

Press Clippings 02-24-21

---Education Week--- 02/24/2021

Biden's Testing Stance Leaves States Tough Choices. Some May Still Try to Avoid Exams

By: Andrew Ujifusa, Evie Blad & Sarah Schwartz



Flags decorate a space outside the secretary's office at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington.

The Biden administration's decision not to entertain states' requests to cancel standardized exams for this school year due to the pandemic marks its first major K-12 policy decision—and it's leading to no shortage of controversy.

Although the department has now provided clarity on that highly anticipated decision, its approach to the issue—a continued mandate for testing, tempered by some flexibility—will still push states to make difficult choices. And the clock is ticking on an already disrupted school year.

Questions about how much value to place on the test will help define the months ahead. And despite the administration's rebuff, some states might not fully lose their appetite for canceling or otherwise getting out from under having to administer those tests.

On Monday, the U.S. Department of Education informed states that it's not inviting them to seek "blanket waivers of assessments" for the 2020-21 school year, a message that essentially tells states that they should plan to give federally mandated exams in English/language arts, math, and science. [States got such blanket waivers](#) last spring.

However, the department will consider requests to essentially put accountability systems on hold. That would mean not identifying certain schools for improvement or differentiating schools by ratings for the 2020-21 school year, for example.

States could also get waivers from the requirement that at least 95 percent of eligible students take the tests. That decision reflects a broad consensus in the education community that for this school year, states and schools shouldn't face typical consequences from statewide exams and the accountability mechanisms linked to them.

As for the tests themselves, the Biden administration said states would have the option of giving shorter versions of the regular tests ([a decision California reached last year](#)), administering tests remotely, and expanding their testing windows so that students could take the exams this

summer or even during the 2021-22 school year.

How states make decisions about those issues, amid the daunting array of practical challenges and political pressures, could put tremendous strain on education and political leaders.

“I fully support public accountability. I just think this is not the right year to administer another test.”

Tony Sanders, School District U-46, Elgin, IL

“Statewide assessments are important to identify what extra support schools need to help their students get back on track,” said Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Rep. Bobby Scott, D-Va., the leaders of Congress’ House and Senate education committees, in a Tuesday statement.

Yet American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten called the decision “frustrating” and a “missed opportunity.” Rep. Jamaal Bowman, D-N.Y., a former principal and long-time opponent of standardized exams, [declared simply that it was “wrong.”](#) And FairTest, an advocacy group opposed to standardized exams that works with state-level advocates, said the tests would be inaccurate and unfair even if they weren’t used for accountability. “They are still likely to be misused to rate schools and teachers, rather than to help students,” FairTest said in a statement.

The Biden administration took a compromise-driven approach under very difficult circumstances, and rightly set aside accountability concerns, said Lillian Pace, a vice president at KnowledgeWorks, which works on assessment and personalized-learning systems.

But she said the debate about testing has been divisive for far too long, and that statewide summative tests now carry too much weight and political significance compared to other important and actionable data (such as information from assessments embedded in curriculum teachers are familiar with) that states should be paying a lot of attention to during the pandemic.

“This is an incredibly complex issue,” Pace said. “A one-size-fits-all approach was never going to work in this moment.”

Tony Sanders, the superintendent of School District U-46 in Elgin, Ill., had mixed emotions in response to the Monday guidance. He’s skeptical about the idea of testing this spring, but grateful about the new flexibility on accountability from Washington.

“It’s not exactly what I was hoping for,” said Sanders, who led an effort by Illinois superintendents [to get a blanket testing waiver](#). “But it’s a step in the right direction.”

States are still weighing their testing options

Before Monday’s federal guidance, some state schools chiefs had already announced plans to request federal waivers that would allow them to fully cancel tests. And even after the Biden administration said it would not issue “blanket waivers,” some state leaders said they still saw an opening to request a cancellation of statewide summative exams, citing local circumstances or a willingness to use existing data from local formative assessments in their place.

In Colorado, State Sen. Rachel Zenzinger, a Democrat and chairwoman of the education

committee, said she would still push a bill she's cosponsored, which would require the state to request a full testing waiver and prohibit student test scores from being used in teacher and principal evaluations.

"While the federal guidance was not as helpful nor applicable to Colorado as we had hoped, they did provide some clarity on how to frame our waiver request," Zenzinger wrote in a Facebook post Tuesday morning. "They want to see local assessment data, and we can provide that in our bill."

Michigan also stressed local assessments in its response. The state will seek approval to use results of state-mandated, local "benchmark assessments" in place of a statewide assessment, State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice said in a statement.

However, more than 40 education and business groups (including several influential Beltway organizations like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Education Trust, the Business Roundtable, and the National Urban League) [quickly moved to stifle support](#) for substituting local for statewide tests. They issued a Tuesday statement saying that "these local assessments do not hold all students to the same standards and expectations." These same groups said they were pleased with the Biden Education Department's Monday testing guidance.

In some states that had previously requested waivers, leaders said they would continue to explore their options.

---The Courier-News--- 02/24/2021

U-46 superintendent stresses no decision on return

School district has not chosen whether hybrid schooling will continue in fall

By Karie Angell Luc

No decision has been made as to whether School District U-46 students will return to in-person classes on a full-time basis in the fall or continue to follow a hybrid schedule, Superintendent Tony Sanders told the school board Monday.

Responding to a question posed by board member Kate Thommes, Sanders said they will rely on expert opinions to make that decision closer to the start of the 2021-22 school year in August.

"We're (following) the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, waiting to see what the Illinois Department of Public Health says in regards to that guidance," Sanders said.

"But they continue to say while we're in this significant spread, six feet of social distancing is the key and they're making it a requirement. ... (If that remains the case) it would be very difficult to have in person instruction every day for every kid."

Thommes said she asked the question because of things she'd been hearing in the community about a final decision having been made.

In particular, one person posted on the ReOpen U46 Schools Facebook page that a decision had, in fact, been made and that in hybrid schedule would be used in elementary schools for

classes with more than 30 students. The comment prompted a lot of negative comments about the district and Sanders.

Thommes said, “I’ve heard rumors from the community that there has been a final decision and I just want to assure them that that’s not the case.”

It’s not true, Sanders said.

He did not rule out the possibility “that we would continue to offer a distance learning model of some kind,” in part because some families may not “be comfortable sending their child back into public schools just yet,” he said.

But at this point, “there are no final decisions at all,” he said.

The ReOpen U-46 Schools Facebook group has been vocal about their belief that all students should return to school as soon as possible.

Most suburban school districts, including U-46, have preferred to go with a hybrid schedule of part-time, in-person instruction because COVID-19 case numbers continue to be high and social distancing and other precautions can’t be guaranteed.

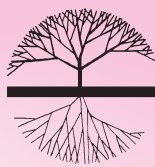
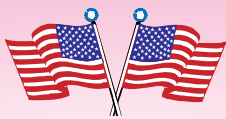
Parents have the option of enrolling their child in the hybrid program or keeping them in remote learning.

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 26
Number 42

"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
February 24, 2021



Sabres boys hoops
win two of three
See Page 4

Meeting slated for
comprehensive plan
See Page 8

Informational reminder issued regarding winter

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Feb. 18, Village President Billie Roth asked Trustee William Harper to read an informational item regarding winter, snow removal and parking.

"Although spring is around the corner we still have some winter left," read Harper. "Please be sure to stay safe through the remainder of the season. First and foremost please check on any neighbors who may need help. With the severe cold we've been experiencing, (please) check on elderly residents or shut-ins. Consider helping out by shoveling a driveway or sidewalk. We would also like to re-

mind everyone that the police department serves as a warming center if frigid temperatures impact homeowners."

Harper continued: "Snow plowing has been particularly difficult as heavy snowfalls have not had an opportunity to melt before the next snowstorm. Please remember parking is prohibited after a two-inch or greater snowfall until streets are fully plowed. The village does not plow state or county roads which include

Illinois Route 59, Irving Park Road, Lake Street, Barrington Road, Schaumburg Road or Bartlett Road.

"We also ask that no one shovel snow into the street. This is especially important after plows clear the snow and lay salt as snow blown into the street can create ice slicks and other safety hazards. "While the village does not re-

quire shoveling sidewalks we do encourage it so everyone can travel safely.

"Our winter parking regulations end soon. Please remember not to block the sidewalk starting on March 1. Parking is still prohibited on village streets between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. except where noted in specific subdivisions."

Audit letter update approved by U-46

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved, of an update to its annual audit arrangement letter at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 8 which was held electronically due to COVID-19 regulations.

The arrangement letter, done through RSM US, LLP., required an addendum due to increased federal government funds coming in from so-called stimulus due to COVID-19 dictates shutting down private economic activity, but local and state government entities also received bailouts.

"Typically, each year we participate in the same federal programs," said Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations. "So, the original arrangement letter from July 8 stated that the federal programs that we participated in did not significantly change from the prior year."

Burnidge added: "However, due to the CARES Act, we were able to use the funds from the Elementary and Secondary School

Emergency Relief fund. And we also participated in some new food service programs, including the summer food service program. So, this addendum just confirms that these new programs will be included in the single audit report."

The food programs included a children's milk program, adult and child care food program and a summer food program for children.

The federal CARES Act was approved last year and was the largest spending bill in history totaling over \$6 trillion between spending measures and monetary measures from the Federal Reserve.

Also unanimously approved was \$9 million in itemized bills as well as an \$89,075 project at Streamwood's Ridge Circle Elementary School.

The project is asbestos abatement concerning a domestic water piping replacement. The project will be funded through the operations and maintenance fund, and the work will be done by Universal Asbestos Removal.



Winter blanket

While thawing temperatures are forecast for this week, they will be the first in quite some time. As a result, snow levels have remained high and much of the village has taken on the appearance of a winter wonderland.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

Next school year calendar released, set for Dist. U-46 vote

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 has released its proposed calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.

The calendar was presented to the Board of Education at its Monday, Feb. 22 meeting which was hybrid, some board members in-person and some virtual due to COVID-19 regulations. A vote could take place at its upcoming March 1 meeting.

The first day of classes is set for Monday, Aug. 16, a week later on Aug. 23 for pre-school, and the last day is scheduled for Tuesday, May 31. High school graduation is scheduled for Saturday, May 28 while the

calendar includes 176 total instructional days, 184 teacher attendance days.

Thanksgiving break would be three days, starting on Wednesday, Nov. 24. Christmas break would run from Dec. 20 through Jan. 3, and spring break from March 28 through April 1.

Also presented for March 1 votes were \$3.1 million in expenditure items.

Costing \$2.3 million, the district is asking to replace Chromebooks through CDW Government which would be paid through the education fund if approved.

"The 6,220 new Chromebooks will replace four and five-year-old devices that have met their life expectancy for updates to their operating systems for security purposes," the proposal states. "The Chromebooks are moved from school to home on a daily basis which takes a toll on the devices. Not only will the new Chromebooks receive security updates, but they will also have updated operating systems and a life span of five years."

The Chromebooks would include three-year device and battery warranties.

U-46 is asking for \$722,500 (opera-

tions and maintenance fund) with FH Paschen, SN Nielsen and Associates for a lintel and window replacement project at Elgin's Ellis Middle School.

With Trico Mechanical Services, U-46 is seeking \$126,890 (operations and maintenance fund) for a project at the transportation building.

"The make up air unit for the paint booth at the Transportation building needs to be replaced," the proposal states. "Plant Operations could not source the parts needed for repair due to the age of the equipment. As a result, the unit is currently inoperable."

Police Reports

STREAMWOOD

None received.

- ### BARTLETT
- Sunday, Feb. 14**
- ★ At 10:36 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of Oak for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 11:40 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of Western for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 6:14 p.m., police responded to the 1300 block of Summersweet for a report of a verbal domestic.
 - ★ At 9:52 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Hillcrest for a report of a verbal domestic.
- Monday, Feb. 15**
- ★ At 4:26 a.m., police responded to the 700 block of Coral for an ongoing neighbor dispute.
 - ★ At 11:31 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of North and Prospect for a request for motorist assistance for a vehicle stuck in a snowbank. A tow was summoned.
 - ★ At 12:14 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Jervey for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 12:57 p.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Sandpiper for a re-

- port of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
- ★ At 1:05 p.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Sandpiper for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
- Tuesday, Feb. 16**
- ★ At 10:43 a.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Appletree for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle. Complainant advised unknown offender(s) had entered his unlocked vehicle during the night and stolen a sub-woofer and amplifier. Estimated loss \$500 to \$600.
 - ★ At 11:06 a.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Horizon for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 11:56 a.m., in the vicinity of Lake and Red Oak, a 17-year old female subject, of the 1100 block of Souders, Elburn, was arrested for aggravated speeding. She was released at the scene on an I-bond with a March 30 court date.
 - ★ At 12:29 p.m., police responded to the 1500 block of Derby for a neighbor dispute.
 - ★ At 1:25 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Tamarack for a report of a verbal domestic.
 - ★ At 4 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Bryn Mawr for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal

- information.
- ★ At 4:31 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of First for a report of a car fire.
 - ★ At 5:23 p.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Independence for a report of possible identity theft.
 - ★ At 8:47 p.m., police responded to 100 block of Second for a report of a verbal domestic.
 - ★ At 10:29 p.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Pinetree for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle. Complainant advised unknown offender(s) had rummaged through her vehicle and apparently stolen her registration.
- Wednesday, Feb. 17**
- ★ At 11:08 a.m., police responded to the 500 block of Nicole for a report of a suspicious email.
 - ★ At 11:33 a.m., police responded to 1000 block of Westridge for a report of fraud. Complainant advised unknown offender(s) have been withdrawing money from his savings account.
 - ★ At 1:54 p.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Sausalito for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 2:24 p.m., in the vicinity of Illinois Route 59 and Pebble Beach, Jose R. Ruiz, 41, of the 300 block of North Gifford, Elgin, was arrested for aggravated speeding. He was released on an I-bond with a March 26 court date.
 - ★ At 9:04 p.m., police responded to the 500 block of Valleyview for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information. Complainant also reported receiving a debit card.
 - ★ At 10:43 p.m., in the vicinity of Illinois Route 59 and West Bartlett Road, Joseph A. Rodriguez, 18, of the 0 block of Longwood, Elgin, was arrested for no valid drivers license. He was released on an I-bond with a March 17 court date.
- Thursday, Feb. 18**
- ★ At 10:19 a.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Lynfield for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 11:08 a.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Trillium for a report of fraudulent purchases made using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 11:39 a., police responded to the 400 block of Woodhollow for a report of a possible phone scam.
 - ★ At 1:24 p.m., police responded to the 700 block of Red Bud for a report of fraudulent charges made on complainant's bank account.
- Friday, Feb. 19**
- ★ At 8:37 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of Rita for a report of a verbal domestic. The parties were separated and peace restored.
 - ★ At 12:06 p.m., police responded to the 400 block of Blue Heron for a report of a verbal domestic. The parties were separated and peace restored.
 - ★ At 3:50 p.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Sausalito for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
- Saturday, Feb. 20**
- ★ At 8:49 a.m., in the vicinity of Lake Street and Illinois Route 59, Eric Berrum, 20, of the 0 block of East Oltendorf, Streamwood, was arrested for driving while license suspended. He was released on an I-bond with a March 26 court date. No additional information was available.
 - ★ At 10:16 a.m., police responded to the 400 block of Smoketree for a report of a fraudulent unemployment claim being filed using complainant's personal information.
 - ★ At 11:53 a.m., in the vicinity of West

- Stearns and Munger, Joel Olivas, 18, of the 100 block of Downer, Aurora, was arrested for aggravated speeding. He was released on an I-bond with an April 12 court date.
- ### CAROL STREAM
- Thursday, Feb. 4**
- ★ At 10:59 p.m., in the vicinity of Merbach and Basswood, Samuel A. Vilardo, 24, of the 200 block of Klein Creek, was arrested for DUI-drugs, leaving the scene of an accident involving damage to an attended vehicle, no insurance, driving too fast for conditions or failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Vilardo was processed per department procedures and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.
- Friday, Feb. 5**
- ★ At 5:05 a.m., police responded to 666 Adobe. Alejandro Mendez, 22, of the 700 block of Lincoln, West Chicago, was arrested for the manufacture or delivery of cannabis between 30 and 500 grams, possession of a controlled substance and possession of between 30 and 100 grams cannabis. Salvador Mendez, 30, of the Adobe address, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance. Both were transported to DuPage County Jail.
 - ★ At 7:15 p.m., in the vicinity of Illinois Route 59 and North, West Chicago, Gisell Silva, 23, of the 1600 block of Orchard, West Chicago, was arrested for aggravated fleeing and eluding, driving while license suspended, reckless driving, fleeing and eluding, speeding, improper lighting, improper lane usage, transportation or possession of open alcohol by a driver and a failure to appear warrant for driving while license suspended. Silva was transported to DuPage County Jail.
- Saturday, Feb. 13**
- ★ At 1:05 a.m., in the vicinity of North and Gary, Elizabeth A. Knapcik, 29, of the 300 block of North Princeton, Villa Park, was arrested for possession of cannabis by a passenger. Knapcik was processed per department procedures and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.
 - ★ At 2:28 a.m., police responded to 100 W. Geneva Road, Wheaton. Peyton S. Seidler, 24, of the 500 block of East Gunderson, was arrested for DUI, DUI-BAC>.08, no insurance, driving too fast for conditions, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and possession of open alcohol by a driver. Seidler was processed per department procedures and later posted bond and was released with an unspecified court date.

Tough hoops week for shorthanded Sabres girls

By Seth Hancock

A shorthanded Streamwood girls basketball team struggled in a pair of Upstate Eight Conference losses.

The Sabres opened the week with a 66-22 loss to Bartlett on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at Bartlett. Sariah Dixon (10 points, six rebounds) and Sayuri Ishikawa (seven points, six rebounds) led the effort.

Against Glenbard East, Streamwood fell 63-25 on Friday, Feb. 19 at Streamwood. The Sabres, already replacing four starters who graduated last year, were missing two of this year's starters this week.

"Right now, it's a little bit tough," said Streamwood coach George Rosner. "We don't have everybody, so we're kind of scrambling with the lineup. Today, we had a (5-foot-6) freshman to play basically a post player. It makes it a little difficult to say the least."

Outside of a 2-0 lead, the Sabres nev-

er led after Glenbard East went on a 10-1 run. Still, Streamwood was competitive through the first half as it entered the break down 32-30.

The second half, Streamwood was outscored 31-5 including a 20-0 third quarter as it trailed 52-20 entering the final period.

"I thought we hung in there, for the most part, in the first half, and they just wore us down," Rosner said. "I thought we played pretty well in the first half, not too well in the second half."

Ishikawa led the effort with 12 points off of four three-pointers. Jamia Gatlin added four points and Nicole Barce-nas a trey.

Streamwood, now 1-3 overall and 1-2 in the UEC, ended the week with a 52-26 nonconference loss to DeKalb on Saturday, Feb. 20 at DeKalb.

"I think as we get everybody back, we will be pretty decent," Rosner said. "Right now, it's a struggle."



KELLEY, KELLEY & KELLEY

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law

www.kelleykelleykelley.com

1535 West Schaumburg Road, Suite 204
Heritage Bank Building • Schaumburg
847-895-9151



WILLIAM F. KELLEY
MATTHEW X. KELLEY
SCOTT C. ZAMBO—Associate

- Corporate • Real Estate
- Estate Planning • Probate • Tax
- Commercial & Business Transactions
- Intellectual Property • Traffic
- Bankruptcy • Litigation
- Personal Injury • Divorce

The Examiner

Published every Wednesday at:
4N781 Gerber Road, Bartlett, Illinois 60103

With additional offices in
South Elgin and Streamwood



Randall Petrik • President & Publisher
Bruce Leighty • Editor

News and Ads call (630) 830-4145
news@examinerpublications.com
www.examinerpublications.com
Single copy price 50¢.

Internet subscription rate \$24 per year.
For circulation call Sharon (630) 830-4145
Or email to stkids@examinerpublications.com
©2021 Examiner Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Pet of the Week



Bonded pair available

Zelda and Teeny Tiny are new to the adoption room and would love to have a virtual meet and greet scheduled. These two young bonded gals have lived happily with dogs and would do well in any type of family. Zelda, the Siamese mix, is 4 years old. She is especially playful. Teeny Tiny is a 2-year-old tabby. All those interested may get the adoption process started by completing an adoption application at bit.ly/OurAdoptables and a staff member will reach out to schedule a time for a meet and greet.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

Sabres boys hoops fall to Hawks, then win two

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys basketball team connected from long range but struggled to make the big plays and defend as the Sabres dropped a 79-68 Upstate Eight Conference game against Bartlett on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at Streamwood.

The game was back and forth for nearly three quarters with six lead changes, and the Sabres led 51-48 late in the third. Bartlett, however, finished the frame on a 13-4 run to take a 61-55 lead into the final period which it wouldn't relinquish.

"It was frustrating," said Streamwood coach Kent Payne. "It's kind of our Achilles heel, we don't make stops defensively and we don't make plays offensively. It's kind of been our story of the season. We don't get stops, and we can't make big plays."

Bartlett hit three straight three-pointers to open the game for a 9-0 lead, but

the Sabres countered with treys of their own winning the battle behind the arc 14 to 11. Jakobe Strong led Streamwood with 18 points, including two threes, while Cristian Calderon (15 points) hit four treys, Zachary Marquez (15 points) three and both Darrel Luce (10 points) and Richard Santiago (six points) two.

Despite that, Streamwood struggled to consistently connect on some open looks.

"We just haven't shot or played consistently all season," Payne said. "It's no mystery that we don't have that person or group that's consistently making big plays."

The Sabres did follow up with a pair of road wins to improve to 3-5 overall, 2-1 in the UEC. Streamwood defeated Glenbard East 79-72 in an UEC contest on Friday, Feb. 19 and Huntley 71-62 in a nonconference game on Saturday, Feb. 20.

Smoke, fire strike village home, damage estimated at \$50,000

According to the Streamwood Fire Department, at 8 p.m., Monday, Feb. 22, the department responded to a report of smoke in a house in the 100 block of Augusta Drive. Upon arrival, Engine 31 personnel reported light smoke visible inside a two-story home and proceeded to investigate.

Upon reaching the second floor firefighters encountered heavy smoke and heat as they searched for the fire. Fire companies utilized one hand line to extinguish a fire in the master bathroom. Occupants were in the building

when the fire was discovered and successfully evacuated prior to the arrival of firefighters. Firefighters located one cat in the building and removed it to safety.

Bartlett, East Dundee, Elgin, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg firefighters assisted at the scene. Bloomingdale and Fox River fire personnel covered Streamwood stations during the incident.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined. Damage is estimated at \$50,000



Sutton Road Animal Hospital

Serving Our Community For Over 45 Years
Providing Comprehensive Pet Care for Dogs & Cats

10 Southwicke Drive
Streamwood
www.suttonroadah.com
847-742-8298

Find us on    

JOB OPPORTUNITY

We are seeking an associate for cleaning/stocking/facility maintenance. Looking for a self starter, able to lift 50 lbs. 12-15 hours/week, late afternoon/early evening hours on some weekdays, and Saturdays 8am-1pm. Perfect for a student or retiree.

Please call for more information, or submit resume to suttonroadah@sbcglobal.net



Select IDNR reservation systems to be offline through Feb. 28

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has announced that point-of-sale license and permit systems and online license, permit, campground reservation and registration services will be offline from Tuesday, Feb. 23 through Sunday, Feb. 28 as part of the transition to a new system that is scheduled to begin operation in March.

The shutdown is necessary for data and operating systems to be updated for implementation of new enhanced

IDNR online and point-of-sale services to begin March 1.

Outdoor recreation enthusiasts are reminded that the IDNR will begin the sale of 2021 Illinois hunting, fishing, and sportsman combination licenses on March 1. All 2020 hunting, fishing and combination licenses are valid through March 31.

For updated information, check the IDNR website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Pages/default.aspx>.

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.



We Cancel Timeshares for You

Many people believe their timeshares cannot be canceled, but they often can be. Our founder and CEO, Chuck McDowell, has successfully fought in federal court for the right to help timeshare owners — like you — out of their "binding" agreements. Whether you were misled or pressured, you may have an easy exit.

How Does the Cancellation Process Work?

- Start with a FREE consultation to discuss your needs.
- If we see that the circumstances of your agreement qualify you to exit the time share, you'll be assigned a specialist to walk you through gathering documentation.
- Our Resolution Department then works quickly to have your timeshare and related fees permanently terminated.

We are able to help most timeshare owners that contact us. You could be one phone call away from complete peace of mind.



Get your free information kit and see if you qualify:

888-919-1525



Back door tax increase on businesses

Dear Editor,

Illinois Gov. Jay Robert "J. B." Pritzker, whose proposed graduated state income tax proposal and proposed state income tax increase were beaten back by taxpayers, now proposes a back-door tax increase on Illinois businesses.

The corrupt and incompetent Pritzker just doesn't give up. Now he is pushing his Democrat thugs in the Illinois General Assembly to sock it to Illinois businesses with a huge tax increase disguised as an end to "corporate loopholes." A particular egregious idea is the elimination of the single sales factor in assessing Illinois income tax. This proposal increases taxes on Illinois-based businesses at a time the state's businesses are struggling just to survive.

Pritzker proposes to end the retail discount, which partially reimburses store owners for administering and collecting sales tax on behalf of the state. He claims this change would only impact "big" re-

tailers, but he is trying to mislead smaller retailers into believing they won't be affected.

Illinois, as a state worth living in, is at the brink. Unless Pritzker and his minions in the General Assembly change course and cut taxes instead of raising them, more Illinois companies will flee the state, and those that can't will go under.

We urge Illinois taxpayers to write to their representatives in the general assembly and demand immediate tax relief.

Jim Tobin, economist and president
Taxpayers United of Illinois

Veterans... Thank You

for your Service & Sacrifice