

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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

50 cents
July 24, 2019

Sabres soccer sails
through summer
See Page 2

Park District hosts
Christmas in July
See Page 8

District U-46 approves new board agreements

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved new board agreements at its June 17 meeting.

The agreements state that they are "aspirational in nature and intended as a guide for Board members in adhering to the Board's Code of Conduct," and they are "not to be construed as binding."

The "aspirations" are under nine categories: unity of purpose, board member protocol, no surprises, speaking with one voice, affirmation of the governance model, placing items on the board agenda, orientation of new board members, board member roles and responsibilities and closed session.

In 2018, the board agreements were presented at a February meeting and approved, by a 5-2 vote, at a March meeting after two discussions. This year's agreements were presented and voted on at the same meeting with no discussion by the new board.

The only comments on the 2019 agreements came from U-46 CEO Tony Sanders who said: "These were the most recent discussions that we had during a (closed session) self-evaluation where we updated the board agreements. The board seemed to agree with the new format and all the changes that were proposed."

The last board self-evaluation was in January according to the board's documents under the previous board. New board members Eva Porter and Kate Thommes, who both voted for the agreements, were not on the board at the time.

The agreements largely mirror last year's agreements with some changes.

This year's agreements removed language from the unity of purpose category that stated "we want to create a district culture that supports positive change" as well as language from closed session which stated "board members understand that to divulge closed session information not only

damages the relationship of the team, but has the potential for far-reaching consequences which may impact future district operations."

Removed entirely this year was the category annual calendar which stated in 2018: "During optional Board meeting dates (January and June), the Superintendent and Cabinet will provide the Board updates as part of the Superintendent's evaluation (beyond the District Improvement Plan and inclusive of it)."

Still included this year, under board member roles and responsibilities, were changes made last year which led to former board members Phil Costello and Jeanette Ward to vote no. The controversial language included stating "board members will carefully consider what they post on social media before they post it, avoiding statements that might [be] volatile" and "board members will not evaluate staff in public."

Both Costello and Ward argued that those sections could be used as a way to try and silence dissenting opinions from the board's majority. Sue Kerr, now the board's president, voted for the agreements last year but also agreed that the changes were subjective and not properly defined.

"To me, it speaks of self-censoring and other board members saying to you 'well your post is volatile, you shouldn't have posted it,'" Ward said last year. Costello said: "We should be allowed to have free expression by design."

Regarding evaluating staff publicly, Ward said that "those who derive their income from public tax dollars should expect to be subject to public scrutiny" and Costello added: "When we are surprised by something that comes to the public's attention, I think we may need in that case may have to comment on that."

Also added to this year's agreements is a section defining who board members should contact with requests.

Six U-46 representatives to attend IASB event

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved travel and registration expenses for them and U-46 CEO Tony Sanders to attend the annual Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) conference at its meeting on Monday, July 15.

The vote was 4-0 as board members John Devereux, Veronica Noland and Donna Smith were absent.

The IASB conference will take place in November and five board members (Smith, Sue Kerr, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter and Kate Thommes) along with Sanders have signed up to attend according to the proposal. The board approved an expenditure in a "not to exceed" amount of \$4,500.

"The Triple I Joint Annual Conference will be held in Chicago November 22-24, 2019," wrote Evelyn Bevins,

assistant to the CEO for board matters, in a memo. "The cost to attend the conference is \$499.00 per person. Lodging requires a \$200.00 (non-refundable) per room deposit at the time of booking. The costs of lodging are up to \$205.00 (without tax) per room per night. Registration opened Monday, June 10, 2019."

The IASB is a lobbyist organization, and the annual conference includes a business meeting where district representatives will vote on what the organization should lobby for.

Board members will also be able to attend workshops such as one titled "Equity: An Educational Imperative" which will teach them about their "unconscious" biases according to a description on the IASB website.

See IASB event, pg. 2



Streamwood's Summer
Celebration 2019
will take place on
July 26-28
at Hoosier Grove Park,
700 W. Irving Park Road

Summer Celebration offers fun for the whole family. Event highlights will include plenty of main stage entertainment; a Children's Stage will have activities for younger participants; a Business Expo, where prominent businesses will market their products and services; and other attractions including the annual Summer Celebration Parade, Golf Tournament, Carnival, and BINGO.

Friday, July 26

5 to 9 p.m.
5 to 10 p.m.
5 to 10:30 p.m.
7 to 10:30 p.m.
8 p.m.
Children's Stage:
5:30 p.m.
6 p.m.
Family Main Stage:
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Children's Craft Activity Area
Business Expo Booths
Children's Carnival Rides and Attractions
BINGO (sponsored by St. John's Church KOC)
Woody's Barnyard Races

Miss Jamie's Farm
Local Music Showcase

Five Guys Named Moe
Ice Cream Eating Contest
American English - Beatles Tribute Band

Saturday, July 27

10:30 a.m.
Noon to 8 p.m.
Noon to 9 p.m.
Noon to 10 p.m.
Noon to 4 p.m.
Noon to 10:30 p.m.
1 to 4 p.m.
2 to 10:30 p.m.
4, 6, and 8 p.m.
Children's Stage:
1:30 p.m.
2 p.m.
3:30 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
7 p.m.
Family Main Stage:
1 to 1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.
2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
4 to 5 p.m.
5 p.m.
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Parade (Step off-Streamwood Blvd. / Bartlett Road)
Business Expo Booths
Children's Crafts and Activities
Children's Attractions
Unlimited Carnival Rides (wristband \$25)
Children's Carnival Rides
Hoosier Grove Schoolhouse Museum
BINGO (sponsored by St. John's Church KOC)
Woody's Barnyard Races

Police K-9 Demonstration
Grupo Folklorico Quetzal Ethnic Dancers
Ken Schultz - Juggler
Istvan and His Imaginary Band
Local Music Showcase II

SPD Dance Company
Jesse White Tumblers
Local Music Showcase Winner
Talent Show (Sponsored by Kiwanis Club)
Hula Hoop Contest
The Millennials Band
Water Balloon Contest
7th Heaven Band

Sunday, July 28

7:30 a.m.

Noon to 4 p.m.
Noon to 5 p.m.
Noon to 8 p.m.
1 to 4 p.m.
2 to 7 p.m.
3 p.m.
4 and 6 p.m.
Children's Stage:
1 p.m.
1:30 p.m.
3:30 p.m.
Family Main Stage:
12:15 to 1 p.m.
1:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.
3 to 4:30 p.m.
4:30 p.m.
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

Golf Outing at Streamwood Oaks Golf Club (shot gun start)
Unlimited Carnival Rides (wristband \$25)
Business Expo Booths
Children's Rides, Attractions, Crafts and Activities
Hoosier Grove Schoolhouse Museum
BINGO (sponsored by St. John's Church KOC)
Fire Hose Spray
Woody's Barnyard Races

Police K-9 Demonstration
Steve Belliveau - Magician
Jason Kollum - Juggler/Stilt Walker

SPD Theatre Academy
Handsome Dave and the Ravens
Hula Hoop Contest
Ethan Bell Band
Cookie Challenge
ARRA Band
Raffle Drawing

Police Reports

STREAMWOOD Wednesday, July 17

★ At 1:21 a.m., police responded to the 3100 block of Medford for a report of a suspicious vehicle. The officer made contact with the driver of the vehilce and passenger Ashley Wojtczak, 30, of the 200 block of Deming, Westmont. The officer detected an odor of burnt cannabis around the vehicle. A search of Wojtczak turned up drug paraphernalia. She was issued a civil law citation and released at the scene.

BARTLETT Sunday, July 14

★ At 12:37 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of Prospect, for a report of theft (attempted).
★ At 1:17 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of Cummings for a report of an intoxicated subject.
★ At 11:44 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of Hill for a report of fraud.
★ At 4:45 p.m., police responded to the 700 block of Cove for a juvenile complaint.
★ At 8:28 p.m., police responded to the 100 block of Silbury for a report of a domestic in progress. The officer spoke to the parties involved and was able to restore peace.
★ At 9:23 p.m., police responded to the 500 block of South Western for a report of harassment by telephone.
Tuesday, July 16
★ At 5:12 a.m., police responded to the 600 block of West Stearns for a report of theft.
★ At 12:04 p.m., police responded to the 5500 block of County Farm for a report of a merchant/customer dispute. The officer spoke to the parties

involved and was able to restore peace.

Wednesday, July 17
★ At 9:54 a.m., police responded to the 400 block of East Stearns for a report of a suspicious person.
★ At 11:20 a.m., police responded to the 600 block of West Bartlett for a report of a suspicious person.
Thursday, July 18
★ At 1:47 p.m., in the 1400 block of Saddleridge, Maria G. Castrellon, 39, of the 1400 block of Huntcliff, was arrested for expired registration and no valid license. She was transported to the police department for processing, and later released on an I-bond.
★ At 3:31 p.m., in the vicinity of Stearns and Sayer, Michael J. Gutierrez, 21, of the 100 block of Scott, was issued a local ordinance citation for possession of cannabis.
★ At 10:20 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stearns, Vincent M. Fiore, 24, of the 1800 block of Burton, was arrested for DUI-drugs. He was transported to the police department and later released on an I-bond.

Friday, July 19
★ At 9:35 a.m., police responded to the 100 block of McClellan for a report of a suspicious person.
★ At 6:09 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Hearthstone for a child custody dispute.
★ At 8:25 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Persimmon for a report of a domestic in progress. The officer spoke to the parties involved and was able to restore peace.

**CAROL STREAM
Friday, July 5**
★ At 2:07 a.m., in the 800 block of Army Trail, Andrew M. Guerrero,, 24,

of the 400 block of Snowdrift, Bartlett was arrested for resisting a peace officer as well as a warrant for resisting a peace officer. He was transported to the police department where he later posted bond and was released.
★ At 4:01 a.m., at the Elmhurst Police Department, officers took custody of Jeremy B. Jones, 26, of the 600 block of Willowwood, on a warrant for two counts of domestic battery. He was transported to DuPage County Jail.
Saturday, July 6
★ At 1:25 a.m., in the 700 block of Bluff, Laurelee Bird, 57, of the 600 block of Bluff, was arrested on two counts aggravated DUI, improper lane usage, dwlr, DUI and DUI-BAC>.08. She was transported to DuPage County Jail.
★ At 2:19 a.m., in the vicinity of Couty Farm and Kelly, John T. Riehle, 38, of the 900 block of Grant, Bartlett, was arrested for DUI and DUI-BAC>.08. He was transported to the police department, where he was later able to post bond and was released.
Sunday, July 7

★ At 3:46 a.m., in the vicinity of Mayflower and Schick, Naeem Oquendo, 26, 1500 of the block of Mission, Bartlett, was arrested for retail theft and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transported to the police department, where he later posted bond and was released. Alec J. Johnson, 22, of the 500 block of Main St., West Chicago, was charged with retail theft. He was also transported to the police department where he later posted bond and was released.
Thursday, July 11
★ At 1:46 a.m., in the vicinity of Ethel and North, Edmond T. Shiaba, 28, 200 block of Sherman, Montgomery, was arrested for DUI, DUI-BAC>.08, speeding and failure to dim his high beams. He was transported to the police department where he later posted bond and was released.

Sabres soccer’s summer setting tone for fall season

By Seth Hancock
The Streamwood boys soccer team is optimistic about the upcoming season this fall after a strong summer of work.
Sabres coach Matt Polovin has seen some solid things from returning veterans and incoming underclassmen through summer camps and summer tournaments. Most recently, Streamwood went 4-0-1 over two weekends at a tournament hosted by Geneva.
In 2018, Streamwood had a long post-season run to the super sectionals and they expect even more this year.
“The guys who were on the team last season have said all summer they felt they shorted themselves losing in the super sectional 1-0 to Lake Park,” Polovin said. “They have said if they don’t make it to state this season it’s a major disappointment. So, the bar is set high as it should be.”
Polovin said he had a good mix of veterans and newcomers playing at Geneva but was also short some players with guys playing club. Still, the Sabres earned three victories on Saturday, July 13 when they defeated Yorkville 4-0, Wheaton Academy 3-0 and Geneva 5-1.
The Sabres then defeated St. Charles North 4-1 then had a 2-2 tie against Metea Valley, with only one sub, on Saturday, July 20. A third game was

cancelled due to the heat.
“The guys did well despite missing most of the regulars due to club commitments, but the second game having one sub it really took a toll on them physically and mentally by the second half,” Polovin said. “The one thing I’ve gotten to see throughout the summer in camps and games are some freshmen who can, without a doubt, play at the varsity level this season. Their work rate is equal to some veteran varsity players.”
Through the summer, Polovin has seen some solid work from returners like junior Jose Ibarra, who he called “the best defender in the state,” and senior goalie Antonio Herrera, who he said “has been absolutely stellar.” He’s also been impressed with returning senior center midfielder Edwin Peralta and senior defender Josh Taboada along with his younger brother, freshman midfielder Aaron Taboada.
Tryouts for the fall will begin in a few short weeks and the Sabres open the season in the last week of August.
“It will be fun to see it all once tryouts start and everyone is back,” Polovin said. “We have a strong core of returning players as well as some new players who can fit right in and make the group very strong heading into the fall season.”



Connections

Poplar Creek Public Library

Summer Reading Ending
Our Summer Reading Challenge will be ending on Friday, July 26. Be sure to stop in the library to pick up your prizes. Thank you to all who participated!

Anime Club
Thursday, July 25 at 6 p.m.
Teen Space
Teens, join your fellow otaku to watch anime, discuss upcoming anime/manga, and share drawings you have done. Snacks will be provided. No registration necessary-just drop in!

Summer Celebration Parade
Saturday, July 27 at 10:30 am
Bring the whole family and come see the library in the Summer Celebration Parade-don’t forget a bag for candy! Step off is at 10:30 a.m. at Bartlett Road and Streamwood Boulevard. Also, be sure to stop by the festival’s Business Expo Tent throughout the weekend and say “hi” to library staff and trustees and play our Drop Disc game-everyone wins a prize!

Art Exhibits
Stop by the main library through the end of July and visit our newest exhibit of acrylic mixed media paintings by artist Ashley Gaeth. Also on display now through the end of August is a collection of African masks from collector Fernando Flores. Both exhibits are located in the Marlene Deuel Art Gallery, located on the main floor.

Dedicate a Brick
Memorialize a loved one, recognize your business, and support your library by purchasing a personalized engraved brick paver for the west entrance of the Main Library in Streamwood. For more information visit www.pclib.org/donations or pick up

a flyer in the library.

Funny Film Friday!
Friday, July 26 at 2 p.m.
Meeting Room 1
Come enjoy some laughs at the library with hilarious new and classic movies. Refreshments will be provided. No registration required-just drop in! For specific movie title, please call 483-4910.

Trivia Night at Tap House Grill
Monday, July 29 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Bring your friends, family and neighbors and join us for an adult trivia night at the Tap House Grill in Hanover Park. Our emcee will present questions for prizes and prestige! Register online or call 483-4910. Location: Tap House Grill - 7600 S. Barrington Road, Hanover Park.

Kids Drop-in Craft
Tuesday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m.
Sonya Crawshaw Branch
Stop by the branch library in Hanover Park to make and take a fun craft home. All supplies will be provided, but are limited. Ages 3 and up.

Writing Group
Tuesday, July 30 at 7 p.m.
Empire Room 1
Join other local writers for sharing ideas and receiving constructive feedback on your latest project. If seeking feedback, bring five copies of a sample that is no more than 10 pages double spaced for other writers to read and critique. Ages 18 and up. Register online or call 483-4910.

For a complete listing of scheduled programs at Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park Ave., in Streamwood or Sonya Crawshaw Branch, 4300 Audrey Lane in Hanover Park, visit www.poplarcreeklibrary.org. Questions? Call 837-6800.

IASB event

Continued from page 1

“Have you ever felt as if you just don’t know what to say anymore to someone culturally different? And you’re not sure if you’re doing something to offend or demean others when you have the best of intentions?” the description reads.
The description adds: “In this fast-paced, interactive seminar, you will receive greater confidence and skill practice in valuing and working across racial and cultural differences and will have mutual support to identify unconscious, exclusive behaviors which we all exhibit at times. You will focus on how to contribute to the school district’s mission and strategic focus on student preparedness and excellence for all students. You’ll leave

understanding the important and central role you play in creating an equitable school environment that leads to greater student success.”
The IASB has sparked controversy on previous boards. In 2017, former board member Phil Costello described his experience as the U-46 voting representative for the business meeting and he called it “interesting and disturbing at the same time” and “the whole process seemed rather sanitized.”
“They implicitly do not represent the interests of our taxpayers which contradicts this group’s usefulness to me,” Costello said at the time. He said he “was disappointed with the presenters’ core knowledge and expressed interest in charting only positive news, which seems counter-intuitive to me” and added he’s “apprehensive about relegating our voice to a group that cannot hold our legislators individually responsible for their voting records.”

U-46 Board approves hearing officer, mobiles

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved the appointment of a hearing officer and a resolution declaring the need to continue using temporary classrooms at its meeting on Monday, July 15.

The votes were 4-0 as board members John Devereux, Veronica Noland and Donna Smith were absent.

Regarding the hearing officer, the board's policy under Section 5.212 (suspension and dismissal of licensed staff members) states that a suspended employee, without pay, "shall have the right to appeal the suspension to the Board of Education. If an appeal is requested, the Board of Education or an

appointed hearing officer shall conduct a hearing at which the employee may be represented by counsel and may present evidence on his/her behalf."

Section 7, regarding students, also uses similar language of use of hearing officers when students appeal a suspension or expulsion.

Luis Rodriguez, the district's assistant attorney, is a hearing officer for U-46 while this board appointment was for an outside attorney, James Cecil, for "hearings involving employee discipline, dismissal matters, teacher suspensions, tuition fraud matters, student discipline matters and other matters including investigations at the request and direction of the Chief Legal

Officer (Miguel Rodriguez)," according to U-46 CEO Tony Sanders.

"This is not the same thing as Luis Rodriguez," Sanders said. "He remains as our hearing officer on a regular basis, but there are times that we have required a hearing officer contractually in the past."

Regarding the temporary classroom resolution, U-46 plans on using eight double mobile units and five single mobile units housing 21 total classrooms, and they are expected to be used at nine schools.

The resolution states the district "has experienced changes in student enrollments and educational program requirements that have resulted in a

need for additional classroom space in certain schools" and "all options to address availability of space in permanent buildings have been considered in light of these enrollment changes and the programmatic needs of students."

The district plans on using two double units at both South Elgin High School and Elgin's Century Oaks Elementary School, and a single and double unit at both Elgin's Hillcrest and Lowrie elementary schools. One double unit is planned to be used at both Streamwood's Hanover Countryside and Hoffman Estate's Lincoln elementary schools and a single unit is planned at Elgin's Creekside, Harriet Gifford and Washington elementary schools.

Annual tool show returning to Garfield Farm Museum

According to the Garfield Farm Museum, members of the Early American Industries Association (EAIA) and the Mid-West Tools Collectors Association (M-WTCA) will be holding the annual Antique Tool Show and Sale at the Garfield Farm Museum on Sunday, Aug. 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is the only joint show by these two organizations in the Midwest open to the public. Typically, over 30 different collectors will have their tools on display and for sale.

Garfield Farm & Inn Museum looks at the settlement era of northern Illinois, that was a time traditions arose around the seasonal cycle of farming. In that spirit, Garfield Farm's calendar of events has created its own traditions that are approaching nearly 30 years or more in age. The Antique Tool Show is just such an annual tradition paying tribute every first Sunday in August to the craftsmanship and inventiveness of Americans since the 1700s. These collectors value and marvel at the simple hand tools many whose design endured for centuries.

Garfield Farm Museum established this annual show to help educate the public with the realities of America's founding. Hand tools were what built and shaped America. In the 1840s as factories arose, handcrafted items became mass produced but not in the way mass production is envisioned today. The hand tools that individual craftsmen used simply transitioned to the early factories. Waterpower might

have made it possible for a number of lathes to be powered at once but hand tools were used to make any turnings. Blacksmiths were becoming old school in the mid-19th century, as the profession of mechanic became the high tech of its day. Mechanics for the steam age to manufacture as well as maintain locomotives and lake and ocean going steamers needed even more specialized hand tools to produce the precision needed.

Tool and die makers became the top hand tool workers of the 19th and early 20th century. Their inventiveness and skills would create the power tools that society depends upon today. Appropriately, some of the most avid collectors one can meet at the Antique Tool Show are retired, highly skilled tool and die makers. Many are the last generation to use hand tools and the first to use computerized machines to make the complex machines of mass production today.

Yet fine craftsmanship has not disappeared as thousands of hobbyists that enjoy working with wood, avidly seek out antique tools. Such tools that might be made of higher quality materials than what can be found on the market today or are no longer made but are still needed to reproduce certain designs or affects in furniture. The Antique Tool Show is an opportunity to talk with such experienced individuals who might have worked with the type of tool one purchases.

The public is invited to bring a tool

they cannot identify as many of the collectors will know the answer. This is the only joint meeting in Illinois of the EAIA and M-WTCA that the public is invited to attend. Opportunities at the show to become a member of the organizations will give access to their regional and national meetings.

Tours of the 1846 teamster inn and tavern begin at 11 a.m. and continue after the show until 4 p.m. Light refreshments will be available. Admis-

sion for adults is \$6 and \$2 for children 12 years and under. Garfield Farm Museum is a historically intact former prairie farmstead and teamster inn being restored by volunteers as a 1840s working farm.

The museum is located five miles west of Geneva off Illinois Route 38 on Garfield Road. For more information call 630-584-8485, email at info@garfieldfarm.org or visit the website <http://www.garfieldfarm.org>.



Tools on display at Garfield Farm Museum's annual Antique Tool Show and Sale. (Courtesy photo)



Matt Friberg of Rockford demonstrates using a spoke shave in a shaving horse to create smooth rounded edges with square wood stock.

(Photo courtesy of Joseph Coleman)



Early risers waiting at the gate before 9 a.m. have the best chance of finding that one-of-a-kind tool they were looking for, while others join the Mid-West Tool Collectors or the Early American Industries Association so they can arrive at 6 a.m., as members are only allowed from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. (Courtesy photo)

Local pitcher enjoying success with Cougars



Ryan Weiss pitching for South Elgin in a start against Glenbard North during a sectional playoff game in June 2015.

By Seth Hancock

Former South Elgin Storm right-handed pitcher Ryan Weiss, 22, has been on a roll recently with the Kane County Cougars.

The 6-foot-4, 210-pound hurler just led the Cougars to a 6-0 win over the Bowling Green Hot Rods on Thursday, July 18 at Northwestern Medicine Field in Geneva.

The Cougars tallied a pair of runs in the first inning which was enough for Weiss who tossed five shutouts innings with seven strikeouts. He allowed five hits and walked two.

"I felt good," Weiss said. "It was really hot, so I think getting out of the first inning and the second inning with no damage was the biggest part for me. My teammates did a great job getting a few runs early and it's much easier to pitch like that for sure. Defensively, we made a lot of great plays and they helped me out."

It was the third straight win for Weiss who has not allowed an earned run over the stretch. He's now at 5-5 overall in 18 starts and 84.2 innings

with 68 strikeouts, a 3.51 ERA and a 1.41 WHIP.

For Weiss, he said his success has been in part from consistency and from what he's learned from Cougars' pitching coach Mike Parrott, known as "Bird."

"Any time that you're not giving up runs, you're just going to try and do the same thing," Weiss said. "I haven't really changed much from the beginning of the year to now. Just trying to be more consistent mechanically and throwing my breaking balls for strikes and getting ahead in counts. Being able to do well when I'm ahead is what's been working lately."

Weiss added: "Bird's been helping me a lot. He knows the game really, really well. I'm just trying to take anything I can from him which is what our whole team does."

This is Weiss' first season with the Cougars in the Midwest League Class A affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Weiss was selected by the Diamondbacks in the fourth round of the 2018

draft. After being drafted, he spent time in the Arizona League and then with the Hillsboro Hops in the Northwest League, a Class A Short Season squad, in 2018 before joining the Cougars this season.

"There's no feeling like it," Weiss said of when he was drafted. "You go through all of high school, all of college, and it's what you aspire to do to be able to continue your career and play professionally. It's awesome."

Weiss added: "Knowing that I got drafted by the Diamondbacks, I was shocked by it and I didn't think I was going to get taken by them. But they're a first-class organization. They treat people great, and I fit right in."

Playing for the Cougars is also a welcomed spot for Weiss as he grew up just down the road in South Elgin. Weiss was part of the Storm's 2014 team which made the program's first state appearance and finished third.

"It's a really comfortable feeling," Weiss said. "Knowing that I have 'x' amount of people in the stands cheering for me, it just shows the support

system that I have. I know that I have a great one and I thank them so much each and every day."

After graduating from South Elgin, Weiss played at Wright State University in Ohio where he went 17-3 over two seasons with the Raiders. He had a 2.80 ERA, started 30 games pitched 186.2 innings and struck out 172 batters in college.

Playing close to home, Weiss has stayed in contact with his South Elgin coaches including assistant coach Ben Erickson, and he's also remained in contact with his coaches at Wright State.

"I still talk to coach Erickson over at South Elgin. He watches me every outing he can, and he always gives me feedback. He's been in the game awhile too," Weiss said. "There's a lot of people in my corner and I talk to my coached from Wright State weekly. I love them, they love their players and they treat us like family. Just trying to surround myself with the right people has allowed me to get to the point where I am."

New chief, firefighters sworn-in at ceremony

By Joe Hyland

The apparatus floor at Station 1 was completely full on Wednesday, July 17. In addition to regular spectators, there were first responders from a number of local departments. These included Streamwood, Carpentersville, a large contingent from Palatine, Mt. Prospect, East Dundee, Hanover Park and Morton Grove.

Board President Jim McCarthy needed his gavel to quiet the crowd and get the meeting started.

"This is not an ordinary board meeting," said McCarthy. "We've got way too many people here for an ordinary board meeting."

McCarthy then explained that the district would be swearing in Bill Gabrenya as its new chief in addition to swearing in new firefighter/paramedics Joe Saenz and Sam Garcia.

"This year, the fire district has welcomed five new personnel," McCarthy said, noting that all of those were replacements for retirees rather new positions.

McCarthy reviewed some of the history of the district before asking Gabrenya to step forward. He said that Gabrenya had started with the department in 1992 as a paid on-call firefighter. He went to work full time in Palatine in 1995 while continuing to serve Bartlett in his initial position. This led to a 2012 appointment to a deputy chief position in the village and a promotion to assistant fire chief in 2017. Along the way, he noted that Gabrenya had accumulated a number of degrees and certifications.

"All that brings us to tonight," McCarthy said. "With your appointment, we begin a new chapter in the district's history book."

Trustee Don Wisniewski administered the oath of office, and Gabrenya was then pinned by his wife Kristina.

Gabrenya thanked the board, his fellow firefighters, and all who had been involved in organizing the ceremony.

"My family has supported me all these years," Gabrenya said. "You've all helped shape my future one way or another."

As his first official act, Gabrenya then welcomed Garcia and Saenz to the district, reminding them of their responsibility to serve the district and its residents.

"I ask you to find your 'why,'" Gabrenya told them, saying he was re-



Bartlett Fire Protection District Chief William Gabrenya
(Photo courtesy of Bartlett Fire Protection District)

ferring to finding and knowing their reason for joining the fire service.

Garcia and then Saenz were sworn in by Fire Commissioner Rick Wagner.

Garcia, who was pinned by his mother Mary Kay Garcia, has experience with both the Schaumburg and Elk Grove Township departments.

Saenz, who was pinned by his girlfriend Sarah Toso, attended the Bensenville Fire Academy and has served the East and West Dundee departments. He is also Hazmat certified.

After a short recess for cake, the regular board meeting resumed. Gabrenya, as well as Garcia and Saenz were congratulated by trustees.

"They should be a great addition to the team," Trustee Larry Robbins said, referring to Garcia and Saenz.

"I'm very excited to see the direction in which you lead this department," Trustee Frank Giovanelli said.



The Kane County Cougars' Ryan Weiss making a pitch to a Bowling Green hitter during his start against the Hot Rods on Thursday, July 18. Weiss threw five shutout innings and picked up the win in the Cougars 6-0 victory. The Cougars are Low A Ball Minor League affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Police Reports

Continued from page 3

harassment.

- ★ At 1:59 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Cherry for a report of telephone harassment.
- ★ At 2:48 p.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Mark for a report of traumatic injury or assault.
- ★ At 3:41 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of South Collins for a report of harassment.
- ★ At 4:21 p.m., police responded to the 500 block of Valley Forge for a report of theft.
- ★ At 7:13 p.m., police responded to the Springs at South Elgin, 350 Gyorrr Ave., for a report of an intoxicated subject.
- ★ At 7:40 p.m., police responded to Ralph Tredup Park, 1020 S. Lancaster Circle, for a report of a suspicious incident.
- ★ At 7:57 p.m., police responded to the 700 block of Michigan for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 11:37 p.m., police responded to an unspecified location for a report of criminal sexual assault.
- ★ At 11:51 p.m., police responded to the 1100 block of Manchester for a report of a domestic in progress.

Friday, July 12

- ★ At 3:18 a.m., police responded to Shell Circle K, 355 Randall Road, for a report of criminal damage to property.
- ★ At 8:57 a.m., police responded to the 600 block of East State for a report of an abandoned vehicle.

- ★ At 9:57 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of Gyorrr for a report of a vehicle being taken without the owner's consent.
- ★ At 9:59 a.m., police responded to the 0 block of Ione for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 10:29 a.m., police responded to Village Counseling Center, 460 Briar-gate Drive, for a report of harassment.
- ★ At 2:28 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Burke for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 3:57 p.m., police responded to Super Target, 530 Randall Road, for a shoplifting complaint.
- ★ At 3:52 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Windsor for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 4:08 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Mill for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 8:16 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Mill for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 9:10 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Ione for a report of criminal damage to property.
- ★ At 9:34 p.m., police responded to the 600 block of Reserve for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 11:16 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of West State for a report of burglary to a motor vehicle.

Saturday, July 13

- ★ At 12:23 am., police responded to the 1800 block of Stearns for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 1:33 a.m., police responded to

the 0 block of Juli for a report of a suspicious incident.

- ★ At 3:26 a.m., police responded to O'Reilly Auto Parks, 430 N. McLean Blvd., for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 8:38 a.m., police responded to First American Bank, 632 Randall Road, for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 11:01 a.m., at the police department, 10 N. Water, officers responded for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 12:05 pm., police responded to the vicinity of Randall and Pamela for a report of an obstruction in the roadway.
- ★ At 1:43 p.m., police responded to the 0 block of Ivy for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 5:54 p.m., police responded to the 1000 block of Mark for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 8:10 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Burke for a report of harassment.
- ★ At 10:03 p.m., police responded to the 1400 block of South Pembroke for a report of telephone harassment.

Sunday, July 14

- ★ At 12:56 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of South Collins for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 1:30 a.m., police responded to Mi Vallarta, 1101 N. LaFox, for a report of battery in progress.
- ★ At 1:45 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of South Collins for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 2:13 a.m., police responded to the 200 block of South Collins for a 911 investigation.
- ★ At 2:53 a.m., police responded to the 300 block of Ann for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 6:26 a.m., police responded to Buffalo Wild Wings, 402 Randall

Road, for a report of an activated alarm.

- ★ At 3:52 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Dublin for a report of a domestic in progress.
- ★ At 5:54 p.m., police responded to the 711, 1230 W. Spring, for a report of an overdose or poisoning.
- ★ At 6:11 p.m., police responded to the 200 block of Nicole for a child custody dispute.
- ★ At 6:52 p.m., police responded to the vicinity of Stearns and Randall roads for a report of a suspicious person.
- ★ At 7 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Windsor for a report of a disturbance.
- ★ At 7:03 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Thornwood for a keep the peace request.
- ★ At 9:29 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Riverview for a fire-works complaint.
- ★ At 10 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Riverview for a fireworks complaint.
- ★ At 10:47 p.m., police responded to the 300 block of Riverview for a fire-works complaint.
- ★ At 10:57 p.m., police responded to the 900 block of West Spring for a report of an overdose or poisoning.

Monday, July 15

- ★ At 8:05 a.m., police responded to the vicinity of Stearns and Gyorrr for a report of a suspicious incident.
- ★ At 8:26 a.m., police responded to West Suburban Bank, 1870 Stearns Road, for a report of an activated alarm.
- ★ At 10:01 a.m., police responded to the 400 block of East Thornwook for a report of fraud.
- ★ At 11 a.m., police responded to Hairtastic, 506 Randall Road, for a report of theft.

With fall season looming Hawks soccer is ‘focused’

By Seth Hancock

The fall boys soccer season is about a month away while the Bartlett Hawks summer work is starting to wind down.

In their summer league, the Hawks finished the regular season 3-1-2 overall after defeating South Elgin 7-0 on Monday, July 8 at Bartlett. About a week later, Bartlett defeated Marist 2-1 in the leagues playoffs on Tuesday, July 16 at Marist.

Along the way, Bartlett coach Vince Revak said he’s seen solid player development from his team as he called the squad “focused and driven.”

“The boys are playing well, and we have a lot of players stepping up and taking on some hefty responsibilities on the field,” Revak said. “It’s great to see them work well together when we often have a different team each week since players have to miss for vacations or work occasionally.”

This summer, Bartlett has had 24 players on its roster with nine returning varsity players including incoming seniors Amine Medmoun, Connor Medendorp, Ethan Sproule, Hernan Garcia, Kamil Jarzabek, Nico Gomez and Zander Zamora as well as juniors Cesar Palomares and Edgar Leon.

The win against Marist saw the Hawks build a 2-0 lead and hold on for the victory, a welcomed sign for Revak who said his squad has struggled to finish strong at times this summer.

“We played well against Marist, even though we let them back in the game in the second half,” Revak said. “We’ve been struggling with closing out games this summer season, and it’s positive that we were able to hold a lead after giving a few games away so far. It was especially important that the long trip to Marist didn’t lead to a slow start.”

Woman charged for executing ‘elaborate scheme’ of theft

On Thursday, July 18, DuPage County State’s Attorney Robert Berlin announced that bond had been set for a Glendale Heights woman accused of stealing tens of thousands of dollars through an elaborate scheme involving identity theft of more than two dozen victims. Destiney Baker, 33, of 1540 Lip-pert Lane, appeared at a bond hearing on July 18, where Judge George Bakalis set bond at \$200,000 with 10 percent to apply.

In all, Baker is charged with 52 counts of aggravated identity theft, 12 counts of identity theft, 11 counts of continuing financial crimes enterprise, 12 counts of financial institution fraud, three counts of financial exploitation of the elderly and one count of theft. Baker was taken into custody at the DuPage County Courthouse following her appearance at an unrelated case. In court, the judge also left in place a state’s previous motion for a proof of funds which requires Baker to prove that any funds used to post bond were not illegally obtained.

It is alleged that Baker, a certified nursing assistant, met her victims through a staffing agency she used. It is alleged that beginning in 2016 through February this year, Baker stole banking information from her victims. It is alleged that Baker then used that information to gain access to her victims’ bank accounts. It is alleged that Baker also opened new accounts using her victims’ information. It is further alleged that Baker stole



Destiney Baker

tens of thousands of dollars and used the illegally gotten funds for personal expenses including airline tickets to Hawaii for herself and three children, tuition for her children at St. Matthew Parish Church, veterinary services for her dog, dental work for a relative and to pay off other credit accounts. Baker’s alleged scheme was uncovered and investigated by the DuPage County State’s Attorney’s Office. The charges allege a total of 33 victims.

“It is alleged that Ms. Baker systematically stole thousands of dollars from her victims, some of whom were elderly, to pay for vacations, private school tuition and veterinarian services for her dog among other things,” said Berlin. “If these allegations are proven to be true, her despicable actions undoubtedly caused financial hardship to her 33 victims. I would like to thank the Glendale Heights, Naperville and Aurora police departments for their assistance on this case. This is a very complicated case and I would like to thank Assistant State’s Attorney Diane Michalak and State’s Attorney Investigator John McAnally for their efforts in unraveling Ms. Baker’s alleged scheme.”

Members of the public are reminded that this complaint contains only charges and is not proof of the defendant’s guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the government’s burden to prove his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6 · 6-9 PM · JIM HANSEN PARK

Live Music, Food and Fun!
Guest Emcee, Radio/TV Personality
Justin Roman of Stylz & Roman
Touch-a-Truck and Emergency Vehicle Display
Face painting and Fire Department water fights
Local Business/Organization Expo
Full details at southelgin.com/NationalNightOut

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ACTIVITIES ALL WEEK LONG!

- July 30: Blood, Food and School Supply Drive**
Stuff the bus with school supplies, bring in donations for the South Elgin Food Pantry and donate at the Heartland Blood Mobile
Jim Hansen Park · 3-7 PM
- July 31: Village Pedaler Bicycle Safety & Rodeo**
Jim Hansen Park · 4-7 PM
- Aug. 1: Dog Walker Watch, Anderson Adopt-a-Pet, Pet Parade and K-9 Dog Demonstration**
Jim Hansen Park · 4-7 PM
- Aug. 2: Free Movie in the Park - Sherlock Gnomes**
Jim Hansen Park - Dusk
- Aug. 3: Car Show**
Thornwood Sports Core · 5-8 PM



YOUR GUIDE TO A GREAT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Catch the Shuttle!
School buses will run continuously between 5 - 9:30 pm to remote parking at Fox Meadow, Willard and Corron Elementaries!



Enjoy the Show!
6 PM - National Anthem by *Music Education Center, South Elgin* with South Elgin Police Honor Guard
6:05 PM - Hillbilly Rockstarz
7 PM - Those Funny Little People with *Officer Friendly* and *Officer Stern*
7:30 PM - 7th heaven
9 PM - National Night Out closes



Mark Your Calendar!
Don't miss a full week of activities leading up to National Night Out. For updated details, please visit southelgin.com/NationalNightOut, or contact Officer Jim Creighton at 847-741-2151 x5342. And follow us on [facebook.com/southelgin](https://www.facebook.com/southelgin) for updates and weather alerts.



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Storm soccer progressing as fall season approaches

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin boys soccer team is seeing progress over the summer as the fall schedule starts in about a month.

The Storm have had enough players out this summer to run two varsity squads in their summer league, the

Varsity 1 team primarily comprising returning varsity players and Varsity 2 made up of JV players coming up. The Varsity 2 team has split a pair of summer league playoff games and Varsity 1 opened the postseason with a 4-1 win over Waubonsie Valley on Tuesday, July 16 at Waubonsie Valley.

Property tax assessment event to be held at Gail Borden Library

According to State Rep. Allen Skillicorn (R-Crystal Lake) he understands that out of control property taxes hurt Illinois families and he is working diligently to solve the crisis. Residents are invited to join him along with tax assessment experts on Thursday, July 25 for a free seminar on understanding how property taxes are determined and learning how to appeal assessments.

The free event will be held at the Gail Borden Library in Elgin from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Staff will be on hand to examine attendee's property tax bills to see if they are receiving the exemptions they should. In addition, the State

Treasurer's office will be onsite with ICash personnel to search for any unclaimed property. The state holds lost funds until either the original owner or their heirs claim them. Property is returned at no cost with the proper identification.

Joining Skillicorn at the informational session will be Mark Armstrong, the Kane County supervisor of assessments and Warren L. Dixon III, Naperville Township assessor.

"It's my pleasure to assemble these tax assessment experts together to explain how tax bills are created and outline the process to follow if a taxpayer believes they are being over-assessed," said Skillicorn.

A combined South Elgin squad also competed in a summer tournament hosted by Batavia where the Storm split games against Batavia and Marmion on Saturday, July 20. A third game was cancelled due to the heat.

As the summer has continued, new Storm coach Jerzy Skowron has seen growth and he's optimistic about the JV players coming up.

"We're optimistic about what we've seen so far in this limited amount of time," Skowron said. "I'd say at least half of the boys we expect to show up at tryouts didn't participate in summer league due to club commitments, family vacations, etc., but from what we've seen, we're excited about what's to come."

Of the 30 Storm players competing on varsity this summer, 13 are returning varsity players including Christian Andrews, Edwin Ayala, Victor Chagoya, Ryan Doherty, Grayson Downing, Eli Hernandez, Bryce Jungers, Zach Juszko, Johnny Nitti, Danny Quintana, Luca Reutimann, Josh Serpico and Anthony Sisler.

Skowron said one of the main strengths he's seen from the team is their commitment including from incoming freshmen playing on the summer JV team.

"They picked up the pace and physi-

cality of the high school game, which should only benefit them moving forward," Skowron said. "Our varsity team this summer has really grown and has shown a lot of progress from a team that won only three games last fall."

With the summer activity nearing an end, Skowron said fitness through a conditioning program and working on footwork with the ball will be a key for players as they go off on their own for a few weeks. There's still some summer games left and summer camps while tryouts for the fall team begin on Monday, Aug. 12.

IDNR camping reservations being accepted

According to the IDNR, it is time to make reservations for campsites and shelters for many Illinois state parks and other IDNR sites for this year. Reservations can be made online through the Reserve America website at www.reserveamerica.com using a Visa or MasterCard.

Letters

Continued from page 7

found in so much of the media. There is a larger audience that shares Branco's viewpoints than the left understands.

I hope to see "The Squad" cartoon soon.
Keith Roberts

Despite tax hikes, Illinois fails to balance budget for 19th year in a row
Dear Editor,

Republicans and Democrats sang the same song at the Statehouse after rapidly passing the largest budget in state history. "It's balanced."

Unfortunately, watchdogs couldn't offer much dissent in the moment. Lawmakers passed the 1,581-page document over the course of one weekend. In the absence of independent analysis, which takes more than a couple days to complete on a \$40 billion spending plan, political rhetoric was rampant.

It was all eerily familiar. In 2018, state lawmakers on both sides of the aisle claimed they had balanced the budget. But Illinois Policy Institute analysis had it out of whack by up to \$1.5 billion, depending on revenue projections. The truth came out three months later, when the state admitted to potential bond buyers that the Fiscal Year 2019 budget was out of balance by \$1.2 billion.

And this year is no different. The new budget signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker June 6 is out of balance by up to \$1.3 billion according to Institute analysis, depending again on optimism in growth forecasts.

This means Illinois has not had a balanced state budget for 19 years straight.

And that's despite more than \$1 billion in brand new revenue for the state's operating budget. That money will come from things like licensing for legalized recreational cannabis, expanding the sales tax to online marketplaces, a new tax on managed care health insurance and more.

It's easy to forget why this matters. Some Illinoisans have become numb to the new normal.

But unbalanced budgets mean at least one of three things must happen in the future: spending cuts, tax hikes or new debt. You can bet more tax hikes and debt are around the corner to pay off deficit spending.

So why can't Illinois balance a budget? There are many political reasons for this. But the math points to a simple reality.

Researchers at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois did the yeoman's work of pulling together all the state's revenues and spending each year from 1998 to 2018.

What their analysis shows is a healthy rise in revenue – a 47 percent increase over 20 years after adjusting for inflation. That's plenty of growth to balance the budget each year. But the state's spending appetite has grown far faster – rising 57 percent over the same time.

This is why the books won't balance. The state has a spending problem. And that's led to a debt problem, too. Moody's Investors Service pegs Illinois' pension debt at more than 600 percent of state revenues. That's the highest level of any state in history, according to the ratings agency.

After passing a \$45 billion capital plan, a state budget without any significant spending reforms, doubling the state gas tax, hiking lawmaker pay and drawing some Republican votes for it all, Pritzker is already drawing comparisons to former Republican Illinois Gov. "Big" Jim Thompson.

But the path that Thompson, his protégé Jim Edgar and a Democrat-dominated General Assembly blazed throughout the 1980s and 1990s is how Illinois got into this mess.

Band-Aid fixes and spending-heavy compromises were rampant. And now it's all coming home to roost.

One small example: Both of those former governors currently collect annual state pensions of more than \$160,000 annually. That's largely a product of the automatic, compounding 3 percent annual pension benefit increases Thompson signed into law in 1989.

Pritzker has refused to tackle that enormous cost-driver through a constitutional amendment. Instead, he and House Speaker Mike Madigan passed a constitutional amendment allowing for a progressive income tax, where rates rise with income. Illinois voters will decide on that question in 2020.

The governor and others have yet to realize that political compromise among special interests is not the same as broad compromise involving ordinary taxpayers. That broad compromise would involve reforms like a constitutional spending cap, which drew bipartisan support in 2018 and 2019. And pension reform.

Until then, beware any talk of balanced budgets.

It's usually not what it seems.
By Austin Berg
The Center Square



Park Bench

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

Preschool

Preschool Registration – Now Open

Preschool registration for school year 2019-20 is now open. A \$35 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration along with a copy of your child's birth certificate. We offer preschool for 2 and a half, 3 and 4 year olds during the day and an evening program for 3 to 5 year olds. Your child must be the appropriate age by Sept. 1. For more information or class availability, call 847-622-0003.

Special Events

Fishing With The Fire Chief

South Elgin has some of the best local pond fishing in the area; we stock our ponds twice annually to ensure the youth of our community the opportunity of catching fish each and every time they visit one of our amazing ponds. Join the South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District's Chief Steve Wascher or a member of the administration at the pond to spend one hour fishing with our local heroes. Please bring a fishing pole, however, your bait will be provided. We politely ask parents to remain on-site with

their child. Registration is required. This event will be held Thursday, Aug. 8 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Blackhawk Park Pond.

Movie in the Park – 'Sherlock Gnomes'

Friday, Aug. 2 – Dusk
Jim Hansen Park

Bring the family out for this free community event! Concessions will open at 6:30 p.m. Bring a chair and blanket and pick your spot!

National Night Out

Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 6 to 9 p.m.
Jim Hansen Park

This event is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for local anti-crime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are fighting back. 7th Heaven will be performing.

For more information on these and other programs offered by South Elgin Parks and Recreation, please call 847-622-0003 or visit our website at www.southelgin.com—Parks & Recreation—Programs—Seasonal Brochure.



Read! Learn! Connect!

...where the world is just a page away.

For All Ages

It's Showtime! is our summer reading program at the library for all ages from infants through adults. Read and listen to books and get prizes! St. Charles Library cardholders and children residing in the D303 school district are welcome. Registration is now open.

For Kids

Drop-In Story Times for all ages are Mondays through Thursdays from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and Fridays from 1 to 1:30 p.m. until Aug. 9. Drop in for stories, music and movement.

Video Game Night for grades six to eight is Thursday, July 25 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Try out your gaming skills against other middle schoolers! Come play games on our Switch and other

consoles. Games and remotes will be provided. Drop in to attend.

Stories and Snacks Drop-In Story Time is Tuesday, July 30 from 6:30 to 7 p.m. This program is filled with stories, music, movement and a special bedtime snack.

The **Harry Potter Party** for all ages is Wednesday, July 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit the Youth Services Department for many hands on activities and fun, all related to the most popular wizarding world.

The **Friday Family Film** for children and families is Friday, Aug. 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Beat the heat at the library while watching a popular children's movie! No registration is required.

‘Madam President’ pays visit to library

On Wednesday, July 17, Lynn Rymarz, as First Lady Edith Wilson, shared the story of her life with President Woodrow Wilson. Her presentation related the love story between the two before and during his time in office, the involvement of the nation during WWI

, the strength she developed when the president suffered a paralyzing stroke in 1919 and how she secretly stepped in his last 18 months in office to act on his behalf as “Madam President.” Rymarz also depicts other women from history including Martha Washington, Mary Todd Lincoln, Nelly Bly, (“Unsinkable” Molly Brown), Julia



The audience listened attentively to Mrs. Wilson’s recollections.



On display for the presentation were several books about the Wilsons’ life together. (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)



Maureen Glowacki, left, and Dolores Schark attended the talk.



Marietta Satalino asked Edith Wilson a question about her time in the White House.



Jane Ellingsworth came to see her cousin Lynn Rymarz, as she has done several times when Rymarz has depicted notable women in U.S. history.



Lynn Rymarz as Edith Wilson read one of the more than 250 love letters she and the president exchanged during their courtship.

Hawks 12U softball team takes second at tournament



Pictured from left to right: Top row: Coach Martha Farabaugh, Emily Fagan, Amanda McNamara, Ally Gargano, coach Chris Farabaugh, Grace Angelone, Christina Stankus, coach Angie Stankus and coach Jody Fagan. Bottom row: Julia Palella, Grace Wilkens, Kristin Farabaugh, Julia Wilkens and Angelina Santoro. (Courtesy photo)

The Bartlett Hawks 12U travel softball team gave their coach a water bath after they took second place in their final tournament of the season at the Winfield of Dreams Tournament on Sunday, July 14. During the tournament, which ran from Friday, July 12 through Sunday, July 14, the Hawks went 2-0-1 in pool play. They opened with a 12-4 win over the Winfield Wolverines on July 12 and then on July 13, they defeated the Woodstock Extreme 14-1 and tied the Batavia Bulldogs 9-9. In bracket play on the final day of the tourney, the Hawks began by topping the Burr Ridge Blast 8-4, on seven hits, led by Angelina Santoro with two and one each by Grace Wilkens, Emily Fagan, Grace Angelone, Ally Gargano and Amanda McNamara all tallying one. The win earned the Hawks a trip to the tournament semi-finals and a rematch with the Batavia Bulldogs.

In the semi-final contest, the Hawks prevailed by a score of 9-1 as the Hawks limited Batavia to only one hit in five innings behind the pitching of Grace Wilkens and lights out defensive plays by Julia Palella and Julia Wilkens. The Hawks knocked out 11 hits, led by Fagan with three, and Kristin Farabaugh, Santoro and Christina Stankus all having two hits each, and Gargano drove in a pair of runs. In the title game, after being down 3-1, the Hawks battled back against the Itasca Lady Knights to tie the game in the fifth inning, however they came up just short as a result of a 4-3 loss. The Winfield tournament capped off a successful season for the Hawks where they won their league title the week prior to the tournament. In league play (Fox Valley League), Bartlett went 8-1 which included a 5-2 win in the championship game on Tuesday, July 9 over the Roselle Rockers.