

Press Clippings 3/21/2018

---Courier News--- 3/21/18

Police: Car hits Larkin student crossing street

Official says teen suffered minor injuries Monday

BY RAFAEL GUERRERO

A Larkin High School student received minor injuries Monday when he was struck by a vehicle in front of the school, Elgin police and school district officials said.

The incident occurred at 7 a.m. in the 1000 block of Larkin Avenue, Elgin Police Department spokeswoman Kristie Hilton said.

The student was crossing Larkin Avenue in front of the McDonald's restaurant across from the high school, Hilton said.

The student was transported to Presence St. Joseph Hospital in Elgin, District U46 spokeswoman Mary Fergus said.

He was accompanied by Assistant Principal Tony Rios, who stayed with the teen until his parents arrived, Fergus said.

The injuries were described as minor, Hilton said.

---Courier News--- 3/21/18

Enhancing Elgin

Image Awards honor community volunteers, groups, businesses who give back to city

BY JANELLE WALKER

George Rawlinson was the final Elgin Image Award recipient Thursday night, but he wanted to make sure the city's most-noted volunteer also was recognized.

"My first thought was Jack Shales, (who had) a monumental life of giving back to anyone who needed a helping hand," Rawlinson said.

Shales, 87, of Elgin, died Jan. 26 and was an Elgin Image Award recipient in 2011. During his years as an Elgin resident and business owner, he was known for his fundraising ability in the community, which often started with his own significant donation.

"Jack spoke directly from the heart," Rawlinson said, and always reminded him of a simple truth. "You give without remembering, you receive without forgetting. It is not about what you have or what you have accomplished, it is about giving back."

Rawlinson also noted that these are difficult times in the country and in Elgin.

"Love is still Elgin's unifying characteristic," no matter a person's race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation, he said. "Choose happy, choose love."

Thursday's Image Award ceremony, held at the Centre of Elgin's Heritage Ballroom, was the 26th annual event designed to honor the volunteers, businesses, business people and community projects that enhance Elgin and its image.

Elgin has faced some obstacles lately, Mayor David Kaptain said after the event, but the community finds strength in unity as evidenced by the wide range of people honored at the ceremony.

"We have had bumps along the way but we have to pick up from there together," Kaptain said.

Image Awards were presented in the categories of Individual Professionals, Individual Volunteers, Projects, Organizations or Businesses and Citizenship. A Teen Impact award was created this year, but no nominations were received.

The winners this year included Blue Box Cafe, the **Elgin High School Band**, Elgin Sports Hall of Fame, Food for Greater Elgin, the Gifford Park Association Historic House Tour, Chuck Keysor, Bill Mathews, the New Citizens Committee and Habitat for Humanity Northern Fox Valley.

Many of those organizations rely entirely on volunteer hours, time that adds up to millions of dollars saved by Elgin by way of labor, Kaptain said.

Keysor's and Mathews' work in the community are examples of how the city can recognize the small things that have big impacts, Kaptain said.

Keysor spent years cleaning up vacant land on the near west side of Elgin and helped to develop the Near-West Neighborhood Association. Mathews started picking up trash along Duncan Avenue and Trout Park, and has expanded that to picking up around Route 31.

"These are people who have donated their time for projects in their own neighborhoods," Kaptain said.

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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

50 cents
March 21, 2018

U-46 Board debates
linger on new topic
See Page 3

Village approves
change in zoning
See Page 5

U-46 board member files act violation with AG

By Seth Hancock

School District U-46 Board of Education member Jeanette Ward has filed a complaint with the Attorney General's (AG) office alleging Open Meeting Act violations by the board at a closed session board self-evaluation meeting on Saturday, Feb. 3.

The Examiner obtained Ward's complaint through a Freedom of Information Act request with the AG's office, and it includes a "partial transcript" as Ward claimed the board "spent about an hour discussing how they might prevent her, a fellow board member, from posting on social media."

Ward noted in the complaint she was not in attendance at the meeting, facilitated by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), because she publicly stated she would not unless the meeting was held publicly because, in the past, in closed session she and members of the public have been called "the 21st century brand of the KKK" and has been told "when I look at you, I see pointy white hoods."

The AG's office has "determined that further action is warranted" and is currently investigating.

The transcript shows that Donna Smith, the board's president, and board members Traci Ellis, Veronica Noland and Melissa Owens as well as U-46 CEO Tony Sanders were discussing behind closed doors how to silence Ward. Board members Phil Costello and Sue Kerr did make comments but do not appear to have taken part in the efforts to silence Ward.

The following is the transcript:

Ellis said "board dynamics is glaringly missing" and is a "third rail."

Noland said: "We have one board member boycotting this discussion."

Ellis says the "impact that this board dysfunction has on the district... we can't fix it."

Owens said: "I don't feel that all of the board members have the intent to move the district forward."

Smith said: "We are dealing with it."

Noland said: "Staff is walking on eggshells.... It impedes relationships between the staff and the board."

Ellis said: "I would like to hear from Tony on that."

Sanders said: "If we actually reserved debating for the board room... I also think that saving the debates for the boardroom is appropriate, it's the outside the boardroom, Facebook activity, the never ending 'what's somebody going to post today that's going to blow up.' It's a challenge, it's a challenge for staff, and a challenge for me. It detracts the entire, case in point, this most recent weekly message I put out, was to try to get people refocused on what the right things are in the district. We've got 2,500 teachers that are walking on eggshells, one in particular, who thinks she's going to be fired because of public comments on Facebook. She sent me an email because she thought she was going to be fired from what has been posted. I had to address that as a leader of the organization, of the staff, and I had to address that. I would rather have these conversations, rather than Facebook debates. Board work should be reserved for the boardroom and for behind the scenes conversations and not for general public Facebook debates. That would

be my one request."

Ward noted in the complaint Sanders was referring to her post regarding an assignment her daughter had that inaccurately described three major religions, and she added: "I did not mention the teacher in the post."

Noland said: "Unfortunately the one person you need to request it from isn't here."

Ellis said: "Well, I have a suggestion for a board agreement.... We need to have a board agreement. I mean let's just call her on it."

Smith reads from policy: "Board members will carefully consider what they post on Facebook."

Ellis said: "When I say to someone 'you're looking at this through a Eurocentric lens, that is not appropriate and you're forgetting to take into account,' I get accused of attacking."

Ellis continues: "So when Jeanette evaluates Tony publicly on Facebook, which is a board agreement that I think we should make here today, that we do not..."

IASB representative suggests not using Ward's name.

Ellis responds: "Why, is that illegal or inappropriate? She could be here, but she chose not to be here.... I'm going to respect that she chose to boycott the meeting and could be here, when she's one of the key problems.... So I'm not going to agree to avoid the big white elephant in the room."

Costello asks: "Why is it a 'white elephant'?"

Ellis replies: "It wasn't a racial thing.... The board member who shall not be named.... We're all tap dancing and walking on eggshells to avoid, what we all know is a flipping problem."

Ellis says: "I'm not going to bring up the board member who shall not be named when the board member who shall not be named is 112 (percent) of the problem on this board. So, the board member who shall not be named should not be evaluating Tony in public."

Ellis continues: "What I am suggesting is that we make a board agreement that doesn't name the board

member who shall not be named... a board agreement that none of us will evaluate Tony in public. I'm not suggesting that we single Jeanette Ward out."

Noland asks: "What do we do when we have one board member who continuously breaks our agreements?"

Ellis responds: "When any board member evaluates Tony publicly, that board member, who evaluated Tony publicly, and your Facebook post.... So I want to have a discussion about this.... I don't know how to address it when it didn't occur during the meeting."

Ellis continued: "When you have any rogue board member... what are we going to do with it?"

Noland asks: "What do you do if you get a six to one vote on this?"

Smith said: "I was just going to say the same thing."

Ellis said: "I'll be honest, I don't even know if I would vote on this anymore.... I don't agree to 'I will encourage and respect the free expression of opinion.' I don't and I won't.... I'm not agreeing to that because there are some things that get expressed, that in my mind, in my moral compass, are absolutely horrific, and is hate speech. I don't respect it and I won't tolerate it.... I don't even know that I would agree to that anymore.... I will not remain neutral to what violates, what I feel is hate speech directed at certain segments of this district. I won't remain neutral. That's complicating me. So now you're talking about Traci's personal code of... and that's just where I feel that I've been pushed to."

Kerr said: "The solution is in the voting booth."

Owens asks: "CEO, tells us 'this is impacting staff'... how are we going to continue to recruit qualified teachers?"

Ellis asks: "How are we going to recruit a qualified superintendent?"

Ellis said: "Every time I see it I'm calling it... we aren't signaling that we care about staff."

The board eventually approved the agreements 5-2, Costello and Ward voting no, on March 5.

Village Board ratifies renewal of law firm pact

By Kristin Carreno

At the Village Board meeting on Thursday, March 15, trustees voted unanimously to approve a one-year agreement with the law firm Storino, Ramello and Durkin as corporation counsel and village prosecutor.

According to Village Attorney Thomas Bastian, the village retains attorneys to serve as corporation counsel that include various legal services including general legal work, labor negotiations, planning, zoning and other legal services as required. The firm also acts in prosecution of ordinance and traffic violations.

According to Bastian, Storino, Ramello and Durkin have "acted as counsel for the village for the past 22 years."

Bastian added that Storino, Ramello and Durkin provides service of an on-site attorney for up to 60 hours per month on a monthly retainer basis and additional services on an hourly charge basis. The retainer for 2017 was set at \$9,122 per month and the hourly billing rate for any other services was \$210. The firm is requesting a 2.5 percent increase in its retainer fee which would increase the cost to \$9,350 per month. The firm's fee for other services will be increasing to an hourly cost of \$215 per hour.

"We enjoy their relationship," said Bastian prior to the vote. "We look forward to continuing the relationship."

The agreement is effective Sunday, April 1.



It's that time of year again

Portable barricades stacked up at the intersection of Hickory Avenue and Cedar Circle, signal for curb repairs ahead for some residents. For story and more photos see page 8. (Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

U-46 Board debates terms, equity policy need

By Seth Hancock

Board of Education member Traci Ellis called School District U-46 staff incompetent and the administration said there's a problem with a system of so-called "whiteness" that needs to be addressed as an "equity" presentation was given on Monday, March 12.

The presentation was a continuation of a Jan. 22 update and U-46 CEO Tony Sanders admitted then that his staff has been doing this work solely on the behalf of one board member, Traci Ellis. Sanders also admitted that there was not a board discussion about it despite one being necessary to direct staff work.

The district has been providing so-called "implicit bias" training to staff using a "train the trainer" model which Ellis said: "My concern with the train the trainer model is we haven't demonstrated that we have the competency in U-46, and so while we're trying to become competent we're training others in competency."

Ellis suggested the model "may be the cheapest, but it's likely not the best model."

Ron Raglin, assistant superintendent, suggested the system has a problem with "whiteness" which the training attempts to address by asking "what is whiteness? It is a system that we all fall victim to."

Both Ellis and Raglin suggested those who do not racially divide are not being honest, Ellis explicitly saying so.

"They say they don't see color, but I have a whole set of questions for them," Raglin said and Ellis responded: "Which is a lie because they only say to people of color."

While accusing the district of discriminatory tactics, which Sanders also agreed with, Ellis and the administration are proposing the implementation of discriminatory practices by treating students differently for discipline and program placement with "differentiated" approaches based on the sub-groups the district labels students.

"I don't care if we stop out of school suspensions. I really don't," Ellis said because 26.3 percent of suspensions were black students.

"I'm not saying that kids aren't doing what they are being accused of doing," said Ellis, but "the research already shows that black male children do not act out more than white children, they act differently." Ellis provided no source of such research.

Ellis said the district is under-identifying black students for the gifted program because 7 percent of black females and under 5 percent of black males were in the program and she asked what the problem was. Asian males (19 percent) and females (17 percent) had the largest numbers in gifted programs.

Terri Lozier, assistant superintendent, said "I'm not quite sure what you're asking?" During the presentation she said "all students" are tested for gifted programs and all qualified students are invited into the program. Ellis claimed research said testing isn't the only measure, again with no source cited to back up her claim.

Ellis also suggested using taxpayer resources through Title I funds, paid for by the nation's taxpayers, to be spent solely on black students which Suzanne Johnson, deputy superintendent of instruction, said "we can certainly start that."

"The data suggests that U-46, well the nation I guess, like white kids I guess are just the best behaved people in the world," Ellis said and "if this were a different problem, if we saw this disproportionately among white students this would be fixed because the community wouldn't stand for it

and everybody's job would be on the line, right? And I want that same sense of urgency for our black male students."

Ward said: "So I disagree that white kids are the best behaved kids in U-46. The data shows that Asian kids are the best behaved.... So my question is what can we learn from the Asian students? Why are their discipline rates so low compared to all other ethnic groups? And by the way, I hate dividing people up by ethnic groups, but since we're doing that what can we learn from the Asian students?"

Raglin said "at home, they are being taught those practices and those beliefs of their heritage."

Ellis interrupted to say the data did not show that Asians were the best behaved, but that is what the data showed. Every discipline category showed Asian males and females having the lowest percentage, and every honors programs, including gifted and Advanced Placement, they made up the highest percentage.

While arguing with Ward, Ellis said "I'm not going to argue" because "I interpret the data differently," and the problem is "white kids are not disproportionately harmed."

"That wasn't my question," Ward said, but "I heard Mr. Raglin say that the home was very important, so I think that's something to take note of."

Regarding training, Ward asked: "Does critical race theory teach that white people are inherently racist and black people cannot be racist?"

Raglin never answered the question directly saying "the issue of inheritance [doesn't] necessarily put on the front side of the conversation. It comes up in the conversation of the discourse," and he said there's an emphasis on sources: "Is it just coming from just one viewpoint, or is it allowing space for other viewpoints to come in."

Ward noted, as she has voted against several resources based on leftist bias, that "I agree with you. I talk a lot about sources."

Costello, who had to say at one point "excuse me, I'm still talking" due to frequent interruption by Ellis just to get a question answered, asked: "Are there any specific instances where the district has taken one race over another and said we're going to treat it differently if this person is that background versus that background?"

While agreeing that the numbers are concerning, Costello said he's seen professionalism from U-46 staff and he said: "Just my question is that have we done anything wrong, and I did not hear one answer?"

Sanders said "the data suggests that we have" and Ellis, who claimed she had a notebook full of anecdotal stories, laughed at Costello and said: "You asked a question but then you drew conclusion that there's been no overt discrimination. I call BS there's been no discrimination."

The administration nor Ellis provided any evidence of wrongdoing as they relied solely on data, and Costello said they were the ones drawing conclusions and said: "I just need the evidence then. Then share that with the district because I think that's very important that you share it with the district and the public."

Costello preferred to fulfill the district's mission of "all means all" as he said "as we raise the bar for everybody, everyone succeeds," and added "I would prefer to not even know the background" of students when making discipline decisions so the board can make an objective decision.

See U-46 policy, pg. 4



EASTER EVENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

co-sponsored by Streamwood Woman's Club & Poplar Creek Library

Saturday, March 24
11 a.m.
Rahlf's Woods
Free Event

EGG DIVE

Friday, March 30
1 p.m.
Park Place Aquatic Center
Advanced Pricing: \$4.50
(can only be purchased at Registration)
Day of Event: \$7

Brunch with the Bunny

Saturday, March 31
10 a.m.
Hoosier Grove Barn
R/NR: \$10/\$15 (can only be purchased at Registration)




Streamwood Park District
Park Place Family Recreation Center
550 S. Park Blvd.
630.483.3025 | www.SPDCARES.com



MOM PROM

STAR WARS EDITION



FRIDAY, MARCH 23

6:30 - 8 P.M.

Hoosier Grove Barn

May the force be with you as you dance, laugh, and play. Event includes a light dinner, fun activities, dancing, and a photo for moms and their dates.

\$25/couple

\$10 for each additional child



Streamwood Park District
Park Place Family Recreation Center
550 S. Park Blvd.
630.483.3025 | www.SPDCARES.com



When Mosley got too big for his domain

I love animals of all kinds, but tend to lean toward typical pets such as dogs and cats. Yes, I really like them all, but boy, some creatures sure can be strange and in my experience I see this especially true with cats. One minute they love you and purr on your lap and the next minute they jump off, stick their tiny nose up at you and prance away as if you never existed. Dogs on the other hand are much more loving and family oriented in general although there are always exceptions. We must have had at least a dozen cats and dogs over the years that ranged anywhere from a mangy critter roaming the streets, to those we inherited from relatives or others that decided they didn't have time to care for their pets. I think we were a drop-off facility for both cats and dogs and other species we didn't know much about, but every little animal that came through our door lived happily until they went to animal heaven. My kids used to think that even fish and bugs went to heaven because they considered animals and all other species God's creatures and that we had borrowed them and were chosen to care for them. I never told them anything different.

We did however draw the line when it came to caring for animals other than dogs, cats and sea creatures such as fish and little geckos. We did have a neighbor aunt some years ago that housed a small pig and took care of it like a puppy until Mosley grew into a huge piggy. They cried when the animal control people tried to take him away because of all the complaints from the neighbors. Mosley lived most of the time outside because my aunt had her husband Charles built a pigpen, but the neighbors complained about Mosley's odor and didn't like the sight of a pig roaming around the yard when they would let him out for some exercise.

One day Mosley happened to be outside and the kids from one of the neighbor's houses walked over to pet Mosley. Of course Mosley was a gentle fellow with stubby hair on his back. It felt like petting the bristles of a brush because his hair was so stiff. But the kids loved the pig and took turns petting Mosley as he grunted with delight. All went well until the littlest child decided to join Mosley in the small rubber pool that was left for him to roll around in. It was certainly a sight to see with both boy and pig rolling around inside that tiny pool which was barely big enough for Mosley. Soon both kid and pig were rolling around in the cool water squealing with joy. When the mother discovered the wet twosome of Mosley and her child, she screeched in horror because not only was both pig and kid soaked, but Mosley had just done his duty and filled the rubber boat with his "doodoo" and it was more than she could bear! She immediately dragged the poor kid out of the pool, grabbed a hose lying close, turned on the water and sprayed her son until he screamed bloody murder. When she stopped dowsing the boy she ran and grabbed the towel her friend had brought and rolled the screaming toddler inside.

Although there were several threats to have Mosley taken away, that was not why he eventually left. The sweet, adorable pig simply grew too big and could barely get through the door inside the house and would run into the furniture and yes, he did poop inside. Guess it is difficult to train a pig to alert people when he needs to go out. For his own good, Mosley ended up on a farm about 20 miles from his family and they were told that they could visit their darling pig whenever they felt the urge. In return for the farmers housing their beloved Mosley, Charles would drive out to the farm and help

the folks with some work. It ended well for Mosley and his former owners and no, they didn't make a ham out of Mosley.


* * * * *

Everyone is invited to the Wednesday March 21 meeting of the Tri-Village

Tidbits...

By Rachel

tidbits@examinerpublications.com



lage Garden Club of Bartlett, Hanover Park and Streamwood at 7 p.m. at the Poplar Creek Public Library at 1405 S. Park, Streamwood. They will be viewing a fascinating DVD entitled "Milkweed for Monarchs," done by Kay MacNeil, the Milkweed for Monarchs chairman. This program is 45 minutes long, shows many types of milkweed, plants butterflies use for food, caterpillars splitting, butterflies emerging, and how to raise and release caterpillars. Packets of milkweed seed will be available at the meeting. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble at 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson at 837-0281 or visit: www.trivillagegardenclub.org/wordpress.

* * * * *

Join Immanuel United Church of Christ for its seventh annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday March 31 at 9 a.m. Bring your child (up to age 12) and a

basket to hunt for eggs in divided age groups. Keep an eye out for the golden egg! Cost of event is \$3 per child; \$5 for two children. Immanuel United Church of Christ is located at 1500 Old Church Road, Streamwood.

* * * * *

Come out and see the Streamwood Police and Fire departments battle for bragging rights at their annual Guns N Hoses charity basketball game on Friday, April 6 at Streamwood High School. The game is held at 7 p.m., and tickets are available at the door. All proceeds benefit area families in need.

* * * * *

The Streamwood Woman's Club invites everyone to participate in its 12th annual Floral Design showcase taking place on Monday, April 9 at Streamwood High School located at 701 W. Schaumburg Road, Streamwood. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and show starts at 7 p.m. Ticket cost is \$15 per person and each ticket will be entered into a raffle to win one of many floral designs. Winners need to be present. If you are interested in purchasing advance tickets, please contact Carol at 258-4852.

* * * * *

The Streamwood Woman's Club, serving the community proudly for over 50 years, is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Village of Streamwood and beyond. One of the ways in which they do this is to offer scholarships each year to assist college or trade school bound students in pursuit of their educational goals. Scholarships are available to all Streamwood residents. The scholarship applications are available at the Guidance Offices of the high schools of

Streamwood, Bartlett, Elgin, South Elgin, Larkin and St. Edward. Applications can also be obtained by emailing the club at swcscholarshipinfo@gmail.com. Completed applications must be mailed to the Streamwood Women's Club, PO Box 152, Streamwood, IL 60107 and postmarked no later than Friday, April 13. For more information, please contact the Scholarship Chairperson Teresa Lopez at 217-0957 or by emailing the committee at swcscholarshipinfo@gmail.com.

* * * * *

Everyone is invited to the meeting of the Tri-Village Garden Club on Wednesday, April 18 to hear Mark Spreyer, executive director of the Stillman Nature Center in South Barrington give his Who's Who of Owls presentation at 7 p.m. at the Poplar Creek Public Library at 1405 S. Park, Streamwood. To some people, owls are symbols of wisdom, but to others their hoots are harbingers of death and doom. Join Spreyer in a slide and live presentation as he reveals the truth about many of our North American owls and other raptors. For additional information, please contact Wally Groble at 497-1958 or Sandy Swenson at 837-0281 or visit: www.trivillagegardenclub.org/wordpress.

* * * * *

The Village of Streamwood Community Relations Commission presents Art Appreciation Around the World, Saturday, April 21, 1 to 4 p.m. at the Poplar Creek Library, 1405 S. Park. This free event features displays of two- and three-dimensional art created by local artisans, including paintings, woodwork, jewelry, and more. Artists will be present to discuss their work and refreshments will be provided.

U-46 policy

Continued from page 3

Board member Veronica Noland expressed her opposition to the "all means all" mission as she accused Smith of "taking black lives matter and making it all lives matter" because Smith suggested further discussions be done "to look at a bigger picture." Smith said "I truly am not" and eventually acquiesced to Ellis' demand that the administration craft an "equity" policy.

Although a confusing back and forth between Smith and both Ellis and Noland, Sanders said he heard the board say to craft a policy with those three supportive as well as Melissa Owens. Board member Sue Kerr said "I don't think we can" because "we need the parameters of the big picture."



Connections

Poplar Creek Public Library

Call for Market Vendors!
Jun. 22, Jul. 27 and Aug. 24,
8 a.m. to noon

Be a part of the Streamwood Farmers Market! We seek vendors who specialize in meats, fruits, vegetables, baked goods, flowers, herbs, jams and honey. Vendors must make, grow or cultivate their own products. No wholesale or resale products allowed. Temporary Illinois Food Service permit may be required. Vendor must provide tables and display items. Market will be located in parking area across from the main library. For permit information, registration or questions, please contact the Farmers Market Coordinator, Kris Kenney at 483-4913 or kkenney@pclib.org.

Milkweed for Monarchs
Wednesday, March 21 at 7 p.m.
Meeting Room 1

In this informative DVD presentation, Kay MacNeil, Butterfly Chairman for Garden Clubs of Illinois describes what it takes to create a welcoming garden to support monarch and butterfly life. Through intriguing close-up videos, she shows the cycle of the butterfly from chrysalis to its emergence. Participants will also leave with their very own packet of Monarch Swamp milkweed seeds! Sponsored by the Tri-Village Garden Club. Register online or call 483-4910.

Green Energy
Wednesday, March 28, 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Meeting Room 2

Get the lowdown on how to use renewable energy and become more efficient at home every day. CUB, a non-profit, statewide utility watchdog organization, will highlight ways to save the environment, and save money at the same time. Register online or call 630-483-4910.

Egg Hunt, Bunny Visit, Bake Sale

and More!

Saturday, March 24 at 11 a.m.

Children (ages eight and under) are invited to search for candy with the Easter Bunny at Rahlfs Woods (see schedule below). Be sure to bring a basket or a bag. In case of inclement weather, children can still visit with the Easter Bunny indoors. Be sure to stop in Meeting Room 1 after the egg hunt and take a picture with the Easter Bunny! Support the Streamwood Woman's Club and buy a sweet treat at the annual bake sale! Also on hand will be the Streamwood Chamber of Commerce, library card sign-up and more! Event run by the Streamwood Park District and co-sponsored by the Streamwood Woman's Club and Poplar Creek Library. No registration necessary!

Egg Hunt Schedule
Location: Rahlfs Woods
(across the street from library)
Three years and under - 11:10 a.m.
Four to six years - 11:20 a.m.
Seven to eight years - 11:30 a.m.
Life Skills for Teens:
Checking Account
Monday, March 26 at 6 p.m.
Meeting Room 2/3

Parents, would you like your teen to learn the basics about checking accounts? Sign them up today for this important life skill. A banker from Chase Bank will discuss and review banking basic knowledge, and how to manage, protect and access their account and money. Register online or call 483-4928.

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

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Board approves change to village zoning map

By Kristin Carreno

At their meeting on Thursday, March 15, trustees voted unanimously in favor of an ordinance amending the village's official zoning map. The amendment includes any additions or changes that have occurred during the past year.

"Each year the village must review and look at what happened in the past year," said Community Development Director John Peterson.

According to Peterson, the village is required to amend the zoning map annually if there have been any changes to property zoning within the corporate limits.

The zoning change and lot consolidation for the northeast corner of Lake Street and Elizabeth Drive for the Elgin Toyota property was the sole update, according to Peterson.

"The additional parking lot was the one change that was added," Peterson said.

Sabres soccer starts season with pair of road losses

By Seth Hancock

The Streamwood soccer team made a strong push late, but it wasn't enough in a 4-1 loss to East Aurora in Upstate Eight Conference crossover play on Thursday, March 15 in Aurora.

East Aurora scored three unanswered goals in the first half and led 4-0 early in the second half before Kaila Ford put the Sabres on the board as her 30-plus yard shot found the top of the net with 29:40 left to play.

Streamwood controlled the play most of the second half and made a strong push late over the final 10:40 of play as it took five of its seven shots on goal during that final push. Melanie Ramirez twice had breakaways leading to a shot that went just left and another that was saved, Ford had a couple strong chances and Esmeralda Navarro had her team's final shot on goal.

"We had a lot of chances, we just needed to put more of them on frame," said Streamwood coach Kristin Duffy. "The game should have been closer just based on the second half."

The first half was relatively even until the final 10 minutes when East Aurora scored twice. Over the first 16 minutes, both squads had shots off the crossbar but the host would eventually score with 21:42 on the clock.

About seven minutes later, Paulette Carranza played up to Ford who in turn nearly tied the game but her shot went off the left post.

Kristina Kellogg, Alex Meza and Lesley Jimenez all had quality scoring chances in the game, and goalkeeper Candy Nava had five saves.

"I think we just need to create more chances between everyone," Duffy said. "We need to work more on offensive tactics."

Duffy added: "On the positive, they made good passes. They just need a little better communication."

Streamwood ended its opening week 0-2 starting the season with a 3-1 non-conference loss to Dundee-Crown on Tuesday, March 13 at Dundee-Crown. Kellogg scored unassisted for the Sabres, and Nava made 15 saves.

Sabres' Christopher named to academic all-conference team

Brandon Christopher a student-athlete at Streamwood High School, was recently named to the 2017-2018 Upstate Eight Conference academic all-conference team during a winter athletic awards event at Streamwood High School on Wednesday, March 7.

"I was speechless when they called my name," said Christopher. "But, I knew I had come a long way in the last three years."

Christopher received his award at the ceremony for varsity basketball. He was presented with a certificate for his athletic performance, competitiveness, sportsmanship and scholarship.

Christopher is an honor roll student-athlete, physical education student leader, Junior Class council member, Key Club member and an Alexian Brothers Youth Board community ambassador.

Nominees for the academic all-Conference team must be athletes or activity participants who are varsity letter winners and must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher.

"The distinction is received by athletes within the conference who have



Streamwood head basketball coach, Paul Kowalyszyn left, presenting certificate to Brandon Christopher for being named to the Upstate Eight Conference academic all-conference team. (Courtesy photo)

achieved at least a 3.5 GPA," said Streamwood head basketball coach Paul Kowalyszyn. "Brandon has not only been named to the academic all-conference team, also, he has always been a supportive teammate, and his enthusiasm is unwavering. I am extremely proud of his efforts to continuously improve, not only on the basketball court, but also in the classroom. He is an exemplary example of a student-athlete."

Pet of the Week



Flur is seeking non-allergic family

Flur is 17-years young is four paw declawed and full of fun (always ready for a pet and a snuggle!)! Flur was brought into the shelter after living with a family for 12 years because of allergies. She has lots of experience being a lap cat and is ready to share that experience with a brand new family! Thanks to the DuPage Animal Friends the adoption fee is just \$1! Please visit www.dupageco.org/animalcontrol for more details or call (630) 407-2800.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)



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Join Us for a **PAINT PARTY** FUNDRAISER to Benefit the **National Multiple Sclerosis Society**



Friday, April 20
from 6 to 9:30pm
\$40 per painter

at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
751 W. Army Trail Road • Bartlett

You don't need to be an artist to enjoy an evening out with your friends painting on canvas. Step-by-step instructions provided.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
LIMITED SEATING
Email kbiggott1962@sbcglobal.net
for more details or if you would like to attend.

Pet of the Week



Young Lily requires a home

Lily is a 1-year-old, gray and white domestic shorthair that has been at Kane County Animal Control since September 2017. She enjoys being petted and relaxing in a person’s lap. Lily likes to play, but doesn’t like to be handled roughly. She’s very talkative, as well, and loves attention. Lily would be best in a one cat household.

All Kane County Animal Control adoptable cats and dogs are spayed/neutered, microchipped, up-to-date on all vaccines including rabies. They are tested for feline leukemia/FIV and heartworm. The adoption fee for dogs is \$200 and \$100 for cats. Adoption of two dogs is \$300 and it is \$150 to adopt two cats. For more information regarding Kane County Animal Control’s adoptable animals and for an adoption application, please go to www.kanecountypets.org.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

Fire helmet passed down to latest generation

By Kristin Carreno

At the Fire Protection District meeting on Monday, March 12, retired Deputy Chief Bill Freiberg of Elgin presented new South Elgin Firefighter Kevin Henryson with the firefighter helmet he used during his career, and is the same helmet Henryson’s grandfather had also used.

Freiberg asked Henryson to join him at the front of the room where Freiberg stood holding the helmet.

“In 1976 I was appointed to the fire department,” said Freiberg. “Your grandfather was my training officer. He told me then ‘you’ll get out of this job whatever you put into it.’ I listened to him. Twenty-eight years later I retired as deputy chief. When

he left in 1992, fire departments being tight as they are with money, I got his helmet. He didn’t take it with him. It belonged to me. It has been in my possession ever since and it should go to you. It hasn’t been cleaned up, it has a lot of battle scares.”

Freiberg added: There were little girls and little boys and they all wanted to be firefighters. You, my friend, pulled it off. You did it. Congratulations.”

As Freiberg handed the helmet to Henryson, the transfer received a standing ovation.

Henryson thanked Freiberg as they shook hands. Henryson also shook hands with and thanked each department member.

South Elgin baseball looks to sustain its success

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin baseball team lost a lot of its core from last season’s program-first Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division title team, but the Storm also has some solid talent returning as they hope to continue their success in 2018.

Last year the Storm finished 25-5 overall, 19-2 in the UEC, and they captured the program’s fifth regional title and their second sectional title within four years.

(catcher), Tyler Sloan (pitcher/infield), Nathan Smith (infield/pitcher) and Jack Watkins (outfield/pitcher) as well as juniors Austin Doty (outfield), Ben Hetelle (outfield/infield/pitcher), Patrick Keaty (infield/pitcher) and Logan Romasanta (catcher/pitcher). Newcomers to watch are senior Kyle Crosby (infield/pitcher) and juniors Grant Baker (outfield/infield/pitcher) and Garrett Wano (infield/outfield).

The Storm lost five all-conference recipients from the team but return one in senior pitcher Nate Gomez, who also plays the infield and outfield, who plans to play both baseball and football at Northwood University next year.

Gomez went 6-0 on the mound and had two saves with an 0.66 ERA and 62 strikeouts last year. He also led the Storm’s offense in batting average (.430), runs (29) and doubles (10).

At the end of last season, South Elgin coach Jim Kating said: “He hasn’t come close to reaching his full potential yet. He still has a very high ceiling.”

Some other key returners include seniors Ryan Dominick (infield/outfield), Nicholas Poblocki (infield/pitcher), Zachery Saunders

South Elgin opens the season at home with a nonconference game against Fremd on Tuesday, March 20.

“We’re trying to duplicate the atmosphere of those good years we’ve had where we’ve had good groups of kids who pulled for each other,” Kating said. “Trying to duplicate that is the challenge.”



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This week in... South Elgin

Wednesday, March 21	
• 4:30 p.m.	South Elgin soccer vs. Prairie Ridge High School at Streamwood High School.*
• 5:30 p.m.	St. Charles North volleyball at Wheaton Warrenville South High School.*
• 7 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at Village Hall.
Thursday, March 22	
• 4:30 p.m.	St. Charles softball vs. Waubonsie Valley High School.*
Friday, March 23	
• 4:45 p.m.	South Elgin baseball at Buffalo Grove High School.*
Saturday, March 24	
• 11 a.m.	South Elgin baseball at Rolling Meadows High School.*
Monday, March 26	
• 11 a.m.	South Elgin soccer vs. Jacobs High School.*
Tuesday, March 27	
• 1 p.m.	South Elgin softball vs. DeKalb High School.*
• 1 p.m.	St. Charles North soccer vs. Hinsdale Central High School.*
* Home game unless otherwise specified.	

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Storm open season with draw against Hawks

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin soccer team opened the season with a draw as the Storm finished 1-1 in their non-conference match against Hoffman Estates on Saturday, March 17 at Millennium Field in Streamwood.

Storm coach Laura Szwaja said her young squad, which includes 13 newcomers, has been looking to face competition and South Elgin came out strong to take an early 1-0 lead.

"Ironically adding 13 new names to our roster and having almost half of our roster be freshmen and

sophomores, we have created faster paced practices and more of a hunger for competition," Szwaja said. "Our three freshmen have a desperate hunger for varsity playing time, and this makes our speed of play more game-like in every moment."

Hoffman Estates did find the equalizer in the second half while South Elgin goalkeeper Corinne Figueiredo finished with five saves.

As the season moves forward, the Storm will put a strong emphasis on scoring and they hope for solid leadership from their four returning seniors includ-

ing Figueiredo, Fatima Bustamante, Camille Defensor and Nicole Matustik.

"We are preparing more physically to last the entire game as well as preparing more mentally to understand the importance of the small moments having a big impact," Szwaja said. "We were not happy with how our postseason went last year, and we have hopes to end on a more positive note this year."

Szwaja added: "We need to score more goals. We want to be a contender in conference (Upstate Eight Valley Division), because last year we simply were not."



Hoffman Estates keeper Elise Psonak making a save on a Storm shot as South Elgin's Abigail Roy attempted to convert a rebound while vaulting over the Hawks goalie as Hoffman Estates' Emma Lunak, left, and South Elgin's Nikki Nguyen arrived on the scene. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



The Storm's Isabella Tusa, in front of the Hoffman Estates goal trying to get off a shot with the Hawks' Josephine Roberts seeking to disrupt the effort.

South Elgin boys hoops has two named all-UEC

By Seth Hancock

A pair of juniors led the way for the South Elgin boys basketball teams this season as Vincent Miskiewicz and Drake Montgomery earned all-conference honors in the Upstate Eight Valley Division as the Storm finished 16-13 this season, 5-5 in league play.

South Elgin coach Brett Johnson said the pair "accounted for just about half of our points" this season.

Miskiewicz averaged a double-double this season with 463 points (16.5 per game) and 345 rebounds (12.3 per game). He added 104 blocked shots, 62 assists and 52 steals while shooting 67.3 percent from the field and going 121-for-151 (80.1 percent) at the free-throw line.

"Vince's effort on the court during games and practices is tremendous," Johnson said. "He's always competing to win the game or the drill no matter what the situation or school. I have never seen him take a play off in practice or a game. He brings extreme energy to everything he does on the court. He makes the players around him better not only by helping them but also leading by example."

Johnson added: "We would not have had the season we had this year without him on the court. He has the motor of a fine-tuned car. I look forward to seeing how much he will grow as a player over the summer and into next year. Words can't say enough about what Vince brings to the team every single time he steps onto the court."

Montgomery finished the year with 407 points, 137 assists, 132 rebounds, 82 steals and 14 blocks. He shot 53.7 percent from the field, 25-for-67 (37.3 percent) from behind the arc and 72-for-90 (80 percent) at the charity stripe.



Drake Montgomery driving toward the Fremd basket and past the Vikings' Luke Seidel during a February road game.

"Drake is a very crafty basketball player that is very athletic and quick," Johnson said. "He was great at breaking the press and getting the ball up the court. He did a great job at getting the ball where it needed to be."

Johnson added: "As the season went on, Drake became more of a floor leader and he got smarter with the basketball each and every game. Drake knows what he wants as a player and knows what's going to help the team. He has a high basketball IQ which will only grow as he plays more and more games against tougher competition."

South Elgin will lose six seniors: Latrell Lamarca, Kyle Sy, Noah Rohr, Mohammed Rahman, David Binion and Christopher Hankins.



Vincent Miskiewicz left the floor to bang in two points against Glenbard East this past season. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

Storm softball seeking to tap pitching and contend

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin softball team hopes to see its pitching depth lead to success as the Storm prepare for the 2018 campaign.

Last year the Storm went 18-15, 11-5 in the Upstate Eight Conference, and they hope to contend for the Valley Division title this year along with improving throughout the season.

"I always have the same goals for my program, and that is to win our side of conference," said South Elgin coach Brad Reynard. "Overall, we are just trying to get better each and every day. We lost seven seniors last season and our all-conference freshman first baseman, so we are extremely young."

The freshman first baseman was McKayla Timmons, whose family moved, and she set the program single-season record of 12 home runs.

The Storm does return an all-conference recipient in junior Casey Brennan (outfielder) who led her team in hits

(49), runs (39) and doubles (11) last year.

Last season South Elgin scored 7.8 runs per game as its offense consistently produced, but Reynard said this season his team will have to rely on play in the circle from his pitching staff.

"I think one of our main strengths will be our pitching staff," Reynard said. "We have both Sidney Strama and Geneva Pollman (both juniors) back from last year and added Sophia Salazar (sophomore) and Ally Kendall (junior). I also believe our outfield will be one of our strengths with Casey Brennan, Geneva Pollman and Julianna Battaglia (senior) all returning from last year's team."

Reynard added: "We are going to have to find ways to score runs. We lost our top four RBI producers from last season."

Other key returners are junior Sami Koss (shortstop) and senior Alivia Doyle (catcher).

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

* * * * *

Anderson Animal Shelter is happy to offer the opportunity for children and teens to engage in service learning off-site. This convenient option gives students the ability to create and execute their own service project all while truly making a difference in the lives of animals. Some service project ideas include creating your own fundraising project, collecting items from the shelter's wish list, making cat or dog toys, shredding newspapers and making blankets. For more information call 847-697-2880 or visit www.andersonanimalshelter.org.

* * * * *

Line dancing at The Salvation Army, 1710 S. 7th Ave., St. Charles on Mondays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at noon. Open to all and free. No registration required.

* * * * *

Support

Continued from page 1

for emergency and rescue funds," Ward read from the resolution. "A successful referendum would replace a 60-year-old station on State Street and construct a new station on the east side."

According to Ward, the resolution included that this would also help increase response times and manpower which is crucial to the fire protection district and community.

The resolution requested that village board members and trustees join with the South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District plan for a new fire station and urged citizens to vote yes on the March 20 ballot, according to Ward.

"I want everyone to get out and vote tomorrow," said Ward. "It's very important."

After the vote and at the end of the meeting, Fire Chief Steve Wascher thanked board members.

"Thank you for backing us," Wascher said. "A lot of people don't realize we are two separate government bodies."

The Examiner Asked

On Friday, March 16 boys and girls at Klub Friday Night, where the theme was St. Patrick's Day:

St. Patrick lived a long time ago – why do we still celebrate him with a special day?



Sarah Nolan: "He must be important otherwise we wouldn't have a holiday where we dress up and wear green and eat green food."



Izzy Siroda: "I don't know - why?"



Michelle Lamasz: "Probably because he did something really good to help others."



Kylie Lotz: "He had a good soul and made everyone happy if they weren't Irish."



Corey Staggz: "Because he's in charge of all the leprechauns who come around once a year."



Katie Dlugi: "He was a famous saint so he still gets a day in his honor."



Jaleisa Blalark: "He was a really good saint."



Grace Rowland: "Because he found a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow and shared it with others."



Araceily Ruiz: "Hmm... I think because he did great things and also found a lot of gold."



Summerlyn Lancaster: "Because he gave gold to people everywhere in Ireland."



Alexis Bogdanski: "I think because he found gold and he gave it to a lot of people who were poor."



Jack Cooper: "It's important to celebrate his birthday even now because we want to keep the tradition going."

(By Juli Schatz)

Tidbits

Continued from page 4

W. Spring St. will be open two evenings a month, the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., in addition to its morning hours, 9:30 to noon the same first and third Wednesdays. Visitors to the food pantry only need to show proof of residence in South Elgin or the Valley View area of St. Charles to obtain food. Clients may now enter through the double doors facing the parking lot, making entry to the food pantry handicapped accessible. People who have difficulty or the inability to use stairs can use the elevator at the facility. For help in using the elevator, call 847-931-0563. For further information, visit cumcsouthelgin.com, email cumcsouthelgin@sbcglobal.net, or call 847-931-0563.

* * * * *

Hosanna! Lutheran Church Community Care Center Food Pantry is now open on the first and third Monday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and the first and third Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A photo ID is required in order to receive two pre-packaged bags of food every four weeks. For more information please contact the church office at 630-584-6434, email to Welcome@HosannaChurch.com or visit our website at www.HosannaChurch.com/Hosanna! Is located at 36W925 Red Gate Road (entrance just east of Randall Road) in St. Charles.

* * * * *

Rachel Gies surprises her readers with this suspenseful thriller. ***The Darkness Within*** is a murder mystery that is hot, hot, hot. Kate and her brother, Nick, are being terrorized. Someone is playing cat and mouse with them as they unveil illegal shipments and are in danger of becoming the beast's next victim as they get closer to the truth. The list of suspects is constantly changing. Terror and suspense explode as it all comes to a terrifying shocking end. Previously self published books include ***Captured Pearl*** and ***One Size Fits Most***.

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North dominates in season's first matches

By Seth Hancock

The North soccer team showed its depth in its opening week as the North Stars won their first three games by a combined 16-1 score.

In their season opener, the North Stars dispatched West Chicago 8-0 in an Upstate Eight Conference crossover match on Tuesday, March 13 at North. North ripped 36 shots on goal to West Chicago's one, and goalies Sara Maleski and Nathalie Grier (one save) preserved the shutout.

Chloe Netzel, a freshman, scored her first varsity goal to open the game in the fifth minute, and that opened the flood gates leading to a 5-0 lead by half-time.

"I'm happy with the way the girls played obviously," said North coach Brian Harks. "But really we're just looking for ways to get better all the time. We want to get better little by little. We set the bar high with this one."

Gia Wahlberg led North on the night netting a hat trick and adding three assists. Hailey Rydberg (two assists), Sarah Andrey, Claudia Najera and Isabella Falco all scored for the North Stars and Cassidy Joyce added an assist.

"Gia's a player that makes everyone around her bet-

ter," Harks said. "She worked really hard out there at certainly finding the net but also distributing the ball well to her teammates."

North followed up with a 5-1 nonconference win over Conant on Thursday, March 15 at North.

In a 1-1 tie, North scored three goals in the final five minutes of the first half to take the lead for good at 4-1 at the break. Najera (one assist), who gave North a 1-0 lead early, scored her second goal of the game for that 4-1 lead and both Netzel and Rydberg scored before halftime.

Wahlberg had a goal and two assists and both Samantha Rydberg and Grace Barresi had a helper. Maleski had four saves as North had a 20-5 shot on goal advantage.

North finished the week with a 3-0 nonconference win over Neuqua Valley on Saturday, March 17 at North.

All of the scoring came in the first 21 minutes featuring a pair of goals by Hailey Rydberg, including a penalty kick, and an Andrey score. Wahlberg had two assists and Maleski (three saves) and Grier (four saves) split time in the net.

"I would say the depth," Rydberg said of the early success. "You could trust every single player on this team that they'll put in the effort and get the work done."



North's Hailey Rydberg sprinting down the sideline while being pursued by Conant's Bella Grebenor.



Cassidy Joyce of the North Stars playing a ball off her body in front of the Cougars' Morgan Ragusin.



Giorgia Wahlberg firing off a shot for North that was deflected by a diving Maddie Kuffel of Conant. (Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



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Bartlett’s Gates, Vikonis named all-conference

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett boys basketball team had a solid season going 17-13 overall, 7-3 in the Upstate Eight Conference Valley Division, and captured its first regional title since 2010.

Helping to lead the way for the Hawks were senior Tomas Vikonis and junior Austin Gates who earned all-conference honors this season.

Vikonis, who is uncommitted for college, led the Hawks with 13.7 points per game during the regular season and Gates followed with 11.8.

“Tomas has really grown as a player this

year,” said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. “He has taken on a scoring load that he has always been capable of but has developed the consistency this year.”

“Austin Gates has really stepped up in that role as a leader,” Wolfsmith said. “He’s able to score and handle the ball, and he can defend.”

Gates added 39 points and Vikonis 32 in the Hawks four postseason games which included a pair of upsets at the Bartlett Regional to capture the title. No. 12 Bartlett beat both No. 6 Batavia and No. 3 Wheaton Warrenville South. Along with senior Ben Fisher, who averaged

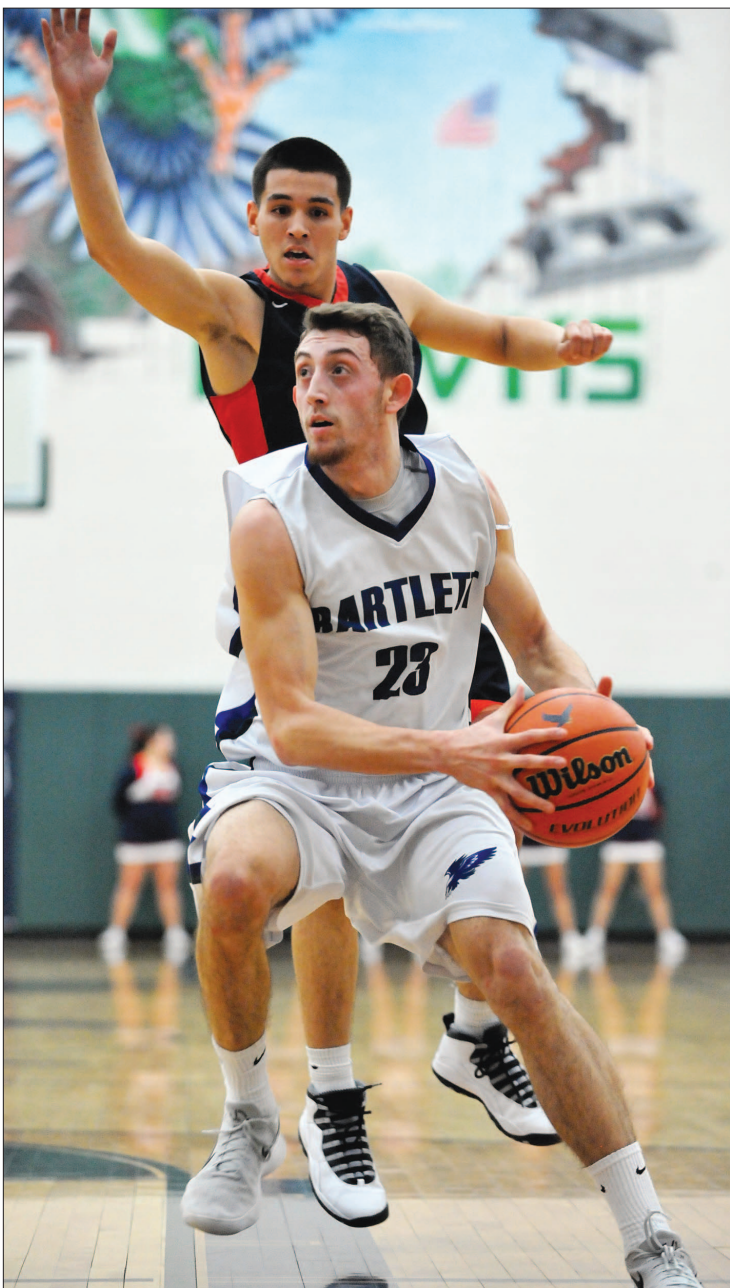
10 points a game during the regular season and had a team-high 5.2 rebounds per game, both Gates and Vikonis helped the Hawks come together midway through the season when senior Ben Tompson (11.7 points per game over 14 regular season games) was injured and missed 12 games. Bartlett went 9-3 during that stretch.

Fisher, Gates, Tompson and Vikonis have all started together for two straight years with the Bartlett varsity squad, and the Hawks will also graduate eight more seniors: Harsh Mangrola, Jake Coffinbargar, Brandon Sinclair, Johnny Angell, Jake Ibegbulem, Kyle Martin, Byron Price and Andrew Wolf.

“Playing with these guys, they are my best friends. It’s going to be tough to go away from them, but we’ll go our separate ways and hopefully remain close,” Tompson said after Bartlett’s 47-41 loss to No. 2 Benet Academy in the Glenbard East Sectional semifinal.



Tomas Vikonis leading a break for the Hawks against South Elgin’s with Jace Warrick of the Storm in pursuit attempting to disrupt the effort from behind as the teams battled back in December.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)



Austin Gates completing a drive on the West Aurora basket after passing the Blackhawks’ Damian Virgen during the recent regional championship contest.

South Elgin boys hoops has two named all-UEC

By Seth Hancock

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Vincent Miskiewicz left the floor to bang in two points against Glenbard East this past season.
(Examiner photos by Bruce Leighty)

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from idealistic hero to heartless bully.
Will our apologetic stance stick,
or can our nation unify and
rally ’round the core beliefs
that made it great?”***

Storm softball seeking to tap pitching and contend

By Seth Hancock

The South Elgin softball team hopes to see its pitching depth lead to success as the Storm prepare for the 2018 campaign. Last year the Storm went 18-15, 11-5 in the Upstate Eight Conference, and they hope to contend for the Valley Division title this year along with improving throughout the season. “I always have the same goals for my program, and that is to win our side of conference,” said South Elgin coach Brad Reynard. “Overall, we are just trying to get better each and every day. We lost seven seniors last season and our all-conference freshman first

baseman, so we are extremely young.” The freshman first baseman was McKayla Timmons, whose family moved, and she set the program single-season record of 12 home runs. The Storm does return an all-conference recipient in junior Casey Brennan (outfielder) who led her team in hits (49), runs (39) and doubles (11) last year. Last season South Elgin scored 7.8 runs per game as its offense consistently produced, but Reynard said this season his team will have to rely on play in the circle from his pitching staff. “I think one of our main strengths will be our pitching staff,” Reynard

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last year’s team.” Reynard added: “We are going to have to find ways to score runs. We lost our top four RBI producers from last season.” Other key returners are junior Sami Koss (shortstop) and senior Alivia Doyle (catcher).

Lead evaporates late for Hawks in baseball opener

By Seth Hancock

The Bartlett baseball team was unable to hold onto a five-run lead as the Hawks dropped their season opener 6-5 in eight innings against nonconference foe Elk Grove Village on Saturday, March 17 at Elk Grove. The Hawks built a 5-0 lead through four innings with Andrew Fehr, Jonah Medina and Jacob Chowanec each driving in a run. Bartlett had three hits as a team with singles by Fehr, Nick Pavell and Geno Frieri while the team had six stolen bases, two from Medina. Elk Grove started its rally in the bottom of the fifth inning with a pair of runs off of starter Tyler Yang who ended his day tossing five innings allowing two hits and walking two along with four strikeouts. Nico Natali in relief escaped a jam in the sixth as he

walked two but did not allow a hit and struck out one in a scoreless frame. In the seventh inning, Elk Grove scored three runs off of Max Lewis (three hits, two walks, three strikeouts) to tie the game and score the winner in the eighth to end it handing Lewis the loss. One run was unearned off Lewis as Bartlett committed three errors in the game. Although a loss, the Hawks are hoping to see some leadership from their returners throughout the season and improvement each day. “We definitely have a lot more younger guys, so we’re looking for guys from last year to show their experience and what they’ve learned and pass it on to the juniors,” said Bartlett coach Devin Rosen. “We’re looking for day-in, day-out effort.”

Letters

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pay for this mismatch with more debt and higher taxes – fuel for the state’s outmigration fire. Since 2010, Illinois has lost nearly 643,000 people on net to other states. That’s equivalent to losing the population of the four largest cities outside Chicago combined: Aurora, Rockford, Joliet and Naperville. And more importantly, those residents took their wallets with them,

money for core services. In tax year 2015, Illinois lost \$4.75 billion in adjusted gross income on net to other states. It’s time to reverse that trend. With new constitutional amendments in the House and Senate, lawmakers can make a meaningful decision to commit to spending reform. The spending cap ensures growth in state spending is steady and responsible. By eliminating the threat of future tax hikes, this is a step in the right direction for the future of Illinois. Certainty and stability can help Illinois’ economy grow. Dr. Orphe Divounguy Illinois Policy Institute chief economist

U-46

Continued from page 6

Suzanne Johnson, deputy superintendent of instruction, said “we can certainly start that.” “The data suggests that U-46, well the nation I guess, like white kids I guess are just the best behaved people in the world,” Ellis said and “if this were a different problem, if we saw this disproportionately among white students this would be fixed because the community wouldn’t stand for it and everybody’s job would be on the line, right? And I want that same sense of urgency for our black male students.” Ward said: “So I disagree that white kids are the best behaved kids in U-46. The data shows that Asian kids are the best behaved.... So my question is what can we learn from the Asian students? Why are their discipline rates so low compared to all other ethnic groups? And by the way, I hate dividing people up by ethnic groups, but since we’re doing that what can we learn from the Asian students?” Raglin said “at home, they are being taught those practices and those beliefs of their heritage.” Ellis interrupted to say the data did not show that Asians were the best behaved, but that is what the data showed. Every discipline category showed Asian males and females having the lowest percentage, and every honors programs, including gifted and Advanced Placement, they made up the highest percentage. While arguing with Ward, Ellis said “I’m not going to argue” because “I interpret the data differently,” and the problem is “white kids are not disproportionately harmed.” “That wasn’t my question,” Ward said, but “I heard Mr. Raglin say that the home was very important, so I think that’s something to take note of.” Regarding training, Ward asked: “Does critical race theory teach that white people are inherently racist and black people cannot be racist?” Raglin never answered the question directly saying “the issue of inheritance [doesn’t] necessarily put on the front side of the conversation. It comes up in the conversation of the discourse,” and he said there’s an emphasis on sources: “Is it just coming from just one viewpoint, or is it allow-

ing space for other viewpoints to come in.” Ward noted, as she has voted against several resources based on leftist bias, that “I agree with you. I talk a lot about sources.” Costello, who had to say at one point “excuse me, I’m still talking” due to frequent interruption by Ellis just to get a question answered, asked: “Are there any specific instances where the district has taken one race over another and said we’re going to treat it differently if this person is that background versus that background?” While agreeing that the numbers are concerning, Costello said he’s seen professionalism from U-46 staff and he said: “Just my question is that have we done anything wrong, and I did not hear one answer?” Sanders said “the data suggests that we have” and Ellis, who claimed she had a notebook full of anecdotal stories, laughed at Costello and said: “You asked a question but then you drew conclusion that there’s been no overt discrimination. I call BS there’s been no discrimination.” The administration nor Ellis provided any evidence of wrongdoing as they relied solely on data, and Costello said they were the ones drawing conclusions and said: “I just need the evidence then. Then share that with the district because I think that’s very important that you share it with the district and the public.” Costello preferred to fulfill the district’s mission of “all means all” as he said “as we raise the bar for everybody, everyone succeeds,” and added “I would prefer to not even know the background” of students when making discipline decisions so the board can make an objective decision. Board member Veronica Noland expressed her opposition to the “all means all” mission as she accused Smith of “taking black lives matter and making it all lives matter” because Smith suggested further discussions be done “to look at a bigger picture.” Smith said “I truly am not” and eventually acquiesced to Ellis’ demand that the administration craft an “equity” policy. Although a confusing back and forth between Smith and both Ellis and Noland, Sanders said he heard the board say to craft a policy with those three supportive as well as Melissa Owens. Board member Sue Kerr said “I don’t think we can” because “we need the parameters of the big picture.”

Home rule

Continued from page 5

cluded in this, grocery and medical.” “And then the state would charge us what, a 3 percent handling fee?” Carbonaro asked, and Dowden replied: “I believe it’s 2 percent.” Trustee Kristina Gabrenya said the original discussions were for a 0.5 percent sales tax and asked what changed which Kevin Wallace, village president, said: “I think primarily the conversation was around 0.5 and keeping the utility tax” Deyne said the 0.5 percent proposal was “basically a band-aid. It was take care of the fiscal year that’s coming.” Gabrenya said the 0.5 percent proposal was well within surrounding communities but asked if the one percent proposal was. Schumacher said “most of our neighbors have a one or 1.5 percent tax” Schumacher later clarified the num-

bers and said Carol Stream, Hanover Park and West Chicago all have a 0.75 home rule sales tax but all three have the utility taxes as well. She said some also have an added gasoline tax. Trustee Michael Camerer said with the \$800,000 shortfall plus \$600,000 loss equating to \$1.4 million, but the additional \$1.6 million from the sales tax he said it appeared the village would come out ahead overall and asked: “In a perfect world, we’re still going to come out about \$200,000 ahead?” Dowden said “the \$800,000 shortfall was last year’s budget,” and “there’s increases from last year’s budget.” He said “we would still be short” but “it would be much more manageable.” Schumacher said of the remaining shortfall that “we can address that number with our spending throughout the year” and “we do a pretty good job of managing our spending.” Trustee Aaron Reinke referred to the current proposed budget and said it “doesn’t assume that the village is going to approve the 1 percent sales tax, is that correct?” Schumacher said: “That’s correct. The proposed budget does not include any new revenue, nor does it anticipate a reduction of the utility tax so it is status quo.” Wallace said the plan would be to “revisit this again” after further review of the current proposed budget.

Soccer

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cipients including seniors Jenna Domrowski (midfielder/defense), Miranda Hedeem (defense) and Jessica Mirsky (midfield/forward) as well as junior forward Tabitha Evans who led the Hawks in scoring last year with 14 goals and five assists. Two all-conference honorable mention recipients also return, senior defenders Makena Hughes and Alyssa Modugno. Bartlett has many more returning including senior Natalie McGinnis and juniors Paige Bednarke, McKayla Brown, Teagan Noesen and Kelsey Sniatynsky as well as sophomore Maddie Donnelly. To be successful this season, Marquez said his team needs “to be able to apply high pressure as soon as we lose the ball” and his team’s strengths will be “ball possession, a solid defensive game, a creative and patient midfield and dazzling attack.” In their first week of play, the Hawks will host a pair of nonconference foes against Schaumburg on Tuesday, March 13 and Jacobs on Friday, March 16.

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NEW VENDORS WELCOME

‘Mulan, Jr.’ performed for packed audiences



Most of the cast performed in the opening number, ‘Written in Stone.’ (Examiner photos by Juli Schatz)

The Park District’s youth music theatre performed the Disney play “Mulan, Jr.” before packed audiences on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 15 through 18. A cast of 65 presented the musical about a misfit girl Mulan and her dragon sidekick, Mushu, who aim to save the Emperor after the Huns invade her native land. Mulan disguises herself as a boy and takes up arms to spare her father from having to serve in the army. As the great battle with the Huns approaches, Mulan must choose between revealing her true identity as a girl or saving all of China with her clever plan.



Mulan’s father Fa Zhou (Mitch Davis) and her cricket (Hanna Perez) try to comfort the girl (Riya Kumar) in ‘Bridal Practice’ while the Ancestors looked on.



From left, soldiers Yao (Johnny Weis), Ling (Will Zimmerman) and Qian-Po (Xavi Hagan) and Captain Shang (Luke Fox) listened as the Emperor (Russel Levin) explained why Mulan, even though a woman, could also make a good soldier.



Mushu the Dragon (Kathryn Shannon), left, tagged along with Mulan (Riya Kumar) who was disguised as a male Chinese soldier to covertly take her father’s place in the army, performed ‘Keep ‘Em Guessin’ with several of the ensembles.

Bartlett softball hopes experience leads to success

By Seth Hancock
The Bartlett softball team returns a lot of depth and experience which the Hawks hope can lead to a successful 2018 season.
The Hawks went 24-12-1 last year, 10-6 in the Upstate Eight Conference, and lost just two seniors, one being all-conference third baseman Elyse Hickey. Bartlett returns three all-conference recipients in seniors Amber Pagan (pitcher/shortstop/third baseman), Taylor Rotondo (catcher/first baseman) and Janelle Ulaszek (pitcher/first baseman).
Also returning are seniors Annamarie Bucaro, Caitlin Fippinger and Danielle Kleeman as well as juniors Charlotte Linnartz and Anna Tomillo. Riley Scrivner, a sophomore, is a newcomer to watch.
“We’re a really flexible team, and we believe in multiple positions,” said Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith. “We’re going to be young and inexperienced in the outfield, but they have had a really good start to the year.”
Rotondo, a St. Ambrose University recruit, has been the Hawks big slugger the past three seasons with 19 ca-

reer home runs and 90 RBI. Pagan, an Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis, recruit led the Hawks with a .495 batting average last year and Ulaszek, a Viterbo University recruit, hit .420 and drove in 29 runs.
Pagan (3.14 ERA, 50 strikeouts) and Ulaszek (2.88 ERA, 79 strikeouts) were the Hawks top pitchers last year, Pagan going 9-2 in the circle and Ulaszek 13-10.
Bartlett has a loaded opening week starting with a nonconference home game against Glenbard North on Monday, March 19 with a couple more nonconference contests scheduled before traveling to Tennessee for a tournament to cap the week. Right now, Wolfsmith said his team is off to a strong start in practice.
“What I’ve seen early on is one of the best starts to a season that I’ve seen in my 15 years as head coach,” Wolfsmith said. “I was so impressed with the work we’ve done inside and the few times we’ve been outside. They have been focused, and they already have started to bond as a team and work together.”

SPORTS SECTION

---Courier News--- 3/21/18

Sentimental Journey

Shaw, Lynch look back with pride of Larkin finishing fourth in state

BY PAUL JOHNSON



Larkin's Anthony Lynch shoots over Evanston's Matt Hall during Saturday's Class 4A third-place game at Carver Arena in Peoria. (Brian O'Mahoney/The Courier-News)

PEORIA — It ended Saturday night at Carver Arena, but Larkin's Jalen Shaw could only think of where the journey began.

Could he have ever envisioned this?

"Honestly, no," Shaw said. "When I realized junior year that I could be something great, this is where it led to — to Peoria."

It also resulted in a fourth-place trophy after the Royals dropped a 61-49 decision to Evanston in the Class 4A third-place game.

Shaw, a 6-foot-10 senior center, scored 17 of his 19 points in the second half for Larkin (24-10), making its first trip to state. He added seven rebounds and three blocked shots, both team highs.

Senior guard Anthony Lynch scored 21 points, shooting 10-for-19. Senior guard Kindrel Morris added five assists, five rebounds and three steals. Senior forward Isaiah Talley had six rebounds.

The whole weekend experience was surreal for Shaw, who shot 7-for-14 from the floor Saturday and 5-for-8 from the free-throw line.

He hadn't even played organized basketball when he first arrived at Larkin.

"He's come a long way from his freshman year," Royals coach Deryn Carter said of Shaw. "For him to be one of the better big men in the state, leading a team to state, it's a testament to how much he was willing to work and how much trust he put in our coaching staff and our program to develop into the player he is."

Shaw sat the final 10 minutes of the first half with two fouls, and Larkin trailed 24-18 at halftime.

But he returned with a vengeance in the second half as the Royals stayed in the game against Evanston (27-6).

Shaw's 3-point play cut Evanston's lead to 32-27 in the third quarter. The Wildkits responded with a 14-2 burst, however, to take command.

Layups by Chris Rose and Lynch off steals in the final minute cut the deficit to 58-49 before Larkin ran out of time.

"I thought we were ready to play," Carter said. "We just didn't play well. I think it would be a little bit of an excuse to say that we weren't ready to play because it was a third-place game. We're competitors in our program.

"I just think we didn't get enough done. We were up 15-11 (in the second quarter), and they went on an 8-0 run. We were fighting an uphill battle after that."

It also was the final game for Lynch, who thrived in his two seasons at Larkin after transferring from South Elgin. He's one of eight seniors for the Royals.

"I wouldn't have thought that I would even be at Larkin," Lynch said of four years ago. "I thank coach Carter and my family for sacrificing all that they have for me. It made one of the dreams I had come true."

Carter, a 1998 Larkin graduate, knows the impact this group has had on the school and on Elgin.

"It's just been unbelievable, the people who have reached out," Carter said. "They're proud. We're making the city proud. To be a part of that is awesome.

"I'm part of it as a coach, but I'm also part of it as a community member, and I know we did some special stuff for the city."

Paul Johnson is a freelance reporter for The Courier-News.

---Daily Herald--- 3/21/18

Fox Valley basketball season in 2017-18 was indescribable

BY CRAIG BRUESKE

Picking the right words to describe the high school basketball season for the Fox Valley area isn't easy.

Incredible.

Memorable.

Pressure-packed.

Awesome.

Crazy.

Terrific.

Put the first letter of each word together and it spells ... impact.

The 2017-2018 basketball season made a great impact on several of our local schools and communities, especially Aurora, Burlington, Carpentersville, Elgin and Geneva.

Both the girls and boys basketball campaigns were stretched to the ultimate final day of their respective Class 4A state tournaments.

Earlier this month, Geneva pulled off a rare repeat with its 28-26 girls basketball state championship victory over Montini in Normal.

Stephanie Hart, who made the game-winning basket in the final seconds of the Vikings' 41-40 state championship victory over Edwardsville as a junior a year ago, enjoyed another magical moment as she knocked down a 14-foot baseline jumper with 3 seconds remaining to help lift Geneva (31-3) to a 28-26 title triumph over Montini on March 3.

Despite the graduation loss of 6-foot-2 center Grace Loberg, who played a major role during the team's first title run last season, the Vikings transformed into a guard-oriented group on their way to an improbable state title defense.

Coach Sarah Meadows didn't give away any trade secrets when I spoke with her on the first official day of practice on Oct. 30.

"I didn't want to put any more pressure on my players but I always felt like we could return to state," Meadows said after Geneva's 54-42 supersectional win over previously unbeaten Rockford Boylan.

While history was made in Geneva, the history books needed to be scrutinized in Elgin where **Larkin** capped a record-breaking season with a fourth-place finish during last weekend's Class 4A boys state basketball tournament in Peoria.

Coach Deryn Carter's Royals became the first team in school history to advance to a state final basketball tournament and were the first team from the city to reach the state semifinals since Elgin in 1955.

Anchored by Upstate Eight River player of the year Anthony Lynch and 6-10 senior center Jalen Shaw, Larkin capped its final season in the UEC River by capturing the conference championship before earning its fourth regional crown in six years and fifth sectional title in 13 years.

Larkin (24-10) hung tough with eventual state champion Belleville West during last Friday's 64-53 semifinal loss before ending its season with Saturday's 61-49 consolation game loss to Evanston.

Larkin displayed its toughness throughout the season with the ability to win the close ones. The Royals finished with a remarkable 15-3 record in games decided by 10 points or less, including a sparkling 5-0 mark in the postseason.

Aurora had plenty of cause for its own celebration this season thanks to the stellar play of Aurora Christian and West Aurora.

Led by the Wolfe brothers -- Jake and Will -- Aurora Christian began the season by winning its first 21 games and earned status as the state's top-ranked team in Class 1A.

Although the Eagles' season came to an end following their 63-54 sectional title loss to Annawan, coach Dan Beebe's squad provided plenty of thrills during its 25-2 campaign.

At West Aurora, Jared Crutcher and Camron Donatlan led the Blackhawks to a 25-5 record and second straight UEC Valley title. Coach Brian Johnson's team captured the school's 42nd regional crown en route to a berth in a 4A supersectional.

In Burlington, Central's Rockets established a program-record, 28-win season that included the school's first Class 3A regional title in 10 years -- an 89-78 victory over Montini.

Senior Zach Schutta finished his 4-year varsity career as the Rockets' all-time leading scorer as coach Brett Porto guided the team to its first Sweet 16 finish.

In Carpentersville, Dundee-Crown (17-13) enjoyed its first winning season in five years, capped by the Chargers' back-to-back 4A tournament upsets of St. Charles East (57-54 in OT) and Jacobs (45-40) -- the latter clinching their first regional title since 2009.

Roosevelt tough: Roosevelt University's men's basketball team recently wrapped up its most successful season in school history thanks in part to the play of former area standouts Jake Ludwig (STC North), Jake Asquini (STC East) and Chandler Fuzak (Geneva).

Ludwig, a junior guard who became the program's first player to earn NAIA Division II Honorable Mention all-American honors, averaged a team-high 17.2 points and 5.5 assists per game.

Fellow junior guard Asquini averaged 6 points while hitting 40 percent (59 of 146) of his 3-point attempts, and Fuzak, a 6-9 junior forward, averaged 6.3 points and 2.4 rebounds per game.

Roosevelt finished with a school-record 26 wins and earned its first berth in the NAIA Division II National Championship held earlier this month in Sioux Falls, S.D.