



Sweet Corn Festival Calendar

Thursday, Aug. 10

3-5 p.m. – A special afternoon for special kids. The carnival will be open for a private armband for anyone with special needs and their immediate family. Call the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce at 815-539-6507 for details.

5-7 p.m. – The Acoustix performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

6-10 p.m. – Carnival Midway opens to general public. Food & merchandise booths open.

7 p.m. – Silverstone Junction performing on First State Bank stage.

7-10 p.m. – Teen Dance Night with DJ Skidmarc & DJ Famou5 on Main Street stage.

Friday, Aug. 11

All Day – Magic Matt performing his strolling magic & balloon artistry in downtown Mendota.

10:30 a.m. – Food & merchandise booths open. First State Bank Hospitality Tent opens for the day.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. – DJ Good Vybz performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

Noon – Carnival Midway opens. Discount armband from noon-4 p.m.

2-4 p.m. – The Acoustix performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

6:30-7:15 p.m. – Andrew Bloomquist with pre-pag-eant entertainment on First State Bank stage.

7:30 p.m. – Sweet Corn Festival Queen Pageant on First State Bank stage.

7:30 p.m.-Midnight – Beer Garden opens, featuring Greenfield Station.

Saturday, Aug. 12

All Day – Magic Matt performing his strolling magic & balloon artistry in downtown Mendota.

9 a.m.-5 p.m. – Crafters Market Place & Flea Market, located in Veterans Park in downtown Mendota and Mendota Elks Lodge parking lot at Indiana Avenue & Jefferson Street.

10 a.m. – Mini-Royalty Pageant on First State Bank stage. Young girls & boys competing to wear the crown of Mini King & Mini Queen.

10:30 a.m. – Food & merchandise booths open. First State Bank Hospitality Tent opens for the day.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Nicodemus musical performance in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Steve Cerqua acoustic guitar performance on First State Bank stage.

Noon – Carnival Midway opens.

Noon-2 p.m. – Lica Lorraine balloon artistry at corner of Washington Street & Eighth Avenue.

Noon-3 p.m. – Wild Style Design professional face painting artists will transform you into your favorite animal or superhero, near corner of Washington Street & Indiana Avenue.

Noon/2 p.m./4 p.m. – Mr. Steve performance includes music, magic, balloons and comedy at corner of Illinois Avenue & Jefferson Street.

2 p.m. – Sweet Corn Festival Food Contest. All categories of food must be made with sweet corn and prepared in advance. Judging at 2 p.m. at Mendota Elks Lodge. Entry forms at Mendota Chamber office.

2-4 p.m. – Zac Quad Music Acoustic musician performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

2:30-5:30 p.m. – Judson Main musical performance on First State Bank stage.

3:30-6:30 p.m. – Valley Katz performing in Beer Garden.

5-7 p.m. – DJ Good Vybz performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

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Food Pantry fundraiser

❑ Help is needed to raise \$375,000 for new building

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry has its new location at 710 Sixth Ave.

However, before the new building can be constructed, the food pantry board and director Tracy Cooper need your help to raise the funds – \$375,000 – for H&H Builders to officially relocate the pantry.

When complete, the new Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry, which started in the Holy Cross basement in 1987 before moving to its current location at 918 Main St., will feature a wall of gratitude recognizing donors at the highest levels of giving and all donations will be highly appreciated.

“I think a wall of gratitude is a perfect way to represent and say, ‘Thank you,’ to those



A groundbreaking event was held recently at the site of the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry to be located at 710 Sixth Ave. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

who helped the food pantry,” Cooper said at the new building groundbreaking on July 11 for the building that will help feed residents of Mendota, Sublette, Earlville, LaMoille, Troy Grove, Triumph, Compton, Meriden,

and West Brooklyn. “We will be thankful for every cent donated toward our goal. We can’t thank the community enough for the help we’ve already received.

“This is for a great cause as we helped over 800 families

during the pandemic and we currently assist approximately 200 families per month.”

The wall of gratitude will include five levels. Donations of \$25,000 will put an individual or business at the diamond level. The platinum level is \$15,000, gold is \$10,000, silver is \$5,000, and bronze is \$1,000.

Donations can be mailed directly to the pantry or dropped off at 918 Main St. in Mendota from 8-11 a.m. Tuesday-Friday. There is a donation portal on the pantry’s website, macfp.net, as well as codes for Venmo, GoFundMe, and PayPal.

Since the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry is a nonprofit charitable organization, a 501c3, contributions to the building of the new pantry building are tax deductible.

Rt. 34 Drive-In’s big screen is on

❑ Paul & Shelley Bottomley officially reopen Earlville treasure

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

EARLVILLE – The beginning of the summer was weird.

When listing all of the summer activities for an amazing summer checklist, watching movies at the Earlville Rt. 34 Drive-In couldn’t be added. Usually, since 1954, the drive-in is in the Top 5 for every resident of Earlville, Mendota, and many other towns.

Well, get your checklists back out to write the drive-in under the items already checked off to help finish your awesome summer as Paul and Shelley Bottomley have turned on the big screen, opened the ticket booth, and popped many pounds of popcorn.

The Rt. 34 Drive-In had a soft open July 28-30 and had its grand opening Aug. 4-6.

“I was scared to death when things were first starting to get going, but I’m a little more relaxed now,” said Paul Bottomley. “There are still nerves there because this is a big thing and there are a lot of paperwork and things to go through for film companies. I can’t just call up and say send me a copy of ‘Barbie,’ which was made for millions of dollars and has grossed (\$1 billion worldwide).

“We had to do all of the background checks, tax numbers, and account numbers. I feel like we’ve had to do more for the drive-in than when we bought our house.”

Paul Bottomley and Ron Magnoni Jr. met as teenagers and became close friends.

Both of them worked at



Shelley Bottomley cooks up a fresh batch of popcorn at the Rt. 34 Drive-In in Earlville. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

Twin Cinemas in LaSalle and at the drive-in for Charles Dyas, who was the creator and original owner in 1954.

Dyas sold the drive-in to Magnoni Jr. in 1994 and the new owner kept Bottomley on speed dial every weekend.

When Magnoni Jr. passed away in February, the Bottomleys knew it was their responsibility to keep Magnoni Jr.’s legacy and movies rolling.

“When Ron knew he was going to pass, it had always been discussed as a hypothetical situation that eventually the drive-in would go to Paul and we would take over,”

said Shelley Bottomley, who has helped in the concession stand for the last 15-20 years. It happened sooner than expected. We were hoping it wasn’t going to happen for another 10-20 years.

“The drive-in has always been a huge part of Paul’s life. When we started dating, we came to the drive-in for a date. On the way home, he said, ‘Congratulations, you passed inspection.’ I didn’t realize it was an inspection. The next morning, we were engaged.”

See Drive-In, Page A5

City streets designated for repair

By **KIP CHEEK**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – City streets and alleys have been selected for repair, it was announced at the Aug. 7 regular meeting of the Mendota City Council.

Streets to be redone under the motor fuel tax street maintenance program include: 16th Street from Indiana Avenue to Illinois Avenue; 12th Street from Guiles Avenue to Stroble Avenue; Michigan Avenue from Burlington Street to Chicago Street; Jefferson Street from Illinois Avenue to Main Street; Second Avenue from Third Street to Fourth Street; Third Avenue from Cherry Street to Division Street; Fifth Avenue from Cherry Street to Division Street; Ninth Avenue from First Street to south end.

Alleys include east of Third Avenue from Eighth Street to Ninth Street, and east of Third Avenue from Ninth Street to 10th Street.

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick said the bid opening for the work will take place at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 21 at the city clerk’s office.

Alderman John Hensenberger presented a zoning variance request for the resident at 1006

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Plan to attend
this year’s Festival,
Aug. 10-13, in
downtown Mendota!



24/7 - We’re always on at www.mendotareporter.com



RECYCLE
NEWSPAPER

LOCAL AND AREA

Carnival ride inspectors are out across Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Look for the green inspection permit on Illinois amusement park rides to make sure they’re ready to ride.

Illinois has a rigorous inspection and permit process, said Paul Cincchini, spokesman for the Illinois Department of Labor’s Amusement Ride and Attraction Safety Board.

“We have a group of highly trained and highly experienced ride inspectors who work throughout the year,” Cincchini said.

At a street fair in the northern Illinois village of Antioch on Sunday, July 16, a 10-year-old boy was thrown from the Moby Dick ride and was seriously injured. The Moby Dick ride requires riders to be fastened into cars. The cars go up and

down as the speed of the ride accelerates.

On July 20th, as part of the post-accident investigation, Illinois seized the Moby Dick ride that was involved in the Antioch accident.

The many components of a ride that require inspection include tracks and rails, structural steel, bolts, fasteners and connectors, axles, pivots, lap bar parts and roller coaster cars, the e-Journal of Nondestructive Testing, says on its website.

The Illinois Department of Labor cannot comment on the Antioch incident or any specific amusement park accident, Cincchini said.

A person who also rode the Moby Dick ride in Antioch on the 16th claimed that the lap bar on the car was not locking down properly

when that individual took the ride, NBC’s Today Show reported.

Cincchini said that every ride, even rides at carnivals that travel in from other states, is inspected by state inspectors before it is allowed to operate in Illinois. Proof of inspection is a large green inspection medallion that is required by law to be displayed at each ride site.

Illinois’ Amusement Ride and Attraction Safety Department has an after-hours and weekend phone number at 217 299-5512 where people can call if they see something that makes them suspicious or if they experience unsafe conditions or if they see an accident.

“We encourage people to say something if they see



something,” Cincchini said.

Trained adults are required to operate rides. Operators are required to have a manual of operation from the manufacturer for each ride on site. For homemade rides, operators are required to write an operation manual

and have it on hand.

Illinois regulates and inspects carnival rides, haunted houses, go kart tracks, trampoline parks and bounce houses. Last year was the first year that the state began inspecting trampoline parks.

Thirty people were injured on Illinois amusement park rides in 2022. The largest number of verified injuries occurred at trampoline parks, Cincchini said. People reported knee, ankle, arm, leg and foot injuries as the result of incorrect landings.

Arukah Institute awarded grant to help prevent suicide in first responders

PRINCETON – The Arukah Institute of Healing, in partnership with the Peru and Princeton Police Departments, were recently awarded the Suicide Prevention First Responders grant by the State of Illinois, Department of Human Services. The purpose of the grant is to improve wellness and reduce risk of suicide for first responders and their family members in Bureau, Putnam, Marshall and LaSalle Counties by offering peer support training, lethal means training, anti-stigma campaigns, and social work services. Chief Sarah Raymond of the Peru Police Department and Chief Tom Kammerer of the Princeton Police Department will oversee this grant, along with staff from Arukah.

Dr. Sarah Scruggs, Chief Executive Officer of Arukah remarked, “It is an hon-

or to be able to bring these services to first responders. They are continually on the front lines of traumatizing work. Trauma doesn’t just go away and it isn’t a sign of weakness when it affects one in a negative way. We know the facts from research about the impacts of trauma, but somehow first responders are overlooked. Families of first responders are also at risk for vicarious trauma. It is our duty to surround them – protect those who protect us.”

Chief Kammerer added, “I have lost friends and co-workers to suicide over my 29+ year career. If we can reduce the stigma, and prevent further trauma related to our employment, then this effort will be considered a success. I am honored to be involved with this grant, and greatly appreciate the partnership

we have developed with Arukah.”

Chief Raymond stated, “The opportunity to have this program brought to our communities is beyond exciting. Being able to break the stigma for first responders and their families has always been a challenge. This program will provide all of them the opportunity to seek services they need without having a stigma attached. That will enable the vital care and programs needed for all first responders to enhance not only their careers but also their home life. I am extremely honored and humbled to be a part of such a necessary and amazing program for our area.”

The name of the program will be: VIGILANT: PROTECTING THOSE WHO PROTECT US. Under the grant, Arukah will engage

the services of Dan Roach, certified ILETSB trainer and retired first responder, to train peer supporters from area police, fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) to recognize and address signs of stress among their peers. The peer support network will allow first responders to contact someone for assistance, anonymously if they wish, at any time of the day or night. Trained peer supporters can aid their peers in a time of crisis, deescalating the situation and connecting them with appropriate resources. A 24/7 phone number will be established to enable access to services for those covered under the grant. Arukah will also hire professional counselors with a background in working with first responders and

their families, to provide services specific to job-related stressors experienced by workers in this field and their families. To combat the widespread stigma, Arukah will launch anti-stigma campaigns to encourage first responders and their families to reach out.

Another component of this grant will involve the Cornerstone Retreat Center, located in rural Henry County. Here, first responders and their families can be present in an outdoor setting, secluded from the public, to decompress and speak with trained peer supporters who are on site. All services offered at Cornerstone are confidential and available to both working and retired employees.

For more information, please contact the Arukah Institute of Healing, 815-872-2943.

Genealogy Guild to help you with your family tree


OTTAWA – Charge up your laptops. Bring your family research, stories, charts, and graphs. Let’s put everything together. While the LaSalle County Genealogy Guild will place emphasis on how to use Family Tree Maker, every and all questions regarding ancestry and family search are welcome at the guild’s summer workshop at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19 at 115 W. Glover St. in Ottawa. The Guild plans to make sense of your family puzzles. The public is invited to attend and refreshments will be served, however research will not be allowed during the program.



FARM

PROGRESS

SHOW.2023



Bus trip sponsored by First State Bank

Thursday, August 31, 2023

Bus will leave for Decatur from the Mendota Civic Center at 6 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m.

\$40.00

per

person

Includes:

- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- Tickets to Farm Progress Show
- Refreshments on the ride home

Reserve your spot today!

Contact our Ag Department before Friday, August 25th to reserve your spot.

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SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

Field demonstration - harvesting and tillage

Ride and Drive

Latest and most innovative Ag technology

600+ exhibits from the largest Ag companies

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Stop in while at the Sweet Corn Festival!



Come in and check out our **back to school items!** We also have our **Fall decorations** along with **Halloween costumes and Homecoming dresses** out!

Hours: Mon, Wed. - Sat. 12- 3:30 p.m. (Closed Tuesdays)

Nightengale's Thrift Shop

708 Jefferson St., Mendota

LOCAL AND AREA

Wonder what it's like to be a Catholic sister?

SPRINGFIELD – More women than you might realize sense God drawing them toward a life of fulfillment and happiness as Catholic sisters. Often, they miss the opportunity to explore because they aren't sure what to do once tuned in to this prayerful intuition.

Walking the path of vocation discernment begins, for many women, with a "Come & See" weekend at a residence of Catholic sisters. The Dominican Sisters of Springfield, have 11 such events scheduled throughout 2023-2024.

There are six in-person weekends and five virtual events planned for September 2023 through December 2024. Single Catholic women ages 21-45 are welcome to register for any – or more than one – of each event. The first event is in-person Sept. 15-17, 2023. Registrations for that and all events are now being accepted at springfielddop.org/comeandsee.

These events – commonly called "Come & See," or, the case of the virtual events "Zoom & See" – provide a brief immersion in the day-to-day lives of the sisters.

They help women develop skills for prayer and discernment. And they provide women who may feel alone in their search an opportunity to meet others who share their desire for a deeper relationship with God through consecrated religious life.

There is no cost to the participants for either the in-person or virtual events, though those who travel to Springfield are responsible for their transportation expenses. Each weekend event begins on Friday evening and concludes on Sunday afternoon.

Don't want to come alone?

No problem. "We are happy to welcome friends of discerners, too, even if those women are not on a path of discernment," said the Springfield Dominican Sister Denise Glazik, who is the vocation minister for her community. "That is a healthy option for women who know themselves and have good friends who support and encourage them."

A vocation minister is a trained spiritual guide who accompanies women seeking their vocation.

Women who join the



Springfield Dominican Sister Mila Díaz Solano, left, is a member of the congregation's leadership team and holds a doctorate in sacred scripture from the École Biblique, Jerusalem. With her is Springfield Dominican Sister Kelly Moline, who is about to begin a new ministry as a hospice chaplain in Springfield. She has been a chaplain at St. Dominic Hospital, Jackson, Miss., since 2018. Sister Kelly holds master's degrees in gerontology and pastoral ministry. (Photo contributed)

sisters in-person will experience a balance of time for interaction, conversation, and activity along with time for rest, prayer, and reflection. They will experience first-hand the rhythms of prayer and daily routines for sisters active in ministry. They will have some time for private prayerful reflection and one-to-one conversations with a sister.

Virtual events

The virtual events involve a few intermittent hours online with the sisters and other participants. Participants are encouraged to carve out a few additional hours each day for reflection, reading, and recreational time on their own.

"It's not always feasible for women to travel long distances for weekend events," Sister Denise observed. "The

online events make it possible for women to interact with our sisters and to learn about our life of prayer, common life, study, and service before they go the expense of travel.

"For many women, a Come & See event is the first step toward deciding whether they want to further consider God's invitation to join God's mission to the world as a Catholic sister," explained Sister Denise. "Coming to a weekend or joining us for a few hours online doesn't commit you to anything. It gives you a safe space to explore, ponder, and pray. It's really a great introduction to our Dominican way of life."

All the details

Depending on timing, in-person events may take place at the Dominican Sisters' motherhouse, Sacred Heart Convent, 1237 W. Monroe St., or at Cor Unum House, 925 N. Fifth in Springfield's historic Enos Park neighborhood. Cor Unum is the ministry site for the Dominican Sisters' outreach to young adult women, who gather regularly at the house for prayer, study, and

social events. Each weekend will include an opportunity for participants to experience the Dominican Sisters' mission-in-action.

Events are free of charge; housing and meals are provided. Space is limited, so those who are interested should register here soon.

"If you are interested but on-the-fence please call me," Sister Denise said. "This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know yourself better and meet other women who, like you, are wondering whether God can use your gifts for the life of the world."

The Dominican Sisters of Springfield are part of a worldwide Dominican family, the Order of Preachers, and in 2023 are celebrating 150 years of ministry for the Life of the World. Their sisters minister in the United States and Peru. For more than 800 years, Dominicans worldwide have communicated the Gospel in word and action. Today, thousands of Dominican sisters, nuns, priests, brothers, associates, and laity minister in more than 100 countries around the world.

Some question taxpayer cost of Illinois law mandating full-day kindergarten

SPRINGFIELD – Future kindergartners in Illinois will be spending more time in the classroom.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed a law requiring school districts to establish a full-day kindergarten program within the next four years. Under the law, every district must also establish a half-day program that is developmentally appropriate and provides opportunities for play-based learning.

Proponents point to research that indicates that children's early reading skills are enhanced with additional

instruction time.

"Getting substantive, consistent full-day kindergarten can be the foundation for our kids looking to build good educational experiences and ultimately steady, well-paying careers," state Rep. Mary Beth Canty, D-Arlington Heights, said in a statement.

The legislation also establishes the Full Day Kindergarten Task Force, which will conduct a statewide audit to inform the planning and implementation of full-day kindergarten programs.

Alison Maley, Government and Public Relations

director with the Illinois Principals Association, said the law could be taxing on some school districts.

"One of the major concerns that we had was there was no funding allotted for this and not only will some districts need additional space, they will need additional teachers," Maley said.

Bryan Soady, associate executive director of Governmental Relations with the Illinois Association of School Boards, said there have been local referendums on this proposal that have been defeated.

"This is a mandate that we think will require volunteer, elected school boards to force this on taxpayers who have stated they don't want it," said Soady.

Districts that currently do not offer a full-day program can apply for a waiver to

extend the implementation date up to two years past the 2027-2028 school years if they meet certain criteria.

The majority of states require school districts to offer either full- or half-day kindergarten, however, less than half actually mandate

student attendance. California recently proposed legislation that would require kindergarten enrollment and for days to be longer than four hours, but the bill was vetoed in September 2022 by Gov. Gavin Newsom, who cited cost as a factor.

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.



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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ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th
Spring Creek Golf Course
Spring Valley, IL
Registration 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start 9:45 a.m.



Cash prizes, raffles, 50/50, Auction, Silent Auction, & games of skill & chance/ "Hole in One" car giveaway

\$90/person includes:

Green Fees, Cart, Lunch, & Dinner
Cash Prizes, Raffles, 50/50, Auction and Silent Auction, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin and other games of skill and chance!

To register call 630-918-9664.

Proceeds from this event will go to Scholarships.

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You may sign up individually or as a foursome for golfing.



WORLD FAMOUS AMBOY DEPOT DAYS
CAR SHOW COMMITTEE
50/50 DRAWING

2022 Winner -
\$99,430

This year we are giving
away \$2,500 Cash
Prizes to 4 Winners!
(Winners need not be present to win)

On sale now!

Ticket sales will end on Saturday at noon, at the Ashton, Dixon, Ohio, Franklin Grove and Sublette locations.

Most Amboy locations will sell tickets until noon on Sunday.

Tickets may also be purchased at two locations on Main Street during Depot Days festivities each evening & all day on Sunday.

Drawing Sunday, Aug. 27 after the Car Show
Proceeds to benefit Community Projects

Get your tickets NOW from any of the following 21 locations:
\$1 each or 6 for \$5

AMBOY: The Last Alarm Jones Berry Lumber The Long Branch Saloon Two Sisters on Main Depot Tap Shell Expresslane The Bears Den The Mower Shop Revolution Wellness Pine View Campground Mendota Hills Campground Green River Oaks Campground	SUBLETTE: Sublette General Store Sublette Saloon Vaessen Bros. Chevrolet, Inc. Local Cup & Cake
ASHTON: Ashton Auto Repair	FRANKLIN GROVE: Rev on 38 Rooney's
DIXON: Shamrock Pub	OHIO: Harry's Pub & Grub

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Henrietta A. Klein

MENDOTA—Henrietta A. Klein, 82, of Mendota, passed away peacefully on Aug. 5, 2023, at Allure of Mendota.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023, at Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota, with a Rosary at 4:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 11 at Holy Cross Church, Mendota. The Rev. Jeffery Windy will officiate. An additional one-hour visitation will be from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Merritt's prior to services. Burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota, immediately following services.

She was born July 16, 1941, to Louis and Josephine (Stremmlau) Gapski in Peru. She married Eugene E. Klein on Nov. 26, 1960, at St. Valentine Church, Peru.

Henrietta is survived by her husband of 62 years, Eugene; children Brenda (Earl) Barnickel of Mendota, Keith (Alice) Klein of Sublette, Teresa (Bill) King of Triumph, and Elizabeth "Liz" Klein of Mendota. She was blessed with eight grandchildren, William (Cassie) Barnickel of Washington, Ill., Brian Barnickel of Mendota, Matthew Klein of Schaumburg, Katie (Sam Rehberg) Klein of Madison, Wis., Sean Klein of Sublette, Stephanie (Brennan) Reeder of Mendota, Skyler (Nikki Rybarczyk) King of Mendota and Kristopher Kody Worman of Dixon. She was also tickled with three great-grandchildren, Waylan and Jude Klein, and Brielle Barnickel. Also surviving, her brother Chester Gapski of Oglesby, currently a resident of the VA home in Peru, and a brother-in-law, Charles "Gene" Galetti of Seatonville.

She was preceded in death by her parents; seven sisters, Clara Kostello, Mary (Mania) Liebhart, Eleanore Henry, Veronica Macchi, Irene Berg, Vivian Daniels, and Lillian Gapski; and three brothers, Frank, Louis Jr. and William Gapski.

She was a member of Holy Cross Church, Mendota, as well as the St. Mary's Altar Society and Catholic Order of Foresters. She also volunteered for the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Henrietta was an avid book reader and always up for a game of cards or Scrabble.

Memorials may be given to Holy Cross Church or St. Mary's Altar Society. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



George D. Duncan

MENDOTA — George D. Duncan, 97, of Mendota, passed away peacefully, Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023, at Allure of Mendota.

Private family only services will be Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2023, at 11 a.m., at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with Vicar Anthony Windau officiating. Private burial will follow at Melugin Grove Cemetery, Compton with military honors by Mendota VFW Post 4079.

George was born Feb. 9, 1926, in Harrisburg, to Leslie and Ruth (Horning) Duncan. George married Joan Sonnie on Dec. 27, 1952.

He is survived by his son, Gary; three grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

George was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Joan in 2002, his son Jeff in 2019 and his brother Ralph.

He grew up during the Depression. George graduated in 1944 from Lincoln High School. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1944-1946 and was wounded at the Battle of Okinawa.

He attended Purdue University and earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education. He later graduated from Northern Illinois University with a master's degree in guidance. George was a great teacher, coach, guidance counselor and school administrator. The majority of his career was spent in the St. Charles area.

Along with his wife Joan, George distributed countless Gideon Bibles over the years. He was a member of the American Legion. He went to Jefferson Junior High in Naperville for 10 years to speak to students about WWII. George was known as a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Pritzker signs bill aimed at ending homelessness

By PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD—Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation recently that seeks to effectively end homelessness in Illinois by marshalling the resources of multiple agencies into one effort.

House Bill 2831 codifies an executive order Pritzker signed in 2021 that established the Illinois Interagency Task Force on Homelessness and the Community Advisory Council on Homelessness. It centralizes programs across 17 state departments and agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to combat homelessness.

At a bill-signing ceremony at Featherfist, a homeless services organization in Chicago, Pritzker said the goal of the initiative is to bring homelessness in Illinois to "functional zero."

"For those who don't know and who may be listening, it's a measurable metric of success that reduces homelessness to something that's brief and rare and nonrecurring," Pritzker said.

The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that more than 100,000 people in Illinois experienced homelessness for all or part of 2020. That included people who were temporarily staying in someone else's home, or "doubling up."

Christine Haley, the state's current chief homelessness officer and chair of the inter-agency task force, said Black people and other people of color are disproportionately affected by homelessness.

"We stand here in one of the few Black-led homeless services organizations in our state. And as we stand here, we know that this housing crisis before us is rooted in housing injustice, is rooted in segregation, is rooted in racism," she said. "We know this because in our city of Chicago, where now less than a third of its residents are Black, 73 percent of individuals and 90 percent of children and their parents who are experiencing homelessness are Black."

State Rep. Lindsey LaPointe, D-Chicago, who was the lead sponsor of the bill in the House, said that on any given night, an estimated 4,500 people in Illinois are without shelter and the average wait time for someone to receive housing services is 802 days. She also noted that in Fiscal Year 2022, 9,800 people were turned away from emergency shelters.

"Ending homelessness and ensuring every neighbor has access to shelter and supportive services has long been possible in Illinois and across the nation, but we haven't had the collective political, economic — and I say this with love — bureaucratic will to make it happen until now," she said.

In his State of the State address in February, Pritzker highlighted the state's "Home Illinois" plan, which calls for increased spending for homelessness prevention, crisis response, housing units, and staffing.

At the bill signing, he noted that the budget lawmakers eventually passed this year includes more than \$350 million for homeless services, an \$85.3 million increase over last year.

That includes, among other things, \$50 million in rapid rehousing services for 2,000 households; \$40 million to develop more than 90 Permanent Supportive Housing units that provide long-term rental assistance and case management; and \$37 million in Emergency Shelter capital funds to create more than 460 non-congregate shelter units.

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Rep. Fritts schedules visits at locations in District 74

DIXON—State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) will continue his 2023 Summer Tour of District 74 through August.

The tour consists of traveling office hours and coffee & conversation events held on alternating weeks. Coffee & Conversation events will all be held at locally-owned coffee shops and restaurants. Rep. Fritts will also be traveling to local businesses and municipal governments to better understand their state needs.

The events scheduled for the month of August include the following:

Traveling Office Hours

- Wednesday, Aug. 23

at Earlville City Hall, 210 W. Railroad St., from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- Wednesday, Aug. 23 at Waterman Village Hall, 215 W. Adams St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, Aug. 23 at Shabbona Village Hall, 308 E. Comanche Ave., from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Coffee & Conversation

- Wednesday, Aug. 30 at Amboy Family Restaurant, 211 E. Main St., from 8-10 a.m.

For more information about the 2023 Summer Tour, including the full schedule of events, visit repfritts.com/summertour.

Criminal justice courses offered

OGLESBY — If you've ever been pulled over to the side of the road by a police officer in the Illinois Valley Area your odds are fairly strong that the officer is an Illinois Valley Community College graduate.

IVCC offers degrees in criminal justice starting this fall for those with an interest in law enforcement.

"The assumption may be made that a career in criminal justice leads to working as a city police officer when in fact sometimes that couldn't be further from the actual experience. Police officers are present and viable in our local community, but at the same time the field is so broad and many career opportunities exist beyond even in local law enforcement. For some of those careers you may never even sit behind the wheel of a squad car. Careers in criminal justice are changing and expanding rapidly and positions exist in criminal profiling, investigation, forensics, victims

advocate, corrections, parole, homeland security, judges, lawyers, air marshals, and a variety of entry level positions. Whether your interest is patrolling, investigating or behind a microscope, IVCC is a great place to start your journey into the vast and exciting field of criminal justice," said Vice-President for Student Services Mark Grzybowski.

Classes in Criminal Justice at IVCC include: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Introduction to Forensic Science, Juvenile Delinquency, Corrections in America, Policing in America, Criminal Investigation and Evidence and Criminal Procedures. A limited number of seats remain in Legal Environment of the Business, taught online by IVCC Professor and Attorney Vince Brolley.

IVCC has classes online and in-person. Classes begin on Aug. 16 and fall registration is underway at (815) 224-0447 or www.ivcc.edu/register.

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Base of column at Elk's Lodge
Winner - Margaret Jones

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LOCAL AND AREA

Drive-In

Continued from Page A1

With the Bottomleys, who live in Utica, having the drive-in as one of their life-changing memories, they understand it is the same way for others.

Between legacy and memories, the new owners don't want to change the décor, personality, or character of the place many dates, firsts, engagements, dinners, tears, and laughs have been made.

"The way the drive-in is now is how it was when I worked here as a teenager," said Paul Bottomley. "There are a few minor changes that only I would know in the concession stand, but for the most part, when people walk in here, they recognize it."

"During high school class reunions, a lot of people who haven't been around for a while come to the drive-in and they say, 'This is just like when I was a kid.' I don't want to change things."

"A big hailstorm messed up the roof and broke a section of fence. The insurance covered the cost of the roof and a new paint job. They asked me what colors I wanted, and I wanted the colors that Ron had because he picked them out."

The soft open, the last week of July, showed Tom and Jerry and DC League of Super-Pets, while the grand opening featured Barbie and The Flash.

Tom and Jerry and Super-Pets were feelers to see how many people would come out and to help train the new staff as only one employee has past experience at the drive-in.

The Bottomleys said the soft open was perfect as Friday had a storm, Saturday had 30 cars and 25 cars of movie viewers came on Sunday. The staff had a weather situation, enough customers but not too many to make them feel rushed or flustered, and the experience of how a



The Rt. 34 Drive-In Theatre has returned movies to the big screen. Paul Bottomley, seated, and his wife, Shelley, went through numerous hours of aggravating paperwork and phone calls to complete the processes needed to get the drive-in back to the traditional standards of Ron Magnoni. Magnoni, who was the previous owner and close friend of the Bottomleys, passed away in February. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

movie should be run.

Oh, and there is a big change, a POS (point of sale) System. Meaning, the Rt. 34 Drive-In accepts plastic.

"This is the first time the drive-in has ever taken credit and debit cards. It has always been cash only," Shelley Bottomley said. "But nowadays, nobody carries cash. Very few people carry cash. In years past, working with Ron, we would lose a lot of people because they would come into the concession stand and all they had was a card. We couldn't take it and we would lose business."

"The soft open was good for us because it gave our staff training and practice. We realized a few things that needed to be tweaked or fixed. Those were done during the week. This week (the grand opening), the staff is taking off. They're not missing a beat and they're ready."

2 criminal sexual abuse charges added for man

❑ Merritt has August 11 court date

MENDOTA – A Mendota man will appear in court on Friday, Aug. 11 after more charges were leveled against him on Aug. 1.

Brett W. Merritt, 54, of 803 14th Ave., was charged with two counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse after an indictment by a LaSalle County grand jury. The latest charge, which is a Class 2 felony, is for alleged contact with a teenager between 13 and 17 years of age at the time of the offenses.

The two new offenses were alleged to have occurred in 2017 and 2018, but the criminal information filed in LaSalle County Circuit Court states that Merritt is subject to an extended statute of limitations because of the alleged victim's age and the alleged nature of the contact.

The initial charge against Merritt that oc-

curred on July 11 was for the offense of possession of child pornography, a Class 3 felony, following the execution of two LaSalle County search warrants in Mendota, one being the home of Merritt and the other being his place of business at 800 Monroe St. His arrest by Mendota Police followed a six-month investigation into multiple and various crimes.

Mendota Police were assisted in the arrest by the Illinois Attorney General's Forensic Computer Crimes Unit, the LaSalle County Sheriff's Department and the LaSalle County State's Attorney's Office.

The Class 2 felony carries a possible prison sentence of three to seven years and the Class 3 felony carries a two- to five-year sentence.

After his initial arrest, Merritt posted bond and was released.

Motorists reminded to know and obey the school bus laws

OTTAWA – Christopher Dvorak, Regional Superintendent of Schools, would like to remind you how important it is to know and obey school bus laws.

You should know that the flashing amber lights are a warning the bus is

going to stop, and the flashing red lights and extended stop arm mean the bus has stopped to load or unload children. You are required by state law to obey these signals. Please help protect the children who ride our school buses by obeying the law.



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Streets

Continued from Page A1

Chicago St. that was originally granted in May 2021. Hessenberger said plans have not changed and the request was approved.

Alderman Kyle Kim reported on Lexipol policy and procedures software for the Mendota Fire Department. The council approved purchasing the software for an initial cost of \$11,769 and then an annual fee of \$4,675.

Alderman Jay Miller presented a request from the Mendota Tri-County Fair Association for a liquor license for a beer/wine garden, which was approved by the council.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Police Chief Greg Kellen said 38 citations were issued for city ordinance violations in July. He will update the council at each meeting.

Kellen noted that three

police officers will graduate from the academy on Aug. 18.

Fire Chief Dennis Rutishauser informed the council that the department has received a federal grant in the amount of \$213,210, which will be used to purchaser 23 self-contained breathing apparatuses.

OTHER ITEMS

Mayor David Boelk wished everybody a happy, fun and safe Sweet Corn Festival weekend.

Alderman Vicki Johnson gave an update on food truck mania proposed for Mendota. She said the program is tentatively set to be held the second and fourth Monday of the month starting Aug. 28 and ending Nov. 13, and located in the 700 block of Main Street.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Monday, Aug. 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Calendar

Continued from Page A1

7:30-Midnight – Side Hustle performing in Beer Garden.

8-10 p.m. – Grupo Los Parientes de Rancho Nuevo performing on First State Bank stage.

Sunday, Aug. 13

All Day – Magic Matt performing his strolling magic & balloon artistry in downtown Mendota.

9 a.m.-5 p.m. – Crafters Market Place & Flea Market, located in Veterans Park in downtown Mendota and Mendota Elks Lodge parking lot at Indiana Avenue & Jefferson Street.

10:30 a.m. – Food & merchandise booths open. First State Bank Hospitality Tent opens for the day.

Noon – Carnival Midway opens.

Noon – The Jesse White Tumblers special high-flying performance in front of Mendota Elks Lodge.

Noon-2 p.m. – The Acoustix performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

Noon-2 p.m. – Lica Lorraine balloon artistry at corner of Washington Street & Eighth Avenue.


1 p.m. – Sweet Corn Festival Grand Parade, featuring floats, bands, antique & classic vehicles, Shriners and more.

2 p.m. – Free sweet corn served at intersection of Illinois Avenue & Jefferson Street.

2-4 p.m. – The Acoustix performing in First State Bank Hospitality Tent.

3:30 p.m. – The South Shore Drill Team performing in front of Mendota Elks Lodge.

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OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA Ill. Press Assoc./No. Ill. Newspaper Assoc.

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Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writer or artist. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reporter management or staff.

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.

Herbert Hoover, defender of the old order

By John Hendrickson

President Herbert Hoover led a remarkable life that was based upon public service, humanitarianism, and a belief that America is an exceptional nation. Hoover is often remembered for both his exceptional career as a mining engineer, his humanitarianism, and countless acts of charity.

From a political perspective, Hoover’s legacy is dominated by the Great Depression, and he is often viewed, however incorrectly, as a failed president. Nevertheless, what is forgotten is Hoover’s contribution to political philosophy as a defender of American constitutionalism and conservatism.

Hoover first outlined his political philosophy in 1922 in “American Individualism.” Hoover wrote “American Individualism” not only to explain the principles that made the United States an exceptional nation, but also as a defense against totalitarian ideologies such as socialism. Based upon his experiences during the Great War and his extensive travels as a mining engineer, Hoover witnessed firsthand various political and economic systems across the world. American Individualism defined what made the United States so different from Europe or other nations. Hoover also understood the threat posed by “social philosophies” or ideologies that were arising in the aftermath of the Great War.

In “American Individualism,” Hoover explained the philosophic, spiritual, economic, and political grounds that made up what he labeled the “American System” of liberty. At the heart of this was the principle of American individualism, which he defined “as the source of human progress – that each individual shall be given the chance and stimulation for development of the best which he has been endowed in the heart and mind; it is the sole source of progress...”

At the center of American individualism was the idea of equality of opportunity. Hoover’s notion of equality of opportunity was central because it meant that Americans, as a result of our liberty and the Constitution, would allow people to develop their own abilities. Hoover’s ideas were influenced by the philosophy of President Abraham Lincoln, and it also reflected his own life as an orphaned boy who worked hard and became a successful engineer and public servant.

In response to President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal, Hoover became the principal voice of conservatism. Hoover believed that New Deal liberalism was a threat to constitutionalism. In 1934, Hoover published “The Challenge to Liberty,” which was a conservative defense of constitutional government and a warning against what he described as New Deal regimentation along with the various poisonous ideologies of socialism, communism, fascism and Nazism.

Hoover argued that New Deal liberalism was undermining American constitutionalism and liberty. Further, the New Deal was a radical departure from constitutional government, which led directly to the growth in the size and scope of the federal government at the expense of the states and the people. Hoover argued that constitutional government did not need to be jettisoned as a result of the Great Depression.

Ohio’s Senator Robert A. Taft described “The Challenge to Liberty” as a thorough expression of the “essential principles of American government.” In reviewing Hoover’s book, one columnist wrote that “Mr. Hoover defends the old order,” and described him as the “high priest” of the conservative tradition.

Hoover stated that a conservative “is one who desires to retain the wisdom and experience of the past and who is prepared to apply the best of that wisdom and experience to meet the changes which are inevitable in every new generation.”

Hoover is a forgotten conservative statesman, whose philosophy and ideas can still serve as a guide for the nation today. Hoover was often a “voice in the wilderness,” especially during the New Deal era as the nation embraced progressivism. Hoover never tired of defending the “American System” and the Constitution, which he described as the “Ark of the Covenant” of our liberty.

In reflecting on Hoover’s conservatism, presidential historian Richard Norton Smith wrote that “none has more relevance to our own time than Hoover’s role as a philosopher of modern conservative thought.”

(John Hendrickson serves as policy director for Iowans for Tax Relief Foundation.)

Letters

Mendota: A great city with great people

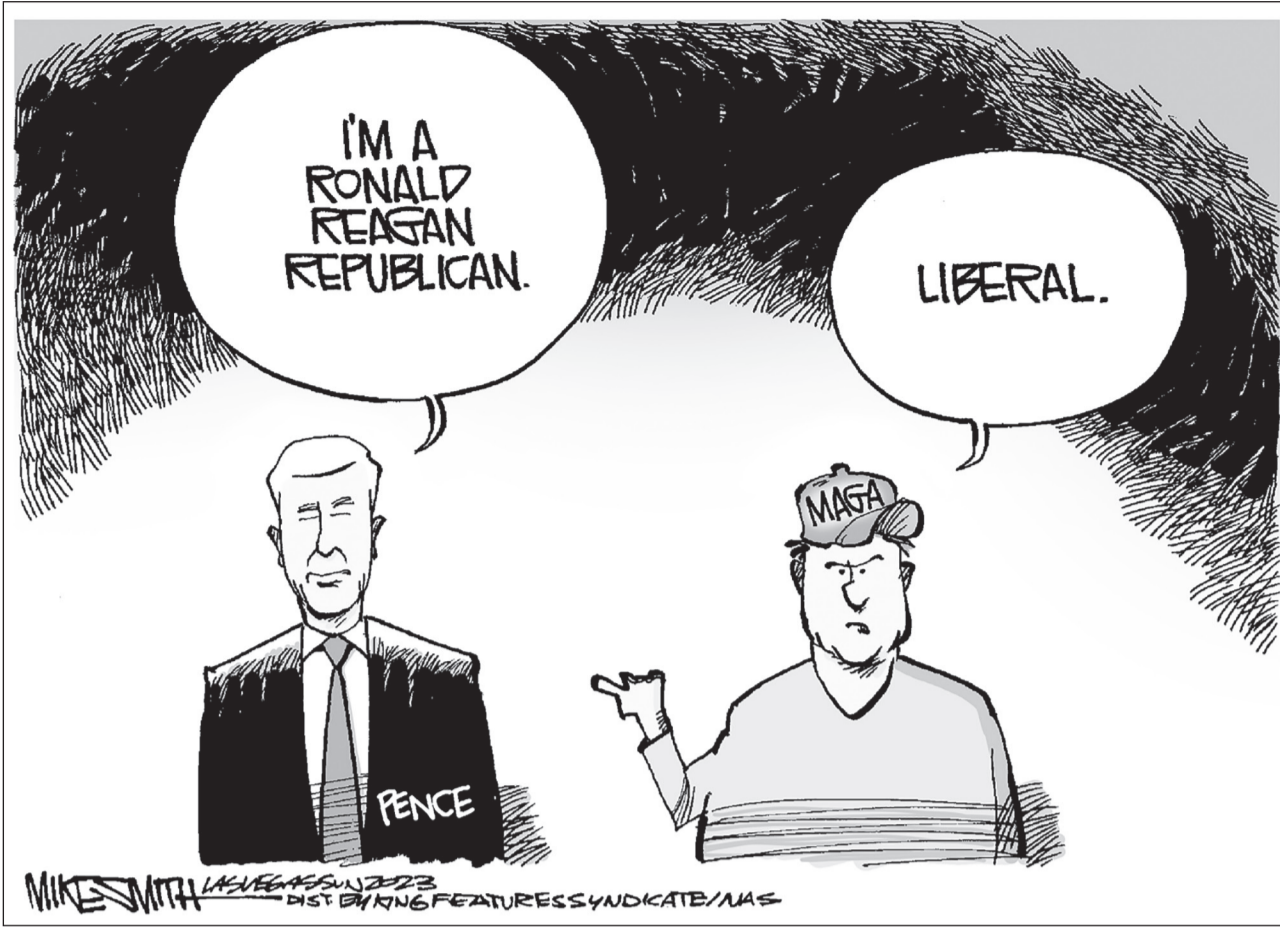
Dear Editor:

I had just picked up a sausage and cheese mac at McDonald’s and thought I would ride around the lake and see what the damage from a recent big storm was. While I was driving around I saw a lady picking up branches. I stopped and congratulated her for volunteering to clear up the grounds and she said thank you and then she said that her daughter was also helping her and was very far away from her. I spotted the young girl, which I estimated was about 10 years old, struggling to pull a fairly large limb to the side of the road.

I thought that was terrific that the young daughter was helping her mother doing something that she thought was fun and that she was proud for helping her mother.

This also reminds me of Reimagine Mendota and many other groups that are doing great things for Mendota. That’s why I love Mendota and keep coming back to a great city and great people.

Ken Gehler,
Mendota & Columbia, S.C.



Cyclone relief committee reports – 1904

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Aug. 11, 2004.)

By Jessica Nashold

It was one hundred years ago that Mendotans assembled in Eckart’s Hall to hear the final report of the Cyclone Relief Committee. Professor W.R. Foster, superintendent of the East Mendota School, had served as chairman, and his report accounted for all contributions made and disbursements approved. This report, including the names of every man, woman and child who had contributed, was to be published in local papers, as soon as it had been approved by the auditing committee. It was noted that among Chicago firms with customers in Mendota, only Mandel Brothers had contributed to Mendota’s Cyclone Relief Fund.

Caspar Fischer moved that Foster be presented with \$200 in appreciation of the countless hours he had devoted to the task of providing aid to those suffering in the Cyclone of 1903.

It was also one hundred years ago that the Sun-Bulletin reported the “pleasure of a ride in Tower’s new gasoline buggy.” As a result, the Sun-Bulletin carried a detailed description of Tower’s Holzman automobile. It consisted of a strongly built buggy with rubber-rimmed wheels and a gasoline engine under the seat. The motive power was transmitted by means of a cable passing around a flange attached to the rear wheels. When the operator desired to slow down or stop, he could loosen the cable, and at the same time, apply a brake. The average speed, when “running around town,” was 6 miles per hour. However, the Holzman was capable of achieving 30 mph.

Anyone driving a horse, when meeting a motorized vehicle, was advised to turn aside. The engine was much louder when required to maneuver.

It will be more likely to startle the horse.

A moving picture show of current events was scheduled to be shown at

Backtracks & Sidetracks

the Opera House on the evening of Aug. 9, 1904. Edison’s “finest and best projectorscope” would be used to show the pictures.

A problem with rural mail carriers that had been argued since July 1, 1904, was settled. When the annual salary of rural carriers had been advanced to \$720, those carriers with routes of fewer than 25 miles were told they would receive proportionately less.

This seems unfair.

Following a protest, it was decided that rural carriers already in service on July 1, 1904, would receive the full \$720. Those signed on after July 1 would receive an amount determined by the length of the route.

After an ordinance passed that prohibited spitting on the sidewalk, signs were posted in downtown Mendota to make sure all were aware of the penalties violators of the ordinance would incur.

The Great Pan-American Show arrived in Mendota on Aug. 12, 1904. It had a European Menagerie and a celebrated elephant called Rajah, which had cost them \$25,000. They traveled by rail and it required 30 cars to carry all the tents, horses, wild animals and other paraphernalia needed.

A free parade precedes the show.

Mr. Langlitz, in charge of the grounds near the Union Depot, had been very busy cutting out “all foreign grass except bluegrass and clover.” The lawns had just been seeded that spring.

They are doing fine.

About a dozen frogs, in a lily pond

behind the home of Doctor Edwards, were pretty noisy.

It reminds a person of camping days.

The Rochelle & Southern branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad introduced passenger service in August 1904. There were stations between Davis Junction and McNabb. Davis Junction passengers could connect with the CM&St.P for trips west.

It had been observed that the number of freight trains passing through Mendota on the Rochelle & Southern indicated a thriving business.

Mr. and Mrs. George Lutz returned by rail from their wedding trip on Aug. 1, 1904. Their many friends gave them a royal caravan that night.

SIDETRACK – Etta Lutz later became postmaster of the Mendota office when a Democrat was needed.

George Schuetz, proprietor of the Eclipse Café, began publishing his menus, with prices attached.

You can tell just what your cost will be.

The Excelsior Debating Club, at the YMCA, held a Harvest Home Festival in the city park (now Veteran’s Park), on Sept. 1, 1904. Farmers were urged to bring their grain, butter, eggs and fruit. Women were invited to display their needlework.

There will be prizes.

The Mendota Gas Company was located in a small building on Washington Street, which was cleared away for the post office site.

In 1904, gas bills were payable there no later than the 15th of the month. It also handled a line of stoves and offered a free gas connection and free gas for stoves purchased from its stock before Sept. 1, 1904.

It was not stated how long the free gas was to continue.

The Florida slavery smear

By Rich Lowry

There have been so many poisonous and stupid lies about Florida since 2020, it’s almost hard to keep track, but the latest may be the most outrageous.

As you might have heard thanks to the vice president of the United States, Florida allegedly wants to teach its students that slavery benefited slaves.

In reality, the Florida curriculum on slavery is extensive and includes pretty much everything you’d want a child to know about this enormity. The occasion for the Kamala Harris smear is one line that says, “Instruction includes how slaves developed skills which, in some instances, could be applied for their personal benefit.”

This is not the first thing, or even the 19th, that you’d want students to learn about slavery, but it is also indisputably true. No one is saying the enslaved “benefited” from slavery. It’s not an endorsement of slavery to point out that slaves looked for every crack in the system to try to improve themselves and gain some autonomy -- rather, it’s an endorsement of the initiative and resilience of an oppressed people operating in the worst of circumstances.

We are supposed to believe that enslaved African Americans strained against their awful condition in every way -- learning to read, worshipping on their own, defying their masters when they could, creating an elaborate system of escape, but they never, ever learned a skill to their own benefit.

This is, of course, nonsense. The Advanced Placement African American Studies curriculum that Florida has rejected contains almost exactly the same language about skills as the state’s curriculum -- without causing a firestorm of criticism.

Some of the most honored African American figures in our history took advantage of whatever ability they had, while enslaved, to improve themselves and learn. In Baltimore, Frederick Douglass famously became a ship caulker and brought in \$6 to \$9 a week, rightly resenting “the right of the robber” exercised by his owner, who took his earnings.

In his extraordinary “African Founders: How Enslaved People Expanded American Ideals,” David Hackett Fischer

brings to light other lesser-known examples. He notes the example of one Captain David Stodder, the leading shipbuilder in Baltimore in the late 18th century. As of 1790, about two dozen of his workers were slaves, and he freed them in his will. “Among these slaves,” Fischer writes, “were some of his most highly skilled workers.”

Or consider George R. Roberts, who was probably born a slave in southern Maryland. He became an experienced seaman and eventually “came home to Baltimore, bought a small house in the happy neighborhood that is still called Canton, and became prominent in the civic life of the city.”

Or Robert Lemmons, born a slave in Texas. He learned from a rancher who employed him and became extremely adept at handling mustangs. Freed after the Civil War, according to Fischer, he “saved his profits, invested in land, built a holding of 1,200 acres, became a successful rancher, rented some of his land, added another business, and became a local money lender.”

Was slavery good for these men? Absolutely not. The point is what they accomplished despite slavery, not because of it.

Two can play the Kamala Harris game, by the way.

In her famous 1619 Project essay, The New York Times writer Nikole Hannah-Jones writes that: “Black people were not chattel. And so the process of seasoning, instead of erasing identity, served an opposite purpose: In the void, we forged a new culture all our own.”

There she goes -- saying slavery served some good, that it was “seasoning.”

Imagine if the Florida curriculum said that slavery gave us African American hair styles? There’d be outrage, but Hannah-Jones says it: “Today’s avant-garde nature of black hairstyles and fashion displays a vibrant reflection of enslaved people’s determination to feel fully human through self-expression.”

The left wouldn’t have to deny the historical record or tie itself into knots if it weren’t so determined to lie about DeSantis, but that imperative overwhelms everything else.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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LOCAL AND AREA

Education-related classes offered at IVCC

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College offers classes for those considering a career in the educational field this fall.

“Education has a vast number of career opportunities that are easily overlooked. As the needs of learners become more diverse it is important for the educational system to remain in step and for incoming students to acquire the skills for the creation of optimal student learning. IVCC is a great place to consider the array of educational opportunities and to spring board a career in education. Traditional careers remain viable in early childhood, elementary, secondary and special education, but there are other opportunities that many incoming students may not even be aware of. Schools are staffed with a variety of positions like guidance counselors, social workers, technology experts, administrative assistants, administrators, maintenance,

janitorial, curriculum designers, school psychologists, psychometrists, education and resource development, textbook writers, sales, adult education and my personal favorite student services personnel,” said Vice-President of IVCC Student Services Mark Grzybowski.

IVCC offers the required basic general education classes for the field of education. A student can expedite their way to a state or in-state private university by earning an Illinois Articulation Initiative/Core General Education Curriculum package, about 37-41 credits depending on the courses they select, an Associates Degree in Arts or Science—60 credits designed to transfer on to a university to earn a bachelor’s degree in education or an Applied Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education as well as ladder or stacked credential opportunities for certification.

“Through the years incoming students come into my office and tell me they are

thinking they might want to be a teacher, but really aren’t sure if that’s the career for them. Students are drawn to teaching as a natural evolution given the amount of time they have already spent in a classroom. Their expressed interest is an opportune opening to begin the journey of career exploration inviting me to open up avenues they maybe hadn’t been considering or even exposed to in the field of education. Questions begin along the lines of what’s attractive to you about education? Is it the subject area, the creativity and we continue along those lines until something sparks their interest,” said IVCC Counselor Valery Calvetti.

IVCC has online, in-person on both the main campus and Ottawa Campus and a limited number of classes that blend online and in-person learning. Classes begin on Aug. 16 and fall registration is underway at (815) 224-0447 or www.ivcc.edu/register.

Careers in medical field can be pursued at IVCC

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College offers classes and programs for those considering a career in the medical profession starting on Wednesday, Aug. 16.

The college offers limited admissions programs in Nursing, Medical Office Assistant, Dental Assisting and Advanced Dental Office Management. Limited admissions programs are programs that a student needs to apply for and meet the competitive requirements prior to admission. Applications for these medical degrees and certificates open in November the year prior with the deadline be determined in the spring semester.

“Aug. 16 is the start of the fall semester at IVCC. It is the perfect time for students to prepare for application into the limited admissions programs the college offers. It’s not too late to sit for placement testing, apply for financial aid and meet with a counselor to begin to understand the application process. The sooner the student starts to understand the process the better prepared they are

to apply in the spring and ready to start in the following fall,” said Director of Admissions, Tom Quigley.

Limited class openings remain in online and in-person classes for those considering a career in the medical field. IVCC offers a basic human body, structure and function and a general lab biology class for those wanting to learn the fundamentals prior to delving into an advanced biology course. For those considering a career in nursing, physical education, physical therapy or kinesiology, anatomy and physiology one is open with day and evening sections as well as a few seats in an online anatomy and physiology two. Microbiology, an advanced biology class has both day and evening sections available. For those not interested in taking the full plunge into the medical field, openings remain in the first aid course.

Classes begin on Wednesday, Aug. 16 and registration is underway at ivcc.edu/register or 815.224.0447. For counseling assistance phone 815.224.0360.



IVCC alumnus Joe Franco, center, visited recently with former IVCC President Jerry Corcoran, left, and former Executive Director of Community Relations and Development Fran Brolley to formalize plans for a scholarship for students pursuing medical-related careers. (Photo contributed)

Franco scholarship aimed at medical, lab students

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College alumnus Joe Franco of Kankakee has donated \$25,000 to endow a scholarship for future medical and clinical lab professionals.

Franco, a 1956 graduate of IVCC predecessor LaSalle-Peru-Oglesby Junior College, studied chemistry and Spanish, among other subjects at LPO. The DePue native also played baseball and helped lead John Strell’s Apache basketball team to the NJCAA regional tournament in Flint, Mich.

Upon arrival at Illinois Wesleyan’s St. Joseph School of Medical Technology, Franco realized LPO had prepared him well for upper-level college coursework.

He would go on to found independent medical labs in Kankakee County and eventually become a commercial real estate developer in Kankakee, Moline and elsewhere. At the peak of his medical lab enterprise, Franco employed six pathologists and 200 workers in Kankakee County, Champaign-Urbana and Danville.

His seven-story Executive Centre, now home to the

Kankakee Public Library, is considered one of the finest office buildings between Champaign and Chicago and The New York Times called it a “sophisticated showplace.”

Franco also helped spark a downtown Moline renaissance by developing a “super block” that included his seven-story Heritage Place and a 300-car parking garage.

“Somewhat-retired” for the past decade, today he manages 2,000 acres of farmland in Kankakee and Iroquois counties.

Franco’s son Joe is a cosmetic surgeon, son Scott is the CEO of the family’s Heritage Development, and daughter Shelly was a lab technician and is now a real estate developer. The elder Joe and his wife, the former Mary Theresa Grivetti, have eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The Franco’s have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to charity and in 2022 Joe was the first recipient of The Economic Alliance of Kankakee County’s IMPACT Award “to honor his investment of time, treasure, and talent” and a “commitment to Kankakee County

that stretched over decades.”

Jeff Hammes, chairman of the Alliance, said the Kankakee region lost over 4,000 jobs in an economic downturn in the 1980s but eventually came out of it “because of its work ethic and the determination of — and vision — of a self-made man (Franco).”

He credited Franco, a 2009 IVCC-LPO Hall of Fame inductee, for “changing the face of Kankakee” and for being a “get-it-done type of guy.”

Franco’s parents — Joe Sr., worked in DePue’s Zinc plant and his mother Clara at Westclox — ingrained in him a granite-hard work ethic.

“I could not have afforded college if not for the opportunity LPO provided me,” Franco says.

Today, he returns to the Illinois Valley to see family and he owns a home in Ottawa.

Praised as “mission-driven,” Franco concedes he is a fortunate individual, “but luck is a by-product of hard work.”

Reflecting on a remarkable life that began humbly in a small working-class town, he often remarks, “Not bad for a kid from DePue.”

GARAGE SALE TIME!



It’s a great time to have a Garage Sale. If you’re planning to get together some of the items you no longer use around your home and set up your own sale, be sure you follow some important basic steps!

1. WHAT TO SELL

Anything that still has usability and some value.

2. HOW TO PRICE

Decide the price of each item and then tag that item.

3. LENGTH OF SALE

Sales from Thursday through Saturday seem best.

4. HOW TO SET IT UP

Make it easy for buyers to view the items and have a central place with sufficient change for them to pay.

5. HOW TO ADVERTISE

The most effective place to reach more people is in The Mendota Reporter. We will be happy to assist you in placing your sale ad.

GARAGE SALE DEADLINES*

THURSDAY, 5 PM -

to appear in Monday’s Money Saver

MONDAY, 10 AM -

To appear in Wednesday’s Reporter

* On a week with a holiday, deadlines may change. Please call to verify.



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SOCIAL NEWS



Hannah Bowermaster, left, Kate Kelly and Crystal Credi unload boxes of food in IVCC's new food resource center, The Eagles' Nest. (Photo contributed)

IVCC food pantry expands, gets new name

OGLESBY—Illinois Valley Community College is expanding its on-campus food pantry to serve more students and is giving it a new name.

The Eagles' Nest will be housed in CTC-202R, a resource room on the second floor of the Peter Miller Community Technology Center between the offices of Career Services and Counseling. The site was chosen because it is accessible and conveniently located just down the corridor from other key support services such as Project Success, Continuing Education, Adult Education and Special Populations departments. An elevator to the main floor lobby is nearby.

A micro-pantry had been shelved in the IVCC Foundation Office, but stores and storage were limited and student need was growing beyond its supply, said Crystal Credi, IVCC Special Populations coordinator. "More students need something more robust than a quick bite to eat at lunch," she said.

"Surveys show that students sometimes eat less, skip meals, or do not have the means to purchase an ample food supply. Circumstances can also put community food pantries out of reach because those students lack transportation or can't come when the pantries are open," Credi said. The new food resource center will open Aug. 16, the day classes begin, and is available to current IVCC students and

students enrolled in Illinois High School diploma courses and English as a Second Language courses. Hours and operation policies will be finalized and announced through ivcc.edu/specialpopulations. The room will be staffed by student workers and staff volunteers who undergo training in health and nutrition guidelines.

Students will check in to shop, choosing from an array of canned foods, shelf-stable foods, cereals, snacks and non-perishable goods. They can choose enough for an afternoon snack or fill a bag with a week's groceries.

The Eagles' Nest will also provide more choice than IVCC's traditional food drives, Credi noted. Though successful, the drives resulted in a random selection and nutrition value, and items were boxed uniformly without regard to individual tastes and needs.

IVCC President Dr. Tracy Morris said The Eagles' Nest culminates a long effort. Dr. Morris thanked everyone who made the food pantry a reality, including River Bend Food Bank for partnering with IVCC to make The Eagles' Nest possible. River Bend is covering the cost of food.

The Davenport, Iowa-based River Bend Food Bank, which stocks hunger-relief organizations across 23 counties in Iowa and Illinois, supplies IVCC through the Hall Township Food Pantry in Spring Valley.

Religious Ed registration set in Cherry on Aug. 20th

CHERRY—The 2023-24 Religious Education registration for Holy Trinity-Cherry, St. Thomas More-Dalzell and St. Patrick-Arlington will be held Sunday, Aug. 20 from 9:30-11 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall in Cherry.

The registration fee is \$30 per child. For returning students, registration forms will be sent to your email address. For new students, email or call to receive a registration form. Forms will also be available at registration.

The class location is Holy Trinity Church Hall in Cherry. Class time is 9:45-11 a.m. The class schedules are as follows:

- K-4th Grade—every other Sunday starting Sept. 10.
- 5th & 6th Grade—every other Sunday starting Sept. 17.
- 7th & 8th Grade—(new) every Sunday starting Sept. 10. (7th & 8th grade Confirmation classes are every week. This is a change from last year.)

Volunteer teachers and helpers are needed. This is a great way to help in the community, earn community service hours and receive experience working with children in a classroom setting. Team up with a family member or friend. Teachers must be senior year of high school or older and helpers must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For more information or to receive a registration form, contact Michelle Bickett, religious education director, at michelleb_ht@yahoo.com or call 815-751-2656, or email the church at holytrinitycherry@gmail.com or call 815-894-2006.

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Mendota Class of '83 to gather August 11

MENDOTA—The Mendota High School Class of 1983 will be having a class reunion at 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11 at the Mendota Elks Lodge. Please spread the word to other classmates.

The cost is \$25 per person payable at the door, which includes rental and food.

For more information, contact Gail Sessler at 815-866-6645 or email classof83mendo-ta@gmail.com.

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THE BACK PAGE

POLICE BLOTTER

SUSPENDED LICENSE
Brandon Humm, 41, of 324 Railroad St., Earlville, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 13th Avenue and Washington Street at 9:17 a.m. Aug. 4. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

SUSPENDED LICENSE
Trevor J. Vihnanek, 21, of Plainfield, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop

at Meriden and East Main streets at 1:57 a.m. Aug. 6. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

NO VALID LICENSE
Brian L. Munsterman, 47, of Bourbonnais, was charged with no valid driver's license after a traffic stop at U.S. 34 and East Fourth Road at 7:28 p.m. Aug. 6. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

CARDS OF THANKS

On behalf of myself and all of the Stephenitch family, I would like to thank all of our customers for the support and love shown to our family as we grieved the loss of my brother and business partner, John. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to all of my family for their help and support during our going-out-of-business sale. I would have been lost without all of you. I am pleased to announce that our store property has been sold to a gentleman by the

name of Marc Blanc, who is in the process of opening a Car Quest Auto Parts store. Marc brings another longtime family business, serving multiple communities for 75 years. It is my hope that all of our friends and past customers show Marc the same degree of love and support that you have shown my family for the past 130 years. I'm missing our customers, but enjoying retirement.

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Mendota's 76th Annual SWEET CORN FESTIVAL



THURSDAY, AUG. 10

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM A Special Afternoon for Special Kids. The Carnival will be open for a private armband for anyone with Special Needs and their immediate family. Please call the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce for more details.
Registration is required to get an idea of how many we should expect: www.sweetcornfestival.com

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM The Acoustix - Performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent. Sponsored by Merritt Funeral Home

6:00 PM Carnival Midway & Food Booths Open - Carnival and Midway open to the general public. (Discount ride armband from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM)

7:00 PM Silvertone Junction performance on the First State Bank Stage. Sponsored by Dr. Tara VanDeWyngaerde

7:00 PM-10:00PM Teen Dance Night with DJ Skidmarc and DJ Famous-Enjoy free admission and come dance to today's hits at the entertainment stage on Main St. Sponsored by RSG Millwrights Inc.

FRIDAY, AUG. 11

10:30 AM Food Booths featuring festival, ethnic, and regional delights, and a variety of Merchandise Booths, & First State Bank Hospitality Tent open for the day.

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Good Vybz Ent. Dj in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent. Sponsored by Edward D. Jones

12:00 AM Carnival opens for the day - (Discount armband from 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM The Acoustix - performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent Sponsored by Central Bank Illinois.

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM The Acoustix - performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent. Sponsored by: Kurt Bruno - State Farm Insurance

6:30 PM Pre-pageant Entertainment featuring Andrew Bloomquist Sponsored by Eureka Savings Bank.

7:30 PM Sweet Corn Queen Pageant on the First State Bank Stage on Rt. 34 downtown with intermission entertainment featuring Andrew Bloomquist Sponsored by Eureka Savings Bank.

7:30 PM - 12:00 AM Beer Garden featuring entertainment from Greenfield Station. Sponsored by Triple Service. & Euclid Beverage Co.

ALL DAY Magic Matt - Performing his Strolling Magic & Balloon Artistry in downtown Mendota. Sponsored by HCC

SATURDAY, AUG. 12

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Crafters Market Place & Flea Market. Vendors are in

two locations. Veteran's Park on Rt. 34 in downtown Mendota and the Elks Club parking lot on Indiana Ave. & Jefferson St., just 1/2 block north of Veteran's Park.

10:00 AM Mini Royalty Pageant 5-year-olds competing to wear the crown of Mini King & Queen of Mendota's Annual Sweet Corn Festival, on the First State Bank Stage on Rt. 34 downtown. Sponsored by Plano Powered by Pure Fishing.

10:30 AM Food Booths, featuring festival, ethnic, and regional delights, and a variety of Merchandise Booths, & First State Bank Hospitality Tent open for the day.

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Nicodemus musical performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent Sponsored by Prairie State Tractor

12:00 AM Carnival opens for the day.

11:30AM - 1:30PM Steve Cerqua acoustic guitar performance on First State Bank Stage. Sponsored by The Chalet Sports Bar.

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Lica Lorraine will be showing off her talents at balloon artistry at the intersection of Washington St. and 8th Avenue. Sponsored by: Davis Family Health

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM Wild Style Design Face Painting Professional artists will be available to transform you into your favorite animal or superhero for the day. Near the corner of Washington St. & Indiana Ave. Sponsored by Advanced Drainage Systems (ADS).

12:00/2:00/4:00 PM 3 Shows - Mr. Steve - includes music, magic, balloons and comedy all blended into wholesome family entertainment. Located on the corner of Illinois Ave. and Jefferson St. Sponsored by McDonalds

2:00 PM Annual Sweet Corn Festival Food Contest. All categories of food must be made with sweet corn and prepared in advance. Judging will be held at 2:00 PM in the Mendota Elks Lodge, 707 Indiana Ave. downtown. Entry forms are available at the Mendota Chamber Office. Sponsored by Nightengale's Thrift Shop.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Zac Quad Music Acoustic musician playing everything from the 60's through today in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent. Sponsored by: Mendota Mutual Insurance

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM Judson Main musical performance in the First State Bank Stage. Sponsored by Praire Land Millwright Inc

3:30 PM - 6:30 PM Beer Garden featuring Valley Katz. Sponsored by Ken Otterbach Excavating and Rosati's Pizza of Mendota.

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Good Vybz Ent. Dj in the First State Bank Hospitality

8:00 PM -10:00 PM

7:30 PM - 12:00 AM

ALL DAY

SUNDAY, AUG. 13

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

10:30 AM

12:00 PM

12:00 AM - 2:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

12:00 PM

1:00 PM

2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

3:30 PM

ALL DAY

Tent. Sponsored by: Expressions Salon

Grupo Los Parientes de Rancho Nuevo performing on the First State Bank Stage. Sponsored by RSG Millwrights Inc.

Beer Garden featuring Side Hustle. Sponsored by ADM & G & M Distributors.

Magic Matt - Performing his Strolling Magic & Balloon Artistry in downtown Mendota. Sponsored by Schimmer GM

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Crafters Market Place & Flea Market. Over 200 vendors in two locations. Veteran's Park on Rt. 34 in downtown Mendota and the Elks Club parking lot on Indiana Ave. & Jefferson St., just 1/2 block north of Veteran's Park.

Food Booths featuring festival, ethnic, and regional delights, and a variety of Merchandise Booths, & First State Bank Hospitality Tent open for the day.

Carnival opens for the day.

The Acoustix - performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent First Federal Savings Bank.

Lica Lorraine will be showing off her talents at balloon artistry at the intersection of Washington St. and 8th Avenue. Sponsored by Davis Family Health

The Jesse White Tumblers special high-flying performance in front of the Mendota Elks Lodge on Indiana Ave. Sponsored by Mahoney Environmental Solutions and Mauch Carpentry.

SWEET CORN FESTIVAL GRAND PARADE

Featuring floats, bands, antique & classic vehicles, Shriners, and more! Special highlights include The Jesse White Tumblers and The South Shore Drill Team.

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THE Acoustix - performance in the First State Bank Hospitality Tent. Sponsored by: Kaleel Law Office

The South Shore Drill Team will perform in front of the Mendota Elks Lodge at 707 Indiana Ave. You have watched them in the parade, don't miss this very special performance! Sponsored by: Black Bros. Co., Financial Plus Credit Union, Prescott Brothers Inc., Starved Rock Wood Products.

Magic Matt - Performing his Strolling Magic & Balloon Artistry in downtown Mendota. Sponsored by HCC and Schimmer GM

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BRIDAL GUIDE



A bouquet of beautiful flowers is held by the bride on her wedding day. Roses, orchids, peonies, and other fragrant blooms are often included, but in ancient times brides' bouquets were likely made of herbs.

Time-honored wedding traditions

Weddings are special events that celebrate two individuals' love for one another. Weddings bring together friends and family to witness couples share vows and devote their lives to each other.

Wedding guests recognize that certain components are commonplace in ceremonies and receptions. Perhaps you were once a ring bearer or caught the bouquet? There's a rich history behind the traditions that feature prominently at many weddings. Here's a look at traditions past and present and the meaning behind these customs.

Marriage
The custom of marriage can be traced back thousands of years to when hunters and gatherers started coming together to form societies and farm land. In order to ensure the success of communities, couplings were developed to produce offspring and maintain households.

Tie the knot
Getting married is sometimes referred to as "tying the knot." This stems from the custom of "handfasting," which is a common practice among various cultures around the world, and notably in ancient Rome. The bride and groom's hands are tied together for the duration of the ceremony, not to be released until the wedding is made official. This isn't something you see too often at modern weddings, but can be something unique couples may want to consider.

Bridal bouquet
A bouquet of beautiful flowers is held by the bride on her wedding day. Roses, orchids, peonies, and other fragrant blooms are often included, but in ancient times brides' bouquets were likely made of herbs. According to the resource Minted Weddings, these aromatic

herbs were used to ward off evil spirits.

Veil
Evil spirits also were the basis for the wearing of bridal veils, as they were utilized to hide brides from these miscreants. Veils now are more style than substance.

Bridesmaids
In ancient Rome, bridesmaids were tasked with protecting the bride. They wore the same dresses as the bride to confuse evil spirits from finding the soon-to-be-betrothed and cursing her. Today's bridesmaids are less decoy and more helper. They may wear similar dresses to the bride and one another, but they aren't trying to fool any spirits.

Tossing rice
Rice and grains were long regarded as signs of prosperity and fertility, according to the gifting company Personal Creations. Therefore, couples were showered with rice to ensure their good fortune. Consumption of uncooked rice has been proven to be detrimental to some wildlife, so rice has now been widely replaced with bubbles or birdseed.

Cutting the cake
At the reception, many couples link hands and make the first cut in their wedding cakes. Wedding Wire says it's a tradition that around 80 percent of wedding couples partake in. It is believed this tradition symbolizes the couple's first official task performed together, and marks the promise to support and take care of one another throughout the marriage. However, in the past, brides were responsible for cutting the wedding cake alone and distributed slices to guests to aid in fertility, according to Baking-Nook.com.

Weddings are full of traditions with interesting histories.



A well-planned budget can be just what couples need to begin married life on strong financial footing.

How to build a wedding budget without breaking the bank

Wedding planning is a unique experience unlike any endeavor most couples will ever encounter. Much effort goes into planning a wedding, and that includes building a budget that ensures the big day will be fun without breaking the bank.

Most couples planning a wedding have never tied the knot before, so it can be difficult to determine a reasonable amount to spend. It's easy to go overboard when planning a wedding, and couples may find their list of wants and, consequently, their expenses, growing as they get into the weeds of wedding planning. Though it might require some difficult decisions, couples can keep these tips in mind so they can build a wedding budget that won't land them in debt after saying, "I do."

- **Determine funding.** The days when a bride's parents would finance the wedding entirely on their own are largely a thing of the past. According to a recent WeddingWire Newlywed Report, parents now pay for 52 percent of wedding expenses. As couples begin establishing a wedding budget, it's imperative that they first determine who, if anyone, will be helping them finance the big day. Fifty-two percent of wed-

ding expenses is a significant amount of money, but in that scenario, couples will still need to come up with roughly half of the money needed to fund their weddings. Couples without substantial savings may be forced to cut back in order to avoid beginning their life as a married couple in debt.

- **Make a list of potential expenses.** Location will be a significant factor when determining potential expenses. For example, a 2022 ValuePenguin analysis of data from The Wedding Report found that the average wedding in Massachusetts cost roughly \$30,500 in 2020, while couples tying the knot in Arkansas spent around \$12,500 on their weddings. With such wild fluctuations, it's important that couples get an accurate estimate of how much it may cost them to get married in a given city. Couples who met in a city and still live in a city but grew up in a suburb might save a considerable sum by getting married in their hometowns. Compare and contrast prices in locales you're considering, and then build your budget accordingly. This can help you avoid sticker shock and going over budget. Notable expenses to budget include the venue, attire (i.e., wedding

dress and tuxedo rental), hairstyle and makeup, entertainment, photography, and transportation, among others.

- **Make a list of what's most important.** Most couples will have to compromise in order to avoid taking on debt to finance their weddings. An earnest discussion about what's most important to each person can ensure you both get what you want. Each person can make a list of their priorities, ranking them from most important to least important. Once lists are shared, couples can see where their priorities converge and where they diverge. Any items that rank low on each person's list of priorities can be afforded less funding, while those that are high on each list can take up more of the budget, if necessary.

- **Commit to a limit before spending a dime.** Committing to a limit before spending a dime can help couples keep wedding costs more manageable. Once that number is defined, couples can then work within its parameters, which can make potentially difficult decisions a little easier by narrowing options at a time when options can seem endless.

A well-planned budget can be just what couples need to begin married life on strong financial footing.

Helpful tips for writing wedding vows

The exchange of wedding vows is a key component of a wedding ceremony and sometimes helps to ensure the marriage is binding in accordance with the faith of the participants. Vows also may be exchanged in service of tradition. According to the wedding resource Zola, vows are not a legal necessity for marriage and some cultures do not use them. Still, many couples like to recite vows during their weddings.

Couples have various options pertaining to the vows they share. In religious ceremonies, vows may be predetermined as part of the requirements and rituals of that faith and religious texts. Individuals also may choose to read romantic verses from poetry. Another option is to write one's own vows.

When drafting vows, here are some guidelines to follow.

- **Utilize a template.** Scour the internet for resources on writing vows. You'll likely find sample vows or even templates where you can fill in information if you do not know where to begin.
- **Utilize memories of when you met.** Your vows can include special anecdotes or stories of time spent in the early days when you first knew this was the person



Wedding vows are traditional components of many weddings. Couples easily can write their own vows to personalize the ceremony even further.

with whom you would spend your life.

- **Explain who this person is to you.** Tell the audience what it is about this person that has you smitten. Is he or she your partner in crime? Confidante? Best friend? Or all of the above?

- **Share what you are pledging.** Write out exactly what you are vowing to your special someone. Be defin-

itive and draw from your personal experiences. For example, "I vow to support you each time you adopt another shelter dog." "I promise to not hog the covers." "I vow to warm your toes on cold evenings." Make it personal, heartfelt and humorous.

- **Say you'll be there.** At the heart of vows is a promise that you'll be around no matter what life throws at you. This is a safe sentiment to include in your vows, and likely one your future spouse and other guests will come to expect.

- **Keep things brief.** There is no need to write a novel

for your vows, which may reassure you if you're nervous about the right wording and speaking in front of an audience. Outline the most important points you want to share and build on those sentiments.

- **Reflect on the future.** Wrap up your vows by noting your excitement about what the future may bring, whether that is a family, travel or another adventure.

Wedding vows are traditional components of many weddings. Couples easily can write their own vows to personalize the ceremony even further.


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SPORTS

IHSA forms partnership with Officially Human

Organization’s mission is to restore respect to game officials

BLOOMINGTON—The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) is proud to announce a new partnership with Officially Human, an organization whose mission is to “restore respect to game officials and recognize them as authorities on the fields and courts.”

“We are excited to be partnering with Officially Human,” said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. “A survey of IHSA Officials in 2023 showed that the prevailing reason officials leave the vocation is due to the poor sportsmanship shown to officials. To ensure there are enough officials to cover the games that over 400,000 high school students in Illinois annually participate in, it’s obvious that more needs to be done. It’s our hope that this partnership with Officially Human will be a key component in this turnaround.”

Officially Human was founded by Brenda Hilton, who has spent over 23 years in college athletics working with sports officials from the mid-majors to the highest level of Division I. The Lombard-based organization was founded in 2019 to restore respect to, and positive treatment of, sport officials through increased education and communication to all stakeholders (administrators, coaches, athletes, and fans). Officially Human is the leader in addressing the growing crisis in officiating that touches every sport, official, and level of competition. Officially Human offers tailored solutions to athletic host organizations of all sizes that improve the stakeholder experience at each of their sporting competitions. The comprehensive solutions package includes digital education, awareness building, event host communication strategies, and organizational support in addressing poor fan behavior.

“I am thrilled with this partnership for many reasons, one being that Illinois is my home state,” said Hilton. “Having the opportunity for Officially Human to work side-by-side with the IHSA is very meaningful. Together, we are stronger, and we will continue to lead the charge both in Illinois and nationally, raising awareness and improving the treatment of sports officials. We appreciate the IHSA showing the officiating community



“Officially Human is committed to restoring respect to game officials, and we are proud to partner with them. Together, I believe we can ‘elevate respect’ in the athletic space and bring about greater synergy in the high school athletic community.”

—Kurt Gibson, IHSA

that they care about them and want to help solve this crisis.”

For the 2022-23 school year, the Illinois High School Association distributed approximately 18,000 licenses to over 11,000 individuals, representing a significant increase from the previous year. However, retaining officials is just as important as recruiting them, and helping all officials experience success in the space leads to the retention needed. In a survey to all IHSA licensed officials in early 2023, 45% percent of the respondents indicated the primary reason they most enjoy officiating is the opportunity to “give back.” In the same survey, though, 62% percent said “sportsmanship of participants/fan behavior” is the greatest challenge officials face.

“Officials are humans too, and I think people lose sight of that sometimes,” said IHSA Associate Executive Director Kurt Gibson, who oversees the IHSA Officials Department. “Officials have careers, live in the same communities, attend the same churches, shop at the same stores, and eat at the same restaurants as others. Treating officials with the same respect, whether out in the community or on the court, field, pitch, pool, track, diamond, etc., as any other community member is something we should all be able to do. This elevation of respect towards officials can, and needs to, start at the individual level.”

As the IHSA officiating survey results show, officials, by nature, are giving individuals, but they feel the increasing negative behavior exhibited at high school sporting events is not worth remaining in

the officiating community. ‘Elevating Respect’ by both players, coaches, fans—and officials—is necessary, and Officially Human has a number of available resources all those groups would benefit from viewing at www.officiallyhuman.com.

“Officially Human is committed to restoring respect to game officials, and we are proud to partner with them,” said Gibson. “Together, I believe we can ‘elevate respect’ in the athletic space and bring about greater synergy in the high school athletic community.”

The IHSA plans a number of action items surrounding its partnership with Officially Human. IHSA Officials and member schools will be granted access to the “Elevate Respect” program at no cost, and member schools will be encouraged to share the program with students and fans alike each season. IHSA and Officially Human will also work together to recognize and support officials during the regular and post season on social media and at IHSA state finals events and look to recognize teams and fan bases that exhibit the highest levels of behavior and sportsmanship throughout the year.

“Everyone has a part to play in making interscholastic athletics the successful laboratory it is,” said Anderson. “High school sports teach untold skills that participants use throughout life, and it’s the lessons learned while participating with peers that shape lives. Victory and defeat are two of those lessons, but learning how to handle both of those outcomes is the greater goal.”

IDNR’s 2023-2024 Illinois hunting and trapping digest now available

SPRINGFIELD — The 2023-2024 Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations is now available online.

To access the electronic version, visit <https://dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/hunt-trapdigest.html>. The digest will also be available in Spanish and Polish online in the coming weeks. Printed copies will arrive at vendor locations statewide soon after the Illinois State Fair.

“IDNR is pleased to make this informative digest available to hunters and trappers, who are essential partners in conservation and management of Illinois’ wildlife,” said IDNR Director Natalie Phelps Finnie. “This annual guide provides a detailed review of hunting and trapping season dates, possession limits, hunting zone boundaries, statewide hunting regulations, license and permit details, and other useful information. IDNR wishes hunters a safe and successful season.”

Hunting licenses can be purchased through IDNR’s online license portal at <https://exploremoreil.com> or in person at participating vendors. To search for a list of vendors, visit <https://exploremoreil.com/agentlocator>.

The following late-summer hunting opportunities are available in Illinois:

- Squirrel — Aug. 1, 2023-Feb. 15,

2024; Location: Statewide (Except Nov. 17-19 and Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting); Daily limit: 5; Possession limit: 10.

- Dove (mourning and white-winged) — Sept. 1-Nov. 14, 2023, and Dec. 26, 2023-Jan. 9, 2024; Location: Statewide; Daily limit: 15; Possession limit: 45.

• Teal (early season) — Sept. 9-24, 2023; Location: Statewide (all zones); Daily limit: 6; Possession limit: 18.

• Rail (Sora and Virginia only) — Sept. 9-Nov. 17, 2023; Location: Statewide (all zones); Daily limit: 25; Possession limit: 75.

• Snipe (Wilson’s snipe) — Sept. 9-Dec. 24, 2023; Location: Statewide (all zones); Daily limit: 8; Possession limit: 24.

• Canada Geese (early season) — Sept. 1-15, 2023; Location: North and Central zones; Daily limit: 5; Possession limit: 15; Location: South Central and South zones; Daily limit: 2; Possession limit: 6

“Zone” refers to waterfowl hunting zones established in Illinois per U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulations. For more details and a map of waterfowl zones and season dates for the period of 2021-2025, visit <https://bit.ly/ILwaterfowlzones>.



IVCC cancels women’s hoop season

OGLESBY — Illinois Valley Community College has cancelled the 2023-2024 women’s basketball season informing the NJCCA Region IV Representatives, the Arrowhead Conference representatives and all scheduled opponents of this decision.

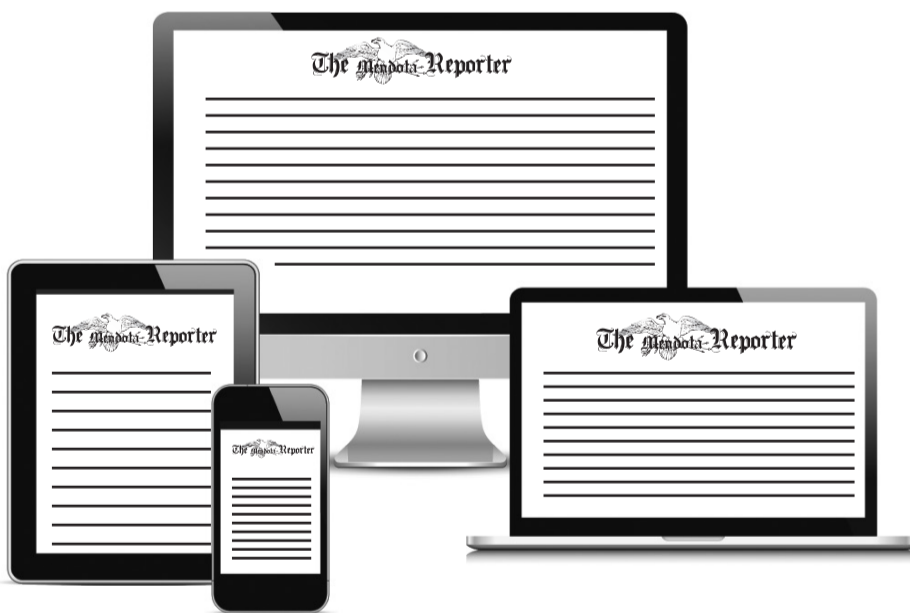
The decision to cancel IVCC’s women’s basketball season was necessitated by the resignation of the

women’s basketball coach in late May. The timing of the coach’s resignation left the college with the inability to fill the roster for the season. The current assistant women’s basketball coach, Brittney Moriarity has been retained and will immediately begin recruiting for the 2024-2025 school year. The open position for IVCC’s head women’s basketball

coach will be posted in November of 2023, interviews are anticipated in December with the goal of hiring a head coach in January 2024. The newly hired head basketball coach will continue the student recruitment responsibilities.

IVCC will honor the tuition waivers for the few student athletes signed for the current season.

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How old is
“Take Me Out to
the Ball Game?”

Baseball fans likely know its familiar refrain by heart, and even non-fans can probably identify it the moment it begins playing. “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” has long been part of the fabric of American culture, but even the most ardent fans of America’s pastime may be surprised to learn just how long the song has been around.

According to the Library of Congress, the United States Copyright Office first received two copies of “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” on May 2, 1908.

The song is still routinely played at ballparks across the country, and perhaps no park has become more synonymous with the song than Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs. During the seventh inning stretch of each game at Wrigley, fans are led by a celebrity and join in singing the song. That nightly sing-along is widely considered one of the most festive traditions in North American professional sports.

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Where are the AUCTIONS?

See Page A5!

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Disney was quick to consider "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny" a bomb after it only grossed \$303.6 million after its first two weeks with a budget of \$295 million!



Selleck

Did you know Steven Spielberg's original choice for Indiana Jones was Tom Selleck? In 1980, Spielberg made no secret Selleck was his choice for Indiana Jones and asked CBS to release Selleck from his contract 10 days early. But it seems that Spielberg's praise was all CBS needed. Knowing a good thing when they saw it, CBS decided to greenlight the pilot for a crime drama series they had shot, which is how Selleck became "Magnum, P.I."

Disappointed at losing the chance at playing the role in what was guaranteed to become a franchise, Selleck flew to Hawaii and rented a house at Black's Beach. The next day, the Screen Actors Guild announced their actors' strike, and he lost his salary, forcing him to do landscaping for his landlord in order to pay his rent.

During the five-month strike, Spielberg signed a waiver with SAG, cast Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones and began shooting on June 23, 1980, during the strike. Fortunately, "Magnum" became a huge hit, and in 1982, director Blake Edwards wanted Selleck to star opposite Julie Andrews in "Victor/Victoria." But CBS added four more seasons of "Magnum," and he had to pass, but recommended James Garner, who he worked with on two episodes of "The Rockford Files."

Then, in 1985, Selleck was offered the starring role in "Witness," but CBS, again, decided to add more seasons of "Magnum." So, the role, again, went to Ford, who received an Oscar nomination for the film. Later on in 1987, Selleck starred in "Three Men and a Cradle," with Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg, which cost \$15 million and grossed \$240 million.

Starting in 2005, Selleck starred in "Stone Cold," the first of nine made-for-TV films based on the "Jesse Stone" novels. In 2010, he became police commissioner Frank Reagan in "Blue Bloods," which has been renewed for its 14th season. So, "Indiana Jones" is officially done after five films,

but "Blue Bloods" keeps rolling along.

The streaming services have blown CBS, NBC, ABC and Fox out of the water with primetime Emmy nominations. The networks didn't receive any nominations in the Drama categories for Lead Actor, Lead Actress, Supporting Actor or Supporting Actress. "Abbott Elementary" did receive a nomination for Outstanding Comedy Series, as well as nominations for Lead Actress in a Comedy Series (Quinta Brunson) and Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series (Tyler James Williams).

Jimmy Kimmel, Seth Meyers and Stephen Colbert were nominated in the Talk Series category -- but not Jimmy Fallon, who only saw his game show "That's My Jam" get nominated. "Amazing Race" and "Survivor" got nods for the Competition Program category, "The Simpsons" for the Animated category, and "Shark Tank" for Structured Reality. Lastly, "Family Feud," "Jeopardy," "The Price Is Right" and "Wheel of Fortune" were the rest of the Game Show noms. This must be why Hollywood is referring to these networks as the "screaming service" networks!

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Couch Theater

"Transformers: Rise of the Beasts" (PG-13) -- The seventh installment in the "Transformers" franchise is out now on streaming. Taking place in the 1990s before the events of the first "Transformers" transpired, Earth is in severe danger of being attacked by the planet-eating god Unicron after museum intern Elena discovers a key that calls out to Unicron and his army. Luckily, the key also calls out to the Autobots, who wish to use it to return to their planet. However, with such a large threat looming over Earth, the Autobots must first team up with humans for an action-packed fight against Unicron. "Rise of the Beasts" stars Anthony Ramos ("In the Heights") and Dominique Fishback ("Swarm") in lead roles, and features voices from Peter Dinklage, Michelle Yeoh and Pete Davidson. (Paramount+) "Red, White & Royal Blue" (R) -- Fans of the successful LGBT romance novel by Casey McQuiston will be excited to hear that the film adaptation hits streaming on

Aug. 11! Taylor Zakhar Perez plays Alex Claremont-Diaz, the son of the president of the United States, whose feud with Prince Henry (Nicholas Galitzine) begins to generate bad press. Alex is then forced by his president mother to play nice with Henry in front of the press as damage control, and the pair's silly disdain for each other morphs into a most unexpected love affair. But, as their relationship evolves, their love for each other must overcome their fear of being accepted by their families and the general public. (Prime Video)

"Heart of Stone" (PG-13) -- "Wonder Woman" Gal Gadot is back in another crime-fighting role. This time, she plays agent Rachel Stone, aspy in an organization called Charter that abides by strict rules -- no friends, no relationships, no political leanings. Rachel is tasked with protecting an object that is considered "The Heart" of the agency, their most powerful tool. But when the tool gets stolen by enemy forces, Rachel must lead the Charter

team to regain The Heart before disastrous events strike the world. The developers of "Heart of Stone" envisioned this film to be a start of a franchise similar to the blockbuster "Mission: Impossible" movies, but it remains to be seen if this film has enough legs to pull off the success Netflix desires. Out on Aug. 11. (Netflix)

"Strange Planet" (TV-PG) -- Nathan W. Pyle's webcomic "Strange Planet" has been brought to life as a sci-fi comedy TV series! The adorable blue beings featured in the comic generated a huge fan base, with 6.6 million followers on Instagram, which propelled Pyle to eventually create a couple of graphic novels that became New York Times bestsellers. So, it only makes sense that a show was somewhere in the works all this time. Throughout the 10-episode season, viewers can follow these blue beings around their cotton-candy home world and enjoy the experiences that aren't too far off from our own here on Earth. Premieres on Aug. 9. (AppleTV+)

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: I recently started re-watching the Netflix show "Suits," the one Meghan Markle acted in before she married Prince Harry. Are they going to have new episodes or just reruns? -- **K.L.**

A: "Suits" is the latest series to amass a huge audience after Netflix began making the original episodes available to its subscribers. It ran for nine seasons on the USA Network, ending in 2019, and was then made available to subscribers of Peacock and Amazon Prime Video. However, this past June, the streaming giant Netflix acquired it, and the ratings soared, making it "one of the biggest shows on the planet," according to TVLine.

"Suits" is just one of several series that expanded its audience by millions once it hit Netflix. Other notable ones include "Lucifer" and "Manifest." Gene Klein, executive producer of "Suits," told TVLine that he's not currently aware of any planned revival of the show with new scripts and new episodes (once the Writers Guild of America and Screen Actors

Guild strikes get resolved), but that he wouldn't be surprised if he got a call someday with a proposal. When asked if Markle would be among the returning cast members, he concluded that he didn't believe it was possible.



Holmes

Q: Is it true that Katie Holmes was almost cast as the lead in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"? How many years was this before "Dawson's Creek"? -- **C.L.**

A: Yes, according to a recent story by TV Insider, Katie Holmes is one of several now-famous stars who were almost part of the "Buffy" universe. This was around 1996, before "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" premiered on UPN the next year, but Holmes reportedly turned down the role because she chose to finish high school instead. Sarah Michelle Gellar was subsequently chosen, and it's hard to imagine anyone other than her in the role. Meanwhile, in 1998, Holmes

debuted as Joey on another series, "Dawson's Creek," and went on to become a big star in Hollywood.

Future A-lister Ryan Reynolds said he turned down the chance to play Buffy's wisecracking pal Xander because he "didn't want to play a guy in high school." Reynolds had just come out of high school in real life and said it was "awful." The part ended up being perfectly cast with actor Nicholas Brendon.

Q: How is Madonna doing after she nearly died a few months ago? Was she in a coma? -- **H.H.**

A: Madonna was rushed to the hospital after being found unresponsive at her home on June 24. Fortunately, the singer-actress lived to see another day, but had to postpone her tour, which was set to launch a few weeks later. She spent several days in intensive care, where she was intubated for a serious bacterial infection, but she appears to have made a full recovery. She plans to reschedule her U.S. tour dates to follow the European leg of her tour, which begins in October.

• Trivia Test •

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of kangaroos called?
2. MOVIES: What kind of enchanted flower is featured in the animated film "Beauty and the Beast"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: How many pyramids are in the Pyramids of Giza in Egypt?
4. TELEVISION: What did the surgeons on the "M.A.S.H." TV drama call their tent home?
5. FOOD & DRINK: When was the first restaurant franchise of Kentucky Fried Chicken founded?
6. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Vermont?
7. CHEMISTRY: What is the only letter that doesn't occur in the Periodic Table?
8. MYTHOLOGY: What is the Roman god equivalent of the Greek god Hermes?
9. LITERATURE: Which famous singer-songwriter won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2016?
10. MUSIC: Which country is the pop band ABBA from?

Answers

1. A mob.
2. A rose.
3. Three.
4. The Swamp.
5. 1952.
6. Montpelier.
7. J.
8. Mercury.
9. Bob Dylan.
10. Sweden.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Glasses, slangily
- 6 Acid type
- 11 "Cut that out!"
- 12 Alphas' opposites
- 14 He loved Roxane
- 15 Not certain
- 16 PC key
- 17 Blue Grotto isle
- 19 Hearty quaff
- 20 Floral rings
- 22 Vat
- 23 Peevish fit
- 24 Song of praise
- 26 Olympic skater
- 28 "Certainly!"
- 30 Away from SSW
- 31 Mexican chili pepper
- 35 Labrador explorer
- 39 Nashville venue
- 40 "A spider!"
- 42 "— Breckinridge"
- 43 Fib
- 44 King of Judea
- 46 Taunting laugh
- 47 Captivate
- 49 Comic Ray

DOWN

- 1 Fashions
- 2 Shakespearian heiress
- 3 Ecol. watchdog
- 4 Title akin to POTUS
- 5 Brown ermine
- 6 Kentucky brew
- 7 Hotel chain
- 8 In medias
- 9 Big lizard
- 10 Comedian George
- 11 Overcharge for tickets
- 13 Handle
- 18 Tavern
- 21 In a sneaky way
- 23 Fulton's power
- 25 — culpa
- 27 Business mag
- 29 Showed scorn
- 31 Fishing rods
- 32 Speaks one's mind
- 33 Chicken serving
- 34 "— the ram parts ..."
- 36 Manually
- 37 Arboreal apes
- 38 Western resort lake
- 41 Imam's holy book
- 44 Abode
- 45 Peace symbol
- 48 Astronaut
- 50 Mal de —

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* In 2018, Nataraj Karate set a new Guinness World Record by stuffing 650 drinking straws in his mouth at once. He had to keep them there for at least 10 seconds to break the previous record.

* Human blood cells have different lifespans.

* Dollar bills weren't always green. Colonial money, for example, was tan with black or red ink. The Civil War government began using green ink to print paper money because it didn't fade or easily decompose, which protected against counterfeiting.

* Auto manufacturer Volkswagen makes not just vehicles, but currywurst sausages.

* Following his successful bladder stone surgery, the relieved English diarist Samuel Pepys celebrated the anniversary of the event every year after.

* The first hot-air balloon flight, in 1783, took off with a sheep, a duck and a rooster on board, as it was unknown how the human body would react to flying at high altitudes. (They landed safely.)

* A company in Poland makes dinnerware out of wheat bran.

* Queen Elizabeth II visited the set of the TV series "Game of Thrones" but couldn't be seated on the throne due to an old rule that "the ruling monarch can't sit on a foreign throne."

* While it's not the longest word in the English language, a study of 1.7 million samples of everyday English found that the longest word you're likely to encounter on a daily basis is "uncharacteristically."

* Ants leave pheromone trails when they walk that serve as maps for other ants.

* Although Saturn is the second-largest planet in our solar system, it's also the lightest, and could float in water because it's basically a giant gas ball -- if we had a bathtub big enough to hold it.

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S	D	H	E	N	G	E	E	L	S
G	E	N	E	A	V	E	S	M	A
O	N	E	M	O	R	H	O	M	A
H	A	H	O	R	O	H	E	I	L
V	A	M	A	K	E	K	A	P	O
T	O	B	A	O	N	A	B	O	P
E	N	N	S	E	A				
O	N	V	I	O	B	M	T	A	S
I	N	S	U	B	I	S	I	E	T
E	T	A	V	I	R	C	A	P	A
E	R	N	S	N	O	N	A	V	A
S	A	V	E	O	T	I	F	I	C
C	O	R	I	C	B	O	R	I	C

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

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Michelle!



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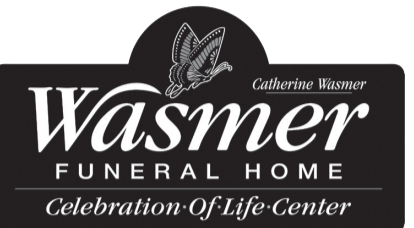
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LOCAL AND AREA

How you can have the best relationships

I did it all wrong for years. And I was miserable! I'm talking about my attitude and my stinkin' thinkin' that was focused on the thought "What about me?!" And it came out in my behavior: If I didn't get my way all the time, I tried to control other people through my temper.

I honestly didn't know what my problem was until God spoke to my heart one day and said, "You're selfish. You've studied My Word about spiritual warfare, prosperity, healing, having power and authority as a believer in Christ...but how much time have you studied about My love?"

That was the beginning of discovering that I would never be happy and have peace until I learned to love like Jesus loves.

One of the first messages God put on my heart to teach was titled "Tell Them I Love Them." At first, I didn't want to do it. I thought, People already know You love them, God. I want to teach a really powerful message... something they haven't

heard before. But God showed me that if people really knew He loved them and what that means, then they would live much differently than they do.

See, when we know and experience God's love, we can share it with others. Imagine what the world would be like if everyone who calls themselves a Christian would really love each other with His love. Think about it. There would be no gossip, no judgment or criticism, no exclusive attitudes that make others feel rejected, and people's needs would be met much more than they are.

Thankfully, Jesus gave us very real, practical examples of how we can love the way God loves us.

Loving Others "to the Highest Degree"

John 13:1 says Jesus "loved them to the last and to the highest degree" (AMP). In the following verses, He demonstrates what it means to love others like this. And it shocked the disciples.

In those days, there were servants who washed people's feet when they

came to visit. It's likely they were considered the lowliest servants in the household. Now Jesus, the Son of God Himself, got up from supper, took the servant's towel, and proceeded to wash the disciples' feet. His message to them was to love one another by being a servant, because God wants His love to flow through us and touch other people's lives.

Love is not just a feeling or a theory; it's a decision we make and an action we take. It's so important for us to study what the Bible teaches about God's love so we can learn to love like Jesus. And we have to pray for God to help us learn how to walk in love—to be a servant who "washes feet" by helping others.

Washing Others' Feet

Matthew 7:12 (NIV) says, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you...." This is so critical because if we want to have meaningful relationships with others, then we need to invest in their lives by giving them support, encouraging them, helping to



meet their needs—serving them as we're able to do it.

It's easy to help people you like or those you want to impress. But when it comes to doing something for someone you don't know or someone you don't have a natural interest in, it can be a different story. And sometimes we don't feel like serving our family. I know from personal experience that people can be willing to help others at church or work, but they aren't willing to do the same things for their family.

I've learned that what I do in front of people publicly won't really mean anything if I'm not living a life that pleases God at home, too. I thought I would die of frustration before I finally got this, so I know it's not easy. We have to realize we're naturally selfish, and we must make a conscious

decision to think of others on purpose or we'll miss many opportunities to serve them.

I want to encourage you to read John 13 and pay close attention to what Jesus did and what He said. Spend some time studying scriptures about God's love and pray for Him to show you ways you can serve the people in your life. See how many creative ways God puts in your heart to "wash feet." You'll probably find it's easier and more simple than you thought it would be to help make someone's life better.

God wants us to have success and enjoy our lives. The secret to having this life is to die to self, get over being the center of your world, and begin to focus on looking for someone who needs your help every day. When you do this, you'll become

more satisfied, content, peaceful and happy than you've ever been!

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *Enjoying Successful Relationships*. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, *Enjoying Everyday Life*, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting 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.

Participants Needed!

Researchers from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are seeking participants living in *Grundy, Kendall, Will, or LaSalle County* for a 2.5-hour focus group. You will receive a **\$75 Visa gift card**, and food will be served. We will discuss perceptions of the Dresden nuclear power plant and on-site nuclear waste storage. You need not be familiar with nuclear energy to participate. This research does not relate to any changes in nuclear facilities in your area. Focus groups will be held **Aug 21 & 22 from 5:30-8pm** at the **Holiday Inn in Morris** and **Aug 23 & 24 from 1-3:30pm** at the **Morris Public Library**. You must be 18 or older and register in advance to attend.



You can register using the QR code, or by emailing STAKEHOLDER.RESEARCH@PNNL.GOV or calling **509-375-6462**.



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on August 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., a sale will be held at 312 California Avenue Lot 11, Oglesby, IL 61348 to sell the following mobile home to enforce a mechanics lien in the amount of \$2,066.00 pursuant to chapter 770ILCS 45/1 and 770ILCS 90/1. Last known owner Sylvia Sarver 1976 Skyline Vin #01310326J. The sale will be held 30 days from the date of this publication. The Oaks Mobile Home Park. No. 0710 (July 26, Aug. 2 and 9, 2023)

NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE OF TIMESHARE ESTATE OR ESTATES UNDER SECTION 10-50 OF THE ILLINOIS REAL ESTATE TIMESHARE ACT OF 1999

By virtue of the timeshare instrument of the Fox River Resort, 2558 N. 3653 Road, Sheridan, Illinois 60551 and 770 ILCS 103/1-15 et. seq. establishing managing entity liens for failure to pay assessments and other costs on the timeshare estates held by the owners of the timeshare estates listed below, and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at public auction starting at 11 o'clock a.m. on August 22, 2023, at the east entrance of Etna Road Government Complex, 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350.

Each timeshare estate is a 1.923% and/or 0.9615% undivided interest (each, a "Unit") as tenant-in-common at Fox River Resort, a vacation ownership project in LaSalle County, Illinois, as per the recorded plat(s) thereof and according to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Restrictions, Covenants and Conditions recorded under File No. R2000 31258 and any Supplemental Declarations recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, LaSalle County, Illinois, as supplemented and amended from time to time (the "Declaration"), together with the exclusive right to occupy the Unit during the designated Use Period Number(s), as said Use Period is defined in the Declaration, upon and subject to all of the terms, restrictions, covenants, conditions and provisions in the Declaration.

K A R E N BOURNE-DOUGLAS, 2431 W GLADYS AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60612, according to the Deed dated August 30, 2014, and recorded under File No. 2014 17727, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 17, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 01350, Use Period Number(s) 49, Phase 2 MARIA DELAGARZA AND KARLTON SAYLES, 4712 SHUMARD DR, KILLEEN, TX 76542, according to the Deed dated April 21, 2012, and recorded under File No. R2012 09834, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 08, 2012, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0037E, Use Period Number(s) 04, Phase 1 MARQUAS ELLIS AND LEANNAH OLSON, 4253 RUFÉ SNOW DR APT 1022, NORTH

RICHLAND HILLS, TX 76180, according to the Deed dated November 05, 2011, and recorded under File No. R2011 24178, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 23, 2011, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0093E, Use Period Number(s) 13, Phase 2 MARQUAS ELLIS AND LEANNAH OLSON, 804 PARK VISTA DR, JUSTIN, TX 76247, according to the Deed dated November 05, 2011, and recorded under File No. R2011 24178, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 23, 2011, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0093E, Use Period Number(s) 13, Phase 2 RHONDA LEWIS, OLGA LEWIS, RONALD LEWIS JR, WILLIAM BARNES AND ROMANA LEWIS, 4712 W ADAMS ST APT 1, CHICAGO, IL 60644, according to the Deed dated May 24, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 10887, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0124O, Use Period Number(s) 27, Phase 2 RHONDA LEWIS, OLGA LEWIS, RONALD LEWIS JR, WILLIAM BARNES AND ROMANA LEWIS, 9407 CHESTNUT AVE APT 5, FRANKLIN PARK, IL 60131, according to the Deed dated May 24, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 10887, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0124O, Use Period Number(s) 27, Phase 2 RHONDA LEWIS, OLGA LEWIS, RONALD LEWIS JR, WILLIAM BARNES AND ROMANA LEWIS, 5910 S KING DR APT 3, CHICAGO, IL 60637, according to the Deed dated May 24, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 10887, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0124O, Use Period Number(s) 27, Phase 2 RHONDA LEWIS, OLGA LEWIS, RONALD LEWIS JR, WILLIAM BARNES AND ROMANA LEWIS, 4712 W ADAMS ST APT 2, CHICAGO, IL 60644, according to the Deed dated May 24, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 10887, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 10, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0124O, Use Period Number(s) 27, Phase 2 JAYESH PATEL AND JAYSHRI J PATEL, 2339 HAMILTON PL, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60194, according to the Deed dated May 19, 2012, and recorded under File No. R2012 12209, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, as supplemented and amended from time to time (the "Declaration"), together with the exclusive right to occupy the Unit during the designated Use Period Number(s), as said

Use Period is defined in the Declaration, upon and subject to all of the terms, restrictions, covenants, conditions and provisions in the Declaration. JOSE BELVIS, LOURDES VAZQUEZ AND LILIANA GUTIERREZ, 5 RES VILLA DEL CARIBE, PONCE, PR 00728, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0374, Use Period Number(s) 31, Phase 3 JOHN D WINDMILLER AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS OR BENEFICIARIES, 3001 VALERIE DR, CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822, according to the Deed dated March 14, 2003, and recorded under File No. R2003 10319, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 02, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0163O, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase TERMS OF SALE: At the time and location noted above, the timeshare estates listed above will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. The timeshare estates will be sold in individual lots unless there are no individual bidders, in which case, they may be sold as a group. In the event the managing entity lienholder or its authorized agent is the purchaser of one or more of the timeshare estates, the managing entity lienholder or its authorized agent may offset against the purchase price of the timeshare estate(s) an amount equal to all or a portion of the amount due under the managing entity lien(s) (and thus, credit bid). Other terms may be announced at the public auction.

Fox River Resort Club, An Illinois Not-for-profit Corporation By Deborah A. Quirk Its: Attorney-In-Fact Explanation NOTICE OF SALE OF TIMESHARE ESTATE OR ESTATES UNDER SECTION 10-50 OF THE ILLINOIS REAL ESTATE TIMESHARE ACT OF 1999 By virtue of 770 ILCS 103/10-15 et. seq. and in execution of certain mortgages on the timeshare estates given by the owners of the timeshare estates set forth below for breach of the conditions of said mortgages and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at public auction starting at 11 o'clock a.m. on August 22, 2023, at the east entrance of Etna Road Government Complex, 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgages. Each timeshare estate is a 1.923% and/or 0.9615% undivided interest (each, a "Unit") as tenant-in-common at Fox River Resort, a vacation ownership project in LaSalle County, Illinois, as per the recorded plat(s) thereof and according to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Restrictions, Covenants and Conditions recorded under File No. R2000 31258 and any Supplemental Declarations recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, LaSalle County, Illinois, as supplemented and amended from time to time (the "Declaration"), together with the exclusive right to occupy the Unit during the designated Use Period Number(s), as said

Use Period is defined in the Declaration, upon and subject to all of the terms, restrictions, covenants, conditions and provisions in the Declaration. JOSE BELVIS, LOURDES VAZQUEZ AND LILIANA GUTIERREZ, 5 RES VILLA DEL CARIBE, PONCE, PR 00728, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0079O, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2 JOSE BELVIS, LOURDES VAZQUEZ AND LILIANA GUTIERREZ, 5544 S NEVA AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60638, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0079O, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2 JOSE BELVIS, LOURDES VAZQUEZ AND LILIANA GUTIERREZ, 5920 W 55TH ST APT 104, CHICAGO, IL 60638, according to the Mortgage dated August 02, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013 18531, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 20, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0079O, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 2 PATRICIA COOPER AND JOSEPH J COOPER, 8232 S PEORIA STAPT 2, CHICAGO, IL 60620, according to the Mortgage dated April 27, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 09237, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 20, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0415, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 7 JOYCE EVANS-CURTIS AND JOYCE EVANS, 13314 S KEDVALE AVE, ROBBINS, IL 60472, according to the Mortgage dated June 11, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 12185, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 30, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0095, Use Period Number(s) 31, Phase 2 JOYCE EVANS-CURTIS AND JOYCE EVANS, 3300 HUDSON WOOD DR APT 1117, DENTON, TX 76208, according to the Mortgage dated June 11, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015 12185, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 30, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0095, Use Period Number(s) 31, Phase 2 JENNIFER PESAVENTO AND RAPHAEL JEFFRIE SR, 1126 KAREN DR, JOLIET, IL 60431, according to the Mortgage dated June 05, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 11751, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 25, 2014, are the owners of the

timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0011, Use Period Number(s) 28, Phase 1 JENNIFER PESAVENTO AND RAPHAEL JEFFRIE SR, 125 SAINT JOSEPH AVE, JOLIET, IL 60436, according to the Mortgage dated June 05, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014 11751, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 25, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0011, Use Period Number(s) 28, Phase 1 TERMS OF SALE: At the time and location noted above, the timeshare estates listed above will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. The timeshare estates will be sold in individual lots unless there are no individual bidders, in which case, they may be sold as a group. In the event the holder of the mortgages or its authorized agent is the purchaser of one or more of the timeshare estates, the holder of the mortgages or its authorized agent may offset against the purchase price of the timeshare estate(s) an amount equal to all or a portion of the amount due under the mortgage(s) (and thus, credit bid). Other terms may be announced at the public auction.

Silverleaf Resorts, LLC, A Texas Limited Liability Company By Deborah A. Quirk Its: Agent No. 0801 (Aug. 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on June 28, 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 Cleaning Service located at 4053 E. 050th Road, Mendota IL. 61342. Dated: June 28, 2023. Yesenia Romero Samano Applicant. No. 0802 (Aug. 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE

TO: LYNDA RIGHTENBURG, OCCUPANT, MARK WILEY, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOT. LASALLE COUNTY CLERK TAX DEED NO. 2023TX000032 FILED 6/7/2023 TAKE NOTICE County of Lasalle, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold 3/3/2021 Certificate No. 202000038 Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2019 Sold for Special Assessment of N/A (municipality) and Special Assessment Number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at 895 N.40TH RD., MENDOTA, IL Legal Description or Property Index No. 07-09-403-000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from

the sale will expire on 11/21/2023 . The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming: This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 11/21/2023. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in OTTAWA, Illinois, on 12/13/2023 in the Circuit Court of this County, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa IL 61350, Courtroom 305 at 9:00 A.M. or Via Zoom @LASALLECOUNTY.COM/COURTROOM-LIVESTREAM You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 11/21/2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Lasalle County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in OTTAWA, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Lasalle County Clerk 707 E. ETNA RD. OTTAWA, IL 61350 (815) 434-8311 CENTRAL BUYER CORP. PURCHASER or ASSIGNEE Dated 06/13/2023 No. 0804 (Aug. 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE

TO: DANIEL SAMPSON, ILLINOIS HORSE PARK FOUNDATION NFP, OCCUPANT, DANIEL SAMPSON, AS R/A FOR ILLINOIS HORSE PARK FOUNDATION NFP, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOT. LASALLE COUNTY CLERK TAX DEED NO. 2023TX000033 FILED 6/7/2023 TAKE NOTICE County of Lasalle, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold 3/3/2021 Certificate No. 202000046 Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2019 Sold for Special Assessment of N/A (municipality) and Special Assessment Number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at 3902 E. 752ND RD., TRIUMPH, IL Legal Description or Property Index No. 07-17-405-011 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 11/21/2023 . The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale

and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming: This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 11/21/2023. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in OTTAWA, Illinois, on 12/13/2023 in the Circuit Court of this County, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa IL 61350, Courtroom 305 at 9:00 A.M. or Via Zoom @LASALLECOUNTY.COM/COURTROOM-LIVESTREAM You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 11/21/2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Lasalle County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in OTTAWA, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Lasalle County Clerk 707 E. ETNA RD. OTTAWA, IL 61350 (815) 434-8311 CENTRAL BUYER CORP. PURCHASER or ASSIGNEE Dated 06/13/2023 No. 0804 (Aug. 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE

TO: PATRICK M. DOOLEY, SCOTT STEVEN EDWARDS, AS R/A FOR COLLECTION PROFESSIONALS, INC., OCCUPANT, KIMBERLY M. ESPINOZA A/K/A KIM M. ESPINOZA, PARKER ESPINOZA, COLLECTION PROFESSIONALS, INC., ALPHONSO COLLINS, CIERRA ESPINOZA, PARTIES IN OCCUPANCY OR ACTUAL POSSESSION OF SAID PROPERTY; UNKNOWN OWNERS OR PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID LAND OR LOT. LASALLE COUNTY CLERK TAX DEED NO. 2023TX000034 FILED 6/7/2023 TAKE NOTICE County of Lasalle, State of Illinois Date Premises Sold 3/3/2021 Certificate No. 202000150 Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2019 Sold for Special Assessment of N/A (municipality) and Special Assessment Number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at 302 HAYDEN AVE., OGLESBY, IL Legal Description or Property Index No. 18-25-312-005 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 11/21/2023 . The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale

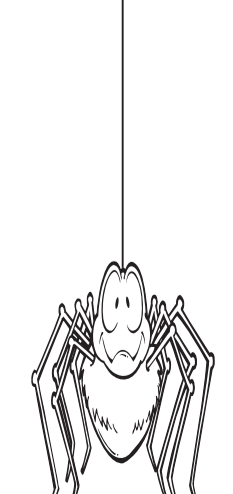
and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming: This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 11/21/2023. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in OTTAWA, Illinois, on 12/20/2023 in the Circuit Court of this County, LaSalle County Courthouse, 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa IL 61350, Courtroom 204 at 10:00 A.M. or Via Zoom @LASALLECOUNTY.COM/COURTROOM-LIVESTREAM You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before 11/21/2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Lasalle County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in OTTAWA, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. Lasalle County Clerk 707 E. ETNA RD. OTTAWA, IL 61350 (815) 434-8311 CENTRAL BUYER CORP. PURCHASER or ASSIGNEE Dated 06/13/2023 No. 0805 (Aug. 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE

BINA Notice The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Mendota, LaSalle County, Illinois will hold a public hearing on August 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers at 607 Eighth Avenue, in the City of Mendota, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell general obligation bonds in the amount of not to exceed \$700,000 for the purpose of financing public infrastructure projects in and for the City (the "Project") and paying certain costs of issuance of the bonds, all for the benefit of the inhabitants of the City. By: /s/ Emily McConville Title: City Clerk No. 0806 (Aug. 9, 2023)

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105
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

113
FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119
ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

127
SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

201
DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

301
ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

309
PETS & SUPPLIES

Free Kittens to give away to good homes. Very friendly & good mousers. Call Mike at 815-993-2234

315
WANTED TO BUY

Looking to Buy, Sell, Trade Sports Cards & Memorabilia. Call 815-488-8361

405
HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

501
APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENTS FOR RENT: MENDOTA 1 & 2 Bedrooms, Appliances, A/C. 779-201-0532 815-498-2262.

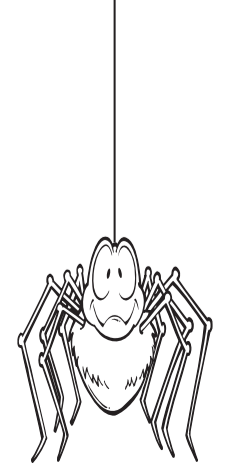
509
HOUSE FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: Three bedroom house near Franklin Grove, no pets. Call 815-456-2453. (08-13-23)

515
GARAGES FOR RENT

Mendota MULTIPLE Garages for Rent 815-539-3747

ADVERTISE WITH US



Not sure why business is slow?

OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND...

is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

Buy! Buy! BUY! Sell! Sell! Sell!

511
STORAGE UNITS

MENDOTA STORAGE UNITS
210 N 4099th Rd., Mendota, IL 61342

Available:

30x40 \$320	10X20 \$135	10X10 \$100
20X40 \$380	20X20 \$195	

Call
ADAM 815-830-4422 Janko Realty
TRACY 815-791-4582 Advantage Property Mgmt
Reserve online at www.apm4rent.com

★ Buy, Sell, Trade or Rent through the CLASSIFIEDS ★

601
VEHICLES FOR SALE

2020 Chevy 1500 4x4 LTZ Z71

2020 Chevy 1500 4x4 LTZ, Z71, GM Certified, Loaded with Leather, Heated and Cooled Seats, Maroon, 47K Miles and More!

\$43,900

2020 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, Z71, 47K Miles, Maroon.....	\$43,900
2019 Chevy Trax, LT AWD, 55K Miles, Black.....	\$19,500

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2019 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab, LTZ Diesel, 4x4 Z71, 97K Miles, Red...	\$50,900
2019 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab, LTZ 4x4, 6.2, Blue.....	\$36,900
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 99K Miles, Silver.....	\$28,900
2018 Chevy Equinox, AWD, Premier White, 108K Miles.....	\$18,900
2017 Chevy Malibu LT, 73K Miles, Brown.....	\$15,900
2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, Leather, 126K Miles, White.....	\$25,900
2016 Chevy Equinox, AWD, LTZ, 4 CYL, Sunroof, 83K Miles.....	\$15,900
2014 Chevy 2500 Regular Cab LT, 4x4, Diesel, 168K Miles, Black.....	\$19,900

VAESSEN BROTHERS CHEVROLET, INC.

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* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied. Subject to credit approval.

FIND NEW ROADS™

CHEVROLET

SKIP THE SWEATING BUCKETS DURING AN INTERVIEW DRAMA

FINISH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Find free adult education classes near you FinishYourDiploma.org or text SKIP to 97779

Ad Council DOLLAR GENERAL LITERACY FOUNDATION

Message & Data Rates May Apply. Reply STOP to opt out. We'll text you a few times a month. No purchase necessary. Terms and Privacy: FinishYourDiploma.org/privacy-policy

TEXT AND WHATEVER JUST DON'T TEXT AND

STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG

ad COUNCIL NHTSA

REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE

FEATURE HOME



4443 E.1309th Rd., Earlville, IL \$299,000.00

MLS# 11815067 - Lovely area to live in! This ranch home is looking for new owners. Large living room that has a lovely massive fireplace. 3 bedroom with a shared bath for the bedrooms. A mudroom off the attached garage with a convenient 1/2 bath just inside. 2 attached garage and a 24 x 21 shed off the side for all of your toys. Could be a mancave or she shed. Full basement that has been finished. Although home needs some TLC you can re-decorate to your specs. Call McConville Realty for a showing.

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

McConville
REALTY & AUCTIONEERING

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker
612 S. Main St., Mendota, IL
815-539-5673
E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com
mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com
Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com
Call one of our Agents to set up your private showing.
Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker
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

Homestead
REALTY

815-539-3811

1316 Lakewood Plaza
Rte. 251 N. • Mendota
Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker
Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101

Rebecca McPheeters,
Designated Managing Broker

Town & Country
Realty

607 Sixth St.
Mendota
(815) 539-6635
www.tcrealtysales.net

Evening Phone Numbers
Becky McPheeters, Designated
Managing Broker 708-220-3338
Rita Lijja 815-539-92555
Jami Bauer 815-993-7751
Lori Munson 815-228-4852

ERBES
Realty LLC

1922 Tower Rd, Sublette, IL
815-535-6295
www.erbes-realty.com

Lori Erbes, GRI
Designated Managing Broker
Marcia Kosowski, Broker
815-582-2381
Lisa Maher, Broker
773-459-5472

FREE MARKET ANALYSIS

WE CAN LET YOU KNOW
THE MARKET VALUE
OF YOUR HOME.

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SHARON KIMREY 815-343-3600
MARTY MCCONVILLE 815-200-2233
MELODY NANZER 815-228-2842

ENJOY YOUR WEEKEND AT MENDOTA SWEETCORN FESTIVAL!



NEW LISTING!

1011 5th Ave., Mendota

Light filled 3 BDR, 1.5 Ba's, brick Victorian with eat in kitchen

401 12th Ave., Mendota

REDUCED

1211 Indiana Ave., Mendota

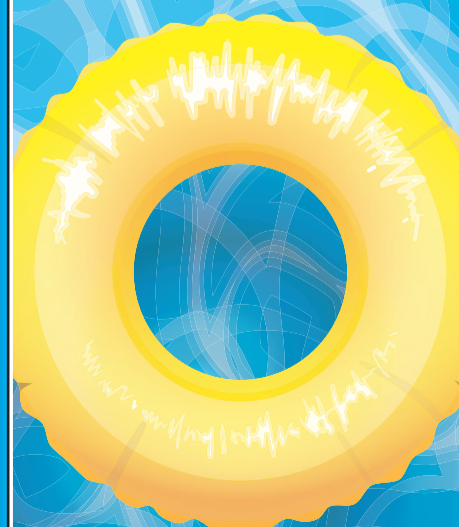
PENDING

29217 Old Chicago Rd., LaMoille

SPLASH INTO A NEW HOME!



WANTING TO BUILD A NEW HOME? WE HAVE SOME GREAT LOTS FOR SALE!



EVER DREAMED OF OWNING A RESTAURANT? CHECK OUT THESE LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES!



101 N Pennsylvania Ave., Sublette \$375,000

Calling all Investors! One of a kind- Turn key! Located on a busy highway! This is a restaurant/bar with Pizza delivery and eat in dining. Seating is 41 with bar. On site parking with parking across the road. This property is near WoodHaven Lakes and four other camp grounds near bye. Fenced in area with 2 picnic tables for entertaining, 2 bathrooms, storage above bar, A cash register, pizza oven, 42" charbroiled, 2 burner top gas stove top, 3 door commercial refrigerator, 1 freezer, 1- 3 door freezer, 3 upright-freezers, 2 chest freezers, all utensil, pots and pans, dishes, silverware, plates, beer, wine and water glasses, 6 tables, 24 chairs, 17 bar stools, 2 high chairs, 3 TVs, 1 in game room has no sound, salt & pepper shakers, ketchup containers, 2 microwaves, and signage are included in the price. (Liquor inventory left will be sold at closing separate). Owner is willing to consult for 30 days to insure a smooth transition for the new owner, leave the same phone number and share recipes. Ask agent to See items not staying. Call today for your personal showing.



10 N US HWY 34, MENDOTA
Great Business Opportunity! Sip n Snack has been in Business for 50 years! Awesome location with lots of traffic and close to Mendota golf course. So many opportunities with this restaurant/bar.