

## Press Clippings 11/8/2017

---Daily Herald--- 11/8/17

### **Editorial: Hiring more black teachers a worthy goal in U-46**



Ron Raglin, an assistant superintendent at Elgin Area School District U-46, speaks during last weekend's panel discussion on improving educational prospects for black males.

Would hiring more black teachers assist in closing the achievement gap for black male students?

That's one thing Elgin Area School District U-46 board member Traci O'Neal Ellis says is needed in that district. Studies back her up, and it is a common-sense solution that we agree with as well.

"It's good for all students to see a diversity of teachers in their classrooms," Ellis said at a weekend symposium focusing on issues facing the more than 1,200 black male students in the district. "But particularly, if we are serious about addressing black male student achievement, that is a critical component that they see people who look like them."

A study released earlier this year and reported by The Washington Post says that assigning black students from low-income black families to at least one black teacher in the third, fourth or fifth grades reduces the probability that they drop out of high school by 29 percent. And the results are even larger -- 39 percent -- for male black students.

"This isn't a situation where students need two, three or four black teachers to make a difference," said Nicholas W. Papageorge, an assistant professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, who helped conduct the study. "This could be implemented tomorrow."

In U-46, black students make up about 6 percent of the student body and black teachers make up about 2 percent of the faculty.

Increasing that number should be a goal. And for Hispanics as well. By extension, similar outcomes may apply to Hispanic students, who make up 53.3 percent of the U-

46 student body while Hispanic teachers make up just 19.2 percent, a disparity the district has made efforts to address.

Why is it important to make this a goal worthy of attention? Papageorge co-authored a 2016 study that found white and black teachers have different expectations for black students. According to the study, a nonblack teacher is 30 percent less likely to believe that a student will graduate from a four-year college than a black teacher who is evaluating the same student. For black males, that number is even lower.

It's a reality that seems to be borne out in Elgin: "We just want to say that this is our district's acknowledgment that your experiences have been different. We believe in your inherent value and we are conveying that to you," said April Wells, the district's gifted program coordinator, at the symposium last weekend.

It is noteworthy that the district's administrators recognize the work that needs to be done. Now, it's important that they do it and that district parents and residents support them in the effort. Helping all students succeed and recognizing that it takes different approaches for different students is good for the district, the students and the community as a whole.

---Daily Herald--- 11/8/17

## **U-46 partnering with Gail Borden to honor veterans**

SUBMITTED BY ELGIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



On Nov. 6-10, students from Elgin Area School District U-46 will honor veterans with assemblies and programs.

Students and staff in Elgin Area School District U-46 will support and honor local veterans and troops with special ceremonies, concerts, breakfasts and assemblies the week of Nov. 6.

In addition, more than a dozen local veterans are visiting 80-plus classrooms in 16 schools across the district next week to talk to students about their service and their lives.

The district is providing this opportunity for living history lessons in partnership with the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to learn through stories told directly by the men and women who have served our country," said Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders. "We're grateful for another great partnership with Gail Borden Library to provide a memorable learning experience."

Veterans in this special program, "Veterans Voices," are scheduled to visit Clinton, Fox Meadow, Garfield, Hanover Countryside, Laurel Hill, Liberty, Lords Park, Nature Ridge, Oakhill, Ronald D. O'Neal, Parkwood, Ridge Circle, Spring Trail, Timber Trails, and Washington elementary schools and South Elgin High School between Nov. 6 and 10.

Veterans who may want to participate in future "Veterans Voices" events are encouraged to visit [www.gailborden.info/veterans](http://www.gailborden.info/veterans) to learn more and submit a volunteer application.

Additional Veterans Day events are as follows:

- Abbott Middle School, 949 Van St. in Elgin: On Monday, Nov. 6, to Thursday, Nov. 9, students will write letters/thank-you cards to active service members. At 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, students will participate in a virtual assembly honoring Illinois veterans and active military service members.
- Bartlett High School, 701 W. Schick Road: Assembly from 9:15 to 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Canton Middle School, 1100 Sunset Circle, Streamwood: CMS partners with Salute Inc. to fundraise, host and salute veterans. Fundraiser involves the principal, vice principal and dean taking a pie to the face. On Friday, Nov. 10, there will be an assembly from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by veterans in classrooms.
- Century Oaks Elementary, 1235 Braeburn Drive in Elgin: Various classroom events, including writing letters to our veterans thanking them for their service, on Monday, Nov. 6, to Friday, Nov. 10.
- Hawk Hollow Elementary, 235 Jacaranda Drive, Bartlett: Students will give presentations for the veterans and veterans will go into classrooms to share their experiences in the armed forces from 8:15 to 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 6.
- Heritage Elementary, 507 Arnold Ave., Streamwood: Students will honor veterans during a ceremony at the flagpole from 8 to 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Hillcrest Elementary, 80 N. Airlite St., Elgin: Jerry Paulsen, veteran and founder of Operation Horses & Heroes, will present to fourth- to sixth-graders from 9:30 to 10:25 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Horizon Elementary, 1701 Greenbrook Blvd., Hanover Park: Day of Honor breakfast and schoolwide assembly from 8:30 a.m. to noon Thursday, Nov. 9. Band, orchestra and chorus will perform a musical tribute to the armed forces. Veterans welcome. Visits to classrooms by veterans as well.
- Huff Elementary, 801 Hastings St., Elgin: From 6 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, there will be a short musical presentation by fifth- and sixth-graders, followed by interactive breakout sessions where students and veterans can interact while enjoying a small reception.

- Kenyon Woods Middle School, 1515 Raymond St., South Elgin: Musical tribute to veterans at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Kimball Middle School, 451 N. McLean Blvd., Elgin: From 2:25 to 3:25 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, there will be an assembly featuring Elgin AMVETS Post members and local historian Jerry Turnquist, presenting the colors, discussing the history of our country's flag and the importance that it has played for our veterans and current service members. They will also share the procedures for retiring a tattered flag. Kimball students and staff will also pay tribute to family members who are veterans or are currently in one of the service branches.
- Liberty Elementary, 1375 W. Bartlett Road, Bartlett: Breakfast for family veterans and program from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Lincoln Elementary, 1650 Maureen Drive, Hoffman Estates: Veterans Day celebration Nov. 6-10
- Parkwood Elementary, 2150 Laurel Ave., Hanover Park: Guest veterans will present an overview of the branches of the military service to Parkwood students. Veterans will also highlight their personal military experiences. The programs will be 11 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8; 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 9; and 9 to 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Prairieview Elementary, 285 Mayflower Lane, Bartlett: On Friday, Nov. 10, an assembly at 1:15 p.m. featuring the school's Boy and Girl Scouts Color guard, presentation, all school Pledge of Allegiance and national anthem, Veterans Day poems, and a talk from a member of the military services.
- Ronald D. O'Neal Elementary, 510 Franklin Blvd., Elgin: Assembly at 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at Veterans Memorial Park, near the Gail Borden Public Library.
- Spring Trail Elementary School, 1384 Spring Valley Drive, Carol Stream: Veterans Day assembly from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- South Elgin High School, 760 E. Main St., South Elgin: Assembly held outside by the flagpole from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.
- Ontarioville School, 2100 Elm St., Hanover Park: Assembly at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 9.

---Courier News--- 11/8/17

## **U-46 tax levy likely growing**

School district expected to adopt 2.6 percent hike

**BY RAFAEL GUERRERO**

School District U46's levy appears set to increase, based on a pair of Monday school board votes.

Board members approved items that move forward a proposed 2.6 percent increase in total property taxes levied, by a vote of 5-2.

Under the resolution, estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2017 would be just under \$315 million, a 2.6 percent increase from 2016.

The tax levy certificate and the resolution will be presented at the Nov. 20 meeting, with final adoption set for the first board meeting in December.

Board members Jeanette Ward and Phil Costello objected to the items, citing concerns over the district's budget size, overburdening U46 taxpayers and continuing enrollment decline within the boundaries. District officials discussed trends in enrollment separately from the tax levy talks during Monday's meeting.

However, board members Sue Kerr and Melissa Owens defended their yes votes, noting how the district is still recovering from drastic cuts in 2008. Kerr said the district needs to take into account matters not yet stable, such as state funding, class sizes, or the costs of its first charter school next school year.

"We are not a big spending district in terms of per capita spending," said Kerr. "We have a number of classrooms with 30-34 kids in them. And that to me is too many. I would like to see us try to reduce class sizes ... other things that we can do to improve education, and that costs money."

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# The Examiner of BARTLETT

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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

75 cents  
November 8, 2017

U-46 taxes to rise as enrollment dips  
See ..... Page 7

Village veterans acknowledged  
See ... Pages 14, 15

## Grants being pondered for Metra Station work

By Christy Mazza

The village is considering applying for a grant through the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) in an effort to make improvements to the train station and downtown area.

Trustee Vince Carbonaro, following discussions he had with staff at Representative Peter Roskam's office, had suggested during past board meetings that staff should look into grants to fund the realignment of the platforms.

Community Development Director Jim Plonczynski said as a result village staff is considering applying for two ITEP grants. These grants are issued through IDOT using federal funds. An ITEP grant is set up as an 80/20 split, meaning the grant will cover 80 percent of the cost of the project with 20 percent to be paid by the village. The grant limit is \$2 million.

The first grant application, according to Plonczynski, is for realigning the train platform. Plonczynski said the cost of this project is estimated between \$3.5 million and \$4 million. This estimate is a few years old and came from a meeting village staff had with Metra engineers at that time. An engineer was not hired to update the costs for the grant application.

Due to the cost of the project and the grant limit, the village would be responsible for anywhere from \$1.5 to \$2 million for this project.

The second application is for the renovation of existing crosswalks and curbs for ADA compliance and for the installation of crosswalks mid-block. The estimated cost for this project is \$106,000, according to Plonczynski, which would put the village portion at approximately \$21,000.

"Both are TOD plan recommendations," said Plonczynski.

This past summer, the village board adopted the Transit-Oriented Development plan, a plan designed by a consultant team including Solomon Cordwell Buenz, the Goodman Williams Group and Fish Transportation Group and included input from village staff, residents and local stakeholders, that outlines how best to improve the downtown area through development.

Before the applications for the grant can be submitted, the village board needs to approve a resolution. Additionally, Plonczynski said the village will need to solicit support from other entities.

The grant submittal date is Friday, Dec. 1, and approvals are expected next April.



### Taking multiple chances

Chrissy Williams dropped her raffle tickets into several baskets, hoping for at least one winner at the Lions Club Fall Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 5. For story and more photos see page 12.

(Examiner photo by Juli Schatz)

## Editorial

### Race Hustling on the U-46 School Board

#### Part VI

As we wrote last week, the deeper we look into the background of School District U-46 trustee **Traci O'Neal Ellis**, the more shocking her audacity becomes, the more clearly defined her character flaws appear, and the more urgently we feel that she needs to be purged from public office.

In this final installment (for now), we concede that *The Examiner* has covered a wearying expanse of ground over the past five weeks. Yet, what follows—though still incomplete—is a litany of new information. We hope to convince our readers, if we haven't yet, that **Ellis** is a deplorable race hustler in the mold of Al Sharpton. She fails to pay her taxes, defaults on mortgages, creates racial turmoil in order to leverage the threat of more racial turmoil into personal wealth and political power, and complains all along the way that she is a victim.

A good place to start has us turning back the clock a few short years to January 2011, when **Ellis'** name appears in the records of the Clerk of the Superior Court in Cobb County, Georgia. Those records indicate that **Ellis** was practicing law in Georgia in the early 2000s, but her movements are quite difficult to track. The court records make clear, however, that **Ellis** had taken out a \$96,800 real estate loan in 2005 and somehow managed to turn it into a \$104,478.69 foreclosure five years later. Anyone can have bad luck, of course, and we would hesitate to draw conclusions from this one instance of failure to pay her debt—even if she occasionally holds herself out to be a talented attorney selling her expertise to businesses. But, **Ellis** is not a one-foreclosure type of gal. Just seven months later, **Ellis'** name again appears on Georgia court records in another foreclosure action. This time, **Ellis** borrowed \$345,000 to purchase a home for which she paid \$427,260 in 2002. A nice lifestyle if you can afford it—especially if, in the case of **Ellis**, you seemingly have no intention to pay for it. By the time the lender chased her down, a principal balance of \$308,220.64 remained unpaid.

If that wasn't enough, **Ellis** somehow managed—despite structural racism—to secure yet another \$175,000 in real estate loans for a limited liability company: Skyjay LLC. **Ellis** was the sole member of the company, which she organized in 2007, and which the State of Georgia dissolved five years later for **Ellis'** failure file statutorily required documents. Guess what happened during those intervening years? **Ellis** defaulted on that third of three loans. Oh, and the same year the State of Georgia dissolved **Ellis'** Skyjay LLC, the State of Illinois involuntarily dissolved **Traci D. Ellis, LLC**. (**Traci D. Ellis**, by the way, is an alias name **Traci O'Neal Ellis** continues to use today, and surely must come in handy for a person who leaves behind such an impressively wide swath of interstate financial destruction.)

Three large defaults in a few short years, defaults totaling well over half a million dollars, are not bad luck. They represent bad faith, the bad faith of an antisocial bad actor of breathtaking audacity, and her audacity does not end with private contracts. **Ellis** also seems to consider herself above paying her federal income taxes. During the same time she was defaulting and being foreclosed upon all over Georgia, **Ellis** was also not paying what she owed in income taxes. Apparently, private contracts and federal laws—like the American Flag—are little more than toilet paper to **Traci O'Neal Ellis/Traci D. Ellis, Attorney at Law**. Here is a copy of the

federal tax lien attached to her foreclosures in Georgia court filings:

Quite understandably, **Ellis** quickly got out of Dodge, returning to her hometown of Elgin. A sketchy work history suggests that **Ellis**, despite her demonstrated charm, had a difficult time holding a job. For a short time, she held what seemed to be a dream job for a race hustler: Assistant Director of Affirmative Action Investigations for Northern Illinois University. We don't know

| Kind of Tax (a)                        | Tax Period Ending (b) | Identifying Number (c) | Date of Assessment (d) | Last Day for Paying (e) | Unpaid Balance of Assessment (f) |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1040                                   | 12/31/2007            | XXX-XX-7598            | 06/30/2008             | 07/30/2018              | 8985.37                          |
| FOR DUP SEE mw DE Book 14867 Page 1616 |                       |                        |                        |                         |                                  |
| FOR REL SEE mw LB Book 64 Page 4420    |                       |                        |                        |                         |                                  |

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for: THERESA HARLEY  
Title: ACS (800) 829-3903

25-00-0008

(NOTE: Certificate of officer authorized by law to take acknowledgment is not essential to the validity of Notice of Federal Tax Lien. Rev. Rul. 71-446, 1971-2 CB 409)

See Part VI, pg. 5

# Part VI

Continued from page 1

why she separated from the university, but perhaps she overachieved by indulging her habit of seeing racism everywhere. Regardless, she landed on her feet, once again—securing another sweet government job at IMSA. As we reported in Part III of this series, her total IMSA compensation package amounts to \$133,987. And racist America didn't come through only for Mrs. Ellis. Her husband Rickey, whose name you also see on the federal tax lien, above, hauls in another \$101,674 from the City of Elgin for his work at the Bluff City Cemetery. According to the city's job description, Rickey's position doesn't even require a college degree, which doesn't offend us, but we do wonder what U-46 CEO Tony Sanders thinks about it. After all, if Sanders is outraged by corrections officers with only high school degrees making half that much money, he must be disgusted by Rickey's compensation. Perhaps, in his discussions about structural racism with Rickey's wife, the subject never comes up.

Now, some folks may argue that pulling down nearly a quarter of a million household dollars every year does not contradict, necessarily, Ellis' self-portrayal as an oppressed victim who can still feel the heave, pitch, and roll of the slave ship. But, what if those folks found out that Ellis' mother was not a domestic servant, but rather a school principal in U-46? What if they found out further that Ellis' father was not a field hand, but also a school principal in U-46? What if they found our further yet, that while Ellis occupied her current seat on the school board, that same school board changed the name of Sheridan Elementary School to Ronald D. O'Neal Elementary School, in honor of her father?

Those folks would then know what we wrote at the start: Traci O'Neal Ellis is the Al Sharpton of U-46—a phony, shameless racial bomb-thrower, tax cheat, and self-promoting, self-serving grifter who is willing to hurt anyone and everyone to cash in.

Many of us who comprise of the more than 50 percent of U-46 students of Hispanic heritage can scarcely imagine the privilege Ellis enjoyed as the silver-spooned child of two school district administrators.

Many of us at whom Ellis sneers because we are white, whose parents or grandparents were spat upon immigrants from Italy, Ireland and elsewhere, and who are first generation high school or college graduates, fail to see our privilege relative to hers.

Many of us who are of Asian descent, representing roughly the same percentage of the U-46 student body as black students, and who are affirmatively discriminated against by colleges admissions offices in favor of black students, would love to be oppressed if being oppressed is living the life of Traci O'Neal Ellis.

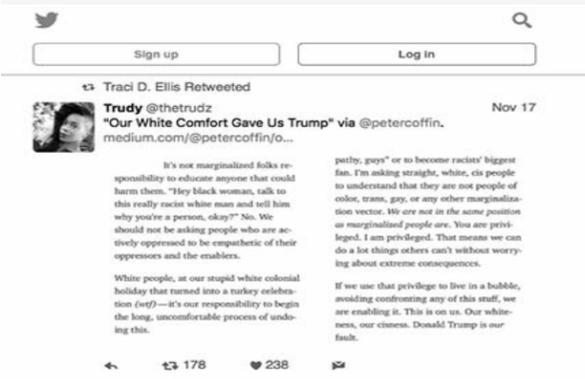
As *The Examiner* has stated more than once, we do not like writing about identity politics because identity politics are destructive to the republic, the same republic for which the American Flag stands—the same flag for which Ellis holds only contempt. Yet, our hand has been forced by Ellis' disgraceful behavior on and off of the U-46 school board. If any doubt remains, for any of our readers, after six weeks of fact-laden editorials, we urge those readers to pursue a sampling of Ellis' greatest racial hits—in her own words—on the facing page.

Otherwise, we will conclude by stating simply: Ellis is a blight upon the public square. Voters would do well to remember this blinding truth and be motivated to do what lies within their power to ensure that Ellis' current term on the school board is her last term on the school board.

For six weeks now, we have offered our response to School District U-46 trustee Traci O'Neal Ellis' Sept. 24 Facebook post equating the American Flag with toilet paper, and her subsequent full-throated public defense of that comparison.

The graphics to the left represent a small sampling of how Ellis represents herself and, inescapably, our school district to the world—including the 40,000-plus students who must live by the policy decisions rendered under her temperament and judgment.

We offer them without further comment, trusting that they speak for themselves.



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# Pet of the Week



## Seeking a new home (and lap)

Nobody has a sweeter disposition than the lovely Matka! Gentle, affectionate and always eager for attention, Matka is the ultimate lap cat. Sadly, she has been living a lap-less life as a stray, but Matka hasn't let that get her down. She has been meeting new people and making new friends until she finds that one special lap that fits just right. Matka is 1 year old, spayed, up-to-date on vaccines, and ready to go home. Please visit [www.dupageco.org/animalcontrol](http://www.dupageco.org/animalcontrol) for more details or call 407-2800. *(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)*

# New exhibit opens at Bartlett Depot Museum

By Christy Mazza

A new exhibit entitled "Over There, Over Here: Bartlett and the Great War" was set to open at the Bartlett Depot Museum on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

During the Tuesday, Oct. 17 Village Board meeting, Pam Rohleder, director of the Village of Bartlett museums, introduced the new exhibit through a story about a village family that received a Christmas label in 1918. Their son was one of the 19 Bartlett residents serving overseas in World War I.

"That year each serviceman was given one Christmas label to send home to the person of his choice from whom he wanted to receive a Christmas gift that year," explained Rohleder.

Whomever received the label would take it to the Red Cross in Elgin, Rohleder added, where they would receive a small box where gifts, including possibly Doublemint Gum, could be placed and sent overseas.

"Why was that so important?" Rohleder asked. "You'll have to come to our new exhibit to find out."

Through letters, pictures and other artifacts, "Over There, Over Here: Bartlett and the Great War" will tell the story of the 19 servicemen from Bartlett that served during WWI.

Rohleder explained that the location was specifically chosen because, for the troops, the depot was the point of departure from Bartlett and arrival from their time overseas.

An opening reception was held on Nov. 7 at the Bartlett Depot Museum, where visitors had the opportunity to make a remembrance poppy and to write a thank you note to veterans.

"The poppy, of course, [is] a symbol of the great war," Rohleder said. "[It is] still being used today by veterans organizations to raise money."

The regular hours for the museum, at 100 W. Railroad Ave., are Tuesday and Thursday from noon until 5 p.m. and the first and third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. until noon.

For more information, visit [www.villageofbartlettmuseums.org](http://www.villageofbartlettmuseums.org) or call 837-0800.

# Storm soccer defenders named to all-UEC squad

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team finished its 2017 campaign with an 8-10-3 record, 2-3 in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division.

Leading the Storm this year were a pair of senior defenders, AJ Kirkby and Sergio Briones, who earned all-conference honors.

Helping lead the backline, the all-conference duo were a part of four shutouts by the Storm this season. South Elgin allowed 1.8 goals per game.

"He was an outstanding leader for our team this season and has led by

See Storm, pg. 10

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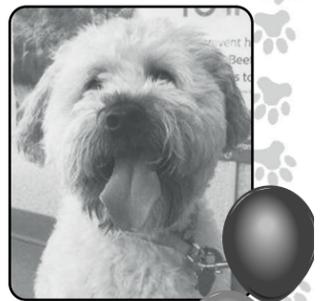


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# U-46 tax levy set to rise, enrollment declining

By Seth Hancock

The ball is now rolling on an increase in the property tax levy in School District U-46 as the Board of Education approved two measures at its meeting on Monday, Nov. 6.

By 5-2 votes, Phil Costello and Jeanette Ward voting no, the board approved the determination of the levy as well as a separate resolution on the 2017 tax levy. Jeff King, chief operations officer, said the official vote on the tax levy increase will be taken on Dec. 4.

The increased levy in the proposal is the maximum allowed under the law with an \$8 million increase from \$307 million to \$315 million.

Ward noted the forecasted declines in enrollment that the district expects within the Fiscal Year 2018 budget which shows expected student population dropping by around 2 percent a year for the foreseeable future eventually falling to 36,360 by the 2020-21 school year while at the same time the district plans to spend more and tax more each year.

"U-46 is also set to receive close to \$13 million in additional dollars from the state of Illinois," Ward noted and said: "We should be reducing the property tax burden correspondingly.... Instead we are increasing total spending by \$6.5 million from last year and correspondingly the tax levy (increase)."

The district also plans to use an abatement process for the third straight year which is designed to effectively keep the levy flat, but Ward called that process a "sleight of hand" as the district is "in fact increasing the levy extension in a permanent manner while we abate back the money on a temporary basis, and that's disingenuous to the taxpayers."

Costello asked about a property tax freeze bill currently making its way through the Illinois General Assembly and if it would affect this current levy if approved, which King said it would, and Costello said that would possibly make these levy discussions a "moot point."

However, Costello said he shares similar concerns on the budget as Ward which is why he voted no.

"I have concerns about the budget, the overall size of the budget, the direction of the budget and some of the down the road implications of that budget," Costello said.

Those votes represented Costello and Ward doing their job of holding the district accountable and being responsible to the taxpayers according to Joel Rio who spoke during public comments at a special board meeting on Monday, Oct. 30.

Rio said that his family moved to the district 22 years ago and has seen his income and sales taxes rise while the Cook "county government took a run at a ridiculous beverage tax and tried to package it as a health concern."

"Property and income taxes are at such high levels that it's stagnating our real estate markets," Rio said. "Homeowners who want to sell their property find it hard because nobody wants to take on the tax burdens. Businesses don't want to be in Illinois because they know that the current financial environment is not sustainable. Politicians for far too long have kicked the can down the road. It's long past time to be responsible."

Rio noted the declining enrollment yet the board approved the FY2018 budget which was in deficit, \$517.9 million in expenses and \$509.1 million

in revenue.

"The financial well is not bottomless, and this family is tapped out," Rio said. "Citizens of Illinois are tapped out and our patience is tapped out."

However, the board's majority and administration claimed the district does not spend enough despite the fact that expenditures have continued to rise year after year through declining enrollment. Board members Traci Ellis, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens and Donna Smith all voted for the tax increase.

Kerr claimed "we're not a big spending district in terms of per capita spending" and said she wanted to look at "things to improve the education" such as reducing class sizes which "costs money." She also blamed the Elgin Math and Science Academy charter school as a need to increase taxes.

Ellis asked if there was a penalty "if we don't maximize our levy? Is there some reduction in state aid?" Dale Burnidge, director of financial operations, said "that was part of the previous (funding) formula" from the state and U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said the new funding formula is "means tested."

However, there has never been a penalty under the common understanding of the word as district's were never penalized for not increasing their tax levies, it simply meant they did not take more money from the taxpayers.

King said: "If in theory we went with a zero increase in the levy, the state is not going to make up that difference."

Owens claimed "we are not doing the full service to our children, what we could be providing them" claiming "we haven't gotten back to the level we were at in 2008" when she claimed services were cut.

That claim comes despite the expenditures rising per student well beyond the rate of inflation as well as the district expanding operations last school year with full-day kindergarten district-wide.

From budget information on the district website, the FY2008 budget spent \$422.1 million while enrollment was at 40,186 in the 2007-08 school year meaning the district spent \$10,504 per student then. Under the current budget of \$517.9 million in spending and 39,377 enrollment, the current figures on the Illinois State Board of Education report card, U-46 spends \$13,152 which is a 25.2 percent increase in spending per student.

Using the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, the district should only be spending \$11,850 today meaning its spending \$1,302 over the rate of inflation per student.

King said the board will have to "make a decision, probably in this next year," which could include more debt or running deficit budgets.

Kerr said: "We don't know how reliable Springfield will be on getting that money to us. If the last 10 years is any indication, I don't have a huge amount of faith in them."

"The state borrowed very heavily to try and pay some of the backlog of bills," King said and added he doesn't "see how they are going to balance their budget."

Sanders, who admitted U-46 has "been overtaxing its residents," said "the prudent thing would be to increase the levy, take advantage of the levy, abate what we can" until the district knows if the new state funding formula will be sustainable.

Also approved on Nov. 6 was \$12.5 million in itemized bills with a 7-0 vote.



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# State report card results presented to Dist. U-46

By Seth Hancock

The 2017 report card issued by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has been released, and the School District U-46 administration presented data to the Board of Education on Monday, Oct. 30. It was a special meeting not on the board's meeting schedule.

Laura Hill, director of assessment and accountability, said the report card data was "only a fraction of what we use as educators."

The data showed that the district saw a drop in number of students meeting or exceeding standards on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) exam, given to third through eighth graders, to 28 percent in 2017, down from 29 percent in 2016 and 33 percent in 2015. The state average was 34 percent.

In math, the PARCC data showed 28.4 percent meeting or exceeding standards, and 27.4 percent met or exceeded standards in English Language Arts (ELA).

It was the first year the SAT was used to measure high school students, and U-46 had 31 percent meeting or exceeding standards on the composite compared to 39 percent from the state. U-46 was at 32 percent for ELA (40 percent state average), and 29 percent in math (37 percent state average).

Despite continuing to lag behind the state, U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said: "I will continue to say that we are on the right path, that we are showing growth above the state in many areas."

Sanders called it "problematic to draw any conclusions" from the PARCC exam scores because it is an exam primarily taken in English and the district has a high population of students who are deemed Limited English Proficiency (LEP).

Despite implementing a dual language program in the 2011-12 school year that U-46 has touted as leading to bilingualism and bi-literacy, the district has seen a steady increase in LEP students since 2009, increasing year to year from around 20 percent in 2009 to now 28.7 percent.

The number of low-income students has also been on the rise since 2009 and is now at 60.9 percent. The percentages of students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 13.1 percent, and those who are homeless, 1.6 percent, have been relatively flat.

The percentage of Hispanic students in the district has risen from 39.3 percent in 2006 to 53.3 percent in 2017, and the number of white students has declined from 44.7 percent to 27.7 percent. Asian students (8.3 percent) and black students (6.3 percent) have remained flat, under a percentage point change for both categories.

The 2017 enrollment is 39,377 which is down from 39,963 in 2016 and 40,400 in 2015, which was the peak in enrollment over the past five years. From 2008 to 2017, the districts attendance rate has dropped from 94.3 percent to 92.8 percent.

On advanced placement courses, the district saw an increase from 6,073 to 6,362 students taking AP courses from 2016 to 2017, and the number of exams given increased from 3,515 to 3,725. Within the four categories, the district saw an increase in the number of AP scholars from 395 to 442.

The district's four-year graduation rate was 86.1 percent, and five-year was 89.9 percent.

Using National Student Clearinghouse data, the district showed that 63.1 percent of U-46 graduates in 2009 enrolled in college the first year after graduation and 51.8 percent of those

students are either still enrolled or have graduated (43.2 percent have graduated).

Matt Raimondi, coordinator of assessment and accountability, said "similar results are seen for other graduating classes like the class of 2010" which saw 65 percent enroll right after graduation with 51.7 percent having either graduated college (39.9 percent) or are still enrolled.

Concerning the PARCC exam and the ELA portion, Raimondi said "we have found that there is a relationship" between taking the exam with paper and pencil compared to online saying there has been an 11 to 13 percent downward among all grade levels since going to online only.

Board member Jeanette Ward said she has personal experience saying: "I have taken the test myself, and it is very frustrating to have to scroll back up to the story that's provided to answer questions about it."

Ward, who said she's "no fan of PARCC," made some suggestions that a paper portion is given with the story while the test is taken online or providing students with two monitors. Hill called those "great suggestions" and Raimondi said the district can offer feedback to the vendors and make those suggestions.

Board member Veronica Noland asked if other districts have seen the same kind of drop since moving from paper to online which Raimondi said "the state hasn't released any data on district's transitioning from one mode to the next," but they would speak to other districts.

Board member Melissa Owens asked if the PARCC exam is completely taken in English which Raimondi said "some students can take the math portion in Spanish."

Board member Sue Kerr said there was a disparity with low-income schools generally underperforming and said "we pretty much have a curriculum that's uniform throughout the district" and asked if schools can use different resources to which Suzanne Johnson, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning, said the district is "drafting a plan to do a deeper data analysis." In answering a question from board member Donna Smith, Johnson said "certainly there is flexibility" in classroom instruction.

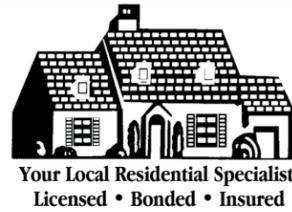
Board member Traci Ellis said she wants to "ensure we are looking at the kids as capable, ready" and said the adults need to change which Johnson said it's "upon us the adults to do a better job" and it's about "changing adult behaviors." Owens said "we do need to address that" disparity from low-income schools.

Ward responded: "One way to address low-income or low-performing schools is to allow the parents the freedom to choose their school. Even inside U-46 you could do something like that where if a parent's student is attending a low performing school, they could have the freedom to pick a different school in the district. I think that would help a lot that students wouldn't be continually stuck in a low performing school."

Ward also noted the poor math scores in the data and asked if the district was considering changing the curriculum? Johnson said "we are not considering a new math curriculum" but are looking at adding a new geometry bridge course.

Expenditures per student in the district have risen from under \$10,000 in 2012 to \$12,095 in 2017, and Ward noted that the operational spending has increased faster than instructional

See Report card, pg. 19



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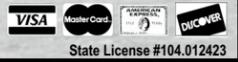
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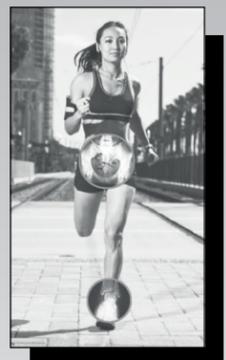
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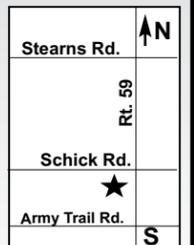
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## Walt Disney and World War II Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.

Author Jason Sperb will talk about Disney's vital-but now forgotten-contribution to the war effort as a prolific producer of hundreds of educational, industrial and propaganda films during WWII.

## Bluestem Book Club Friday, Nov. 10, 3:30 p.m.

Grades four to six. Booktalks, games, and activities to promote the 2017-2018 Bluestem Book Award Nominees. Registration required.

## Keep Calm and Color On Saturday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m.

Come and experience the latest trend in relaxation: Adult coloring books! Studies show coloring has a calming effect on the adult mind and helps to promote overall wellness. Coloring pages from books designed for adults as well as colored pencils will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Registration required.

## Knitting Club Sunday, Nov. 12, 2 p.m.

Want to meet new people, work on your knitting projects, and learn new skills? The BPLD Knitting Club is for you. We're a group of knitters of all skill levels who meet on the second Sunday of each month at 2 p.m.

## E-Source Training: Consumer Reports Monday, Nov. 13, 10 a.m.

Learn to use this useful tool for re-

searching, comparing, shopping, and learning about a variety of products and services. Registration required.

## The Happiness Conundrum: How to Go From Mad to Glad Monday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

The fast approaching holiday season is nearly upon us. We feel excited with the anticipation, joy and happiness of sharing this sacred time with our loved ones. On the other hand, it is a season marked by chaotic activities that can leave us down in the dumps. So where is the love and connection we need to truly feel happy?

## Get Started on Facebook Tuesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.

It's time! This class will teach you the basic features and functions of Facebook. Valid email address required. Registration required.

## NaNoWriMo Write In Wednesday, Nov. 15, 6:30 p.m.

Working towards 50,000 words for National Novel Writing Month? Stop by our writing and get some work done. We'll have refreshments, extra paper, pens, and some laptops available for checkout.

## If You Give a Mouse a Cookie Family Reading Night Thursday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

Families can join us to celebrate the statewide Family Reading Night. We will be reading stories written by author Laura Numeroff, participating in literacy activities and creating a special craft. The Bartlett Rotarians will be our special guest readers and will give a free book to the families who attend.

For a complete listing of scheduled programs at the Bartlett Public Library, 800 S. Bartlett Road, call 837-2855 or visit [www.bartlettlibrary.org](http://www.bartlettlibrary.org).

# Cross country season ends for Hawks, Storm teams

By Seth Hancock

The cross country season has ended for the Bartlett and South Elgin programs with some successes throughout the year.

The boys and girls teams from both schools advanced to the Waubonsie Valley Sectional on Saturday, Oct. 28 but did not advance any runners to state.

On the boys side, the Hawks finished 16th led by junior Angelo Peters (70th, 16 minutes, 37.6 seconds) and the Storm were 18th led by Hector Rodriguez (76th, 16:42.4).

"Overall I would say the season went pretty well," said Bartlett boys coach Jeremy Ruston. "There were some ups and downs like usual, but I feel like the team culture is getting more positive. There were a lot of improvements early on and they put in a lot of hard work."

South Elgin boys coach Kari Turcan was pleased with the season overall which included a first place finish at the Benet Invite and having "more runners under 17 minutes than any other season," but she said there was hope for a better finish.

"We would have liked to finish a little stronger," Turcan said. "We were fifth in regional, missing fourth place by only 10 points, and we did not fare well in sectional. Some guys were a little banged up from the work they did this summer and season, something new to them, and others faced mental challenges."

In the girls race, Bartlett was 16th led by senior Leah Kern (24th, 18:54.1) and South Elgin 17th led by junior Hannah Anderson (45th, 19:22.5).

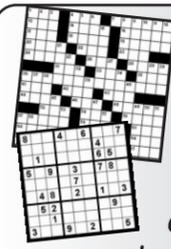
"I am very pleased with our team's performance this year," said Storm

girls coach Jorie Bartholomew. "We were able to get better as a whole team."

At the West Chicago Regional at Kress Creek Farms, the Bartlett boys and girls both finished sixth while the South Elgin boys and girls both finished fifth at the Hononegah Regional at Barkwood Park in Rockton on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Peters (24th, 16:42), sophomore Luke Jennes (30th, 17:03), sophomore Peter Golaszewski (32nd, 17:04), sophomore Sam Jennes (38th, 17:15) and senior Andrew Matuszewski (44th, 17:34) led the Hawks boys. The Bartlett girls were led by Kern (14th, 19:16), freshman Camille Buchanan (28th, 20:05), senior Abby Brinkman (42nd, 21:52), senior Grace Morrissey (48th, 22:20) and junior Madison Sharko (49th, 22:22).

The Storm boys were led by senior Finnegan Engel (20th, 17:03), Rodriguez (21st, 17:03), sophomore Ryan Harvey (26th, 17:10), senior Brady Tolva (31st, 17:24) and senior Owen Sirridge (32nd, 17:24) and the girls by Anderson (sixth, 19:27), senior Olivia Cabaj (30th, 20:53), senior Taylor Pray (31st, 21:02), senior Anjali Patel (36th, 21:27) and senior Jasmine Hernandez (37th, 31:30).



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# Bartlett soccer's Garcia named to all-UEC squad

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett soccer team showed some resiliency this season by going 5-14-4 overall, 0-5 in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division, after starting the year winless over its first 12 games.

One of the key contributors for the Hawks this season was sophomore Hernán Garcia, one of seven underclassmen on the team, who earned all-conference honors.

"What makes Hernán a valuable player is his versatility on the field," said first-year Bartlett coach Victor Marquez who added: "What makes him extremely coachable is the fact that he will play in whatever position we ask him to."

Garcia is listed as a midfielder on the Bartlett roster, but he moved around. Marquez said Garcia "started the season as a midfielder and forward, however, after observing him game after game and at some of the scrimmages while at practice" he decided to have a conversation about his position on the team.

In club soccer, Garcia was the center back/sweeper and was later used primarily in the back for the Hawks.

"I began talking to my assistant coaches about the conversation I had with Hernán, and eventually we started him at center back for a couple of games and eventually at right marking back, which allows him to support the attack fulfilling in some way his preference to play up front," Marquez

said.

Up front Garcia helped the Hawks attack with three goals and four assists lifting his varsity career totals to four goals and eight assists.

In the back, Garcia helped the Hawks defense earn three shutouts this season with a 1.7 goals allowed per game average.

"His ability to tackle the ball at just the right moment makes him a valuable defender," Marquez said. "Personally, I am very pleased with him and looking forward to [having] him on the varsity squad for another two seasons."

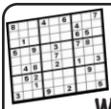
Bartlett was young this season but will lose seven seniors: Brandon Palid, Joseph Dimas, Johnny Andrade, Oscar Soto, Hector Rebollar, Andrew Wolf and Sergio Navarrete.

## Report card

Continued from page 9

spending and asked why that was, and the administrative response was due to the increase in salaries of \$7.6 million, increase in textbook expenditures by \$6.8 million and the \$2.3 million increase in benefit costs over the previous year. Please note that our operating expenditures per pupil is approximately \$800 less per student than the state average."

Board member Phil Costello asked for an explanation on the attendance rate decline to which Sanders said "we're looking into that" to find a "specific cause or try and dig deeper into any kind of rationale."



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# Three-set win sends North to state finals

By Seth Hancock

The North volleyball team responded to its first set-loss of the postseason and punched its ticket to state for the first time in program history after defeating Downers Grove North 17-25, 25-16, 25-15 at the Geneva Super-Sectional on Friday, Nov. 3.

Except for a brief one-point lead early in Game 1, the North Stars trailed throughout the opening set.

North coach Lindsey Hawkins said she's been preaching resiliency and sticking together all season, and that paid off over the final two sets.

"It's the way you respond," Hawkins said. "If you have the will to win, then you'll win."

Hawkins said senior Abby Graham's message to the team after the first set was "we're not going down without a fight," and North fought hard to make sure it controlled the final two sets.

In Game 2, North took the lead for good with a 4-0

run, capped by a pair of Amanda Parker (seven kills, seven assists) kills, for an 8-5 lead, and later ahead 13-10 the North Stars gave themselves plenty of breathing room with a 7-2 run, including two of Lauren Caprini's (19 digs) three aces, for a 20-12 lead. A kill by Cassandra Johnson (six assists) eventually ended the set.

In Game 3, Gigi Crescenzo (11 digs, six blocks, five kills) had four kills and both Graham (21 digs, eight kills, three blocks) and Katie Lanz (19 digs, 10 assists, nine kills, two aces) three each in building a commanding 17-5 lead at the start. North's lead grew as large as 14, and a Graham kill ended the match.

"I think we just realized this was our game," Graham said. "We've worked so hard to get here. We started being a lot more aggressive."

The win was the 25th straight for the North Stars, Downers Grove North having handed them their

last loss all the way back on Sept. 13. North is now 37-3 overall and will open at state against Minooka.

"It's unbelievable," Lanz said. "It's crazy because we've worked so hard to get here, and it's paid off."

"It means a lot," Hawkins said of earning the program's first trip to state. "I've been praying for this. I owe all of this to God."

North was coming off earning its first sectional title since 2006 after defeating cross-town rival East 26-24, 25-18 in the DeKalb Sectional title game on Wednesday, Nov. 1. Lanz (11 kills, seven assists, three aces), Crescenzo (13 digs, five kills), Parker (12 assists, five kills), Graham (12 digs, three kills) and Johnson (five assists, two kills) led the effort.

In the sectional semifinals, North defeated Hononegah 25-10, 25-10 on Monday, Oct. 30. Graham and Lanz each had seven kills, Crescenzo 13 digs and Parker 10 assists.



Amanda Parker driving home a shot against the Trojans.



A focused Lauren Caprini braced to return a Downers Grove North serve during the third and deciding set. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

# North Stars top Jacobs, finish fourth in state



Bernard Elegbede waving to and saluting the student section and crowd after scoring the North Stars second-half goal to give North some insurance and a 2-0 lead over Jacobs.

By Seth Hancock

The North soccer team ended the season with a pair of losses, but the North Stars showed their fight in their fourth place finish in the program's first appearance at state hosted at Hoffman Estates.

In the semifinals, defending state champions Naperville North came out strong to score two goals over the first 15 minutes handing the North Stars a 2-0 loss on Friday, Nov. 3.

Despite the slow start, the North Stars were able to threaten as senior goalie Piercarlo Ricossa (eight saves) kept them in the game. Seniors Jameson D'Amico, Bernard Elegbede and Kyle Kolodziej as well as junior Matthew Beaulieu had shots on goal and senior Peter Willis had a few attempts.

In the third place game, North fell behind 3-1 but rallied in a 4-3 loss against Bradley-Bourbonnais on Saturday, Nov. 4. In the 64th and 67th minutes, Elegbede had a goal and assist to help forge a 3-3 tie, but Bradley-Bourbonnais put away the winner with four minutes remaining.

"A lot of teams in the third place game of the state finals can hang their heads after they're down 2-0 at half, but it just shows the character these guys have and that's the type of season we want to remember for the rest of our lives," said Elegbede who scored off a Kolodziej feed and assisted a Beaulieu goal.

North trailed 2-0 at the break but pulled to 2-1 after Jake Persenico scored off a Willis helper. Ricossa had five saves.

To get to state, the North Stars needed to avenge an early season 3-2 loss against Jacobs, and they did just that with a 2-0 victory in the North Super-Sectional on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

"It's a dream come true," Willis said of earning the program's first trip to state. "It's as simple as that, and to do it at home is huge."

Willis had a hand in his team's second goal assist-



North's Matthew Beaulieu striving to control a ball along the sideline with a header while battling Jacobs' Austin Snobel for possession of the ball. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

ing Elegbede with 14:50 left in the game. North went into halftime with momentum as Persenico, with 4:20 before the break, turned a shot in the middle of the box to score off a feed from senior Noah Linn.

"That's a great way to motivate a team and get the guys going, especially right before the half," Persenico said. "It let us come out fired up and got us going and to keep playing."

Ricossa finished with five saves.

North ends the season 16-4-4 overall and will lose 11 seniors.

"I could not be happier for this group," said North coach Eric Willson. "I think a lot of people thought that this was going to be a year when we graduated a ton last year. They weren't sure how good this team was going to be. I think they've proven just how good they are now."



The North Stars' Jake Persenico pivoting near the Jacobs goal in front of the Golden Eagles' Gabriel Swarouth as North was pressing for a scoring opportunity. Persenico scored the first goal for the North Stars.

# North topples Giants, then falls to St. Rita



Highland Park's Noah Spitz being hit as soon as he made a reception by the North Star's Michael Policano.



Highland Park's Quentin Griffin forcing North's Lucas Segobiano out of bounds on Saturday, Oct. 28. (Examiner photos by Caroline Hollis)

By Seth Hancock

The North football team moved the ball effectively but struggled to finish as the No. 6 North Stars suffered a 26-16 loss against No. 11 St. Rita on Saturday, Nov. 4 at North.

Led by senior quarterback Mike Hohensee (30-for-58, 390 yards), the North Stars out gained St. Rita 466-427 in total yards but struggled once they got near the end zone.

Both teams traded touchdowns in the first quarter, junior Alec Kritta (three receptions, 108 yards) catching a 40-yard pass from Hohensee for North's score, for a 7-7 tie. St. Rita would go on to score the next 19 points to grab a 26-7 lead early in the fourth quarter before North finished the scoring.

Proving costly for the North Stars was that two of St. Rita's three interceptions came in the end zone, one coming at the end of the first half as North was attempting to go into the break with a 14-14 tie.

"We've been very good in the red zone and Mike has played great for us all year," said North coach Rob Pomazak. "We just couldn't crack the goal line. You have to hand it to them. When they had their backs against the wall they played some great defense. What it really came down to is they are a very good team and us not executing the finer details."

Senior Brandon Eickert, who was successful on the extra point attempt on North's first score, kicked a 22-yard field goal to pull to 26-9, and Kritta caught a 49-yard touchdown pass from Hohensee for the final score. The two-point conversion attempt failed.

Junior Tyler Nubin (13 receptions, 145 yards) and seniors Thomas Nelsen (seven receptions, 67 yards) and Lucas Segobiano (six receptions, 62 yards) led North's receivers, and Segobiano added 53 rushing yards on 11 carries.

North ends the season 9-2 overall.

"It's disappointing we couldn't advance, but we can't hang our heads," Nubin said. "This is the best team I have ever been a part of, and we accomplished a lot. Winning the (Upstate Eight River Division) conference title was one of the best moments ever. I just feel sad for the seniors that we couldn't keep it going."

A week earlier, North kept its season alive as they defeated No. 27 Highland Park 31-13 in the opening round of the postseason on Saturday, Oct. 28 also at North.

The game was tipped firmly in North's favor thanks to Lucas Segobiano who found the end zone three times in the first quarter on runs of one yard and a pair of three-yarders for a 21-0 lead.

Segobiano had a big day playing both sides of the field leading North's 410 total yards with 174 rushing yards on 34 carries as well as 68 receiving yards off five catches. He also had one of the North Stars' three interceptions, part of six turnovers by Highland Park.

"Lucas is the best player in the conference, and he showed it today," said North coach Rob Pomazak. "There's nobody who does as much as Lucas does on offense, defense and special teams."

North's lead was 21-7 at halftime and 24-7 heading into the fourth quarter. Quarterback Michael Hohensee (17-for-30, 202 yards) threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Tyler Nubin (four receptions, 39 yards) for a 31-7 lead in the fourth before Highland Park made the final score of the game.

Brandon Eickert kicked a 20-yard field goal and was 4-for-4 on extra point attempts while Thomas Nelsen (54 yards) and Alec Kritta (41 yards) both had four receptions. North's defense allowed 247 yards and also had interceptions from Nubin and Ryan Thiesse.

"It was fun game to be a part of," Pomazak said. "I'm happy for our kids to have another week to be together."

## Village church hosts annual Halloween event

Community United Methodist Church hosted its annual Trunk-Or-Treat Halloween event on Sunday, Oct. 29 in the church parking lot. More than a dozen cars were decorated in various themes as church members handed out candy and treats to children. The event also featured games with prizes and free hot dogs, popcorn and cotton candy. The fire department also provided its mobile smokehouse where children learned about getting out of a house safely in a fire.



Hundreds of parents and children appeared and participated in the church's annual trunk-or-treat event.



Bert Lancaster, Assistant Fire Chief, decked out his trunk with a scuba-diving theme, complete with sharks. (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)



Junior firefighter Kobe Prathan was appropriately costumed to tour the smokehouse.



Hunter Smyth played Tic-Tac-Toe, one of several games children were invited to play for prizes.



Toilet tissue mummy Sophia Lundquist walked the cake walk.



Garrett Murray came dressed as a steampunker.

# Honoring The Veterans Who Have Served Our Country

WWII-World War II, KC-Korean Conflict, VN-Viet Nam, GW-Gulf War, OIF-Operation Iraqi Freedom ★ Bronze Star ☆ Silver Star ♥ Purple Heart

I want you to close your eyes and picture in your mind the soldier at Valley Forge, as he holds his musket in his bloody hands.

He stands barefoot in the snow, starved from lack of food, wounded from months of battle and emotionally scarred from the eternity away from his family surrounded by nothing but death and carnage of war.

He stands tough, with fire in his eyes and victory on his breath. He looks at us now in anger and disgust and tells us this...

- I gave you a birthright of freedom born in the Constitution and now your children graduate too illiterate to read it.
- I fought in the snow barefoot to give you the freedom to vote and you stay at home because it rains.
- I left my family destitute to give you the freedom of speech and you remain silent on critical issues, because it might be bad for business.
- I orphaned my children to give you a government to serve you and it has stolen democracy from the people.
- It's the soldier not the reporter who gives you the freedom of the press.
- It's the soldier not the poet who gives you the freedom of speech.
- It's the soldier not the campus organizer who allows you to demonstrate.
- It's the soldier who salutes the flag, serves the flag, whose coffin is draped with the flag that allows the protester to burn the flag!!!

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen."

*The Examiner proudly salutes the men and women who have so valiantly fought to protect our country and our freedoms.*

*This list, while by no means complete, represents some of those veterans from our area.*

*If your name has been inadvertently left off, please email us at [news@examinerpublications.com](mailto:news@examinerpublications.com). Be sure to include your name, the war in which you fought, if there was one at that time, and the town in which you reside. We will add your name to our listing in future editions.*

## South Elgin

**Timothy M. Alexander**

Seaman

United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois

**Elizabeth I. Atasuyi**

Pvt.

Fort Jackson  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Erik Badeau**

Petty Officer 2nd Class  
USS Naval Station

Norfolk, Virginia

**Aimee M. Brosseau**

Pvt.

United States Army  
Fort Sill

Lawton, Oklahoma

**Stefan M. Bublitz**

Pvt.

United States Army  
Fort Benning, Georgia

**Jared M. Bultinck**

Pfc.

United States Marine Corps

Iraq

**Warren F. Capatan**

Pvt.

Army National Guard  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Kennedy J. Cartwright**

Airman

United States Air Force  
San Antonio, Texas

**Souphan A.**

**Chanthavong**

Airman

United States Air Force  
San Antonio, Texas

**David A. Cooper**

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Sean D. Craig**

United States Navy

San Diego, California

**Jason D. Crum**

Aviation Ordnanceman, Ship  
Security

United States Navy

USS Enterprise

**Edward A. Daggett**

Pfc.

United States

Army Reserve

Columbia, South Carolina

**Ali Elazhari**

Seaman Recruit

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Cory J. Elledge**

Pvt.

United States Army

Fort Jackson

Columbia, South Carolina

**Andrew Ellis**

Airman

United States Air Force

Lackland Air Force Base

San Antonio, Texas

**Alexander P. Ewing**

United States Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**Jacob M. Garbrecht**

Petty Officer 3rd Class

United States Coast Guard

North Carolina

**Ricardo R. Garcia**

Seaman

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Allison M. Gigvenco**

Pvt.

United States Army

Columbia, South Carolina

**Aaron M. Graff**

Pvt.

United States Army

Fort Jackson

Columbia, South Carolina

**Daniel F. Greenwood**

Reserve Sgt.

United States Army

Iraq, Afghanistan

**Hector V. Guardado**

Staff Sgt.

United States

Air Force Reserve

Scott Air Force Base

Belleville, Illinois

**Regina N. Harris**

Pfc.

United States Army Reserves

Fort Jackson

Columbia, South Carolina

**Ryan Harth**

2nd Lt.

United States Army

Fort Benning

Columbus, Georgia

**Corianne L. Herring**

Cadet

United States Army

Robert Hodor II

Fireman Apprentice

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Tara L. Hogue**

Hospital Corpsman

United States Navy

Naples, Italy

**Tyler J. Hogue**

Seaman

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Philip B. Johnson**

Pvt.

United States Army

Fort Sill

Lawton, Oklahoma

**Jaclyn Jurs**

Pfc.

2nd Force Service

Support Group

United States Marine Corps

Iraq

**Nora A. Keane**

Reserve Airman

United States Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**Heather Lendrum**

1st Lt.,

C-130 Pilot

Little Rock, Arkansas

**Joseph R. Lullo**

Airman

United States Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**Nicole L. McBride**

2nd Lt.

United States Army

**James R. McMahan**

Seaman Recruit

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Michael J. Minson**

Pvt.

United States Army

Lawton, Oklahoma

**Andrew C. Mooney**

Pfc.

United States

Marine Corps Reserve

**Phuoc H. Nguyen**

2nd Lt.

United States Army

Fort Benning

Columbus, Georgia

**Mitchell L. Policky**

Airman

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Anferne Phrachansiri**

Airman

United States

Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**Andrew P. Schmidt**

Seaman

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Wayne Smith**

Specialist

United States Army

Fort Irwin, California

**Brandon M. Soto**

Airman

United States

Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**William S. Stanley**

Pvt.

United States Army

Fort Jackson

Columbia, South Carolina

**Allen C. Tang**

Pvt.

Army National Guard

Fort Sill

Lawton, Oklahoma

**Matthew J. Vidican**

Airman

United States Air Force

San Antonio, Texas

**Alyssa R. Vient**

Seaman Recruit

United States Navy

Great Lakes, Illinois

**Michael G. White**

Spc.

United States Army

Fort Bragg, North Carolina

**Wayne**

**Joseph Franzese, Jr.**

Cpl.

USS Nimitz

United States

Marine Corps

**Kurt Larson**

Ensign

United States Navy

Jacksonville, Florida

**Adam T. Hommowun**

2nd Marine Division

United States Marine Corps

Camp Lejeune,

North Carolina

**Christopher Kopeck**

Airman

United States Air Force

**Timothy Ryan**

1st Lt.

C-17 Pilot

United States Air Force

Iraq

**South Elgin**

Ray Bachewicz, VN

Arnold Bochum, WWII & KC

Dave Bulkley, VN

Robert R Gustafson, OIF

Dave Kozuch, GW

James W LeClaire, VN

Jeffrey Lee, OIF

Donald F. Leo, KC

Bruce Miller, GW

James Pierre, Jr. VN

William Przybylski

Bill Sadlowski, GW

Richard Zawislak, VN

**Wayne**

San Fantino; VN

Joseph Franzese VN

Angela Hafertepe

John B. Kelly, WWI, ★

Jerry Marchese; VN

Terry Starai, VN

Ray Steel, WWII

Jim Venetucci, WWII

Danny C. Webb, VN

Sebastien Wodzinski, OIF

## U-46 tax levy set to rise, enrollment declining

By Seth Hancock

The ball is now rolling on an increase in the property tax levy in School District U-46 as the Board of Education approved two measures at its meeting on Monday, Nov. 6.

By 5-2 votes, Phil Costello and Jeanette Ward voting no, the board approved the determination of the levy as well as a separate resolution on the 2017 tax levy. Jeff King, chief operations officer, said the official vote on the tax levy increase will be taken on Dec. 4.

The increased levy in the proposal is the maximum allowed under the law with an \$8 million increase from \$307 million to \$315 million.

Ward noted the forecasted declines in enrollment that the district expects within the Fiscal Year 2018 budget which shows expected student population dropping by around 2 percent a year for the foreseeable future eventually falling to 36,360 by the 2020-21 school year while at the same time the district plans to spend more and tax more each year.

"U-46 is also set to receive close to \$13 million in additional dollars from the state of Illinois," Ward noted and said: "We should be reducing the property tax burden correspondingly.... Instead we are increasing total spending by \$6.5 million from last year and correspondingly the tax levy (increase)."

The district also plans to use an abatement process for the third straight year which is designed to effectively keep the levy flat, but Ward called that process a "sleight of hand" as the district is "in fact increasing the levy extension in a permanent manner while we abate back the money on a temporary basis, and that's disingenuous to the taxpayers."

Costello asked about a property tax freeze bill currently making its way through the Illinois General Assembly and if it would affect this current levy if approved, which King said it would, and Costello said that would possibly makes these levy discussions a "moot point."

However, Costello said he shares similar concerns on the budget as Ward which is why he voted no.

"I have concerns about the budget, the overall size of the budget, the direction of the budget and some of the down the road implications of that budget," Costello said.

Those votes represented Costello and Ward doing their job of holding the district accountable and being responsible to the taxpayers according to Joel Rio who spoke during public comments at a special board meeting on Monday, Oct. 30.

R

# Storm, North teams finish cross country season

By Seth Hancock

The cross country season ended with the programs at South Elgin and North both seeing some success.

Early on this season, North girls coach Shari Hayes said of junior Natalie Galvan that "she's done well," but "she's going to have to learn to com-

pete" with the best. Galvan was able to use that competitive edge to earn a spot at state where she finished 79th (18 minutes, one second) on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

Galvan finished 12th (18:32.7) to lead the North Stars girls to an 11th place finish at the Waubonsie Valley Sec-

tional on Saturday, Oct. 28. The North boys as well as both the Storm boys and girls advanced to sectionals as a team but did not send anyone to state.

On the boys side, the North Stars finished 12th led by senior Bo Ruttens (34th, 16:09.8) and the Storm were 18th led by Hector Rodriguez (76th, 16:42.4).

South Elgin boys coach Kari Turcan was pleased with the season overall which included a first place finish at the Benet Invite and having "more runners under 17 minutes than any other season," but she said there was hope for a better finish.

"We would have liked to finish a little stronger," Turcan said. "We were fifth in regional, missing fourth place by only 10 points, and we did not fare well in sectional. Some guys were a little banged up from the work they did this summer and season, something new to them, and others faced mental challenges."

On the girls side, South Elgin was 17th led by junior Hannah Anderson (45th, 19:22.5).

"I am very pleased with our team's performance this year," said Storm girls coach Jorie Bartholomew. "We

were able to get better as a whole team."

At the West Chicago Regional at Kress Creek Farms, the North boys were third and girls fifth while the South Elgin boys and girls both finished fifth at the Hononegah Regional at Barkwood Park in Rockton on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Ruttens (sixth, 16:07), sophomore Ryan Arnolds (15th, 16:27), junior Jack Dorrance (20th, 16:36), sophomore Ben Cook (22nd, 16:40) and senior Jake Estlund (26th, 16:46) led the North boys while senior Ally Suyak (18th, 19:20), freshman Ella Townsend (22nd, 19:42), junior Maddie Wiltrout (29th, 20:14), freshman Grace Dorrance (30th, 20:15) and junior Rylie Kaufmann (34th, 20:32) led the girls.

The Storm boys were led by senior Finnegan Engel (20th, 17:03), Rodriguez (21st, 17:03), sophomore Ryan Harvey (26th, 17:10), senior Brady Tolva (31st, 17:24) and senior Owen Sirridge (32nd, 17:24) and the girls by Anderson (sixth, 19:27), senior Olivia Cabaj (30th, 20:53), senior Taylor Pray (31st, 21:02), senior Anjali Patel (36th, 21:27) and senior Jasmine Hernandez (37th, 31:30).

## Storm soccer defenders named to all-UEC squad

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team finished its 2017 campaign with an 8-10-3 record, 2-3 in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division.

Leading the Storm this year were a pair of senior defenders, AJ Kirkby and Sergio Briones, who earned all-conference honors.

Helping lead the backline, the all-conference duo were a part of four shutouts by the Storm this season. South Elgin allowed 1.8 goals per game.

"He was an outstanding leader for our team this season and has led by example all season long," South Elgin coach Simon Brinklow said of Kirkby. Of Briones, Brinklow said he "takes care of business in defense, terrific defender."

As one of the Storm's captains, Kirkby also came up with some big goals in some big games including one dur-

ing South Elgin's regional semifinal win that sent them to a title game.

Kirkby's first goal of the season came in a 1-0 win over St. Charles East which was a big win for the program.

"I'm pretty sure that was the first time South Elgin has beaten them," Kirkby said. "I am real sure it's the first time for me and any of the others on the team who have been playing four years of soccer here."

South Elgin also loses seniors Fernando Rivera, Brian Dykstra, Matthew McKee, Eduardo Carrillo, Christopher Stanczyk, Liam Swangren and Kevin Guerrero.

Kirkby said the team bond was strong this year.

"Maybe the biggest difference with this team is the chemistry that we've developed, both on the field and more importantly off the field," Kirkby said. "We hang out a lot away from soccer, and the spirit on the team is really good."

## Tax levy

Continued from page 10

From budget information on the district website, the FY2008 budget spent \$422.1 million while enrollment was at 40,186 in the 2007-08 school year meaning the district spent \$10,504 per student then. Under the current budget of \$517.9 million in spending and 39,377 enrollment, the current figures on the Illinois State Board of Education report card, U-46 spends \$13,152 which is a 25.2 percent increase in spending per student.

Using the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, the district should only be spending \$11,850 today meaning its spending \$1,302 over the rate of inflation per student.

King said the board will have to

"make a decision, probably in this next year," which could include more debt or running deficit budgets.

Kerr said: "We don't know how reliable Springfield will be on getting that money to us. If the last 10 years is any indication, I don't have a huge amount of faith in them."

"The state borrowed very heavily to try and pay some of the backlog of bills," King said and added he doesn't "see how they are going to balance their budget."

Sanders, who admitted U-46 has "been overtaxing its residents," said "the prudent thing would be to increase the levy, take advantage of the levy, abate what we can" until the district knows if the new state funding formula will be sustainable.

Also approved on Nov. 6 was \$12.5 million in itemized bills with a 7-0 vote.

### Special Events An Almost Winter Day, Nov. 18, 2 to 5 p.m. at SEBA Park

The community will enjoy a fun afternoon at SEBA Park to celebrate the annual Almost Winter Day event! Concessions will be offered by the FUNdation. Most activities are free. Some activities are offered for a small fee.

#### Village Tree Lighting Ceremony, Nov. 18: 5 p.m.

At Footprints in Time Plaza

#### Adult/Senior Essential Oils

If you are looking for a more natural, safe and effective approach to your family's wellness, come and explore the powerful benefits of certified pure therapeutic grade essential oils. This class will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 7 to 8 p.m. at the Municipal Annex.

#### Tot Open Gym

We will break out the mats, tunnels, tricycles and more for your enjoyment. A waiver must be completed prior to participating. This class will be held at Municipal Annex, 1 W. State St., on Wednesdays at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$2 each week.

#### All Star Sports Classes

South Elgin Parks and Recreation will be keeping the little ones active both mentally and physically. This action-packed game will keep players moving and engaged while learning sports such as soccer, T-ball, basketball, golf, and more! Check out our available classes on our website [www.southelgin.com/recregistration](http://www.southelgin.com/recregistration).

#### Youth Let's Build It Robotics-

#### Gears and Gizmos!

Design and build your own robots! Your child will explore the field of robotics, through a series of exciting and dynamic lessons. No previous experience is necessary. This class will be held at Eastside Recreation Center, Elgin on Wednesdays, through until Dec. 13 at 6 to 7 p.m.

#### Canvas and Cookies

Canvas painting is all the rage! If you are feeling artsy come out and paint the town purple, blue, red and green. This class will be held Saturday, Nov. 11 at 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Municipal Annex.

#### Fitness

#### Zumba Kids (7 to 11 years old)

This is a great opportunity for boys and girls to be active and jam out to music. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex on Thursdays 5 to 6 p.m.

#### Zumba Kids Jr (4 to 6 years old)

Classes feature kid-friendly routines. We break down the steps, add games, activities, and cultural exploration elements into the class structure. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex on Tuesdays at 5 to 6 p.m.

#### Cardio- Kickboxing

Cardio-kickboxing is a fun, full body workout will get you kicking and punching pads with motivational music. This class will be held at the Municipal Annex, every Wednesday, through Dec. 13 from 7:05 to 8:05 p.m. The cost is \$70 for residents and \$80 for non-resident individuals (10 week session.)

Currently, they could use cereal, condiments, paper products, cake mixes, crackers (assorted and/or saltines), pickles, pickle relish and salad dressings. There is a barrel in the entrance near the parking lot of church, which is open for drop-offs Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon or Monday through Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

## Tidbits

Continued from page 4

tations apply.

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The South Elgin Methodist Church Food Pantry welcomes anyone in need, and they also take donations.

Gear up to celebrate with all of your pals during the **Winnie-the-Pooh and Christopher Robin Celebration** happening at all library locations on Saturday, Nov. 11 all day long! Drop in to any of our three locations for crafts, stories, photo opportunities and much more for all ages. No registration necessary.

Put the pieces together and work your brain at our **Puzzle Club** at the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. All ages can drop by for word puzzles, Sudoku, kids' floor puzzles and adult jigsaw puzzles!

Get ready for winter with the whole family and learn something new at our **Build a Winter Birdhouse** event at the South Elgin Branch on Sunday, Nov. 12 from 1 to 2 p.m. Families will make a homemade bird feeder to take home and discover which birds are native to the area. Materials will be provided by the library. Registration is required for this event.

Are you planning on getting a new tablet for you or someone you know this holiday season? Learn the ins and outs of choosing a tablet during **Which Tablet is Right for Me** at the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room on Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This class is open to district residents and registration is re-

quired. Please note that this class is held after library operating hours; doors will be locked at 7:05 p.m.

Spend quality time with the family with some great story time fun during our **Featured Author Series** at the South Elgin Branch starting Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. We'll share stories from favorite children's author Aaron Reynolds followed by a craft-to-go. No registration necessary.

Is your child a creative writer? If so, encourage him or her to participate in our **Camp NaNoWriMo** at the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room for National Novel Writing Month on Wednesday, Nov. 22 from 1 to 2 p.m.! Kids in grades three to eight can register and join us to play interactive writing games and learn how to begin writing their own novels.

Interested in the Vietnam War and never-before-told stories behind it? Join us for **The Vietnam War Film Series** screening of part two: "Riding the Tiger" (1961 to 1963) in the South Elgin Branch Hoffer Meeting Room on Thursday, Nov. 16 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, trailers or dates for viewing other parts, please visit [www.gailborden.info/films](http://www.gailborden.info/films). No registration is required for this film screening.

# District U-46, students continue relief efforts

By Seth Hancock

Students and staff in School District U-46 have continued fundraising efforts to help those affected by recent natural disasters in the nation as well as in Mexico.

A recent district press release said over \$7,200 was raised as well as "hundreds of flashlights and batteries" donated to help those affected in the United States territory of Puerto Rico by recent hurricanes and those affected by earthquakes in Mexico.

Earlier in October, U-46 said over \$10,000 had been raised after fundraising efforts started to help those affected in the states of Texas and Florida after Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma caused devastation.

"We've seen overwhelming generosity from U-46 students, their families and our staff in responding to the needs of those in Texas and Florida," U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said in a release. "Now we are seeing the same

spirit of giving aimed at those struggling in Mexico and Puerto Rico, where many in our District have family and friends."

Hurricane Harvey was a Category 4 storm that hit southern Texas in late August, including the state's largest city of Houston, which included the highest measured rainfall in the nation's history. Hurricane Irma in September reached Category 5 status with 185 mile per hour winds and was a Category 4 when it hit the Florida Keys which dissipated to a Category 2 by the time it hit Florida's mainland.

Hurricane Maria was a Category 4 storm that hit Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in late September.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, these storms "caused catastrophic damage" in those states and territories hit, and both Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands not only suffered from Maria but "already had suffered damage from Hurricane

Irma earlier in the month."

Mexico was hit by two earthquakes in September with 8.1 and 7.1 magnitudes on the Richter scale, 10 being the strongest magnitude.

The Examiner previously reported on some of the efforts to help Hurricane Harvey victims, including the "Miracle Minute" held at Streamwood High School on Friday, Sept. 8 in which Principal Michele Chapman said a goal of raising \$2,000 had been set. At a Board of Education meeting following that fundraiser, Sanders said Streamwood had raised \$2,800 to exceed that goal.

Chapman said teachers Nicole Fernstrom and Jaimee Shearn spearheaded those efforts. Shearn said her AP world history class adopted a class in Houston to provide encouragement, and Fernstrom said the Student

Council and National Honor Society helped in organizing the fundraiser.

Recently to help those in Puerto Rico and Mexico, Streamwood's Oakhill Elementary School raised \$1,234 with its "Penny Wars" fundraiser.

According to a district release, \$4,275 was given to the Puerto Rican Relief Fund and \$2,956 to Chicago Con Mexico to aid in rebuilding efforts. There were also 176 flashlights and 232 batteries donated to Happy Kids Chicago to send to Puerto Rico which has struggled with power since storm's hit there.

Funds from the Hurricane Harvey fundraisers went to the American Red Cross, Autism Society of Texas' Hurricane Harvey Disaster Fund, Houston's C.E. King High School, Feed My Starving Children and the Salvation Army.

# Sabres cross country teams represented at sectionals

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood boys and girls cross country teams capped their seasons by sending individuals to the Waubonsie Valley Sectional.

On the boys side the Sabres had senior Fernando Viveros (17 minutes, 2.2 seconds) and juniors Carlos Ramirez (17:22.1) and Marcos Villarreal (17:51.3) competing for the Sabres, and senior Madeline Exline (22:17.5) competed for the girls on Saturday, Oct. 28.

For Sabres boys coach Weert Goldenstein, he saw improvement through the season from his squad.

"Overall I was pretty pleased with my team's performance this season," Goldenstein said. "We had a two minute gap between our third and fourth runners which made being competitive as a team a bit difficult. However, each guy on the team worked hard and saw significant growth throughout the season."

Streamwood girls coach Dylan Lau said Exline had battled a "nagging injury all year," but the leadership of her along with seniors Monica Brown and Michelle Andrade "was huge for our team."

At the West Chicago Regional, Exline (38th, 20:57) led the ninth place finishing girls and Ramirez (31st, 17:04), Viveros (37th, 17:14) and Villarreal (40th, 17:26) led the Sabres boys who finished eighth on Saturday, Oct. 21 at Kress Creek Farms.

Sophomore Maximo Alanis (58th, 19:29) and junior Christian Sanchez (59th, 19:38) rounded out the Streamwood boys score. Senior Monica Brown (47th, 22:11), freshman Kim Sanchez (57th, 23:48), senior Michelle Andrade (58th, 23:55) and sophomore Alex Meza (59th, 24:13) rounded out the girls.

"Looking forward, I'm excited about our potential for next year," Goldenstein said. "Out of our top three runners we'll unfortunately be losing Fernando Viveros to graduation, but we'll have Carlos Ramirez and Marcos Villarreal back for another season. We

also have some promising new runners coming out for next season as well. This combined with some good summer mileage from our other current runners will hopefully equal a solid team for next year."

Lau said: "Next year we will be an extremely young team. We have a couple girls returning to us with varsity experience. The freshman and sophomore class though is filled with runners who will be ready to step up next year and fill in the gaps in our starting seven."

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## DON'T BE FUELISH

If you are concerned that you are spending too much money on gasoline to run your vehicle, you might want to check that you are using the appropriate fuel. It is estimated that American drivers wasted more than \$2.1 billion during the most recent years for which data was available by using premium-grade fuel in vehicles that are designed to run on regular gas. According to a recent comprehensive fuel evaluation by AAA, 16.5 million U.S. drivers chose to use premium fuel in the last year, despite vehicle manufacturers' recommendation to use regular-grade fuel. These drivers should be made to understand that premium-grade gasoline has higher octane (93) than regular fuel (87), but not better quality.

Whether you use high-octane or regular fuel, if you have any questions about the best way to care for your car then you need to talk to the experienced technicians at **ROYAL COACH**. We will provide the expert advice that you need in the clear language that you can understand. In addition, we can provide the regular care that will keep your car running smoothly, which can save you on fuel costs in the long run. If you have any questions, please call our office. *Quality before quantity.*

HINT: The "octane rating" of gasoline indicates how much the fuel can be compressed before it spontaneously ignites. It is a measure of a fuel's ability to resist "knock."

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The Bel Sonore Chamber Ensemble of flute, oboe and bassoon with soprano voice will perform a repertoire of music ranging from early Baroque to jazz standards. They have performed in New York at CAMI Hall and the Brooklyn Museum, and in Chicago in the Prairie Crossing Concert Series and the Lyric Opera Guild. REGISTER

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**VILLAGE OF STREAMWOOD, ILLINOIS**  
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for the Village of Streamwood for 2017 will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:40 p.m. at the Village Hall, 301 East Irving Park Road, Streamwood, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Kittie Kopitke, Village Clerk, 301 East Irving Park Road, Streamwood, Illinois, (630) 736-3800.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2016 were \$10,101,035.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2017 are \$10,136,021. This represents a 0.4% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2016 were \$1,283,586.

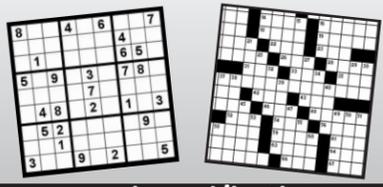
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2017 are \$1,248,600. This represents a 2.7% decrease from the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2016 were \$11,384,621.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2017 are \$11,384,621. This is the same amount as the previous year.

Dated November 8, 2017  
Kittie L. Kopitke, MMC, Village Clerk

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# A View from the Cheap Seats



Disarray

By Rich Trzupke

If we are to be fair, both major political parties are in disarray at the moment. It will be interesting to see how this all shakes out.

The uproar in the GOP affects the uproar among Democrats and vice-versa. At first glance it appears that the root of all the dissension was the Presidential election of 2016. While Trump's upset and Hillary's failure should not be discounted, that's hardly the entire story.

Voters are sending both parties a pretty clear message: business as usual is not going to cut it any longer.

Now that some Dems have found the courage to finally (finally!) call out Hillary for what she is: about as corrupt a politician walking the face of the earth, the old Clinton coalition that both Bill and Barack used so well is clearly falling apart.

It is remarkable that the Democrat rank and file ever went along with the idea of super-delegates in the first place. Having super delegates as part of the primary system is just an invitation to corruption: a pool of votes that could guarantee a candidate the nomination in a close run race.

This would be true if the Republicans had super-delegates. You can't put that much temptation in front of any politician this side of Jesus Christ. The only difference we'd find if the GOP used super-delegates is that the mainstream media would make a whole lotta noise about the practice.

The revelation that the Democrat National Committee essentially handed over their checkbook to Hillary in the midst of her primary battle with the Bern was, for many, the last straw. Even Nancy Pelosi was appalled and I literally did not think there was anything a fellow Democrat could do short of dropping his or her trousers on the floor of the Senate that would offend Ms. Pelosi.

Sanders supporters, who suspected

at the time they were being sold out, now have proof to confirm their suspicions. The Democrat brand is going to have a very difficult time convincing many of them to return to the fold. Apathy is the natural outgrowth of disgust.

The turmoil on the Republican side has a different flavor, but it too is a party divided. In some ways it's a split between the party's conservative/libertarian wing and its moderate wing. And yet, that's not completely it. Trump does lean right on many issues, but can also be a left-leaning centrist at times.

The split in the GOP is more about how the game is played than it is about what the goals of the game are. George H. W. Bush, the very model of a gentleman politician, recently described President Trump as a blowhard. I'm not sure that The Donald would take that as an insult.

The elder Bush epitomizes the sort of politician that most politicians aspire to be, or at least appear to be: genial, approachable and reasonable – somebody that can reach across the aisle and work with anybody. I think that's how Bush tried to carry himself and I also believe that is who he is as a person.

Trump, on the other hand, is bombastic, blunt and full of bravado. Unlike just about every other politician on planet earth, he appears to not give the slightest bit of a damn what other people think of him. He has consciously taken decorum off the table in how he deals with politics and the press.

Some Republicans have come around, seeing that there is appeal to this approach among many a GOP voter. It's anything but politics as usual. Plus, it's reassuring to see the bluster disappear when he's dealing with our allies abroad and ordinary Americans.

At the same time, there is clearly still a large "Never Trump" contingent in the party. They want to find a way to rid themselves of this mad-man every bit as much as their Democrat opponents.

I have no idea what either party will look like or stand for in ten years' time. It's all way too confusing. But, it sure is entertaining as hell.

Email: rich@examinerpublications.com

# Village Board approves ordinance amendments

By Joe Hyland

At its Thursday, Nov. 2 meeting, the Village Board unanimously approved the amendment of two sections of its code of ordinances. The sections relate to rental residential property. Specifically, an amendment to Chapter 14, of Title 3, Business and License Regulations. The section relates to the village's crime free housing initiative that was originally adopted in 2015.

The ordinance was originally presented for a first reading at the Thursday, Oct. 19 Village Board meeting by Community Development Director John Peterson.

Peterson explained in a memo that the program was initiated as a means to help educate landlords about village regulations, code requirements and community expectations.

The training included how to conduct a thorough background check, obtain information on filing an information request, criminal and civil law updates and an overview of our nuisance abatement ordinance Peterson stated in the memo. "The program re-

quires landlords to participate in training offered by the village or another community in order to obtain a rental license."

The initiative also included requirements regarding renewal requirements, which were to be at either two or four year intervals depending on the type of training received.

Peterson said that, on working with landlords, the training requirements were found to be somewhat inconsistent, and created difficulties for smaller landlords to reach compliance. The two modifications, according to Peterson, would standardize both the initial and renewal training requirements.

Peterson said that the changes would make the village's requirements substantially similar to neighboring municipalities.

This would make it easier for prospective landlords who would also be able to obtain a license in the village using another municipality's training program.

"We decided to accept other towns' programs," Peterson said.

## Sunnydale School earns funds at annual McTeacher's Night



Olivia and McKenna Bryant with Ronald McDonald. (Courtesy photo)

On Thursday, Nov. 2, Sunnydale Elementary School in Streamwood held its second annual McTeacher's Night at the Hanover Park McDonald's that was organized to help raise money by having the teachers work at McDonald's and having a percentage of the night's sales then donated to the

school. The restaurant was taken over by teachers to serve meals to students and their families.

Fourteen teachers and staff members worked from the elementary school including Principal Dr. Maria Valdovinos. The teacher's jobs included greeting guests, cleaning the lobby, working the front counter, serving drinks, clearing tables, selling pies and even dressing up in a pie costume. Sunnydale teachers Jodie Bradney and Juan Jacobo danced around the restaurant in a pie costume. Diners were also encouraged to make a donation to receive a hot apple pie. A total of 224 pies were sold during the three-hour event.

During the evening Ronald McDonald made a special appearance and took pictures with the children, families and staff members.

Sunnydale teacher Michelle Vacco organized the event. Over \$500 was raised at the event and the money will be placed into the teacher discretionary fund to replenish needed classroom supplies.

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## report card

Continued from page 1

students (8.3 percent) and black students (6.3 percent) have remained flat, under a percentage point change for both categories.

The 2017 enrollment is 39,377 which is down from 39,963 in 2016 and 40,400 in 2015, which was the peak in enrollment over the past five years. From 2008 to 2017, the districts attendance rate has dropped from 94.3 percent to 92.8 percent.

On advanced placement courses, the district saw an increase from 6,073 to 6,362 students taking AP courses from 2016 to 2017, and the number of exams given increased from 3,515 to 3,725. Within the four categories, the district saw an increase in the number of AP scholars from 395 to 442.

The district's four-year graduation rate was 86.1 percent, and five-year was 89.9 percent.

Using National Student Clearinghouse data, the district showed that 63.1 percent of U-46 graduates in 2009 enrolled in college the first year after graduation and 51.8 percent of those students are either still enrolled or have graduated (43.2 percent have graduated).

Matt Raimondi, coordinator of assessment and accountability, said "similar results are seen for other graduating classes like the class of 2010" which saw 65 percent enroll right after graduation with 51.7 percent having either graduated college (39.9 percent) or are still enrolled.

Concerning the PARCC exam and the ELA portion, Raimondi said "we have found that there is a relationship" between taking the exam with paper and pencil compared to online saying there has been an 11 to 13 percent downward among all grade levels since going to online only.

Board member Jeanette Ward said she has personal experience saying: "I have taken the test myself, and it is very frustrating to have to scroll back up to the story that's provided to answer questions about it."

Ward, who said she's "no fan of PARCC," made some suggestions that a paper portion is given with the story while the test is taken online or providing students with two monitors. Hill called those "great suggestions" and Raimondi said the district can offer feedback to the vendors and make those suggestions.

Board member Veronica Noland asked if other districts have seen the same kind of drop since moving from paper to online which Raimondi said "the

state hasn't released any data on district's transitioning from one mode to the next," but they would speak to other districts.

Board member Melissa Owens asked if the PARCC exam is completely taken in English which Raimondi said "some students can take the math portion in Spanish."

Board member Sue Kerr said there was a disparity with low-income schools generally underperforming and said "we pretty much have a curriculum that's uniform throughout the district" and asked if schools can use different resources to which Suzanne Johnson, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning, said the district is "drafting a plan to do a deeper data analysis." In answering a question from board member Donna Smith, Johnson said "certainly there is flexibility" in classroom instruction.

Board member Traci Ellis said she wants to "ensure we are looking at the kids as capable, ready" and said the adults need to change which Johnson said it's "upon us the adults to do a better job" and it's about "changing adult behaviors." Owens said "we do need to address that" disparity from low-income schools.

Ward responded: "One way to address low-income or low-performing schools is to allow the parents the freedom to

choose their school. Even inside U-46 you could do something like that where if a parent's student is attending a low performing school, they could have the freedom to pick a different school in the district. I think that would help a lot that students wouldn't be continually stuck in a low performing school."

Ward also noted the poor math scores in the data and asked if the district was considering changing the curriculum? Johnson said "we are not considering a new math curriculum" but are looking at adding a new geometry bridge course.

Expenditures per student in the district have risen from under \$10,000 in 2012 to \$12,095 in 2017, and Ward noted that the operational spending has increased faster than instructional spending and asked why that was, and the administrative response was due to the increase in salaries of \$7.6 million, increase in textbook expenditures by \$6.8 million and the \$2.3 million increase in benefit costs over the previous year. Please note that our operating expenditures per pupil is approximately \$800 less per student than the state average."

Board member Phil Costello asked for an explanation on the attendance rate decline to which Sanders said "we're looking into that" to find a "specific cause or try and dig deeper into any kind of rationale."

# Honoring The Veterans Who Have Served Our Country

WWII-World War II, KC-Korean Conflict, VN-Viet Nam, GW-Gulf War, OIF-Operation Iraqi Freedom ★ Bronze Star ☆ Silver Star ♥ Purple Heart

I want you to close your eyes and picture in your mind the soldier at Valley Forge, as he holds his musket in his bloody hands.

He stands barefoot in the snow, starved from lack of food, wounded from months of battle and emotionally scarred from the eternity away from his family surrounded by nothing but death and carnage of war.

He stands tough, with fire in his eyes and victory on his breath. He looks at us now in anger and disgust and tells us this...

- I gave you a birthright of freedom born in the Constitution and now your children graduate too illiterate to read it.
- I fought in the snow barefoot to give you the freedom to vote and you stay at home because it rains.
- I left my family destitute to give you the freedom of speech and you remain silent on critical issues, because it might be bad for business.
- I orphaned my children to give you a government to serve you and it has stolen democracy from the people.
- It's the soldier not the reporter who gives you the freedom of the press.
- It's the soldier not the poet who gives you the freedom of speech.
- It's the soldier not the campus organizer who allows you to demonstrate.
- It's the soldier who salutes the flag, serves the flag, whose coffin is draped with the flag that allows the protester to burn the flag!!!

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen."

The Examiner proudly salutes the men and women who have so valiantly fought to protect our country and our freedoms.

This list, while by no means complete, represents some of those veterans from our area.

If your name has been inadvertently left off, please email us at [news@examinerpublications.com](mailto:news@examinerpublications.com). Be sure to include your name, the war in which you fought, if there was one at that time, and the town in which you reside. We will add your name to our listing in future editions.

## Currently Called to Duty Streamwood

- Robert N. Adame**  
Airman  
United States Air Force  
San Antonio, Texas
- Derek Adas**  
Airman  
United States Air Force  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas
- Christopher K. Altizer**  
Lance Cpl.  
United States Marine Corps  
Camp Pendleton,  
California
- Marie E. Anderson**  
Cpl.  
United States Marine Corps  
Okinawa
- Maxine E. Andren**  
Seaman Apprentice  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Cesar Arroyo**  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Dion V. Banda**  
Airman  
United States Air Force  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas
- F. Victor Banda**  
4th Brigade/320  
Field Artillery  
101st Airborne  
Kuwait, Iraq
- Jonathan Barnes**  
United States Army  
Fort Lewis  
Tacoma, Washington
- Kathryn Bartman**  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
United States Navy
- Jay Beco**  
Reserve Pfc.  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Anthony R. Brent**  
Warrant Officer  
United States Army  
Fort Rucker, Alabama
- Ryan Bretzman**  
Lance Cpl.

- United States Marine Corps
- Joseph Burnham**  
Pfc.  
United States Marine Corps  
Pensacola, Florida
- Robert S. Burtis**  
Staff Sgt.  
United States Air Force  
Sunter, South Carolina
- Ryan E. Burtis**  
Airman 1st Class  
United States Air Force  
Clovis, New Mexico
- James H. Broucek**  
1st Lt.  
United States Air Force  
Abilene, Texas
- Elizabeth Cano**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Zakary R. Carlborg**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Fort Benning  
Columbus, Georgia
- Alana P. Chanthagnalay**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Columbia, South Carolina
- Nicole J. Clermont**  
Airman  
United States Air Force  
San Antonio, Texas
- Maria Contreras**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Fort Jackson,  
South Carolina
- Branden W. Cummins**  
1st Lt.  
United States Marine Corps  
Kingsville, Texas
- Dan Darmofal**  
Spc.  
Lightwheel Mechanic  
United States Army  
Kuwait
- Jeremy Decarli**  
Pfc.  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Jonathan Denney**  
Lt.  
United States Navy

- USS Harry Truman  
Persian Gulf
- Christopher L. Dunning**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Paul R. Dunning**  
Pvt.  
United States Marine Corps
- Samuel W. Eineichner**  
Seaman Recruit  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Craig Essick**  
Lt. Col.  
Commander MP Unit  
United States Army Reserves  
Iraq
- Javier Garay**  
Pvt.  
National Guard  
United States Army  
Afghanistan
- Brandon D. Garcia**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Fort Lee  
Petersburg, Virginia
- Clint M. Greenlee**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Patsy L. Hernandez**  
Pvt.  
Fort Jackson  
Columbia, South Carolina
- Juan C. Huaracha**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Columbus, Georgia
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Hospitalman  
United States Navy
- Owen Lauerman**  
Cpl.  
United States Marine Corps  
Kuwait, Iraq
- Keith Lawrence**  
Pvt.  
National Guard  
United States Army  
Fort Benning, Georgia
- Robert E. Lighthall**  
Pfc.  
United States Army  
Lawton, Oklahoma
- Joseph Lollino**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Lawton, Oklahoma
- Shona A. Lukes**  
Seaman Recruit  
United States Navy  
Delayed Entry Program
- Dominick J. Lullo**  
Pvt.  
United States Army  
Columbia, South Carolina
- Joseph R. Lullo**  
Airman  
San Antonio, Texas
- Jeremy D. Lundgren**  
Sgt.  
178th Infantry Regiment  
National Guard

- United States Army  
Iraq
- Dennis B. Lyp**  
Cpl.  
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Jeffrey R. Martin**  
Master Sgt.  
United States Marine Corps  
Afghanistan
- Stan T. Martin**  
2nd Lt.  
United States Army National Guard  
North Fort Lewis,  
Tacoma, Washington
- Andrew P. Meek**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- James M. Metz III**  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
USS Mobile Bay  
United States Navy  
Iraq
- Richard Muntana**  
Sgt.  
United States Air Force  
Yokota Air Base  
Tokyo, Japan
- Alan Nava**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Robert Oates**  
Airman  
United States Air Force
- Chayanne Ojeda**  
Pvt.  
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Lawton, Oklahoma
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Pvt.  
United States Army  
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Columbia, South Carolina
- Richard M. Perez**  
Sgt.  
National Guard  
United States Army  
Iraq
- Joseph F. Petrus IV**  
Seaman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Marcelis L. Posey**  
Fireman  
United States Navy  
Great Lakes, Illinois
- Salvatore M. Prato, Jr.**  
Lance Cpl.  
United States Marine Corps  
Afghanistan
- Milton Ramon**  
Pvt.  
United States Marine Corps
- Enrique Razo**  
Pvt.  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Jose L. Ramirez**  
Pfc.  
Marine Corps Depot  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Monica Restrepo**  
Seaman  
USS Nimitz  
United States Navy  
Dubai
- Jamie M. Retzke**  
Seaman  
Amphibious Construction  
Battalion One  
United States Navy  
San Diego, California
- David L. Rhoiney**  
Ensign  
United States Naval Academy  
United States Navy  
Annapolis, Maryland
- Eulogio Rodriguez**  
Army Reserve Pvt.  
United States Army  
Fort Knox, Kentucky

- Rene Rodriguez**  
Army Reserve Pvt.  
United States Army  
Aberdeen, Maryland
- Eric M. Rundquist**  
Staff Sgt.  
United States Army  
Fort Drum, New York
- Robert C. Rupprecht**  
Army Reserve Pfc.  
United States Army  
Iraqi Freedom
- Frank P. Santiago**  
Seaman 1st Class  
United States Navy
- Luda Shlapak**  
United States Navy  
Geat Lakes, Illinois
- Jeff Sims**  
Department Head  
United States Navy  
Atsugi, Japan
- Jisenia M. Smith**  
Airman 1st Class  
United States Air Force  
San Antonio, Texas
- Maria Sosa**  
Army Reserve Pvt.  
Army Reserve  
Fort Jackson  
Columbia, South Carolina
- Robert S. Spejcher**  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
USS Wasp  
United States Navy
- Robert Spejcher**  
Hospital Corpsman  
2nd Marine Division  
United States Navy  
Kuwait
- Anthony V.M. Steinke**  
Sgt.  
178th Infantry Regiment  
National Guard  
United States Army  
Iraq
- Natalie I. Strader**  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Master at Arms  
United States Navy  
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- Jonathon A. Tate**  
United States Army  
Fort Knox, Kentucky
- David J. Trester**  
Pvt.  
United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California
- Dennis C. Watt**  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
United States Navy
- Richard D. Winterfeld**  
Staff Sgt.  
178th Infantry Regiment  
National Guard  
United States Army  
Iraq
- Streamwood**  
William C. Adler  
Theodore C. Balrig  
Jesse W. Basich  
David Beane; VN  
Richard M. Bee  
Wayne K. Blackburn  
Harold E. Blume  
Chuck Bowers, VN  
Frank J. Braiske  
Larry P. Brehm  
Robert E. Brekhush; VN  
Walter A. Brodack; WWII  
Robert W. Brossard  
Doremus D. Buckner; WWII  
Maynard D. Burkett  
Rae E. Burtis, VN  
William J. Carlson; KC  
Joseph E. Carnes, Jr.; VN  
Larry Carpenter, Jr.; GW  
Thomas J. Carter  
Mark B. Crotty  
Brian P. Cutts  
Theodore Dalrig  
Gary G. Darmofal  
Marion R. Dixon  
James R. Dobson  
Steve J. Dolewski  
Gerald W. Downey; KC  
James T. Dutton  
Jessee G. Dye

- John Dye  
John R. Eichinger, VN, ★  
Sam Errera  
Gerald Farganus, VN  
Jack Fehlandt  
William P. Feltz  
Gary K. Fiddelke; VN  
Richard Franz  
Joseph A. Fumagalli  
James A. Gordon  
Kenneth F. Greaves; VN  
Howard G. Greenland  
Charles S. Griffith  
Frank Gronn; VN  
Larry A. Hansen, VN  
Kenneth J. Hardcopf  
Martin K. Haufe  
Luke Helton  
Alan Hiratsuka; VN  
Fred Hossfeld, KC  
Gary L. Hultberg  
Fred Hunter  
William P. Husfield  
Burl R. Jones, Sr.  
Gerald Juggan, VN  
Warren F. Kaplan  
Robert R. Kesney; WWII  
Richard Kessler  
Robert A. Kirkpatrick; WWII  
Harold J. Klein, WWII  
Richard Koltz; WWII  
Thomas W. Kowalski, VN  
John J. Koziol  
Bob Lamping; KC  
Paul Lazar  
Charles F. Leutz  
Louis R. Lomber  
Ronald E. Lundquist; VN  
Jerry Mac  
Donald Mares; VN  
Joe Marino  
Don Markland  
James Mattson  
Chester F. Matysiewski  
Fred M. McCollum  
Charles K. McCullough  
Valentine McGowan; WWII  
Stephan J. Miller  
Anthony J. Montalbano  
Shirley A. Murphy; WWII  
Raymond S. Mysliwiec;  
WWII  
John C. Nielsen  
Clyde B. Olin  
Charles E. Ori  
Jose Palacios  
Everett F. Parpart  
Tony Pearson  
Joseph Perrino, KC  
Lauren Perryman; VN  
Mark Perryman; GW  
Bruno R. Peters; KC  
Edward L. Pfannkuche, Jr.  
Randal Roessiein, VN  
Harold A. Rundquist;  
WWII  
Albert F. Rundquist;  
WWII  
Michael Rundquist; VN  
Dennis J. Rombola  
Harold Rudolph  
Joseph A. Schlosser  
Joseph P. Scott  
Jim Seamon; VN  
John Sidbeck  
Dennis Sievert; VN  
John W. Seefurth  
Kenneth Slee; KC  
Richard A. Slove  
Michael A. Sondy  
Bruno J. Spina  
William J. Stark  
Stanley Stepnik  
Martin Sterrett, VN  
David J. Stoves  
George E. Tamboureas  
Jonathon Thiemann; GW  
Glenn Thill  
Ronald E. Thill, Sr.; KC  
Lawrence Tombacle  
Carl E. Trippett  
Walter Z. Urba, VN  
Albert R. Vucsko  
Thomas J. Wadman; VN  
William Wagner; VN  
Robert Wallen  
George West

# Park District hosts a safety-themed day

The Park District hosted its annual free Safely Trick-or-Treat event on Monday, Oct. 30 at Park Place. More than 20 local businesses and organizations handed out candy and other items to more than 250 trick-or-treaters. Children and their parents then headed over to the bounce house, take selfies at the photo booths, make Halloween crafts, and, of course, check out their collected goodies.



Minion Joey Harry took a closer look at Cole Hermonson's Captain America costume.



Draven Vierke cut a handsome figure in a suit just his size.



As they do every year, Phil Roth, Village President Billie Roth, and Village Manager Sharon Caddigan wore authentic theater costumes to participate in the trick-or-treat event.



From left, Evan and Miranda Hopman, and George and Josephine Endrulat created Halloween-themed crafts after trick-or-treating. (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)



Blake Novak trick-or-treated as a chocolate chip cookie.



Cook County Board Commissioner Tim Schneider gave candy and trail maps to brothers Jareho Walhite, left, and Jaewon Walhite.



Leigha Forester got help collecting her candy from D.A.R.E. officers Matt Stastny, left, and Ed Polaski.