

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."

H.C. Paddock 1852-1935

Opinion

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Saturday Soapbox

Some opinions require lots of words and laboration. Some don't. This is Saturday soapbox, briefly stated commentary from the Daily Herald's editors.

What else can go wrong?

It seems Gavin School District 37 can't steer clear of controversy. The district should be moving on to bigger and better things after its much-publicized return to the repaired Gavin Central. But it followed that up with an Illinois Open Meetings Act violation notice earlier this month and then the resignation of its superintendent this week. The next person to lead the district will become the fourth superintendent in about a year for the maligned district. And that's not counting the interim boss who spurned the district last summer, one day before he was expected to sign a contract. The district needs stability. The district just needs to be normal for a while. Given its propensity for making headlines, we're wondering if that's even possible.

Influential voices:

Much was written this week about a teen drinking forum at Carmel Catholic High School. Students, com-

Our View

Community leaders and others discussed the litany of related dangers. Teen drinking is nothing new, yet communities aren't much better dealing with it today than they did in decades past. True, there is no one simple solution. But, as in years past, schools and parents hold the key; both must be willing to take tough stands to get the message across. Parents can't wink at teen drinking, with a "boys will be boys" attitude. Schools must be willing to impose stringent penalties, like those Mundelein High School is now considering — athletes caught using illegal drugs, steroids, tobacco or alcohol could be banned for a full year. Some other county schools have taken similar action. The message must be loud and clear by those with the most influential voice — parents and schools — that this behavior won't be condoned or tolerated.

Standard equipment:

The proliferation of defibrillators has been under way for a couple of years now, with more and more public places providing access to the devices, which can shock a heart back into rhythm, thereby often saving a life in case of cardiac arrest. It's only natural, with the right training, that defibrillators be installed in police cars, and if the Lake County Board can come up with the money, the instruments will be placed in all sheriff's patrol cars. Great idea! Here's hoping the board can come up with a grant to put this potentially lifesaving plan into action.

Drinking late, driving later?

Lake Villa tavern owners tell the village board that they've lost 40 percent of their revenue since they were forced to adopt earlier closing hours, 1 a.m. instead of 2 a.m. on weeknights and 2 a.m. instead of 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Does that mean fewer customers are showing up in the first

Let's be careful

Unseasonably warm brought out motorists — all eager to run during the cold means it's time for trucks to be extra speed limits on streets.

Stormy weather

If you haven't made become familiar during a tornado make sure you know doors and indoor buildings, school cars. Be prepared.