Press Clippings 8/30/2018

---Daily Herald--- 8/30/18

Elgin women's club seeking sponsors for fundraiser benefiting U-46 program

BY MADHU KRISHNAMURTHY

The Elgin Junior Woman's Club is organizing a "Fall Fling" trivia night fundraiser on Sept. 29 benefiting Elgin Area School District <u>U-46's Project Access program</u> for homeless students.

All proceeds will go directly toward the U-46 Educational Foundation for the Project Access program, club President Loretta Revesz said.

The club has raised funds in years past for various Elgin social service agencies, including the Community Crisis Center, Ecker Center for Mental Health, Renz Addiction Counseling Center and PADS of Elgin.

"We have not done a fundraiser for the school district (before)," Revesz said. "Our mission is to enhance the lives of others through community service. We have a lot of teachers in our volunteer service organization ... and they see the effects of homelessness on at-risk (students) at their schools."

Project Access was started in 1995 and 96 students were identified as homeless at the time. Last year, the program identified and served more than 775 homeless students.

"We would love to have some corporate sponsors," Revesz said. "We have appealed to some companies in the community. We are looking for \$100 sponsorships."

So far, the organization has received sponsorships from Biggers Chevrolet in Elgin and Integrity School of Dance.

The fundraiser will be from 7 to 10 p.m. at Dream Hall at 51 S. Grove Ave., a food hall, taproom and event space in downtown Elgin. Elgin restaurateur Jeff Turner, who runs a food business at the Dream Hall, will serve as emcee for the event.

Admission price is \$25. Reservations are required by Sept. 21. For more information, contact Allison Hale at (847) 533-3843 or email allison, meyer22@gmail.com.

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Standing Standing water, power outages after Tuesday storms; cold front, sharp winds coming today

BY LEE FILAS

Heavy storms late Tuesday resulted in power outages, downed trees and standing water, officials said.

Classes were canceled at Bartlett High School Wednesday due to the power outage. Wayne and Hawk Hollow elementary schools also are without power but remained in session, Elgin Area School District U-46 spokeswoman Mary Fergus said.

"Students are safe and supervised. About 3,100 students (are) impacted," she added.

A thunderstorm warning in effect for Cook, Lake, DuPage, Kane and McHenry counties expired at 10 p.m. Tuesday, but not before dumping more than 2 inches of rain in some areas.

Arlington Heights, Elk Grove Village, Lakemoor, Lake Zurich and North Aurora took in between 1.8 inches and 2.8 inches of rain late Tuesday, the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network released on its website.

John Schoen, spokesman for ComEd, said about 113,000 customers lost power during the height of the storms. The worst areas hit were in Crystal Lake, Elgin and Rockford.

Schoen said power has been restored to about 87,000 customers Wednesday morning.

<u>The National Weather Service said on its website</u> that moderate rain with embedded thunder will diminish through Wednesday morning. A cold front will move in and lead to a sharp wind shift in the afternoon. The north winds will build waves across southern Lake Michigan, creating a swim risk across northeast Illinois and northwest Indiana beaches.

Skies remained cloudy Wednesday morning but it should become sunny in the afternoon with a high near 73, the weather service said.

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ECC to host weeklong celebration of students

BY MADHU KRISHNAMURTHY

Elgin Community College hosts a series of multicultural events and activities Sept. 10-15 for its inaugural "I Dream in Color Week" celebration.

Activities kick off with a free student breakfast and a talk by motivational speaker and entrepreneur <u>Christopher Williams</u>, who has keynoted black student events at several Illinois universities and for youth mentorship groups nationwide.

Among the highlights are educator and activist Jasmine Hawkins leading a discussion on student movements against oppression, and a town hall discussion with students of color led by former Elgin Area School District U-46 school board member Traci Ellis, an

attorney and executive director of human resources at Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in Aurora.

The week includes the second annual fair featuring historically black colleges and universities. Representatives from more than 20 educational institutions and more than 200 students and families participated in last year's fair.

Organizers are ECC's Student Life Department, Black Student Achievers, Organization of Latin American Students, Student Success Initiatives Committee, Elgin Area School District U-46 and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

ECC's "I Dream in Color Week" events

All events are free and open to the public and most will be held at Elgin Community College's main campus, 1700 Spartan Drive. Call (847) 214-7370.

- "Bright Minds Breakfast," 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sept. 10 in Building B, Room B180/B181.
- Kickoff speech by motivational speaker Christopher Williams, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Sept. 10 in Building B, Jobe Lounge.
- "Sin Fronteras (Without Borders): A Workshop on Building Multicultural and Multiracial Alliances and Partnerships" led by Ramona Houston, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 11, Building B, Room B180/B181.
- "School Daze" film screening and dinner, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11, Building G, Room G100, Spartan Auditorium.
- "Issa Movement" with Jasmine Hawkins, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 12, Building B, Room B182.
- "HBCU and You: A Town Hall Discussion for Students of Color," presented by the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 13, Building B, Room B180/B181.
- "Scholarship 2.0" for college and high school students, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sept. 13, Streamwood High School, 701 Schaumburg Road.
- HBCU Fair, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 15, Building B, Jobe Lounge.

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Hanover Township seeks tax hike for drug education, youth center

BY ERIC PETERSON

Hanover Township will ask its voters for a property tax hike Nov. 6 that would provide \$1 million a year for three specific enhancements to its youth services.

Township Supervisor Brian McGuire said the funding would allow officials to triple their drug and opioid education efforts, double their resources to provide family therapy, and operate a teen center.

The referendum voters will see on the Nov. 6 ballot asks for an additional 0.05 percent of the equalized assessed value of all the taxable property in the township. For the owner of an average value home in the township of \$192,500, the tax increase would cost an additional \$28.51 per year, or \$2.38 per month, McGuire said.

Though the township board already has the authority to increase some of its spending, it's more appropriate for residents to weigh in on the philosophical decisions regarding this issue, he said.

"This has actually been discussed several times at our strategic planning meetings over the years," McGuire said. "This is an issue that needs to be decided by the taxpayers, not the board."

McGuire said many residents already are aware of the opioid crisis throughout the nation and have increased awareness of mental health issues, especially with regard to youths.

"The biggest challenge is you're asking people to pay more taxes, and no matter how noble the cause -- whatever your cause is -- that often gets lost in the mix," McGuire said. "A taxing body has got to get out and explain what they're doing."

The township's current family counseling services are at the same level as they were in 1999, when the population was lower and a greater stigma stood in the way of people reaching out for mental health assistance, he said.

Officials also wish to provide a teen center somewhere near the center of the township, just as it already runs a senior center.

A teen center would be in an existing building. If voters approve the tax hike, there would be more than a year before the money was collected to talk with **Elgin Area School District U-46** and other potential sources of vacant space, as well as work out any necessary zoning issues, McGuire said.

Community meetings are being scheduled to directly discuss with residents the reasons behind the township's requested tax hike.

"The good thing is we're talking about these issues," McGuire said. "The bad thing is that we have to."

---Courier News--- 8/30/18

Bartlett High School cancels classes in wake of storm, which brought heavy rain to Fox Valley

BY RAFAEL GUERRERO

Strong storms Tuesday night into Wednesday morning knocked out power in the Bartlett area and forced Bartlett High School to cut classes short Wednesday.

School District U46 officials announced at 10 a.m. Wednesday classes were canceled. Students were sent home after attending classes for just a short time.

Two neighboring schools, Wayne Elementary in Wayne and Hawk Hollow Elementary in Bartlett, remained open despite not having power Wednesday morning, officials said.

The <u>Elgin</u> area — which includes South Elgin, Bartlett and other towns — at one point had about 15,000 customers without power, a ComEd spokesperson said.

City of Elgin spokeswoman Molly Center said storms dumped heavy rain in the area, but there was little for the city to clean up.

Eric Babcock, West Dundee's public works director, said the Tuesday night showers caused tree limb breakage in the heavily wooded Old Town area.

"We had a lot of that down that we had to pick up throughout the morning," he said.

East Dundee Public Works Director Phil Cotter said there was a power outage in one of the village's municipal buildings due to a tree falling on a transformer. The village did experience some flooding at the Wendt Street and Madison Court intersection, he said.

School District 300 officials said Dundee Highlands Elementary School was temporarily without power Wednesday morning due to a nearby transformer failure.

The Walmart store in Carpentersville was closed due to an outage earlier Wednesday but was able to reopen later, according to the store's Facebook page.

According to the village of Carpentersville's public safety department, about 790 ComEd customers were without power Tuesday and Wednesday. And the city of <u>St.</u> <u>Charles</u>reported a sustained outage affected as many as 600 people overnight, according to its Facebook page.

The Elgin area reported about 2.55 inches of rainfall over the last 24 hours, one of the largest totals in northern Illinois, said Charlie Mott, a <u>National Weather</u> <u>Service</u>meteorologist. The forecast for Wednesday and Thursday calls for drier conditions and cooler temperatures, before summer conditions and the possibility of rain returns for the Labor Day weekend.

Among other Kane County cities, St. Charles reported 1.59 inches of rainfall, North Aurora reported 1.8, Aurora reported 1.57, Batavia 1.65 inches, and Geneva reported 1.52, according to the National Weather Service.

The Fox River is not approaching flood stages, according to the National Weather Service. The Fox River checkpoint near Algonquin reported the river stage at 6.54 feet on Wednesday morning, about 2.5 feet below the lowest flood stage.