

## Press Clippings for 10/13/2022

### ---The Daily Herald---

Oct. 07, 2022

## Elgin developments would double traffic near Otter Creek Elementary School

By: James Fuller



**Residents who live just outside the southwest corner of Elgin are worried about the traffic impact of two potential residential developments. One of the projects calls for 280 new apartments. *Courtesy of the city of Elgin***

The second of two Elgin residential development projects that would double the traffic on the southwest side's Hopps Road faced opposition this week from longtime residents near **Otter Creek Elementary School**.

The project is known as the Seasons at Elgin. It would bring 280 new apartments to a 32-acre parcel near the southwest corner of Randall and Hopps roads.

Twenty-four acres of the development would be annexed into Elgin under the plan.

That's part of the problem.

Multiple neighbors told Elgin's planning and zoning commission this week that they chose to live in an unincorporated area to get away from the noise and traffic.

City officials estimate the Seasons at Elgin project would combine with another pending development of 130 townhouses right across Hopps Road, known as Avalon Trails, to create about 6,400 vehicles per day on Hopps Road.

That's twice the traffic volume nearby residents and **Otter Creek Elementary School** see on an average day.

Existing neighbors said the plans they've seen would double the number of people who live in the area now. And, they fear, that would intensify the problems on Randall Road, which they already view as "a death trap."

"I can't even imagine," said Janet Yagle. "It's a nightmare now, and we're going to turn it into a horror story. I understand development. I understand taxes. I don't understand putting such a burden on all the people that live on Hopps."

School officials have not expressed opposition to the projects.

Commissioners asked Senior Planner Damir Latinovic if city staff members were concerned about the density. Latinovic said residential density is precisely what the city wants in that area.

"What was more important to us was property site layout and the proper architecture, especially along Randall and Hopps," he said. "How many units are on the interior, it becomes less important because the more rooftops we have, the more density we provide, that is only going to attract more commercial development along Randall Road."

With that in mind, commissioners requested the completion of a traffic study in voting 5-1 to send the plan with a positive recommendation to the city council.

The Seasons at Elgin would have 14 two-story buildings with 20 apartments in each. There would be 28 studio apartments, 112 one-bedroom apartments, 112 two-bedroom apartments and 28 three-bedroom apartments.

Their size would range from 704 to 1,524 square feet, with rents ranging from \$1,400 to \$2,700 per month. The plan calls for 601 parking spaces.

There also would be a clubhouse with a 24-hour fitness center.

About 3 acres of the site would be reserved for possible future commercial development.

The Elgin City Council has the final say on whether the project moves forward.

## **---The Examiner---**

**Oct. 12, 2022**

### **Specialized services pact considered by U-46 board**

**By: Seth Hancock**

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** will vote on a \$69,251 contract with Easterseals of Metropolitan Chicago at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Oct. 24.

The item was presented at the Oct. 3 meeting. If approved, it would be paid for with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act grant funds.

The contract is for specialized student services providing coaching supports related to autism.

“Over the past 20 years, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) has rapidly become the fastest growing neurodevelopmental disability,” the proposal states. “During this timeframe, the national prevalence rate of Autism has grown from 1 in 150 children to 1 in 44. What started as a program with two classrooms (2006) has grown to one that encompasses over 30 classrooms spread across the U-46 district.”

The proposal added: “Instructional coaching as an approach for professional development has been shown to increase teacher attitude and student learning. Instructional coaching provides Evidence-Based Practices to increase classroom management, content planning, instruction, and assessment for learning. Instructional coaching is conducted with individual teachers, administrators, and support staff in their own classrooms and buildings. This type of coaching differs from other types of coaching because Easterseals’ instructional coaching will deliver hands-on focused inservices, workshops, and direct coaching/consulting services geared towards supporting teachers, administrators, and support staff on the implementation of Evidence-Based Practices for students with autism and related disorders.”

The supports will included 37 sessions (about four to five times a month from October through May) from a specialist coach which will take place at 10 schools in the district. It will also include three professional development sessions up to six hours.

## **---The Examiner---**

**Oct. 12, 2022**

### **Not all supportive of Dist. U-46’s pandemic actions**

**By: Seth Hancock**

Does the Board of Education in School District U-46 deserve praise for shutting down schools and following the dictates from the governor’s office during COVID?

State Rep. Anna Moeller (D-Elgin) thinks so, but the public may not. Moeller presented a certificate from the General Assembly to the board at its Sept. 26 meeting.

“I’m here simply to say thank you,” Moeller said. “We’ve just come out of a difficult couple of years... and I wanted to just take a moment to thank you.”

Moeller added: “All of you worked very hard to make the best decisions on behalf of our students and our teachers and the community, and I don’t think you get thanked often enough for the hard work that you do.”

**Sue Kerr**, the board’s president, said: “These last years have not been easy, and we’ve had to make decisions where there was often no good choice. And we knew we were going to make some group happy or some group unhappy, or everyone unhappy.”

The board patting itself on the back may seem a disconnect with the public with many opposed to remote learning.

At the same Aug. 26 meeting, the board approved a deficit budget that hiked spending by \$35.6 million (\$660.8 million to \$696.4 million) and revenue by \$28.2 million (\$662.3 million to \$690.5 million) while the trend of spending increases and enrollment declines reached eight straight years.

Seven public comments were made against that budget, including Tracy Smodilla who noted the Moeller presentation.

“I take exception to the praise being heaped upon the board by Representative Moeller.... You’re elected officials with a very specific fiduciary responsibility to the constituency,” Smodilla said.

Smodilla noted that proficiency scores continue to drop year after a year, a trend that has been ongoing long before COVID.

“This is just a trend that has many scratching their heads asking not just why but for how much longer they’ll put up with the profound lack of accountability from this board,” Smodilla said. “You’ve abdicated your duty and authority to the superintendent which has harkened calls for your resignation. This is the time for you to tell the administration to go back and sharpen their pencils. Taxpayers are no longer going to be held ransom for your lack of duty.”

## **---The Examiner---**

**Oct. 12, 2022**

### **Township teen center named in honor of Rosner**

**By: Seth Hancock**

The lower level of Hanover Township’s Izaak Walton Youth Center in Elgin is now the George Rosner Teen Center in recognition of Rosner, who retired after a 41-year varsity girls basketball coaching career from **Streamwood High School** at the end of the 2021-2022 season.

The township board approved of the recognition in March, and the dedication was made on Saturday, Oct. 8 in front of friends, family and community members with some traveling from as far as Florida.

Along with coaching, Rosner was a civics teacher at Streamwood for 33 years, retiring in 2012. As a teacher, he began Student Government Days in the early 1980s where students interacted and learned how local government worked at the village, park district and township.

“The dedication is in recognition of Mr. Rosner’s many years of service to Township youth through his work at **Streamwood High School** and with Hanover Township,” said Thomas Kuttenberg, the township’s director of community and government relations. “For many years, the township has participated in the high school’s Student Government Day, an initiative of Mr. Rosner’s to expose youth to public service and local government.”

Rosner said “it’s an honor that really came as a total surprise,” and he was happy to share the day with “a lot of different parts of my life here.”

The Student Government Day began with just 10 to 12 students participating the first year, Rosner recalled, to eventually around 100 by the 1990s. He said “there isn’t a school that does anything like that” with most maybe visiting a village for a period of class.

“As a teacher, for me it was so important, because I would tell them, ‘You’re never going to get away from government. Government is here today, it’s here tomorrow, it’s here forever. And you need to learn what’s making rules for you, and why they’re doing it,’” Rosner said.

Also important for Rosner was being bipartisan and allowing students to think for themselves. Admittedly, he did have a Ronald Reagan wall in honor of his favorite president, but he said: “I told them, ‘If you don’t like him, that’s fine.’”

During the presentation, it came with a little humor as Rosner noted he “had a little honor last year that didn’t work as well” when **Streamwood** unveiled it had named its gym after him during his final season with the girls basketball team, but **School District U-46** stripped that name for the high school not following policy. A township representative joked: “This is only good until Friday.” George Rosner during a teaching moment at a time out while coaching the **Streamwood** girls basketball team in 2020. (Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

## **---The Daily Herald---**

**Oct. 13, 2022**

**Bartlett, Larkin need one more win for playoff eligibility**

**By: Mike Miazga**

Here's where things stand with two weeks left in the regular season for the Upstate Eight Conference.

**South Elgin** is in at 7-0. **Bartlett** and **Larkin** each need one more win to become playoff eligible at 5 wins, while **Elgin** would need to win out to become playoff eligible.

**Bartlett** update:

One player who qualifies as a special teams stud is **Bartlett's** Blake McCluskey.

"Blake is our long snapper as well as our PAT-field goal snapper and has done a fantastic job all season and keeps getting better each week," **Bartlett** coach Milan Vuckovich said. "You can't have a successful kicking game without a consistent snapper. He absolutely deserves this recognition."

Vuckovich added junior quarterback Gio Nguyen's worth goes well beyond his exploits under center.

"The leadership Gio has displayed on top of his understanding of the offense and what the defense is doing has been awesome," Vuckovich said. "He continues to improve with each practice and it shows up in the games. Having him at quarterback is like having a coach on the field. He's able to come back to me and tell me what's going on and what he feels might work. It's been great."

**Streamwood** update:

**Streamwood** coach Keith McMaster said defensive back Oscar Villapando has had a great season. "He not only covers the top receivers, but he aids in the run game from the outside," he said.

Sophomores Juan Cortes and Alex Flores have quickly become accustomed to the varsity game speed. "Both play on defense and Juan also runs the ball," McMaster said. "They play with heart and passion, and it's fun to watch them progress."

West Aurora update:

Blackhawks coach Nate Eimer praised the work of long snapper Sean Weigand last week.

"Sean had his first start at long snapper and did a great job," the coach said.

**South Elgin** update:

Numbers usually tell the story, so let's let the numbers do the talking for **South Elgin**.

In last week's win against **Elgin**, the **Storm** outrushed the **Maroons** 280-94 on 36 rushes. **South Elgin** averaged 8.7 yards per play in the game.

Why is **South Elgin** 7-0? The **Storm** has committed only 8 turnovers in 7 games, while rushing for 287 yards per game and racking up 427 yards of total offense. **South Elgin** has 16 passing touchdowns against 4 interceptions. Defensively, **South Elgin** has limited opposing rushers to 496 yards for the season or 70.9 yards per game. **South Elgin** is outscoring its opponents by an average of 48-13 per game.

Coach Dragan Teonic said **South Elgin** athletic director Michael "Hollywood" Jezioro has to be considered an unsung hero for the team "for being incredibly supportive of our program and kids behind the scenes," he said. "Mike is one of the best, and certainly one of the best in the area."

**Elgin** update:

Defensive end Kristian Davis has been a defensive stalwart for the **Maroons**, who can become playoff eligible by winning their final two games against crosstown foe **Larkin** and Glenbard South.

"Kristian has been doing a great job of firing off the line and making plays in the backfield," **Elgin** coach Anthony Mason said.

Mason also likes the way Terrell Arrington has played in a variety of roles this season.

"Terrell has played multiple positions on offense and will need to step up at quarterback moving forward," he said.

Mason also threw a shout out to the **Maroons'** wide receiver group.

"They will need to have big games moving forward in the blocking game and catching the ball every time," he said.

**Larkin** update:

The **Royals**, at 4-3, find themselves one win away from becoming playoff eligible. **Larkin** closes out the regular season with games against **Elgin** and West Chicago.



**Royals** coach Grant Dietz said Kevin Malone has been a force of late for the team. "Kevin has come on as of late with his hard running and nose for the ball," he said. "We are expecting great things from him down the stretch."

Dietz said another key for the team being on a three-game winning streak has been the play in the trenches.

"Our offensive and defensive lines are playing well and I hope it continues," Dietz said.

To read the full article click [here](#).

## ---Chicago Tribune--

**Oct. 13, 2022**

### **Local scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County**

**By: Staff Reports**

FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOLS

WEEK 8

FRIDAY'S GAMES

UPSTATE EIGHT

**Bartlett** at **South Elgin**, 7 p.m.

East Aurora at West Chicago, 7 p.m.

**Elgin** at **Larkin**, 7 p.m.

**Streamwood** at Fenton, 7:30 p.m.

West Chicago at **Larkin**, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS SOCCER

East Aurora 4, Fenton 2

**Elgin** 7, Glenbard South 1

Glenbard East 1, **Bartlett** 0

Oswego 2, Marmion 0



Streamwood 3, South Elgin 0

#### GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Lake Zurich d. Mundelein 25-20, 25-15

St. Charles East d. South Elgin 25-22, 25-17

South Elgin: Maddy Shaner 6 kills. Nora Kulak 8 assists.

St. Francis d. Batavia 25-19, 25-19

Batavia (15-13): Haydin Hampton 4 kills.

Stevenson d. Waukegan 25-10, 25-13

Stevenson (23-9, 4-2 North Suburban): Brynn Smith 4 kills. Abby Minin 12 assists. Rachel Shin 6 assists.

Vernon Hills d. Deerfield 25-16, 25-21

Vernon Hills (25-4, 8-0 Central Suburban North): Alexa Cieslinski 6 kills. Sonya Bondar 5 kills. Elli Amjadi 8 digs.

Warren d. Lake Forest 25-18, 25-16

#### GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Bartlett d. South Elgin 25-20, 23-25, 25-16

South Elgin: Jazmine Binion 13 kills. Madeline Shane 12 kills. Nora Kulak 17 assists.

To read the full article click [here](#).