

## Press Clippings 04/11/2019

---Daily Herald---04/11/2019

### 'That's how we roll': Elgin library launches bookmobile

By: Elena Ferrarin



The Gail Borden Public Library's bookmobile, purchased "gently used" from a library in Ohio, is stocked with about 2,500 books in English and Spanish, DVDs, large-type books and audiobooks.



The Gail Borden Public Library board took a leap of faith "to bring a big green bus that none of us had seen" when it bought a bookmobile from a library in Ohio, library board president Jean Bednar said.



Veronica Garcia of South Elgin and her son check out the collection of the bookmobile unveiled Wednesday by the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin.



Veronica Garcia of South Elgin and her two sons check out the collection of the bookmobile unveiled Wednesday by the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin. On the right is Danny Rice, the library's manager of bookmobile services, and in the background a photo of benefactors Jack and Marlene Shales.

In the words of 7-year-old Madelynne Seamans of Elgin, books are cool "because they are fun to read and because they make you smart."

Her family and other residents of Gail Borden Public Library District will have even more access to books, and other items, when the district's new bookmobile hits the streets Monday. The library bought the \$155,000 "gently used" bookmobile in the fall from a library in Ohio and unveiled it Wednesday, which was National Bookmobile Day.

Library board president Jean Bednar said the library took a leap of faith "to bring a big green bus that none of us had seen." But, "This is how we roll," she said, eliciting laughter from the 100 or so people who showed up for the ceremony and tour of the bookmobile.

Library Executive Director Carole Medal said the launching was the fulfillment of a vision that started about six years ago. The last time Elgin was served by a bookmobile was in the 1960s, when several libraries shared one.

Madelynne's mother Jenny Seamans said she's glad people who don't live as close to the library as her family will benefit from the bookmobile. "I think it's neat," Jenny Seamans said. "I was checking out the (bookmobile schedule's) lineup and it really hits just about every spot. It's going to be accessible to everyone."

The nearly 34-foot bookmobile is stocked with about 2,500 books in English and Spanish, DVDs, large-type books and audiobooks, said Danny Rice, who recently was hired as manager of bookmobile services. The collection was named after longtime philanthropists and library benefactors Marlene Shales and her late husband, Jack. "(The bookmobile) is wonderful. It's marvelous. I would go into a dance and song," said Marlene Shales, adding she wished her husband could have seen it.

The Kiwanis Club of Elgin and the Gail Borden Public Library Foundation also contributed to the effort.

The library serves 65 square miles in Elgin, South Elgin and portions of Hoffman Estates, Streamwood and Bartlett. The bookmobile will serve people of all ages across the district, ranging from senior centers to neighborhoods with students least ready for kindergarten, and everything in between, library officials said.

Staff members said they consulted with community partners -- including Elgin Area School District U-46, the Housing Authority of Elgin and the city's Eastside Recreation Center -- to determine which areas of the district most needed bookmobile services.

"We really wanted to take a look at areas that the lowest library card usage and the highest need," Rice said. "People who, for one reason or another, might find it challenging or inconvenient to come to the library."

The bookmobile at first will be in use in the afternoons and evenings Monday through Thursday; Saturdays and city park stops will be added in the summer, Rice said. "We're very excited to get out into the community and really bring the library to people where they are," he said.

For information about stops and schedule, visit [gailborden.info/bookmobile](http://gailborden.info/bookmobile).

## **---The Courier-News---04/11/2019**

### **U46, teachers union reach tentative deal on new contract**



The Elgin Teachers Association and School District U46 have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract for its teachers, according to a statement issued Wednesday.

A tentative agreement on a new School District U46 teachers contract has been reached.

The deal was announced Wednesday morning in a joint statement issued by U46 Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Suzanne Johnson and Elgin Teachers Association President Barbara Bettis.

Negotiations have been under way for months in an effort to secure a contract to replace the one that expired in August. More than 2,400 teachers are represented by the union.

Johnson and U46 officials declined to comment on the tentative agreement as did Bettis, who said the union wanted to share specifics on such things as pay raises and other terms with union members first before revealing any details publicly. She said expected to meet with union members later this week.

The goal is to present a ratified contract to the school board for approval at the board's May 6 meeting.

This is the second tentative deal the two sides have reached since May. The first proposed contract was overwhelmingly rejected by teachers because it would have changed the traditional salary schedule in which teachers' pay is based on experience and education attained. The failed proposal came just as union leadership at the top changed, with Bettis replacing former President Richard Johnson.

If approved, the agreement would be the fourth employee contract to be settled in U46 in the past year. The other contracts approved by the school board were with district secretaries in July, paraeducators in August and food services workers last week.

## **---Kane County Connects---04/11/2019**

### **Three U-46 schools prepare to celebrate anniversaries**

By: kanecountyconnects



We've heard a lot in recent weeks about the Elgin High School 150th anniversary and the "All-Class Reunion" set for Saturday, April 13.

But Elgin High School is just one of three School District U-46 schools celebrating anniversaries. Bartlett Elementary School and Channing Memorial Elementary School are celebrating major milestones this spring, as well.

"It is wonderful to celebrate our long and rich history," said School District U-46 CEO Tony Sanders. "This is an extraordinary opportunity for us to come together as a community including our alumni, our current students, our staff past and present, to recognize the generational impact of public education."

#### **Bartlett Elementary School**



First up, Bartlett Elementary School will celebrate its 90th anniversary in its current building at 111 E. North Ave. in Bartlett with a "Spring Fling" from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 12.

The evening will include a canvas painting opportunity, raffle and silent auction, bingo games, the announcement of the winner in the “Then & Now” video and poster contests, and a “celebration room” filled with BES memorabilia.

The program is being organized by the Parents & Teachers of Bartlett, and families can learn more about the event on their website page [here](#).

## Elgin High School



The next day, alumni and retired staff from Elgin High School are invited to attend the “All-Class Reunion” on Saturday, April 13, as part of celebrations to mark the 150th anniversary of the school.



Both the current Elgin High School, at 1200 Maroon Drive, and the previous EHS building, now the District’s Educational Services Center at 355 E. Chicago St., will be open for visits from noon to 1:30 p.m on Saturday, April 13.

Attendees will then be urged to gather in the auditorium of the current EHS for a free program starting at 2 p.m.

After the ceremony, attendees will be dismissed to catch up over refreshments at tables organized by graduation year or decade in the Fieldhouse and Commons.

More details can be found at the [EHS150](#) website and guests are asked to use this [Google Form](#) to submit their RSVP to help event organizers with planning.

## Channing Memorial Elementary



Later in the month, Channing Memorial Elementary School is participating in the third annual Open Elgin event that celebrates the architecture and history of “The City in the Suburbs.”

While Channing celebrated its “birthday” in November 2018, it is acknowledging 2018-19 as its 50th year of serving students.

Channing, at 63 S. Channing St. in Elgin, was built in 1968 on the northwest corner of a former cemetery on the corner of Channing and Fulton Streets. The building is known for how it blends both functionally and aesthetically with its wooded hillside location. Because of the sloping site, each of its three levels has its own ground entrance for easy access.

As part of Open Elgin on Saturday, April 27, Channing Memorial will be open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. for free tours led by students. There will be a presentation available in the multi-purpose room and a craft activity for children.

More information can be found on the [Open Elgin](#) site.