



While corn yields are anticipated to fall below last year’s harvest, this season is far from a disaster.

## Illinois corn harvest no disaster despite drought

By **DONNA ROLANDO**  
*The Center Square contributor*

SPRINGFIELD — Drought conditions did not leave Illinois corn farmers without hope this harvest season. While yields are anticipated to fall below last year’s harvest, this season is far from a disaster.

Much of the hope rests with a healing rain in June that played a heavy role in saving the crop from ruin, said Steve Turner, a member of the Illinois Farm Bureau and a farmer in Cass and Morgan counties.

“I think it’s not going to be a bumper or a record yield but I think we’re going to be basically holding our own,” Turner told The Center Square.

The dry conditions that hit parts of the state won’t be much of a challenge now that harvest time is here and expected to continue until October or November. It may even help farmers to get their work done, Turner said, noting that farmers are known for finding the silver lining.

Unlike areas to the west where a lack of rainfall is taking a toll, Illinois was spared the full brunt of arid weather, he said.

“I think we really dodged a bullet on a lot of extreme drought this year,” Turner

said.

The status of the harvest currently puts farmers on par with the five-year average. Turner helped to put the corn harvest figures into perspective.

“The Illinois yield will probably be down from what it was last year,” he said.

He estimated that the Illinois corn yield was over 200 bushels on an acre last year. Even if it drops to 188 he said farmers are still raising the crop.

The same could not be said for 2012 when drought conditions did spell disaster for the harvest.

“I got to go back to 2012 where we did have no rain all summer,” Turner said. “We’re not looking anything like that.”

Meanwhile, the condition of the corn is considered variable and includes some reduced yields.

In other harvest news, Turner said the state is a few weeks away from the start of the soybean harvest and farmers are again expecting reduced yields.

Additionally, the alfalfa hay harvest has been reduced due to the shortage of rainfall, but the government allowed livestock managers access to conservation areas to care for their herds now and in preparation for winter, according to Turner.

# Heart & Soul asking you what you want in Mendota

Interviews and chats happening to get the public’s input

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**  
*Staff writer*

MENDOTA—There have been many neon green shirts worn around Mendota lately.

They’ve been seen at just about every event in town as Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program and Reimagine Mendota members are asking the community for input.

For more than a month, the group has been at Victory Baptist Church, La Esquinita De Oro Ice Cream Shop, Parkway Family Restaurant, Estates Mobile Home Park, the Elks Lodge, Graves-Hume Public Library, Food Truck Mania, the Mendota Farmer’s Market, Lunch in the Park, and more to ask you questions on what you think needs to happen, change, or be added in Mendota.

There are only two more left as community chat opportunities will be from 6:30-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 28 at Ziggy’s Family Restaurant for a free coffee and chat morning and from 4-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3 at Pizzas by Marchelloni for Youth Night where you’ll receive a free piece of pizza with a conversation.

“It has been going well. Some are better attended than others, but we really feel like we’ve tried to give a good chance for people to find us somewhere,” said Amy Brewer, who joined Annie Short as co-organizers for the Heart & Soul organization. “People are really interested, positive, and happy to talk about what they like here and what they hope for in the future.

“People really care about our kids. It comes up over and over again. It’s about having



Cleetus Friedman, left, and Karen Goy are having a Heart & Soul chat. The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant program being fueled by Reimagine Mendota is speaking with residents in the community to get input of how to better Mendota. (Photo contributed)

more things for kids to do, making sure they’re safe, and any other topic surrounding children. That’s been the main theme that I see.”

Brewer added a majority of the residents she’s spoken with love how easy it is to get around in Mendota, how friendly most people are, and how people know each other because of the small-town feel.

The process, Stage 2 of the project, is working how it was intended.

“The whole Community Heart & Soul project is a structured way—framework, training, money—to help do community building,” Brewer said. “By getting people to talk to each other it improves communication, people feel

**“People are really interested, positive, and happy to talk about what they like here and what they hope for in the future.”**

—Amy Brewer, Heart & Soul co-organizer

like they know each other better, and it seems to connect organizations with each other. Just by having members of Reimagine Community come together other organizations benefit because there are representatives from other groups, businesses and organizations in Reimagine Mendota.

“We’re trying to build communication and encouraging participation in our town and trying to get people

to feel more civic minded. We’re trying to define what our values are and the things we will support as a town.”

Also, by having these chats and knowing what the community wants, it will help in grant-writing and being accepted as grants are received by towns and cities with plans and people who are putting them in action.

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## State leaders announce FFA mental health awareness grant program

\$1,000 grants to Illinois FFA chapters will be available this fall

By **ANDREW ADAMS**  
*Capitol News Illinois*

SPRINGFIELD — Farmers and residents of rural communities often face stigma when it comes to mental health challenges, but state leaders hope to change that.

Governor JB Pritzker announced recently that chapters of FFA — the group once known as Future Farmers of America — will be eligible for \$1,000 grants to fund mental health awareness programs in schools and rural communities. Up to 20 such grants will be available through the Illinois FFA Foundation starting this fall.

Pritzker and other state leaders made the announcement at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur, an annual exposition of farm technology and other agriculture

industry advancements.

“There is nothing more important than making sure that every Illinoisan has access to the mental health services they need to live happy and healthy lives,” Pritzker said.

The program is being overseen by the Illinois FFA Foundation in partnership with the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine’s Farm Family Resource Initiative.

Karen Leavitt Stallman, an agriculture resource specialist at SIU Medicine who coordinates FFRI, said she hopes the partnership with FFA will help direct attention to the resources available for farmers.

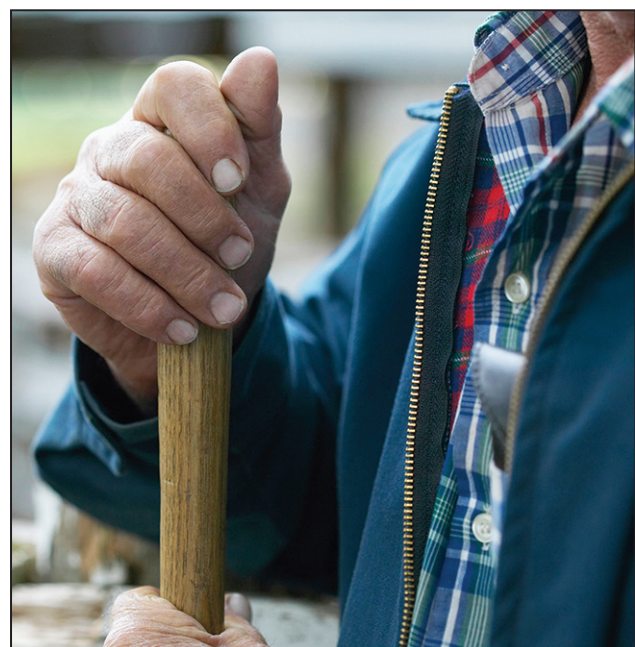
“There is a stigma. It’s hard for someone to reach out for help...” Stallman told Capitol News Illinois. “In the agriculture community, it’s

particularly difficult. As farmers, we’re a stoic bunch.”

FFRI began in 2019. The late state Sen. Scott Bennett, D-Champaign, advocated for its launch. After a pilot in six counties, the program expanded to offer mental health and stress-management resources to the entire state, with increased state and federal funding.

The SIU program offers professional development, webinars and online resources to help farmers and their families manage stress and mental health challenges. They also offer up to six free telehealth counseling sessions to those in the agriculture industry and their families.

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Shop  
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for Fall!



# LOCAL AND AREA



## National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates at library

MENDOTA – Join the Graves-Hume Public Library and Illinois Valley Hispanic Partnership Council as they celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month on Saturday, September 30.

A fun day is planned for the whole family as there will be a craft at 10:30 a.m., book reading at 11 a.m., Loteria (similar to BINGO) at 11:30 a.m., and the Ballet Folklórico de Colores at 12:00 p.m.

Treats will be served at this event, which is open to all and no library card or registration is required. Call 815-538-5142 or stop in to the Graves-Hume Public Library for a newsletter for more information.

## Antique Power Show fun for all

The annual Antique Power Show at Mendota Hills Campground in Amboy brought out vintage tractors, crafts, vendors, BINGO, and other family events on September 23-24. Enchanted Memory Photography set up their Wild Wild West cabin, bar, a wagon, and hangers full of nostalgic clothing for people to take custom photos at the Antique Power Show. Terry Joyce and Sylvester Joyce, left, have taken photos at the show for the last 12 years. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)

## OSF Healthcare offering diabetes focused food recipes, tips, advice

MENDOTA – Learn to prepare and taste new recipes that you can enjoy to help prevent, manage, or care for someone with diabetes. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, the prevalence of diabetes in our communities continues to increase. Taking care of your health is so important.

Join Susan Glassman, Extension Educator, Nutrition & Wellness, and Jennifer Scully, Clinical Dietitian from OSF Healthcare, for a four-part education series this fall, offered on Fridays, Oct. 19, 26, and Nov. 2, 9 from 9 a.m. to noon at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota, Conference Room C.

“I on Diabetes” provides research-based information on:

- Managing carbohydrates
- Reading nutrition facts labels
- Planning meals and snacks
- Using artificial sweeteners, herbs and spices
- Eating out and holiday meals

In each of the four sessions, you will watch cooking demonstrations, taste delicious foods, and take home recipes to that

meet your dietary needs. Empower yourself with the knowledge and tools to build skills to prevent, manage, or care for someone with diabetes.

The cost of the program is \$15 per person; includes recipe samples and take home information. Maximum of 16 persons. To register, go online at <https://go.illinois.edu/ionmendota> or call the Extension office at 815-224-0884. For more information or if you need an accommodation to participate, contact Susan Glassman at [susang@illinois.edu](mailto:susang@illinois.edu) or 815-224-0884. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.

Extension offices are located in Princeton, Ottawa, Henry, and in Oglesby on the IVCC campus. Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities. Visit our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/blmp>.

## OSF St. Paul schedules special pet blessing

MENDOTA – In celebration of St. Francis of Assisi, who was known for his love of animals, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center will be hosting a special blessing just for pets.

The Blessing of Animals will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 4, between noon-1 p.m. in the OSF Saint Paul Serenity Garden. The garden and parking lot are located on the hospital’s west side.

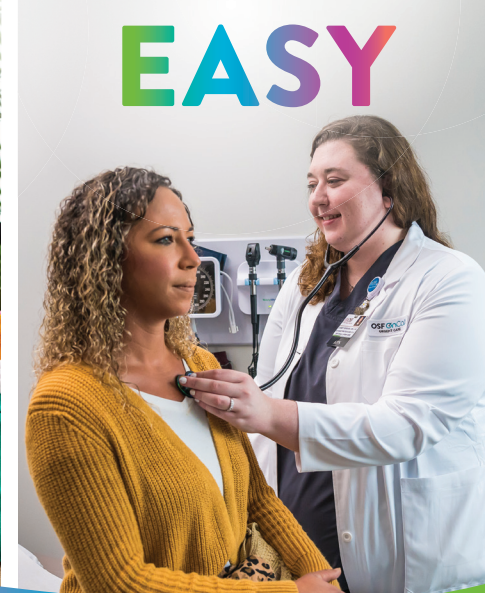
Please bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier. Deacon George Schramm will bless each of your animals.

## Ribbon Cutting



## Ashlee Kittilson Photography

The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce helped make Ashlee Kittilson Photography an official business in the community with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Present were, left to right, Chamber Ambassador Lee Stocking, Chamber President/CEO Sam Setchell, photography shop owners Ashlee and Chris Kittilson, Chamber Board members Michelle Barkman and Marion Quintana. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)



## Tackling never-ending laundry ... NOT EASY!

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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

We held our first Paw Pride reward assembly this past week. The students have been working hard to earn “golden tickets” for good behavior since school started. At our assembly, we drew tickets for students to be able to play in a game and then also to win prizes. Thank you to Kurt Bruno at State Farm for making a donation for our prizes for the rewards. The students were able to win some fantastic prizes. Our next reward assembly will be Oct. 25.

Thank you again to all of our families and community members who supported our Perfect Pastries fundraiser. We had the product delivery on Friday. Funds received from this sale will support us buying prizes for our future Paw Pride reward assemblies.

Blackstone spirit wear sales have begun. We have child and adult spirit wear available to purchase from 4M Graphix through Oct. 8. The link to order is <https://blackstone-spiritwear2023.itemorder.com/>. Parents also received an email with this link.

Our first-grade students began a program this week through the University of Illinois Extension Office. The Organ Wise Guys program is a fun, interactive way to engage students in nutritional education and physical activity. The program teaches students about healthy eating using characters based on human organs. Our students will receive these lessons once a week for the next six weeks. It’s a great educational opportunity for our students.

The students nominated for the principal award this past week included Nash Albers, Hannah Reinhold, Victoria Lechuga, Leanna Rojas, Melanie Montes, Elizabeth Feurer, Antonio Vergara and Jayden Woods. The winners were Leni Kromm, Leo Figueroa, Leila Reyes and Isla Full. Congratulations to all of you!



**Live on Illinois**  
Reimagine Mendota and Community Heart & Soul hosted “Live on Illinois” on Saturday, Sept. 23 in downtown Mendota. The Free Beer & Chicken Band jammed while the community enjoyed food, drinks, and hanging out with each other. Both Reimagine Mendota and the Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant program are putting on events such as “Live on Illinois” to help improve community outlook and show what Mendota could be. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)



## Stage 212 offers Stage Makeup Workshop

LaSALLE – Stage 212 in LaSalle is offering a Stage Makeup Workshop for children and adults, ages 10 and up, Saturday, Oct. 7 at 10 a.m. Under the guidance of instructor Narissa Keller, participants will learn many stage makeup techniques and special effects – just in time for Halloween. The cost of the workshop is \$10 per person. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. Registration and more information are available online at [www.stage212.org](http://www.stage212.org).

## Annual “Ghosts of Ottawa Past” returns to Reddick Mansion in October



OTTAWA – The Reddick Mansion Association is hosting its ninth annual “Ghosts of Ottawa Past” program on Friday, Oct. 6 and Saturday, Oct. 7.

Two tours of the mansion, located at 100 W. Lafayette St. in Ottawa, will be given each night at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person, and due to the subject matter, participants should be at least 12 years old.

Each tour is limited to 20 people and reservations are strongly recommended.

This year’s event will focus on three episodes in Ottawa’s past. The Radium Dial story will be told in two vignettes showing two dial painters at work, as well as the hearing held at the home of Catherine Donohue featuring the painters who called themselves the “Society of the Living Dead.”

Another episode featured this year will be the wounding of General William H.L. Wallace of Ottawa at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee and his subsequent death with his wife, Ann, at his side. The audience will portray the soldiers who fought in the Hornet’s Nest at Shiloh. Also making an appearance will be Wallace’s horse, Prince.

The final episode will be a presentation of an Orphan Train arrival in Ottawa. RMA board member Darlene Halm researched the story at the LaSalle County Genealogy Guild, so the vignette will feature volunteers and audience members portraying real-life orphans who were taken in by real-life families in Ottawa.

“This event has become very popular through the years,” said Lorraine McCallister, Reddick Mansion Association president and the event’s guide to the past. “It is a unique way to introduce the public to Ottawa’s rich history. We encourage audience participation, too.”

For reservations, please call the Reddick Mansion at 815-433-6100 or visit the website at [www.reddick-mansion.org](http://www.reddick-mansion.org). Parking will be reserved on Lafayette Street and on Columbus Street for guests.

- Past Winners of the Tom Merwin Gold Star Employee Award
- 1992 - Cheryl Thorne
  - 1993 - Hester Full
  - 1994 - Joyce McDonald
  - 1995 - Barb Christopher
  - 1996 - Jack Arkins
  - 1997 - Johnny Arteaga
  - 1998 - Bob Francis
  - 1999 - Sheila Bettner
  - 2000 - Nellie Needs
  - 2001 - Bob Barnett
  - 2002 - Donna Johnson
  - 2003 - James “Stymie” Schmidt
  - 2004 - Sherry Kuntzi
  - 2005 - Steve Dinges
  - 2006 - Jackie Emm
  - 2007 - Ann Buchanan
  - 2008 - Dave Fitzgerald
  - 2009 - Rayanne Sester
  - 2010 - Linda Basil
  - 2011 - Carolyn Motter
  - 2012 - Charlotte Delhotal
  - 2013 - Lori Simonton & Sarah Dalton
  - 2014 - Cheryl Barr
  - 2015 - Rita Borelli & Wendy Letterly
  - 2016 - Lynn Carbone
  - 2017 - Ashley Brooks
  - 2018 - Colleen Myers
  - 2019 - Sidney Engels
  - 2020 - Nancy Bogle
  - 2021 - Jamie Bromenschenkel
  - 2022 - Jennifer Sibley

**TOM MERWIN**

**“GOLD STAR”**

**EMPLOYEE AWARD**

Remember when getting a “Gold Star” meant you’d done a “Great Job”? **IT STILL DOES!**

We’re looking for that “Gold Star” Employee! Someone who makes you glad to do business in Mendota!

The MENDOTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE MENDOTA REPORTER in a joint project, are seeking nominations from the customers of the retail, service and professional businesses in the community for that outstanding employee in Mendota!

This is your opportunity to recognize that kind, courteous, competent and efficient employee who cashes your check, fills your order, answers the phone, brings your food or processes your paperwork every day.

Nominations must come from the general public - The Customer - for this “Gold Star Employee.”

The winner will be determined by the board of directors of the Mendota Area Chamber from those nominations received, and their decision will be final. Winner will be announced at the Mendota Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023.

For questions, email Sam Setchell at [president@mendotachamber.com](mailto:president@mendotachamber.com). (Store owners are not eligible.)

09112023

I Think (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

at (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

Deserves a “Gold Star” because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(my name) \_\_\_\_\_

(my phone #) \_\_\_\_\_

(we may call for additional information)

Nomination forms must be returned to the Mendota Area Chamber Office, Box 620, Mendota, IL by Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. You may also drop them in the water bill slot on Illinois Ave., or bring them into the office during the hours from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Past Gold Star Award Winners may be nominated, but are ineligible to win again.

## The Invention of the Year

The world’s lightest and most portable mobility device

Once in a lifetime, a product comes along that truly moves people. Introducing the future of battery-powered personal transportation ... *The Zinger*.

Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven’t been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who’s developed one of the world’s most popular products created a completely new breakthrough ... a personal electric vehicle. It’s called the *Zinger*, and there is nothing out there quite like it.

*“What my wife especially loves is it gives her back feelings of safety and independence which has given a real boost to her confidence and happiness! Thank You!”*

—Kent C., California

The first thing you’ll notice about the *Zinger* is its unique look. It doesn’t look like a scooter. Its sleek, lightweight yet durable frame is made with aircraft grade aluminum so it weighs only 47.2 lbs. It features one-touch folding and unfolding – when folded it can be wheeled around like a suitcase and fits easily into a



Available in Green, Black and Blue (shown)



The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

backseat or trunk. Then, there are the steering levers. They enable the *Zinger* to move forward, backward, turn on a dime and even pull right up to a table or desk. With its compact yet powerful motor it can go up to 6 miles an hour and its rechargeable battery can go up to 8 miles on a single charge. With its low center of gravity and inflatable tires it can handle rugged terrain and is virtually tip-proof. Think about it, you can take your *Zinger* almost anywhere, so you don’t have to let mobility issues rule your life.

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The Zinger and Zoomer Chairs are personal electric vehicles and are not medical devices nor wheelchairs. They are not intended for medical purposes to provide mobility to persons restricted to a sitting position. They are not covered by Medicare nor Medicaid.

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# OBITUARIES

## Lynda S. Auchstetter

MENDOTA — Lynda S. Auchstetter, 81, of Mendota passed away Sept. 24, 2023, at Allure of Mendota surrounded by her loved ones.

Aprivate family only service will be held at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Father Jeff Windy officiating. Burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota.

Lynda was born on June 11, 1942, to Henry and Pearl (Jones) Billings. She married Robert Auchstetter on May 7, 1960, in Sublette. She had one brother, Donald Billings.

Lynda will be greatly missed by her children, Larry (Laura) of Charleston, Terry (Alma) of Lake in the Hills, Lori (Tom) Valenta of Kenosha, Wis., Amy (Peter) McCall of Niles, Bill (Kim) of New Lenox, Michael (Lee Ann) of Winnabow, N.C., and Marilyn (Eric) Worsley of LaSalle; and 11 grandchildren, Amelia, Elena, Lucas, Zachary, Hailey, Dylan, Kyle, Kara, Jack, Eric and Rohan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her brother Donald.

For most of her married life she tended the Auchstetter family farm with her husband. She could be seen mowing the large lawn or working in the gardens or fields. Family members have fond memories of helping her with the garden or with preparing the meals in the kitchen.

Lynda was an animal lover all her life. She especially enjoyed watching deer and birds. From growing up on the Billings farm to living on the Auchstetter farm she took care of all sorts of animals including raccoons, chickens, and calves. Later on she enjoyed watching the birds and squirrels at the feeders she kept.

Gardening and growing things was another one of Lynda's passions. She and Robert frequented the area's nurseries searching for new plants to add to their orchards and gardens. Family members enjoyed joining them on those excursions and ones to botanical gardens.

After Robert's passing, Lynda moved into Mendota where she enjoyed visiting with her friends at Mendota Area Senior Services. Some of her favorite activities were playing Wii bowling, making puzzles, and playing dominoes. Lynda also visited friends in the nursing homes where she would lead the rosary for the residents.

Her greatest joy though was her children and grandchildren. She loved visiting them and hearing about their latest endeavors. She could be seen and sometimes heard at their sporting events, concerts, performances, and other important events.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services or Illinois Valley Animal Rescue. Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



## Michael J. Widolff

WEST BROOKLYN — Michael J. Widolff, 65, of West Brooklyn, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2023.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Sublette with Father Randy Fronck officiating. Private burial followed at Troy Grove Cemetery. Visitation was held on Saturday from 9-10:45 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

He was born Aug. 24, 1958, in Mendota the son of Joseph and Carol (Mann) Widolff. He married Janet Hanson on Oct. 2, 1982, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mendota.

He is survived by his wife Janet of West Brooklyn; his children Amy (Bryan Murray) Widolff of Rock Falls, Andrew (Madeleine) Widolff of Fort Worth, Texas, Daniel Widolff of Philadelphia, Pa., and Elizabeth Widolff of West Brooklyn; four grandchildren, Violet Widolff, Bradley Schmidt, Oliver Remmers and Elliot Widolff; siblings Diane (James) Devine of Dixon, Lois (Brian) Donovan of Winter Haven, Fla., Randy (Shelley Mink) Widolff and Steven (Paula) Widolff of Amboy.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Michael was a farmer and worked for W.G. Leffelman and Sons for 20 years and the Illinois Department of Corrections for 20 years.

Donations may be made in Michael's honor by check to the Penguin Project of Sauk Valley, PO Box 1117, Sterling, IL 61081. The Penguin Project provides individuals ages 10-23 with special needs the support and opportunity to participate in the performing arts.

Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



## Sharon K. Kellen

SUBLETTE — Sharon Kay Kellen, 81, of Sublette, passed away in the early morning of Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023, at Allure of Mendota.

Funeral services will be Friday, Sept. 29, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Compton with Rev. Jeff Schlesinger officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery, Mendota. Visitation will be Friday from 9 a.m. until time of services.

Sharon was born May 2, 1942, in Mendota, the daughter of Delphan and Arlene (Pierce) Schlesinger. She was married to Gaylon Ehlers for 20 years and they had two sons, Brent and Brad. On Sept. 21, 1985, Sharon married Robert "Buck" Kellen of Sublette and was married to Robert until his death in 2018.

Sharon is survived by her two sons, Brent Ehlers of Omaha, Neb., and Brad (Mary) Ehlers, of Sublette; two brothers, Gale (Jeanne) Schlesinger of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Randy (Mark Lamkins) Schlesinger of Sublette; brother-in-law Kevin (Kathy) Kellen of Rhinelander, Wis.; sister-in-law Karen (Dina) Kellen of Lakewood, Colo.; three grandchildren, Brock (Erika) Ehlers of Munster, Ind., Caitlin (Ryan Elmendorf) Ehlers of Dixon, and Dylan (Brittany Allemen) Ehlers of Sublette; three great-grandchildren, Bay Machuca and Cameron Ehlers of Munster, Ind., and Liam Elmendorf of Dixon; and many nieces and nephews. Sharon is also survived by Gaylon Ehlers, the father of her sons, Brent and Brad.

Sharon was preceded in death by both parents and her husband, Robert "Buck" Kellen in 2018.

Sharon was a graduate of Amboy High School class of 1960. Sharon held several jobs in her lifetime including the First State Bank of Mendota, Sunrise Nursing Home in Mendota, and the Farmer's State Bank of Sublette before retiring from Woodhaven Lakes General Store in Sublette. In life, Sharon enjoyed spending her time with family and friends, and involved herself with many hobbies including reading, baking, cross-stitching, ceramics, gardening, and listening to her favorite band, The Statler Brothers. Amongst family and friends, Sharon was also known for her avid love for the U.S.A., displaying red, white, and blue and/or flag decorations throughout the house in various fashions year-round along with her countless pieces of patriotic jewelry.

Memorials may be addressed to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Compton, IL. Online condolences may be left at [www.merrittfh.com](http://www.merrittfh.com).



## John M. Littlewood

URBANA — John Miles Littlewood, 91, of Urbana, passed away July 19, 2023, at his home in Amber Glen Alzheimer's Special Care Center in Urbana.

John gifted his body to medical science, and will be buried at a later date in Greenfield Cemetery in La Moille.

John was born to Harold R. and Rena M. Littlewood on Sept. 8, 1931, in their farm home near La Moille.

John is survived by his brother Roland (wife Barbara), of Madison, Wis.; five nephews; and very dear friends Bob and Elaine Goss.

He was preceded in death by a brother Lyle.

John attended Basswood Corner School, one of the last one-room schools in Bureau County. He then attended La Moille Community High School, where he was the valedictorian of the class of 1949.

He next attended North Central College in Naperville. There, he participated in numerous student activities, notably those concerned with foreign relations. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1953, majoring in Political Science and English.

Shortly after college graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. His major deployment was with the finance corps in Italy. He next spent a few years working the retail jewelry business in Dallas, Texas. He then enrolled in the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he received a Master of Science in Library Science in 1961.

He spent the next 40 years with the University of Illinois library. His primary position was Documents Librarian and Associate Professor of Library Administration. John was given the ISchool (School of Information Sciences) Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in 1998.

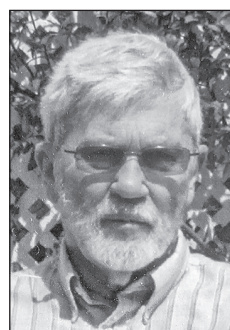

John spent a good portion of his adult life with Donald T. Laube, who died on Feb. 12, 1994.

John lived in Champaign from 1960 until about 10 years ago, when he moved to an assisted living facility in nearby Urbana.

His very dear friends in Urbana, the Gosses, wrote the following tribute to John:

In 1997/1998, John met Bob and Elaine Goss and it wasn't long before a long and lasting friendship was formed. John loved to visit our home, have dinner and fellowshiped with us three nights a week and Saturdays was always dinner out and show. Sometimes it might be a movie, but other times a trip to the Krannert Center, which he loved. One of our favorite things to do was order dessert ahead of the show and then during half time go to the Inter Mezzo where the dessert was set out for us, ready to eat. John usually chose his favorite, carrot cake. John was our favorite corn shucker, he could shuck the corn in no time, ready to go on the stove or grill. He was an animal lover in that he loved to walk our old dog Gypsy every afternoon whilst we were at work. Lacey, our Yorkshire Terrier fell in love with him too, and would always shower him with kisses when he arrived at the house or was getting ready to go home. Our whole family embraced John into our family and he got to know and love our children. He even got to meet our grandchildren. Never a Christmas went by when John didn't join in playing cards, board games and I fondly remember him embracing our Christmas traditions by joining us in wearing our silly paper hats during our Christmas dinner. It was a very English tradition. You always wanted John on your team when it came to Trivial Pursuit because he had so much knowledge, he put us all to shame. Another of John's loves was our garden, he loved flowers and took pride every night he was over to do the 'Generals Tour' as we called it. I would show him around the garden, point out something new or different. He was always so patient, asking questions, and if I had a gardening question that he couldn't answer he would research it for me and come the next night with a printout with all the information. John will always be in our hearts, we loved him dearly, he was a part of our family, and there isn't a day that goes by that we don't think of him and wish he was still with us. Our friendship lasted over 26 years, and he is sorely missed.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the La Moille-Clarion Library, PO Box 260, La Moille IL 61330, or The Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, 116 N. First St., Champaign, IL 61824.





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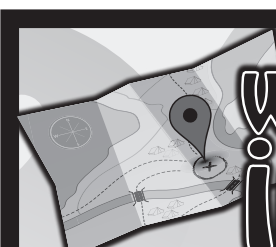
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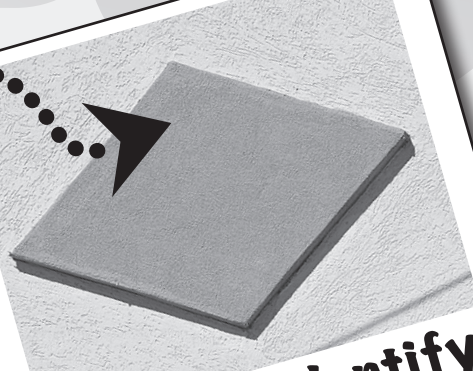
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Page A8.

**Where is it...  
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**Can you identify this photo?**



**HOW TO ENTER:**  
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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Heart

Continued from Page A1

Raul Gonzalez, a 2019 Mendota High School graduate who also graduated from Illinois Valley Community College and is now studying Spanish at Illinois State University to become a professional translator, has been at many of the conversation events to help this community.

"I like doing this in the community and for the community. The interviews for Heart & Soul are going pretty well," Gonzalez said. "I was at the 'Business After Hours' event that we had at the Elks. A lot of business owners came and gave us some input. I thought the first 'Food Truck Mania' was going to be slow, but I was surprised by the turnout and all of the people who wanted to talk about Mendota.

"I speak to a lot of the Hispanic community because I speak Spanish and we want everyone's opinion because we all live here. We've spoke with young and old, and they all say the same things such as Mendota needs more businesses, more art, and to be more vibrant."

Abigail Kunz may have just graduated from MHS in 2023 and is just beginning her college career at IVCC, but she is all-in with the efforts to improve Mendota.

"I think it's cool that we're finally doing something for Mendota. I feel like we've had other groups in the past, volunteer groups, do small things in the community, but it's nice that we have a group that's actually trying to do something real and big for Mendota," Kunz said. "We've gotten quite a bit of information. I think we did a good job of reaching all of the demographics, which can be kind of difficult. We've talked with a lot of different racial groups in Mendota, different age groups, we've definitely hit both genders, and we've connected with different economic classes to get a fairly even distribution of all the demographics,



which is very important. It's been really fun to get to talk to people around Mendota about what they want to change."

Kunz has been impressed with the positive, helpful suggestions and opinions of how Mendota could change.

Not only has she sat and interviewed people, but she did some extra research for the community project.

"I put out Mason jars at six different facilities around town with a stack of pieces of paper asking, 'What would you like to add or change about Mendota?'" Kunz said. "They could fill out the form and put it in the jar. I collected approximately 100 answers.

Alderpersons and other city officials have been at a couple of the community interview sessions to get feedback as well.

After all of the sessions are completed in October, all of the data collected from residents will be entered and sorted and then organized into guiding statements that will be given to the city.

The city will then use the statements when making decisions for the town.

Public meetings will be held at the Mendota Civic Center from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 18 and from 6-8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 20 to show the community a draft of the statements and all of the information to make sure, as a united community, that everyone agrees on a filter, a blueprint for decisions in Mendota.

"It's been nice to have a plan. With Community Heart & Soul giving us a plan, they've helped us with this hard work because they've studied it," Brewer said. "Maybe there is a better plan out there, but at least we have a plan and we're trying."

## Final timeline given for payment of LaSalle Co. real estate taxes

OTTAWA – LaSalle County Treasurer James L. Spelich has announced the final timeline to pay 2023 real estate taxes.

If your unpaid real estate taxes are not in the Treasurer's office by Thursday, Sept. 28, you will receive a certified letter. A \$10 certified letter fee is added to any payments received in the office after Sept. 28. Please note that the interest changes after the sixth of each month. Due to the timing of the letters, they will reflect interest as of Oct. 7, 2023.

For the amount due, call the Treasurer's office at 815-434-8219 option

4 or refer to your tax bill. The \$10 certified letter fee must be included in all payments not in the office by Sept. 28.

The last day to accept personal checks or pay by echeck online is Monday, Oct. 2.

Starting Tuesday, Oct. 3, cash, certified funds, cashier's check, money order and credit card will be the only forms of payment accepted. You can pay by credit card online until Monday, Nov. 13 and in the Treasurer's office until Tuesday, Nov. 14 no later than 3 p.m.

The last day to pay before your

name is published in the newspaper is Friday, Oct. 13.

The week of Oct. 16, all unpaid taxes will be published in local newspapers.

The drop box will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 3 p.m.

The last day to pay your taxes before they are sold at the tax sale is Tuesday, Nov. 14. All payments must be in the Treasurer's office by 4:30 p.m. Nov. 14. No payments, even postmarked payments, will be accepted after Nov. 14. All unpaid taxes will be sold Wednesday, Nov. 15.

## FS agronomists canvas Midwest to collect corn yield data as harvest begins

BLOOMINGTON – FS agronomists are canvassing the Midwest collecting corn yield data as harvest gets underway. States with FS agronomists on the ground collecting data for the 2023 FS Crop Tour include Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The data collected, including estimated yield and number of locations sampled, is uploaded to the FS Agronomy Yield Analyzer.

The tool clusters the map points, consolidated by a specific geographic area, and calculates the estimated yield of that area. The data is constantly changing as

agronomists input new data daily.

"We can harness the power of our System with the yield analyzer because it allows each crop specialist in the Midwest to not only see how their field-level estimations are coming, but how it compares to the estimations throughout our System," said Senior Agronomist Seth Geisler.

Farmers are encouraged to check the FS Agronomy Yield Analyzer App, which also works on a web browser, for the most up-to-date estimates in their area by visiting, <https://agronomyapps.growmark.com/YieldAnalyzer>.

## Grants

Continued from Page A1

The inspiration for the FFA partnership came from a similar program at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, according to Stallman.

SIU system president Dan Mahony said that FFRI is "moving the health of rural families forward" and that the FFA partnership represents a "multi-generational approach to mental health and wellness," something the governor echoed.

"I have two Gen Z kids myself and let me tell you this generation knows that healthcare includes mental healthcare," Pritzker said.

Rural communities face particular challenges in both access to and attitudes toward mental health.

A July research brief from Adele Athiyaman, a professor at Western Illinois University's Institute for Rural Affairs, found rural communities lag behind metropolitan ones in awareness about mental health care. This leads to "poor knowledge about mental health issues and minimal support for policies about

mental health care," according to the brief.

Rural areas also face more hurdles when it comes to accessing mental health care. The federal Health Resources & Services Administration designates every rural county in Illinois as a "health professional shortage area" for mental health workers based on population statistics, the number of mental health providers, and the prevalence of substance abuse among other factors.

"FFA members are creative thinkers and know and understand their communities," Mindy Bunselmeyer, head of the Illinois FFA Center, said. "I'm excited to see the unique ways our membership will look to tackle this challenge."

If someone faces mental health challenges and is in need of immediate assistance, the national suicide and crisis lifeline can be reached by phone call or text at 988 or online by online chat at [988lifeline.org/chat](https://988lifeline.org/chat).

(Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government.)

## Burn Pit hours

MENDOTA – Incinerator (burn pit) hours for the city of Mendota are as follows:

- Monday – 3-6 p.m.
- Tuesday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Thursday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Friday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Saturday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The incinerator is located south of Mendota near the sewage treatment plant.



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# OPINION



**The Mendota Reporter**

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Letters to the editor should be typed or hand-printed. They should also be brief. All letters must contain a name, address and telephone number. The editor reserves the right to publish, condense, revise or reject any submissions.

Winning Time, real TV...loses

Two weeks ago, I wrote a column about how happy I was that an actual TV show with actors were playing roles and producing an interesting, different take on a well-known, documented subject.

The show I wrote about was Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty, which was about Magic Johnson coming into the league in the late 1970s and changing not only the culture of the Lakers, but the entire National Basketball Association, as the Boston Celtics' Larry Bird and Johnson changed the league forever.

To me, the coolness of the show wasn't 100 percent about the basketball story and the legends such as Johnson, Bird, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Jerry Buss, Jeanie Buss, Julius "Dr. J" Erving, Jerry West, Red Auerbach, Pat Riley, but the fact the show was a show.

It wasn't a reality TV dumpster fire.

It wasn't a documentary, or a docuseries, loaded with facts and numbers of things we've known or been told a gazillion times for over 40 years.

It was a director, a producer, and actors/actresses creating an entertaining reenactment of a true story in a fictional way.

When I wrote the column two weeks ago, I was on season two, episode five. I was committed to knowing how they portrayed events such as the 1984 NBA Finals between the Lakers and the Celtics.

Then the storyline started to speed up and everything seemed rushed. TV scenes, not real-life happenings, seemed fast and they were delivered on a hard deadline or a superior looking over their shoulder.

As a journalist, I'm trained to find answers. As a human being I'm trained to keep emotions in contempt (sometimes). As a fan of a show, I'm trained to criticize the flash scenes, want more, find more, and unleash emotions.

All three jobs combine like I'm Captain Planet. Applause to you if you know the reference.

I Googled to see what happened. Or why it happened. Enter sadness.

The show was canceled.

The crazy thing is, Winning Time wasn't canceled because of low numbers. Actually, the HBO show had good numbers.

It was because of the legends such as Johnson and Abdul-Jabbar making negative comments because the show wasn't a documentary or a true depiction of the happenings in the 1970s and the 1980s. Both NBA Hall of Fame members said they would not watch the show.

Ok, so don't. Others will, including me.

It's a TV show. It's entertainment. It's fictional.

People behind the scenes of Winning Time and HBO said, stated, printed, broadcasted, advertised the show as a fictional production based on true events. This means, they can produce any time of satire they want to.

This is where I'd usually say no offense, but I'm not going to. This is where I'm going to say, Johnson and Abdul-Jabbar have told their stories. Over, over, over, over, over again. And they're great and there is a reason they've been able to tell them to audiences for over four decades.

But there is also a time and a place for entertainment that isn't told how you want it to be told.

It would be different if the HBO show made them or anyone else seem like they were aliens, felons, predators, or a drastically different person than they were/are in real life.

That's not the case.

Instead, it's people wanting to control.

Creativity is being controlled.

Expression is being controlled.

Our ability to think outside of the box is being controlled.

Talent is being controlled.

Although The Last Dance docuseries about Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls was fun, interesting, and cool for a diehard Bulls fan, it was also boring, one-sided, and regurgitation of information and events all of us already knew.


They should have had Johnson, Bird, Isaiah Thomas, Charles Barkley, Patrick Ewing, Reggie Miller, and others state how they really felt about the time because it would have offered a different perspective.

Instead, Jordan controlled the show and it was done how he wanted to make what he wanted to look good, look good, and other things be overshadowed or non-existent. Almost telling half of the story.

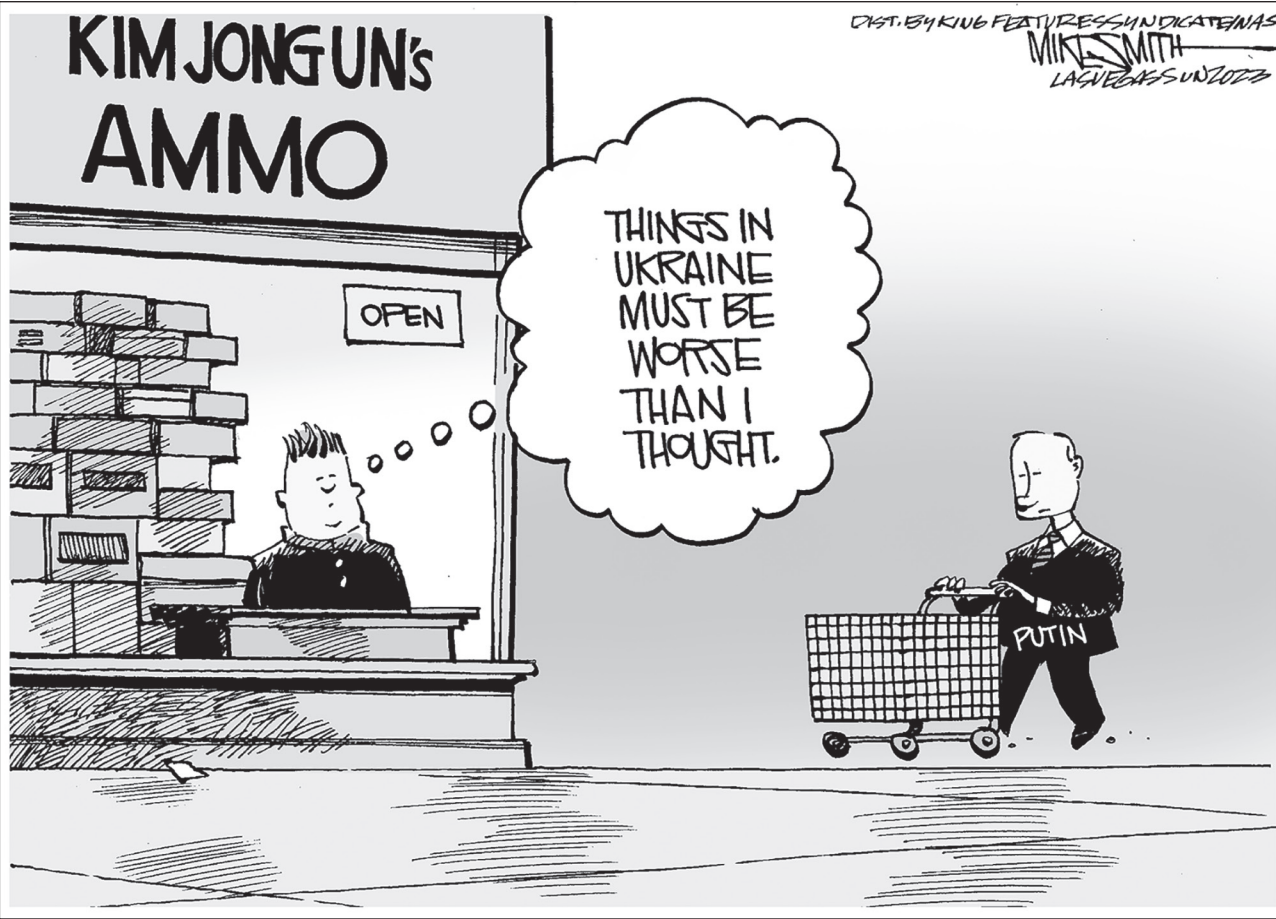
This cancel culture, it has to be a certain way to not ruffle feathers or tell a different perspective, is ridiculous and sickening.

It stinks that our only screen entertainment options are trash reality TV, one-sided biopics, or docuseries reliving what's been relived many times over.

Never the Last Chance



By Brandon LaChance



## Mendota Navy Mothers organize – 1944

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Sept. 28, 1994.)

**By Jessica Nashold**

The Mendota Navy Mothers Club was organized in September 1944. Installation of officers was in Odd Fellows Hall on Sept. 18. Corp. Dootlittle, a Marine from Great Lakes, was the installing officer. Speaker was the Rev. G.F. Shepherd, pastor of the Mendota Presbyterian Church. He chose "Rehabilitation" as his theme.

He told the Navy Mothers that since the end of the European phase of the war was "closer than a remote prospect," it was imperative that the problems of demobilization be addressed.

**The task of absorbing into civilian activities some 11,000,000 service men and women will tax all the resources of the nation.**

Rev. Shepherd said many had gone directly from school to the armed forces with no civilian work experience. Although returning service men and women could claim their former jobs, some had acquired new skills and would want a change.

He told the mothers to be prepared to deal with "marked increases in the use of drink, chain smoking and profanity."

**Some will harbor resentment toward civilians who have prospered while they were away fighting.**

There was danger, he feared, that "the spirit of pugnacity encouraged in fighting might be carried back and used against society."

**To overcome this will take some patience and sympathy on the part of us all.**

But in avoiding an unsympathetic attitude, he warned, it would be necessary not to become "over solicitous."

The officers installed were: Commander – Mrs. Henrietta Faber; 1st Vice Commander – Mrs. Henrietta Fassig; 2nd Vice Commander – Mrs. Helen Trout; Financial Officer – Mrs. Blanche Salander; Adjutant - Mrs. Mabel Stein; Chaplain – Mrs. Grace Brown; Judge Advocate – Mrs. Anna Knox; Matron of Arms – Mrs. Pauline Pry; Color Bearers – Mrs. Henrietta Elsesser and Mrs. Hazel Michael.

\*\*\*

**Backtracks & Sidetracks**

Three buses carrying 75 members of the Illinois State Militia and their official escort, two state police, stopped at St. John's Lutheran Parish Hall where they were served dinner by the Ladies' Aid.

The men were returning from four days on maneuvers at Ft. Sheridan. After the meal –

**A smart military drill was carried out on the street in front of the church. It lasted over half an hour and was carried out with the snap and precision of well-trained soldiers.**

Mayor James M. White of Galva was in command.

\*\*\*

The Trojans opened their 1944 season with a 12-7 win over Morris. Coach was Harold Owen.

Cheerleaders were Barbara Cross, Marion Johnson, Patsy Frizol and Roger Butler.

\*\*\*

The A&P equipped the Odd Fellows building as an egg candling station. Eggs were picked up three times a week from stores with special cooling rooms. After candling, the eggs were held in cold storage, then shipped to Chicago. Four were employed at the plant.

\*\*\*

Tumble Inn Tavern was visited by daylight bandits who herded Harold McDonald, Mrs. McDonald, Tom Vogelsang and Beck Dye into a booth at gun point. After drawing the Venetian blinds and cutting telephone wire, the intruders loaded five slot machines into a large Buick. Money in the cash register drawer was not taken out.

**As soon as the car started away, they jumped into Beck Dye's auto and gave chase. But the Buick was too fast and outdistanced them.**

\*\*\*

A meeting was called in the American Legion rooms to organize a listing of job opportunities for returning servicemen.

There were 650 in service from this locality. H.D. Conkey Co. had sent questionnaires to former employees asking if they wished to return to their former jobs.

**Those with specialized training in other fields may want help from local boards to get what they want.**

\*\*\*

Gov. Dwight Green invited a number of mayors to take part in a radio broadcast from Springfield on the subject of post-war employment. Mendota Mayor Les Oester was among those participating.

Said our mayor –

**You can bet you last dollar on one thing and that is we'll find a place for every boy and girl who left to right this war.**

\*\*\*

Wayside Press was looking forward to a new addition "as soon as building materials are released." It would be Colonial style. Employment at the old Conco Press in 1930 had been 12. In 1944, Wayside was operating day and night with a payroll of 115. They planned to offer apprentice training when the war ended.

\*\*\*

A War Fund Drive to provide aid to war prisoners' families and financing for USO camp shows was headed locally by K.W. Pohl.

**Is it said men in camp hospitals will actually crawl to attend these entertainments and some have been said to be able to actually walk back to the hospitals afterwards.**

Outstanding therapy.

\*\*\*

Showing at the State Theatre in 1944: Sept. 22-23 – Wallace Beery and Marjorie Main in "Rationing." Sept. 27-28 – Anne Miller and Larry Parks in "Hey Rookie."

\*\*\*

A six-week training course for scoutmasters was offered at Lincoln School on six successive Thursdays. Starved Rock Area Council executive Russell B. Evans and W.M. Ashley, local scoutmaster, were in charge. They were assisted by Ernie Dunn, Walter Schuttler, Austin Calderwood, Jack Keefe, Gilbert Gehler and M.E. Steele.

## Fetterman makes the U.S. Senate safe for disgraceful slob

**By Rich Lowry**

John Fetterman's Senate legacy is now set -- he's the guy who made it possible to dress like a slob.

What the Missouri Compromise was to Henry Clay, what the Second Reply to Hayne was to Daniel Webster, what the Civil Rights Act of 1957 was to Lyndon Johnson, Carhartt sweatshirts and baggy shorts will be to John Fetterman.

The Pennsylvania senator is the poster boy -- if self-indulgent sloppiness is your thing -- for the Senate dropping a dress code that required senators to dress in business attire when appearing on the Senate floor.

Fetterman briefly complied with the rule by making the sacrifice of putting on a suit and tie after he was first elected. Then, he reverted to his standard uniform that makes it look like he just arrived after sitting on his couch, surrounded by empty pizza boxes, watching football games all weekend.

There's business casual, then there's Fetterman's garb. It wouldn't be acceptable at many fraternity events around the country. Philadelphia Eagles fans dress more carefully on game days. If he showed up at almost any service or working class job in America dressed this way, his supervisor would give him a stern talking to and insist that he have more respect for himself, his colleagues, and his customers.

But, as it happens, he's only a United States senator, so he can wear whatever he damn pleases.

When the history of the decline of American institutions is written, the jettisoning of the Senate dress code may not be more than a footnote, yet it will deserve mention.

It has long been remarked that it matters how we dress. Mark Twain is sometimes said to have written (in what's actually a paraphrase), "Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society."

It turns out that slovenly people do, however.

The business suit as we know it had its origins in the court of British King Charles II. Then, the 19th-century British trendsetter Beau Brummell made an important contribution

by simplifying the outfit. After various twists and turns, by the mid-20th century in the United States, the modern suit had arrived. As an article in The Atlantic notes, "It appeared on everyone from cab drivers to business executives, and made all appear polished and professional."

The unraveling began several decades ago with the advent of Casual Friday, which eventually spread into Casual Everyday.

The Senate giving way to this ethos after a couple of centuries of a higher standard is a sign of the times.

We no longer reliably produce people willing to conform themselves to the norms and expectations of their institutions; personal brands are considered more important. And the leaders of institutions tend to lack the courage to insist on rules that may no longer fashionable, even if they still serve an important function.

It's not that John Fetterman is going to be a better or worse senator depending on how he dresses -- he'll be a party-line vote regardless. But his dress speaks to how he regards his position.

This would be obvious in other contexts. If someone shows up at a funeral or a wedding in jeans and a T-shirt, it is taken, understandably, as a sign of disrespect, as an unwillingness to make the basic effort to acknowledge the solemnity of the occasion.

A session of the Senate isn't as fraught and meaningful as a wedding or a funeral, but it should be considered an event of some consequence. The history of the body stretches back to the beginning of the republic, and it is invested with considerable power. Dressing appropriately acknowledges this; dressing as if it's a bowling alley disregards it.

Would we take a judge as seriously without his or her robes? Or an officer of the law without his or her uniform? Fetterman has won this battle, but at the price of beclowning himself and his institution -- not that he cares.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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LaSalle County Board

Joanne McNally, 905 Meadowview, Mendota ..... 538-7591  
Gary Small, 821 E. US 52, Utica.....481-4566  
Ray Gatza, 3490 E. First Road, Peru.....883-0500



# TRI-COUNTY NEWS

## Paw Paw Village Board handles numerous items

PAWPAW—The Paw Paw Village Board met in regular session on Sept. 13.

The Wiley Avenue clinic has been sold for \$40,000.

An accountant from Lauterbach & Amen gave a report on the village's financials.

The Board is looking into assisting with making updating of the Lions refreshment stand in Veteran's Park.

At a recent area mayors information seminar, various methods of mutual-cooperation and spending for major projects was presented.

The possibility of moving stop signs, lowered-speed signs, and creating a monitored cross walk at Chapman and Chicago Road were discussed.

Lee County Health Department will be at the community building for flu shots on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

The Liquor Store is under new management and has obtained the necessary permits.

Village lawyer Matt Cole has been in discussions with the owner of the property at 311 Chicago Road, and brought to the Board a possible settlement with the village.

Trick-or-Treat hours for

## LaSalle Quiet Fest to kick off Sept. 28 with silent disco

LaSALLE—The City of LaSalle Foundation's inaugural fundraiser, Quiet Fest, is adding a public kickoff event Thursday, Sept. 28. The event, a silent disco, will take place at LaSalle's pocket park, the green space located in the 500 block of First Street next to Petals by Peyton.

Silent discos utilize earbuds and Bluetooth technology to stream music to individuals on channels that eliminate public noise.

Quiet Fest, the branding for which is a riff on Chicago's infamous Riot Fest, which takes place two weeks before the Foundation's event, is a roving arts and music festival scheduled for Sept. 28-30 at participating businesses and venues throughout LaSalle.

"When we started planning this event, we wanted to be really conscious of the city's noise ordinances," Foundation founder Dani Piland said. "Calling the event Quiet Fest was a cute way of making sure everyone knew we were trying hard to bring live music to town without breaking the rules. We're all on the same team here, so adding creative events like the silent disco help us do something different and valuable in the community while also demonstrating our eagerness to work with City officials to continue building a sustainable, bright future for LaSalle."

The Foundation's mission is to support community and economic development with an eye toward creative, sustainable growth that acknowledges LaSalle's rich history and robust natural resources and prioritizes social and economic justice. Its initiatives are informed by community needs, productive working relationships with stakeholders, and a collaborative, flexible approach that permits it to respond to persistent problems with thoughtful, innovative, and evidence-based solutions. The Foundation is committed to improving the lives of youth, LGBTQIA+ community, BIPOC folk, and the working poor who together represent a significant and perpetually disadvantaged majority of the local population.

The Foundation can be found on Facebook at /cityoflasallefoundation. For questions, or to make a donation or get involved, please email the Foundation at cityoflasallefoundation@gmail.com.

Halloween were set for 4-7 p.m.

TRIBE61353 is sponsoring "bring your seat, let's trick-or-treat" on Tuesday, Oct. 31, from 4-7 p.m. in the community center parking lot. This is a program that lets candy-givers sit and dole out candy for children who walk from chair-to-chair.

The software program for the Village needs to be updated. The Board is researching various companies for cost and efficiency.

The annual town-wide

garage sales will be held on Sept. 29-30.

Electronic recycling will be Oct. 2-5. Put your electronic recycling at the end of your drive and the Village will pick it up. Remove batteries before recycling electronics. Lithium-ion batteries and devices containing these batteries should not go in household garbage or recycling bins. See the Paw Paw, IL Facebook page for acceptable and non-acceptable items to be picked up by the Village.

*Mendota 1st United Methodist Church invites everyone to support the*

### Sip-n-Snack fundraiser

*Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>*  
3 - 8:00 pm

**\$12**

*¼ light, ¼ dark, chicken strips  
all dinners include fries*

**Pick up Only! At Sip-n-Snack**

**Bake sale available when you pick up your meals!**

**Tickets 815-538-5587**  
**Or at the church 102 East 6th St.**

**The Breakfast Table**

Hosted By Mendota Area Senior Services & The Mendota Civic Center

**Friday, September 29, 2023**  
**Mendota Civic Center**  
**8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**  
**Complimentary Breakfast**  
*Prepared by the Civic Center & provided by MASS*

**Open to the public**

**\$100 Cash Door Prize**

Enjoy breakfast and attend our **FREE CAREGIVER fair** and learn about the **many resources available for:**

- Care givers ~ of any age
- Seniors
- Persons with disabilities

**Give-A-Ways**

*For more information call MASS 815-539-7700*  
This event is provided through a grant received from Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging

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**Snyder Family Farm**

**For Sale**

**117 Acres**

**Section 29 of the Willow Creek Township, Paw Paw, Lee County, Illinois**  
**Asking \$12,500 per acre.**

- 92 Tillable Acres
- 27 Acres Recreational Woodlands
- Productivity Index (PI) 129
- Potential Cash Rent - \$315-\$390
- Potential Rec. Rent - \$35-\$55
- 2022 Taxes - \$4097
- Zoned Ag-1

**CALL**  
**954-554-5612**  
**Steven Massey P.A.**

## Community Calendar

### OCTOBER 2023

**SEPT. 30**  
**OKTOBERFEST**  
Sponsored by Main St. Station  
5 PM  
Main St. Station  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7011  
Sam Adams hoisting competition 8pm

**OCT. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30**  
**EXERCISES**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
8 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30**  
**BINGOCIZE**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
10 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Bingocize includes bingo & exercise for healthy mind & body.

**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**  
**DOMINOES**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**  
**Wii BOWLING**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
10:30 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**  
**EUCHRE**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
Pay \$3 at beginning of games.  
Cash prizes awarded at end of play.  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 3**  
**ADULT CRAFT @ THE LIBRARY**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
1 PM OR 6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Bring your friends for crafting at the library. We'll be making fall lanterns. Adults only. Must register.

**OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**  
**CASUAL CARDS & CONVERSATION**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
Bring your friends for afternoon of card games of choice choice, Like Rummy, Hearts, Kings in the Corner or Euchre.  
Enjoy your day.  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 4**  
**SHAKE, RATTLE & READ: "SPACE"**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
11 AM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: Birth to 2 years old. Join us for books and play.

**OCT. 4**  
**SHAKE, RATTLE & READ: "SPACE EXPLORER"**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: 3 years to Kindergarten

**OCT. 4**  
**BBQ PORK CHOP DINNER - DRIVE THRU**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
4:30 PM - 7 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
\$15 - 2-pork chop dinner  
\$4 Child's meal  
Tickets available at M.A.S.S. and Mendota area banks  
Tickets are available at the door for the same price.  
Please get your tickets early, as we don't want to run out. Always a community favorite event.

**OCT. 5 & 19**  
**HEARING CLINIC**  
Sponsored by Civic Center & M.A.S.S.  
9:30 AM - 1 PM  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Please call Sterling Hearing - Kelly for more information (815) 626-3220. Hearing aid batteries available for sale at M.A.S.S.

**OCT. 5, 12, 19 & 26**  
**POKENO**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Parlor -  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 5, 12, 19 & 26**  
**NEEDLE CRAFT CLUB**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Parlor -  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Please bring your craft items to work on. Enjoy visiting with other crafters.

**OCT. 5**  
**LEGO CLUB**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
4 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: 1st thru 8th grades. Come build LEGOs with friends.

**OCT. 6**  
**COMMUNITY BINGO**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Everyone welcome to join us.

**OCT. 7**  
**TWEENS: "YARN GHOST"**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
12 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: 5-8 grades.

**OCT. 4**  
**SHAKE, RATTLE & READ: "SPACE" (REPEAT OF OCT. 4TH PROGRAM)**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: Birth to 2 years old. Join us for books and play.

**OCT. 13, 20 & 27**  
**BINGO**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
1 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 10 & 24**  
**BLOOD PRESSURE & BLOOD SUGAR CHECKS**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
11 AM - 12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 14**  
**SIP-N-SNACK FUNDRAISER**  
Sponsored by Holy Cross School  
Starts @ 2 PM  
Sip-N-Snack –  
\$12 - Tickets available at Holy Cross School  
Advanced Tickets Only  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

**OCT. 17**  
**CAREGIVERS COUNSELING WITH ALTERNATIVES**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
10 AM - 12 PM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Beneficial for caregivers needing someone to talk to or how to manage as the caregiver.

**OCT. 17**  
**3RD TUESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
1 PM OR 6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
We'll be reading and discussing: "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. Stop by the Library to pick up a book! New members are always welcomed!

**OCT. 18**  
**SHAKE, RATTLE & READ: "HALLOWEEN AND DRESS-UP"**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
11 AM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: Birth to 2 years old. Join us for books and play.

**OCT. 18**  
**BULBS: BASICS, MYTHS & TRUTHS**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
5 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Join Illinois University Extension Office as they bust some of the myths we always thought were true! Learn about the proper planting, care and maintenance of Spring flowering bulbs. Flowering bulbs are very easy to grow, if you know a few important tips!

**OCT. 23**  
**HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: 3-10, Games, crafts, and prizes! Spooky fun! Dress-up in your Halloween costumes. Limited space; must register.

**OCT. 24**  
**U OF I ZOOM CLASS - "BAKING YOUR BREAD"**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S. / University of IL  
2:30 PM  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
May call office for Zoom link.

**OCT. 25**  
**MOVIES WITH M.A.S.S. - "THE ADDAMS FAMILY"**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library & M.A.S.S.  
3 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Watching: "The Addams Family"  
Snacks provided by M.A.S.S.

**OCT. 18**  
**SHAKE, RATTLE & READ: "HALLOWEEN AND DRESS-UP" (REPEAT OF OCT. 18TH PROGRAM)**  
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library  
6 PM  
1401 W Main St, Mendota  
For more info call  
(815) 538-5142  
Ages: Birth to 2 years old. Join us for books and play.

**OCT. 26**  
**LABOR RAFFLE**  
Sponsored by H&H Builders Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry's Facebook Page  
For more info call  
(815) 539-9623  
For \$20 you have a chance to win 8 hours of labor from an H&H Builders Carpenter. Materials to be furnished by owner. \$1,000 value. Only 250 tickets sold. All proceeds will go to the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry.

**OCT. 27**  
**POTLUCK**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
12 PM  
Feik Parlor -  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700  
Please bring a dish to pass and your place setting / utensils.

**OCT. 30**  
**DRIVER'S REVIEW**  
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.  
9:30 AM - 11 AM  
Feik Senior Parlor –  
Mendota Civic Center  
For more info call  
(815) 539-7700

*The Community Calendar Is Brought To You By Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce & The Mendota Reporter. These are some of the local businesses who belong to your Chamber of Commerce:*

Euclid Beverage LTD  
Eureka Savings Bank  
Expressions Salon  
Financial Plus Credit Union  
First Federal Savings Bank  
First Presbyterian Church  
First State Bank  
First State Bank Plaza North  
First State Insurance  
Floralcrest Florist and Greenhouse  
Flo's on Pulaski



# OBITUARIES

## William E. Greenwood

WESTLAKE, Texas – It is with deep sorrow and much love that we announce the passing of William Edward (Bill) Greenwood, 85, retired Chief Operating Officer of Burlington Northern Railroad. He died peacefully on Sept. 22, 2023, in Westlake, Texas, surrounded by his loving family. A devout Catholic, Bill was guided by his faith and now rests in his eternal home.

Family and friends are invited to attend Bill's visitation, which will be held on Thursday, Sept. 28, from 5-8 p.m. at Lucas Funeral Home located at 1601 S. Main St, Keller, Texas. The Rosary service starts at 7 p.m. A funeral mass will be held in his honor on Friday, Sept. 29 at 11 a.m. at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church located at 861 Wildwood Lane, Grapevine, Texas. The interment will take place directly after mass at Westlake Cemetery located at 3101 J T Ottinger Road in Westlake, Texas.

Bill was born on June 8, 1938, in Galesburg, to Dorothy Bohan Greenwood and Charles Hugh Greenwood. He grew up in Mendota, with his four sisters, Shirley, Audrey, Mary Lou and Connie. Bill's father, a World War I veteran, was President of the First National Bank of Triumph. Bill's mother was known for her Emily Post-like manners along with her talent for playing the piano. Bill demonstrated his work ethic starting at the very young age of five where he delivered eggs to the neighborhood grocery store. A few years later he took on a newspaper route and mowed lawns and worked as a gas station attendant. The gas station tow truck was an absolute thrill for him to drive and operate. At Holy Cross Catholic Church, Bill was an altar boy for many years. In high school and college, Bill worked summers for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad (CB&Q – later known as Burlington Northern); starting in 1956 as a Telegrapher and Tower Operator, where his passion for railroading took root. These early experiences deeply molded his character and guided his development. From an early age Bill had a wonderful, playful sense of humor that was combined with an incredibly infectious laugh. These traits were a source of joy for all that knew him. He possessed a unique ability to find humor in nearly all situations, a testament to his optimistic outlook on life.

Bill is survived by his wife Falah; children Susan (Del) McCormick, Katherine (Kevin) Oeding, John (Wendy) Greenwood; grandchildren Natalie, Caroline, Nicholas, Will, Mac, Matthew, Katherine, Annaliese; sister Connie Hanley; Falah's children Charles (BobbyJo) Crouch, Brad Crouch, Falah Beth Espensen; Falah's grandchildren Tristan, Elizabeth.

Bill was preceded in death by his first wife, Colleen; his sisters Shirley, Audrey, Mary Lou; his parents Charles and Dorothy.

Bill was a proud graduate of Mendota High School, Class of 1956. His high school class was a tightly bonded group of individuals that included his future wife, Colleen. The members of his high school class maintained their friendship throughout their lives, celebrating annual class reunions, usually coinciding with the Sweet Corn Festival in Mendota.

After graduating from Marquette University in 1960, Bill was drafted into the Army. He served on active duty for six months and as a reservist for six years. His active duty was cut short due to the death of his father. To help support the family during this challenging time, Bill joined his father's



workplace at the bank. After a few years, he rejoined the CB&Q Railroad in 1963 reigniting his passion for the railroad industry. He was promoted into various operating, planning, and marketing positions every 18 to 24 months, steadily moving up the ranks until he was eventually appointed Chief Operating Officer of Burlington Northern Railroad.

In the Spring of 1966, Bill and Colleen exchanged vows at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mendota. Their union blessed them with three children, Susan (McCormick), Kathy (Oeding) and John. They shared a wonderful life together raising their family while navigating Bill's career. Their frequent travel to events and corporate gatherings provided richly rewarding friendships and experiences. During their journey, they relocated on a regular basis establishing residences in various cities across Illinois, Colorado, Nebraska, Minnesota and Texas. Bill and Colleen were fantastic parents and grandparents who provided unconditional support, guidance and endless love.

Upon Bill's retirement from Burlington Northern in 1994, he and Colleen built their dream home selecting an undeveloped wooded area in the Town of Westlake, which at the time only had a population of 250. Over its history, the home was the setting of countless personal, professional, and philanthropic gatherings.

Bill served as the President of the Planning & Zoning Commission for the Town of Westlake. Throughout his extensive tenure, he consistently championed the vision of the original town charter, prioritizing the seamless integration of the town with its natural surroundings. Bill was particularly passionate about protecting the dark skies above Westlake by limiting light pollution from houses, buildings and streets. Over the years, countless developers faced off with Bill and were determined to alter the look and feel of the town, but under his resolute leadership they were never successful. Bill and Colleen were blessed with eight grandchildren, Natalie, Caroline, Nicholas, Will, Mac, Matthew, Katherine & Annaliese whom they cherished. They loved spending time together enjoying their home in Westlake.

Describing them as proud grandparents would be an understatement. Sadly, his beautiful wife Colleen passed away unexpectedly in 2009 due to health complications.

A few years later, Bill was blessed to meet his future wife, Falah Benton Crouch of Fort Worth, Texas. Bill was immediately captivated by Falah's vibrant energy and outgoing nature. As a socially active couple, they enjoyed spending time with friends, hosting family gatherings, travelling, and savoring life's memories together. Falah converted to Catholicism and they married in 2018. Falah, along with her children and grandchildren, brought immense happiness, laughter, and joy to Bill's life. Additionally, Falah provided unwavering support throughout his battle with cancer.

Bill stood out as an exemplary leader known for his ability to unite people to achieve transformational results. Bill's innate skill as a people person enabled him to build some powerful teams. His personal leadership style was participative and collaborative rather than top-down. This was a rarity in the railroad culture during his day. Bill worked outside the box to resolve complicated, seemingly intractable problems. Throughout his career he used his skills to mediate conflicts between individuals, between management and labor unions, and between the railroad and neighboring communities. The result was always the same, a more safe, focused, and cohesive workforce,

enhanced operational productivity, and better customer service and shareholder value.

Bill is considered a "founding father" of the railroad industry's intermodal business. Before and during Bill's involvement, the industry essentially dismissed intermodal as not viable. The intermodal innovations Bill led and inspired transformed Burlington Northern into the industry leader. Intermodal is now a vital pillar of the railroad business and the global supply chain. The foundation Bill and his team laid for intermodal transportation was key to the growth and prosperity of the entire railroad industry in the 2000s.

His natural people skills combined with his executive background and leadership training enabled him to provide coaching and mentorship to those fortunate enough to cross his path both personally and professionally. These qualities, complemented by his sense of humor, added lightness and approachability to his interactions, making him even more relatable and effective as a leader and mentor.

After Bill retired from Burlington Northern he focused on serving as a shareholder advocate while assisting various corporations as a member of their board of directors including: Mark VII, Transcisco Industries, Remington Oil and Gas, and Dune Energy. He also acted on his passion for business education by serving as an adjunct instructor teaching a graduate level Special Topics class at Texas Christian University Neeley School of Business. Additionally, Bill served on the Marquette University Business School Advisory Board of Directors and was actively involved as an instructing contributor to Denver University Transportation Institute and Northwestern University Transportation Center. Locally, Bill served on the board of Westlake Academy Foundation as well as the Rocky Top Therapy Center.

Bill dedicated himself to capturing, preserving and communicating railroad history because of his deep appreciation for its rich heritage and profound significance. In 2008, Bill accepted a volunteer role with the National Railroad Hall of Fame in Galesburg. As a respected senior advisor, Bill was the singular force behind creation of the Hall of Fame's "Rail Industry Advisory Group", a blue-ribbon panel of scholars and railroad professionals whose credentials span all sectors and geographic regions of the industry. Bill served as the group's Chair from 2008 to 2018, when he was named Chair Emeritus. For his dedication to advancing the Hall of Fame and honoring the stories of the people whose life work shaped the industry he loved, Bill was awarded the Hall of Fame's 'Engines of Freedom' medallion in 2017. Additionally, when the Mendota Museum & Historical Society was founded, Bill became its first President of the Board of Directors in 1995. His personal involvement with the Society was essential. His enthusiasm, experience, direction, generosity and railroad knowledge were vital in the formation and operation of the affiliated Union Depot Railroad Museum. After being Board President for 27 years, Bill still served the Society as President Emeritus for the past year. He was also actively involved with the Lexington Group for Transportation History and his passion for transportation history led to the establishment of a collection of his railroad archives at the John W. Barriger National Railroad Library.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests contributions to be made to the National Railroad Hall of Fame, a 501(c)(3) organization that held a special place in Bill's heart and would greatly benefit from your support.

## BUSINESS CARD BULLETIN BOARD

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**BUSINESS CARD BULLETIN BOARD**



# LOCAL AND AREA

## Illinois Farm Bureau outlines must-pass farm bill provisions

By **TIMOTHY EGGERT**  
*FarmWeek*

BLOOMINGTON – Illinois Farm Bureau is urging federal lawmakers from Illinois to enact a farm bill this year that features must-pass support for farmers when markets and the weather turn for the worse.



**Guebert**

In a letter sent Sept. 12 to Illinois' congressional delegation, IFB President Richard Guebert Jr. outlined the organization's priorities among the 12 titles in the five-year legislation, which is set to expire Sept. 30.

Above all measures, Guebert wrote, the bill should maintain commodity and risk management programs that address drops in market prices and help farmers

recover quicker from natural disasters.

Other reforms topping the IFB list for Title I are commodity program provisions that would let farmers update their base acres and yields and allow farmers who elect a Harvest Price Option to receive the harvest price if it is higher on prevented plant acres.

For Title II conservation programs, Guebert called for "serious debate" on policy proposals like shorter, five-year Conservation Reserve Program contracts, carbon sequestration incentives for farmers who use cover crops and new credits for improving water quality.

He further pushed for discussion on expanding the Conservation Security Program (CSP) to reward farmers for practices they've adopted and giving farmers opportunities to earn more CSP points for maintaining conservation practices over time.



**If were Congress to improve federal crop insurance, IFB recommends a \$5-per-acre discount for farmers who plant cover crops, with provisions to reward early adopters.**

IFB also strongly supports reauthorization of the federal crop insurance program in its current form, a message IFB leaders for months have communicated in meetings with lawmakers.

But were Congress to improve federal crop insurance, IFB recommends a \$5-per-acre discount for farmers who plant cover crops, with

provisions to reward early adopters, Guebert added.

"This mirrors USDA's Pandemic Cover Crop Program, which was very popular in Illinois and incentivized many farmers to plant cover crops and improve soil health on their farms," Guebert noted.

Providing USDA's Natural Resources Conservation

**The bill should maintain commodity and risk management programs that address drops in market prices and help farmers recover quicker from natural disasters.**  
—Richard Guebert

Service with sufficient funding to hire more conservation engineers and granting farmers additional flexibility to harvest cover crops for livestock feed during normal growing conditions is another IFB recommendation.

And regarding the 2023 farm bill's dairy title, Guebert said IFB supports dairy risk management programs that address negative price differentials and improve-

ments in the Dairy Margin Coverage feed price component.

IFB also supports providing sufficient resources to the National Agricultural Statistics Service for accurately estimating alfalfa prices.

(This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit [FarmWeekNow.com](http://FarmWeekNow.com).)

## Illinois drought impacts continue into the fall

CHAMPAIGN—Drought re-intensified in Illinois at the end of the growing season, increasing the risk of fire and blowing dust as harvest approaches, according to Illinois State Climatologist Trent Ford at the Illinois State Water Survey. River levels have also dropped near or below low stage, leading to navigation concerns.

Most of Illinois was 1 to 8 inches wetter than normal between mid-July and mid-August, dramatically improving soil moisture, crop conditions, and streamflow. However, drier weather has dominated since mid-August, and most of central and northern Illinois have been 1 to 4 inches drier than normal between mid-August and mid-September.

Soil moisture down to 20 inches has been depleted once again because of the below normal rainfall. The combination of dry conditions and late August heat has also sped up crop deterioration and possibly affected some yields in the driest parts of the state. Meanwhile, crops in areas of the state that had been wetter in early August, such as parts of central and southern Illinois, have had to rely on soil moisture to finish the growing season.

The recent dry weather has quickly dried corn and soybeans. The combined low humidity and dry topsoil has increased field and grass

fires across the Midwest. Extra precautions should be taken ahead of, during, and after harvest to ensure safety considering the enhanced fire risk.

Additionally, dry crops and topsoil increase the chances of blowing dust on dry and windy days. Farmers should consider the weather and the potential dust created when harvesting to avoid potentially dangerous conditions.

Persistently dry conditions this summer have also caused concerns of low flow along the Mississippi River in the Midwest. As of Sept. 13, the Mississippi at Memphis was 1.5 feet below low stage and forecasted to approach record low values by Sept. 15. The big river hit a record low of -10.81 feet on Oct. 21, 2022.

The problem of river low flow is not as easily fixed as soil moisture drought. Most rain over the next few weeks would be soaked up by the soil to replenish soil moisture and groundwater, reducing runoff to major rivers and their tributaries. Therefore, the Midwest region will need prolonged wetter conditions over the next several weeks to help reduce or avoid the impacts of river low flow.

For more information about monthly Illinois weather summaries, current conditions, and climate, visit the Illinois State Climatologist website, <http://stateclimatologist.web.illinois.edu/>.

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**Mendota Burn Ordinance**

MENDOTA – It is unlawful to burn any materials other than small and dried quantities of branches, leaves, weeds or grass at any time. The burning of any material such as rubber, tires, leather, tar paper, old batteries or any material that emits an offensive odor when burned is unlawful within the city limits of Mendota.

Limited amounts of yard waste material may be burned provided the material is dry and does not create an offensive odor, nuisance or fire hazard due to excessive high winds. Combustible yard waste material may be kindled from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only. All fires must be constantly tended by a competent person, until such fire is properly extinguished. The continued smoldering of slow-burning combustible yard waste after 4 p.m. is a nuisance and anyone kindling such a fire that will emit obnoxious odors after 4 p.m. will be considered performing an unlawful act. Burning on Sunday by commercial establishments shall be considered an unlawful act.

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# THE BACK PAGE

## POLICE BLOTTER

### WARRANT ARREST

Jereme L. Elam, 34, of 1104 Sixth St., Apt. 3, Mendota, was arrested at 8:01 p.m. Sept. 19 on failure to appear warrants from LaSalle and Sangamon counties for driving while license suspended. The subject posted bond and was released with two court dates.

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Mechelle C. Cheslick, 46, of 311 Fourth St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Fifth Street and 11th Avenue at 2:36 a.m. Sept. 21. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### WARRANT ARREST

Christopher C. Ladson, 37, of 111 S. 13th Ave., Lot D1, Mendota, was arrested at 8:54 a.m. Sept. 21 on a valid Lee County warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. The subject posted bond and was released with a Lee County court date.

### DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Michael B. Henderson, 33, of 104 Second Ave.,

Mendota, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after police officers investigated the report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of Second Street at 1:36 a.m. Sept. 24. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Justin G. Wiley, 28, of 943 Woodlawn Road, Paw Paw, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after police officers investigated a two-vehicle accident in the area of Jefferson Street and 13th Avenue at 2:05 a.m. Sept. 24. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

### BATTERY, WARRANT ARREST

Christopher B. Safranek, 45, of 1404 Walnut Ave., Mendota, was charged with battery after police officers were dispatched to a business in the 900 block of Washington Street on Sept. 25. Also, Safranek was arrested on a Lee County warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. The subject was released with LaSalle County and Lee County court dates.

## GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

**HUGE GARAGE SALE**  
209 Sixth Ave.  
Sept. 28 & 29  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Lots of new items, come shop early for Christmas.  
Star Wars toys, Victoria Secret items, perfume, jewelry, Coke items, bar signs, Fat Chef items, holiday decorations, household items, Too many to list.  
Come see for yourself.  
1t39msr

**SALE**  
Meriden Church  
695 N. 4422nd Road, Mendota  
Friday, Sept. 29 & Saturday, Sept. 30  
8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.  
Discounted Paparazzi jewelry, Halloween, toys, Christmas, clothes, household, furniture & miscellaneous.  
1t39msr

## Minimizing the risk of financial abuse for people living with dementia

By Mike Weill

PERU – Financial crime against older Americans is a growing problem. People living with dementia are at an especially high risk of becoming victims. That’s why we’re committed to combating fraud.

As their memory and other thinking skills decline, people with dementia may struggle to make financial decisions. They may not remember or report the abuse – or understand that someone is taking advantage of them. This abuse can occur anywhere – including at home or in care settings.

Victims of fraud who are 80 years and older lose an average of \$39,200 every year. Studies show that financial exploitation is the most common form of elder abuse. However, only a small fraction of these incidents are reported.

You can help protect others by learning to recognize common signs of financial

exploitation and abuse, including:

- Unopened bills.
- Unusual or large purchases.
- Utilities being shut off due to unpaid bills.
- Money given to telemarketers or soliciting companies.
- Unexplained withdrawals from the person’s bank account.

There are also many simple things that caregivers can do to reduce the risk of financial abuse for people with dementia and similar conditions, like Alzheimer’s. Do your best to make sure they’re involved in deciding which safety measures to put into place.

Some options include:

- Agreeing to spending limits on credit cards.
- Signing up for the “Do Not Call” list at DoNotCall.gov.
- Setting up auto-pay for bills instead of paying them by check.

• Signing up to receive automatic notifications for withdrawals from bank accounts or large charges to credit cards.

• Requesting electronic bank and credit card statements and watching for unusual purchases or changes in how the person typically spends money.

• Asking credit card companies to stop sending balance transfer checks and opting out of future solicitations.


• Creating a separate account where you can keep a small, agreed-upon amount of money that the person can use for recreational activities, meals with friends, etc.

To learn more about combating elder abuse, visit our blog at <https://blog.ssa.gov/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day-combating-injustice/>.

Please share this with those who may need it.

(Weill is the Social Security District Manager in Peru.)

*Happy Birthday Mom,*  
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# SPORTS



It's a race to the ball by Mendota's Ramiro Palacios and Monmouth-Roseville's Oscar Amador during soccer action on Sept. 23 at the MHS field. (Reporter photo)

## Trojans extend unbeaten streak

The Mendota Trojans whitewashed Streator, 8-0, in varsity boys' soccer action on Sept. 18 at Streator.

Eight different MHS players scores goals: Kaleb Kleckner, Isaac Diaz, Johan Cortez, Cesar Casas, Angel Orozco, Sebastian Carlos, Sam Matura and Bryan Herrera. Picking up assists were Mauricio Martinez, Izaiah Nanez, Cameron Kelly, Cortez and Carlos.

Mateo Goy had two goalie saves.

\*\*\*

The Trojans handled Princeton, 7-0, on Sept. 19 at Princeton.

Cesar Casas and Carlos both had a pair of goals for Mendota, while David Casas, Cortez and Mauricio Salinas added a goal apiece. Assists went to David Casas, Diaz and Cortez.

\*\*\*

Monmouth-Roseville gave the Trojans all they could handle before Mendota knocked in a goal in the second half to pull out a 1-0 win on Sept. 23 at the MHS field.

Diaz slammed home the goal off an assist from Cesar Casas to provide the winning margin.

Goy had four goalie saves for the Trojans, who are 15-0-1.

## MHS's Kelson chalks up 2 cross country wins

□ Junior runner takes Boiler Invite crown

Anthony Kelson and Dagen Setchell helped lead the Mendota Trojans to a cross country win at Mendota's home course of Lake Mendota on Sept. 19.

Kelson's 17:44 was the top male time, while Princeton's Agustus Swanson (18:14) edged out Mendota's Setchell by a second.

Additionally for the Trojans, Harlan Gallagher was 6th in 20:49, Ryder Woods was 10th in 21:37, Hector Gonzalez (12th, 22:20), Carlos Toribio (14th, 22:33), Travis Mumm (15th, 23:31), Spencer Kain (17th, 25:02) and Kyan Cooper (19th, 26:04).

Mendota's 22 points placed the Trojans ahead of Princeton's 37

Ruby Acker of Princeton led all female harriers with a time of 22:24. Teammate Alexandra Wacacame through the chute next with a time of 23:57, followed by Amboy's Samantha Nauman in 25:59.

Peri Manning had her top race time of the season for the Lady Trojans, completing the course in 28:05. Also competing for Mendota were Anna Valdes (28:41), Samara Hernandez (32:53), Emily Banks (33:45) and Payton Stravoupoulos (34:24).

\*\*\*

Mendota was one of 19 schools in the Boiler Invite

on Sept. 23 at Kewanee.

MHS's Kelson led all harriers in the three-mile boys' varsity race in a time of 17:15, winning a back-and-forth battle with Illinois Valley Central's Brecken Fahrenkrug (17:17). Setchell medaled for the Trojans in 10th place in a time of 19:35, while Mumm was 44th in 25:57.

Illinois Valley Central took top team honors with a score of 22, ahead of Lowpoint-Washburn's 56.

The girls' race was won by Stark County's Dusti Smith (19:34). Racing for Mendota were Manning (30:36), Stavropoulos (35:25) and Banks (35:52).

Knoxville won team totals with 33 points, with Lowpoint-Washburn taking second with 45.

In the freshman-sophomore race, Adam Murnan of Illinois Valley Central covered the three-mile course in 19:20.

For the Trojans, Gallagher medaled at 13th in a time of 21:10, Ryder Woods was 18th in 21:56. Additional Mendota finishes were Toribio (21st, 22:52), Gonzalez (26th, 25:07), Kain (28th, 26:15) and Dawson McPheeters (39th, 35:56).

Bureau Valley's 30 points edged out ROWVA's 31 for the team title. Mendota placed third with 67 points

## Trojan golfers claim second place in Three Rivers meet

□ O. Aughenbaugh earns first-team all-conference honors

Rochelle defeated the Mendota varsity golf team, 168-173, on Sept. 18 at Rochelle.

Owen Aughenbaugh turned in the low score for the Trojans with a 41. Also shooting in the 40s were Dane Doyle (43), Evan McPheeters (44), Brody Hartt (45) and Grady Jones (49). Others in the lineup were Cale Strouss and Jonas Fitzgerald with 52s and Alex Holland with a 64.

Mendota fired a 192 to easily handle Rochelle (218) in the junior varsity meet.

Jace Baird was the medalist with a 43. Kooper Novak checked in next with a 47, followed by Nick Sheridan (50), Collin Coss (52), Brody Kaecker (60) and Haden Shakespeare (70).

\*\*\*

Mendota entertained teams from the conference in the Three Rivers Conference Tournament on Sept. 19 at the Mendota Golf Club.

The Trojans found their home cooking to their liking as they finished second in the team standings with a 348. Only Riverdale (308) had a better score than Mendota in the 12-team event. Finishing behind Mendota were Sherrard (349), Princeton (352), Bureau Valley (353), Hall (354), Newman (358), Rockridge (359), Monmouth-Roseville (362), Erie-Prophetstown (382), Orion (406) and Kewanee (475).

Aughenbaugh led the way for the Trojans with a round of 82, which was good enough for eighth place overall, which earned him first-team all-conference honors. Hartt (86) and Doyle (87) made second-team all-conference and finished in 15th place and 17th place, respectively.

Also competing for the Trojans were Strouss (93), McPheeters (98) and Jones (98).

The top five individual finishers were Aidan Dorathy of Riverdale (74), Mason Smyser of Riverdale (77), Blake Sutton of Riverdale (77), Landen Plym of Hall (79) and Wyatt Novotny of Bureau Valley (77).

\*\*\*

Mendota's junior varsity team competed in the Ottawa JV Invite on Sept. 20. The Trojans took third place in the event with a score of 364. Sycamore claimed the top spot with a 338 and Streator was second at 357. Rounding out the field were Ottawa (371), Morris (371), LaSalle-Peru (372), Sandwich (379) and Rochelle (413).

Fitzgerald had the low score for MHS golfers with an 82, which placed him in the third overall position in the individual standings. Gavin Sedevie of Sycamore was first with a 74 and Kolden Neumann of Streator grabbed second at 81.

Other Trojans swinging clubs were Coss (88), Sheridan (96), Baird (98), Novak (99) and Holland (103).

\*\*\*

Twelve teams competed in the Mendota Modified Ryder Cup on Sept. 23 at the Mendota Golf Club.

Ottawa was the champion with a 221, followed by Morris (232), Rock Falls (239) and Mendota (241). Also participating were Bureau Valley (248), LaSalle-Peru (249), Newman (252), Hall (257), Princeton (268), Stillman Valley (278), Kewanee (320) and Putnam County (331).

The MHS tandem of Aughenbaugh and Hartt finished in seventh place with a 77, while Doyle and Shakespeare were 10th with a 78. Baird and Fitzgerald (86) also competed for Mendota.

A duo from Morris won with a 73.



Mendota's Dane Doyle sends a putt toward the cup during the Three Rivers Conference Tournament on Sept. 19 at the Mendota Golf Club. (Reporter photo)

## Trojans fall to Storm, 35-14

MANLIUS - After a rough first four games of the season, Mendota was in desperate need of a confidence-builder. And although its game with Bureau Valley didn't go the way it hoped on the scoreboard, there were still some positive signs.

The Trojans stuck the ball in the end zone two times - the same number of touchdowns they had through the first four games - and were within striking distance through the first half of the contest before the Storm pulled away for a 35-14 Three Rivers Conference win on Sept. 22 at Manlius.

Mendota fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in the league, while Bureau Valley is 3-2 and 2-1.

While Mendota still struggled to run the football, the passing game put up numbers reminiscent of last year. Justin Randolph completed 22 of 42 passes for 225 yards, with receiver Braiden Freeman having a break-out

### Next for the Trojans

**Opponent:** Saturday, Sept. 30 vs. Riverdale at MHS field. Kickoff at 3 p.m.

**Last year:** Did not play.

**Last week:** Riverdale lost to Sherrard, 49-16, to drop its record to 0-5.

game with eight receptions for 109 yards.

Bureau Valley did all of its offensive damage on the ground, running 43 times for 427 yards. Elijah Endress shouldered a bulk of the load, churning out 239 yards in 21 totes and scoring all five of Bureau Valley's touchdowns. Cameron Lemons added 104 yards in 11 carries. The Storm did not attempt a pass.

The Trojans were able to move the football from the start, taking the opening drive of the game from their own 40 to the Storm 8-yard line. But Randolph was

sacked by the Storm defense for a 7-yard loss and Mendota eventually turned the ball over on downs.

On Bureau Valley's first series, it also moved the ball inside the 10-yard line, but Lemons fumbled and Mendota's Rhett Watson recovered the ball at the Trojan 8-yard line.

After Mendota's second possession resulted in a punt, Bureau Valley got the scoring started when it traveled just 35 yards in four plays, with Endress scoring on a 1-yard run with 9:54 left in the second quarter. Brock Shane drilled the extra-point kick.

The Trojans started their ensuing possession at their own 34 and used 10 plays to cover the 66-yard distance to the end zone, capped off by a Randolph 3-yard TD run. Angil Serrano's successful PAT kick tied the game. Pass plays for 23 yards to



Mendota defender Gavin Evans gets down low for a stop of Bureau Valley running back Elijah Endress on Sept. 22 at Manlius. (Reporter photo)



# SPORTS

## Football

Continued from Page B1

Keegan Beetz and 19 yards to Freeman keyed the drive. The Storm was able to break the tie and take a 14-7 lead to intermission when Endress finalized a seven-play, 56-yard drive with a 2-yard touchdown run with 2:36 left in the half. Shane's extra-point kick was good.

Mendota used long pass completions to Beetz and Freeman to advance the ball to the Bureau Valley 27, but a pass interference penalty on the Trojans put the damper on that drive as the half ended. Bureau Valley stretched its lead with two third-quarter touchdowns. The Storm received the second-half kickoff and went 60 yards in four plays. A 21-yard run to the end zone by Endress finished off the drive in less than two minutes. Shane added the PAT kick.

Each team exchanged fumbles, with Mendota's Gavin Evans pouncing on a Bureau Valley miscue, but on the Trojans' ensuing play, Wyatt Ossman was hit hard after a pass reception and the ball was jarred loose and recovered by the Storm at the Mendota 45. Eight plays later, Bureau Valley was back in the end zone on a 7-yard

TD run by Endress with 36 seconds left in the third. Shane's kick made it 28-7.

The Trojans put together their best drive of the season on their next possession. They kept the ball for six minutes and used 17 plays to go 81 yards for their second touchdown of the game. Randolph connected with Aden Tillman on a slant pass from 11 yards out, followed by a Serrano extra-point kick to make it 28-14.

Bureau Valley finished off the scoring on a 5-yard touchdown run by Endress with 1:08 left. Shane added the extra point.

### • Trojan Yardstick •

BUREAU VALLEY 35, MENDOTA 14					
Mendota	0	7	0	7	- 14
Bureau Valley	0	14	14	7	- 35

#### SCORING SUMMARY

BV - Endress 1 run (Shane kick), 9:54 2Q  
ME - Randolph 3 run (Serrano kick), 5:33 2Q  
BV - Endress 2 run (Shane kick), 2:36 2Q  
BV - Endress 21 run (Shane kick), 10:08 3Q  
BV - Endress 7 run (Shane kick), 0:36 3Q  
ME - Tillman 11 pass from Randolph (Serrano kick), 6:24 4Q  
BV - Endress 5 run (Shane kick), 1:08 4Q

	ME	BV
First Downs	16	22
Rushes-Yards	16-34	43-427
Passing Yards	225	0
Passes	22-42-0	0-0-0
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Punts-Avg	3-32	0-0
Penalties-Yards	8-65	8-68

#### INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**Rushing** – MENDOTA: Randolph 13-29, Furar 2-7, Tillman 1-(minus 2); BUREAU VALLEY: Endress 21-239, Lemons 11-104, Hartz 7-64, B. Helms 4-20.  
**Passing** – MENDOTA: Randolph 22-42-0-225.  
**Receiving** – MENDOTA: Freeman 8-109, Beetz 3-56, Ossman 5-22, Tillman 4-21, Watson 2-17.

## Mendota F-S gridders upended by Hall, 26-6

SPRING VALLEY – Hall posted a 26-6 triumph over Mendota in freshman-sophomore football action on Sept. 18 at Spring Valley.

The home team scored the first two touchdowns on a 20-yard pass and a 9-yard run.

Mendota tallied its lone TD with 2:16 left before halftime when Jayden Lesley plunged in the end zone from the 1-yard line. The two-point conversion pass was incomplete.

Hall managed to tack on another touchdown

before the half on a 38-yard run, and then it completed the scoring with a 53-yard TD pass in the third period.

Mendota (0-4) gained 106 yards in the contest. Lesley rushed 18 times for 63 yards and Javier Hernandez picked up 34 yards in 11 attempts. Hernandez completed two passes for 15 yards, with Cam Wasmer and William Musanovic getting the receptions.

Hall had a balanced attack with 150 yards rushing and 121 passing.

## Spikers get league win over Kewanee

Bureau Valley and Mendota went three sets before the home team Storm recorded a 14-25, 25-23, 25-14 triumph over the Spikers in Three Rivers Conference volleyball action on Sept. 19 at Manlius.

Reanna Brant had a big match at the net for Mendota with 13 kills and two blocks. Grace Wasmer picked up five kills and three blocks, while Madelyn Becker had 25 assists and 14 digs. Ana Ramirez and Laylie Denault added 20 and 16 digs, respectively.

The Spikers got a three-set victory at Kewanee, 23-25, 25-15, 25-19, in a conference contest on Sept. 20. MHS has a 2-3 league record.

A total team effort lifted Mendota to the win. Statistical leaders were Denault (10 kills, four aces), Brant (nine kills), Lilly

Leifheit (23 digs), Becker (27 assists, 11 digs), Ramirez (13 digs), Ava Eddy (four aces), Ryleigh Sondgeroth (11 digs) and Wasmer (three blocks).

Mendota had a 1-3-1 record in the Reed-Custer Tournament on Sept. 23.

The win was over Hall 25-23, 23-25, 25-16 and the Spikers tied Putnam County 17-25, 25-24. Losses were against Cissna Park 17-25, 20-25, Elmwood 17-25, 22-25 and Putnam County 15-25, 26-24, 23-25.

Statistics for the tournament were: Becker 102 assists, 20 kills, 38 digs; Brant 32 kills; Wasmer 22 kills, four blocks; Denault 30 kills, 37 digs; Leifheit 86 digs; Ramirez seven aces, 40 digs; Sondgeroth 30 digs; Kiara Johnson 17 kills.

Mendota has an 8-9-1 season record.



Cale Strouss of Mendota hits a chip shot to the green during the Three Rivers Conference Tournament on Sept. 19 at the Mendota Golf Club. (Reporter photo)



### Three Rivers East Division Football Standings

	TR	OA
Kewanee	3-0	5-0
Princeton	1-0	4-1
Bureau Valley	2-1	3-2
Hall	1-2	2-3
Newman	0-1	4-1
Mendota	0-3	0-5

**Friday, Sept. 22**  
Bureau V. 35, Mendota 14  
Kewanee 41, Hall 0  
Princeton 28, Sterling 6  
Newman 20, Erie-P. 7  
**Friday, Sept. 29**  
Kewanee at Princeton  
Bureau Valley at Newman  
Chillicothe IVC at Hall  
**Saturday, Sept. 30**  
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2023 HOME SCHEDULE

SEP. 9 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

SEP. 23 TULSA

OCT. 14 OHIO

OCT. 21 EASTERN MICHIGAN

NOV. 7 BALL STATE

NOV. 14 WESTERN MICHIGAN



# SPORTS

## BOWLING

### Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Sept. 18—1. CM Farm 5-0; 2. Bad Kats 5-0; 3. Ramer Inc. 4-1; 4. Leagal Beagles 1-4; 5. Split Happens 0-5; 6. Sports-N-Stuff 0-5

High team game (scratch) — Ramer Inc. 646, Split Happens 640, Leagal Beagles 625

High team game (hdcp) — CM Farm 950, Ramer Inc. 949, Bad Kats 905

High team series (scratch) — Leagal Beagles 1783, Split Happens 1776, Ramer Inc. 1752

High team series (hdcp) — CM Farm 2732, Ramer Inc. 2661, Bad Kats 2616

Men's high game (scratch) — Ed Roulston 204, Aaron Holocker 203, Mike Smith 188

Men's high game (hdcp) — Ed Roulston 275, Aaron Holocker 256, Carl Reistad 244

Men's high series (scratch) — Mike Smith 556, Charlie Betz 523, Aaron Holocker 512

Men's high series (hdcp) — Ed Roulston 707, Charlie Betz 694, Mike Smith 691

Women's high game (scratch) — Dria Kuntz 247, Emily Thomas 188, Jessica Robinson 167

Women's high game (hdcp) — Dria Kuntz 318,

Emily Thomas 256, Connie Yost 238

Women's high series (scratch) — Dria Kuntz 571, Emily Thomas 443, Jessica Robinson 430

Women's high series (hdcp) — Dria Kuntz 784, Debbie Berger 686, Dessa Collings 673

### Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Sept. 20—1. Black Bros. 3-1; 2. Novak Farms 3-1; 3. Mendota Monument 3-1; 4. First State Bank 1-3; 5. JJ&L Carpentry 1-3; 6. O'Donnell Excavating 1-3

High team game (scratch) — Black Bros. 920, Mendota Monument 919, First State Bank 918

High team game (hdcp) — Black Bros. 1037, First State Bank 1017, O'Donnell Excavating 1010

High team series (scratch) — Mendota Monument 2671, Black Bros. 2659, First State Bank 2602

High team series (hdcp) — Black Bros. 3010, Novak Farms 2956, First State Bank 2899

High individual game (scratch) — Skip Stachlewitz 238, Beau Wixom 237, Joel Bejster 219

High individual series (hdcp) — Beau Wixom 633, Skip Stachlewitz 588, Scott Novak 565



Mendota soccer player Isaac Diaz tries to keep the ball away from Lian Sang of Monmouth-Roseville during a contest on Sept. 23 at the MHS field. Diaz scored the only goal of the game in a 1-0 Trojan win. (Reporter photo)

## Northbrook soccer

### Sept. 18 "A" game

Northbrook 6, Ottawa Shepherd 1

Stats: Omar Nanez 3 goals; Abel Nanez 1 goal, 1 assist; Arian Chavez 2 assists; Oscar Castenada 1 goal; Hugo Chavez 1 goal; Danny Correa 1 assist; Eliazandro Orozco 1 assist; SarArtega 2 saves.

### "B" game

Northbrook 2, Ottawa Shepherd 0

Stats: Lupita Sandoval 1 goal, 1 assist; Bezzall Cadenas 1 goal; Axel Ruiz 1 assist; Aasaic Artega 1 save

## Northbrook girls' hoops

### 6th Grade

#### Sept. 11

Northbrook 18, Dimmick 8

Scoring: Taylor Erlenborn 6 points, Raelynn Sundberg 4 points

#### Sept. 18

Sandwich 14, Northbrook 12 OT

Scoring: Erlenborn 4 points, Kendra Milus 4 points

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- "Priscilla's revenge" is the new nickname for Sofia Coppola's biopic of Priscilla Presley, as it is somewhat of a rebuttal to Baz Luhrmann's "Elvis" (\$288.7 million gross and eight Oscar nominations, including one for its Elvis, Austin Butler). The Venice Film Festival audience afforded a tremendous ovation for "Priscilla." In a Venice news conference, Priscilla even took the mic to say, "It's very difficult to sit and watch a film about you and about your life and about your love. I think Sofia did an amazing job."



Swift

She also expanded on how "Priscilla" tells her side of the story. "It was very difficult for my parents to understand that Elvis would be so interested in me and why. And I really do think [it was] because I was more of a listener," she explained. "Elvis would pour his heart

out to me in every way in Germany: his fears, his hopes, the loss of his mother, which he never got over. That was really our connection. People think, 'Oh, it was sex.' Not at all. I never had sex with him [then]. He was very kind, very soft, very loving, but he also respected the fact I was only 14 years old. We were more in mind, in thought, and that was our relationship."

In addition, the Venice Film Festival gave rave reviews to Cailee Spaeny as Priscilla and "Euphoria" star Jacob Elordi as Elvis. This has elevated Elordi to the status of a sex symbol, as mobs of girls went wild outside the festival screaming "Jacob, Jacob, Jacob" desperately. Judge "Priscilla" for yourself when it opens in theaters on Nov. 3.

\*\*\*

Woody Allen's newest and, perhaps, last film, "Coup de Chance," received a 5-minute ovation at the Venice Film Festival. Filmed in the French language, and also in France, it opens there on Sept. 27, but they haven't yet set a date in the United States. Protesters

stood outside shouting "no rape culture," and "A rapist is not a sick man; he is the healthy son of patriarchy." The day before, banners read "Island of rapists" and "No Golden Lion for predators," referring to Allen and Roman Polanski, whose movie "The Palace" was up for a top prize. Sad that such giant creative talents have been marred by controversy.

\*\*\*

Taylor Swift keeps breaking records. Not only has she become the first performer to gross more than \$1 billion in ticket sales in her recent tour, her movie "Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour" opens in theaters on Oct. 13. Tickets are priced at \$19.89 for adults and \$13.13 for children. The previous first-day record holder for ticket sales was \$16.9 million, and with AMC's highly aggressive measures, her film will no doubt break records even before it hits theaters. After earning \$92 million in 2022, a fraction of what Swift will make for 2023, it'll push her \$740 million net worth over the top. No doubt she's a "Taylor made" billionaire!

## Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Is "Dancing with the Stars" coming back to ABC, or will it just be on Disney+? When will they announce the new cast? I'm eager for the season to start.

-- P.L.

A: After one season of exclusively airing on Disney+, "Dancing with the Stars" is returning home to ABC. This is likely in part due to new episodes of scripted shows being postponed until 2024 due to the writers' and actors' strikes. It will still be available to stream on Disney+ and Hulu, but a return to network television is a welcome one.

Julianne Hough, a former pro dancer on the show, is also returning, but in the form of co-host, alongside former "DWTS" champion Alfonso Ribeiro. She replaces Tyra Banks, who has left the show after three years. Sadly, long-time judge Len Goodman passed away earlier this year after battling cancer. This year's judging panel consists of familiar faces: Derek Hough, Carrie Ann Inaba and Bruno Tonioli. This fall's contestants



Umansky

feature some big names from reality TV -- Charity Lawson of "The Bachelorette," Ariana Madix of "Vanderpump Rules," Mauricio Umansky of "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," Harry Jowsey of "Too Hot to Handle" -- as well as singers Jason Mraz and Lele Pons. A wide range of thespians make up the rest of the roster: Matt Walsh ("Veep"); Mira Sorvino ("Sound of Freedom"); Barry Williams ("The Brady Bunch"); Tyson Beckford ("Zoolander"); Xochitl Gomez ("The Baby-Sitters Club"); Jamie Lynn Spears ("Zoey 102"); and Alyson Hannigan ("How I Met Your Mother"). This season's professional athlete is NFL running back Adrian Peterson.

Season 32 of "DWTS" premieres on Tuesday, Sept. 26, on ABC.

\*\*\*

Q: I'm confused. Is Drew Barrymore's talk show coming back or not? What about Kelly Clarkson's talk show?

-- N.C.

A: Both of these beloved talk show hosts and their popular syndicated daytime shows are on hiatus until the writers' strike ends. Initially, "The Drew Barrymore Show" was slated to return

this fall despite the strike, with Barrymore noting that her unemployed crew needed to get back to work. But after protests from picketers and the negative stories that ran in the press, Barrymore recently had a change of heart and agreed to wait until the strike is resolved.

"The Kelly Clarkson Show" hasn't resumed filming in front of a live audience either. But when it does, it'll be relocating from Los Angeles to New York -- once the strike ends.

\*\*\*

Q: Whatever happened to actress Meg Tilly? I remember seeing her in the film "Agnes of God" years ago, but I don't recall anything recent.

A: Meg Tilly is probably best known for her Oscar-nominated role in the film "Agnes of God" almost four decades ago, but she has transitioned from acting into a solid writing career. She has written several novels, mostly of dark subject matter, and recently co-wrote (with Kelly Fremont Craig) her first screenplay, "Ordinary Angels." The film, based on a heartwarming true story, stars two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank and will open in theaters next February.

## Couch Theater

"Elemental" (PG) -- Pixar's latest film is out now on streaming after garnering \$484.2 million in the box office and getting deemed a "sleeper hit." Starring Leah Lewis ("Nancy Drew") and Mamoudou Athie ("Archive 81"), this film for the whole family follows fire element Ember as she starts to run her father's convenience store, The Fireplace, in Fire Town. But when Ember accidentally floods the store, city inspector and water element Wade files a report that could get the business shut down. It's up to Ember to save the store, alongside Wade, if she can control her fiery temper. Catherine O'Hara and Wendi McLendon-Covey co-star. (Disney+)

"No One Will Save You" (PG-13) -- Kaitlyn Dever ("Booksmart") leads this sci-fi thriller out now. Dever stars as Brynn Adams, a young woman living a lonely life in her childhood home. One night, Brynn is awoken in the middle of the

night by home intruders. As the intruders creep into her home, Brynn realizes that they are far from human. With no choice but to face off with these extraterrestrial beings, Brynn is pushed forward to her new future by confronting the demons of her past. The film is directed by Brian Duffield, whose previous work includes "The Babysitter" and "Underwater." (Hulu)

"Wilderness" (TV-MA) -- In this six-episode thriller series out now, Will (Oliver Jackson-Cohen) and Liv (Jenna Coleman) are a couple who are seemingly put-together on the outside, but only a handful know the dark cloud of infidelity that envelops their relationship. Liv works to get over Will's infidelity as the two go on a cross-country trip to repair their marriage, but the trip ends in a fatality that transforms their entire lives. Critics are predicting that the series, which had its premiere on Sept. 15, will get renewed for a second season. "Pretty Little Liars" star Ashley Benson plays the role of Will's mistress, Cara. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Young Love" (TV-PG) -- After Matthew A. Cherry's short film "Hair Love" won Best Animated Short Film at the 92nd Academy Awards, a series based on the short film was put into development, and it has now made its way to streaming platforms. Starring Kid Cudi ("House Party") and Issa Rae ("Insecure"), the series follows young millennial parents Stephen and Angela and their daughter, Zuri (and their cat, Rocky). Stephen and Angela juggle work-life balance, social issues and multi-generational dynamics, along with raising Zuri and helping her achieve her best life. The show is reminiscent of "The Proud Family," providing much-needed authentic representation. (Max)

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## • Trivia Test •

- LITERATURE: What is the name of the clown in Stephen King's horror novel "It"?
- ASTRONOMY: How often does Halley's Comet appear in the Earth's sky?
- U.S. STATES: Which state has the most electoral votes in 2024?
- MOVIES: In "Jurassic Park," what kind of container is used to store stolen dinosaur embryos?
- ART: Which art movement is Salvador Dali associated with?
- AD SLOGANS: Which car manufacturer used the ad slogan "Quality is Job 1"?
- TELEVISION: Which TV show spawned the spinoff comedy/drama "Maude"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is the main ingredient in falafel?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the world's shortest river?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are a crab's pincers called?

Answers: 1. Pennywise. 2. On average, every 76 years. 3. California (54). 4. A canister that looks like a Barbasol Shaving Cream can. 5. Surrealism. 6. Ford Motor Company. 7. "All in the Family." 8. Chickpeas. 9. Roe River, Montana. 10. Chelae. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Filly's brother  
5 Group of seals  
8 Old U.S. gas brand  
12 Sandwich cookie  
13 Sailor's "yes"  
14 "Pygmalion" writer  
15 Nevada city  
16 Tropical fruit  
18 Nebraska river  
20 Demons  
21 Towel word  
23 Bol. neighbor  
24 Engages in make-believe  
28 Tibia's place  
31 PC key  
32 Hotel offering  
34 Bond rating  
35 Brusque  
37 Tormenting  
39 Spanish gold  
41 IRS agent  
42 Rustic homes  
45 TV type  
49 Table protector  
51 Inky stain  
52 Italian wine region  
53 Notable time  
54 Booty  
55 Slugger  
56 Letter sealer

**DOWN**  
1 Business abbr.  
2 Hurler  
3 Sultry Horne  
4 Like some grins  
5 Drink-to-go holder  
6 Popeye's Olive  
7 Hearing-impaired  
8 Aromatic compounds  
9 Chinese city  
10 Uttered  
11 Has  
17 Actress Long  
19 Afternoon affairs  
22 Long-legged shorebird  
24 Chest muscle  
25 Baton Rouge sch.  
26 Circus gymnast  
27 Short-lived levy of 1765  
29 Author  
30 Pester  
33 Alike (Fr.)  
36 One of the  
38 Powerless  
40 Low digit  
42 Bookkeepers (Abbr.)  
43 To boot  
44 Diving duck  
46 Trudge  
47 Synthesizer pioneer  
48 ABA member  
50 Notre Dame's Parseghian

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19		20				
21				22		23				
24	25	26				27	28	29	30	
31				32			33	34		
35			36	37			38			
39			40	41						
42	43			44	45		46	47	48	
49				50			51			
52				53			54			
55				56			57			

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

	8	6	1				2
		4		3	1		
9				7		3	8
	5			2	3		
8				9		4	
	7	5				9	
7	3		2			5	
	6			5	9	1	
		8	6				4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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4	7	2	1	9	8	6	5
8	1	6	9	5	7	8	2
9	8	6	4	2	1	3	7
6	2	9	8	5	7	4	1
1	4	5	9	6	7	3	8
7	8	3	2	1	4	6	5
8	4	7	2	9	5	1	6
5	9	1	8	3	6	7	2
2	7	6	1	5	4	8	3

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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## Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

\* The small dots on strawberries are known as "drupelets" and are not seeds, as often thought, but do contain seeds.

\* A dog named Chickie seemed like anything but man's best friend when she chewed up her owner's passport just days before his wedding in Italy. Fortunately, with a little help from local lawmakers as well as the community, a new one was issued in time for the nuptials to take place. As for Chickie, she was later given a mock "pupster passport"!

\* Culinary icon Ina Garten, aka the "Barefoot Contessa," was a nuclear policy analyst for the White House before embarking on a career in cooking.

\* A roll-on deodorant ball was the inspiration for Apple's first mouse prototype.

\* Despite their widely different climates, Alaska and Hawaii share a highest recorded temperature of 100 F.

\* Popular video game character Super Mario's original name was Jumpman. He was rechristened in honor of Mario Segale, Nintendo of America's landlord.

\* A 2016 study by Yale University found that people over the age of 50 who read books for more than three and a half hours per week had a 20% lower mortality risk over a 12-year period than nonbook readers.

\* All the nearly 6,000 residents of Suloszowa village in Poland live along one 9-kilometer street.

\* While it's difficult to imagine anyone but Bruce Willis in the role of "Die Hard" hero John McClane, the part was originally offered to crooner Frank Sinatra, due to the film's technically being a sequel to "The Detective," in which Sinatra had played the lead.

\* To own a rabbit in Queensland, Australia, you must first prove you'll display it for an acceptable period.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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Love, Joey



# NIE FUN PAGE



## Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.  
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.  
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

9	4		18
		10	17
	3	2	5
15	8	17	

2	3	0
10	1	9
5	4	6

*Solution*

## THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

- **1890:** YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK IS ESTABLISHED BY THE US CONGRESS.
- **1908:** FORD MODEL T AUTOMOBILES ARE OFFERED FOR SALE AT A PRICE OF \$825.
- **1971:** WALT DISNEY WORLD OPENS NEAR ORLANDO, FLORIDA.



EVEN THOUGH THIS IS CONSIDERED A SNACK FOOD, IT IS HIGH IN FIBER AND RELATIVELY LOW IN CALORIES.

ANSWER: POPCORN

## Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

T B U R E T   G N I P T O P

*Answer: Butter topping*



## PRESSURE

force applied to an object

*How they SAY that in...*

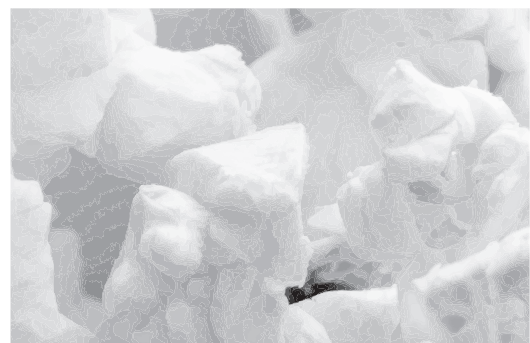
- ENGLISH:** Pop
- SPANISH:** Pum
- ITALIAN:** Scoppio
- FRENCH:** Bruit
- GERMAN:** Knall

*Did you know?*

ONLY ONE VARIETY OF CORN CAN POP, AND IT IS KNOWN AS ZEA MAYS EVERTA. IT HAS THE ABILITY TO POP ONCE PUT UNDER HEAT AND PRESSURE.



**GET THE PICTURE?**



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: POPCORN

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## Face your giants and move forward in life

We all go through hard times in this life and have issues we need to deal with. While it's not easy to face challenges or things that have caused pain, it can actually help us if we let God use them to do a good work in us.

James 1:12 (AMPC) says, "Blessed (happy, to be envied) is the man who is patient under trial and stands up under temptation, for when he has stood the test and been approved, he will receive [the victor's] crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him."

This verse is talking about how going through difficult times and resisting temptation to sin tests and tries us, revealing our true character. It prepares us to pass our tests so we can be promoted and move forward in God's plans for us.

It's time to stop running from things that are hard, that we're avoiding or putting off, because we just don't want to confront them. I'm talking about issues like debt, an addiction, poor health due to bad habits, unhealthy relationships, messes caused by bad choices that have led you to live in self-pity... or anything else that is making you feel guilty, frustrated, and weary.

Maybe you've been living with a broken heart—an emotional wound—that's been bleeding for way too long. Perhaps you have an anger issue, bitterness, or insecurity that causes you to be easily offended and hard to get along with.

Whatever your "issues" are, they are not just hang-ups, weaknesses, or things you have to live with. They are giants coming against you in your walk with Christ. And as a believer in Jesus, you don't have to live with any giant—you are a slayer of giants!

In 1 Samuel 17, we read about David, the shepherd boy who conquered Goliath, the Philistine giant who was oppressing the Israelite army. David's brothers were soldiers, and his father sent him to the battlefield to take provisions to them. When he heard about Goliath, David asked, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?" (v. 26, NIV).

It bothered David that these Israelite men of God were standing around, letting Goliath intimidate them, so he said, "I'll fight him!" But King Saul didn't think David could defeat the giant.

So, David told Saul how he had killed the lion and the bear when they came after his sheep. Then he said, "And this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God!" (v. 36, ESV).

You've probably



heard the story: David took his slingshot and five smooth stones, "ran quickly toward the battle line" (v. 48), and killed Goliath. David used what he had and ran toward the battle—not away from it. God blessed him and made him a giant-killer, and He wants to do the same thing for you!

The first step in confronting your giants is making the decision that you won't live with them any longer, but you will trust God to help you do what you need to do to be free of them. Your attitude should be: I am a giant-killer, and I'm not running from my problems anymore. I'm going to take responsibility for the messes I've made and stop making excuses to avoid them. I'm trusting God to show me what I need to do, and by His grace, I'll do it!

Remember that we are partners with God: We have a part to do and He has a part to do. He won't do our part, and we can't do His part. When we do what we can do, He will always do what we cannot do. But we have to be willing to obey His direction, doing what He shows us to do.

The next step is to study the Word; look up every scripture in the Bible that addresses the issue and meditate on each one. Write them down and put them in places where you'll see them often. Pray and ask God to help you apply His truth to your life. It can also help to read books about the subject, and if you need it, get professional help, like counseling.

As you spend time with God, praying and studying Scripture, He will work in your heart, healing your wounds, strengthening your faith, and showing you how to move forward to overcome your giants.

The truth is, you don't have to live defeated, with a broken heart and emotional pain. Make your mind up today: "I'm not going to get stuck in the past and give up my future because of something that hurt me. I can't go back and undo it, but I can go forward in Christ. I will have a whole heart

and be healed because Jesus came to heal the brokenhearted. I am a giant-killer!"

\*\*\*

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *Don't Panic: Living Worry-Free Every Day!* You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM* (FaithWords). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

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- IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
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  - In Oregon at: Merlin's
  - In Dixon at: Shining Star
  - In Mendota at: The Mendota Reporter/Amboy News office
- BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

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## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 29, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Eagle Painting Cleaning & More located at 4053 E. 050th Road, Mendota IL. 61342.  
Dated: August 29, 2023. Yesenia Romero Samano Applicant. No. 0901 (Sept. 13, 20 and 27, 2023)

**NOTICE**  
NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS CIRCUIT COURT LASALLE COUNTY Request of: Amanda Dean Case No. 2023 MR 48. PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (MINOR CHILDREN) There will be a court date on a Request for Name Change (Minor Children) for these children: Current name of Minor child: Xavier Ray Del Aguila Proposed New name of Minor Child: Xavier Ray Dean. The court date will be held on October 30, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at 707 E. Etna Road Ottawa, LaSalle County, In courtroom 305 Zoom /s/ Amanda Dean. No. 0902 (Sept. 13, 20, 27, 2023)

**NOTICE**  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, EX REL JOSEPH R. NAVARRO LASALLE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY Plaintiff, vs. ELMER MEDRANO, ALL OWNERS, CLAIM HOLDERS AND/OR INTEREST HOLDERS, AND 2016 HONDA CRV VIN# 3HGFRM4872GG001226, Defendant NO. 2023-MX-74 PUBLICATION NOTICE  
All owners, Claim Holders and/or Interest Holders  
The required affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to all owners, claim holders and/or interest holders that a complaint for forfeiture has been filed by the LaSalle County State's Attorney and is now pending in the Circuit Court for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, LaSalle County, Illinois. The complaint for forfeiture seeks to forfeit property (2016 Honda CRV VIN# 3HGFRM4872GG001226) to the State of Illinois in which you may have an interest as an owner, claim holder and/or interest holder. The property was seized by the Tri County Drug Enforcement Team (TRIDENT) on March 5, 2023, on I39 MM 72, Mendota, in LaSalle County, Illinois. The property is described as follows: 2016 Honda CRV VIN# 3 H G R M 4 8 7 2 GG001226.  
Now Therefore, unless you file an answer to the said complaint for forfeiture, with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of LaSalle County, Ottawa, Illinois, on or before November 17, 2023, judgment by default for the relief requested in the complaint for forfeiture shall be entered against you.  
Dated Sept. 12, 2023  
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk No. 0903 (Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4, 2023)

**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on September 13, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Our Three Winks located at 400 Washington Street, Marseilles, IL. 61341.  
Dated: September 13, 2023. Christie Tukesbrey-Kilbride Applicant. No. 0904 (Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4, 2023)

**DR. PILLER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT**  
After 51 years of practice Donald W. Piller is announcing his retirement from Chiropractic. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve all my patients over my long career and those friendships and trust will never be forgotten. On October 30, 2023, I will be leaving Piller Chiropractic, Ltd. and be moving on to whatever my future has in store for me. I will maintain regular hours during the interim period.  
All patient records will remain at Piller Chiropractic Clinic, Ltd. at 1312 Lakewood Drive, Mendota, IL. until 10/30/23. After that date the records will be transferred to the office of Dr. Yessenia Torres who will be in her new office in Mendota. If you wish to pick up your records to take to another physician, we will be here to help you with that.  
Yours in Chiropractic, Donald W. Piller D.C. No. 0906 (Sept. 20, 27, & Oct. 7 2023)

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## 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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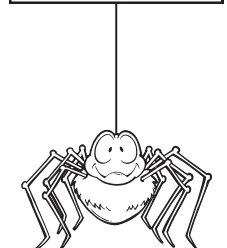
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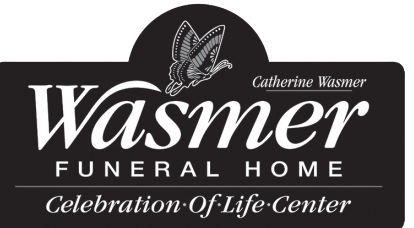
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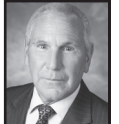
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Call one of our Agents to set up your private showing.

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815-910-5673

Marty McConville, Broker

815-200-2233

Richard McConville,

Broker 815-539-5673

Sharon Kimrey, Broker

815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker

815-228-2842

Peri McConville, Broker

815-910-5337

## FEATURE HOME

**McConville Realty**  
612 S. Main St., Mendota  
815-539-5673



NEW LISTING

**1004 Main St.**

**Mendota, \$66,000.00**

1 bedroom on main level  
1- 2 bedrooms upstairs  
(tandem), 1 1/2 story home in  
Mendota, close to town. Nice  
backyard with alley access.  
Appliances stay with  
window air conditioner.  
Needs some TLC.

One bathroom on the main floor with laundry  
hook up. Some newer windows.

MLS# 11889182 Call for a showing.

815-539-5673

**Contact  
one of  
the Realtors  
featured on  
this page to help  
you find the home of  
YOUR DREAMS!**

*Fall*  
**Real Estate**

**Find the Right  
HOME FIT**



## LEAVES ARE FALLING, A NEW HOME IS CALLING!

WONDERING WHAT YOUR HOME IS WORTH  
IN TODAY'S MARKET?

CONTACT ONE OF OUR AGENTS FOR YOUR **FREE**  
COMPARATIVE MARKET ANALYSIS!

**Rita Lilja**  
BROKER/OWNER

(815) 712-7346

Town & Country  
Realty

**Jami Bauer**  
REAL ESTATE AGENT

(815) 993-7751

Town & Country  
Realty

**Rebecca McPheeters**  
DESIGNATED MANAGING BROKER

(708) 220-3338

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**Lori Munson**  
REAL ESTATE AGENT

(815) 228-4852

Town & Country  
Realty

Rebecca McPheeters,  
Designated Managing Broker



607 Sixth St.,  
Mendota  
(815) 539-6635

**Town & Country  
Realty**

[www.tcrealtysales.net](http://www.tcrealtysales.net)

**Evening Phone Numbers**

Becky McPheeters, Designated Managing Broker

708-220-3338

Rita Lilja

815-539-9255

Jami Bauer, Broker

815-993-7751

Lori Munson, Broker

815-228-4852

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**PHONE (815) 539-3811**

1316 Lakewood Plaza

Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker

Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101

Like us on  
**facebook**



**1011 5th Ave., Mendota**



**1205 2ND ST**

You'll appreciate the character of this older home including - hardwood floors - woodwork - built in hutch are a few. 4 bedrooms - 3 baths - new bath 2023 including laundry on main floor - all kitchen appliances will stay - open living room in to dining great for family get togethers - bookcases original to home will stay - pool table in basement will stay. Great front porch for reading - morning coffee or just relaxing!



**701 ILLINOIS AVE**

Built in 1916 this building was originally a movie theatre, a five and dime store, and lastly Jerry's Flower Barn. "Everything Old is New Again!" Be the trailblazer and start your business on Illinois Avenue! Zoned Commercial.



**401 12th Ave.**

Looking for a spacious home with a garage that will fit your oversized pick up! And a car, or another truck! This wonderful Victorian brings charm of yesteryear with the conveniences of today for beautiful living!