

Council awards bid for ‘23 street repairs

❑ “Food Truck MAINia” gets an OK
By KIP CHEEK
Staff writer

MENDOTA - The Mendota City Council awarded the annual street maintenance bid and approved several requests at its Aug. 21 regular meeting.

Alderman Vicki Johnson presented two requests from the Reimagine Mendota group, both of which were approved by the council. The first request was to allow the group to close/use a portion of Illinois Avenue for a dance and beer garden on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 6-11 p.m.



The other request was to use the IC parking lot and parking lot #2 on Main Street for “Food Truck MAINia” on the second and fourth Mondays of the month starting Aug. 28 and concluding on Nov. 13. The event will be held from 4-8 p.m. on those designated

Mondays and will feature food trucks as well as music and raffles.

In other action from Johnson’s report, the council amended the food truck ordinance to state that not-for-profit entities are exempt from paying the fee as set forth in the original ordinance.

Alderman Mark Peasley stated that the city recently painted the curbing red around the area of Northbrook Middle School, and that those red areas are ‘no parking’ zones.

Alderman Jay Miller presented a license request and an ordinance for the council’s consideration. The council approved a beer garden license for Reimagine Mendota for its Sept. 23 event, and agreed to an update to the solicitor’s license ordinance.

In action from Alderman John Holland’s report, the council approved an ordinance for the purchase of property at 812 and 818 Main Street in the amount of \$26,000.

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick said two bids were received for the city’s 2023 motor fuel tax street maintenance

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Running for Jack

❑ S. Hansen competing in NYC Marathon for her son and Hemophilia

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Stephanie Hansen has run in marathons before.

The Mendota native who graduated from Mendota High School in 2006 has entered the Chicago Marathon twice (her husband John Hansen proposed after the first crossed finish line) and the Starved Rock Marathon.

However, when she runs Sunday, Nov. 5 in the New York City Marathon, which usually attracts more than 50,000 runners and 2.5 million spectators for the 26.2-mile race, it will be different.

She will be lacing her running shoes for her son, Jack Hansen.

“I told John that I would never run a marathon again because it takes a toll on your body,” said Stephanie Hansen, who works at First State Bank in Mendota. “I get the newsletters from the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation and I saw they were looking for runners to join their team. I told John, ‘I think I might be crazy, but I really want to do this.’ I’m not a doctor and I can’t come up with new medicines. This is my way of helping.

“It feels really good to help. This marathon makes me feel like I have a lot of pressure on me. The other marathons didn’t mean anything. I was just doing them to do them. Because this is so close to my heart, I feel like



Jack Hansen, left, 19 months, with his parents Stephanie Hansen and John Hansen. Stephanie has joined the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation to run in the New York City Marathon on Nov. 5 to support and fundraise for Hemophilia, which Jack has. (Photo contributed)

I need to do good for Jack and for the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation.”

Jack, the 19-month old baby brother to one sister (Lilly) and two brothers (Zeke and Owen), has Severe Hemophilia A, which is when blood is missing Factor VIII,

the component that helps blood clot.

Hemophilia is usually hereditary and passed by the mother. However, a gene analysis the Hansens had done to see why Jack had Hemophilia but his siblings didn’t, found he gained it

through a gene mutation.

“His blood doesn’t clot like ours. If he falls down, it’s a trip to the emergency room. I dose him with Adynovate as prophylaxis treatment and Advate for breakthrough bleeds,” Stephanie Hansen said. “I got trained, so I can start an IV. It does happen a lot, so we treat him at home for most cases but if he hits his head, we’ll treat him and then go to the emergency room to make sure everything is OK.

“Severe means he has less than one percent of Factor VIII. Medicine has come so far and we’re thankful for that. We talked to his doctor about starting a new medicine, Altuviiio, that we’ll have to administer once weekly and it’s supposed to cover him longer and he’ll have a higher percent of Factor VIII. It will put him at a more normal range for a week instead of the medicine now where the half-life is 18 hours.

“The biggest thing we have to worry about is internal bleeding and spontaneous bleeds. He was very agitated during the night one night. When he woke up, he started not putting any weight on his foot and he had it turned inward, which they usually say is a hip or knee bleed. We had to dose him then and we dosed him the next day. If you get two bleeds in the

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State of Illinois gives approval to Farm to Food Bank program

❑ Program will create farm and food bank relationships

By TAMMIE SLOUP
FarmWeek

SPRINGFIELD – A state-funded program that will create long-term relationships between farms and food banks was recently made permanent by Gov. JB Pritzker.

The governor signed House Bill 2879 into law on Aug. 3, establishing the Illinois Farm to Food Bank Program. The bill creates mechanisms for acquiring and distributing fresh fruits, vegetables, meat and poultry, dairy and eggs to organizations providing free food for those in need.

The Farm to Food Bank pilot program has been administered by Feeding Illinois and was launched in 2021 with grant funding from USDA. The program connects food banks with Illinois farmers to establish a pipeline of fresh food for food pantries throughout the state. It also provides a



secondary market for products that might be left in the field or trees, or blemished products.

“It’s good for our farmers’ bottom line, it’s good for those in need, and it’s good for our state — a win for everyone in Illinois,” Pritzker said.

The program will be administered by the Illinois Department of Human Services with a \$2 million investment in FY 2024.

During the pilot program’s first two years, nearly 2.5 million pounds of food was moved for \$1.1 million. Food acquired through the program must be from Illinois producers and must meet market-grade quality and consumption levels. However, much of the food going to the program is excess food that would have

See Food, Page A5

Reimagine Mendota plans chat sessions

MENDOTA - Reimagine Mendota is hosting community chat sessions all around the city of Mendota so neighbors can hear from each other about what makes Mendota special and what can be done to make the community even better.

The scheduled sessions are:

- Monday, Aug. 28, 4-8 p.m. - Food Truck MAINia opening on Main Street in front of the train depot. Receive one free raffle ticket with each chat.
- Tuesday, Aug. 29, 5:30-7 p.m. - Meet city alderpersons and chat in Wards 3 and 4, at Victory Baptist Church, 505 W. Seventh Ave.
- Thursday, Sept. 7, 6:30-8 p.m. - Hosted by the Hispanic Partnership Council at Neveria y Paeteria La Esquinita De Oro (ice cream shop) at 1206 Sixth Ave. Receive one free scoop of ice cream and a chat.
- Friday, Sept. 8, 6-8 a.m. - Free coffee and a chat at Parkway Family Restaurant, 1400 13th Ave.
- Saturday, Sept. 16, 10 a.m.-noon - Free snacks and a chat at Estates Mobile Home Park, 111 13th Ave.
- Wednesday, Sept. 20, 5:30-7 p.m. - Meet city alderpersons and chat in Wards 1 and 2, at the Elks Lodge, 707 Indiana Ave.
- Tuesday, Sept. 26, 5:30-7 p.m. - Newcomer’s Network snack and a chat

at Graves-Hume Public Library, 1401 W. Main St. For those who are new to Mendota or moved back in the last two years.

- Thursday, Sept. 28, 6:30-9:30 a.m. - Free coffee and a chat at Ziggie’s Family Restaurant, 1212 First Ave.
- Tuesday, Oct. 3, 4-6 p.m. - Youth Night. One free piece of pizza, chat and music at Pizzas by Marchelloni, 1210 Meriden St.

Come for 10 minutes or stay an hour. Join one chat or all chats.

It’s important to hear from everyone. Choose a time and place that works for you and bring a friend. Share your ideas and guide the future of our city.

Reimagine Mendota in partnership with the city of Mendota will present results and ideas from the community chats at two Focus on Mendota Summits - Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9-11 a.m. and Monday, Nov. 20 from 6-8 p.m. at the Mendota Civic Center.

Reimagine Mendota is a group of more than 75 residents committed to the revitalization of downtown and development of the city so we all have a great place to live, work and play. All are welcome to join.

For more information, go online to www.reimaginemendota.org or email reimaginemendota@gmail.com.



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LOCAL AND AREA

Lillee Monterastelli stood upon three podiums at USTA Nationals

Illinois Valley YMCA Tumbling & Trampoline performs well; all 24 IVTT athletes qualified, competed at nationals

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The summer started off in grand fashion for Lillee Monterastelli.

Actually, podium grand fashion... three times.

The 11-year-old Holy Cross sixth grader competed in the United States Trampoline & Tumbling Association (USTA) Trampoline and Tumbling National Championships on June 19-24 in Springfield, Ill. in part with her team, Illinois Valley YMCA Tumbling & Trampoline (IVTT).

Monterastelli stood tall on podiums for the intermediate double mini (second place), sub-advanced trampoline (sixth place), and novice tumbling (ninth place).

“It was really cool because it showed people and myself what I can do and how much I’ve trained, even though it’s not as much as some of the other girls,” Monterastelli said. “It just shows how much work I put into my small classes. It’s really fun to flip around.”

“I was very nervous at nationals, especially trampoline because that day there was a lot of kids and I didn’t feel that great. I woke up really early the first morning and I had an upset stomach. I got sixth in the nation when I wasn’t feeling well. And bouncing around doesn’t help.”

Monterastelli is involved in basketball, volleyball, bowling, is thinking about playing softball, and was involved in the 3M Productions play “An-

nie” on the Mendota High School stage this summer.

However, none of her other activities came at the age of 18 months. As mother Ashley Armstrong says, ‘She was flipping off of my furniture backwards, so I decided to put her into tumbling.’

Since then, Monterastelli trained with Illinois Valley Gymnastic Academy until she was 3 and then transferred to IVTT, where she has been ever since.

“Learning new skills such as twists like a full or a barani are hard to manipulate and hard to perfect,” said Monterastelli, whose father is Scott Monterastelli. “You have to pay attention to coaches when they say, ‘Hold in,’ or ‘Squeeze more’. They’re telling you those things to protect you and so you don’t fall and break your face. I think it’s really fun and cool that I can do what I’m doing.”

“I’m going to practice and focus on tumbling and trampoline a lot more. I moved up a level in two events, tumbling and double mini. When you’re at practice during competition season you don’t really get to mess around as much as you do in the summer. When you’re at a competition and are nervous, you just need to let it rip and see what happens. I do that a lot, especially on trampoline because I’m at a higher level.”

After nationals, Monterastelli is now at intermediate in tumbling and sub-advanced in both trampoline and double mini.

She added she’s ready

to keep training and competing to add to her trophy collection because they make her room brighter.

IVTT Director Jessica Turczyn, Team Coach Stephen Donnell, and Allannah Harper would like to help Monterastelli’s room become brighter as well.

Donnell has seen the 11-year-old’s skill set and is anxious to see what the future may bring. He saw a lot of promise, poise and talent at nationals.

“She works so hard. I knew she was going to do really well because she did really well at state,” Donnell said. “She put in so much time in the gym between state and nationals at both team practices and at 1-on-1 lessons. I knew she was going to do well, but to podium on all three events is crazy hard, especially at her age and at her levels where there are a lot of girls competing.”

“To break Top 10, let alone Top 5, on multiple events is so hard. She exceeded my expectations.”

For the first time in program history, IVTT had all 24 of its athletes qualify for nationals.

When Donnell talks about all of the talent IVTT currently has, Monterastelli is amongst the top.

“Lillee does really well. She listens to all of her coaches. We talk a lot to formulate plans for the athletes, particularly those that are competing to make sure they’re going to do a good job, keep their self-esteem up, and keep them interested in the sport,” Donnell said. “If Lillee keeps working hard like she is, I’m excited



Lillee Monterastelli, an 11-year-old sixth grader at Holy Cross, had a podium-finishing summer as she placed second in double mini, sixth in trampoline, and ninth in tumbling June 19-24 at the USTA National Championships in Springfield, Ill. Monterastelli was one of the 24 Illinois Valley YMCA Tumbling & Trampoline athletes to qualify and compete at nationals. This is the first time all IVTT athletes made it to the final meet of the season. (Photo contributed)

to see what the possibilities are a couple of years down the road.

“I’m already planning in my head what she’s going to be doing for the next couple of years.”

The next IVTT season

starts at the end of October, beginning of November where the tumblers are learning new skills and new passes.

By January, each individual is mostly set on their routines and twists for the

rest of the season, the state tournament, and then the National Championships in June.

Then Lillee Monterastelli will have the opportunity to add even more light to her bedroom.

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Available in Green, Black and Blue (shown)

The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Back to school safety tips for parents, students and motorists

ROCKFORD — It's almost time for the school bells to ring and students to return to their classrooms. The Red Cross offers 10 ways to help make sure your student is safe as they head back to school for the upcoming year.

- If your student rides a bus to school, they should plan to get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive.
- Students should board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant has instructed them to get on. They should only board their bus, never an alternate one.
- All students should stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.
- Cross the street at the corner, obey traffic signals and stay in the crosswalk.
- Never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- If children go to school in a car, they should always wear a seat belt. Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits properly (typically for children ages 8-12 and over 4'9"), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.
- If a teenager is going to drive to school, parents should mandate that they use seat belts. Drivers should not use their cell phone to text or make calls and avoid eating or drinking while driving.
- Some students ride their bike to school. They should always wear a helmet and ride on the right, in the same direction as the traffic is going.
- When children are walking to school,

they should only cross the street at an intersection, and use a route along which the school has placed crossing guards.

• Parents should walk young children to school, along with children taking new routes or attending new schools, at least for the first week to ensure they know how to get there safely. Arrange for students to walk to school with a friend or classmate.

Parents of younger kids, especially those going to school for the first time, should make sure the child knows their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to dial 911. Teach them not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don't know.

Drivers, Slow Down!

Drivers should slow down as children head back to school. Know that yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop and motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off.

Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped. Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety. This includes two and four-lane highways. If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping. Do not proceed until all the children have reached a place of safety.



Carus Summer Science Campers graduate after exploring the STEM world

PERU – Carus Summer Science Camp concluded with a graduation ceremony at Saint Bede Academy on July 21. The popular summer program is held annually, and this year marked the 21st year Carus has offered the free camp to local students entering the sixth grade. To date, over 600 students have graduated from the camp, which began in 2001.

Dan Fitzpatrick, science teacher at Saint Bede Academy, directed the camp once more with the help of Angelique Depenbrock, science teacher at LaSalle-Peru High School.

Throughout the week, students of the camp had the opportunity to explore the world of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) through fun demonstrations, hands-on experiments, and educational games. Additionally, students were given a water treatment facility tour by Carus volunteers, Tim Postula, regional sales manager and Dylan Kemmerer, key account manager. Ahead of graduation, students participated in competitive rocket launches.

“At Carus, we’re thrilled to help offer local students

a positive learning experience in STEM as they enter the sixth grade this Fall,” said Lyndsay Bliss, vice president of human resources and communications at Carus. “We are also very fortunate to have Dan and Angelique as wonderful partners eager to share their passion in science and make this camp possible.”

Are you a graduate of the Carus Summer Science Camp from the past? Did you pursue a career in science, technology, engineering, or math? Share your story with Carus by visiting carusllc.com/campsurvey.

Alliance Pipeline Fueling Futures grant to assist local responders via LaSalle County EMA

OTTAWA—The LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) announced that it has been awarded \$5,000 from the Alliance Pipeline Fueling Futures grant program. Through this collaboration, LaSalle County EMA and Alliance Pipeline are energizing communities through initiatives that strengthen community safety, vibrancy, and sustainability.

“The grant funds will be used to further develop our volunteer capabilities to better assist first

responders in our communities and to build capacity for disaster response,” said Fred Moore, EMA director. The EMA relies on volunteers to assist in its mission of providing residents, businesses, and local units of government the education, resources and support necessary to reduce the loss of life and human suffering, minimize property damage, and protect environmentally sensitive areas from all types of disasters.

“Without generous donations like this, we would not be able to

provide some of the services that we offer. The EMA budget when I started in 2011 was well over \$300,000. Currently, even with the costs of goods and services increasing, we operate at less than \$180,000 annually, of which 45% is funded by state and federal grants,” said Moore.

The Fueling Futures grant from Alliance Pipeline will be used to offset the cost of outfitting a volunteer response vehicle with necessary safety and radio equipment as well as purchasing

supplies needed for volunteers to effectively complete their requested tasks.

In addition to assisting the first responder community, the Field Service Unit is tasked with assisting with community outreach events and disaster damage assessments, with hopes to include a disaster shelter management component. The Ground Search and Rescue unit assists law enforcement in locating lost individuals and the search for evidence. All volunteers have a

rigorous training requirement that must be met before being eligible to be deployed in the field. To date, 20 agency volunteers have provided well over 1,000 hours of service to the county. “We are on pace to nearly triple the amount of volunteer service hours that were completed in all of 2022,” said Corban Flynn, EMA deputy director.

To learn more about the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency, visit www.lasallecountytyma.org.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Frank V. Berger

MENDOTA – Frank V. Berger, 77, of Mendota, passed away Aug. 19, 2023, in his home surrounded by his loving family.

Visitation will be Thursday, Aug. 24 from 1-3 p.m. at Wasmer Funeral Home followed by a 3 p.m. service officiated by Rev. Mary Bohall. Cremation rites will be accorded after.

Frank was born June 14, 1946, in Mendota, to Charles F. and Frances (Buster) Berger. Frank married Debra Holmes in Ottawa on Feb. 14, 1997.

He was drafted in his senior year of high school, and proudly served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

He will be sadly missed by his wife Deb of Mendota; sons Keith Berger of St. Charles, Minn., and Reese Berger of San Antonio, Texas; daughter Kim Berger of Plainview, Minn.; stepson, Guy Stanford of Mendota; two grandchildren, Lindsey Berger and Josh Berger; three great-grandchildren, Bellamy Wagoner, Kingsley Wagoner and Elijah Wagoner; and brother, Charles (Elaine) Berger of Mendota.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son Kevin in infancy, and a brother, Bob Berger.

During Frank's lengthy career he first was a welder at Conkey's for 25 years. His true calling was heating, cooling and refrigeration and he worked with Kettman's for 28 years before starting his own business, Berger's HVACR until his retirement in 2010.

He was active in his community for over 50 years, involved with the Mendota Moose Lodge #714, Mendota Elks Lodge #1212, and Mendota V.F.W. Post #4079.

Memorials may be directed to the family. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.

William D. Arjes

MENDOTA – William D. Arjes, 73, went to be with his Lord on Monday, June 5, 2023, at his home surrounded by his family.

A celebration of life will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26 at Mendota Presbyterian Church. Cremation arrangements were under the direction of Archer Funeral Home, Seymour, Texas.

William was born on Jan. 12, 1950, in Mendota, to Robert L. and Arlene L. Youssi Arjes. He grew up in Compton and was a 1968 graduate of Mendota Township High School. He married Terry L. Engel on July 22, 1972.

He is survived by his wife, Terry Arjes; two sons, Matt (Donna) Arjes and Anthony (Kimberly) Arjes; a daughter, Tammy L. (Rob) Hill; six grandsons, Tanner (Shelby) Arjes, Eli Arjes, Aiden Arjes, Braden Hill, Wyatt Arjes and Jensen Arjes; three granddaughters, Addison Arjes, Rylee Hill and Sabra Myers; a great-grandson, Curren Joah Arjes; a brother, Robert (Dorothy) Arjes; a sister, Lori (Greg) Glaser; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Michael Arjes and a niece, Kristi.

William had an enormous heart that he showed toward his family and friends, and he was a devoted Christian.



Harry J. Kessinger

VAN ORIN – Harry James Kessinger, 88, passed away Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023, at Heritage Manor in Walnut.

Harry was born on Oct. 2, 1934, in Mendota, to the late Harry and Kathleen (Gladfelter) Kessinger. He was a graduate of Mendota High School Class of 1954. He married his love, Judy Palmatier, on Feb. 1, 1958, at the Prairie Center. They celebrated 65 years of marriage in February of this year.

Before he married, Harry joined the United States Navy from 1954 – 1957, when he was honorably discharged. He traveled the Northwest Pacific while serving on the USS Eldorado.

Harry is survived by his bride of 65 plus years, Judy Kessinger of Van Orin; two children, daughter, Shonni (Dale) Schaefer of Davenport, Iowa, and son Doug (Chris) Kessinger of LaMoille; three grandsons, Brian (Kim) Oliver of Sioux Falls, S.D., Lance (Heather) Kessinger of Amboy and Bret (DeLaney) Kessinger of Wymore, Neb.; one great-grandson, Gabe Kessinger; two brothers, Ken (Sharon) Kessinger, of Mendota and Bill (Joyce) Kessinger of Mendota; one sister, Barb (Ron) Jacob of Naples Fla.; as well as many very special nieces, nephews and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Kathleen Kessinger, and one daughter Shonni J. Schaefer.

Harry worked at Wayside Press in Mendota, before he and Judy moved to Walsenburg, Colo. Together they owned and operated their own printing company as well as selling office supplies.

He loved to travel - Harry would have stayed on the road if he could have, seeing all the magnificent sights the world has to offer. He and Judy drove their motor home to Alaska, one of their favorite spots. They would take all their fur babies for long walks wherever they may be; they always managed to find a great spot to walk the pups. He loved spending time with his family, but especially the grandkids, who were growing up right before his very eyes.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family.

Online condolences may be directed to www.norbergfh.com. Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.



Elaine R. Galloway

MENDOTA – Elaine Rose Galloway, 91, of Mendota, went to be with the Lord on Aug. 18, 2023, at Allure of Mendota.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26, 2023, at the Holy Cross Church in Mendota with Father Peter Pilon officiating. Burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, Mendota. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Elaine was born June 22, 1932, in Mendota, to Jacob and Mary (Witte) Eichorn. She graduated from Mendota High School in 1950. She entered the Sacred Heart Convent of the Dominican Sisters, but God had a different calling for her to return to Mendota and raise a family. Elaine married Ken Galloway in May of 1955 and they raised four children, Karen (Torchia-Davis), Kent (Robbi) Galloway, Michael (Shirley) Galloway and Mark (Karen) Galloway.

To cherish her memory are her sons, Kent (Robbi) Galloway of Alta Loma, Calif., Mike (Shirley) Galloway of Villisca, Iowa, and Mark (Karen) Galloway of Dalzell; her sister, Leatrice Hitchins of El Paso, Texas; her sister-in-law, Joan Eichorn of Mendota; and many nieces and nephews.

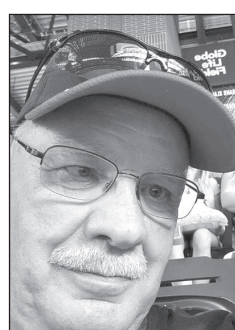
She was a proud and loving grandmother of nine grandchildren, Matt (Nicole) Torchia, Angie Partridge, Marie Torchia, Sam (Brooke) Torchia, Jill (Nathan) O'Neill, Brandon (Vanessa) Galloway, Janae (Ryan) Squires, Michelle (Matt) Dilday and Lauren Galloway. Elaine had 11 great-grandchildren and one on the way.

Elaine was preceded in death by her brothers, Jim Eichorn, Bob Eichorn and Keith Eichorn, and her daughter, Karen Torchia-Davis.

Elaine worked five years as a telephone operator for General Telephone and Electronics Corporation (GTE). After the early years of being a dedicated mom, she began working as a nurses' aide at the Mendota Community Hospital. She worked there for 20 years. Elaine then worked 15 years doing home health care. She truly loved taking care of people and bringing them comfort and praying with them. She had volunteered for many years praying the rosary for the residents at Heritage Health of Mendota.

We will always carry her memory in our hearts. Heaven gained a beautiful angel.

Memorials may be directed to the Mendota Area Senior Services or to Meals on Wheels (OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, Mendota). Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



U.S. 34 bridge near Somonauk closed

OTTAWA – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that the bridge carrying U.S. 34 and Illinois 23 over Little Indian Creek in La Salle County is closed to all traffic. The bridge is located 4 miles west of Somonauk and a half-mile west of the eastern junction of U.S. 34 and Illinois 23.

The bridge was closed on the evening of Aug. 18, after an inspection found vertical cracks on its concrete beams. The closure was necessary to prevent further deterioration and as a preventive measure to ensure the safety of all traveling motorists.

Through traffic can follow a combined state and local detour routes using U.S. 34 and Illinois 23, Leland Road, Suydam Road and Illinois 23.

Repair options are being evaluated and planning is underway to expedite the full replacement of this bridge.

Motorists are urged to use caution and expect delays while traveling the detour route.

For IDOT District 3 updates on Twitter, follow us at @IDOTDistrict3 or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map at www.GettingAroundIllinois.com.

DEATH NOTICES

The Mendota Reporter will print DEATH NOTICES (approximately 50 words including name, age, date of death, time/date of services) free of charge. OBITUARIES will be printed at a cost of \$75 to be billed to the arranging funeral home or prepaid with cash, check or credit card. Please submit obituaries or death notices to editor@mendotareporter.com.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Jack

Continued from Page A1

same joint, it's comparable to getting arthritis. The goal is to prevent him from having any target joints, where bleeds keep happening in the same place, which can cause issues in the future."

With the Hansen family knowing how serious Hemophilia is and how much fundraising has helped medicines improve, the mother wanted to unretire her running shoes.

Training for the New York City Marathon consists of a lot of running, cross training twice a week, speed work and adding as many hills as Illinois and treadmills can hold.

If Stephanie is having a shorter run outdoors, she'll push Jack in a stroller to let him enjoy Mother Nature and to add a little weight for her to push.

Although, he usually falls asleep because he's bored or in peace, Stephanie said, returning to marathon running is all for him and Hemophilia.

"I have really tried to train. I train after the kids go to bed. I wake up early in the morning, so I don't miss out on time with them," Stephanie Hansen said. "I had to fill out an application to run for the foundation, so I'm really excited that they wanted me to be part of their team because it is so close to my heart."

To help support Jack



Jack Hansen, the youngest of four, gets a lift from his sister Lilly Hansen while shooting some hoops. Jack and the family have to be careful with activities such as basketball because Jack has Severe Hemophilia A, which is when blood is missing Factor VIII, the component that helps clot blood. If Jack falls or takes a bump, he has to have medicine immediately and will visit the emergency room. (Photo contributed)

Hansen and Hemophilia fundraising, go to Stephanie

Hansen's page <http://do.nr/v5yfeb> to donate.

Illinois total nonfarm payroll jobs reach record high; unemployment rate was stable in July

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) announced Aug. 17 that the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.0 percent, remaining at the lowest level since the onset of the pandemic, while non-farm payrolls increased by +11,200 in July, surpassing the pre-pandemic number of total nonfarm payrolls, based on preliminary data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and released by IDES. The June revised unemployment rate was 4.0 percent, unchanged from the preliminary June unemployment rate. The June monthly change in payrolls was revised from the preliminary report, from +8,400 to +9,700 jobs. The July unemployment rate and payroll jobs estimate reflect activity for the week including the 12th.

In July, the industry sectors with the largest over-the-month job gains included: Educational and Health Services (+6,400), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+4,500), and Government (+1,900). The industry sectors with monthly payroll job declines included: Professional and Business Services (-3,000), Other Services (-900) and Manufacturing (-500).

"Illinois has experienced consecutive job growth every month this year, and today's record-breaking total payroll jobs data is clear

indication of the marked level of strength in the labor market throughout the state," said Deputy Governor Andy Manar. "As the state continues to prioritize investments in workforce opportunities, IDES and its partners stand ready to provide the services needed for individuals to take advantage of the new and expanding job possibilities across Illinois."

"It's clear that Illinois is making significant progress as we achieve this notable milestone for payroll jobs," said DCEO Director Kristin Richards. "Illinois is experiencing a banner year for economic development and DCEO remains committed to providing resources and support to job seekers and job creators across the state."

The state's unemployment rate was +0.5 percentage point higher than the national unemployment rate reported for July. The national unemployment rate was 3.5 percent in July, down -0.1 percentage point from the previous month. The Illinois unemployment rate was down -0.4 percentage point from a year ago when it was at 4.4 percent.

Compared to a year ago, nonfarm payroll jobs increased by +89,700 jobs, with gains across most major industries. The industry groups with the largest jobs increases included: Educational and Health

Services (+42,500), Government (+27,200), and Leisure and Hospitality (+26,500). Professional and Business Services (-12,400), Manufacturing (-10,200), and Information (-5,200) reported declines in payroll jobs. In July, total nonfarm payrolls were up +1.5 percent over-the-year in Illinois and up +2.2 percent in the nation.

The number of unemployed workers was 255,100, the lowest level since the onset of the pandemic. The number of unemployed was down -1.2 percent from the prior month, and -11.0 percent over the same month one year ago. The labor force was down -0.2 percent over-the-month and down -0.3 percent over-the-year. The unemployment rate identifies those individuals who are out of work and seeking employment. An individual who exhausts or is ineligible for benefits is still reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

In June 2020, Governor Pritzker launched Get Hired Illinois, a one-stop-shop website to help connect job seekers with hiring employers in real time. The site features virtual job fairs, no-cost virtual training, and includes IllinoisJobLink.com (IJL), the state's largest job search engine, which recently showed 53,334 posted resumes with 107,599 available jobs.

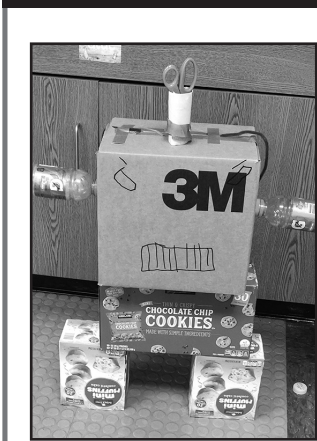
IVCC offering computer basics

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College's Continuing Education Department will offer a three-session Computer Basics and Internet Safety class from 1-4 p.m. Fridays beginning Sept. 15.

Students will become familiar with the basic features of Windows 10 and internet safety; the drive/folder/file management system My Computer (now called This PC); the Recycle Bin; desktop customization; apps installation, and running multiple programs concurrently. Participants also will explore Gmail – which serves as the primary email account for the class -- and various Google apps.

The class will meet on IVCC's Oglesby campus in Room A-209. The cost is \$149. To register, please visit computer basics and internet safety class or call 815-224-0427.

RealNews



From School Projects to the Big Game, we celebrate the events that shape our lives.

We're here to share the stories with you, our friends and all of our readers.

RealEvents

Council

Continued from Page A1

program. The low bid of \$213,706 was awarded to Universal Asphalt Co. of LaSalle. The other bid was turned in by Advanced Asphalt of Princeton for \$229,552.

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 Leo Hochstat-

ter commended all the city workers and everyone else involved in cleaning up the downtown area after this year's Sweet Corn Festival.

OTHER ITEMS

In other items, residents of a property on 13th Avenue issued a complaint to the council about the numerous city ordinance violations of their neighbor. They stated the property has tall grass and weeds and is infested with wild animals. The couple stated they have complained to the city for years and nothing has been done to remedy the problem.

Mayor David Boelk stated in June that the city is taking a hard stance on residents who violate the city ordinances, and he reiterated that to the complainants. It was learned that the perpetrator has been issued four violations and the matter is in the court system.

Boelk said the city will continue to fine all violators with the goal being to get everything cleaned up under its power. City attorney Mike Guilfoyle said separate of the

city ordinances, the building inspector could be sent in to the property and the city could file a lawsuit against the perpetrator under the safe building act.

Boelk assured the complainants that the city will continue pursuing the matter.

PUBLIC HEARING

Prior to the regular meeting, a public hearing was held in regard to the issuance of general obligation bonds. There were no statements received or given regarding the matter.

The public hearing was pursuant to the requirements of Sections 10 and 20 of the Bond Issuance Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended on the plans to issue General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023 in the amount not to exceed \$700,000. The bonds will be used to finance public infrastructure and to pay certain costs of issuance of the bonds.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Food

Continued from Page A1

been wasted without food banks as an outlet. The lack of a centralized donation program was a barrier to farmers looking to donate in the past.

The bill also includes capacity-building grants for capital improvements needed to store and transport fresh food to better reach underserved communities. The program focuses on fresh and nutritious foods, which are often difficult to secure at many food banks. The bill also creates a Farm to Food Bank Advisory Council to support and advise on the work of the program and

establish and build relationships with agricultural producers.

"Illinois' No. 1 industry is agriculture, and we are building the vision that ensures every community can benefit from the bounty our state produces. As chair of the Governor's Rural Affairs Council, it is clear that we get closer to that vision by building strong relationships with our local farmers. The Farm to Foodbank Program provides a pathway to do just that," Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton said.

While many farmers would prefer to donate excess food they've grown to food banks or local food pantries,

often the logistics and cost hinder such donations. The pilot program used USDA funding to help defray some of those costs by reimbursing farmers for their picking and pack-out costs—any expense related to harvesting, packaging and transporting the food.

Initiative partners include Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Illinois Farmers Market Association, University of Illinois Extension and the Prairie Research Institute's Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. While the pilot program has been active for only a couple growing seasons, the partners have been working on the project for 5 years.

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The Mendota Reporter




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OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

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

On the other side

I was that kid, teenager, and young adult. When it came to the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival or most other fairs and carnivals, I tried to stay away as much as I could but would talk all the smack my lungs could handle every summer.

Probably in the fall, winter, and spring as well.

I didn't want to see people I didn't like.

Carnies, as my friends and I called them, making weird

Never the Last Chance

By Brandon LaChance



comments or yelling some selling slang to make us play a game as we walked by.

Too many people.

Those are all of the rides?

This is awful, let's go to Six Flags.

All of these thoughts were in my head and came out of my mouth at some point from the time I was 11 until 25-ish.

Slowly but surely, my opinions changed.

I still might not have wanted to see some people but wanting to see other individuals I haven't chatted with in years ranked higher on the priority list.

The carny talk moved from being weird to entertaining and could be added as a college business course, Carny Sales 101.

In the time it takes to wait in line for one ride at Six Flags, a Sweet Corn Fest goer could ride 10 attractions, easily.

Maybe it's age.

Maybe when you leave the town you call home to go to others and it's different, you appreciate what you had.

In my late 20s and 30s (currently 37), I have enjoyed the good ole SCF.

I went to my 15th high school reunion after vowing to never go to any reunion and, now, I plan to go to the 20th next August. I'm sure I've ridden every ride with a niece, nephew, or loved one. I'm positive I swayed through the craft vendors. And for the last 10 years, have either walked or watched others hit the Mendota streets for the parade.

Beer gardens, bands, Elks, South Shore Drill Team, Jesse White Tumblers, and anything and everything else.

Except, waiting in line for free corn on Sunday. Thank you, friends and family for giving me a piece out of your stash.

This year, my appreciation and respect for the Sweet Corn Festival and everyone involved ballooned to a level near, not exactly at the same level but close, of the journalism/media profession.

Wow, I mean wow.

The hours compiled into the SCF by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Mendota, every organization in town and from surrounding areas, all of the businesses, the sponsors, the vendors, the Mendota athletic teams, the policemen, the firefighters, and the volunteers.

I'm sure I missed someone, my apologies, but even the fact that someone could be left out shows the range of how many people and the level of commitment that is put into this thing that I used to discredit as much as possible.

The planning and strategizing start months before August.

The individual schedule planner maneuvering done by everyone involved starts the day after the SCF is complete. As an Ambassador for the Chamber, I wrote everything I did on a note card with times and dates and put it in the little pocket of the back of the 2023 planner, so I remember to add it to the one I purchase for 2024.

Teamwork, communication, kindness, patience was used to its finest degree even when some of the festival's goers were not the most communicative, kind, or patient.

It was truly amazing to see how one weekend is put together for months, features so many activities from a Thursday to a Sunday, and by Monday morning someone walking or driving through Mendota would never know 20,000-40,000 people had an amazing time at that very location.

Hats off to those who were involved this year.

Thank you to those who have been in the past.

And personally, all negative thoughts about the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival are replaced with positive vibes, amazing moments and city unity.

Now, as a journalist, it's time for the Amboy Depot Days and all the fun, excitement, and corn dogs it has to bring.



Defending religious services in the park – 1909

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Aug. 25, 1999.)

By Jessica Nashold

The Mendota City Council met in special session on Aug. 18, 1999, to hear a protest. After granting permission to five churches to hold joint services in the city park during July and August, the city had “unceremoniously” recalled that permission and refused to let a meeting go forward.

The five churches involved were Methodist, Evangelical, Presbyterian, Baptist and Advent Christian. Speaking on their behalf at the special meeting was the Rev. Roderick Murray, pastor of the Methodist church. He was accompanied by Rev. Phi Beuscher of the Evangelical church.

Rev. Murray declared that the council’s action in forbidding the service would be “a stigma on our city’s fair reputation, causing us to be looked down upon by every city in the county, every city in the state and in fact all the cities in the United States.” Furthermore, Rev. Murray felt the council’s action was sending “a wrong message” to the city’s youth. It might even cause “good people” who had considered moving to Mendota, to change their minds.

We are here to ask that the action be stricken from the record.

The aldermen voted to recall the ban on the services in the park. They also moved that in the future the city park could be used by the churches.

This will no doubt close the incident.

A request was made that the 9 o’clock curfew whistle not be blown because of the serious illness of Mrs. M.A. McKey, who lived nearby. A discussion of curfews followed. Some wanted to abolish all the whistles.

However –

Many working men depend on the 6 o’clock whistle to rouse them.

Sidewalks were be laid and the city’s share of the expense was set by ordinance. Property owners were given

Backtracks & Sidetracks

permission to decide what contractor to hire and they would be responsible for any cost above the city’s mandated share, which could not be altered.

Alderman William Phalen moved that the town marshal and night police be allowed a one-week vacation each. He alleged they worked 13 hours “at the lowest pay of any city in this neighborhood.”

The council granted the vacations.

Out at the fairgrounds, a new amphitheater was under construction, replacing one destroyed by high winds in the spring.

The Mendota Reporter called attention to a manufacturer of “display fixtures, hardware, wooden ware and cracker bakers supplies” who wanted a location within 200 miles of Chicago. The company expected to employ 100. They asked \$500 for moving expenses, an acre of ground, \$10,000 credit at banks, and money at 5% interest to build or buy new quarters.

Now, does Mendota want it?

The 18th annual camp meeting of the Advent Christians was held on the college grounds. It opened Aug. 20, 1909, and concluded on Aug. 29.

There was serious talk of moving the college to Aurora.

Our city should not let this institution leave.

The Western Advent Christian Publishing Association re-elected Henry Pollard as editor of *Our Hope*, published in Mendota. H.E. Pancrost was business manager.

Henry Zolper & Sons were at work paving 10th Avenue and Fifth Street.

There are 30 men on the job.

It was announced that Streater brick was being used for the paving.

On Aug. 27, 1909, it was reported that the daily average of people killed in automobile accidents was five. The statistic did not specify the area covered by this figure. The Reporter explained –

The average autoist is keen after a faster ride.

The speeding is often accompanied by recklessness and eventually winds up in a fatality too horrible and blood curdling to describe.

Rufus Waldorf and Earl Lewis opened a garage on Illinois Street. Their first machine arrived Aug. 19, 1909.

Edward and George Pool of Freedom purchased the garage business of S.D. Elwell & Son.

Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Hall came from Peoria and made preparations to move to Mendota. Mr. Hall planned to open a “strictly up-to-date gents clothing store” about Oct. 1, 1909, in the Waldorf block. Mrs. Hall was the former Lorena Waldorf, daughter of the building’s owner.

The Burlington railroad announced it would include a bible in each of its library trains.

They are 20 in number.

Saturday was payday on the Burlington and over \$13,000 was paid out in Mendota, owing to extra crews working here. Eighty thousand dollars was paid at Aurora.

At the National Corn Exposition in Omaha in 1909, W.K. Kellogg, manufacturer of breakfast foods, offered a \$1,000 gold and silver trophy cup for the best ear of corn.

The cup is one of Tiffany’s masterpieces.

Now that “extreme warm weather is presumed to be over,” band members will resume regular practice the evening of Aug. 23, 1909. Anyone interested in joining the band is welcome to come.

How Eric Adams has vindicated immigration restrictionism

By Rich Lowry

The public intellectual Irving Kristol famously said that the definition of a neoconservative is “a liberal who has been mugged by reality.”

By the same token, the definition of a convert to immigration restrictionism is a big-city mayor dealing with a surge of illegal immigration in his city.

In his desperate pleas for federal help to deal with about 100,000 migrants who have come to New York City since the spring of 2022, Mayor Eric Adams is vindicating the hawkish position on immigration with almost every utterance.

All that it has taken to explode the lazy cliches that have defined the progressive position on the issue is a heavy flow of illegal immigration.

If immigration is an unalloyed good, this influx should be a boon to New York City and its future. Why stop at 100,000 if the city could have 200,000, or 300,000? If immigration has no cost, why is New York spending \$5 billion this year absorbing this flow?

According to Adams, New York City “is being destroyed by the migrant crisis.”

There you have it -- immigration, in and of itself, has the power to bring a great city to its knees.

Long gone are the days when Adams pledged during his campaign to “lift up immigrants as high as Lady Liberty lifts her torch in our harbor, as a beacon of hope for all who come to our shores.” Now, he sounds a lot like Donald Trump, or a late Roman emperor getting undone by an influx of Vandals and Goths.

New York has been actively discouraging immigrants, or, to use the progressive line, “slamming the door on new migrants.” Flyers distributed by the city at the border say, “Housing in NYC is very expensive,” and no one can say that isn’t truth in advertising. “Please consider,” the message pleads, “another city as you make your decision about where to settle in the U.S.”

In other words, why not try Philadelphia?

What Adams is learning is that the key questions when

it comes to immigration are: how many, from where, with what skills, and what will they do once here.

The fact is -- as border areas already realized -- low-skilled migrants with few connections in the community showing up en masse constitutes an intolerable fiscal and social burden.

It is true that there are unique circumstances at play for Adams. Asylum seekers can’t work until their applications have been considered for six months; New York City has a right-to-shelter law that has added to the expense.

If asylum seekers, many of whom are making bogus claims, were instantly handed work permits, though, it’d be another incentive for illegal immigration. And even places without New York’s shelter laws are strained by the arrival of the Biden-era illegal immigrants and have been declaring states of emergency.

The wave of migrants over the last couple of years aside, immigrants to the U.S. are heavily reliant on public resources since they tend to be poor and have low levels of education. An analysis of Census Bureau data by the Center for Immigration Studies shows that 58% of households in New York State headed by immigrants use at least one welfare program. Even if illegal immigrants aren’t technically eligible for some of these programs, their U.S.-born children are. And as we see in the current crisis, if people show up who need housing, medical care, and education, no one is simply going to say no.

To his credit, Mayor Adams has been focusing more attention on the federal failures at the border, but a key component of the Adams immigration plan was blocking federal enforcement.

Now, immigration enforcement by the feds isn’t such a bad thing. What New York City is seeking, after all the rote invocations of the Statue of Liberty, is fewer migrants competing with people already living in the city for resources and attention.

That really shouldn’t be too much to ask. Welcome to reality, Mayor Adams.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Paw Paw Board hears about Labor Day plans

PAW PAW – The Paw Paw Village Board met on Aug. 10.

Michelle Fay, Director of the Paw Paw Boys and Girls Club, requested a donation from the village for the club. The club provides before and after school care in the south wing of the school. Hours are 6:30-8 a.m. and 3-5:30 p.m. Their mission is to provide a safe, stimulating environment for children K thru 8th grade. Help with homework, healthy snacks, group games, crafts and science activities are provided.

Cost for the program: \$10.00 - a.m.,

\$15.00 - p.m., \$20.00 for both a.m. and p.m., \$35.00 for early dismissal days. For more information, see their website pawpawboysandgirlsclub@gmail.com. Financial assistance is available.

Christine Bend requested permission to have outside (sidewalk) seating for the Labor Day weekend.

No parking will be allowed on Chicago Road from 5 a.m. to end of the Labor Day parade on Monday, Sept. 4.

For Friday and Saturday of Labor Day Weekend, Chicago Road will be closed from 5 p.m.-midnight.

There will be a bounce-house for kids on Saturday from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Burn N Bush Band will perform from 7-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1. Midnight Rider Band will perform from 8-11 p.m. Saturday Sept. 2.

Concerned citizens requested a rolling speed-display stop sign to be used on Chicago Road.

Sidewalk replacement continues, most recently Clark Street and West Wheeling Street.

A bid for the clinic building on Wiley Avenue was accepted at the July 12 board meeting.

IDNR launches blueprint to help combat climate change

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has launched a climate action plan to serve as a blueprint for reducing the agency's carbon footprint and achieving Gov. JB Pritzker's greenhouse gas reduction goals by 2050. Plans include a pollinator-friendly solar installation, electric charging stations in state parks, greater use of electric vehicles and equipment, and more.

Limited renewable energy generation is part of IDNR's strategic and climate action plans. The climate action plan aims to reduce the agency's carbon footprint to zero prior to 2050. IDNR's efforts also are designed to help the State of Illinois reach the greenhouse gas reduction goals set forth in Gov. JB Pritzker's Executive Order 2019-06 that committed Illinois to joining the U.S. Climate Alliance, as well as the targets set in the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, signed into law Sept. 15, 2021.

"Climate change affects all of us," said Governor JB Pritzker. "My administration has a great partner in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, which embraced these goals and developed its own climate action plan. The efforts outlined in the plan will help us reach the targets we've set for reducing the state's carbon footprint by 2050."

Plans are underway for IDNR to develop a pollinator-friendly solar installation to combat climate change.

The proposals will be for a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), in which IDNR may license one or more 5- to 25-

acre parcels of land formerly leased for agriculture and purchases the solar-generated electricity from the vendor at a discount. The PPA is a common model used by government entities. State sites were screened for any locations that could potentially conflict with recreational programs, natural areas, flood plains, funding sources used to acquire the land, and other considerations. A request for proposals will be posted on Illinois' Bid Buy e-procurement portal soon.

"IDNR is committed to supporting Gov. Pritzker's goal of making Illinois a leader in fighting climate change," said IDNR Director Natalie Phelps Finnie. "Our climate action plan is unique, as it focuses our efforts on internal agency practices that, hopefully, we can model and set examples for others to follow."

IDNR has worked closely with the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) at the University of Illinois to create a screening process to identify appropriate locations for solar systems and to assist in the development of a request for proposals from vendors. SEDAC also has facilitated a year-long series of meetings with 70-plus IDNR staff who volunteered to spearhead and champion the agency's climate goals. Employees have come together from across the vast department – from wildlife and state parks staff to human resources and capital planning employees.

In mid-September, SEDAC will host electrical equipment demonstrations at IDNR's Lewis and Clark State Historic Site in Mad-

ison County to help IDNR staff and the public learn more about commercial electric mowers and other site maintenance tools that reduce fuel use and costs while decreasing climate emissions from maintaining landscapes. Often, electric equipment such as blowers and chain saws have lower repair or maintenance costs, less physical wear-and-tear on operators, and reduce exposure to air pollution from exhaust fumes.

Representatives from several tool manufacturers will be on site to demonstrate their electric landscaping equipment, including zero-turn mowers, electric string trimmers, chainsaws, leaf blowers and more. Visitors will learn more about the feasibility of electric tools for their management needs and leave with information about the economic and environmental benefits of electric equipment. The event is free and open to the public.

At the Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery in Mason County, staff have implemented measures to reduce energy use and save taxpayers money. Through a combination of adjusting thermostats on coolers, switching to LED lighting, installing variable frequency drive pumps on wells, and other measures, the site was able to reduce its energy bill by 25% over two years.

Other short to medium-term IDNR climate action plan goals include:

- Install electric vehicle charging stations in state parks around Illinois.
- Uncover opportunities for energy conservation.
- Reduce mowing and

establish more pollinator habitat at state sites.

- Reduce waste generated at state sites.

- Reduce potable water use by infrastructure improvements to reduce loss due to leaks and pilot rain-water capture and graywater use systems.

- Continue promoting human consumption of locally sourced Copi (invasive carp) from Illinois rivers to cut down on energy use associated with transporting products.

- IDNR intends to establish pilot projects to evolve new practices and seek feedback prior to codifying practices in agency policy.

The IDNR climate action plan's recommended strategies are organized into five key areas: utilities and buildings, sustainable site operations, climate-smart natural areas, equity, and learning and engagement. The plan includes recommendations for strategic approaches to achieving net zero, data tracking, and ongoing assessment. Equity, inclusion, learning, and engagement are foundational to the plan and its effective implementation.

"IDNR brought together more than 70 professionals from across our agency to work on these problems and find solutions that benefit the people and the ecology of Illinois," Phelps Finnie said. "We're jumping in with both feet to help the state meet its goals, and we're excited to learn how we can walk this path together."

To view IDNR's climate action plan, visit <https://dnr.illinois.gov/outreach/climate-action-plan.html>.



VIRTUAL ONLINE



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(watch for signs)

Starting @ 10:00 am

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Attendance permitting and if necessary two auction rings will run simultaneously, bring a friend, rain or shine, **this is a partial listing only**, expect to find surprises! will update auction zip as we find other items. Limited Off-road parking offered.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo
HOLLYWOOD -- Seth MacFarlane, who created "Family Guy" over 24 years ago and makes \$1 million an episode, donated \$1 million to assist striking SAG actors and WGA writers. The fund has raised \$6.3 million from more than 7,500 donors. Thanks to "Family Guy," "Ted" (\$50 million cost and \$550 million gross) and "Ted 2" (\$68 million cost and \$216 million gross), MacFarlane's net worth is \$300 million.

While "Barbie" has surpassed the \$1 billion mark and "Oppenheimer" slinks past \$600 million, "Sound of Freedom" starring Jim Caviezel and Mira Sorvino has quietly amassed \$172.8 million and received great reviews with a budget of \$14.5 million. Caviezel plays a former U.S. government agent who works for an underground railroad that operates as an anti-sex-trafficking organization and rescues children. It's really connecting with audiences.

"Beetlejuice 2," directed once again by Tim Burton,

started shooting in May with Michael Keaton, Catherine O'Hara, Winona Ryder, Jenna Ortega, Justin Theroux and Willem Dafoe, but their film set was recently robbed. It was no easy task -- the thieves stole a 150-pound statue created by Delia Deetz (O'Hara) and a lamppost topped with a pumpkin from their set in Corinth, Vermont.

Back in February 2022, thieves swiped \$500,000 worth of props and equipment from the sets of Netflix's "Lupin" and "The Crown," based in Paris and Northern England respectively. Over 350 items were stolen from vehicles for "The Crown" specifically. Where were their security people?

In 1963, I saw the Broadway musical "The Rainmaker" (based on the 1956 movie starring Burt Lancaster and Katharine Hepburn). Robert Horton of "Wagon Train" and Inga Swenson of "Benson" took over Burt and Kate's respective roles. I waited at the stage door and met them as they came out. Years later, I got to know Inga because

her publicity was handled by the legendary Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer publicist Esme Chandlee. I escorted Inga to events, visited her on the set of "Benson," spent time in her home and was thrilled to know such a legendary actress. I was saddened when we lost her recently, but she was 90 and lived a wonderful life.

I'm sure you heard we lost the great Paul Reubens, who I met when we were both contestants on "The Gong Show." I ran into him many times at The Groundlings, a comedy improv group in Hollywood where he created Pee-wee Herman. Eventually, he financed a version of "Pee-wee's Playhouse," which he performed for five sold-out months at "The Roxy" during midnight shows.

Then, CBS picked it up, and "Pee-wee's Playhouse" became a hit TV show. In 1984, "Pee-wee's Playhouse" sold out Carnegie Hall in New York. Paul was 70 when he passed, and I can still hear him saying, "I know you are, but what am I?"

Couch Theater

"Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves" (PG-13) -- Chris Pine leads this fantasy-action film based on the role-playing board game Dungeons & Dragons. Pine plays a widower named Edgin, who's also the leader of a band of thieves, including a barbarian (Michelle Rodriguez), a sorcerer (Justice Smith) and a con artist (Hugh Grant). Edgin is so desperate to bring his wife back from the dead by stealing a "Tablet of Reawakening" that he's ultimately imprisoned and loses his daughter. After he escapes prison with the help of his barbarian bestie, the pair stop at nothing until they can find the tablet and get Edgin's daughter back. The film hits streaming on Aug. 25, after a slight underperformance at the box office. (Amazon Prime Video)

"You Are So Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah" (PG-13) -- It's a Sandler family affair for this new comedy film premiering Aug. 25! While Adam Sandler's daughters, Sadie and Sunny, have made appearances throughout his many movies, Sunny takes center stage here in the lead

role of Stacy Friedman. Stacy is a preteen girl who does everything with her best friend, Lydia, and they're obsessed with planning their upcoming bat mitzvahs. However, when Lydia accidentally steals the boy Stacy's been crushing on, Stacy reaches her first true test before her rite of passage, as her world feels like it's come crashing down on her. Adam, Jackie and Sadie Sandler also star in this wholesome coming-of-age film, along with Idina Menzel and "Saturday Night Live's" Sarah Sherman. (Netflix)

"BS High" (NR) -- On Aug. 29, 2021, a high school football game between Bishop Sycamore High School and IMG Academy was televised on ESPN that ended with a final score of 58-0. After such a blowout occurred and certain conditions of the game were called into question, an investigation was launched into Bishop Sycamore, where the Ohio Department of Education ruled that the school actually didn't exist! The team operated under the guise of representing a "school" with-

out a real campus, teachers or trainers, incurring thousands of dollars in debt from housing the players in hotels. How Bishop Sycamore had even begun to pull this stunt off gets explored in this documentary film premiering Aug. 23. (Max)

"Transfusion" (R) -- In this Australian crime film premiering Aug. 24, Sam Worthington -- from the "Avatar" films -- lays down all his token grittiness for the role of ex-special forces operative Ryan Logan. After losing his wife in a car accident, Ryan was left to raise his son, Billy, by himself, but Billy increasingly gets into trouble with the law. When the question of Billy remaining in his custody is brought up, Ryan takes rash action to join his former superior officer, now turned criminal, for a quick cash grab that spins out of control. While "Transfusion" is promoted as a thriller, the title of "crime drama" would be better suited, as the characters' narratives remain the true focal point of the film. (Hulu)

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Is it true they're doing a new "Snow White" movie like they did with "The Little Mermaid"? When will it be released? -- **A.J.**

A: Yes, Disney is planning a live action remake of the 1937 animated classic "Snow White." It'll be a musical, starring Rachel Zegler as the title character and Gal Gadot ("Wonder Woman") as the Evil Queen.

For those unfamiliar with the name Rachel Zegler, she was a high school student who auditioned for the lead role of Maria in Steven Spielberg's adaptation of another classic "West Side Story." She's since moved to Hollywood and starred opposite Zachary Levi in "Shazam! Fury of the Gods." She's also featured in the upcoming film "The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes."

The "Snow White" screenplay was written by Greta Gerwig, director of the billion-dollar blockbuster film "Barbie," and Erin Cressida Wilson ("The Girl on the Train"). Barring any delays, the film is set to hit theaters

in March 2024.

Q: Is "Virgin River" returning anytime soon with new episodes? I hope it didn't get canceled. -- **K.F.**

A: Season five of the beloved Netflix series "Virgin River" will premiere on Sept. 7. According to TVLine.com, Mel's (Alexandra Breckenridge) high-risk pregnancy causes her to "rethink her future at the clinic, while Jack's [Martin Henderson] new glamping venture is sure to suffer as a dangerous wildfire hits the town." Also, don't forget -- they still have a wedding to plan.

Joining the cast this season as a "mystery woman" is Kandyse McClure ("Battlestar Galactica"). Returning cast members include Annette O'Toole as Hope and Tim Matheson as Doc, the latter of whom has been facing health challenges due to his degenerative condition. Expect bigger stories from Preacher (Colin Lawrence), Brie (Zibby Allen) and Brady (Benjamin Hollingsworth), as all three of their portrayals have been moved up to series regulars. Lexa Doig, who plays Paige, and Barbara Pollard, who plays Melissa, have both been bumped down to a recurring status.

Even though Ricky (Grayson Gurnsey) is off at basic training, he will be back at some point, hopefully before the end of the upcoming season. Showrunner Patrick Sean Smith told TVLine in 2022 that the character is a "fan favorite" and "everybody loves him."

Q: What is the latest regarding the tragedy on the set of Alec Baldwin's movie "Rust"? Is anybody going to prison for what happened to the poor woman who died? -- **N.B.**

A: Alec Baldwin, who was both the producer and star of the movie "Rust," learned in January that the charges of involuntary manslaughter against him had been dropped. Prosecutors, however, have stated that Baldwin could still face charges pending further investigation. The film set's armorer, Hannah Gutierrez-Reed, is set to go on trial in December for the same charges Baldwin faced, as well as a charge of tampering with evidence. She has pleaded not guilty.

Cinematographer Halyna Hutchins was killed when a prop gun carrying live rounds was fired by Baldwin on set. "Rust" director, Joel Souza, was injured in the shooting, but survived.

• Trivia Test •

1. MOVIES: In which U.S. state does the movie "Field of Dreams" take place?
2. FOOD & DRINK: What is sauerkraut?
3. ACRONYMS: What phrase does the acronym GPS stand for?
4. GEOGRAPHY: The country of Guyana lies on which continent?
5. TELEVISION: What is the pub where characters in "The Office" gather after work?
6. SCIENCE: How many karats are in pure gold?
7. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented by autophobia?
8. ANIMAL KINGDOM:

- How big is a newborn kangaroo?
9. AD SLOGANS: What product is advertised as "the snack that smiles back"?
 10. LITERATURE: Who wrote "The Canterbury Tales"?
- Answers
1. Iowa.
 2. Pickled cabbage.
 3. Global positioning system.
 4. South America.
 5. Poor Richard's.
 6. 24.
 7. Fear of being alone.
 8. About 1 inch or less.
 9. Goldfish.
 10. Geoffrey Chaucer.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Rescue
- 5 Ozone, for one
- 8 Protracted
- 12 Carolina college
- 13 Roswell sighting
- 14 Falco of "The Sopranos"
- 15 "Game on!"
- 17 Snitch
- 18 Service charge
- 19 Rowing need
- 20 Road curves
- 21 Schlep
- 22 Deity
- 23 Everglades wader
- 26 Cure-all
- 30 Bump into
- 31 "Terrific!"
- 32 Astronaut Armstrong
- 33 Tennis tactic
- 35 Tea biscuit
- 36 Present location?
- 37 Expected
- 38 Thesaurus compiler
- 41 Drone
- 42 Airline to Sweden
- 45 Awestruck
- 46 "We should discuss this"
- 48 Actress Gilpin

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
					52			53		
51										

- 49 Env. insert
- 50 Hybrid fruit
- 51 Adolescent
- 52 Bonfire residue
- 53 Inlets

DOWN

- 1 Narcissist's love
- 2 Sheltered
- 3 Cast a ballot
- 4 Em halves
- 5 Soviet labor camp
- 6 Miles away
- 7 Tofu source
- 8 #1 hit by

- David Bowie
- 9 Rhyming tributes
- 10 Egyptian river
- 11 Hair goops
- 16 Sulk
- 20 A billion years
- 21 Words at the start of a lesson
- 22 Talk on and on
- 23 Ambulance VIP
- 24 Earth (Pref.)
- 25 Gym unit
- 26 Skillet
- 27 Biz bigwig
- 28 Aachen article
- 29 Pub pint
- 31 Repair
- 34 Cauldron
- 35 Totals
- 37 Hollanders
- 38 Engrossed
- 39 Curved molding
- 40 Impale
- 41 Coop group
- 42 Long tale
- 43 Friend
- 44 Aspen gear
- 46 Meadow
- 47 Vat

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* A microwaved baseball will fly much farther than a frozen one, as warmer balls weigh less and move faster due to less air resistance.

* Each strand of a human hair can contain traces of 14 elements, including gold.

* During a period in his artistic career, Pablo Picasso primarily used shades of blue in his paintings, reflecting his melancholic state at the time.

* It's not just humans who use "baby talk" with their offspring: Mother bottlenose dolphins have been observed altering their whistle pitch and range when communicating with their calves.

* Hawaii had no mosquitoes until the 19th century, when they were accidentally introduced by trading ships.

* A law student at Spain's University of Malaga once etched tiny notes into the sides of blue Bic pens before taking an exam. While points could perhaps be awarded for the learner's creativity, it also resulted in a repeat of their entire academic year.

* The world record for nonstop video gaming -- 138 hours and 34 seconds -- was set by Carrie Swidecki in 2015, when she beat her own previous world record.

* Hamburger University, established by McDonald's to train restaurant managers and owner-operators, has a lower acceptance rate than Harvard University and awards its graduates a Hamburgerology degree.

* A Eulachon's flesh is so oily that this fatty fish will burn like a candle when dried.

* From the "too much of a good thing" files: A 41-year-old man from the Netherlands referred to only as "Jonathan" was banned from donating sperm after fathering over 550 children.

* Cheetos were invented by USDA military scientists during World War II as a result of their being tasked with finding a way to utilize surplus cornmeal.

S	A	V	E	H	S	V	N	E	I	L
I	T	G	U	C	N	E	I	R	E	P
K	L	T	A	S	I	E	T	O	G	O
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E	N	D	E	X	O	B				
E	N	O	S	N	I	S	P	I	O	T
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Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

— King Crossword —

SOCIAL NEWS

Health & wellness coach to appear at women's retreat

EARLVILLE – Evans Dude Ranch located at 2974 Welland Road, Earlville, will hold a Women's Mini Retreat on Thursday, Aug. 31 from 5-7 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Nicole Jack, NASM certified health and wellness coach with Next Chapter Wellness. All women are invited to attend and join in a discussion about self-care after retirement and establishing healthier and sustainable lifestyle changes.

For more information, call 630-746-7549, email barleywheatvintage@gmail.com or go online to www.nextchapterwellness.net.



Nicole Jack



Emily Kofoed, left, Graves Hume Library Director, accepts the donation of books from Beverly Richardson of the Fort du Rocher Chapter of DAR, co-chair, DAR 250 grant program. (Photo contributed)

Local DAR Chapter donates patriotic children's books

MENDOTA—The Fort du Rocher Chapter of DAR has recently donated a number of children's books to five area libraries.

Libraries receiving books include Graves Hume Public Library in Mendota, Earlville Public Library, LaMoille Clarion Public Library, LaSalle Public Library and Peru Public Library. These books were purchased through funds from the America 250 grant program sponsored by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), which encourages local DAR chapters to find ways to celebrate the upcoming 250th birthday of our nation.

The Fort du Rocher Chapter chose to provide children's books that deal with patriotic themes or the early history of the United States. Books are being donated to these libraries with the hope of encouraging children to learn about our nation and its founding.

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a non-partisan, non-political women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education, patriotism and honoring the patriots of the Revolutionary War. Any woman 18 years or older may join the DAR by documenting her lineage to

City Ordinance

MENDOTA – The city of Mendota reminds you that it is unlawful under city ordinance 42.34 to hang, lean, or place any advertising materials on any street lamp, post, telephone or electric light pole within the city limits of Mendota. This includes garage sale notices.

This statute was designed to keep our neighborhoods clean and free of trash and debris. The city of Mendota officials ask for your cooperation in this matter.

Community supports OSF at golf playday

MENDOTA – The Mendota community came together on Aug. 18 to support OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center during the 20th annual 'Fore the Hospital' golf play day, held at Mendota Golf Club.

More than 100 golfers turned out for the 9-hole afternoon scramble, which was hosted by the OSF HealthCare Foundation.

"This is a fun, laidback event that raises money to support the communities OSF Saint Paul serves in the I-80 market," said Cherie Reynolds, OSF HealthCare Foundation director of development for the I-80 market. "In the past, for example, this event has benefitted our community gardens program, which provides thousands of pounds of food for local residents. We couldn't be as



Participants prepare to take the course at the OSF golf playday. (Photo contributed)

successful as we are without the support of our sponsors, participants, the Mendota community and our Mission Partners (employees)."

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the I-80 Innovation Hub. Located at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, the Innovation Hub was launched in 2022 with phase one focusing on edu-

cation and training opportunities for OSF HealthCare Mission Partners and the development of innovative health care solutions.

"We are proud of what our Innovation Hub has achieved so far and look forward to continuing to engage our Mission Partners, patients and communities in this work," said Dawn Trompet-

er, president of OSF Saint Paul Medical Center.

This year's golf play day featured prizes, raffles and silent auction items that were donated by OSF Mission Partners. Golfers enjoyed preparing their own steaks and pork chops for dinner and each golfer received a complimentary gift recognizing the 20th anniversary.

Church holding its pasta fundraiser

DALZELL – St. Thomas More Church Ravioli/Tortellacci Group has started its pasta fundraiser.

The price for Ravioli (meat filled)/Tortellacci (spinach filled) will remain at \$8 per bag.

Orders will begin to be filled in September. You can place an order by calling 815-

252-2215. Be sure to leave your name, phone number and order. You will receive a confirmation call.

Volunteers are always welcome to help on Monday and Wednesday from approximately 8:30-11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 815-894-2006 or 815-878-8205.

Labor Day Mass set at Maytown

MAYTOWN – There will be a Mass offered on Labor Day at St. Michael's Cemetery - Sandy Hill, located off of Sublette Road, east of Rockyford Road, in May Township, at 10 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 4. Please bring your lawn chair. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Leslie Althaus, right, presents a past regent's pin to Linda Byrd at the recent meeting of the Fort du Rocher Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. (Photo contributed)

DAR group hears about garden plants

MENDOTA – The Fort du Rocher Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met Aug. 5 at the United Presbyterian Church.

Leslie Althaus presented Linda Byrd with her past regent's pin.

The program was given by Bev Richardson, "Our Grandmother's Garden." Some plants were brought over from England, but many didn't fare well in the Massachusetts climate. Some plants they knew included fennel, feverfew, hollyhocks, dill, asparagus, bloodwort, and anise. They

used plants in church too, using caraway seed to stop their hiccups, fennel seed as smelling salt, and cinnamon to nibble on during the long service. They often carried a flower to conceal their 'treats.'

DAR Days will be in Lisle on Friday, Sept. 8.

The next meeting of the local chapter will be on Saturday, Sept. 16, at 10 a.m. at the Graves-Hume Public Library. The program will be Constitutional Jeopardy, with prizes awarded. Constitution Week is Sept. 17-23 is Constitution Week.






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THE BACK PAGE

POLICE BLOTTER

WARRANT ARREST

Raul S. Caban, 52, of 510 Fourth Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 8:50 p.m. Aug. 15 on a LaSalle County warrant for civil contempt. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Kimberly Youssi, 39, of 1007 Sixth St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at U.S. 34 and 14th Avenue at 4:10 p.m. Aug. 16. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Dane M. Towne, 27, of 904 Washington St., Mendota, was arrested at 8:58 p.m. Aug. 17 on a Wisconsin failure to comply warrant. The subject was unable to post

bond and was transported to the LaSalle County jail.

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Matt A. Cirrincione, 37 of Ohio, Ill., was charged with no valid driver's license after police officers investigated the report of a disabled vehicle near the intersection of 13th Avenue and Washington Street at 1:02 p.m. Aug. 18. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Jessica L. Pineda, 37, of Earlville, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at Sixth Avenue and Ninth Street at 12:25 p.m. Aug. 19. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

CARDS OF THANKS

I would like to say thank you to my family for the wonderful open house and card shower for my 90th birthday. Also, to everybody that came to the open house and sent cards, and also for the gifts I got and flowers. It was a great day I'll never forget. Thank you.

Velma Schmidt

Burn pit hours

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

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

Extreme heat safety tips

PERU — It is important to take action and be prepared to protect yourself and your loved ones during periods of extreme heat. The Red Cross offers the following reminders that help you stay safe when the temperatures soar.

- Hot cars can be deadly. Never leave children or pets in your vehicle. The inside temperature of the car can quickly reach 120 degrees.
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol.
- Check on family, friends and neighbors who do not have air conditioning, who spend much of their time alone or who are more likely to be affected by the heat.
- If you don't have air conditioning, seek relief from the heat during the warmest part of the day in places like schools, libraries, theaters, malls, etc.
- Avoid extreme temperature changes.

- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. Avoid dark colors because they absorb the sun's rays.

- Slow down, stay indoors and avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day.

- Postpone outdoor games and activities.

- Take frequent breaks and use a buddy system when working outdoors.

- Check on animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat. Make sure they have plenty of cool water and shade.

Excessive heat can lead to sunburn, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. If someone is experiencing heat cramps in the legs or abdomen, get them to a cooler place, have them rest, lightly stretch the affected muscle, and replenish their fluids with a half a glass (about 4 ounces) of cool water every 15 minutes.

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SPORTS

Mendota golfers have good start to season

The Mendota varsity golf team opened the season with a triangular win at Putnam County on Aug. 14. The Trojans had the low round of 178, while Putnam County and Princeton tied at 194.

Mendota's Owen Aughenbaugh garnered meet medalist honors with a round of 42. Checking in next for the Trojans were Brody Hartt and Evan McPheeters, both with 44s. Completing the MHS lineup were Dane Doyle (48), Cale Strouss (48) and Kooper Novak (50).

Mendota's junior varsity squad also came up victorious with a 203, while Princeton had a 212 and Putnam County totaled 277.

The Trojans' Collin Coss turned in the low score among all of the JV golfers with a 46. Teammate Jonas Fitzgerald was two shots back at 48, followed by Alex Holland (54), Jace Baird (55), Nick Sheridan (57) and Haden Shakespeare (69).

The Trojans played on their home course for the first time on Aug. 15 and turned away Sandwich by 10 strokes, 174-184.

Aughenbaugh paced the team with an overall low

score of 39 to claim medalist honors. Hartt took second for the Trojans with a 44, Grady Jones fired a 45 and McPheeters carded a 46. Doyle (48) and Strouss (50) also competed for MHS.

The Trojans made it a sweep with a 200-211 victory in junior varsity action.

Fitzgerald dominated play with a 43 to capture medalist distinction by seven strokes. Other Mendota players seeing action were Holland (50), Baird (53), Coss (54), Sheridan (54), Novak (56), Caeleb Ensor (60) and Shakespeare (65).

Mendota competed in the seven-team LaSalle-Peru Invitational on Aug. 17 and finished in sixth place with a 357. Ottawa dominated the field in taking first place with a 308, followed by Morris (338), Hall (350), L-P (353) and Sandwich (355). Rochelle brought up the rear with a 371.

Aughenbaugh carded the low score for the Trojans with an 80. Also competing were Hartt (91), Doyle (93), Jones (93), Strouss (98) and McPheeters (107).

Landon Plym of Hall was the overall champion with a 72.

Trojans cruise 9-0 in soccer opener

MENDOTA—The Mendota varsity boys' soccer team started the season with a bang, shutting out Sandwich, 9-0, on Aug. 21 at the MHS field.

Sophomore Johan Cortez led the attack with four goals and one assist. Two freshmen — Isaac Diaz and Cesar Casas — tallied two goals apiece, while Diaz added an assist. The other goal went to Logan Dewey. Also recording assists were Mauricio Martinez, David Casas, Danny Garcia and Ramiro Palacios.

Mateo Goy was in goal for the Trojans.

Streator nips MHS netters 3-2 in opener

MENDOTA — Streator edged the Mendota girls' tennis team, 3-2, in the season-opening meet on Aug. 21 at the MHS courts.

Mendota's wins came in both singles matches by Ella Lewis and Lauren Holland.

Aug. 21
Streator 3, Mendota 2
Singles: No. 1—Ella Lewis

Mendotans among IVCC athletes recognized by NJCAA in academics

OGLESBY — Twenty-three IVCC athletes and three teams were recognized recently by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) for their dedication in the classroom.

The athletes were among more than 10,000 across the country earning a place on NJCAA's 2022-23 Academic All-American Honors list for maintaining an overall GPA of 3.60 or higher. For six of them, maintaining a 4.0 GPA catapulted them to first-team honors, a record high for the college in the last five years, said Athletic Director Cory Tomasson.

Individual eligibility is determined by GPA: First Team, 4.0, Second Team, 3.80 to 3.99, and Third Team, 3.60 to 3.79.

Additionally, IVCC's softball, women's tennis and volleyball teams were among more than 1,000 teams to earn a place on the NJCAA All-Academic Team by maintaining a cumulative team GPA over 3.0.

"Playing intercollegiate athletics is a huge time commitment, and many of the athletes compete in multiple sports, have jobs, and belong to other college and community organizations," Tomasson said. "The degree of involvement and motivation of many of these athletes is truly amazing and they contribute so much to the college."

He added, "IVCC prides

itself on the academic performance of its student athletes and we have many strategies to encourage, monitor and assist in their academic success. One of the most important is the attention and assistance from their instructors. Instructors provide high-quality instruction, personal attention and academic guidance to all students, but the support they provide student athletes is crucial to achieving such a high level of eligibility and transfer standards."

Among Third Team Academic All-Americans was Logan Brandner of Mendota, tennis.

Nationally, 2,702 student athletes received NJCAA All-Academic first-team honors, 3,347 were named to the second team and 4,177 to the third team. IVCC belongs to NJCAA's Region IV, which comprises 31 colleges in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

IVCC athletes also received conference honors. A total of 47 of them were named to the Arrowhead Conference Academic Excellence honors list for maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher. The Arrowhead Conference comprises six community colleges in Northern Illinois.

Among those receiving Arrowhead Conference Academic Excellence honors were Brandner, tennis, and Zoe Finley of Mendota, softball.



Members of the Amboy-LaMoille varsity football team, first row, left to right, are Tate Sundberg, Michael Schumaker, Tyler Huggins, and Gio Gatz. Second row, Josh McKendry, Braden Klein, Caleb Sugars, Zach Dunne, Landon Whelchel, Quinn Leffelman, Joel Billhorn, Cody Winn, Ed Frey, and Dillon Merriman. Third row, Austin Heath, Kabe Daniels, Troy Anderson, Eddie Jones, Trey Payne, Brennan Blaine, Caleb Yanos, Brody Christofferson, and Landon Montavon. Back row, Ian Sundberg, assistant coach Abel Sustaita, assistant coach Jeramey Wittenauer, head coach Scott Payne, assistant coach Tyson Powers, assistant coach Sam Jones, assistant coach Kenny Shrimplin, and Vincent Zembrzuski. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

8-man state title is the mission for '23 Amboy-LaMoille gridgers

□ Clippers return all but one from last year's 10-3 squad that reached state finals

By **BRANDON LACHANCE**
Staff writer

AMBOY — The Amboy-LaMoille football team has a lot to be excited about heading into the 2023 season.

All but one player from the 8-man football team that went to the state championship game a season ago is back.

The Clippers (10-3 last season) are ready to not only return to the state championship but take home the big trophy.

"We came in with the mindset that we have a big target on our back this year," said senior tight end and defensive end, Brennan Blaine. "Everyone knows we have pretty much the same team coming back from last year. We know there is a target and we're not going to play down to anyone's level of competition. We're not going in with a mindset that we're going to win every game."

"We know we have to work to win the state championship game instead of lose it. We don't ever want to feel the way that we did after that game. We feel bad for Tucker Lindenmeyer (last year's lone senior) that he doesn't get a second opportunity, but we're going to take it one game at a time with the focus being unity."

Lindenmeyer started as quarterback and defensive back for the Clippers the last two seasons before graduating as part of Amboy High School Class of 2022.

Last season, Lindenmeyer suffered a mid-season injury and was replaced by Eddie Jones until the starter returned for the playoffs. Jones, then sophomore-now junior, has learned the offense and is ready to lead the team for a full season.

"Eddie got thrown in there last year. He got a few reps, but in practice, you're No. 1 guy gets the majority of the reps," said Clippers coach Scott Payne. "Eddie is getting all of the reps now, so I think Eddie is going to make a bigger jump than he did last year. He's a junior and he knows the offense."

"Getting the reps every day is going to be key for him because last year when he got thrown in there, he got better and better as the season went on because he was getting more practice reps."

Jones will use both his legs and his arm as coach Payne said his QB has sneak speed and throws a good

football.

The dual threat will open up the Clippers' play-action game.

When Jones isn't throwing to receivers, Blaine, juniors Joel Billhorn, Tyler Huggins, Kabe Daniels, Caleb Yanos, Michael Schumaker, or sophomore Cody Winn, the Clippers will rely on talented running backs.

Senior Landon Whelchel was the team's leading rusher last season and junior full-back Quinn Leffleman was a dominant force up the middle and on the outside.

"I expect a bigger jump. Quinn had a great year last year, but so far this year running the ball, he looks like he's gotten faster which is good for a kid his size," Payne said. "Landon Whelchel has gotten bigger. He put on about 15 pounds of muscle since last year. Our offensive line, those guys have all put on good weight."

"We have more running backs this year. We're really good at the position. We have about three or four guys including Braden Klein and Ed Fry that I have confidence to put them in a game and give them the ball. We're going to be able to put a pretty good rotation together to give Whelchel a little bit of a break."

Whelchel is excited about the offense's long list of options.

The junior running back said he hopes everyone feeds off of each other's success on each play to make the team hard to stop.

"We have a lot of weapons and that's what makes us so dangerous," said Whelchel, who will play middle line-backer on defense. "If a defense tries to focus on one player, another player is going to have a breakout game. It's tough to defend. We're going to stick to our key weapons and go from there."

"It's a long season and we're not trying to worry about the state game at this point, but it's the end goal. We're not focusing on the rankings and all that stuff. We don't want to get in our heads. We want to stay level and stay humble."

Defensively, Amboy-LaMoille is staying in its 4-2 scheme.

Winn has been brought in to replace Lindenmeyer at defensive back, while seniors Landon Montavon, Trey Payne, Austin Heath,

Amboy-LaMoille Varsity Football Roster 2023

No	Player	Ht/Wt	Pos	Yr
1	Joel Billhorn	5-10/145	WR/DB	Jr
2	Eddie Jones	6-0/165	QB/DB	Jr
3	Cody Winn	5-7/145	WR/DB	So
4	Josh McKendry	5-7/140	RB/DB	Jr
5	Landon Whelchel	5-10/175	RB/LB	Sr
6	Ed Fry	5-10/155	RB/LB	Jr
7	Troy Anderson	6-0/190	TE/DB	Sr
9	Brody Christoffersen	6-0/170	QB/LB	Jr
10	Tyler Huggins	5-7/130	WR/DB	Jr
12	Kabe Daniels	6-0/135	WR/DB	Jr
20	Tate Sundberg	5-4/145	FB/LB	Jr
21	Quinn Leffelman	5-10/215	FB/DE	Jr
25	Braden Klein	5-8/160	RB/LB	Jr
35	Gio Gatz	5-7/160	RB/DT	Sr
36	Caleb Yanos	5-9/165	WR/DE	Jr
44	Michael Schumaker	5-7/120	WR/DB	Jr
52	Dillon Merriman	5-8/190	OL/LB	Jr
53	Austin Heath	5-10/165	OL/DL	Sr
54	Ian Sundberg	5-10/230	OL/DL	Sr
55	Landon Montavon	5-10/210	OL/DL	Sr
57	Trey Payne	6-3/250	OL/DL	Sr
58	Vincent Zembrzuski	6-1/210	TE/DE	Sr
68	Caleb Sugars	5-9/200	OL/DL	Jr
75	Zach Dunne	5-8/205	OL/DL	Sr
85	Brennan Blaine	6-2/210	TE/DE	Sr

Head coach: Scott Payne

Assistant coaches: Sam Jones, Jeramey Wittenauer, Kenny Shrimplin, Abel Sustaita, Tyson Powers

Varsity Football Schedule

Aug. 25 — Decatur Unity Christian — 6 p.m.
Sept. 1 — at River Ridge — 7 p.m.
Sept. 9 — at Martinsville — 2 p.m.
Sept. 15 — Peoria Quest — 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 — at Ridgewood — 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 — at Milledgeville — 7 p.m.
Oct. 6 — at Ashton-Franklin Center — 7 p.m.
Oct. 13 — Orangeville — 7 p.m.
Oct. 20 — Polo — 7 p.m.

Freshman-Sophomore Football Schedule

Aug. 28 — Polo — 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 11 - at Kirkland — TBA
Sept. 25 — Ridgewood — 6 p.m.
Oct. 2 — at Milledgeville — 6 p.m.
Oct. 9 — at Ashton-Franklin Center — 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 23 - Orangeville — 6 p.m.

and Ian Sundberg are veing asked to control the game in the trenches.

"We're going to run the same system. We moved up a sophomore, Cody Winn, to play defensive back for us," Payne said. "We feel Cody is going to do a good job of filling in and will be able to guard the other team's best receiver. Cody is a very good athlete."

"Defensively, our key is our defensive line. We feel we have a very good defensive line with four guys that we're going to rotate. All four of them would start for any other team. That's a great thing to have when you can rotate four guys to give breaks because we have a lot of guys who are playing both ways."

Last year's Illinois 8-Man Football State Champion, West Central, isn't on the Clipper's calander.

But if the squads meet in the playoffs, Amboy-LaMoille will be ready.

"West Central isn't on our regular season schedule, but if we get a chance to play them, we'll be looking forward to it," Payne said. "Just like every other year, we have a tough schedule. We play Ridgewood (Cambridge co-op) and they're a very good football team. We have Milledgeville, which is another good football team. We also have Polo."

"Our schedule is tough, but that's what you want. You get the tough schedule and it helps you once you get into the playoffs."

Staying hydrated is the key in summer heat

Summer is a season to enjoy some fun in the sun, but it's imperative that people remember to take steps to reduce their risk for heat illness. Those measures should include efforts to hydrate and remain hydrated throughout the day.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that water will almost always help people remain hydrated even when they're working in the heat. But food also plays a vital role in preventing heat illness, as the CDC notes eating regular meals can help to replace

the salt lost through sweat.

It's also important that individuals avoid energy drinks and alcohol when spending time in the hot summer sun. Many energy drinks contain more caffeine than standard servings of coffee, tea and soft drinks, and excessive caffeine consumption can contribute to dehydration. The same can be said for alcohol, and the CDC reports that consuming alcohol within 24 hours of working in the heat can increase the risk of heat illness.





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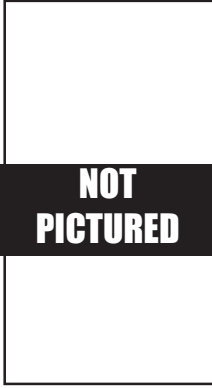
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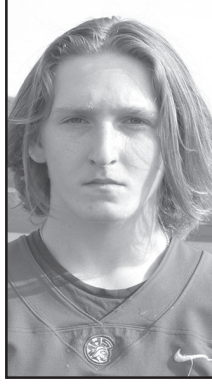
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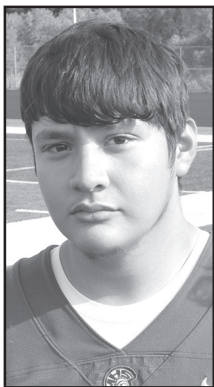
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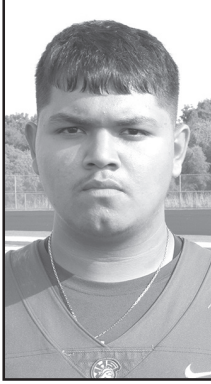
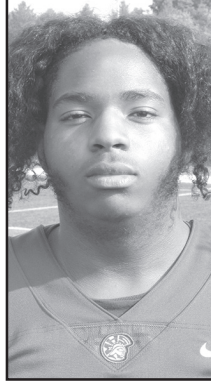






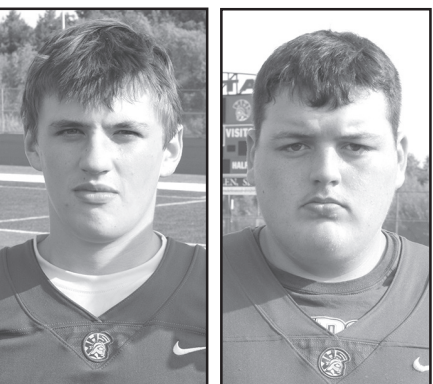
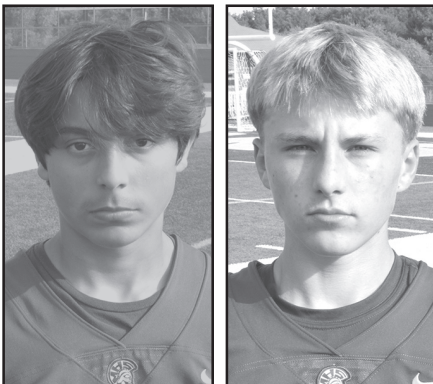

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MENDOTA TROJANS

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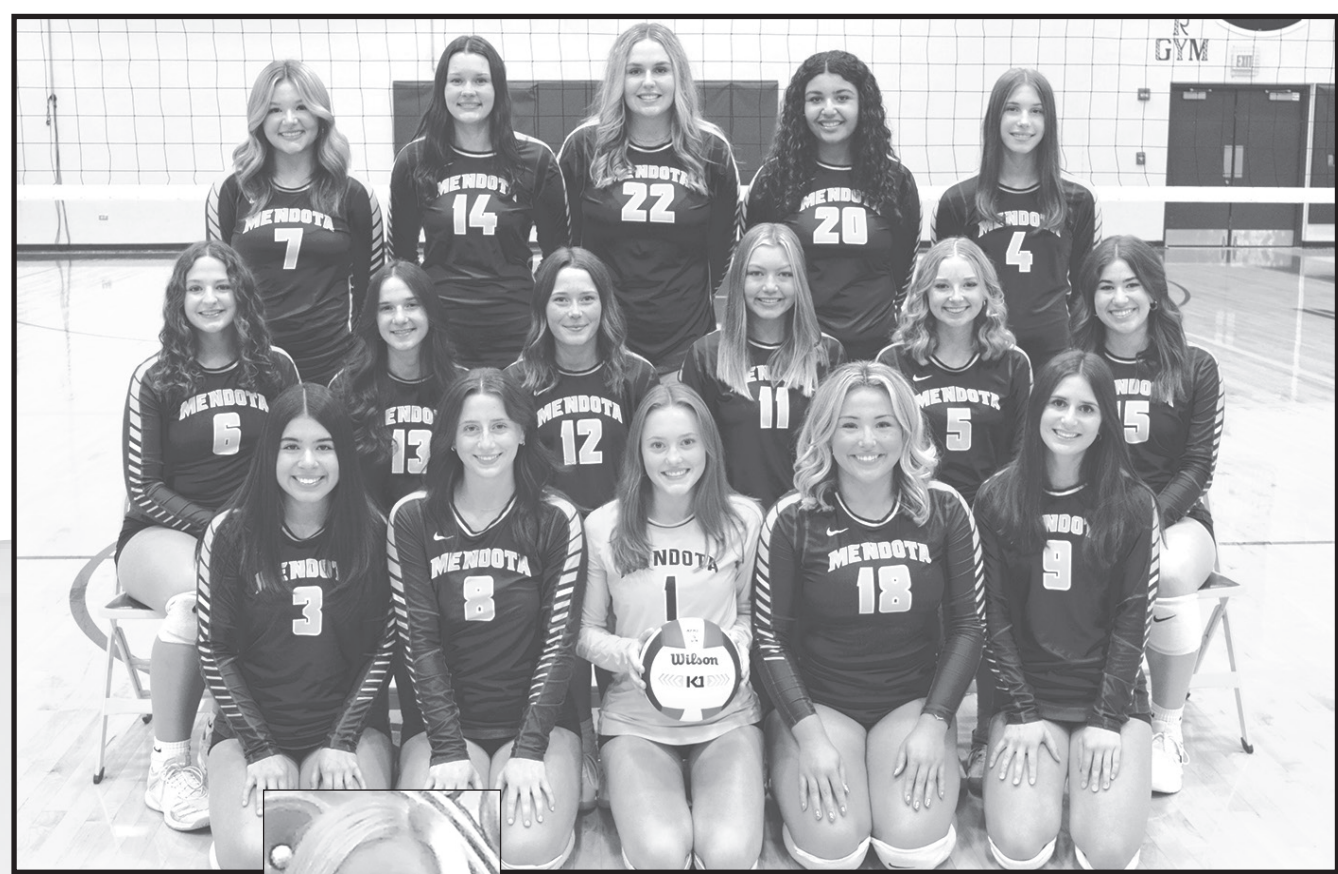
2023 MENDOTA TROJANS SCHEDULE:

Varsity Football

- Aug. 25 – at Morrison – 7 p.m.
- Sept. 1 – Orion – 7 p.m.
- Sept. 8 – at Kewanee – 7 p.m.
- Sept. 15 – Hall – 7 p.m.
- Sept. 22 – at Bureau Valley – 7 p.m.
- Sept. 29 – Riverdale – 7 p.m.
- Oct. 6 – at Geneseo – 7 p.m.
- Oct. 13 – at Princeton – 7 p.m.
- Oct. 20 – Newman – 7 p.m.
- Oct. 27-28 – First Round Playoffs



THE 2023 SPIKERS



**NICCI
GIBSON**
COACH



Good Luck, Lady Spikers!

Aug. 24 – Amboy – 5 p.m.
Aug. 29 – Bureau Valley – 5 p.m.
Sept. 1 – at Oregon Tourney (V) – 5 p.m.
Sept. 2 – at Oregon Tourney (V) – 8 a.m.
Sept. 7 – Princeton – 5 p.m.
Sept. 9 – Mendota Rally Invite (So) – 8 a.m.
Sept. 12 – Newman – 5 p.m.
Sept. 13 – Sandwich – 5 p.m.
Sept. 16 – at Ottawa Tourney (Fr) – 8:30 a.m.
Sept. 19 – at Bureau Valley – 5 p.m.
Sept. 20 – at Kewanee – 5 p.m.
Sept. 23 – at Reed-Custer Tourney (V) – 8 a.m.
Sept. 23 – at Byron Tourney (Fr) – 8 a.m.
Sept. 26 – at Hall – 5 p.m.
Sept. 28 – Somonauk – 5 p.m.
Sept. 30 – at Byron Tourney (So) – 9 a.m.
Sept. 30 – Mendota Rally Invite (Fr) – 8 a.m.
Oct. 2 – at Ottawa – 5 p.m.
Oct. 3 – at Newman – 5 p.m.
Oct. 5 – at Princeton – 6 p.m.
Oct. 7 – at Princeton Tourney (V) – 8 a.m.
Oct. 7 – at Pecatonica Tourney (So) – 8:30 a.m.
Oct. 10 – Kewanee – 5 p.m.
Oct. 14 – Mendota Rally Invite (V) – 8 a.m.
Oct. 14 – at Fulton Tourney (So) – 8 a.m.
Oct. 16 – Hall – 5 p.m.
Oct. 23-28 – Regional

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LOCAL AND AREA

Living in peace with prickly people

Have you ever had that one person in your life? You know, that one person who seems to be able to push all your wrong buttons at all the wrong times? We've all been there. And in our world today—with all the anger, hatred and violence—it's easy to feel overwhelmed.

Fortunately, people who have flaws and faults are nothing new. All you need to do is read Genesis—the first book of the Bible, often referred to as “The Book of Beginnings”—to realize that. One of the earliest recorded stories in Genesis is about Cain, who killed his brother, Abel, because he was jealous of him (see Genesis 4:8). As we read on, we see a number of broken people who do terrible things (see Genesis 16:1–6; 19:30–38; 27:1–35; 37:18–36). And yet, the people involved in these situations are people

God used for His plans and purpose—so I guess this means there's hope for us too.

The truth is if we're going to love anyone—no matter who they are—we have to accept that they'll have flaws, because no one is perfect, including you and me. And if we're going to live in peace, we must learn to walk in love. This means we need to learn to love people who are hard to love.

Love is so much more than a feeling; it's how we treat people, and it changes everything. Just imagine how different our world would be today if people truly loved one another. So I have decided that I am going to love people, which includes those who are hard to love. And I'm asking you to make the same decision, because I believe if enough of us do it, we will impact the world

in a very positive way.

Prickly, Porcupine People

In the animal kingdom, probably the most difficult animal to get close to is the porcupine. Porcupines are not usually considered loveable. Each one has about 30,000 sharp quills that can stick you and be very painful—even dangerous. These quills are their way of protecting themselves.

People also often develop ways of protecting themselves, especially if they have been hurt in the past. I say it like this, “Hurting people hurt people.” And sometimes, our methods of self-protection come across as very odd to the people who are dealing with us. For example, a person who has been hurt may be extremely defensive and think they are being rejected when that is not the case at all. Or, they may argue all the time, striving to be right in every situation because that is the only way they can feel good about themselves.

I happen to know a few people like this, and you probably know some too. I call them “porcupine people.” They are difficult to be around because you are likely to get hurt. If you get close to them, you will see their flaws and quirks, and likely experience them. It would be so nice if we could just place an order for the kind of people we would like to have in our life, but people come “as is” and we either take them as they are or end up alone.

God takes us the way we are and helps us become



all that we should be. The question is: Are we willing to do this for other people? My husband, Dave, did it for me, and had he not loved me unconditionally, I probably wouldn't be in ministry today. You see, when Dave prayed for a wife, he asked God to give him someone who needed help, and God certainly answered his prayer because I needed a lot of help.

Growing up, I experienced sexual abuse from my father. And because of that past abuse, I ended up becoming a porcupine person too. Dave said he knew the first night he met me that I was the girl for him. As it's turned out, he was right, but he had to be willing to love someone who was very hard to love for a very long time before he had a wife who was loveable.

Now I pray regularly to be good to people and make them feel good when they are around me. It's not always easy, and sometimes I still stick out my quills. But God is working with me, and I always want to be willing to work with the porcupine people He puts in my life too. We may sustain little wounds from time to time as we walk through

life with other people, but we are much better off having relationships than living in isolation.

We All Need to Be Loved

Despite their prickles, I don't believe there is a person on the planet who doesn't want to be loved. As a matter of fact, most people who are hard to love are the way they are because they have never experienced real love. They are dissatisfied and looking for something to fill the emptiness they feel, but often they don't know what they are looking for, so they search for it in all the wrong places. Each time they think they find what they have been longing for, they end up disappointed, and it only makes their behavior more challenging for those around them.

But we can make a difference. When we have God's love in our hearts—His peace, kindness, mercy, forgiveness, joy, and many other blessings—we can let it flow through us to other people. Loving people who are hard to love will be difficult on most days, but God never asks us to do something without His help. And all things are possible with

Him (Matthew 19:26). So don't listen to the lie that it is just too hard. You can do it because God is with you and He will love others through you. Even the prickly ones.

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.

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

Where are the AUCTIONS?

See Page A7!



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9 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Worship

In-person & on Facebook at:
Mendota First United
Methodist Church

Aug. 24 - Newsletter deadline;
9-11 a.m. Garage sale workday
Aug. 27 - 9 a.m. Coffee fellowship;
9:30 a.m. Worship
Aug. 28 - 6:30 p.m. Finance Team meets
Aug. 29 - 9-11 a.m. Garage sale workday

ZION UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.
.....

Pastor Jeff Brace
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School for Preschool - 6th grade
in fellowship hall during worship service
(Parking lot worship available on 90.9 FM
during Sunday services)

TUESDAY - Prayer group 6 p.m.
FRIDAY - Youth group 6 p.m.

If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

If I can write one verse of truth today
Or give my fellow man a song to sing;
If I can push one needless cloud away
And help men live as children
of the King:
If I can lend someone a helping hand
Or warm a place where friendship
needs to be;
If I can build a bridge where
fences stand
And light a lamp that other men
might see;
If I can open doors of hope this day
By letting someone know that
others care;
If I can speak in words that seem
to say:
I know the heavy burdens that
you bear.
If I can guide a pilgrim on his way
Or pause to bid him stay for food
and rest;
If I can do these, Father, this I pray:
"O let me do them with my very best."

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Worship

WEDNESDAY
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...They learn to be idle,
wandering about from
house to house, and not
only idle but also gossips
and busybodies, saying
things which they
ought not.

1 TIMOTHY 5:13

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.....

Website: fpcmendota.com

Accessible

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Aug. 24 - 6:30 p.m. Webelos
Aug. 27 - 10 a.m. Worship;
11 a.m. Fellowship
Aug. 29 - Newsletter printing

Facebook page
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

Wednesday Evening Gathering:

Live Zoom at 7 p.m.
https://us02web.zoom.
us/j/86402369150
To call in for audio only, dial
(312) 626-6799 - use meeting
ID: 864 0236 9150

No passwords required; links &
phone numbers stay the same.

CHRIST'S CHURCH

"He is the Head of the Body, the
Church . . . That in everything He
might have the supremacy." Col. 1:18

1107 Main St.
(815) 993-2462
.....

Dave Manion Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Church Builders 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.
Men's Ministry
Ladies & Mens Bible Study
Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational
Please call for more information

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.....

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger
(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org

E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

"Living in God's Grace as a
Neighbor to the World"

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel
10:30 a.m. Worship at First
Aug. 24 - 6:30 p.m. Worship team

Online "devotional service" videos continue
every Sunday at
facebook.com/ilccompton and
YouTube. Check our website and Facebook
page for more information.

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Love

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Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Accessible

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METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille

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.....

Pastor David Jungnickel

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL

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to glorify God through the equipping
of His saints, teaching of His Word
and raising of His name.
We would love to have you join us
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our risen Savior."

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.
SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ahijah (KJV) in
the Old or New Testament or
neither?

2. Which book may be
summarized as "Yes, salvation is
by faith, but faith without action
is useless"? Romans, Titus,
James, Jude

3. Who platted the crown of
thorns that Jesus wore? Herod,
Soldiers, Pontius Pilate, Priests

4. From Ecclesiastes 3, there is
a time to weep and a time to?
Laugh, Hate, Speak, Lose

5. In Jeremiah 3:8, to whom did
God give a bill of divorce? Adam/
Eve, Egypt, Boaz/Ruth, Israel

6. Paul was born in Tarsus of ...?
Cilicia, Berea, Cana, Gath

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) James,
3) Soldiers, 4) Laugh, 5) Israel, 6)
Cilicia

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GOD
AS YOUR GUIDE

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on this page urge
you to attend a
house of worship
this week.

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
No: 2014-JA-33

TO: Stephanie M. Parks and other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern: Take notice that on the 3rd day of November, 2016 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Ryan J. Cantlin, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Seth Duttlinger, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 210 at Ottawa on the 18th day of October, 2023, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to the child.

You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgement entered.

Dated August 15, 2023
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 0809
(Aug. 23, 2023)

You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgement entered.

Dated August 17, 2023
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 0810
(Aug. 23, 2023)

NOTICE
ORDINANCE
0108172023
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2023 AND ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE 2024

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the Graves-Hume Public Library District, in the County of LaSalle, in the State of Illinois, has prepared a tentative form of the Annual Budget and Appropriation for the Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 and the same has been conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to final action; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance on August 17, 2023. The Library sent notice of the hearing to a newspaper of general circulation in the Graves-Hume Public Library District and the newspaper published that notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Graves-Hume Public Library District complied with all other legal requirements as required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRAVES-HUME PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF LASALLE, STATE OF ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section I: The following sums, or so as authorized by law, are hereby budgeted and appropriated for the specified Library Purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. The purposes of the appropriated amounts and the amounts appropriated are as follows:

For Corporate Purposes [75 ILCS 16/35-5]
1. For payroll \$189,000.00
2. For professional services \$5,000.00
3. For travel \$300.00
4. For books and materials \$26,630.00
5. For contractual services \$6,500.00
6. For legal services \$2,500.00
7. For equipment and machine supplies \$4,000.00
8. For new equipment \$5,000.00
9. For automation & computer expenses \$8,000.00
10. For building improvements & equipment \$16,000.00
11. For telecommunications \$2,000.00
12. For utilities \$13,500.00
13. For continuing education \$300.00
14. For publishing/public

relations \$1,300.00
15. For dues and memberships \$1,000.00
16. For printing and postage \$300.00
17. For programming & summer reading \$15,000.00
18. For operating supplies \$4,600.00
19. For technology & internet \$17,500.00
20. For miscellaneous expenses \$5,000.00
21. For contingencies \$10,000.00
TOTAL \$333,430.00
FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FUND PURPOSES [40 ILCS 5/21-110; 21-110.1]:
1. Social Security & Medicare \$16,000.00
TOTAL \$16,000.00
FOR ILL. MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND [40 ILCS 5/7-105; 7-171]:
1. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund \$22,000.00
TOTAL \$22,000.00
FOR AUDIT PURPOSES [75 ILCS 16/30-45 and 50 ILCS 310/9]:
1. Contractual Services-Audit \$3,000.00

TOTAL \$3,000.00
FOR LIABILITY, WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, [745 ILCS 10/9-107]:
1. Insurance (inc. liability; property damage; workers' comp.; unemployment comp. & treasurer's bond) \$10,000.00
2. Legal Fees \$500.00
3. Risk Management/ Loss Control program \$10,000.00
4. Contingency \$1,500.00
TOTAL \$22,000.00
FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND: [75 ILCS 16/35-5]:
1. Building Maintenance services \$19,000.00
2. Building Maintenance supplies \$3,000.00
TOTAL \$22,000.00
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A WORKING CASH FUND [75 ILCS 16/35-35]:
1. For Working Cash Fund \$127,000.00
TOTAL \$127,000.00
FOR SPECIAL RESERVE FUND [75 ILCS 16/40-50]:
1. Special Reserve Fund Plan \$400,000.00
2. Contingency \$10,000.00
TOTAL \$410,000.00
Section 2: Appropriated for the foregoing expenses from the following estimate of revenues, by source, anticipated to be received by the Library District in the fiscal year: Projected cash on hand July 1, 2023 \$113,100.00
Special Reserve Fund \$410,000.00
From Working Cash Fund \$82,000.00
Self Insurance Reserve Fund \$1,530.00
Miscellaneous gifts and donations \$18,000.00
Income of interest \$12,000.00
Special purpose grants \$10,400.00
Personal Property Replacement funds \$8,500.00
TIF Income \$16,000.00
Photocopy, cards, fax, and miscellaneous \$25,300.00
Tax for General Corporate Library purposes \$134,330.00
Tax for Social Security purposes \$16,000.00
Tax for Ill. Municipal Fund purposes \$22,000.00
Tax for Audit purposes \$3,000.00
Tax for Liability and Insurance \$20,470.00
Tax for Working Cash Fund purposes \$45,000.00
Tax for Maintenance purposes \$17,800.00
Expected cash on hand June 30, 2024 \$0
Section 3: Any unexpended balances in the General Library Fund, and Maintenance Fund appropriations will be deposited into the Special Reserve Fund pursuant to a plan in accordance with Article 40 of Chapter 75, Illinois Compiled Statutes.

Section 4: The Secretary of the Graves-Hume Public Library District is hereby authorized and directed to have this Ordinance published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within this library district.

Section 5: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Graves-Hume Public Library District and approved by the President thereof this 17th day of August 2023.

By Martha Schmitt, Its President

ATTEST: Kim Abel, Secretary

STATE OF ILLINOIS
SS
COUNTY OF LASALLE
CERTIFICATE
I, Kim Abel, do hereby certify that I am the appointed, qualified and now acting Secretary of the Graves-Hume Public Library District in the County of LaSalle and State of Illinois; that attached is a true and correct copy of the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance No. 23 for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

I further certify that the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was passed by the Board of Trustees of the Library District at a meeting held on the 17th day of August 2023. The Ordinance was passed by ye and nay vote with at least a majority of all the Board of Trustees voting ye on the adoption and passage of the Ordinance after a properly noticed hearing as required by law.

I further certify that the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance contains an estimate of revenues, by sources, anticipated to be received by the Graves-Hume Public Library District in the fiscal year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I sign my name in my official capacity as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Graves-Hume Public Library District, at Mendota, Illinois, this 17th day of August 2023.

Kim Abel, Secretary,
Graves-Hume Public Library District
No. 0811
(Aug. 23, 2023)

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

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.

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

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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.

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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

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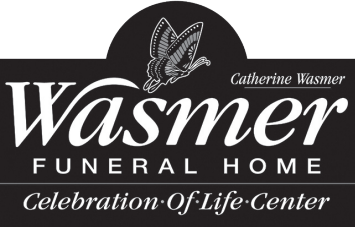
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Jefferson St.,
Mendota



W Lawn Ave.,
Mendota

Great bldg. lot in nice subdivision



Char Lu Dr.,
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Approx. 2.7 acre Lot. Parcel is located on both sides of West Lawn Ave. - has potential for commercial zoning - great location!

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*0000 N 4179TH ROAD, MENDOTA - 1.52 ACRES



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NEW PRICE!

4443 E.1309th Rd., Earlville, IL \$315,000.00
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.



909 Greenridge Ave., Earlville \$135,000
Loads of opportunity here! Currently used as a sewing center/consignment shop (consigners would stay) Very spacious with 2 half baths and a kitchen. Call McConville Realty for all the amenities.

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