

Press Clippings 04/01/20

---The Courier-News---04/01/2020

City committee urging Elgin residents to be ‘counted’ by Census Day

By: Rafael Guerrero



The Elgin Census Committee is making a big push to get people to complete the 2020 Census by Wednesday, which is Census Day. (Courier-News)

More than 37% of Elgin residents had completed the 2020 U.S. Census as of Sunday, on par with the state's overall response rate, according to census data.

But the Elgin Census Committee wants those numbers to be higher. In an effort to boost participation and remind residents to complete the Census online, via mail or by phone, the committee is making a push to get residents counted by Wednesday, also known as Census Day.

While technically the federal government has extended the self-response deadline to Aug. 14 in light of the coronavirus pandemic, the committee wants to keep the issue front and center in order to get as many people to participate as possible.

“Our efforts have been centered on reaching out and bringing in — creating events and encouraging large audiences,” a letter sent to committee members said. “That was then. This is now. Things have changed rapidly, but our mission remains the same. The census is safe, simple, significant — and maybe even more significant as we all see the growing need for federal funding.”

As of last week, the response rate was about average, “but come on, we can do better,” said Denise Raleigh, a census committee member and division chief of public relations for the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin.

The committee's goal in 2020 is to surpass the 79% response rate reported in 2010.

“Who can blame (people for not completing the questionnaire)? There's been a lot on people's minds,” Raleigh said of the response rates so far. “But since you are home, we hope (they) do fill it out.”

Elgin's committee is composed of 80 public, nonprofit and private organizations and businesses, including the city of Elgin, Gail Borden Public Library, School District U-46 and Centro de Informacion.

Raleigh said committee members plan to post social media messages Wednesday to get the word out. The posts are intended to share the importance of completing the questionnaire, especially its role in determining how much a community will get in federal funding, she said.

With so many locations now closed to slow the coronavirus spread, including places of worship, some avenues the committee had been using to educate residents on the census' importance are no longer available, Raleigh said.

One of the things they're doing now is purchasing phone bank lists so they can call residents directly, particularly those in the Latino community, she said.

"We're grateful for our census grants (because) both of our people paid for by the grants are bilingual," she said. "We think that will help in the phone banking."

According to census data, Elgin's count is lower than that of Kane County, where 41% of all residents had completed the questionnaire online, by phone or by mail.

Police Reports

SOUTH ELGIN

No police reports were not made available by the South Elgin Police Department this week.

BARTLETT

Sunday, March 22

- ★ At 2:06 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of East Railroad for a report of a train throwing a wheel. The pedestrian crossing showed excessive damage. Metra was contacted.
- ★ At 3 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of South Prospect for a report of a domestic in progress. The officer spoke to the parties involved and was able to restore peace.
- ★ At 4:40 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Hillcrest for a report of a possible fraud. Complainant advised he had ordered and paid for an

Xbox, but never received it. Estimated loss \$200.

Monday, March 23

- ★ At 7:52 a.m., police responded to an unspecified address for a child custody dispute.

Tuesday, March 24

- ★ At 8:36 a.m., police responded to an unspecified location for a report of a suspicious incident. Complainant advised she heard people in the house. The officer investigated with negative results.
- ★ At 4:36 p.m., police responded to an unspecified location for a report of harassment.
- ★ At 7:03 p.m., in the vicinity of Illinois Route 20 and Oak, Joshua O. Johnson, 32, of the 300 block of Fairview, North Aurora, was arrested for two counts of aggravated DUI, failure to reduce speed to avoid a col-

lision, driving while license revoked and disobeying a traffic control device. He was processed according to

department procedure and then transported to the Cook County Courthouse for a bond hearing.

Curriculum proposal up for vote in U-46

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education is expected to vote on a secondary science electives curriculum proposal at its next scheduled meeting on Monday, April 6. The item was presented on March 16.

Little information, like estimated costs, were provided publicly while there was no formal presentation or board discussion.

The meeting was held electronically with all board members calling in, board member Donna Smith was absent, as a precaution to COVID-19. U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders and Miguel Rodriguez, chief legal officer, were the only ones present in the board room.

Sanders told all other administrators to “stay home for this meeting.”

“Typically, you would be able to address the full team of teachers and the coordinator” who developed the proposal, Sanders said. He said the proposal includes “new frameworks, rubrics and online access resources for multiple elective science courses.”

The only public information provided on the agenda item were answers to questions board member Melissa Owens submitted prior to the meeting. Debbie McMullen, coordinator of K-12 science and planetarium, provided answers in a memo.

Asked how the courses align with the career and educational pathways model and if they’ll be available at all five high schools, McMullen wrote: “All of these courses will be on the registration sheets for each of the comprehensive high schools. These courses will also be utilized as we build out our pathways to provide our students well-rounded exposure to scientific thinking. Some of these courses may become requirements of specific pathways.” Owens wrote that the proposal elim-

inates honors physics as it is similar to Advanced Placement (AP) physics. She asked how the courses are different between AP, honors and regular classes including biology and chemistry as well.

All three are similar, according to McMullen, in that they incorporate three dimensional learning which include “eight science and engineering practices, seven crosscutting concepts and hundreds of disciplinary core ideas.” “The Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCI) is the distinct scientific content we want to expose students to,” McMullen added. “When we create our summative assessment and rubrics regardless of the level a student must provide evidence in all three dimensions to earn a 3 (proficient).”

Owens asked about professional development (PD) and if there were any conflicts between Standards Based Learning and Assessments (SBLA) and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

McMullen said the science office educates administrators, parents, students and teachers. There are two instructional coaches available to teachers along with PD programs including web based PD including two SBLA online courses and virtual meet ups while there is also administrative PD.

“Very few of our teachers, administrators, or parents experienced learning science in this way,” McMullen said.

Asked how long it would take for full implementation of resources with fidelity and how it will be tracked, McMullen stated full fidelity is “our absolute goal” and “this year will be common assessment and resource focused and then next year we will expand to unit planning and instructional practices.” She said quantitative and reflective data will be tracked.

District U-46, like most on hold due to coronavirus

By Seth Hancock

From graduation ceremonies to testing, there are a lot of changes and unknowns across the state and in School District U-46 as the Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s shelter in place orders remain in effect over COVID-19.

Currently, the order is in place until April 7 meaning schools are tentatively set to open on Wednesday, April 8, but Pritzker has said “nothing is set in stone.”

For U-46, last week was spring break while students will be starting a larger scale version of distance, or online, learning this week.

“I hope that you are finding some moments of peace and happiness amid this historic time in our lives,” wrote U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders in one of several messages last week. He later added: “Please practice strict social distancing and hand washing guidelines. Stay home when sick, and assume everyone you contact has COVID-19.”

For seniors hoping to don their caps and gowns at graduation or attend proms, there remains some uncertainty according to Sanders in a March 23 statement.

“No decisions have been made yet on cancelling any of those activities or planning alternative events,” Sanders wrote. “We will keep all high school families updated on any new developments and plans as well as information on all the timeline or decisions regarding earning various credentials, certification and potential college credit through the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Our decisions will be based on guidance provided by Governor Pritzker and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).”

The state has cancelled all required state testing, like the Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Sanders stated on March 25 that the state sought a waiver from the requirement and the federal government gave an initial approval, and on March 27 the ISBE announced that Pritzker signed an executive order to officially suspend the tests.

The SAT, taken by juniors, is a college entrance exam, and Sanders wrote: “In collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education and The College Board, we are examining how we might provide the SAT to all juniors when they are seniors next year.”

Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent for secondary schools, announced on March 25 that the College Board is offering support and resources regarding AP exams at col-

legeboard.org. Online exams are expected to be offered and students who had registered for an AP exam can cancel with no cost, and Majstorovic stated an update on AP exams will be released on Friday, April 3 by the College Board.

The district’s new after-school program to be offered through Right at School starting in the 2020-2021 school year had planned to hold a parent forum before the shutdown and will now host virtual meetings in April. The district stated parents can call 1-855-287-2466 to learn more about the program.

Sanders noted that under the district’s safety and emergency operations plans, U-46 facilities could be used by state and local agencies in an emergency.

“This is not a new plan of action but something we have developed over time in collaboration with county health departments,” Sanders wrote. “We hope that it does not come to that but we will be here to support our community needs, however possible.”

U-46 continued providing taxpayer funded prepackaged meals (breakfasts, lunches, dinners, snacks) last week and has dates scheduled to continue doing so through at least Thursday, April 9.

Sanders announced that 39,000 meals were handed out on March 23, 45,936 meals and 15,312 snacks on March 25 and 45,240 meals and 15,080 snacks on March 30.

“Our food and technology distribution are among the essential activities allowed under the Governor’s shelter-in-place order,” Sanders wrote. He added: “A reminder that while schools are closed, our U-46 Food and Nutrition Department is providing free meals to all children 18 and under packaged to take home. A breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack will be ready to take and go. No paperwork is required for meals - just visit one of 26 pick-up locations most convenient for your family.”

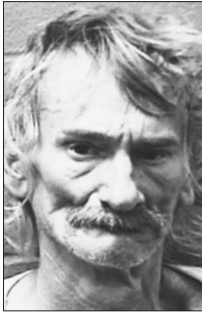
Sanders noted that “parents/guardians do not need to have their children with them” to pick up the meals.

Additionally, the district’s educational foundation has started a fundraiser online according to Sanders who added: “The Foundation will add care kits filled with soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry and dish detergent, and other household products, to the District’s meal distribution sites in an effort to keep households running during this pandemic.”

Elgin man arrested on arson, battery, assault charges

According to Kane County State’s Attorney Joe McMahon, his office has charged David E. Bruce, 58, of the 1-99 block of North Jane Drive, Elgin with the offenses of aggravated arson (Class X felony), aggravated battery (Class 2 felony), aggravated assault of a peace officer (Class 4 felony) and criminal damage to property (Class 4 felony).

Kane County prosecutors allege that at about 4:45 a.m., Wednesday, March 25, Bruce entered a business in the 400 block of South McLean Boulevard, Elgin, and set numerous products on fire using a canned flammable fuel additive. Police arrived and immediately extinguished the fire. An officer then walked out of the business and attempted to speak to Bruce, who sprayed a flammable liquid in his face and eyes. Bruce then pulled a can of spray paint from his coat pocket and threw it at the officer, striking him in the shin. Another officer arrived in a marked police vehicle and ordered



David E. Bruce

Bruce to get on the ground. Bruce refused, approached the police car, sprayed the flammable liquid on the hood and attempted to set it on fire. The officers then placed Bruce under arrest. The officer who was sprayed was treated at a hospital for exposure to the flammable liquid to his face and eyes, and then released.

The case remains under investigation. Anyone with information should call Elgin police at 847-289-2600.

On Thursday, March 26, Bruce appeared in Kane County bond court where Kane County Associate Judge Julio Cesar Valdez set his bail at \$100,000, with 10 percent (\$10,000) to apply for bond. Bruce’s next court appearance was set for 9 a.m. April 30, in Courtroom 311 at the Kane County Judicial Center.

The charges against Bruce are not proof of guilt. Bruce is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state’s burden to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

U-46 coaches hopeful while waiting to resume

By Seth Hancock

It's not uncommon for spring sports coaches to have to scramble to find makeup dates for games as weather, especially early in the season, often forces a multitude of cancellations.

However, it's not cold weather or rain and snow shutting athletics down this year, it's COVID-19, a foreign-born strain of the coronavirus which originated in Wuhan, China.

"It's crazy, not only from the sports aspect but also we're not able to go out to a restaurant or catch a movie," said Streamwood baseball coach Dan Jennings. "I'm used to the weather not always cooperating, but this is much different. It's weird to think that just a couple weeks ago we were out on the field getting ready. Obviously, the wellbeing of us as a country and really globally, this is what we have to do but it's just weird."

"This is something much different than we've ever had to deal with before," said Bartlett coach Vince Revak. "Now, we have a spring where the weather seems very compatible for playing, and we get hit with a virus."

The IHSA currently states April 8 is the "target date" for games and practices to start up after Gov. J.B. Pritzker's most recent pronouncement ordering all schools, public and private, and large swaths of the private sector to be shutdown over the panic, but the situation remains fluid with little to no standards being given on when things can open up again. Originally, the date for a return to more normalcy was

March 31.

Prior to the governor's first edict, the IHSA made a decision on its own to cancel the remainder of the winter season cutting tournaments short. St. Charles North's boys basketball team was one of the victims of that decision as it advanced to the sectional finals and held a program best 24-9 record.

"This is bigger than basketball and we all have to respect the decision to do what is best for us all," North coach Tom Poulin said at the time. "As far as basketball goes, it's heartbreaking to think that our guys can't continue in the tournament."

The fate of spring sports is still up in the air. Some coaches are remaining fully optimistic that a season, albeit likely shortened, will take place, but others express at least a tinge of pessimism.

When speaking to Glenbard North baseball coach Rich Smelko for his team's preview, he said "I'll be honest, I hope we have a season right now," but Panthers volleyball coach Dedra DeBenedetti was fully optimistic saying her team is "looking forward to having a 2020 season." South Elgin volleyball coach Adam Plach said: "We honestly don't know what this season will look like if it even happens."

For Jennings and Revak, both are generally remaining positive on the fate of the season.

"I am, and the reason I say that is we're getting a lot of updates," Jennings said when asked if he thinks there will be season. He said he gets

constant updates from the school district and individual schools as well as from the IHSA which he said has suggested the possibility of allowing a few extra weeks of competition through the summer.

Revak said he's "cautiously optimistic" but did note the fluidity as Chicago Public School District has already closed schools through April 28 on its own. He said he hopes the season does take place especially for seniors, and he said he's in communication with his players and coaches through email and phone calls and he's encouraging them to stay in shape on their own to prepare for the season.

"When the news first came out, a lot of the girls were really bummed we weren't going to get to play, at least not for a while," Revak said. "We talk to the team and they know how I and coach (Anthony) Glorioso feel about the situation. Priority number one is to stay safe and stay healthy, and priority number two is to stay positive and stay in shape and ready for the

season because we could start school up and we're playing that day, just like that."

Revak added: "I think the important thing for all athletes to remember is that through all of these current restrictions, there's nothing stopping you from working out on your own. You can still go outside and run some laps, and important for soccer is to just get some touches on some balls."

Jennings is a teacher in Huntley while he is entering his first season coaching Streamwood's baseball team. He said he's "communicating almost daily" with the players through social media, email and phone. Jennings has already been able to get to know the players pretty well as he started open gyms prior to Thanksgiving.

"As a new coach, it really was about developing those relationships early," Jennings said. "We had about two weeks of this season in with practices and tryouts before everything was shut down, so I'm glad I've been able to do that so far at least."

More distance learning phasing in at Dist. U-46

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 has started its second phase of distance learning, or online learning, on Tuesday, March 31.

The distance learning is expected to take place until schools are allowed to reopen after Gov. J.B. Pritzker's orders to shut them down through at least April 7 due to the coronavirus.

Classes are still tentatively set to return Wednesday, April 8, but things remain uncertain as no standards have been given to the public of when the shutdown will be lifted ever since Pritzker's first edict to close on March 13. The original shutdown order was through March 30 before an extension was placed on March 20.

The first phase of distance learning took place during the first week of the shutdown which included just suggested educational activities, but the second phase will include teacher lesson plans along with attendance taking and grading.

Superintendent Tony Sanders called distance learning "an entirely online approach to education that our team has developed over the past two weeks" in a statement on Saturday, March 28.

"The way we learn, study and teach will look and feel different than our usual school days," Sanders wrote. "Our 350 school buses will remain huddled in place on Shales Parkway. Our principals, teachers and staff members will be opening laptops rather than school doors and students will be logging on and entering portals rather than actual classrooms. I urge us all to remain patient with ourselves and each other as we navigate this new experience."

Lesson plans will be created by teachers who have had online professional development opportunities over the weekend and through Monday, March 30. Lessons will be taught through various platforms, like Google Classroom, that have been approved by the Illinois State Board of Education, and lessons could include audio and video interaction between teachers and students.

Parents had an opportunity to opt their children out of using the platforms by submitting a form prior to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1. Teachers were expected to send communications by the first day of the second phase to parents and students to describe the lesson and assignment plans, and Sanders wrote that "practices will evolve as they learn what

works best for their students."

Sanders wrote that teachers "may take attendance," and a student absence should be reported by a parent via an online reporting tool before 10 a.m. each day.

"Teachers will have the ability to modify attendance records from present to absent (or vice versa) at the end of the day based on whether a student has met the engagement criteria as defined," Sanders wrote. He added that updates will come as grading standards are put in place.

The district has already gone to one-to-one technology for students fifth grade and up, each receiving a Chromebook, while it has been issuing technology to students in fourth grade and younger as the distance learning continues.

On Wednesday, March 25, Sanders wrote that around 2,600 Chromebooks were distributed at 20 elementary schools with plans to cover the remaining 20 elementary schools later that week. In the March 28 statement, he stated that an estimated 3,900 Chromebooks were purchased via an emergency order when the shutdown began.

If families are experiencing hardware issues, the district is proving repair services by appointment only.

"This service is not for personal devices and we ask that families start their troubleshooting with the directions and resources under our COVID site before seeking an appointment," Sanders wrote.

More information regarding distance learning can be found at [u-46.org/learning](https://u46.org/learning).

Various proposals slated for U-46 board vote

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education is expected to vote on nine bids and proposals totaling \$6 million at its upcoming meeting on Monday, April 8. The items, which were presented on March 16, were part of over \$6.1 million in total expenditure proposals.

The March 16 meeting was held electronically with all board members calling in, board member Donna Smith was absent, as a precaution to COVID-19. U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders and Miguel Rodriguez, chief legal officer, were the only ones present in the board room.

Much of the work being scheduled at buildings which will be voted on is scheduled to start in the coming weeks and months, and board member Melissa Owens asked if that work may need to be pushed back due to the shutdown over the virus.

Sanders said that "right now, everything we do is subject to potential changes as we move through this current emergency," but the summer work should take place "unless it requires 10 or more contractors at the same time to be on the site."

Included is a bid for a mechanical systems replacement project at Elgin's Harriet Gifford Elementary School at a cost of \$3.1 million which would come from the operations and maintenance fund if approved. The proposal states the "current cooling system cannot adequately keep up with the demands of the building. The aging steam boilers and window unit ventilators are also showing signs of atrophy and are no longer considered reliable."

A roof replacement project at Bartlett Elementary School has a price tag of \$946,200 (operations and maintenance fund). The proposal states its been over 30 years since the roof has been replaced.

A bid costing \$698,000 (operations and maintenance fund) would go to a ventilation system project at Elgin's Coleman Elementary School.

"Coleman Elementary does not currently have ventilation present in all of the hallways," the proposal states. "Some of the building additions have addressed this issue by adding HVAC in the new corridors. The original sections of the building, however, were never upgraded. Although this was not an uncommon practice in 1953 when Coleman was originally built, it does create concerns with proper airflow in the spaces that do not have ventilation."

A bid for a five-year contract with RSM US LLP will cost \$446,175 (education fund) for the district's annual financial audit. RSM is the current auditor in U-46, and the cost is down from \$510,175 over the last five years.

An HVAC project on the lower floor of Elgin's McKinley Elementary School will cost \$404,000 (operations and maintenance fund) with F.E. Moran, Inc., and the proposal states the "existing unit ventilators in the classrooms on the lower level... are mounted in a way that half of the units are above the ceiling grid and half of the units are beneath it. That placement allows condensation to get trapped within the ceiling grid. As a result, air flow is not evenly distributed and humidity issues have surfaced."

With Custom Education Solutions, Inc., the district wants to spend \$132,573 of national taxpayer dollars through Title III funds for the purpose of expanding the English language learners' library.

The district also wants to spend \$112,741 in Title III funds with LA Libreria for expansion of dual language libraries in elementary school classrooms.

Also, with Title III funds, the district wants to spend \$80,087 with Estrellita for dual language supplementary resources.

For oil and miscellaneous fluids for the transportation department, U-46 is asking for \$47,795 (transportation fund) to go to Al Warren Oil Co.

Letters

Continued from page 5

er financially. Also, this would help prevent significant damage to our local economy and assist taxpayers in need during this health crisis. The legislation only applies to property taxes for 2019 payable in 2020. The cost to the county of \$343,000 in lost revenue can be offset with funds currently available in the county's Property Tax Freeze Protection Fund. This fund currently has a balance of \$4,100,000.

If you have any questions about this proposed legislation, please contact me.

*David J. Rickert, CPA
Kane County Treasurer*

Trustees review various petitioner requests

By Frank Muisenga Jr.
Trustees discussed requests, for an alcoholic liquor dealers Class B-1 license and three permits (outdoor dining, late night and live entertainment) from Dee’s Place South Elgin, 558 Randall Road, at a committee of the whole meeting Monday, March 16.
“A new restaurant is proposed to be opened, and obviously part of that is getting a liquor license to serve liquor,” said Village Administrator Steve Super.
The license would allow for on-premise, retail sale of alcohol at a restaurant with general service bar, Super said. Trustees discuss a liquor license request to determine if an additional license is warranted. The Local Liquor Commission then considers approval at its meeting. Village board

consent is required to increase the number of liquor licenses. Currently, 12 Class B-1 licenses are active.
According to Super, the petitioner is also looking to have live blues or jazz music during dinner. The petitioner, Maurice Burks has indicated that the music would not be too loud. In the past, noise problems have been a concern at the location.
Trustee Lisa Guess asked, where would the outdoor dining be located?
Burks said an area in front of the building would be used as a patio, which would have about 10 tables.
Village President Steve Ward asked, what could be done if noise became a problem?
The late-night permit could be rescinded, Super said.
Trustee Mike Kolodziej asked, would

music only be indoors?
Burks said music would be outdoors for certain events.
Guess said she was still concerned about outdoor music since a late-night permit allows hours of operation until 2 a.m.

Super said the petitioner can work on the site plan and provide that to the board at a future meeting.
Trustees said they would consider providing a liquor license and permits as long as noise safeguards are seriously considered.

Village Board approves new well dehumidifier

By Frank Muisenga Jr.
The Village Board, at its meeting Monday, March 16, unanimously approved a \$30,400 dehumidifier purchase from Munters Corporation, Northbrook for Well No. 7, 1296 Spring St.,
“Asking your permission to purchase essentially the same thing we bought for Well 6 last year,” said Director of Public Works Mike Millette in presenting the proposal.
Millette said, the Fiscal Year 2020 budget included \$31,000 to replace the dehumidification system at the well. Equipment and materials are constantly exposed to wet and moist con-

ditions at well houses. They are prone to mildew and mold unless a functioning dehumidifier is placed at well locations.
“This seems to be the right size to keep humidity levels down in our well houses,” Millette said.
Through trial and error, staff selected Munters’ product due to optimized results, according to Millette. Factory direct prices were secured. Staff is scheduled to install the dehumidifier once the delivery is received. Estimated delivery is between eight to 10 weeks. The unit will replace a current dehumidifier at the well site that is no longer working properly.

Parks department truck approved for purchase

By, Frank Muisenga Jr.
Trustees, at the Monday, March 16 Village Board meeting, unanimously approved a purchase not to exceed \$41,787 for a 2020 Ford F-350 truck from Bob Ridings Fleet Sales, Taylorville, Illinois.
“This is to replace one of our dump trucks within the parks department,” said Director of Parks & Recreation Kim Wascher.
According to Wascher, the cost will be contained in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. The truck will be used year-round and for snow removal. Its cost came in under budget.
The 4x4, crew cab short-bed pickup truck’s cost included a snowplow, 18-

inch wheels, among other add ons, according to the order.
“It’s going to be outfitted with a cab that has seating in the back, so when we have our seasonal (employees), we can take [them] out to jobs,” Wascher said.
The vendor was selected using a state government pricing program, according to Wascher. The truck’s delivery is estimated in 90 to 120 days. A salt spreader will be added after delivery.
“Then we have another vehicle that can spread salt within our facility parking lots, and not just one, that we currently used,” Wascher said.
Trustee Lisa Guess said it is a decent price for what is included.

By Frank Muisenga Jr.
On Monday, March 16 at its meeting, the Village Board unanimously approved a resolution under the Illinois highway code that provides allocation of \$900,000 motor fuel tax funds (MFT). The funds will be devoted to the 2020 road construction and street maintenance program.
“Here’s our annual, routine use of MFT funds that we get from the state,” said Director of Public Works Mike Millette.
According to Millette, the resolution is a routine requirement to budget the funds allotted to the program. As of the capital budget workshop meeting on Feb. 24, the board reviewed the estimated MFT funds the village should receive for proposed road improvements in Fiscal Year 2021.

Ward wins primary nod in state senate seat race


By Seth Hancock
Jeanette Ward was chosen as the Republican standard-bearer in the 25th Illinois Senate District after defeating Beth Goncher by a 59.7 percent to 40.3 percent margin, 7,943 to 5,372 in total votes, in the primary election on Tuesday, March 17.
Ward, of West Chicago, will take on Democrat challenger Karina Villa, also of West Chicago, in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3 to replace Republican Senator Jim Oberweis who is vacating the seat to run for U.S. Congress in the 14th district which he won the primary for that same evening. Villa was unopposed in the Democrat primary.
The senate district includes portions of Cook, DuPage, Kane and Kendall counties and 18 towns.
“I’m very grateful for the voters, and I will do what I promised,” Ward said.
“I will fight for them, not the insiders in Springfield.”
Both candidates in the general election have been members of school boards, Ward in School District U-46 and Villa in West Chicago School District 33. Villa is currently in the Illinois House of Representatives in the 49th district.

everything, so you have to prioritize and those are my priorities,” Ward said. “My opponent’s priority is abortion on demand anytime, anywhere and for any reason and to make you pay for it. My priority is to promote a culture of life to make adoption more available, to offer alternatives to help a woman make the best decision. My opponent believes she knows what is best for you. I want you to be free to choose what you believe is best for you and your family.”
Ward added: “There’s a book I used to read to my girls when they were little. If you give a mouse a cookie, it will want a glass of milk. As we saw in this unfortunate crisis, if you give the Democrats power they will want to lock you down. If you want another democratic drone, vote for my opponent. If you want a distinct difference, then I ask for your vote.”
Goncher, of Aurora, has not made a public statement since the primary election. *The Examiner* reached out for her reaction on the results and asked if she plans to support Ward going forward, but she did not respond.

Experienced Storm netters hoping for 2020 season

By Seth Hancock
The spring sports season remains on hold for now, but the South Elgin boys volleyball team has a strong group returning from its 20-12 overall, 4-3 in the Upstate Eight Conference, team last year when and if the 2020 season begins.
Right now, the reaction to the COVID-19 has schools closed down until April 8, this a change from the original March 31 plan to reopen.
The Storm’s first currently scheduled game that could take place is a non-conference home contest against Glenbard North on Monday, April 13.
With the uncertainty of when school may restart, that makes the current goal for the Storm simple.
“As of right now, our goal would be to just be able to play,” said South El-

gin coach Adam Plach.
South Elgin lost just two seniors to graduation last year but had 10 juniors who are now seniors, including all-conference recipient Mandeep Sangha.
Other seniors included David Galanes, David Long, Christian Ayar, Anthony Viscuso, Adam DeGuzman, Daniel Skrzypchak, Eugene Gueco, Raul Correa and Manuel Figueroa.
We are returning most our team from last year. We graduated two players,” Plach said. “We have a couple sophomores on the team. Not sure how many will see the court.”
Plach added: “As far as key players, I will be looking to all of our seniors to be leaders on the team. For some of them, this is their third year on varsity.”



In compliance with the COVID-19 mandates from Gov. Pritzker and for the safety and health of customers and employees, we are temporarily cancelling all of our future events and closing our store until further notice. Thank you and stay safe.

The Management at State Street Market Shops, Elgin

701 N. State St. (Rt. 31) Elgin • 1 mile S. of I-90
847-695-3066
Tues-Sat 10-5, Thurs 10-8, Sun 11-5
www.statestreetmarketshopselgin.com

