

# Village of Steward Newsletter

June 1, 2020



## VILLAGE BOARD

### Village Hall phone

(815)396-2846

[www.stewardil.com](http://www.stewardil.com)

[villageofstewardil60553@gmail.com](mailto:villageofstewardil60553@gmail.com)

### President

Hugh McKiski

(815)970-2017

### Trustees:

Les Bonnell

Les Kinne

Kim Lancaste

Bonnie Macklin

Kristen Pavlak

Bill Wasilewski

### Clerk

Chrissy Smardo

### Treasurer

Matt Hayes

### Newsletter edited by

Karen Bonnell



Congratulations to hardworking Kim Lancaste who earned Top Honors selling homes!

She earned Weichert President's Club Gold Level Award & 2019 Weichert Top Selling Associate Award.



Congratulations to Chef Stephanie Kessel, Number 1 Commercial Baker at SkillsUSA Regional! She was part of RTHS Career Tech Crew. She was preparing for state when COVID-19 started canceling most public events.



## Please help make recycling sustainable.

Everyone has a part to play, and really, it's as simple as:

1. Know what to recycle: Flattened cardboard, paper, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs. (Notice—no glass!)
2. Empty. Clean. Dry.
3. Don't bag it!

## Avoid Recycling Contamination.

For more information go to [www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)

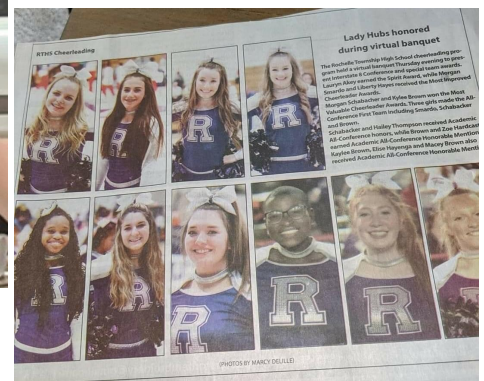
**Pay Your Steward IL Water Bills Online!**

**CLICK TO PAY NOW**



Visit the village website and look for the above picture  
Along the left side of the page and in the center

**[StewardIL.com/#pay](http://StewardIL.com/#pay)**



## All Conference First Team

**Cheerleader: Morgan Smardo!**

As a freshman!! Way to make the news, Morgan!

# RTHS

# 2020



**Nick Albers-** Nick was the youngest from the Albers family to graduate from Steward and now Rochelle Township High School. He played numerous sports in high school including football, basketball, baseball, and track. He also participated in student council and the key club. Nick will be continuing his career at Kishwaukee and then seeking out a bachelor's degree in science and natural resources.

**Preston Barber-** Preston moved to Steward at the beginning of his 8th grade, and we are so glad that he could join us. Throughout the countless star wars jokes and talking about fixing engines, he fit right into this class and our school community. We are so proud of his work ethic and all the amazing things that he did at RTHS. And we look forward to seeing him carve out his career as a mechanic.

**Reese Finnestad-** Reese was always involved in something when she attended Steward, and continued that streak during high school. Reese has always been a loyal and dedicated person, especially when it came to her friends and those around her. We are super proud of all the things that she did and will

continue to achieve (even if that's just trying to find Mrs. Hopwood's brownie recipe). She will be continuing her education at Kishwaukee College in nursing and then transfer to another university to finish her nursing degree.

**Austin Greifenkamp-** Austin came to Steward during his sixth grade year, and left many good memories here. He was involved in a variety of sports and activities and showed his leadership qualities wherever he went. When in High School, Austin played football for the Hubs, playing both on offense and on defense. He is looking forward to continuing his football and educational career at Benedictine University in the Fall as he seeks to get a business degree.

**Seth Gould-** Seth was a great student and athlete at Steward, who could brighten any room with his sense of humor. Seth kept up with that sense of humor and kept himself busy in high school. He played numerous sports including basketball, baseball, and cross country. He was also part of the Interact Club. He is looking forward to

continuing his education and receiving a degree in computer science.

**Nick Jensen-** Nick was involved and was a leader when he was at Steward. He got really involved in his time spent at RTHS as well with photography, theater, and being a part of the bowling team. He really enjoyed his photography classes and hopes to one day open his own photography studio. We, for one, can not wait to patronize and use his photography business.

**Stephaine Kessel-** Stephaine has been very active in high school, taking advantage of their KEC program to work on her culinary art skills. She took part in both the Prostart Competition and Baking for SkillsUSA competition. She was active in the natural helpers program, student council, powder puff, and the national honors society. She is a recipient for the 2020 Brendan D. Downey Memorial Scholarship which she will use at Elgin Community College working towards an associates in Applied Science degree in Pastry Arts.

# STEWARD GRADS

**Shelby Kaspar-** Shelby has been going to Steward for a number of years now, and we are so glad that she joined us. She played both volleyball and basketball for the Eagles. Both on the court and in the classroom, Shelby always did her very best, and excelled at both.



**Emily Lovett-** Emily has been going to Steward for the past nine years and is the last of the Lovett Family to graduate from Steward. Emily participated in both volleyball and basketball during her time at Steward. No matter if she was in the classroom or on the court, Emily was always a leader that you could count on to make things happen.

**Josilyn Saflarski-** Jos joined Steward after moving here last summer for her 8th grade year. While it must have been hard for her to move to a small town from a big one, we all appreciated the time that she spent here. She worked hard in the classroom, and helped greatly in both volleyball and basketball.



**Maddison O'Rorke is in the Army now!**



From her family:

Dear Village of Steward Friends / Family:

On behalf of my daughter, Maddison, and our entire family, please accept our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the completely incredible send-off you gave her as she left for US Army Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. I'm not sure we will ever be able to find the right words to express how much your love and support means to her, and to all of us.

This village, and the people in it, make me so proud to call Steward home.

Again, THANK YOU SO MUCH.



## Noteworthy Birthdays!

Drive-by parades were held on April 18 to honor **Mil Danekas** on her 96th birthday, and May 11 for **Dale Svela** on his 95th birthday! Both honorees have contributed much to the Village of Steward! Thank you, Mil and Dale!



# APPRECIATION



Many Thanks to Steward Elementary School educator Calla Stroh for writing for our special graduate section in this issue. She taught each of the students who graduated this year and knows them well. Since our graduates couldn't experience the milestone graduation ceremonies due to COVID-19, guidelines, Mrs Stroh provided accolades of our well-deserving students.

## **We appreciate garden workers**

Nora Jeter, Pauline Cultra, Mil Danekas, and Girl Scout Troop 1870. Here Marlie Brown poses at Kissing Rock Garden.



School has not been in session at Steward Elementary building since March, but that doesn't mean our students aren't receiving their education. Many thanks to all the teachers who have continued to work, inventing a new format for teaching.

Also many thanks to Jennifer Knetsch, our school administrative assistant, and educator Calla Stroh for the physical presence of signs for elementary school and high school graduates. They have also gone around town giving chalk greetings to students on the sidewalks adjacent to their homes.

How great it is that we have staff at Steward Elementary who care about their students! Be sure to express your appreciation!

## **Our sympathy is with the family of Nancy Govig,**

who passed away May 17 in Hospice care. Nancy contributed much to the school and church over the years, was Director of Nursing at Rochelle West, and hauled grain to the elevator.

We appreciate the many who have pitched in with extra effort during this pandemic: the healthcare workers, first responders, firefighters, law enforcement officers, transportation personnel, warehouse workers, retail clerks, bank personnel, entrepreneurs who change their operation to make hand sanitizer and other needed supplies, clergy, managers, the list goes on....

And our thoughts are with all those who are directly impacted by the coronavirus: those who have caught it and have been in the hospital, those scheduled for surgeries that have been postponed, those expecting and delivering babies, those who could not celebrate Easter in their churches or with their families, those who planned to celebrate milestone birthdays, graduations, and anniversaries, those who grieve the loss of loved ones without the usual services and friends, those who hoped to show their best in sports, speech, music, skills as they wind up their high school careers, and with those dealing with natural disasters amidst all this.

“

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.

ANONYMOUS