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The Dispatch • Argus The Rock Island

MOLINE, ILLINOIS Tuesday, March 12, 2019 | QConline.com | \$2.00



Sarah Walas Teed, school counselor for Hamilton and Jane Addams Elementary, poses for a photo with a group of students Monday at Hamilton in Moline.

Counselor chooses kids over adults ... and crickets

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MOLINE — She ate a cricket once but didn't enjoy the taste because of an eyeball that got stuck in her teeth. Sarah Walas Teed, 35, Moline, enjoys sharing that story from her University of Illinois-Extension days as a nutritionist, but truly prefers time she's spent as a counselor at Hamilton and Jane Addams elementary schools, both in Moline. "I love my job," Teed said. "And I really love the kids. They really make my day. I prefer kids over adults, actually. Kids make you very comfortable if you get to know them." Yet, she owes a lot of credit to fellow educators, especially to Lynsey Oswald and Lisa Mitchell, who helped her write and publish a couple books. Teed and her colleagues wrote two paperback books titled "Personal and Social Skills," and "Management and Discipline," that she called a "lifelong dream" of hers. Her books are available at Amazon or through the Kagan Cooperative Learning website, she said. "They get all credit," Teed said. "I couldn't have done it without them."



Sarah Walas Teed, school counselor for Hamilton and Jane Addams Elementary, chats with students Camila, 7, Dylan, 8, Mark, 8, Corey, 7, Iris, 7, Kaz'Mere, 8, and Mallie, 8, Monday at Hamilton Elementary School in Moline.

Book articles used Kagan materials for teachers to develop strategies to improve classroom management, personal and social skills for parents, she said. "Teachers use these lessons to teach

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Study shows pollution inequity by race



Smokestacks near an oil refinery are seen Dec. 10 in front of the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City. A new study released Monday says African-Americans and Hispanics breathe in far more deadly air pollution than they are responsible for making.

SETH BORENSTEIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON — African-Americans and Hispanics breathe in far more deadly air pollution than they are responsible for making, a new study said. A study looked at who is exposed to fine particle pollution — responsible for about 100,000 American deaths a year — and how much different races are responsible for the pollution based on their buying, driving and living habits. Scientists calculate that Hispanics on average breathe in 63 percent more of the pollution that leads to heart and breathing deaths than they make. For African-Americans the figure is 56 percent, according to a study published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

On the other hand, non-Hispanic whites on average are exposed to 17 percent less air pollution than they make. "Even though minorities are contributing less to the overall problem of air pollution, they are affected by it more," said study co-author Jason Hill, a bio-systems engineering professor at the University of Minnesota who is white. "Is it fair (that) I create more pollution and somebody else is disproportionately affected by it?" This pollution comes from gases from smokestacks, tailpipes and other places that then solidify into fine invisible particles small enough to pass through lungs and into bloodstreams. These particles, more than 25 times smaller than the

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MOLINE-COAL VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Board OKs new phys ed facility

Multi-purpose building for high school could cost \$13M

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MOLINE — Moline-Coal Valley School Board members on Monday night voted unanimously to move forward with a new multi-purpose physical education facility at Moline High School. Board members voted to accept the recommendation of Superintendent Lanty McGuire to build the new structure onto the high school with the aim of creating a safer physical education space for high school students. The board also accepted his recommendation to form a committee with representatives from the school board and the community to seek a cooperative partnership to build a new swimming pool. McGuire's recommendation includes four multi-use courts, updated locker rooms, a new weight room and a six-lane track. It's the new track, which was not part of previous plans, that upped the estimated price tag from between \$8 million to \$10 million to \$12 million to \$13 million. According to chief financial officer Dave McDermott, the district could expect a seven-year bond repayment period. McDermott said previous boards have aimed to not engage in new facility projects

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ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

Charges filed in theft of RI Co. treasurer funds

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A charge of felony theft has been filed against Carolyn R. Kerr in relation to a theft investigation at the Rock Island County Treasurer's Office. State and county officials confirmed in December the investigation was underway, but released few other details. At that time, Rock Island County Sheriff Gerry Bustos said the county employee suspected in the incident was no longer employed by the county. Kerr, 39, Rock Island, was identified in court documents filed Monday. Those documents allege she committed a series of acts between July 2, 2018, and Nov. 2, 2018, that were designed to permanently deprive the county of more than \$500 in U.S. currency but less than \$10,000. She was not in custody Monday, and her next court date was not yet available. The Illinois State Police are investigating the case. Bustos said in December that he'd asked the state to handle the investigation for the sake of transparency. On Monday, he said he could not provide more information on the case. Rock Island

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