story and more photos see page 12.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

Police Reports

STREAMWOOD
Monday, Nov. 20
★ At 4:13 p.m., Francisco Garcia, 29, Elgin, was arrested and charged with driving while license suspended. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.
Tuesday, Nov. 21
★ At 9:09 p.m., Kyle J. Peicko, 25, Streamwood, and Amy M. Lee, 35, Streamwood, was arrested on warrant and charged with two counts of retail theft. They were turned over to Streamwood police.
Wednesday, Nov. 22
★ At 7:48 p.m., Hector Gomez, 23, Hanover Park, was arrested and charged with no driver’s license. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.
★ At 8:38 p.m., Bartlomiej Kubowicz, 18, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.
Thursday, Nov. 23
★ At 12:40 a.m., Omar Sanchez, 25, Elgin, was arrested and charged with speeding 40-plus mph over the limit. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.
Saturday, Nov. 25
★ At 3:40 p.m., Mihmedalija Tiric, 57, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with retail theft. The subject was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.
★ At 11:31 p.m., Anthony L. McKenna, 35, Chicago, was arrested on warrant and charged with failure to appear. He was held awaiting bond call.
Monday, Nov. 27
★ At 8:39 p.m., Justin L. Walker, 34, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with driving while license sus-

pending and speeding 20-plus mph over the limit. He was released on bond and faces an undetermined court date.

BARTLETT
Wednesday, Nov. 22
★ At 1:55 p.m., a complainant in the 100 block of East McClellan Street reported that an unknown offender broke the gate on her home. Police did not observe any disturbance to the front door or any signs of attempted entry to the rear sliding door.
★ At 4:25 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Pear Tree Lane for a house fire. The flames were extinguished and the scene was declared safe.
★ At 5:05 p.m., William O. Ernest, 47, Glidden, Wisconsin, was arrested and charged with aggravated driving while license revoked, driving while license revoked, unlawful display of registration, unlawful possession of fireworks, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and three outstanding warrants. He was transported to bond call and to await extradition.
Thursday, Nov. 23
★ At 3:43 .m., a complainant in the 500 block of Horizon Drive reported someone banging on the door. Police met with the subject who advised he was staying at a friend’s residence but they forgot to leave their door unlocked. Police transported the subject to a hotel.
★ At 5:49 p.m., a complainant in the 300 block of East Country Drive reported that an unknown offender may have stolen her wedding ring and band. Police located the rings along with a bracelet that had been pawned by a known offender. No complaints to be signed.
★ At 7:07 p.m., Anthony P. Ducato, 25, Bartlett, was arrested and charged with domestic battery. He was transported to DuPage County Jail.
★ At 9:12 p.m., a complainant in the 900 block of Martingale Drive reported a loud noise from within her home. Police searched the house with negative results and advised the complainant to call 911 if any other noises are heard.
Friday, Nov. 24
★ At 12:34 a.m., a complainant in the 900 block of West Bartlett Road reported a physical argument between two residents. No complaints to be signed and peace was restored.
★ At 8:37 a.m., a complainant in the 300 block of Wilmington Drive reported that an unknown offender damaged her vehicle. Police checked the area for video cameras with negative results.
★ At 10:21 p.m., a complainant in the 1200 block of Summersweet Lane reported that an unknown offender stole a package from the front of his home. Police spoke with a neighbor who did not see anything suspicious and were unable to make contact with the other neighbor. Estimated loss \$270.
★ At 11:29 p.m., Jose A. Nicolas-Valencia, 42, Glendale Heights, was arrested and charged with driving while license revoked and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. He was released on an I-bond and faces an undetermined court date.
Saturday, Nov. 25
★ At 11:08 a.m., a complainant in the 100 block of Rushmore Drive reported being awoken by his home alarm system and observed that two doors connected to the garage were slightly open. The complainant advised police that he believed nothing was taken. Police searched the garage for signs of forced entry with negative results.
★ At 11:20 a.m., a complainant in the 700 block of Holly Drive reported that a large branch fell from a dead tree that sits on DuPage County Forest

Preserve property in the back of his residence. Police supplied the complainant with the appropriate phone number and advised him to report the incident to them.
★ At 6:15 p.m., a complainant in the 200 block of Westridge Boulevard reported that an unknown subject was in his neighbor’s residence but he believed the residence was supposed to be vacant. Police spoke with the subject who stated that the home owner asked him to unlock the master bedroom. Police confirmed the subject had permission from the homeowner to be in the residence.
★ At 7:07 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Foster Avenue for a report of a stove fire. The homeowner advised that she was preheating her stove and noticed smoke coming from it. The fire was contained to the stove and extinguished prior to arrival of the Bartlett Fire Protection District.

Sunday, Nov. 26
★ At 12:42 a.m., a complainant in the 1000 block of West Lake Street reported being punched in the face by an unknown offender while at Lucky Star. Police spoke with the manager who advised that a fight had broken out on the dance floor. No complaints to be signed.
★ At 2:49 a.m., Michael H. Dwyer, 53, Bartlett, was arrested and charged with DUI, BAC over .08 and improper lane usage. He was released on an I-bond and faces a Dec. 19 court date.
★ At 3:04 a.m., Shane C. Roberts, 46, Streamwood, was arrested and charged with improper lane usage and driving while license suspended. He was also wanted on a DuPage County warrant and an extraditable warrant for felony theft out of Florida. He was also charged with felony fugitive from justice and was transported to DuPage County Jail.

Sabres boys hoops edged in tight battle with Royals


By Seth Hancock
The Streamwood boys basketball team dropped its Upstate Eight Conference River Division opener, but the Sabres walked away from their 62-57 loss to Larkin feeling good with its game on Friday, Dec. 1 at Larkin.
Facing a team with a 6-foot-10 center which advanced to the sectional finals last year, the Sabres made Larkin work. There were five ties and 13 lead changes, most of which came late as the Sabres rallied.
Larkin looked ready to pull away thanks to a technical foul midway through the third quarter which ultimately led to a six-point possession. The game was tied 34-34 at that point when Larkin scored the six during an 11-0 run for a 45-34 lead with 1:12 left.
Streamwood didn’t back down rallying back with a 14-2 run, including five points from Nikola Sinik (17 points), for a 48-47 lead with 5:13 left in the game which was the first of six final lead changes. The Sabres were also playing much of the game without some key players who were in foul trouble.
“Without some players sitting on the

bench most of the time with foul trouble, it could have been a different outcome,” said Streamwood coach Paul Kowalyszyn.
Kowalyszyn added: “I was happy with their composure. I told them they were more composed than I was and I’m proud of them for that. I thought our guys took it too them against a solid Larkin program.”
Sinik hit his final of five three-pointers with 3:56 left to play for a 53-51 lead before Larkin took the lead for good with a 7-0 run for a 58-53 Sabres deficit with 2:18 left on the clock.
DeAngelo Flynn finished with 12 points, Brendon Marton nine, Lamont Cole eight and Zack Marquez six. Streamwood had eight treys including two from Marton and one from Keenon Cole.
Streamwood is now 2-3 overall.
“I take away that we can compete with whoever on any night,” Kowalyszyn said. “Larkin has a great program, and we gave them a great game. I don’t want to jump the gun, but I think this is the best Streamwood team in a long time.”

U-46 language program

Continued from page 1
the administration asked for applause a couple times for the staff work, and board member Traci Ellis praised it saying: “Kudos again for some outstanding work. I am beyond proud of what we’re doing in this district to ensure that our students in this district aren’t living in a tiny bubble.”
The presentation focused that rather than trying to assimilate Spanish-speaking students into American culture, the goal is preserving their culture from their home country and one of the goals is to “prepare students for global careers and global citizenship.”
Ward said “there is no such thing as a global citizenship” and quoted President Donald Trump who said: “There is no global anthem. No global currency. No certificate of global citizenship. We pledge allegiance to one flag and that flag is the American flag.”
Along with Owens suggesting the need for bilingual workers, Ellis said she works in human resources (at another government-run school) and said the same.
During public comments Rick New-

ton said that HR departments are more concerned with “knowledge, skills and abilities.”
Ward said she works for a multinational corporation and collaborates with people from around the world, citing countries from Asia, Europe and South America, and “we communicate in English.”
Despite Ward clearly stating she has “no objections to learning other languages” and that she works with people from around the world, Kate Thommes spoke during public comments and projected completely opposite views onto Ward while also saying dual language does not need to be held accountable.
“Frankly, I can’t believe that dual language parents have once again to prove to some of you that our program is valuable and worthwhile,” said Thommes who added she was “incredulous that I even have to explain this to someone.”
“Some Americans seem to want to hide from the rest of the world which is ridiculous since the rest of the world is coming to us,” Thommes said. “They think that by forcing everyone to learn only in English, to step away from their culture and be American, that we will somehow gain an advantage or be better off.”



IT’S AUTOMATIC

The first automatic (self-shifting) transmission using hydraulic fluid was introduced in the 1930s. Prior to that, all cars came with manual (“stick”) shifts. However, as traffic became more pervasive, the driving public became interested in buying vehicles that could shift automatically. Now, only about five percent of vehicles are sold with manual transmissions, down from peaks of about 25 percent and 30 percent of production in 1987 for cars and 1990 for trucks. While manual transmissions are most popular among drivers of sports cars, the majority of the exotics are outfitted with transmissions that shift faster and get better mileage than manuals. As self-driving vehicles appear on the near horizon, manual transmissions may become even more scarce.

Manual or automatic, if your transmission is giving you a headache then it’s time to make an appointment at **ROYAL COACH**. Our ASE-certified technicians have the experience and expertise to find the problem and fix it quickly, no matter what sort of transmission you chose to drive. In addition, we can provide the regularly scheduled tune ups that can catch small problems before they become big repair bills. If you have questions, please call our office. *Quality before quantity.*

HINT: “Continuously variable transmissions” (CVT) on late-model vehicles get even better mileage than traditional automatic transmissions.

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U-46 approves proposals, sponsorship of lacrosse

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 will spend \$25,000 on the Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) for a year while lacrosse will officially become a district sponsored sport as the Board of Education approved the items, among others, on Monday, Dec. 4.

ACE was amended from the administration's request for \$25,000 a year for three years down to a one-year \$25,000 commitment as the board's majority cited a lack of transparency for wanting to give a short-term commitment right now and looking at a longer commitment in the future.

The vote was 6-1 as board member Jeanette Ward voted no citing some of the transparency issues as well as some of the contradictory information given to the board in the past about ACE.

Ward did leave open the possibility of voting to commit funds in the future to ACE stating "at least for this year, I'm voting no."

"I was initially supportive of this program when I was under the impression that it was at no cost to U-46 and that businesses were merely volunteering their resources to collaborate with U-46, and I would still be supportive tonight if that were the case," Ward said.

Last year, U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said "this is all paid for through fundraising" but went on to say "there was a portion to kick it off from U-46, from Elgin, from some of our municipalities and others."

The funding "essentially" is for funding the salaries and benefits of an executive director and administrative assistant as well as "to support the work of the alignment initiative" Sanders said.

When presented at the Nov. 20 meeting, Ward asked what the salaries were but the administration did not know. Prior to the Dec. 4 meeting, Ward again asked what the salary was

but a memo to the board stated: "Administration is unaware of the Executive Director's salary."

Ward said she was "uncomfortable with committing taxpayer money in partnership with private business to an organization with somewhat nebulous and un-measurable goals" and that "I just would like it more specifically nailed down how we're going to measure these."

"How will we measure the effectiveness of ACE? If the district expects the work of ACE to lead to improved academic results, what are the improved results we expect to see?" Ward asked before the meeting.

The administrative memo pointed Ward to a previous presentation by ACE in January of this year in which is stated the hope is to help in "closing the achievement gap" to "lower risky behaviors" among other things, none of which had specific goals to benchmark the success of ACE.

Regarding lacrosse, the board approved the district sponsorship of two co-op boys lacrosse programs as well as one girls co-op program, all including a varsity and JV team, for the district by a 7-0 vote. The boys teams include one at Bartlett, which will be a co-op with Streamwood, and one at South Elgin, a co-op with Elgin and Larkin, and the girls team will be open to all U-46 high schools.

Approved by 7-0 votes were a five-year proposal with Hayes Software Systems (\$832,916), which will come from the education fund, and a proposal with Happ Builders Inc. (\$643,700), coming from the capital projects fund, as well as \$6.1 million in itemized bills.

The board also approved by a 7-0 vote an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of South Elgin on a five-year contract renewal allowing the village use of athletic fields, the gym and parks at Fox Meadow Elementary School.

Pet of the Week



To have Toby? That is the question!

Sweet, senior Toby came to DuPage County Animal Care and Control when his owner needed to move to an assisted living facility and could not bring Toby along. A gentle soul, Toby is looking for a family with plenty of laps to curl up on and sun spots to nap in. Toby is 9 years old, neutered, up to date on vaccines and ready to go to a new home. Please visit www.dupageco.org/animalcontrol for more details or call 407-2800 (Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

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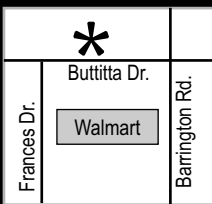
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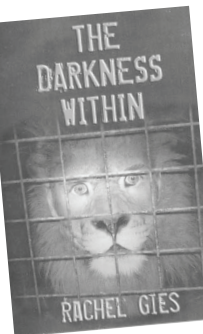
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Rachel Gies surprises her readers with this suspenseful thriller. **The Darkness Within** is a murder mystery that is hot, hot, hot. Kate and her brother, Nick, are being terrorized. Someone is playing cat and mouse with them as they unveil illegal shipments and are in danger of becoming the beast's next victim as they get closer to the truth. The list of suspects is constantly changing. Terror and suspense explode as it all comes to a terrifying shocking end. Previously self published books include **Captured Pearl** and **One Size Fits Most**.



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A View from the Cheap Seats



I Never Knew
By Rich Trzupek

Even at the tired old age of 58 a fellow can find himself exposed to a new bit of knowledge that shakes up his world-view. Such was the case last week when this particular 58-year-old fellow discussed the Matt Lauer story with a co-worker.

We'll call her Jane, in order to protect her anonymity. She's an all-around good egg: A 30-something mother of two, a talented engineer and possessed of the kind of personality that most people she meets instantly take a liking to. I would not describe Jane as a radical feminist, but nor would I define her as someone who would put up with blatant misogyny.

I had just read the details of Lauer's abusive behavior (a hidden switch that locks his office door behind an unsuspecting visitor/victim? Really?) Strolling past Jane's office, I inquired whether she had been following the Lauer story and oh-so-cleverly observed that at the rate Hollywood and MSM sex-scandals were growing, nobody would be left employed in either industry.

It was at this point that Jane uttered the words that turned my world upside down, at least in terms of how I think about women and sexual abuse. "You know Rich," she said "I doubt that you could find any woman living in America today that hasn't been grabbed or groped at least once in her life."

Jane framed that observation in terms of American women, but I grasped that she was basically describing most every woman's experience, whatever their nationality. She wasn't saying that all men are molesters, but there are enough men who are to ensure that virtually every woman on planet Earth would be subject to an unwanted sexual advance or violation of her person at some point during her lifetime.

She described, in a very matter-of-fact way, how she had been groped early in her working career and had nearly been dismissed from her job for complaining about it. There was no

bitterness in her tone. She was rather relating to a friend the kind of personal experience she believed was common to women throughout the globe.

I had never thought about the issue in those terms. To me, there is a very distinct line between the locker-room talk that I and virtually every male of the species commonly engage in and actually acting in accordance with that kind locker-room talk, which I believe to be extremely rare behavior.

In my personal experience, I know of only one male with whom I had a (distant) personal relationship who engaged in inappropriate physical behavior with the opposite sex. This fellow would, when under the influence of alcohol, grab, squeeze and fondle the breasts of women whom had not granted him the privilege of doing so.

Rather than being celebrated by the rest of males in our group of friends, his actions earned him our contempt, and eventual expulsion from our peer group. For most of us, dreaming of being with an attractive, vibrant female body was one thing. Acting on that desire, absent her consent was something entirely different.

In my view, those whom I view as radical feminists are often ridiculously touchy about issues that don't matter. This is something else again. There is nothing radical about not wanting to have your person violated by some creeper. Whether it's a pinch on the bottom or rape or anything in-between, there's no room for any sort of physical molestation in a civilized society.

Ladies, I don't apologize for being a man, nor do I apologize for the majority of my fellow males. We have faults associated with our gender to be sure, as do you, but on the whole I think most of us strive to be gentlemen, or at the very least to respect your persons.

The Matt Lauers, Al Frankens, John Conyers of the world are something else again. It's obvious they are not gentlemen, but I also believe they hardly deserve to be called any sort of a man at all.

Email: rich@examinerpublications.com

quently heard is that the lobbyists are in control of our tax code. Again, I concur.

What frustrates me is that Congress is finally addressing these complaints and they are not getting support from the taxpayers. Congress' current tax reform proposals represent the most significant effort towards simplifying the tax code since at least the 1980s. I was expecting a favorable reaction. Instead I am hearing nothing but complaints about Congress taking away "my deduction(s) and credits."

In case it isn't evident, to simplify the tax code, you must eliminate the elements of the code that complicate things. Those complications present themselves typically as deductions and tax credits. Not only does eliminating deductions and tax credits simplify the code, it reduces the power of the lobbyists and, as a bonus, removes a major source of non-compliance. You see, if you can no longer deduct business entertainment, you can no longer cheat by inflating your business entertainment deduction.

Don't underestimate the value of simplification's impact on tax compliance as the IRS' most recent tax gap estimate is \$406 billion per year. Simplifying the tax code, eliminating lobbyist's power and improving tax compliance are all things that will benefit every taxpayer and help our economy.

Sometimes tax code changes can't be evaluated merely on how much more or less an individual will pay in taxes. The bigger picture needs examination. To anyone who has cried out for tax code simplification and is now complaining about Congress taking away their deduction(s) and credit(s), you can't have it both ways.

Stephen W. DeFilippis

Against legalized marijuana
Dear Editor,

While Big Marijuana pours millions into Illinois to legalize marijuana, leftist lawmakers, giddy about a tiny new revenue source to aid their insatiable spending, ignore the unmistakable damage legalization is causing in Colorado. Those nasty facts are hard to escape.

Colorado now ranks #1 in the entire nation for marijuana use among teens, scoring 55 percent above the national average, so says the National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

Colorado High School drug violations have increased 71 percent and suspensions for drugs have increased 45 percent since legalization.

Based on alarming research by the Denver Post, drivers in fatal car crashes who tested positive doubled since legalization.

Residential neighborhoods reek of marijuana as do warehouse growing operations along major freeways. As if that isn't enough, the Colorado homelessness growth rate now ranks among the highest in the country.

The bottom line is this: Does Illinois want more drugged drivers on our roads, more buzzed employees on job sites, and more stoned students in our homes and schools?

If the answer is no, don't remain silent. Tell your state representative and senator to oppose legalization efforts before it is too late.

Kathy Valente
Director of Operations
Illinois Family Institute

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
The **Examiner**

U-46 tax levy

Continued from page 1

ing this conversation now," but in September it appeared both Costello and Ward were the board members trying to have a conversation on concerns with the budget.

In September, the budget was approved by a 5-1 vote, Ward voting no and Costello not in attendance for the vote. Costello did make a social media post addressing his concerns and explicitly stating he didn't support the budget, and Ellis was aware of those concerns as she along with the board's majority did not allow Ward to read a statement from Costello before the vote.

Ellis, Owens, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland and Donna Smith all voted for the budget without providing any commentary for why they supported it.

Costello told *The Examiner* at the time: "Each one of those points was raised with members of the finance team and with Mr. Sanders. And they have denied, basically worked around, any type of constructive thought process and have basically said that my comments had no bearing on that issue."

Kerr said "I'd love taxes to go down as well" and Owens added "I do not like paying high property taxes," but both claimed the district made budget cuts in 2010 but hasn't recovered.

From 2007-08 through today, spending per student has increased from \$10,504 to \$13,152, a 25.2 percent increase, according to the ISBE report card which is \$1,302 per student over the rate of inflation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator.

Owens said: "We have to understand that this levy means that we are raising still less than \$7,000 per student. It's a high levy, but we are still only raising less than \$7,000 per student. It costs money to educate our kids, it costs money to give them services, it costs money to do the things that we want to do with special education with (Career and Technical Education). We have to have these conversations."

The \$7,000 figure appears inaccurate when compared to the ISBE report card which has U-46 spending at \$500 million, \$315.5 million coming from local taxes with an enrollment of 39,377 making it \$8,012 per student raised by local taxpayers.

Owens also said "we're competing with other districts" to which Ward responded: "I don't think that we can really compare ourselves to the districts surrounding us when the state of Illinois has the highest or second to highest property taxes in the nation. To say that we're not at the same level as surrounding districts, that doesn't help people fleeing from the state of Illinois because of our high property taxes."

Owens claimed that people are coming to Illinois, not fleeing, saying: "There may be people leaving, but people are still moving in here and they are looking for places to live and one of the things that they are looking at is the quality of the school district and what the school district is able to offer their students."

Ward responded: "But the fact remains that there is a net exodus."

Owens said: "So we shouldn't fight for the people that are actually moving in? Regardless if it's a net exodus, we're still competing with people looking to move into this state. And there are people who are moving into the state. Houses are selling."

Ward replied: "Well, I'd like to make it so it's favorable so that they can stay. We have the same goal, we have a different approach to get there."

Ward's contention of "people fleeing from the state" is accurate according to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) data which showed 2016 was the third straight year in which Illinois saw the largest decrease in population in the nation. Recent IRS data has shown a net loss of 21,800 residents to neighboring states and 86,161 to the entire country while \$720 million in adjusted gross income has gone to neighboring states, \$4.8 billion to the nation.

By a 7-0 vote, the board approved an intent to abate \$9.7 million from the working cash fund which has a stated goal of effectively keeping tax rates flat for current property owners.

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.

Shame on you

Dear Editor:

My 9-year-old daughter came home from school today and told me that her black classmate, who she thought was her friend, called her a "racist" because she asked to have a turn on the playground slide. She didn't understand what that meant, but she sensed that it wasn't nice, and came home upset. Frankly, I wasn't interested in explaining it to her, because it defies my own comprehension.

What I am interested in is where such nonsense comes from. And I don't think it helps having a school board trustee and other leaders who blame racism for everything that doesn't go their way.

Kids divided against other kids is what we will reap when we sow the seeds of racial discord. Those divisions will grow and hurt us as a community.

My husband just got job transferred, and we're moving before Christmas. So, we won't bother raising a fuss at school, and at this point I doubt it would matter anyway, based on what our superintendent's position is.

I feel sorry for the children of the friends we'll leave behind—friends of every creed and color. They are being betrayed by the very people who should be their champions.

Shame on you Ms. Ellis, Mr. Sanders, and U-46.

Carrie Gee

U-46 initiative stole an idea

Dear Editor,

I got an idea. With all the perverts crawling out of the woodwork in Hollywood and Congress why don't we allow men access to female bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers?

Wait, we already did that. Apparently we need to protect starlets and congressional employees but not our children.

Cathy White

Act opposition

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express opposition to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. I do not understand why it is necessary to add \$1.5 trillion to the deficit to fund tax breaks for the wealthy? Furthermore, I do not understand why this bill repeals the Johnson Amendment, why it designates child-in-utero as a federal beneficiary, and why it requires a Social Security number to claim the child tax credit?

I am concerned that the interests of our law makers are compromised in a manner that is harmful to their constituents.

Parth R. Patel

Can't have it both ways

Dear Editor,

In my three plus decades in tax practice, the most common complaint I have heard about our tax code is that it is too complicated. A complaint with which I agree. Another complaint that I have fre-

Sabres fall to Vikings, rebound at week's end

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood girls basketball team couldn't keep up with Geneva, but the Sabres were happy to have the learning experience in a 70-37 Up-state Eight Conference River Division loss on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at Streamwood.

Facing the defending state champs and a team that likes to put on relentless defensive pressure, the Sabres fell behind 22-9 after one quarter when they grew to 30-9 early in the second.

Streamwood coach George Rosner said Geneva has probably the best pressure his team will face this season, and he hopes the experience will benefit his squad in the future.

"We worked hard on breaking their press," Rosner said. "I thought we executed it pretty well, as well as we could against a team like Geneva. When we made a mistake, we paid for it."

Rosner added: "I wasn't scared of this game coming so early in the schedule because I wanted them to see what an intense, full-court press looks like."

The Sabres would use a 9-0 run in the second quarter, keyed by four points from Monica Brown (six points) and a three-pointer from Andrea Bracy

(nine points), to pull to 30-18 with 4:17 left in the first half, but Geneva would take a 46-20 lead into the break and built as large as a 37-point advantage in the second half.

Mandy Mien led Streamwood with 10 points and Riya Patel added five. Rosner said of Bracy "she played really hard" and added Brown had a good game in her first of the season after starting the year injured.

"We had some really nice looks," Rosner said. "We could have been in the 50s if our shots fell. The thing with Geneva is they press you so hard they take you out of your game plan and force our players to make decisions on the run, and I thought they made some good decisions tonight."

The Sabres would go on to drop their sixth straight game before earning their first victory to end the week.

Streamwood dropped a defensive UEC crossover match up against Glenbard East in a 24-20 game on Thursday, Nov. 30 at Streamwood. Bracy had eight points and Mien five.

Against Elgin in an UEC River Division contest, Streamwood earned a 47-22 win on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Streamwood. Bracy and Mien each had 16 points and Patel five.

The Sabres are now 1-6 overall, 1-1 in the UEC River Division.



Andrea Bracy of the Sabres negotiating along the baseline with the Geneva basket is her sights after passing the Vikings' Madison Mallory.



After accepting a pass in the paint, Streamwood's Rebecca Roncone contemplated putting up a shot against the Vikings. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Monica Brown launching a three-point shot attempt for the Sabres over the closing Emma Kornak of Geneva.



Streamwood's Mandy Mien dribbling through Geneva traffic while encountering the Vikings' Stephanie Hart.

Police Department to participate in holiday traffic safety campaign

As millions of motorists hit the road to celebrate Thanksgiving, Illinois law enforcement will be working around the clock to make sure holiday travelers are buckled up and driving safely. The Streamwood Police Department is joining the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois State Police to remind motorists to Click It or Ticket.

The goal of this high-visibility effort is to reduce motor vehicle crashes and resulting injuries and fatalities. Correct seat-belt use is the most effective way to protect vehicle occupants. According to IDOT, the statewide seat-belt usage rate is at 93.8 percent.

Last year, 11 people died on Illinois roads during the long holiday weekend from 6 p.m. the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to 5:59 a.m. the following Monday. Many of those fatalities could have been prevented with the click of a seat belt. The National High-

way Traffic Safety Administration's research indicates that proper seat-belt use reduces the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passengers by 45 percent and the risk of moderate to severe injury by 50 percent.

Statistics show that nighttime driving comes with an increased risk for injury or death. Evening hours account for a higher percentage of alcohol-related crashes, a higher percentage of fatalities and a lower percentage of occupants wearing seat belts. According to NHTSA, among passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2016 daytime crashes, 41 percent were unrestrained. Nighttime crashes show a significantly higher number of unbelted occupant fatalities at 56 percent.

The Click It or Ticket enforcement effort is made possible by federal highway safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Storm stay undefeated by topping Vikings



The Storms’ Drake Montgomery beginning a move to drive past the Vikings’ Alejandro Rodriguez. *(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)*



With an open look at the hoop, Kyle Sy in the process of draining a shot for the Storm over the Vikings’ Joshua Williams.

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys basketball team came out strong led by its defense leading to a 73-55 nonconference win over Rockford Guilford on Saturday, Dec. 2 at South Elgin.

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are going to start falling again.”

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Vincent Miskiewicz leading a fast break away from Guilford’s Tyler Knuth that would result in Miskiewicz taking the ball coast to coast and being fouled prior to stuffing the basketball at the other end of the court.



South Elgin’s David Binion releasing a jumper from beyond the top of the key against Rockford Guilford.



Park Bench

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

Special Events
Letter to Santa Claus Deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 12
Camps
Winter Break Camp
Dec. 26 to Jan. 9, 2018
Join the South Elgin Parks & Recreation Department for some good winter fun. We have enhanced our camp with field trips each week. Lunch will be included daily. Registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 15. A \$20 late registration fee will exist after that date. This will be held at the Municipal Annex, 1 W. State St.
Preschool
Preschool Open House
For new students only that have not been previously enrolled and are interested in enrolling the 2018/19 school year preschool program. See what our program is all about. Join the teachers for an informative sit down and then take time to view the classrooms and ask any questions. When: Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Where: Municipal Annex

Fitness
Zumba
Zumba is a fusion of Latin and international music with dance/fitness movements, creating a dynamic, exciting, and effective aerobic workout. The cost is \$73 for residents and \$80 for non-residents (for 10 classes) or \$10 at the door. This class is located at the Municipal Annex on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 9 to 10 am on Saturdays.
Zumba Toning
Zumba toning takes the original Zumba dance fitness class to the next level utilizing an innovative muscle training

protocol. The cost is \$73 for residents and \$80 for non-residents (for 10 classes) or \$10 at the door. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex on Mondays at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Youth
Youth Volleyball
South Elgin Parks & Recreation youth volleyball will be a co-ed league with third- to eight graders. Practices will be for one hour per week and one game per week played on Saturday. Fee includes a team shirt. Please purchase knee pads prior to starting practice. A total of eight games will be played. Practice begins in February with the first game on March 3, 2018. Registration deadline is Jan. 8, 2018. There will be a \$20 late fee after this date. Class will be held at Kenyon Woods Middle School.
Youth Dodge Ball Open Gym
Come out for a night of open gym dodge ball. Open gym is on a first come first serve basis for eight to 12 year olds. Dodge balls are provided. Cost is \$2 each week. This program will run weekly on Tuesdays through Dec. 19 and then resume after holiday break.
Youth Basketball Open Gym
Join other “drop in” participants to sharpen basketball skills. Open gym is on a first-come first-serve basis for 10 to 14 year olds. Basketballs are provided. Cost is \$2 weekly. This program will run weekly on Wednesdays through Dec. 20 and then resumes after holiday break
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
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Read! Learn! Connect!

Art for All Annual Winter Show
Don't miss the beautiful, creative Art for All Annual Winter Show displayed in the Main Library Lobby throughout December. Talented local artists have works displayed in a variety of media. For more information, visit www.artforall.elgin.com.
Go Behind the Scenes at Marshall Field's Holiday Traditions with us at the Main Library Elgin Room on Monday, Dec. 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. We will hear Amy Meadows, former director of Windows and Marketing Events for Marshall Field's and Macy's as she provides a sneak peek into the design and execution of the famed, animated windows, the Main Aisle décor and the great tree. To register, go to www.gailborden.info, call 847-429-4597 or register in person at any branch.
South Elgin Sentinels Chess Club
Get your brain thinking with our South Elgin Sentinels Chess Club at the South Elgin Branch on Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Kids in grades three to eight of all skill levels are invited to practice and play together. Bring a friend and drop in! No registration necessary.
Learn the simple ins and outs of eBay during **eBay Basics** at the South Elgin Branch on Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Adults will learn how to buy merchandise on eBay and even how to pay for purchases using PayPal. This class is open to district residents and you must register with a valid GBPL Library card number upon signing up. To register, go to www.gailborden.info, call 847-429-4597 or register in person at any location.

Bring the family to celebrate **Posada** with us at the Main Library on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. for crafts, punch, stories and so much more. This celebration will be in Spanish and is for all ages. No registration—just drop by!
Do you have studying on the brain? Teens in grades nine to 12 can ease the stress of finals during our **Finals Feeding Frenzy** at the South Elgin Branch on Tuesday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 6 p.m. Get your study on with others and feed your brain with some refreshments. No registration required.
Are you looking to sell your own items on eBay? Look no further than our **Selling on eBay** class at the South Elgin Branch on Tuesday, Dec. 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Adults will discover how to create an auction, employ selling strategies to maximize profit, navigate eBay's rules and earn seller ratings to help boost future business. This class is open to district residents and you must register with a valid GBPL Library card number upon signing up. To register, go to www.gailborden.info, call 847-429-4597 or register in person at any location.
Can't stay up until midnight this New Year's Eve? Join us for our **Happy Noon Year Party** at the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room on Friday, Dec. 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for fun, stories, games, holiday food and dancing! This celebration is for preschoolers with a caregiver and registration is required. To register, go to www.gailborden.info, call 847-429-4597 or register in person at any location.

North boys basketball topples rival Saints 61-58

By Seth Hancock
The North boys basketball team held strong in its Upstate Eight Conference River Division opener and first of two cross-town match ups as the North Stars defeated their rival East 61-58 on Friday, Dec. 1 at North.
It came down to the final minute when North was preserving its three-point lead. East had two possessions down three in the final 20 seconds but couldn't rally.
However, that close finish didn't necessarily seem likely as Kyle King, who scored 13 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, said: "At halftime, part of me was like 'maybe we could break away.'"
King had to "come back to reality" right away in the third quarter when North suddenly found themselves down 40-36 after entering halftime

ahead 36-25.
North countered East's 15-0 run to start the second half by finishing the third quarter on an 11-3 run for a 47-43 lead which it wouldn't relinquish in the final period.
Cade Callaghan and Lucas Heflen both finished with 14 points, including a pair of threes each, while Erik Larson had 10 points and Brendan Dal Degan five.
"It's nice to beat your rival," said North coach Tom Poulin. "It's a group we respect and a coaching staff we respect. It's never easy, so it's rewarding. Nothing worth celebrating and getting done is easy."
"It was a huge team win," Heflen said. "I think it was a big bonding moment, especially after they came back."
The North Stars are now 3-2 overall.

North Stars girls hoops top East among two losses

By Seth Hancock
The North girls basketball team stepped up its defensive pressure late to rally for a 46-36 win over cross-town rival East in Upstate Eight Conference River Division play on Friday, Dec. 1 at North.
The North Stars trailed most of the game as they were down 23-15 at halftime. North's deficit stood at 30-24 entering the fourth quarter.
The fourth quarter saw the North Stars grab control early as they opened with a 16-2 run for a 40-32 lead. Anna Davern scored a game-high 15 points, and her three-pointer midway through the fourth quarter gave North the lead for good at 33-30.
"We said before the fourth quarter that there's eight minutes left, give it everything you have," Davern said. "All five players on the court definitely did that in the fourth quarter."
Davern added: "We all felt the nerves a little at the beginning I think, but once we started playing together we got it going."
Leilauni Chanthaboury and Megan Gunnink both finished with nine points, Gunnink's all come from behind the arc off three treys, and Anna Tate added five.
North's defense, led by five steals

from Chanthaboury, was a key part to the rally forcing nine turnovers in the fourth quarter.
"The bench and crowd were alive and it was great," said North coach Mike Tomczak. "The amount of pressure we put on the ball and the wings really turned things."
The North Stars were coming off a 55-43 UEC River Division loss to Batavia on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at Batavia.
Batavia led throughout building a 25-16 halftime lead. North, which fell behind by as much as 15 points in the fourth quarter, rallied to within three late but was unable to pull ahead.
"We looked timid and selfish in the first half," Tomczak said. "Second half, we were more successful when the ball started moving."
Davern led North with 12 points while Emma Helsel (10 points) hit three treys and both Chanthaboury and Gunnink two. Tate had five points.
North ended the week with a non-conference loss against undefeated Palatine on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Palatine.
The North Stars are now 4-4 overall, 1-1 in the UEC River Division.

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

donations of non-scented Kleenex boxes. They are also in much need of fruits and vegetables, mainly grapes, melon, zucchini, squash and greens. If you are able to donate these items, please drop-off at the center any day between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sharpen those presentation skills for all of your social and professional interactions. Fox Valley Toastmasters combines incremental, self-paced practice with warm support—and guests are always welcome. Toastmasters—Where Leaders Are Made, second and fourth Thursdays, 7:15 to 8:45 p.m., second floor, St. Charles City Hall, 2 E. Main St.

Kane County Audubon is the local chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society and meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month September through May at Hickory Knolls Discovery Center. Field trips, bird walks, and nature hikes are scheduled on Saturdays throughout the year and in lieu of the meeting on the second Wednes-

day of June, July and August. Enjoy nature. Want to learn more about the birds you see in your backyard and elsewhere? Events are open to the public and newcomers and families are always welcome. For more information on Kane County Audubon, call Bob Andrini at 630-584-8386 or visit www.kanecountyaudubon.org. For information on Illinois Audubon Society, call Tom Clay at 217-544-BIRD (2473) or visit www.illinoisaudubon.org.

Hunters asked to aid sampling deer for CWD

Deer hunters statewide are encouraged to allow samples to be taken for chronic wasting disease (CWD) sampling from adult deer they harvest. Check the IDNR website at the below link for locations that are serving as CWD sampling stations, taking samples from entire deer or deer heads through the end of the season (Jan. 14, 2018):
<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/CWD/Documents/CWDsamplingLocations.pdf>.

Hawks take charge in win over Panthers

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett girls basketball team started strong to dominate in a 71-46 nonconference win over Oswego on Thursday, Nov. 30 at Bartlett. Hawks coach Brad Hunt was looking for a start like his squad had after some slow starts previously. Behind freshman Lexie Sinclair (22 points) and senior Kayla Hare (18 points), Bartlett built a 27-8 lead after one quarter which grew as large as 35 points early in the fourth. “We’ve been needing that,” Hunt said. “In our two losses, we struggled early on in both games but came back and competed late. I told them that we

needed to learn how to start a game strong, and that’s what they did today.” Oswego held two brief leads of 2-0 and 4-3, but Sinclair came out on fire to make sure that didn’t last long. Sinclair hit three buckets from behind the arc and scored 13 points in the first quarter on the way to the 19-point advantage by the end of the period. Hare scored eight points in the opening frame. “We’ve basically been a stronger second half team,” Sinclair said. “Today, we had it right off the bat.” Bartlett’s lead stood at 41-20 by halftime and 60-28 after three quarters, and

after a Savannah Standefer bucket in the fourth the Hawks had their largest lead at 64-29. Danielle Kleeman added eight points and Justina Hernandez seven, and the Hawks finished with 10 different players producing points. Hunt said the addition of Sinclair this season, who he called a “special player,” has helped open things up along with the return of last year’s leading scorer and Bartlett’s all-time three-point shooter Hare. “It makes it pretty easy for the team,” Hunt said. “It opens up some things. You can’t just key on Kayla.” Bartlett is now 4-2 overall.



The Hawks’ Teagan Noesen driving through the paint and past Oswego’s Julia Henrikson prior to launching a reverse layup. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Bartlett’s Kayla Hare accelerating as she began a drive past Oswego’s Angelina Schlinger during the Hawks victory on Thursday, Nov. 30.

Hawks defense, depth help defeat Notre Dame



Bartlett’s Byron Price during a layup attempt against the Dons and Dan Mahorcic. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team came through in the clutch to defeat Notre Dame 62-59 in nonconference play on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Bartlett. The Hawks led most of the game after an 11-3 start but faced a late deficit. Playing without leading scorer Ben Tompson after leaving the game early with an injury, Bartlett was able to preserve the victory with its depth. Bartlett led 36-33 at halftime and 54-50 after three quarters, but Notre Dame rallied for a 57-56 lead with 4:18 left to play. Tomas Vikonis, who led the effort with 22 points, hit a three-pointer with 1:59 left to play and Ben Fisher (10 points) hit a pair of free throws with 38.8 seconds left for a 61-57 lead, and the Hawks defense staved off Notre Dame from there. “We ended the game really strong,” Vikonis said. “We stepped up our defensive intensity. The bench came in and played great defense, rebounded. It was just a great team win.” Without Tompson for most of the game, Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith said: “Anytime you have a kid go down, you need kids to step up.” Austin Gates had 16 points, and Fisher scored all 10 of his points in the second half including a 6-for-6 performance from the charity stripe. Off the bench, Byron Price scored nine points, and Wolfsmith said his team had solid defensive performances off the bench from Jake Coffinbargar, Andrew Wolf and Nicholas Wolf. “We’re starting to finally round into the team we hope to be,” Wolfsmith said. “We’ve been ahead, tied or close in the fourth quarter in nearly every game, but we’ve failed to close out. The big thing tonight was we closed out the win.” Bartlett was coming off a tough loss against Geneva, 71-64 in Upstate Eight Conference crossover play on Friday, Dec. 1 at Geneva. Trailing 41-27 at halftime, the Hawks rallied to pull within three points in the final minute

of play before Geneva sealed the win. Vikonis (19 points), Gates (17 points, seven steals), Tompson (11 points), Fisher (nine points, 12 rebounds) and Price (six points) led Bartlett. The Hawks are now 2-4 overall.



Bartlett’s Garrett Jurina having a shot blocked from behind while the Hawks battled Notre Dame.

Storm stay undefeated by topping Vikings

By Seth Hancock

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South Elgin's David Binion releasing a jumper from beyond the top of the key against Rockford Guilford. *(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)*

Bartlett High puts Christmas on center stage



Miss Shields, portrayed by Jenna Lovanh, explained how Ralphie would shoot this eye out if he got a BB gun in the nightclub dream sequence.



Ralphie Parker, played by Chloe Fox showed off the bunny suit that he received Christmas morning. *(Examiner photos by Andrea Kohl)*

During the weekend of Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2, the Bartlett High School auditorium was transformed into a winter wonderland as the theatre department presented, "A Christmas Story: The Musical." The musical was based on a book, "In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash" by Jean Shepherd and later turned into a movie. Under the direction of Michael Miserendino and music director Alexa Mount, the show led the audience back to how Christmas was celebrated in the 1940s.



The Old Man portrayed by Evan Neilson held up his new award as his family, Chloe Fox, Victoria Zbizek and Naomi Latta looked on.

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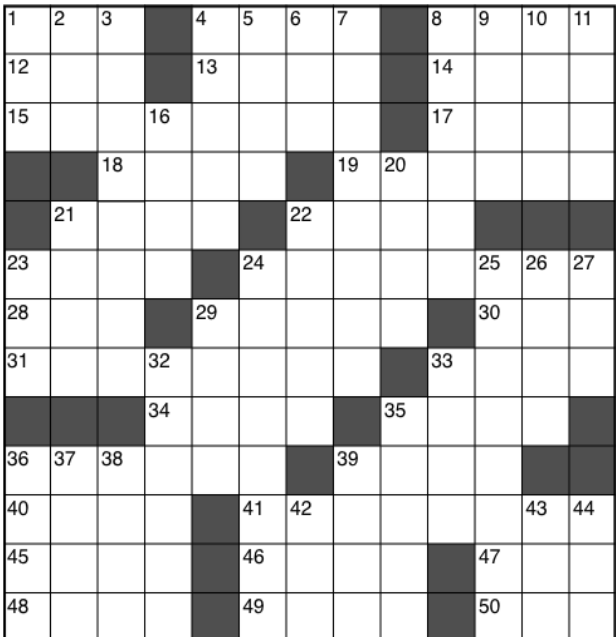
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(Aprox. 25words/inch)	(2" min)	w/photo, 2" min)	Regular Web
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1 x 2"	\$ 50	\$ 40 (no photo)	\$40 \$38
1 x 2.5"	\$ 62.50	\$ 50	\$50 \$48
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- Wall Street figure
- Hints
- Package of paper
- Head coverings for English judges
- Zenith
- Moslem commander
- Stood eye-to-eye
- Like Capp's Abner
- Played Shaq's position
- Bouquet unit
- Foam
- Image on a radar screen
- Inquisition seat
- Wax producers
- "_____ Of Livin' To Do" (2 wds.)
- Told a story
- 1994 role for Shirley MacLaine
- Give forth
- At all times, in poems
- The African Queen* scriptwriter
- Excavates
- Kidnapped* author's monogram

DOWN

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- Leprechaun's home: abbr.
- The Wolverine State
- Abhors
- How a secondhand item is sold (2 wds.)
- Spout falsehoods
- Clasped
- _____ hat
- Zealous
- Immorality
- For eternity
- Keystone figures
- Atlas Shrugged* author
- Buster Brown's pooch
- Elmer and Grantland
- Milit. female
- Forgave
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- Speak like Sylvester
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- Defendant's answer
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To discuss fostering the dignity and fulfillment that we provide for our residents, contact Artis Senior Living of Bartlett at 630.855.5939.



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