

Press Clippings 10/1/2021

---Elgin Courier News---10/1/2021

Elgin News Digest: Fergus leaves U-46 community relations post for CPS job

By Mike Danahey

Mary Fergus has left her post as **School District U-46** director of school and community relations to become the new executive director of media relations for Chicago Public Schools.

Fergus was hired by U-46 in June 2015 after handling media relations for the Illinois State Board of Education from 2008 to 2015. Previously, she was a reporter for the Chicago Tribune and the Houston Chronicle.

Fergus, a Chicago native and parent of a Chicago Public School graduate, said she has been honored to work for U-46 and to be part of the district work being done to shift to an academic team program and promote equity efforts and strategic planning.

An interim director will be named as the district conducts a search for Fergus' successor.

---Daily Herald---10/1/2021

Bartlett's Centennial Elementary School students working to spread kindness

By Eric Peterson



Students and staff at Centennial Elementary School in Bartlett last week kicked off a kindness-based fundraising campaign called "Raise Craze" which they hope will inspire the generosity of other members of the community before the Oct. 8 deadline. *Courtesy of Carla Wood*

Though still feeling the regulatory impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in their classrooms, students, staff and parents at Centennial Elementary School in Bartlett are hoping that acts of kindness also can be infectious.

They currently are halfway through a kindness-focused fundraising campaign called "Raise Craze," which they hope will inspire the generosity of the wider community through Friday, Oct. 8.

Students of the Elgin Area District U-46 school took part in an "Acts of Kindness Kick-off" event last week, at which they collected donations for Anderson Pet Shelter, DuPage PADS, and the Hanover Township and DuPage County food banks.

They also completed individual acts of kindness by painting kindness rocks to hide around the community, writing thank-you letters to local veterans and making paper flowers for homebound seniors.

The school also partnered with Feed My Starving Children to give students the opportunity to volunteer in preparing meals that will reach hungry and malnourished children around the world.

Centennial Elementary's Parent Teacher Committee also hopes to raise \$15,000 specifically to support teacher and classroom assistance, supplemental educational programs and building upgrades.

Those in the community hoping to make a donation to Centennial Elementary School's efforts to spread kindness should visit the general donation link at my.raisecraze.com/give/az32ja8/.

---Daily Herald---10/1/2021

Girls golf: Barrington dominates field at South Elgin regional

Jake Bartelson for Shaw Media



South Elgin's Ila Fontaine putts during the Class 2A South Elgin Regional at the Highlands of Elgin Golf Course on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021. *Sandy Bressner/sbressner@shawmedia.com*

The entire Barrington girls golf team could sit rather comfortably as the remaining team and individual scores trickled in Thursday.

By midafternoon, with a few hours still to go to determine all who would advance from the Class 2A South Elgin Regional at the Highlands of Elgin Golf Club, Barrington, as a team, was a sparkling 4-under par 284.

St. Charles East and St. Charles North, who were the following two teams to send full lineups to sectionals next week, followed with team scores of 350 and 353.

A dominant day, indeed, for Barrington.

Barrington sophomores Leah Gaidos and Bridget Butler finished in the top two, respectively with rounds of 68 and 69. They were followed by Sophia Sulkar (73) and Mara Janess (74) for Barrington's counting scores.

"This is the lowest [team] score we ever had in a stroke play event like this," Barrington coach Tim Martin said. "It's amazing -- with two sophomores -- leading the top two scores. To leave the way like that, and as a team get 4-under, that's the best score we've had and I couldn't be more proud of them."

"Our depth is really key. From one to six, we've got six really strong players. Even some players not in the lineup, they're outstanding, too, so we're blessed with great depth. As you saw [Gaidos] today, she made four straight birdies on [holes] 13, 14, 15 and 16 just to move up the leaderboard. Bridget, what can you say about Bridget? She just hit the ball so well, so far today."

It's been a theme for Barrington to blaze its way through competitions as a team.

"I think the most impressive thing this year, as a team, we're always able to come together and put up some really nice scores," Gaidos said. "Over the year, it's been pretty consistent with us performing well as a team."

St. Charles North was paced by Catie Nekola's 73, followed by Aleksa Gizewicz's 79. Natalia Petruccu shot a 98 and Caitlin Scanlon a 103.

"We [Gizewicz and I] were kind of discussing this and we both said that we were struggling with putting," Nekola said. "Everything else was pretty good or at least OK. I think [putting is] something we both want to work on before sectionals."

"I've always struggled with the mental game, and I feel like this season, I have really become more positive on the course," Gizewicz said. "I really think that's why I'm doing so well right now and hopefully, I keep it going."

The Saints, who were just edged by the North Stars for the DuKane Conference title last week, were led by Allison Edgar's 79. Emily Charles (80), Abby Buechele (94) and Ella Tassone (97) contributed to the team score.

"We have a really deep team and everyone can have a good day, everyone can get hot," Edgar said. "I feel like there's not much difference between our two-six."

The 10 advancing individuals to sectionals were Dundee-Crown's Sonora Rodriguez (99), who prevailed in a playoff along with **South Elgin's Bella Hazelhorst** (99); Kaneland's Julia Skiba (97) and Katharine Marshall (85); **South Elgin's Ila Fontaine** (97); Batavia's Brooke Miara (96) and Amanda Naylor (96); Jacobs' Autumn Kovach (95); Burlington Central's Maya Gusciora (83) and Geneva's Reese Clark (76).