

Press Clippings 10/26/2017

---Courier News--- 10/26/17

U-46 schools raise ore than \$7K for Puerto Rico, Mexico

BY RAFAEL GUERRERO

School District U46 schools have raised an additional \$7,200 for disaster relief, this time in Puerto Rico and Mexico, the district said in a news release.

Weeks after earthquakes rattling Mexico and Hurricane Maria striking Puerto Rico in September, students and staff in the Elgin-area district collected money for those affected. Earlier in the school year, the district had raised close to \$10,000 for victims of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

“Many members of our district have ties to Mexico or Puerto Rico, so these fundraising efforts were very personal for some, while others were moved to donate based on the news reports of the devastation,” U46 CEO Tony Sanders said. “I am proud of how our district comes together to help others in time of need.”

According to a district news release, several schools organized fundraising campaigns. At Otter Creek Elementary School, its coin challenge raised more than \$2,000, while a number of parents sent in checks. The district headquarters had an international bake sale, as well as money donated in exchange for wearing jeans to work.

The district will send \$2,956 to Chicago con Mexico, an organization supporting rebuilding efforts in Mexico following the September earthquakes, the news release stated. Another check totaling \$4,275 will be sent to the Puerto Rican Relief Fund, assisting victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

Along with monetary donations, U46 schools also collected 232 batteries and 176 flashlights that will be donated to Happy Kids Chicago, which has an airplane scheduled to travel to Puerto Rico this week.

---Courier News--- 10/26/17

Dorms face demolition

Three buildings on former day school campus coming down at proposed site of charter school

BY MIKE DANAHEY



The Kilburn Building on the Elgin-owned former Fox River Country Day School Campus is one of three dormitories set for demolition. (Mike Danahey/Courier-News)

The Elgin City Council on Wednesday night voted 8-0 to approve awarding a \$119,000 contract to Langos Corporation of Barrington to demolish three dormitories on the former Fox River Country Day School campus that is the proposed home of the Elgin Math and Science Academy.

Council member John Steffen abstained from voting as his wife, Kerry Kelly, is part of the group behind the academy.

Council member Tish Powell noted Wednesday that these buildings would have been demolished regardless of an agreement with those behind the charter school proposal. She asked staff to provide information back to the City Council on securing property and for making any repairs due to vandalism.

Building Maintenance Superintendent Rich Hoke said the demolition work would probably start in mid November and be finished before the end of this year.

According to information provided by city staff to the Council for Wednesday's meeting, Allison Hall, the Kilburn Building and Cox Cottage were identified for demolition during the process of marketing the campus property for potential third-party development. The three dorms do not have any historical significance and cannot be cost-effectively restored, according to city staff.

The meeting memo states the three structures have not been heated or cooled for several years and have unreliable fire alarm systems. The buildings also have been vandalized on occasion.

The city acquired the day school campus in 2013 in a complicated deal involving the Illinois Tollway, the Forest Preserve District of Kane County and Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation. A plan to bring the charter school to the site failed in 2014. The city also tried, with no luck, to find other parties to lease or buy the campus.

In late July, the City Council approved a leasing deal for the day school campus with the charter school group, contingent upon the group getting approval for their plan.

The initial lease runs from April 1, 2018, through June 30, 2023. The school is to be given five-year options to renew the lease through June 30, 2048, subject to the academy having its charter renewed for each additional time frame.

The lease would otherwise automatically be renewed, and the school would have to give Elgin 180 days notice if it would not be renewing its lease.

The lease is for use of the Neil Building, the dining hall, the administration building, the gym, the Kilns Cabin and the Bates Fieldhouse — six of the 11 buildings on the campus.

Prior to the lease starting, Elgin, at the city's expense, would demolish Allison Hall and the Kilborn Building and regrade and landscape those sites. Elgin also would make some repairs to the administration building and the gym to keep rain from getting into them.

The rent is only \$1 per year, with \$30 for the 30 years of the proposed renewals due at signing.

The school's supporters have agreed to take the buildings and property as is and would be responsible for any repairs, improvements, maintenance, utilities, snow removal,

heating, air conditioning and any remodeling or renovations. Officials have estimated repairs could run \$4 million or more to fix all the buildings being leased.

The school will be allowed to sublet to nonprofits. Elgin also could sell the site to another property, with the school given 180 days notice and right of first refusal.

In early October, the Illinois State Charter School Commission voted 5-3 in favor of the Elgin Math and Science Academy. It was the second time in three years the Elgin Charter School Initiative had gone to the state commission to overturn School District U46's rejection of their proposal.

The EMSA charter grants access only to Neil Building, which went up in 2005 and is the newest building on the campus. According to those backing the charter school, the building needs about \$200,000 in repairs and renovations to be able to use.

Under the state-approved measures, the academy can have no more than 400 students each school year through its first five years of operation, with the first year all operations occurring at the day school site's Neil Building. Any repair or renovation work on the buildings, meanwhile, must come from private funding and not through any state or federal source.

SPORTS SECTION

---Daily Herald--- 10/26/17

Boys soccer: Streamwood ousts Hampshire, 1-0

BY STEVE NICHOLS

Streamwood seniors Oscar Chavez and Aldo Lazaro might know a thing or two about postseason experience.

The two were freshmen on the Sabres soccer team during their 2014 state run so it comes as no shock the savvy tandem would know what to do in the clutch during an elimination game.

Chavez and Lazaro accounted for the game's only goal on a night when scoring was a premium, as Lazaro's six-yard strike on pass from Chavez in the 59th minute gave Streamwood a 1-0 win over Hampshire in a Class 3A Streamwood sectional semifinal Wednesday.

Chavez's cross, which derived from a run on the outside, straddled the line from the right of the goalie box to end of it on the left side, where Lazaro waited and tucked it home inside the near left post for the game-winner. It gave the Sabres the right to play Jacobs Friday at 5 p.m. for the sectional title.

Jacobs also downed CL South by a 1-0 tally in the first of the doubleheader at Millennium Field.

"I knew he was going to center the ball so I just had to be in the right place at the right time," said Lazaro. "We know what each of us can do. We believe in each other and I believed in him and he gave me the assist."

It took the weight off Streamwood's shoulders, who finally broke through when it had so many chances go to waste previously. The Sabres (14-5-2) outshot the Whip-Purs 16-2,

which included one shot off the crossbar in the first half and plenty of stops by Hampshire keeper Andrew Krajecki, who totaled 6 saves and included some acrobatic dives to keep the Sabres frustrated at times.

"We finally put one in and we just ... ugh," Streamwood coach Matt Polovin said with an exhale. "It's still a little frustrating. I'll take the win anytime, especially this part of the season. But the guys know their finishing still has to be so much better. And when we get those many opportunities as we had in both halves and one shows, it's a little frustrating."

Which exemplifies why it's so hard to score in the postseason and why a lot of games are won by slim 1-0 margins as the case was in Streamwood.

"You just have to calm yourself down and keep fighting," Chavez said. "I feel like everybody puts in more heart since it's a playoff game and they don't want their season to end."

The Whip-Purs' near Cinderella run ended at 12-8-3, which included a regional final win over Elgin in upset fashion last Friday. The glass slippers appeared to be on thanks to Krajecki, who missed part of the second half due to injury, as well as goalie Jason Polletta, who also made 6 saves.

But Hampshire's only pure chance of the night came with 24 minutes left on Sawyer Shores' point-blank shot from 10 yards out that lofted high and hit the crossbar.

"It was close, it was close," Hampshire coach Rick Schuster said. "With (Streamwood) you're not going to get 20 chances, you'll get three or four good chances and you have to bury one of them. Their one goal we were ball watching, but we defended well and we worked hard. We'll learn and know they know what it takes to get to the next step."